



CURRENTS

News from the City of Shoreline Volume 18 No. 1

February 2016

Your new Shoreline City Council

On January 4, Superior Court Judge Richard Eadie swore newly elected Councilmember Keith Scully into office. Judge Eadie also swore in returning Councilmembers Doris McConnell and Jesse Salomon. Following the swearing in ceremony, the Council selected Councilmember Chris Roberts as Mayor and Councilmember Shari Winstead as Deputy Mayor.

As the City's governing body, Shoreline's seven elected part-time Councilmembers establish City policies and laws, adopt an annual budget, and approve contracts for services. The issues involved are often complicated and require Council to review hundreds of pages of data and analysis each week to understand how policies might affect residents and businesses. Council meets most Monday evenings at City Hall at 7:00 p.m. The public is encouraged to attend meetings. Those wishing to track Council decisions but who are unable to attend can watch the meetings online at shorelinewa.gov/CouncilLive.

In addition to Council meetings, Councilmembers represent the City at community events, in meetings with community members, and on national, state, and regional boards and committees. While it may seem that Councilmembers serve as full-time elected officials, they are actually considered part-time councilmembers. Most work at other full or part-time jobs.

The Council directs City policy based on input from residents, staff, and other stakeholders. In order to receive as much input as possible, Councilmembers are available by email and phone, and often meet one-on-one with individuals and community organizations.

Visit Shoreline's website at shorelinewa.gov/council or call the Agenda Line at (206) 801-2236 for the latest meeting information. The website also features agenda packets, meeting video archives, Councilmember biographies, and contact information.



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145TH STREET/SR 523 MULTIMODAL CORRIDOR STUDY

Open House

Wednesday, Feb. 24, 6:00 to 8:00 p.m.

Presentation at 6:30 p.m.

Shorecrest High School, 15343 25th Ave NE

More information on page 7



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

City signs contract with Yakima County Jail to help cut costs

On December 14, 2015, Council voted to authorize the City Manager to sign an agreement with Yakima County for jail services. By transferring some of our sentenced inmates from the SCORE Jail in Des Moines to Yakima County, the City could save as much as \$200,000 per year.

State law requires the City to arrange for the booking and housing of its misdemeanor population. Currently, the City contracts with King County and the South Correctional Entity (SCORE) for its jail services. SCORE is the City's primary jail provider. The City uses King County only when necessary.

Approximately 5% of the City's 2016 operating budget, or \$2.2 million, is allocated for jail services. That is an increase of 37.5% from the 2015 budget. Over the past few years, the City's jail costs have increased substantially due to an increase in the number of jail days the City has to pay for.

In 2011, the City entered into a contract with Snohomish County to provide jail services. Snohomish County's fees were substantially lower than the City's then primary jail provider, King County. However, in 2014, Snohomish County terminated the contract. The City then signed a contract with SCORE for jail services. While the rates at SCORE are higher than Snohomish County, they are lower than King County. The shift to SCORE in 2014 as the City's primary jail facility curbed some of the potential increase in costs that could have resulted had the City not found an alternative to King County.

However, with the increase in the City's jail needs, the City has looked for more cost effective alternatives to SCORE and King County. Jails charge the City for each day an inmate is in jail. Yakima County's daily costs are significantly lower than SCORE's and King County's.

Shoreline is not alone in seeing its jail costs substantially increase over the past few years. Other cities are experiencing the same issues and are looking at ways of reducing costs.

Aside from jail, judges may also sentence Shoreline's misdemeanants to electronic home detention and conditional release for work or school. Judges ultimately determine sentences and sentence lengths. They may take into consideration the prosecutor's recommendations, the facts of the case, and a defendant's criminal history. However, due to the government's basic separation-of-powers, the City has limited ways it can influence sentences and the associated costs.

HOME IMPROVEMENT WORKSHOPS

Free workshops for your home improvement projects

Tuesday, March 29, 6:00 to 8:00 p.m.
Tuesday, April 26, 6:00 to 8:00 p.m.
Shoreline City Hall lobby

Home improvement season is coming! Do you have a home improvement project in mind, but need some guidance to get started? We're offering two free workshops to help residents take the next steps.

Visit shorelinewa.gov/homeimprovement to sign up and reserve a time slot with one of the City's technical reviewers. Be sure to leave your address so we can have maps of your property ready for your appointment.





The Shoreline Pool was constructed in 1971 as part of King County's Forward Thrust Park and Recreation Bond Initiative. After 42 years of service, it now requires significant repairs in order to extend its useful life.

Shoreline Pool closed February 20 through late June for major maintenance repairs

The City will close the Shoreline Pool from February 20 through late June in order to complete major maintenance repairs. Repairs are necessary to meet health and safety codes, and to help extend the pool's useful life. Repairs include:

- Partial pool deck replacement
- Re-plastering of the pool
- Mechanical upgrades
- Americans with Disabilities Act accessibility upgrades
- Repairs and replacement to the clerestory wall and windows
- Re-sealing the exterior masonry walls
- Replacement of damaged and deteriorated doors and door-frames
- Upgrades to the HVAC system and building commissioning
- Replace natatorium lighting

After 42 years of service, the pool is showing its age. In June 2013, the City had to replace the pool boiler when it failed to operate. It was an expensive and unexpected expense. In 2014, the City conducted a full assessment of the building, its systems, and pool operations. The assessment has helped the City determine what repairs need to be made now to keep the pool functioning for at least six more years, and to avoid costly emergency repairs and replacements.

King County built the Shoreline Pool in 1971 as part of its 1968 Forward Thrust Park and Recreation Bond Initiative. All throughout King County, the Forward Thrust built pools are coming to the end of their useful lives.

This year's repair work is expected to keep the pool operational until approximately 2022. Beginning this spring, as part of the update to the Parks, Recreation and Open Space (PROS) Plan, the City will conduct a study on the City's

future needs for a pool and aquatic related programs. The City wants to know what kind of demand there may be in the future and what options may be available to continue to provide residents with pool related services.

Find more information on the pool repair and closure on the City's website at shorelinewa.gov/poolrepair or by contacting Capital Projects Manager Noel Hupprich at nhupprich@shorelinewa.gov or (206) 801-2472.

There will be several opportunities for public participation in the future as the City looks at future aquatic needs. Look for future articles in Currents or visit the PROS Plan page on the City's website at shorelinewa.gov/prosplan. You can also contact Park Project Coordinator Maureen Colaizzi at mcolaizzi@shorelinewa.gov or (206) 801-2603 with your questions or comments.



Back row (left to right): Tony Colinas, Jay Hornbeak, Anthony Hamilton.

Front row (left to right): Alec Schroader, Charlie Galbreath, Kirk Peterson, Michael Crocker. Not shown: Jon Armstrong, Pat Gantz

Parks staff keeps City parks safe, clean, & accessible

If you have enjoyed spending time in one of Shoreline's many parks, or played or watched your kids play at one of the many athletic fields around town, or taken your dog to one of our off-leash dog areas, then you have the Shoreline Parks Maintenance crew to thank. The crew acts as stewards of the City's parks, open spaces, and athletic fields. Operating seven days a week, including holidays, their goal is to create safe recreational and educational opportunities for the well-being and enjoyment of the public.

This hard-working crew takes care of the City's 413 acres of open spaces and athletic fields, which includes:

- 31 parks
- 14 restrooms
- 16 playgrounds
- 15 baseball fields
- 11 soccer fields
- 15 tennis courts
- 5 picnic shelters
- 3 off-leash dog areas
- 1 indoor swimming pool
- 2 recreation centers
- 1 skate park
- Kruckeberg Botanic Garden
- City Hall campus
- Interurban Trail
- Many miles of park trails.

Every day is different as our Parks Maintenance crew is responsible for

everything from litter removal to drainage and irrigation repair, athletic field preparation to street tree maintenance. Parks Maintenance is responsible for a number of capital improvement projects including installation of new play equipment and parking lot repairs and resurfacing. They are responsible for the City's urban forest, which includes all City owned trees throughout Shoreline. In addition, our crew assists with numerous community events throughout the year, including Celebrate Shoreline, Monster Mash Dash, and the Christmas Ships at Richmond Beach. The crew lends a hand at Ivy Out and Earth Day events, too. If a resident or recreation group is planning an event, staff will be there to assist.

Parks Maintenance is one of the City's service areas that most visibly influences Shoreline's quality of life. "We consider our parks and open spaces to be extensions of residents' backyards," stated Parks Superintendent Kirk Peterson. "Over the past twenty years we have made significant investments to ensure our parks are safe and comfortable for all residents."

Like Shoreline's other divisions, Parks Maintenance continuously looks for ways to operate more efficiently. With only eight regular full-time staff, the

Parks Maintenance crew relies on several seasonal workers each year, service contracts, and the generous help of volunteers to get it all done. The countless hours that our devoted citizen volunteers are critical to the success of our parks system.

Adding seasonal workers when needed rather than full-time, year-round staff keeps the crew working efficiently and helps respond to the higher park usage during the spring and summer. To help augment the City's level of staffing, the City contracts with private firms for landscape and janitorial services in the parks. Historically, the cost for doing so was lower than if we were to add staff and equipment to provide those services in-house. However, over the last two years the City has seen those contracted costs increase significantly. In 2013, when the City bid the landscaping services, the cost increased by 32% to just under \$230,000 a year. The City has also seen costs for utilities increase. We will continue to evaluate how best to provide all the services needed to maintain the city's parks, recreation facilities, open spaces and urban forest.

For more information about the Shoreline Parks Maintenance crew, or to provide feedback, contact Parks Superintendent Kirk Peterson at kpeterson@shorelinewa.gov or (206) 801-2611.

AURORA UPDATE

Many people have asked why cones were on Aurora after we celebrated its completion in December. With good weather last year, the contractor was able to get the paving and most of the striping done before winter – three months ahead of schedule. We had hoped that we would be able to finish everything a little early, but the weather was not cooperative for much of December. The good news is, what remains will be completed as scheduled by mid-March. And the entire final phase of Aurora is going to come in under budget!

Median planting and striping were the main reason for the continued closure of the median lanes and non-signalized intersection turn pockets through December. Weather breaks in January allowed the contractor to finish those items so the road could be opened up to traffic.

The remaining items to be completed are:

- roadside planting
- finish work on sidewalks, curbs, and gutters following power pole removal
- illumination work
- gateway sign and entry
- private property restoration

Intermittent lane closures will occur during the day over the next month and a half for the contractor to perform the remaining work. We urge drivers to proceed with caution adjacent to any of the lane closures (work zones) along Aurora. Your continued patience is appreciated as the end of the project is on track to be completed by mid-March.

Businesses along Aurora are open! Please remember to support our local Shoreline businesses, particularly the ones in the construction zone.

DID YOU KNOW?

Many of our activities have some effect on Puget Sound. If you put pesticides on your plants, or wash your car with soap, water that runs off your property into a storm drain is not treated - it flows directly into our local creeks, streams, lakes, and ultimately Puget Sound.

You can help protect our local waters by keeping pollutants out of the storm drain. Do not allow litter, motor oil, grease, pesticides, soaps (even biodegradable ones), and other chemicals to go into a storm drain. If you notice anything other than clean rainwater entering a drain, or to report illegal dumping or spills, contact the City of Shoreline Customer Response Team at (206) 801-2700.

Tax credits can put money in your pocket

Did you know that many families are eligible for valuable tax credits every year? To get these credits, you must file a tax return (even if you don't owe any income tax). When you file your taxes, make sure you ask about these credits:

Child and Dependent Care Tax Credit

This Federal tax credit is for families that pay for child care or for care of a disabled adult while they are working. The credit is worth up to \$2,100 per qualifying individual.

Child Tax Credit

This federal tax credit is for families raising children, is worth up to \$1,000 per child, and is refundable for families earning at least \$3,000.

Earned Income Tax Credit

The EITC is designed to boost the wages of eligible families. This refund-

able credit is worth up to \$6,143 and is available to married couples with earned income under \$52,427 and to singles with earned income under \$46,997. The average refund in Washington State in 2013 was \$2,145.

Save even more by using one of the free tax sites:

Hopelink Shoreline, 15809 Westminster Avenue

Wednesdays 5:00-9:00 p.m.

Thursdays 1:00-9:00 p.m.

Saturdays 10:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m.

Shoreline Goodwill, 14500 15th Avenue NE

Tuesdays 5:00 to 9:00 p.m.

Thursdays 5:00 to 9:00 p.m.

Saturdays 10:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m.

Anyone who earned less than \$62,000 in 2015 can use this service.

No appointment necessary. For a list of all tax sites in King County and or to find sites serving non-English speakers call 2-1-1 or go to uwkc.org/taxhelp for details.

What To Bring:

- Last year's income tax return
- End of year tax and mortgage statements (1099s and W-2s)
- Social security numbers and birthdates for all household members
- Child care statements and provider's Tax ID number
- Checking or savings account number for direct deposit of refund
- Photo ID

If filing jointly, both filer and spouse must be present to file electronically.



Above: City of Shoreline employees at City Hall. The City employs 142 regular employees and 96 extra help workers. Additionally, the City's police department includes 53 staff members who are employed through King County.

Employee and Team of the Year

Every year, Shoreline employees nominate peers as Employee of the Year for going above-and-beyond in practicing the organization's values, providing exceptional customer service, and promoting a positive image of the City. This year's Employee of the Year was Surface Water Engineering Technician Chris Berrington. The two other finalists were Senior Planner Miranda Redinger and Special Events Coordinator Pam Barrett.

In addition to the Employee of the Year, the City also honors the Team of the Year. The City's Leadership Team nominated four employee teams for 2015. The winner was the Damage Restitution Policy Team. When a resident or visitor causes damage to City property, the law allows the City to recover the cost of repair. This is known as restitution. Prior to last year, the City did not have a uniform process for going after the money it was owed. The Damage

Restitution Policy Team formalized the process. After creating documentation for the process, the team was able to recover about \$50,000 in uncollected restitution that might have gone uncollected had the processes not been improved.

Become a member of the Shoreline Library Board or Parks, Recreation and Cultural Services/Tree Board

The City of Shoreline is now accepting applications for volunteers to serve on the Library Board and the Parks, Recreation and Cultural Services/Tree (PRCS) Board. Board Members must live, work or own property in the City of Shoreline and are appointed by the City Council to serve four-year terms.

The **Library Board** acts as a liaison to the King County Library System Board of Trustees, the City Council and the citizens of Shoreline. It provides information, makes recom-

mendations, promotes programs and reviews library policies. Meetings are held bi-monthly. There are currently openings for four (4) adult Board Members.

The **PRCS/Tree Board** advises the City Council and City staff on a variety of parks, recreation, public art, and environmental issues. Meetings are held on the fourth Thursday of each month from 7:00 to 9:00 p.m. at City Hall. There is currently an opening for one (1) adult member to serve one year of an unexpired term followed by

a regular four-year term.

Those interested in being considered must complete a Shoreline Community Services Application available in the City Clerk's Office at City Hall (17500 Midvale Ave. N.) or at shorelinewa.gov/parks. Completed applications must be submitted to the City Clerk's office no later than 5:00 p.m. on Friday, February 26, 2016.

For more information, visit shorelinewa.gov/parks. Contact the Parks Department at (206) 801-2623 or pks@shorelinewa.gov.

145TH STREET/SR 523 MULTIMODAL CORRIDOR STUDY



Final open house scheduled for February 24

The 145th Street Multimodal Corridor Study is nearing completion. A final open house is scheduled for the evening of February 24. The primary purpose of this open house is to share our work since the last open house, including the preferred design concept for the corridor, and to hear from you.

WHY ARE WE DOING THIS STUDY?

145th Street is a critical east-west regional corridor that connects Shoreline and north King County with I-5, Aurora, and SR 522. Improvements to the corridor are long overdue, with improvements needed to improve mobility for all modes of travel. Sound Transit will open their light rail station in 2023 and it is important to have improvements in place by the station opening to ensure that riders get to the station quickly, reliably, and safely.

WHAT ARE THE STUDY GOALS?

The overall goal is to create a corridor that is safe and comfortable to walk, bike, bus, and drive. We also need to develop transportation improvements that protect the environment, foster a vibrant economy, and support light rail. At this final open house, staff will share a preferred design concept that supports these goals, while balancing potential impacts.

WHAT HAS BEEN DONE TO DATE?

The project team has been meeting with key stakeholders over the last several years to gain support for this important effort. Staff has met monthly with a core team of local agencies that have provided input and direction to establish the preferred concept. Additionally, a Citizen's Advisory Task Force has met with staff on a regular basis to help facilitate public input and to provide their own input to the design.

WHERE ARE WE NOW?

Based on a detailed study of the corridor and on community input from the first two open houses held in May and September, the project team developed three preliminary design concepts and refined those concepts into a preferred concept, which they will present at the February 24 open house.

WHAT'S NEXT?

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 for further environmental review and final engineering design. For more information, visit shorelinewa.gov/145corridor. For questions, contact Senior Transportation Planner Kurt Seemann at kseemann@shorelinewa.gov or (206) 801-2483.

OPEN HOUSE

Wednesday, Feb. 24

6:00 to 8:00 p.m.

Presentation at 6:30 p.m.

Shorecrest High School Commons
15343 25th Ave NE

Parking is in lots along 25th Avenue NE. Enter at the main entrance and proceed to the "Commons" just past the entrance.

Come provide input on the draft preferred concept for the corridor, which staff will present at the open house.



Traffic volumes on 145th range from 29,000 to 45,000 daily trips

February 2016 Vol. 18 No. 1
CITY OF SHORELINE
CURRENTS

Currents is produced by the
Shoreline City Manager's Office
Contact the City:
(206) 801-2700

**Alternate formats
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Currents is printed on
post-consumer recycled
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Volunteer Walk Leaders Wanted for 2016!

Shoreline Walks

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 2016!

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

shorelinewa.gov