20 years as a City - Past to Present

The next twenty years

Over the past 20 years, the Shoreline community has worked together to fulfill a vision of creating a city that is open, diverse, progressive, and sustainable – economically, socially, and environmentally. We have faced challenges along the way, but we have also embraced many opportunities that have built upon our strengths.

Soon, we will see the introduction of light rail to Shoreline. Light rail will be transformative for our community, just as the railroad, interurban, Aurora, and I-5 transformed this area in the past. It will draw people from across the region who will find in Shoreline a vibrant community with excellent schools, walkable neighborhoods, an excellent park and recreation system, and a thriving business sector with unique neighborhood-serving businesses. They will also find a community that is resolutely committed to being sustainable.

But what will really make Shoreline THE place to be in the region over the next 20 years will be its people. As stated in Vision 2029:

“The City’s real strengths lie in the diversity, talents and character of its people. Shoreline is culturally and economically diverse, and draws on that variety as a source of social and economic strength. The city works hard to ensure that there are opportunities to live, work and play in Shoreline for people from all backgrounds.”

There is no question that Shoreline is going to grow over the next 20 years. In 2005, the Puget Sound Regional Council projected that Shoreline would see 5,000 new households established and 5,000 new jobs created between 2005 and 2025. Last year’s projections show that growth will be even greater between 2020 and 2040.

Demographics

Shoreline isn’t just going to grow in numbers, it is also going to grow in the diversity of its population. We are already becoming more racially and ethnically mixed, we are getting older, and we are seeing a broader range of socio-economic levels here in Shoreline than we’ve seen in the past.

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Planning begins for Parks, Recreation and Open Space (PROS) Plan Update

In January, the Parks, Recreation and Cultural Service Department will begin an eighteen month process to update the PROS Plan. The PROS Plan creates a 20-year vision and framework providing for Shoreline’s recreation and cultural programs, and for maintaining and investing in park, recreation, and open space facilities. It has been five years since the Council adopted the current PROS Plan (July 2011). The PROS Plan is required to be updated every six years to qualify for certain state and federal grants, so it is time to begin planning for a new update. The update is an opportunity to reassess our community’s needs and prioritize program and capital projects with the City’s mission and goals.

The City will be seeking residents’ input by conducting a statistically valid community needs assessment (survey) in January. ETC Institute will conduct the assessment by using a combination of mail, phone, and web-based methods to gather a random sample of at least 500 completed surveys. If you receive a survey, please consider participating. Your feedback is very important to the development of the Plan update. Included in the PROS Plan Update will be three new and interesting components:

Pool Feasibility Study – The Shoreline Pool is nearing the end of its useful life. The City will take a detailed look at the future of the Shoreline Pool and our aquatics programs to see what options may be available in the future to continue to provide residents with these services.

Parks Plan around station areas – We will create a park and open space plan around the 145th and 185th Street light rail stations where population changes in the neighborhoods are expected to create an increased demand for more park, recreation, and open spaces facilities.

Recreation demand study – Using the results of the needs assessment survey, data on population and demographic changes in Shoreline, and information on new and emerging types of recreation activities, the PROS Plan will include a recreation demand study to identify and consider any potential program or service changes.

There will be many opportunities for you to share your ideas. Look for future meeting announcements and project information in Currents, on the web at shorelinewa.gov/prosplan, and from your neighborhood association newsletters. You can also contact Park Project Coordinator Maureen Colaizzi at mcolaizzi@shorelinewa.gov with questions and for more information.

Christmas Tree Recycling Event

Saturday, Jan. 9, 9:00 a.m. - 3:00 p.m.
Meridian Park School Parking Lot, 17077 Meridian Avenue N

Every year, the City hosts a Christmas Tree Recycling Event to help Shoreline residents recycle their Christmas trees. The trees will be collected by Recology CleanScapes and taken off-site to be chipped. Please remove all hooks, ornaments, tinsel, and tree stands before bringing your tree to be recycled. Flocked, artificial and garden trees, branches, wreaths, and swags will not be accepted.

If there is snow or ice on the road on event day, call (206) 801-2450 for a recorded message of the event’s status.

For more information and other options for disposing of your tree, visit shorelinewa.gov/calendar or call (206) 801-2700.
Have you ever thought about what it takes to maintain a City street? Have you noticed the number of street signs, guardrails, street trees, or pavement markings there are in Shoreline? Every time you drive, ride by, or take a walk along a Shoreline street you are enjoying the hard work of Shoreline’s streets crew.

The crew consists of only nine full-time employees, but is responsible for maintaining roughly 343 miles of City streets. No job is ever the same, and no job is too big or too small for this dedicated group. The team is on-call throughout the year and is often called out after hours in all kinds of weather to respond to emergencies. These incidents often include assisting Police and Fire with temporary street closures and setting up detours.

During routine day-to-day maintenance operations, the crew performs a wide variety of tasks including sweeping streets, sidewalk repair, patching and repairing potholes, and installing new or replacing damaged street signs. In addition, crew members help with City events, such as Recycle Fest, and respond to resident requests. They also mow and landscape 60 miles of ROW, 30 traffic circles, and eight ROW beautification sites.

Our streets crew are also responsible for repairing and helping maintain our storm drainage system and for managing our chip seal and overlay projects for City streets.

When it snows, the streets crew automatically goes to 12-hour shifts. Each member is assigned to a truck for plowing and de-icing Shoreline streets. The crew plows primary routes until the snow stops falling and then moves onto the secondary routes and then residential streets.

Street signs are also part of the crew’s responsibilities. They maintain 10,597 existing signs within Shoreline and install new signs when needed. Maintaining signs includes cleaning the sign front, trimming vegetation back around the sign, replacing rotted wooden posts, and replacing signs when they are knocked over.

Our streets crew works tirelessly every day to ensure our roads and rights of way are safe and well maintained.

For more information about Shoreline Streets Maintenance, contact Roads Maintenance Supervisor David LaBelle at (206) 801-2441, dlabelle@shorelinewa.gov.
Planning the future of Shoreline

The Role of the Planning Commission

The volunteers who serve on the Shoreline Planning Commission provide recommendations to the City Council on land use, growth, and development issues. They are charged with reviewing and providing recommendations regarding amendments to the Comprehensive Plan, development regulations, and major development proposals.

Serve on the Planning Commission!

The City Council will be appointing volunteers to the Planning Commission to serve four-year terms beginning in April 2016. No technical background or experience in land use is required – important qualifications are an ability to listen to and work well with others, a willingness to prepare and read staff reports prior to the meetings, and a commitment to regular attendance and active participation at the meetings.

Community Service Applications are available on the City’s website or at City Hall. Applications are due by 4:00 p.m. on Thursday, Dec. 31, 2015, to the City Clerk’s Office on the first floor of City Hall or can be emailed to lbasher@shorelinewa.gov.

Contact Information

Web: shorelinewa.gov/plancom
Email: plancom@shorelinewa.gov
Staff Contacts:
Steven Szafran, AICP, Senior Planner (206) 801-2512
Lisa Basher, Planning Commission Clerk (206) 801-2514

BE STORM READY
Prepare for winter weather

The City of Shoreline has been recognized by the National Weather Service as a StormReady Community. StormReady communities are better prepared to save lives from the onslaught of severe weather through advanced planning, education, and awareness, but we need your help in maintaining that state of readiness! Visit shorelinewa.gov/stormready to find out how you can prepare for winter storms.

Snow Removal

When it snows, City plows will concentrate their efforts on main roads (primary routes) first to accommodate fire, medical, and police response, as well as Metro transit, school buses, and commuter traffic. As long as it continues to snow, the City will only plow primary routes. Once the snow has stopped and all primary routes are clear, plows will move to secondary roads. Once the secondary roads are cleared, plows will move into neighborhoods. If at any time it starts snowing again while plows are clearing secondary or neighborhood streets, the plows will return to the primary routes and the process of clearing streets will begin again. While the City will eventually get to all streets, it is possible that it might take several days after the final snow before residents see a plow on their street. Snow plowing route maps are available at shorelinewa.gov/stormready.

Property Owner Responsibilities

Shoreline property owners are responsible for clearing snow and ice off driveways and sidewalks near their property, including the ridge of snow left along the edge of driveways by snow plows. The City cannot plow individual driveways. If you plow snow or have it removed from your property, do not place the snow in the public right-of-way. This is illegal and can lead to hazardous street conditions. Please keep the removed snow on your own property or make arrangements to have the snow removed to another private property location. Also, to help prevent pooling water or flooding, please help clear catch basins to make way for runoff from melting snow. The City encourages you to stay home during a heavy snow storm unless there is an emergency. If you must travel, the City asks that you use public transportation whenever possible.

Garbage & Recycling Pick-up

Icy streets may prevent Recology CleanScapes from collecting garbage and recycling on designated days. To learn more about adverse weather and holiday policies visit RecologyCleanScapes.com or call (206) 763-4444.

Protect Your Pipes

Every winter, frozen pipes cause damage in homes, apartments, and businesses. To avoid this, keep your heat on at least 40 degrees, especially when on vacation. When frozen pipes thaw they can cause cracks, flooding, and water damage.

Power Outages

The Seattle City Light website allows you to check the status of a power outage (seattle.gov/light/sysstat/). Contact Seattle City Light for more information at (206) 684-7400.
City Manager to appoint Financial Sustainability Citizen Advisory Committee

To help with implementation of the City’s 10-Year Financial Sustainability Plan (10YFSP), the City Manager will appoint 12 to 15 community members to serve on a Financial Sustainability Citizens Advisory Committee. One of the primary goals of the committee will be to look at whether the City should renew the 2010 maintenance and operations levy for basic public safety, parks, recreation, and community services. The levy expires in 2016 and, as part of the 10YFSP, Council recommended that the City engage residents in a discussion of possibly renewing the levy.

The committee will learn more about current City services and finances, and the City’s 10YFSP. They will then look at whether basic services are being met and how best to maintain the delivery of services to Shoreline residents. The committee will help evaluate alternatives including:

- Review of the strategies adopted in the City’s 10 Year Financial Sustainability Plan
- Identify services that should be maintained, increased, and/or reduced to meet the needs of the Shoreline community.

Staff will provide information on revenue sources available to provide services, analyze potential impacts of reduced service levels, and information on service delivery alternatives.

The committee will provide input to the City Manager on how to best support the financial resources that ensure the long-term delivery of basic services to the Shoreline community. Using the committee’s input, the City Manager will develop recommendations for implementing the City’s 10YFSP and give them to the City Council. Council will review the City Manager’s recommendations and make a decision on next steps during the summer of 2016.

Committee members will represent a broad range of Shoreline residents and issues. Members will represent different community organizations, such as neighborhoods, Shoreline businesses, human services organizations, and recreation programs. Five to eight members will be at-large members from the Shoreline community. Any Shoreline resident interested in participating on the committee as an at-large member is encouraged to apply.

The committee will meet approximately six times between February and the end of May. Meetings will most likely be on Thursday evenings from 6:00 to 8:30 p.m. at City Hall.

To apply for an at-large position, residents can download an application at shorelinewa.gov/FSCAC or call the Shoreline City Clerk’s Office at (206) 801-2230. For more information about Shoreline’s long-range financial projections, contact Administrative Services Director Sara Lane at slane@shorelinewa.gov or (206) 801-2301.

Polystyrene recycling in Shoreline
Polystyrene blocks and coolers, plastic wrap and bags

The holidays are here, and if you’re lucky enough to receive toys, electronics, or other fragile gifts, you’ll probably also find blocks of polystyrene (aka Styrofoam) and plastic wrap in your box. Rather than filling your garbage cart with these odd-shaped chunks of polystyrene and potentially airborne plastic bags, King County has given the residents of Shoreline the gift of recycling them at our Transfer Station!

Shoreline residents can now drop off these materials at the Shoreline Recycling and Transfer Station located at 2300 N 165th Street. Only rigid polystyrene blocks and coolers will be accepted. Your polystyrene ‘peanuts’ can be recycled at mail stores where they reuse them to ship packages. All materials must be clean, dry, and free of food, liquids, and other contaminants such as tape, stickers, and labels.

This recycling opportunity is a King County pilot program and is only being offered in Shoreline. Detailed instructions are on the City’s website and attached to the recycling containers at the Transfer Station.

NEW!

DID YOU KNOW?

Household batteries have toxic, heavy metals in them that can be dangerous to our health and environment if they leak. Be sure to dispose of them properly. One way is to recycle the used batteries from your electronics at City Hall, Walgreens, Bartells, or the Police Station. Keep yourself and our environment safe!
City adopts updates to the CRITICAL AREAS ORDINANCE

City Council adopted updates to the Critical Areas Ordinance (CAO), on December 7, 2015, (Ordinance No. 723). Related amendments to Title 20 Development Code were also adopted (Ordinance No. 724). These new regulations will go into effect on February 1, 2016. This approximately two month delay is to allow staff time to train staff, update procedures and hand-outs, as well as to allow projects currently under design to adjust to these code changes. This periodic update of the CAO was required under the State Growth Management Act to incorporate changes to best available science since the last update in 2006.

The key changes to the CAO include:

- New provisions for critical area reports and mitigation plans
- New critical area violation penalties
- Map references added for better critical area identification
- Reorganized for clarity and predictability
- Stream regulations merged into Fish & Wildlife Habitat Conservation Areas provisions
- New classification systems for wetlands and streams
- New buffer requirements and rules for buffer averaging
- Reclassification and clarification of landslide hazard areas

Alteration can now permitted within very high risk landslide hazard areas with detailed design criteria, third party review, and additional surety requirements.

Council amended the regulations recommended by Planning Commission in order to specify protected wildlife species, simplify methodology for calculating landslide hazard steepness, and articulate the separation between CAO and Shoreline Management overlays areas.

Additional project information, including the adopted ordinances, can be found online at shorelinewa.gov/critical-areas. For more information contact Planning Manager Paul Cohen at (206) 801-2551 or pcohen@shorelinewa.gov.
Shoreline's next twenty years  
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Racial and ethnic diversity
The biggest change in Shoreline's population over the past few decades has been the increasing diversity of people calling Shoreline home. Between 2000 and 2013, it's estimated that the Hispanic community in Shoreline has increased by 117% and our black or African-American community has increased by 123%. A fact that surprises some people is that Shoreline's demographics are almost identical to Seattle's. But to really see what the future looks like, we just need to take a look at our youth population. Shoreline School District students speak more than 70 languages at home besides English. Self-identified students of color make up 44.5% of the school population compared to a third for the city.

Active senior population
Shoreline will also grow older. Shoreline has the second highest percentage of people 65 and older in King County at 15.2%. Between 2000 and 2010, the median age increased from 39.3 to 42.1, the seventh oldest median age in Washington State. The percent of people 60 and older is projected to double in King County by 2025.

Based on self-reported health surveys conducted by the Centers for Disease Control, the North Seattle/Shoreline area has the healthiest population of people 60 and older in King County. Having a healthy older population bodes well for the future. It also means this group will be more active long into retirement.

Looking forward
Across the City, departments are thinking about how the impacts of our changing demographics can be addressed to ensure we are adequately serving all of the people that make up the Shoreline community. We are looking at housing, transportation, outdoor space, recreation facilities, and human services.

The next 20 years will be an exciting time to be in in Shoreline. It will be a period full of change and opportunity, and a time to strengthen what we have all worked so hard to build over the past 20 years.
NEW Recreation Registration System

Create Your New Account Today

The Shoreline Parks, Recreation and Cultural Services Department has a new registration system and everyone will need to create a new account.

Create your account TODAY online and you’ll be all set to register for winter programs or reserve picnic shelters on January 5th.

Not online? Accounts may be set up at Spartan Rec Center, Shoreline Pool or by calling (206) 801-2600.

It’s quick, free and easy as 1-2-3!

1. Go To ShorelineWA.gov/RegisterNow
2. Create Your New Account TODAY
3. Register or Reserve Easily Online
   Winter Registration begins January 5th.

(206) 801-2700 Customer Response Team 24 hours/7 days a week
(206) 801-2485 Aurora Construction Hotline 24 hours/7 days a week

shorelinewa.gov