



CURRENTS

News from the City of Shoreline Volume 20 No. 2

March 2018

You may qualify for property tax exemptions and deferrals

IF YOU ARE A SENIOR CITIZEN, disabled, or a homeowner with limited income and your primary residence is in Washington State, there are several programs that may help you pay your property taxes and/or special assessments. Your household income and your age or disability determine your eligibility for these programs.

Senior Citizen/Disabled Property Tax Exemption Program

Under the exemption program, the value of your Washington State residence is frozen for property tax purposes, and you become exempt from all excess and special levies and possibly regular levies - resulting in a reduction in your property taxes.

Senior Citizen/Disabled Property Tax Deferral Program

Under the deferral program, the Washington State Department of Revenue pays the property taxes and/or special assessments on your behalf. The deferred amount, plus interest, becomes a lien in favor of the state until the total amount is repaid.

Property Tax Deferral Program for Homeowners with Limited Income

Under this deferral program, the Washington State Department of Revenue pays the second installment of your property taxes and/or special assessments, due October 31, on your behalf. The program is not an exemption or a grant. Deferred taxes are taxes that have been postponed. When you no longer own or use the property as your personal residence, you must repay the deferred tax. The deferred amount, plus interest, becomes a lien in favor of the state until the total amount is repaid.

To learn more about the programs and eligibility, visit the King County Assessor's office website at kingcounty.gov/depts/assessor/forms and click on the link for the appropriate property tax exemption or deferral.

See page 5 for utility assistance programs



City Hall Gallery

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Trail Along the Rail update

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CONTACT YOUR Shoreline City Council



MAYOR
WILL HALL
(206) 373-1630
whall@shorelinewa.gov



DEPUTY MAYOR
JESSE SALOMON
(206) 396-5807
jsalomon@shorelinewa.gov



SUSAN CHANG
(206) 373-1639
schang@shorelinewa.gov



DORIS McCONNELL
(206) 731-9323
dmccConnell@shorelinewa.gov



KEITH McGLASHAN
(206) 330-3948
kmcglashan@shorelinewa.gov



CHRIS ROBERTS
(206) 391-2733
croberts@shorelinewa.gov



KEITH SCULLY
(206) 735-9030
kscully@shorelinewa.gov

CONTACT ALL COUNCILMEMBERS:
(206) 801-2213
council@shorelinewa.gov

CITY COUNCIL MEETINGS:
Mondays at 7:00 p.m.
Shoreline City Hall, Council Chamber
Agendas: shorelinewa.gov/councilmeetings

Planning Commission work plan

ON JANUARY 22, the City Council and the Planning Commission held a joint meeting to review accomplishments from 2017 and to discuss the Planning Commission's work plan for 2018. Last year we saw a new record in permit revenue as growth continues throughout Shoreline. The Planning and Community Development Department processed over 1,900 permits in 2017.

In addition to the annual review of amendments to the Comprehensive Plan and Development Code, the Planning Commission will also study the following:

- **Vegetation Management Plan** – This project is intended to create a way to regulate large tracts of vegetated land to allow for ongoing and long-term maintenance and restoration, while meeting the intent of the City's critical area and tree regulations.
- **Update of the Shoreline Management Plan (SMP)** – This is a State required mandate to evaluate and update provisions of the City's approved SMP.
- **Mandatory green building for commercial structures** – This project would require LEED (Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design) building for all commercial development.
- **Continue evaluation of the Landscape Conservation and Local Infrastructure Program (LCLIP)** – Passed into State law in 2011, LCLIP creates incentives for both land conservation in the county and infrastructure improvements in the city. This program would allow developers to increase development potential of properties in our subareas (light rail station areas, Town Center, etc.) in exchange for preservation of natural and farm lands in rural parts of our county. It would also provide greater assessed tax revenues for the City to pay for improvements such as plazas, parks, sidewalks, bike lanes, etc. to encourage a vibrant, livable city.

Visit shorelinewa.gov/planningcommission to learn more about the Planning Commissions work.

Sears closure leads to new opportunities at Shoreline Place

EARLY IN JANUARY, Sears announced that along with 42 other stores across the country, it would be closing its Shoreline store in April 2018. The Shoreline store opened to great fanfare in September 1967 and it has been an important part of our community for decades. Unfortunately, it is no longer seen as viable.

The good news is that with the closure of Sears there is an opportunity to create something new at Shoreline Place (formerly Aurora Square). California-based Merlone Geier Partners purchased the 17-acre Sears property in July 2017. They plan to redevelop the property into a mixed-use hub featuring new shopping, dining, and housing experiences. See shorelineplace.com for updates.

"Merlone Geier is focused on meeting the needs of the current and future community in Shoreline, where there is strong demand for modern retail, better restaurants, and additional types of housing," said Vice President of Development, Jamas Gwilliam.

In early January, Merlone Geier released a survey to Shoreline residents and residents of nearby cities to get input on what the community is looking for at Shoreline Place: shorelineplace.com/survey. The survey will remain open through Friday, March 9, 2018.

Merlone Geier owns several properties in the Puget Sound area including Shoreline Marketplace, located at N 175th Street and Midvale where Trader Joe's, Mud Bay, and The Everett Clinic are located, and the Lake Forest Park Town Center where Third Place Books is located.

GALLERY AT CITY HALL

THROUGHOUT THE YEAR, the Gallery at City Hall exhibits exceptional works from artists from around the region.



Allan Fulle, "Black Tower"
City Hall Lobby through May 20, 2018

The gallery is open Monday through Friday 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. when City Hall is open. Artwork is displayed on all four floors of the building.

Currently on view through March 30, 2018, are works from fifteen local artists currently showing a variety of media, from monotypes (Loreen Matsumura), to collages made with cut-up soda cans (Kemba Opio), to a 13' tall epoxy-resin sculpture (Alan Fulle), to a series of sign-posts with augmented-reality content (Workshop 3D), to a group show of Latinx artists (guest-curated by Seattle Central College professor Tatiana Garmendia). This group exhibition gives visible presence to Latinx cultural arts-workers, featuring Tracy Carrera, Juan Franco, Gabriel Marquez, Rene Julio, Ettie Wahl, Ulises Mariscal, Tatiana Garmendia, Hugo Moro, and Kristen T. Ramirez

Follow Shoreline's Public Art Program on Facebook at facebook.com/shorelineart.



Kemba Opio, "Flavor of Us #2"
City Hall Lobby Floor through March 30, 2018



Ulises Mariscal, "What Crime?"
City Hall 4th Floor through March 30, 2018

Free workshops and vendor fair for your home improvement projects

Tuesdays, March 27, April 24, and May 22

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.

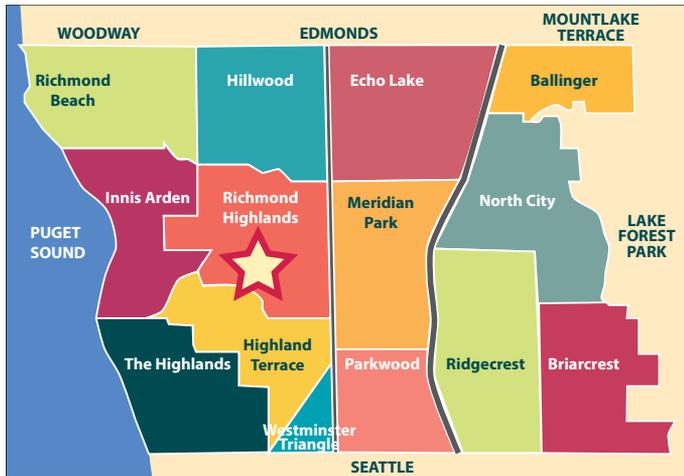
In addition to appointments with technical reviewers, there will also be a vendor fair of building, design, and construction related resources. These vendors will include architects, contractors, lending institutions, materials suppliers, and other design consultants. You do not need an appointment to 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?

Responsible pet owners bag their pet waste and put it in the trash, whether in public or on their own properties. This keeps harmful bacteria out of our yards, streets, streams, and homes. Some bacteria in dog poo can live up to four years in your yard, where it can make your pet sick or get tracked into the house. It also washes into streams and lakes when it rains, where it can harm wildlife, people and pets. You can help protect our community and environment by scooping pet waste, bagging it and throwing it in the trash! It is also just the neighborly thing to do. No one likes stepping in dog poo. For more information, visit shorelinewa.gov/cleanwater.

NEIGHBORHOOD SPOTLIGHT



Richmond Highlands

AT ONE TIME IN SHORELINE'S HISTORY, Richmond Highlands was a much larger neighborhood than it is now, extending well into Hillwood. In 1910, it included both sides of N 185th, the road connecting Richmond Beach to a newly named Richmond Highlands stop on Interurban route between Seattle and Everett. And long before that, what we now know as the northern boundary of the neighborhood was part of a Native American corridor between Puget Sound and Lake Washington.

Today's Richmond Highlands is bounded on the east by Aurora and Innis Arden to the west, and runs from N 165th to N 185th. It includes many historic places associated with the historic Ronald neighborhood: a church, community hall, school, and the Interurban stop at 175th, all named after a local judge.

Down the hill and west of the old Ronald neighborhood, settlers formed a new community with an evocative name. Apparently, one young resident was nicknamed "Happy" because of her infectious laugh, and the place she lived was dubbed Happy Valley in 1910. A close-knit neighborhood still exists there today, and is known for its lively National Night Out block party every August.

In 1909, land was purchased on Dayton Avenue N for the Herzl Memorial Park, one of two Jewish cemeteries in Shoreline. In 1937, L.N. Rosenbaum donated the Fani Rosenbaum Chapel to honor his mother, and nationally recognized architect Marcus Priteca designed the building with a concrete dome and acoustical qualities.

Modern Richmond Highlands holds clues to its past and future in two King County/Shoreline landmark buildings. Opened in 1906 as a one-room building, Ronald School expanded over time to accommodate a growing student population. The last class graduated in 1970 when funding shortages forced the school to close. In 1976, the School District founded the Shoreline Historical Museum as a U.S. Bicentennial Project. After the Museum refurbished and restored the building, it became an official landmark in 2008. Three years later, the School District purchased the building back and incorporated it into the reconstructed Shorewood High School. The Shoreline Historical Museum is now on the Hillwood side of N 185th, directly across from the Richmond Masonic Lodge.

The Masonic lodge has been well-used since the first meeting in 1922, and was designated as a landmark in 2010. Recent foundation repairs funded by 4Culture ensure that the building will continue to serve today's Masons and the whole community by providing rental space for a variety of groups.

At the helm of community events, the Richmond Highlands Neighborhood Association is busy creating new family-friendly traditions for residents. Last summer, they hosted a Bicycle and Rodeo Fair at Sunset School Park. Then, as temperatures climbed, they set up sprinklers for their second Wet and Wild event. To find out about RHNA, visit richmondhighlands.org and sign up on Nextdoor.com for notices of upcoming events.

Courtesy Shoreline Historical Museum



Ronald School opening day, 1912



Bike Rodeo Fair at Sunset School Park

COYOTES IN SHORELINE

SHORELINE BOASTS over 380 acres of park land for residents. Green spaces provide more than recreation and outdoor experiences, they also provide important wildlife habitat. Raccoons, opossums, squirrels, rabbits, beavers, mountain beavers, and turtles all make their homes in Shoreline. Increasingly, we can also include coyotes on that list.

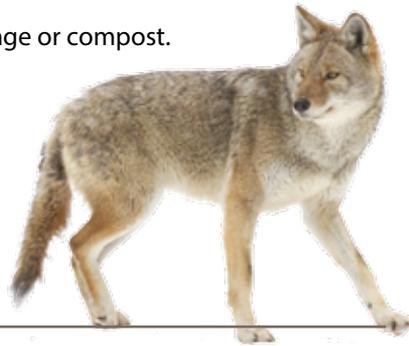
Coyotes play an important role in our environment and, for the most part, Shoreline residents and coyotes can coexist peacefully. However, to ensure the safety of you, your children, and your pets, it is important to keep a few things in mind.

While curious by nature, coyotes are timid animals and will generally run away if challenged. If you come across a coyote, immediately pick up small children or small pets and act aggressively toward the coyote. Wave your arms, throw stones, and shout at the coyote. If necessary, make yourself look larger. Do not turn and run. If a coyote does not scare easily, it most likely has become accustomed to humans through food. People have either fed the coyote or left easily accessible food sources around their homes.

If a coyote continues to act aggressively or in an unusual way, contact the Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife at (877) 933-9847. In an emergency, dial 911.

The best strategy to prevent conflicts with coyotes is to avoid attracting them:

- Don't leave small children unattended where coyotes are frequently seen or heard.
- Keep dogs and cats indoors, especially from dusk to dawn.
- Never feed coyotes.
- Don't give coyotes access to garbage or compost.
- Feed dogs and cats indoors.
- Don't feed feral cats.
- Prevent buildup of feeder food under bird feeders.
- Enclose poultry and other small animals that live outdoors in a secure outdoor pen and house.



Utility Assistance Programs

Seattle City Light and Seattle Public Utilities

Qualifying customers of Seattle City Light can lower their electric bills by up to 60% and their Seattle Public Utilities bills by up to 50%. To qualify, customers must have household incomes at or below 70% of the state's median for their household size. For more information, call (206) 684-3417.

Ronald Wastewater

Qualifying senior citizens (62 years of age or older) and persons with disabilities can receive reduced rates from Ronald Wastewater District. Individuals must have gross income of less than \$40,370 and households with two or more people must have gross income less than \$46,080. For more information please call (206) 546-2494.

North City Water District

The North City Water District provides a low-income discount for households having income within the "very-low income" limits set by HUD for the Seattle area. The discount is \$10 off the base water rate. For more information, call (206) 362-8100.

Low Income Utility Assistance

The City provides \$25,000 in annual funding to Hopelink for utility assistance for low-income individuals. Persons seeking to apply for assistance should contact Hopelink at (206) 440-7300.

COUNCIL ADOPTS A B&O TAX - CORRECTION

THE FEBRUARY 2018 ISSUE of Currents included an article on the recently adopted Business and Occupation (B&O) tax. The article included a typographical error and caused confusion about tax rates and the exemption threshold. The following is an updated version of the article that we hope clarifies the issue:

On December 4, 2017 the City

Council adopted a B&O tax in Shoreline. All businesses operating in Shoreline that have gross receipts in excess of \$500,000 per year (or \$125,000 per quarter), except 501(C)(3) non-profits, will be subject to the tax effective January 1, 2019. A rate of 0.001 will be applied to all gross receipts for all business classifications except services, which will be

taxed at a rate of 0.002.

More information will be provided in Currents and through direct communication to Shoreline businesses later in the year to ensure businesses are aware of their tax filing responsibilities for 2019 and beyond. Get more information about the City's budget and taxes at shorelinewa.gov/finance.

TRAIL ALONG THE RAIL

THE TRAIL ALONG THE RAIL PROJECT is moving forward. We published the final feasibility report last year and are now moving forward with conceptual design. We are also pursuing grant funding opportunities.

The vision for the trail is to create a continuous shared-use path that runs roughly parallel to the future light rail tracks in Shoreline. The path would connect people to the light rail stations and to community destinations. The feasibility study identified the long-term preferred alignment and a near-term strategy for creating pedestrian and bicycle connections on the existing street network and bicycle connections on the existing street network.

In order to obtain funding for the long-term trail vision, the project will need to be phased. Currently, we are focusing on Phase 1, a 10-block segment of the trail from NE 185th Street to NE 195th Street. This segment would connect pedestrians and bicyclists to the future Shoreline North/ 185th Street Station, North City Elementary School, North City Park, and the existing 195th Street Pedestrian Bridge over I-5.

Visit shorelinewa.gov/trailalongtherail to learn more and to read the feasibility report.

CURRENT SCHEDULE

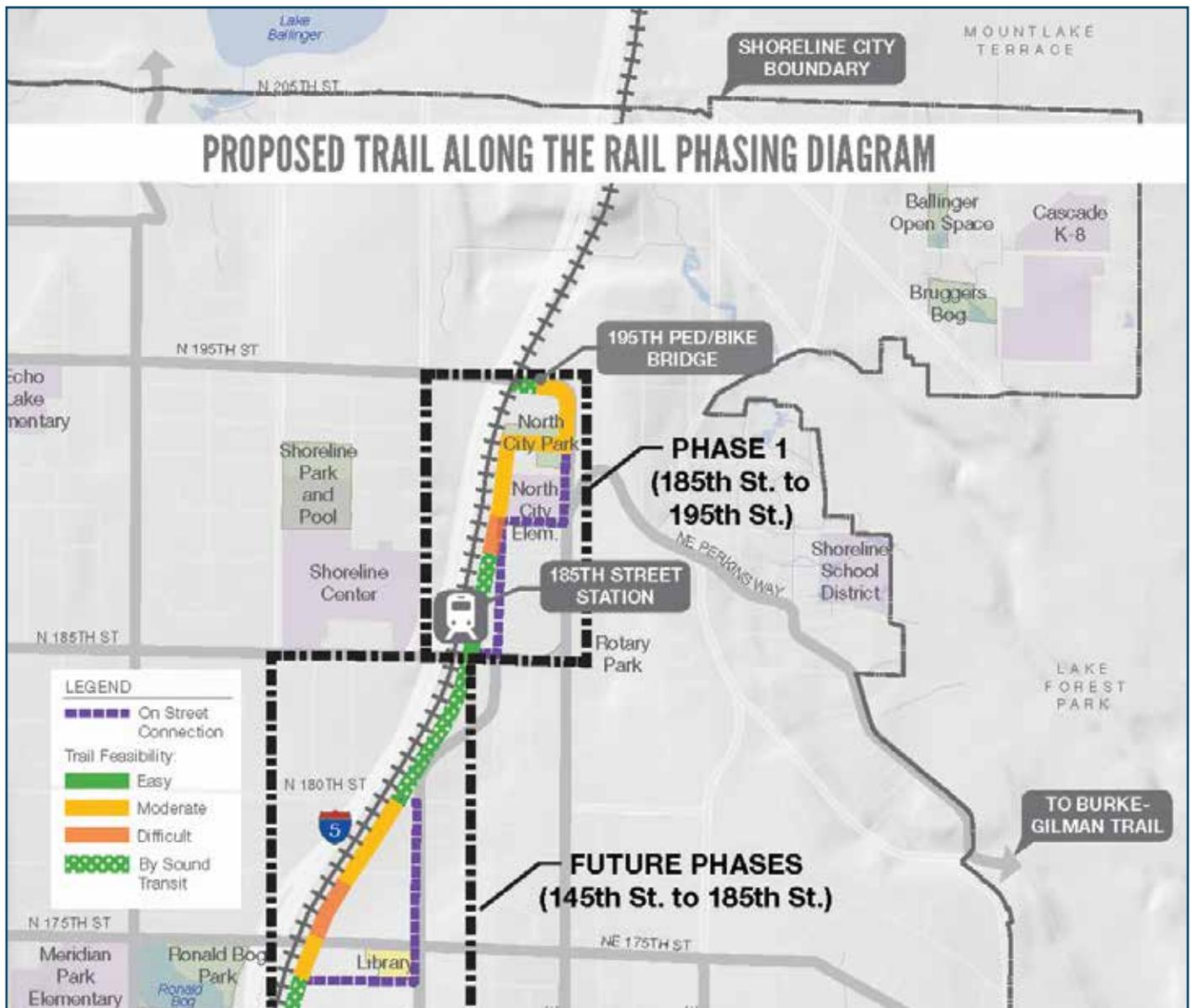
Conceptual Design:
In Progress

Final Design/Environmental:
Beginning Spring 2018

Construction:
Dependent on Funding

MORE INFORMATION

shorelinewa.gov/trailalongtherail



What are conditional use and special use permits?

EVER WONDER how large or complicated projects are approved by your City? These projects are approved through conditional use permits and special use permits. Conditional uses and special uses possess features where ensuring compatibility with the neighborhood is important. For these types of land uses to occur on a property, approval must be obtained.

Typical conditional uses are schools; conference centers; libraries; museums; fire, police and utility facilities; houses of worship, school district support facilities; and hospitals, medical labs, medical offices and outpatient clinics.

Special uses can be regional land uses, such as a light rail transit facility/system, school bus or transit bus bases, waste transfer stations, and park and ride lots; or local uses, such as public agency or public utility offices/yard.

Conditional use permit approvals are decisions made by the Planning and Community Development Director. No public hearings are held. Special use permit approvals are decisions made by the hearing examiner after a public hearing. Both conditional use permit and special use permit approvals are based on meeting applicable criteria. They are also subject to certain conditions placed on the approval.

Why should I care?

The City anticipates submittal of a special use permit application and two critical area special use permits by Sound Transit for the Lynnwood Link Extension Light Rail Project this year. We also anticipate the Shoreline School District submitting several conditional use permit applications over the next couple of years as they rebuild their two middle schools.

Opportunities for public participation where you can find out what is proposed, ask questions, and provide comments, include:

Neighborhood Meetings: Neighborhood meetings are held by applicants to discuss a proposed project with the neighbors and receive input prior to submittal of conditional use permit or special use permit application. This is your first chance to provide input to the applicant. The applicant then has a chance to try to respond to any potential impacts that their proposal may have on a neighborhood.

Notice of Application (NOA): The NOA is issued by the City and it provides information about the proposed project, such as:

- What and where is the project;
- Who is applying;
- When and how you can comment on the project;
- Public hearing details, if scheduled;
- City staff contact for the project; and
- The decisions and criteria that apply.

Public Hearing: A public hearing conducted by the hearing examiner is required for special use permits. You can provide:

- Written comments during the public comment period; and
- Oral testimony, if you attend the public hearing.

Do my comments make a difference?

Yes. If the applicant and City know what your concerns are, then changes to the project or approval conditions addressing your concerns can be considered.

It is helpful when you provide comments to link your concerns to the decision criteria that applies to the project.

Changes coming to City's ALERT Shoreline system

LATER THIS SPRING, we will be changing how we deliver our ALERT Shoreline alerts. Currently, we use the Everbridge system to deliver everything from road closure updates to Council meeting agendas. However, by June 1, we will be sending emergency alerts through King County's Code Red system and we will send community alerts through our website's e-notification system.

What does this mean for you?

Hopefully, not much. If you are currently signed up to receive alerts through ALERT Shoreline, you will not need to do anything. Your information will be transferred to the new communication systems. You will continue to receive alerts as before. If you have not signed up to receive alerts through ALERT Shoreline, you will be able to sign up to receive emergency alerts through Code Red and community alerts through our website.

Why are we making the switch?

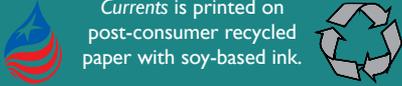
King County is offering cities in King County the opportunity to piggyback onto their emergency communications system operated by Code Red for free. By making the switch, we will be able to save \$18,000 a year. In addition, by piggybacking onto King County's system, King County Emergency Management will be able to send out emergency notifications on our behalf if Shoreline staff are unable to do so. Also, King County Sheriff's Department currently uses Code Red to send out alerts. Since we contract with the Sheriff's department for police services, King County dispatchers will now be able to send out alerts on behalf of Shoreline Police, freeing our police to address the situation at hand and not have to worry about sending out their own alert.

We will provide more information about the switch as we get closer to June 1.

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**CITY OF SHORELINE
CURRENTS**

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17500 Midvale Avenue N
Shoreline, WA 98133-4905

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Shoreline Walks

Volunteer Walk Leaders Wanted for 2018!

Have a great walking route you want to
share with others?

Contact us for more information
about becoming a walk leader and
leading free community walks around
Shoreline.

More Information

ShorelineWA.gov/ShorelineWalks
206-801-2638

New walks start in April 2018!

CITY OF SHORELINE PARKS, RECREATION & CULTURAL SERVICES

SUMMER CAMPS

- ~ Over 120 camps for ages 3-16
- ~ Full day & half day options
- ~ Register early, camps fill FAST

Registration Starts
March 19th - Shoreline Residents
March 21st - LFP Residents
March 22nd - Everyone

Shorelinewa.gov/RegisterNow