City seeks to prioritize and find funding for sidewalk projects

AS ANYONE WHO HAS SPENT TIME WALKING through Shoreline knows, we lack a continuous network of sidewalks in the city. Many of the sidewalks that do exist are sporadically located, ending abruptly in neighborhoods or commercial districts, or extending the width of a single parcel when constructed in conjunction with redevelopment at that site. Sidewalks vary in width and many are narrower than the City’s current standard, as are many of the grassy strips between sidewalks and streets. In addition, existing sidewalks are showing their age with tree root damage, cracking, and curb ramps that need repair and upgrading to aid travel by people with disabilities and to meet Americans with Disabilities Act requirements.

Unfortunately, the cost to construct, maintain, and repair the miles of sidewalk the city already has or needs to construct exceeds the City’s currently available resources for this work. It can cost up to $2.5 million to construct just one mile of sidewalk. It can cost approximately $195,000 per mile to make significant sidewalk repairs along a street lined with trees. The City’s current funding for sidewalk improvements primarily depends on receiving highly competitive, and relatively modest, federal and state grants.

At the recent City Council Goal Setting Workshop, Council discussed options to address the City’s sidewalk needs. They reviewed the City’s plan for completing a sidewalk network throughout the city. They also discussed the cost to complete construction of the network, the cost to maintain existing sidewalks, and how to prioritize and fund the different projects.

Based on Council feedback, City staff will develop an approach that will include community input on prioritizing and funding sidewalk improvement projects. The City Manager will appoint a citizen committee this spring. Information on how to participate in this important planning process will be available at shorelinewa.gov.
City updates the plan for public art

THE CITY COUNCIL RECENTLY ADOPTED the 2017 – 2022 Public Art Plan. Now over 10 years old, the Public Art Program has evolved to include neighborhood-based projects, placemaking efforts, coordination with Sound Transit to integrate art into light rail station subareas, and much more. The Plan presents a comprehensive vision for a greater diversity of programs and forms of public art over the next six years. In addition to ongoing, community-based programs like Piano Time, Artscape sculptures at Town Center, exhibitions at City Hall, and eco-art in parks, the Plan focuses on bringing a significant work of public art to Shoreline by 2018.

The Plan outlines goals and action steps that reflect public input from Shoreline residents, artists, and arts advocates who attended meetings or took online public art surveys. The public process dovetails with the update to the City’s Parks, Recreation & Open Space Plan. To learn more about the Public Art Program, visit shorelinewa.gov/parks.

Green Building Speaker Series

THIS SPRING AND SUMMER, the City will sponsor a Green Building Speaker Series. The events will be from 7:00 to 9:00 p.m. in the City Council Chamber at City Hall.

**Thursday, April 13:** The Power of Zero – Brad Liljequist, AICP, LEED AP- Net Zero Energy Program Director, International Living Future Institute. Liljequist will showcase net zero energy buildings (which generate enough energy to fulfill their own needs) from around the world, including examples in the Puget Sound region.

**Thursday, May 11:** Emerging Technologies and Concept Projects – Walker Leiser, LFA, PDC- Living Technology Consultant. Leiser will introduce next generation technologies and concept projects, including Earth Harmony Habitats, a design that would be net positive (generating more than it needs) with regard to energy, water, and food.

**Thursday, June 8:** Salmon Safe – Ellen Southard, Hon. AIA- Principal, Site Story. Southard will focus on site and stormwater solutions to protect the health of the Puget Sound and indicator species like salmon. The discussion will include urban and suburban development and transportation projects, as well as farm and winery partnerships.

**Tuesday, July 25:** District Energy and Combined Heat & Power – Thomas Puttman, PE, AICP, LEED AP- President, Puttman Infrastructure. Puttman will explore energy and heating systems that work at the building, block, and neighborhood scale. The discussion will introduce how this technology has been employed in other cities, like Vancouver B.C., and explore how it could be utilized locally in places like the light rail station subareas and Community Renewal Area.
LAST SUMMER WAS THE FIFTH year of the Shoreline Farmers Market (SFM) and it was a great season! SFM reported year-to-year sponsorship growth of 300%, sales growth of 50%, and estimated attendance growth of 40%. These are fantastic numbers that show a healthy farmers market has developed in Shoreline. Another exciting part of last year’s success was the expansion of human services available to patrons. Human services programs include:

**Power of Produce Kids Club (PoP)**
The new PoP Program was partially sponsored by The Everett Clinic and put $4,200 of PoP currency in the hands of over 1,300 children. PoP teaches the power of a transaction, builds customers of all ages, and helps kids make good choices when shopping since they can only use PoP on fresh fruits and veggies. Better yet, every penny of this popular program was spent to directly support our farmers.

**SNAP and Fresh Bucks:**
The SFM has been accepting Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) benefits since its first season. In past years, the SFM has raised matching funds to encourage SNAP users to purchase high quality produce at the market. In 2016, the SFM worked with the City of Seattle to qualify the market for the federal Fresh Bucks program. The market now has access to funding of up to $34,000 to match, administer, and advertise SNAP benefits. Thanks to Fresh Bucks, SFM anticipates significant SNAP use in 2017.

**WIC / FMNP**
2016 was also the first year SFM participated in the WIC (Women, Infant, Children) program and FMNP (Farmers Market Nutrition Programs), both of which are vital food security programs for families with low incomes and seniors.

**Hopelink Partnership:**
Since its first season, SFM farmers have donated fresh food to Hopelink. In 2016, nearly 1,000 pounds of fruits and vegetables were donated to this important local organization. Given Hopelink’s recent expansion into its new facility, SFM hopes to continue to partner with Hopelink to explore new marketing and outreach opportunities to lower income communities in and around Shoreline.

**Chef’s Tent Cooking Demonstrations**
Every week, the Chef’s Tent featured a diverse group of chefs demonstrating to customers how to cook food purchased at the market. Customers were inspired, and vendors witnessed increased sales of the demonstrated items.

In 2017, the market will again be held on Saturdays from 10:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. in the Sears parking lot near Central Market with opening day on June 10. Visit shorelinefarmersmarket.org to find out how to become a vendor or volunteer, and follow the market on Facebook and Instagram for the latest news.
Echo Lake Neighborhood

BOUNDED BY I-5 on the east and Aurora Avenue on the west, the Echo Lake neighborhood takes its name from a naturally occurring glacial lake at the headwaters of the McAleer Creek watershed system. In the early 1900s, a shingle mill operated at the north end of the lake, and soon, a railroad camp housed workers building the Interurban line to Everett. Echo Lake quickly became a rural destination, easily accessible by the new electric trolley, where swimmers could spend a day at the Echo Lake Bathing Beach for a nickel.

Today, Echo Lake Park is a stone’s throw from Aurora Village, and remains a welcome refuge from busy roads, and a place to spot otters, turtles, cormorants, and an occasional coyote. Every year, the Echo Lake Neighborhood Association (ELNA) hosts a work party around the lake. Last summer, 37 volunteers weeded, pulled blackberries, and spread over 14 yards of mulch. Then, in true Echo Lake fashion, they celebrated with a neighborhood picnic.

While the neighborhood features several multi-family dwellings, especially along Aurora and in Ballinger Commons, it is known for single family homes surrounded by tall evergreens. The Interurban Trail runs the length of Echo Lake, with people on foot and bicycle benefiting from the original trolley line. Shoreline Park, Shoreline Pool, playing fields, tennis courts, and the Shoreline Center define the heart of the neighborhood.

Echo Lake has art, too. People traveling along NE 205th and 5th NE know they are in the neighborhood when they pass the lake scene by muralist Andy Echelshall. Northwest artist Stuart Nakamura is well-represented by his sculpture Contemplating the Arc in Echo Lake Park, and his Raven and Pheasant panels at the Aurora Village Transit Center. Further south, a student art project near Shoreline Park memorializes civil rights leader Edwin Pratt.

Echo Lake residents are deeply involved in the community as volunteers in the schools, on City commissions, and for local nonprofits. Several past and present residents have served on the City Council. A dedicated group of volunteers worked with funding from a City Mini-Grant to create a user friendly pathway between Ashworth and Densmore on N188th Street. The project won an award from the national organization Neighborhoods USA in 2012. This last year, volunteers received another Mini-Grant to install a bench and signs to acknowledge the many hours neighbors spend each year to maintain the path.

Known for its civic engagement, the Echo Lake Neighborhood Association is an all-volunteer organization run by an elected board and committee chairs. ELNA meets on the third Tuesday of the month, and hosts speakers on topics of interest to members. Visit EchoLakeNeighborhood.org for more information.
Residential burglaries and mail theft

BEING A VICTIM OF A RESIDENTIAL BURGLARY can be very traumatic as it happens where we should feel safest – our homes. A large number of such burglaries could easily be avoided. Police see a large number of burglaries in Shoreline homes being non-forced entries where burglars enter homes via unlocked doors or windows. A simple sweep of your home before leaving to make sure all of your doors and windows are locked can go a long way in protecting it from a burglar.

One of the best ways to protect against burglaries, aside from locking your doors and windows, is to watch for suspicious activity in your neighborhood. Be an alert neighbor. Call 911 immediately upon seeing suspicious activity.

MAIL THEFT

Theft of mail from personal mailboxes continues to be a concern in Shoreline. Thieves take mail from mailboxes and easily alter checks and steal identities.

One of the best ways to protect against mail theft is to use the locked cluster mailbox units for several homes or a single residential locking mailbox. These are purchased through private companies. For cluster boxes, contact the post office for the most up-to-date regulations. You may also need a right of way permit from the City.

If you don’t have a locking mailbox, then collect your mail every day. Do not leave mail in an unlocked mailbox overnight. If you leave town, even for a few days, stop the mail or have someone pick it up for you every day.

Free workshops and vendor fair for your home improvement projects

Tuesdays, April 25 and May 23
6:00 to 8:00 p.m., City Hall lobby
RSVP: shorelinewa.gov/homeimprovement

HOME IMPROVEMENT SEASON IS COMING! Do you have a home improvement project in mind, but need some guidance to get started? Is it a house remodel or addition; subdivision of property; or a driveway, drainage, deck, or a tree project? Our workshops can help you take the next steps.

Technical reviewers will be available by appointment to help with questions regarding your house, property, land uses, and street as well as City requirements and permit information. Visit shorelinewa.gov/homeimprovement to make an appointment with a technical reviewer.

In addition to appointments with technical reviewers, there will also be a Vendor Fair of building, design, and construction related resources. These vendors will include architects, contractors, lending institutions, materials suppliers, and other design consultants. You do not need an appointment to come in and talk with any of these vendors, so feel free to stop by between 6:00 and 8:00 p.m.

Questions? Contact Permit Services Manager Jarrod Lewis at (206) 801-2521 or jlewis@shorelinewa.gov.

DID YOU KNOW?

The Seattle region has been experiencing record-breaking amounts of rain this fall and winter. October 2016 set an all-time record with 10.05 inches! Rain falling on our roofs, driveways, or compacted soil quickly rushes off to the nearest storm drain or stream. You can help reduce pollution, reduce flooding, and protect your property by redirecting or capturing the rain with conservation landscaping or a rain garden. The City even offers a rebate to private and commercial properties through the Soak It Up program! For more information, visit shorelinewa.gov/soakitup or call (206) 801-2450.
Saturday, April 29
9:00 a.m. - 2:00 p.m.
Central Market parking lot
15505 Westminster Way N

Celebrate Earth Day and be inspired to make a difference throughout the year. On Saturday, April 29, from 9:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m., Central Market and the City of Shoreline invite you to celebrate our Northwest environment. Come try new eco-living tools and learn how to protect our climate and reduce pollution.

This year, to help reduce water pollution and protect our health, attendees will receive a 15 lb. bag of organic worm castings for your lawn and vegetable gardens. In addition, Recology CleanScapes staff will lead short walking tours to celebrate the Grand Opening of the new Recology Store on Aurora at 155th.

Watch your mail for an Earth Day event flyer from the City, as well as a postcard from Recology CleanScapes with details of items you can bring to the Store to recycle and a one-time, 15% off coupon for items you can purchase at the Store.

Spring & summer construction

IT’S ALMOST CONSTRUCTION SEASON IN SHORELINE, the time of year when we see a number of our Capital Improvement projects take shape. The Capital Improvement Plan (CIP) is a multi-year plan for capital expenditures needed to restore, improve, and expand the City’s infrastructure, which includes roads, sidewalks, trails, drainage, parks, and buildings owned and/or maintained by the City. The plan identifies projects and funding for improvements over a six-year period. The City updates the CIP annually to reflect ongoing changes and additions. It also details the work to be done for each project and an expected time-frame for completion.

Below is a list of capital projects that will begin construction this spring and summer:

- **Echo Lake Safe Routes to School** - Construct sidewalks (including curb and gutter), curb ramps, and crosswalks on N 195th Street between Meridian Avenue N and Wallingford Avenue N directly adjacent to Echo Lake Elementary School.

- **Meridian Avenue N Pavement Overlay, N 190th to 205th Streets** – Grind and pave over existing asphalt pavement and upgrade curb ramps to meet ADA requirements.

- **Interurban/Burke Gilman Connectors** – Provide two routes (northern and southern) to connect Shoreline’s section of the regional Interurban Trail to Lake Forest Park and the Burke-Gilman Trail using a combination of signage, sharrows, and separated paths.

- **Police Station at City Hall** – Build out existing third floor of City Hall for Planning and Community Development, remodel first floor for police, construct an addition to the east side of the building, and make site improvements for access and parking.

- **Regional Trail Signage (Wayfinding) Project** – Install signs to identify direction and distance to key destinations throughout the City.

- **15th Avenue NE Pavement Overlay, NE 148th to 155th Streets** – Grind and pave over existing asphalt pavement and upgrade curb ramps to meet ADA requirements.

- **Stormwater Pipe Replacement Projects (various locations throughout the city - annual program)** – Repair and replace failing stormwater pipes identified during annual condition assessment video inspections.

- **Bike System Implementation (various locations throughout the city)** – Implement majority of City’s adopted Bicycle System Plan and Wayfinding Program.

To learn more about each of these projects and the CIP in general, visit shorelinewa.gov.
Shoreline Walks community walking program starts in April

MARK YOUR CALENDARS, April 8 is the first walk as part of Shoreline Walks, a free community walking program to help Shoreline adults stay active, meet new people (or connect with old friends), and feel safer and more confident exploring our city by foot. Walks explore neighborhoods, parks, and trails offering great insight into some of the best walking routes in our City. Specifically designed for adults ages 50+, but open to all ages and abilities, each walk is led by a Volunteer Walk Leader and all walks are free to the public.

Shoreline Walks is part of the City of Shoreline’s Healthy City initiative and is one of many efforts the City is making to support a healthy community.

For more details and to see the full schedule of Shoreline Walks, visit shorelinewa.gov/shorelinewalks or contact Recreation Specialist Marianne Johnson at (206) 801-2600 or mjohnson@shorelinewa.gov.

SPRING WALKS

Ridgecrest Loop Walk
OPENING WALK
Saturday, April 8, 9:00 a.m.
Join a springtime walk around the Ridgecrest Neighborhood. Rain or shine we’ll meet at the Crest Theater and explore the streets connecting the business district with Hamlin Park and Paramount School Park. If it’s raining, bring your umbrella. Bring some money, we’ll stop for coffee after at Café Aroma.
Walk is approximately 2 miles / 1.5 hours
Walk Rating: Easy
Meet at: Crest Theater, 16505 5th Avenue NE, Shoreline

Hamlin Park Trails Walk
Saturday, May 13, 9:00 a.m.
Take a morning stroll in the woods! Hamlin is one of the oldest parks in Shoreline. Join walk leader Alice Lawson and get acquainted with the many winding trails throughout this gem of a park. Rain or Shine.
Walk is approximately 1.75 miles / 1 hour
Walk Rating: Moderate (bumpy trails)
Meet at: Hamlin Park, 160th Street, 2nd parking lot on left (by picnic shelter)

MORE INFORMATION:
shorelinewa.gov/adults
Marianne Johnson at mjohnson@shorelinewa.gov or (206) 801-2600