



CURRENTS

News from the City of Shoreline Volume 18 No. 2

March 2016

City works with partners to address homelessness

On December 14, 2015, the Council passed a resolution supporting King County's declaration of emergency due to homelessness. While the issue of homelessness in the Puget Sound Region is not new, it has been on the rise in recent years. To this end, on November 2, 2015, King County and the City of Seattle declared states of emergency.

The extent of homelessness and those at risk of homelessness in Shoreline can be seen through data that comes from schools and service providers, and from anecdotal data provided by the City's Parks, Recreation and Cultural Services Department. Since 2010, the number of Shoreline School District students who self-identify as homeless has almost tripled, rising from 134 in the 2010-11 school year to 349 in 2014-15 school year. This is a 160% increase over the course of five years. School staff also report that they are on track this year to exceed the numbers of the 2014-15 school year.

In addition to school data, the One Night Count of the Homeless reported a 21% increase in 2015 across King County. Throughout the year, those entering the homeless housing system report on their last place of residence. In 2014, over 750 people seeking shelter in places across the County indicated that they came from Shoreline zip codes.

Hopelink reports that the volume of emergency food bags (a short-term supply of food that can be prepared without a full kitchen) requested by households has increased by 49% from 2011 to 2015 (from 296 household requests to 442).

While the City does not keep formal statistics on homeless encampments in the City's park system, Parks staff estimates that approximately 20 encampments are removed each year from Shoreline Parks and other governmental property that the City maintains.

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145th Corridor update

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Recycling and yard waste

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HOME IMPROVEMENT WORKSHOPS TUESDAY, MARCH 29 AND TUESDAY, APRIL 26

Join us for free workshops to help you get started with your home improvement projects. Learn more on page 2.



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

Five cities unite to support Sound Transit projects in North King County

On January 12, city councilmembers from Shoreline, Lake Forest Park, Kenmore, and Bothell held a rare joint city council meeting to express support for all three key transit projects in north King County proposed for the Sound Transit 3 (ST3) ballot measure. The councilmembers were joined by Woodinville's mayor.

Currently, Sound Transit is in the process of evaluating a large list of candidate projects and deciding which projects to include in its ST3 final system plan.

The three projects highlighted at the meeting focus on relieving congestion and adding bus rapid transit along the State Route 522 (Bothell Way) and NE 145th Street corridor. The SR 522/NE 145th Street corridor is a key east-west connector, with SR 522 carrying 20 percent of cross-lake trips and connecting north end communities to major regional employment centers in Seattle and on the Eastside.

The first project would establish a continuous Bus Rapid Transit (BRT) line along SR 522/NE 145th Street, connecting north King County residents to the future Shoreline light rail station set to open in 2023. The second project asks Sound Transit to build structured parking facilities along the SR 522 corridor, while the third calls for a study of the corridor for future light rail implementation.

The cities agree, these vital projects make sense for north King County and for the sustainable growth of the entire region. They cite the low cost, existing infrastructure, and rapid projected completion dates which will serve as an early win for Sound Transit.

Sound Transit plans to take the ST3 funding package before voters in November 2016. For more information on ST3, visit soundtransit3.org.

Free workshops for your home improvement projects

Tuesday, March 29 & Tuesday, April 26

6:00 - 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.

There will also be a local designer, local contractor, Master Gardener, material supplier, home loan agent, and a grant funding program representative for residential drainage improvements available to answer questions. You do not need to reserve an appointment to come in and talk with any of these outside resources or to browse through our development handouts and checklists.

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



CRIME PREVENTION

Lock your doors and close your windows

Last year, 35% of residential burglary reports taken in Shoreline involved no forced entry. This means that burglars entered through open/unlocked windows, doors, or garages. As the weather gets warmer, many people are tempted to leave a window open for ventilation. It is our recommendation that all doors and windows be locked when you're away from home, especially ground level doors and windows.

Do we mean to say that those 35% of burglaries wouldn't have occurred by forced means if the doors were locked? Of course not. However, we must do everything we can to make it hard for criminals to act.



145th STREET/SR 523 MULTIMODAL CORRIDOR STUDY



Preferred concept presented at February 24 open house

On February 24, the City held its third and final open house for the 145th Street Multimodal Corridor Study. City staff presented the preferred concept for the corridor. It has a combination of lane configurations, with most intersections seeing improvements and widening. Generally, the eastern portion of the corridor (east of 1-5) has a stronger emphasis on supporting transit, so the street cross-section is wider, and includes queue-jumps to give buses an advantage at signalized intersections. The portion west of Aurora features a three-lane section that provides an opportunity to meet the multimodal goals of the project while staying within the existing right-of-way. The middle section is a transition between each end, and provides a four-lane roadway with improvements for pedestrians.

The preferred concept seeks to balance the benefits of a variety of improvements to the corridor against potential property impacts. The City has received substantial input that supports the project's multimodal approach to transportation including building sidewalks, establishing a route for bicycles, providing for better transit service, and increasing safety and mobility for cars.

Each of these improvements has varying degrees of impact on the existing 60 foot right-of-way. The preferred concept looks at how to best maximize these improvements and their associated benefits while considering potential property impacts.

Based on input from the community at the February 24 open house, staff will refine the preferred concept and present it to the City Council on March 21 for discussion. Council is scheduled to make a final decision on the preferred concept on April 4. The Council adopted preferred concept will then go through further environmental review and final engineering design.

MORE INFORMATION

WEBSITE:

shorelinewa.gov/145corridor

CONTACT:

Senior Transportation Planner
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kseemann@shorelinewa.gov

Sign up for:

ALERT SHORELINE

Get alerted about emergencies and other important community news by signing up for Alert Shoreline. The system enables us to provide you with critical information quickly in a variety of situations, such as a police alert for your neighborhood, unexpected road closures, and traffic. It will also allow us to alert you to community news you are interested in receiving, such as Council agendas, Parks facility closures, City Hall news or crime prevention tips and alerts.

You can choose the news categories you would like to receive.

Sign up or manage your current subscription at:

shorelinewa.gov/alert



YOUR NEIGHBORHOODS

Connect with your neighbors

Social media allows neighbors to communicate directly with neighbors. Look for your neighborhood on Nextdoor.com and on Facebook.

Ballinger Neighborhood Association

ballingerneighborhood.org

Briarcrest Neighborhood Association

echolakeneighborhood.org

Highland Terrace Neighborhood Association

thehighlandsseattle.org

Hillwood Community Network

innisarden.org

Meridian Park Neighborhood Association

meridianpark.info

North City Neighborhood Association

northcityna.org

Parkwood Neighborhood Association

parkwoodneighbors.org

Richmond Beach Community Association

richmondbeachwa.org

Richmond Highlands Neighborhood Association

Ridgecrest Neighborhood Association

ridgecrestneighborhood.info

Westminster Triangle Network



Nextdoor.com



Facebook.com



Photo courtesy Steve Schneider

Shoreline's Neighborhood Program brings people together

Have you ever wondered who organizes ice cream socials, puts together community garage sales, and tracks important issues affecting your area, such as traffic, land use, or local improvements? Shoreline residents like you! When Shoreline incorporated in 1995, it was divided into 14 neighborhoods. The City created a program to support these neighborhoods and help residents work together to improve their communities.

Volunteers from neighborhood associations plan social events, coordinate crime prevention activities, work together on projects, and share information through meetings, newsletters, websites, and social media. Find out what is happening in your neighborhood by visiting your neighborhood's website or Facebook page.

For more information about the Neighborhoods Program, contact Neighborhoods Coordinator Constance Perenyi at (206) 801-2253 or cperenyi@shorelinewa.gov.

Your neighborhood

Want to know which neighborhood you call home? It's easy to find out! Just go to the City's website at shorelinewa.gov/neighborhoods.

Your neighbors

What are some of the benefits of knowing your neighbors?

- Helps reduce crime
- By working together you can create a more beautiful neighborhood
- You can build strong family connections
- Helps you stay informed about neighborhood and City issues
- Allows you to be better prepared for an emergency

Mini-Grants available for neighborhood projects

Have you noticed the striking new mural at Twin Ponds Park? Did you head to the Ballinger Neighborhood last summer for Outdoor Movie Night, or dress your children up for the ever-popular Halloween Carnival in Richmond Beach? If so, you have benefitted from the City's Mini-Grant Program.

Neighborhood Mini-Grants are available to neighborhood associations for projects ranging from several hundred dollars up to \$5,000. They can be used to create neighborhood improvements, increase community involvement, and raise the visibility of neighborhood associations.

The 2016 funding cycle has begun. Mini-Grant proposals are approved on a first come, first served basis. For more information, contact Neighborhoods Coordinator Constance Perenyi at (206)801-2253, cperenyi@shorelinewa.gov.



ADOPT-A-CROSSWALK

Do you have a marked crosswalk in your neighborhood that you use frequently? Would you like to have pedestrian safety flags? Then we need your help. The City is looking for volunteers to ensure flags are available and distributed to both sides of the street at marked pedestrian flagged crosswalks.

Pedestrian safety flags help alert drivers that pedestrians are in the crosswalk. People wanting to cross the street at the crosswalk pick up a flag to signal to drivers their intent to cross the street, then cross the street and place the flag in the container on the other side for the next person to use.

It is important to remember that pedestrian flags are not intended as a substitute for the vigilance and safe crossing techniques that pedestrians must use for crossing any street, whether it has crossing aides or not.

If you would like to adopt a marked pedestrian flagged crosswalk in your neighborhood, contact Kendra Dedinsky, City Traffic Engineer at (206) 801-2431 or kdedinsky@shorelinewa.gov. The commitment is minimal. Just ensure pedestrian safety flags are available at your adopted crosswalk and distributed to both sides of the street.

Help keep Shoreline a 'walkable' city and adopt a crosswalk in your neighborhood!



TWIN PONDS MURAL

RIDGECREST ICE CREAM SOCIAL



RICHMOND BEACH CARNIVAL



DID YOU KNOW?

Spring is around the corner, bringing flowers and the joys of gardening. When it comes to your plants, act naturally! Build healthy soil with natural compost and mulch; plant right for your site using native plants; use soaker hoses or other smart watering techniques; and, use a weed puller rather than a pesticide.

Healthy soils don't need pesticides, saving you money and keeping our streams clean. Native plants provide habitat for song birds, butterflies, and other wildlife. To find more tips, visit shorelinewa.gov/naturallyardcare.



Council appoints members to Planning Commission

On February 8, the Council reappointed three members to the City's Planning Commission to each serve another four-year term. The reappointed commissioners are David Maul, Easton Craft, and William Montero. The Council also appointed Susan Chang to a four-year term to replace Commissioner Keith Scully, who was recently elected to the Shoreline City Council.

Mayor Roberts appointed a subcommittee to screen, interview, and make recommendations to the full Council about which candidates to appoint. The subcommittee included Councilmembers Jessie Salomon, Doris McConnell, and Keith Scully. Eighteen individuals applied for the positions and the subcommittee interviewed six of them. The subcommittee unanimously recommended the appointed members.

The purpose of the Planning Commission is to provide guidance and direction for Shoreline's future growth through continued review and improvement to the City's comprehensive land use plan; zoning code; and shoreline management, environmental protection, and related land use documents. The Planning Commission consists of seven residents and/or property owners appointed by the City Council. The Planning Commission provides regular opportunities for the public to comment on matters of interest at each meeting.



Property tax exemptions and deferrals

If you are a senior citizen, disabled, or 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.

EARTH HOUR

Since 2007, World Wildlife Fund's Earth Hour event has inspired individuals, communities, and businesses around the world to turn off their lights for one hour. The hour encourages communities to share the opportunities and challenges in creating a sustainable world.

Every year, more than 7,000 cities and towns across the world participate, including Shoreline.

Again this year, all non-essential City Hall lights will be turned off during Earth Hour. We invite all Shoreline residents and businesses to join us and turn off lights between 8:30 p.m. and 9:30 p.m. on Saturday, March 19.



EARTH HOUR

MARCH 19 - 8:30 PM

What goes in your recycling and yard waste carts?

As part of the City's Climate Action Plan, the City has committed to increasing recycling and reuse in the community to reduce the amount of solid waste sent to the landfill. While the City and the community are already leaders in regional recycling efforts, we can always do more.

Use the guides below to know what can go in your recycle cart and in your yard waste cart. Please empty and rinse all containers before recycling! For information about other items not found below, visit the Recology Cleanscapes Shoreline web page at cleanscapes.com/shoreline/recycling_guidelines.

RECYCLING

Paper & Cardboard

Flattened cardboard
Mail, magazines, mixed paper
Newspaper
Paper bags
Paper cups
Phone books & paperbacks
Shredded paper
Wrapping paper (non-metallic)

Paper cartons

Juice boxes
Milk and soy milk cartons
Paper or frozen food boxes

Plastic

Dairy tubs
Pill bottles (no prescription vials)
Plastic bottles (all colors)
Plastic cups
Lids (wider than 3 in.)
Plastic food containers
Plastic plant pots

Glass

Bottles and jars

Metal

Aluminum & metal cans
Scrap metals (less than 2'x2'x2')



Food Scraps

Bread, pasta & grains
Coffee ground & filters
Eggshells, nutshells
Fish, meat & dairy
Fruits & vegetables
Tea bags

Food Soiled Paper

Greasy pizza boxes
Paper bags with food
Paper plates and take-out containers (uncoated)
Paper towels & napkins

Yard Debris

Branches (under 4' long, 4" wide)
Grass clippings
Leaves & twigs
Houseplants
Weeds



*Put extra yard debris in paper yard debris bags or 32 gallon cans with handles and lid. (Additional fees apply.)



Addressing area homelessness

continued from page 1

Individuals and families at risk of or experiencing homelessness have several resources in Shoreline and North King County. The City helps fund a number of these programs and services. Services include:

- Rent and utility assistance for people at risk of losing their housing
- Transitional housing for families
- Housing for homeless veterans

To connect with these services call the Crisis Clinic at 2-1-1.

The City has also been working to help increase the number of affordable housing units in Shoreline. One way of doing this has been through the property tax exemption program (PTE). As of the end of 2015, 27 affordable units have been built or approved since the program began in 2002. The City has also supported the construction of Ronald Commons, which will construct 60 units reserved for households earning 30 to 50 percent less than the Area Median Income with rents well below the area average.

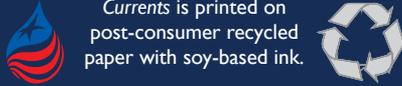
A number of local congregations also assist homeless individuals and families by hosting homeless encampments (tent cities); providing emergency housing, utility, and rent assistance; and providing shelter during winter months.

The City will continue to work with its local and regional partners in addressing homelessness in Shoreline. It will also continue to look at ways to support the development and retention of more affordable housing in Shoreline.

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CURRENTS

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- Shoreview Park OLA - 320 Innis Aden Way
- Richmond Beach Saltwater Park seasonal OLA (Nov 1 - Mar 15)
2021 NW 190th Street

LEARN MORE: shorelinewa.gov/offleashdog



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

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