Council appoints Betsy Robertson to Council Position #6; Selects Doris McConnell as Deputy Mayor

AFTER REVIEWING fifty-three applications and interviewing six applicants, the Shoreline City Council appointed Betsy Robertson to Council Position #6 on January 28. Robertson was sworn into office immediately following the appointment. Robertson’s appointment will expire upon the certification of the general election results in November 2019, as the position will subsequently be filled in the 2019 election cycle. Robertson fills the position vacated by former Deputy Mayor Jesse Salomon who resigned from his City Council position after being elected in November 2018 to represent the 32nd District in the Washington State Senate.

Councilmember Robertson has been a resident of Shoreline for twelve years. She received a bachelor in arts in communications from the University of Washington.

Robertson has spent much of her career in local television broadcasting, including seven years as the Director of Communications and Marketing at KING 5. She is currently the Communications Program Manager for the American Red Cross Northwest Region.

Robertson has been a member of Parks, Recreation & Cultural Services/Tree Board since 2013 and is an active member of the Ridgecrest Elementary School PTA.

Following the swearing in of Councilmember Robertson, Council selected Councilmember Doris McConnell as Deputy Mayor. She will serve until the end of this year. Deputy Mayor McConnell was first elected to the City Council in 2007 and was re-elected in 2011 and 2015. Her current term expires December 31, 2019.

McConnell has been part of the Shoreline community for over 24 years. She received her bachelor’s of science degree in psychology from Washington State University.

continued on page 5
Park Funding Advisory Committee

IN AUGUST 2018, the City Manager appointed sixteen Shoreline residents to serve on the Park Funding Advisory Committee (PFAC). The purpose of PFAC is to recommend to the City Manager which parks and recreation improvements to include in a potential property tax measure for Shoreline voters. Under consideration are park concept designs developed for eight parks that saw minimal, if any, benefit from the 2006 Parks bond. The parks are: Brugger’s Bog, Hamlin, Hillwood, James Keough, Richmond Highlands, Ridgecrest, Shoreview, and Westminster Triangle.

Potential improvements include off-leash dog areas, splash pads, ADA-accessible playgrounds, walking paths, open lawn areas, community gardens, sports courts, restrooms, improved athletic fields, and more. All of these improvements were what rose to the top during numerous public outreach efforts over a year and a half. Find more information about the park concept designs at shorelinewa.gov/parksdesign. Funding for trails, forest restoration, property acquisition, public art, the Park at Town Center, and Kruckeberg Botanic Garden are also being considered.

In addition to the community’s need for parks and open spaces, the PFAC is also reviewing funding for a new community and aquatics center (CAC) to replace the aged Shoreline Pool and Spartan Recreation Center. The CAC would consolidate aquatics, recreation, and community space under one roof as a civic hub or “third place” and support the long-term continuation of Shoreline’s robust aquatics and recreation programs.

The current CAC design includes a lap pool to accommodate competitive swimming, swim lessons, and fitness classes, and a separate leisure pool with a lazy river and other amenities for young or young-at-heart water lovers to enjoy. The design also includes a two-court gymnasium, classrooms, a catering kitchen, and a large community room for events and social gatherings. More information about the community and aquatics center can be found at shorelinewa.gov/cac.

The greatest challenge the PFAC faces is how to meet the community’s needs without overburdening the community’s tax load. Recognizing that it is unrealistic to expect to fund everything, the PFAC developed a set of criteria to help prioritize all the potential improvements. Location, equity, public appeal, and long-term affordability are all measures the PFAC is using to weigh the options before them. Members of the PFAC attended the November 28 public meeting about the CAC design, read and discussed written community feedback, listened to finance presentations by City staff, received detailed cost estimates, and discussed a variety of different scenarios in preparation for determining their final recommendation. All PFAC meeting materials and summary notes are online at shorelinewa.gov/pfac.

The PFAC began meeting in September and is on track to make a recommendation to the City Manager mid-March. The City Manager will consider the recommendation of the PFAC along with all other available information as she makes her recommendation to the City Council in early May. Ultimately, it will be up to Shoreline voters to determine whether to fund a community and aquatics center and park improvements.
February 2019 was the seventh snowiest month on record. We want to thank everyone for their patience as our crews worked around the clock to dig us out from it all.

Forty-nine City staff plowed streets or supported plowing operations in the field from February 3 through 15. They came from Streets; Wastewater and Stormwater Utilities; Code Enforcement and Customer Response; Traffic Services; Development and Construction Services; Parks Maintenance; and Facilities. They were supported by more than 20 other staff from across City departments. We even had several staff members making home-cooked meals for our crews out in the field. The City coordinated its efforts with Shoreline Fire and Shoreline Police and worked closely with representatives from King County Metro, Shoreline area schools, and King County Emergency Management.

What happens when it snows?

The City has a Snow and Ice Control Plan that we follow during a snow event. As part of the plan, crews pre-treat roads with de-icer when the forecast calls for snow or ice and begin plowing as soon as snow accumulates. We concentrate efforts on primary routes first to accommodate fire, medical, and police response, as well as Metro transit, school buses, and commuter traffic. As long as it snows, these primary routes will be plowed. Once the snow has stopped and all primary roads are clear, plows will move to secondary routes. Only after primary and secondary routes are clear will neighborhood streets be plowed. If it starts snowing again, the process of clearing main roads will start over.

Homeowners and commercial property owners are responsible for clearing snow and ice from the sidewalks in front of their homes and businesses. This includes the ridge of snow left by plows in front of driveways. To learn more about the City’s snow and ice response plans, visit shorelinewa.gov/stormready.

Shoreline uses raised pavement markings on our roads which means we can’t use metal cutting-edge plows. Our plows are equipped with rubber cutting edges, which do not scrape through ice. We try to remove snow before it becomes compacted.

In an event like what happened in February, crews are not just plowing roads. They have to ensure salt and de-icer are available and ready to be deployed; fix broken equipment and maintain vehicles; close roads and maintain the closures; clear downed trees and limbs; safely address downed wires; help dig out stuck cars that block roadways; get City facilities operational; and help Fire and Police navigate as they respond to life safety calls, all while trying to keep primary and secondary roads clear of snow and ice during the storms. Heavy snow, like we experienced, also requires multiple runs of a plow to clear a street.

Being trapped at home for several days due to snow and ice on the roads can be frustrating and challenging. We greatly appreciate everyone’s patience during this event and hope it will be another decade or two before we have to go through it again.

2019 Snow Response Facts and Figures

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<td>Lane miles of paved</td>
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<td>surfaces in Shoreline</td>
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<td>Tons of road salt</td>
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<td>Hours of staff time in</td>
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Making way for Lynnwood Link Light Rail

LIGHT RAIL SERVICE to Shoreline is five years in the future, but a significant amount of work needs to occur between now and then. The most visible work to occur over the next year will be removal of trees and understory vegetation on land needed for the tracks, stations, parking garages, related facilities, and construction staging areas within the City.

In Shoreline, approximately 1,100 significant trees will be removed that require replacement under Shoreline’s regulations. Additional non-significant trees, associated understory, and exempt significant trees will also be removed within Shoreline. The majority of these trees are in the I-5 corridor on the east side of the freeway. Project wide (Northgate to Lynnwood), approximately 4,200 significant trees will be removed; however, Sound Transit will plant nearly 20,000 trees along the 8.5 mile-long corridor.

Sound Transit will plant an estimated 3,000 native trees in Shoreline to meet the City’s replacement requirements. Over 1,000 non-native trees will also be planted. Based on preliminary review by the City, Sound Transit will meet or exceed tree replacement numbers, retain at least 30% of the significant trees in the project area, and will replace trees with similar proportions of conifer and deciduous trees as those being removed.

Sound Transit worked with Washington State Department of Transportation (WSDOT) and the cities along the Lynnwood Link Extension to adjust the project to minimize the tree removals required and to meet the tree replacement requirements of each jurisdiction along the project. Several factors contribute to tree removal that cannot be avoided, the most critical of which is the Vegetation Clear Zone which is a Sound Transit safety standard that minimizes the likelihood that trees and branches will fall onto the train power lines and tracks. Sound Transit is extending the standard three-year plant establishment and maintenance period required by WSDOT - which provides for close, extended care of newly planted trees - by an additional ten years. This 13-year effort is intended to improve the survival rates of trees planted along the alignment.

Sound Transit Outreach can answer additional questions regarding tree removal and replacement for the Lynnwood Link Extension at (206) 398-5300 or lynnwoodlink@soundtransit.org.

We are currently reviewing the Special Use Permit (SUP) application for the project and questions or comments regarding City code requirements for the project can be directed to the City’s Sound Transit Project Manager Juniper Nammi at (206) 801-2525 or jnammi@shorelinewa.gov. Public testimony can also be made to the Hearing Examiner at the SUP public hearing expected to be scheduled for late March.

MORE INFORMATION:
Sound Transit Community Outreach
(206) 398-5300, lynnwoodlink@soundtransit.org
soundtransit.org/LLE
facebook.com/SoundTransit
Doris McConnell selected as Deputy Mayor

Continued from front page

Doris served for many years in the Shoreline PTA in a variety of capacities including president, secretary, treasurer, and vice president at both the individual school and district level. Doris has also served on numerous Shoreline School District advisory boards and is an active Richmond Beach Community Association volunteer.

As a City Councilmember, she has served and continues to serve locally as chair of the SeaShore Transportation Forum and on the Association of Washington Cities Federal Committee. McConnell also serves on several National League of Cities (NLC) boards and committees, including the Board of Directors; the Asian Pacific American Municipal Officials Board; the Board Liaison to the First Tier Suburbs Council; Board Membership Committee; and the Human Development Committee.

Shoreline to begin Community Bridge Program

THIS SPRING, we will begin a new Community Bridge Program. The Program will help multilingual residents from diverse backgrounds to better understand Shoreline’s government and the services and resources that are available. The Community Bridge Program is part of Council Goal #4 to expand the City’s focus on equity and inclusion and to enhance opportunities for community engagement.

Program participants will meet at City Hall once a week for three weeks in the evenings and one Saturday. We plan on offering sessions in April and May. Following completion of the training, participants will have the opportunity to identify a community engagement project and access small grant funding to support underserved communities.

In addition to providing residents with an opportunity to learn about the City, we will gain a better understanding of Shoreline’s diverse communities and better ways to engage with them.

MORE INFORMATION:

Diversity & Inclusion Coordinator Suni Tolton
(206) 801-2256, stolton@shorelinewa.gov

Spring Clean-Up

IT IS THAT TIME of year again, the flowers are beginning to bloom and the itch to get outside is here. Over the fall and winter season you may have accumulated some extra debris in your yard. Be it garbage, an old couch, a mattress, or just yard debris, it is time to clean it up. City code speaks to the removal of such debris and preventing its buildup as well. Is it a dump run or a dumpster to be filled? Remember, some neighbors could use some help and just may like to meet someone else on the block; perhaps a combined dump run could reduce costs. Together we can keep our community tidy.

If you have questions about city codes related to debris, please contact the Code Enforcement and Customer Response Team at (206) 801-2700.

For more information on where to take things, visit shorelinewa.gov/environmentalservices.

DID YOU KNOW?

Rebates for Rain Gardens

HOME AND BUSINESS property owners in Shoreline can receive up to $2,000 to install a rain garden or native vegetation landscaping on their property. These attractive landscape features act as a natural filter, helping soak up rain water to improve drainage and prevent pollution. Rebates are offered annually on a first-come, first-served basis.

To learn more and schedule a free site consultation, visit shorelinewa.gov/soakitup or call (206) 801-2455.
SINCE THE CityWise Project launched in 2016, participants have had an opportunity to learn about all aspects of City operations in an eight-week series of classes. The second week focuses on our Shoreline Police Department.

Rather than maintaining our own police force, we contract with King County Sheriff’s Office. Fifty-one sworn officers and two staff members make up the Shoreline Police Department. Contracting with the County provides efficiencies and expands capacity, including access to dispatch functions, the Major Crimes Unit, and the County’s SWAT Team. In recent cost comparisons, the cost per capita in Shoreline is $222 per year compared to $248 in Edmonds and $449 in Seattle, both of which have their own police departments.

Shoreline continues to be a safe community

Shoreline Police focus much of their efforts on property crimes, school safety, park safety, and neighborhood traffic safety. In 2017 (2018 data will become available later this year), Shoreline officers responded to 16,309 dispatched calls for service, initiated 14,758 contacts, and made 1,426 arrests.

Over the past three years, Part-1 crime (which includes murder, rape, robbery, aggravated assault, burglary, larceny-theft, motor vehicle theft, and arson) has remained at its lowest level since the City incorporated in 1995. Incidences of burglary are 23% lower than in 2013, and auto thefts were down 7% in 2017.

Shoreline Police follow LEED principals – Listen and Explain with Equity and Dignity

Police reach out through Nurturing Trust workshops and meetings with community groups. To support City Council’s goal for public safety, they emphasize crime prevention and empower residents to take an active role in their neighborhoods. In 2017, Community Outreach Officer Paula Kieland conducted 76 community meetings focused on safety.

In June 2018, Shoreline Police moved to their new station at City Hall. The facility not only provides space needed for a modern police force for a city our size, but it also allows for better collaboration with other City departments and offers a better experience for people doing business with Police.
Planning for Sound Transit’s Bus Rapid Transit on SR 522 and 145th Street set to move to next phase

IN 2018, based on technical analysis and stakeholder input, Sound Transit began to develop preliminary designs for the SR 522/NE 145th Bus Rapid Transit (BRT) Project approved by voters in 2016 as part of Sound Transit 3 (ST3). On March 28, after extensive discussions with residents, city staff, and elected leaders from Shoreline, Lake Forest Park, Kenmore, Bothell, Woodinville, and Seattle, Sound Transit will present the preliminary refined project to the Sound Transit Board of Directors and seek approval to begin conceptual engineering and environmental review.

Sound Transit’s Bus Rapid Transit service, or Stride, is coming to Shoreline and will make travel between the new 145th street light rail station and Bothell fast and reliable. Riders will be able to connect to and transfer between the SR 522/NE 145th BRT, I-405 BRT, Link light rail, and other transit services provided by Sound Transit, Community Transit, and King County Metro. Both BRT and light rail service are projected to start in 2024.

In addition to station stops, 145th Street will see improvements to bike and pedestrian connections—such as sidewalks—as well as some traffic safety improvements, like dedicated left turn lanes. Sound Transit and Shoreline, along with other important partners, such as Seattle and the Washington State Department of Transportation, are looking at how the BRT system connects through the key intersection at 145th NE and NE 5th Ave, where there are also on-ramps to I-5. Needed improvements will advance an important part of the City’s vision for this vital east/west corridor.

Shoreline will continue to support development of these improvements throughout the process, making sure they align with our community’s vision. We’ll also be providing information and feedback along the way. We’ll make sure that the community is involved, too. You can keep track of the latest information at shorelinewa.gov/projects.

MORE INFORMATION:
Transportation Services Manager Nytasha Walters
nwalters@shorelinewa.gov, (206) 801-2481

185th Multimodal Corridor Strategy Open House

Tuesday, April 2
6:00 p.m. to 8:00 pm.
6:30 p.m. – Presentation, Q & A
Shoreline City Hall
17500 Midvale Avenue N

OVER THE PAST few months, staff have taken feedback from the first round of public outreach from last fall on the 185th Street Multimodal Corridor Strategy and developed several options for the corridor. You are invited to review the options and provide input to help develop the optimal concept for each segment of the corridor. Staff will take a final concept plan to the Council for review in the fall of this year.

MORE INFORMATION:
Nora Daley-Peng
Senior Transportation Planner
ndaleypeng@shorelinewa.gov
(206) 801-2483
shorelinewa.gov/185corridor

City Maintenance Facility Project Open House

Wednesday, March 20
6:30 p.m. to 8:00 pm.
North City Water District office
1519 NE 177th Street

PROVIDE feedback for Hamlin Yard and North Maintenance Facility designs.

MORE INFORMATION:
John Featherstone
Engineer
jfeatherstone@shorelinewa.gov
(206) 801-2478
shorelinewa.gov/projects

Shoreline Master Program Open House and Public Hearing

Thursday, April 4
6:00 - 7:00 p.m. Open House, 7:00 p.m. Public Hearing
Shoreline City Hall Council Chamber

SHORELINE MASTER PROGRAMS (SMPs) are local land-use policies and regulations that guide use of Washington shorelines. In the City of Shoreline, this applies to the Puget Sound coastline. The Department of Ecology requires periodic updates to these plans. We will hold a public hearing on proposed changes to the SMP. Prior to the public hearing, we will host an Open House to explain changes and answer any questions from the public.

MORE INFORMATION:
Senior Planner Miranda Redinger
mredinger@shorelinewa.gov, (206) 801-2513
shorelinewa.gov/SMPupdate

shorelinewa.gov
Shoreline Walks

NEW WALKS Start in April

Join us on a walk! Explore neighborhoods, parks and trails on some of the best walking routes in Shoreline. All walks are free and led by a walk leader.

More Information

For a schedule of walks call 206-801-2638 or visit shorelinewa.gov/shorelinewalks

MILLION STEP & STAIR CHALLENGE

are MOVING to the FALL

MILLION STEP CHALLENGE - SEPTEMBER 2019
MILLION STAIR CHALLENGE - OCTOBER 2019