

CITY OF SHORELINE CURRENTS

March 2006 Vol. 8 No. 2

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Saltwater Park



City begins master plan process for Richmond Beach Saltwater Park.

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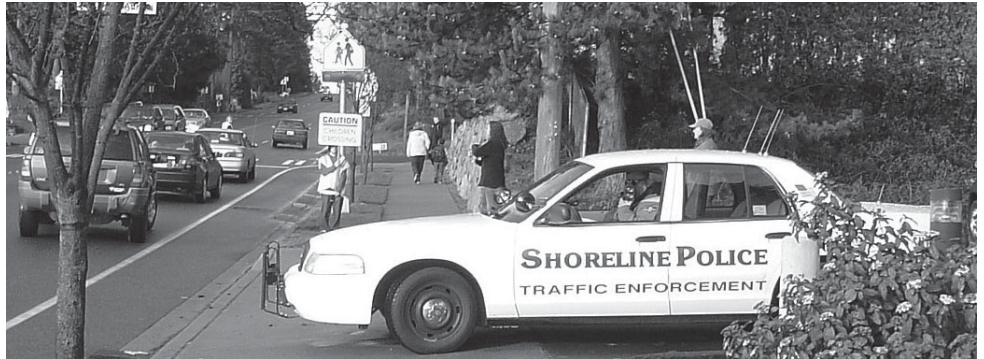
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Shoreline Police Traffic Officer Tim Brewer uses radar to monitor speeds in the Meridian Park school zone on N. 175th St.

City steps up efforts to make Shoreline streets safer

If you've noticed more traffic patrol officers on Shoreline streets lately, it is no coincidence. To boost efforts to get people to drive safely, Shoreline Police have stepped up traffic enforcement throughout the City. Newly-marked traffic patrol cars and a new schedule that provides greater coverage across the City, especially in school zones, are also part of the effort.

The Shoreline City Council increased the 2006 budget to hire an additional traffic officer in response to concerns from residents about speeding and traffic safety in neighborhoods. With the additional officer, there are now five police officers assigned to traffic enforcement – a 20 percent increase. Officers not specifically assigned to traffic

enforcement will also be enforcing traffic laws while on their regular patrols.

"Traffic safety is one of the most common concerns the
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Parks Bond Election May 16

Council approves first City bond election for parks and open space

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Increased enforcement, traffic calming devices make Shoreline streets safer *from page 1*

Council hears about from the community,” says Shoreline Mayor Bob Ransom. “Having safe and friendly streets has long been a Council goal and in this year’s budget we’ve committed more money to support that goal.”

“Shoreline residents have made it clear – they want greater emphasis on traffic enforcement in neighborhoods and on major and minor arterials. The City is going to do its part. We’re asking the motoring public to do its part as well. We have to work together to

accomplish this goal,” Ransom added.

Shoreline Police are also doing community education to go along with the increased enforcement.

Radar reader boards are one way police educate people about how fast they are driving. The boards will be placed around the City in several locations. Individuals can learn to use portable radar units to monitor traffic speeds in their neighborhood. Visit the Eastside Neighborhood Police Center (521 NE 165th St.) or the Westside Neighborhood Police Center (624 Richmond Beach Road) to find out more.

“People need to realize that a big part of the problem is residents speeding through their own neighborhoods,” says Police Chief Tony Burt. “We’re working to provide a safe environment for all of our residents. Safety is our number one concern.”

Engineering Solutions

Besides increased funding for police enforcement, the Council also added resources for engineering solutions that will increase pedestrian safety and slow traffic in neighborhoods. Council increased the budget for sidewalks from \$670,000 to \$900,000. Many of the sidewalks will be built around schools. There is also \$200,000 in the budget for traffic calming devices such as traffic circles and speed humps.

The City is working with the police and fire departments,

school district and residents to identify locations for new sidewalks and traffic calming devices for installation this year. Areas that have participated in the Neighborhood Traffic Safety Program (NTSP) will be likely candidates for these engineering devices.

The City is also working with residents to develop Neighborhood Traffic Action Plans. Ridgecrest, North City and Briarcrest neighbors are currently working to develop their plans. Work on plans for Ballinger, Echo Lake and Parkwood neighborhoods is scheduled for later this year with the remaining neighborhoods scheduled for next year.

The traffic plans are being developed through a series of meetings with individual neighborhoods. Residents help shape the plans by identifying problem areas and prioritizing solutions. Staff will work with neighborhoods to help find funding to implement the projects. Some can be funded immediately through existing programs such as the sidewalk capital fund, NTSP and traffic calming device fund.

“Working with the community, the City is determined and committed to making Shoreline streets the safest in the region,” says Mayor Ransom.

More Info

Police Traffic Enforcement

Captain Dan Pingrey
(206) 546-1929

Shoreline Traffic Programs

Traffic Engineer Rich
Meredith
(206) 546-2408

Portable Radar Units

Eastside Police
Neighborhood Center
(206) 363-8424

Westside Police
Neighborhood Center
(206) 546-3636

Council approves first City bond for park improvements and open space acquisition

On May 16, Shoreline residents will be voting on the first City bond levy.

At its February 13 meeting, the Shoreline City Council voted unanimously to place the bond issue on the May 16 ballot. If passed by the voters, the bond would pay for \$18.5 million in park improvement projects and open space acquisitions recommended by the Bond Advisory Committee.

Open space acquisition accounts for over half of the bond and includes \$3.3 million for 8.3 acres adjacent to Hamlin Park, \$6 million for 12.6 acres of South Woods Property and \$950,000 to purchase the four-plus-acre Kruckeberg Botanic Garden.

Examples of the projects the bond would fund include lights for the tennis courts at Shoreline Center, new field turf at Twin Ponds and improvements at Cromwell, Hamlin and Richmond Beach Saltwater Parks. A complete list of the projects and open space acquisitions in the bond levy is included in the box at right.

The Bond Advisory Committee, composed of Shoreline residents, major stakeholder groups and members of the City Council, met over several years to plan and advise the City on placing a measure on the ballot and to recommend to Council what projects should be funded.

The committee recommended that Council put the measure on the ballot sooner rather than later because it is unknown how long

the South Woods property will be available for purchase before a decision is made to sell it for development.

The estimated levy rate for the bond would be 28.5 cents per \$1,000 of assessed property value. The tax impact on a Shoreline home valued at

\$289,000 would be \$82.36 per year or \$6.86 per month.

For more information about the bond levy or any of the projects it would fund, please contact Shoreline Parks, Recreation and Cultural Services Director Dick Deal at (206) 546-2072.

May 16 Bond Projects

■ South Woods Property Acquisition (12.6 acres):	\$6,000,000
■ Hamlin Park (SPU acquisition – 8.3 acres):	\$3,300,000
■ Richmond Beach Saltwater Park Improvements (improvements to be identified in master plan):	\$2,640,000
■ Trail Corridors (walking paths throughout the City):	\$2,500,000
■ Cromwell Park Improvements:	\$1,000,000
■ Kruckeberg Botanic Garden (acquisition – 4 acres, parking improvements):	\$950,000
■ Field Turf at Twin Ponds Park:	\$900,000
■ Hamlin Park Improvements (backstops, concession stand, restrooms, picnic shelters and field lighting on lower fields):	\$750,000
■ Baseball/Softball Field Improvements (backstops, restrooms, scoreboards):	\$250,000
■ Off-Leash Dog Park (park site TBD):	\$150,000
■ Lights on Tennis Courts at Shoreline Center:	\$60,000

Capital improvements taking shape

The City of Shoreline allocated \$42.2 million for Capital Improvement Program (CIP) projects this year. These projects are part of the 2006-2011 CIP totaling \$168.3 million.



Pouring the concrete columns for the Aurora Interurban Trail Bridge.

Several are now under way and others are headed for construction or in the design stages. The following is an update of this year's CIP projects:

Aurora Corridor Project (N. 145th Street to N. 165th Street)

Construction of the underground infrastructure on the west side of the road is nearing completion. This month, Shoreline residents will see installation of curbs and gutters and traffic will be shifted to the west side of Aurora to allow construction to begin on the east side of the roadway. Pedestrian bridge foundations will also be completed this month. Despite weather setbacks and other delays, the project remains on schedule with a December 2006-January 2007 completion date.

North City

Sidewalks are complete except for spot areas around power poles. Utilities are installing their

respective wiring and traffic signal and light poles are being installed. This project is on schedule for June completion.

Interurban Trail North Central Section

The final section of the Interurban Trail is ready for construction. See article on page 5 for more details.

Sidewalk Program

Approximately \$900,000 will be spent on new pedestrian sidewalks and facilities throughout the City. Staff is working closely with the Shoreline School District and PTA groups to ensure that high-use locations are improved first (see story on page 1).

Dayton Wall & Pedestrian Improvements

Replacement of the Dayton Avenue retaining wall at N. 173rd Street is scheduled for this summer. City staff secured a grant for safety improvements in the St. Luke's school area including improving the sidewalk in that area and connecting sidewalks to Shorewood High School.

Turf replacement at Shoreline Fields A & B

Construction will begin this spring to replace the field surface on Shoreline Fields A & B with high-quality field turf. This work is expected to be complete in August.



Richmond Beach Overcrossing

Replacement of the bridge is scheduled to start construction in January 2007. BNSF, formerly known as Burlington Northern Sante Fe Railroad, placed restrictions on construction that precludes the City from starting sooner. Once started, construction is expected to be complete in nine months.

Aurora Corridor Project (N.165th Street to N. 205th Street)

City staff continue to work on traffic modeling for the corridor and are expanding the model to review east/west flow of traffic from I-5 to west of Aurora Avenue N. The Aurora Business Team (ABT) has been meeting to provide input to staff on the pre-environmental and public outreach process.

For more information about Shoreline's Capital Improvement Program, visit www.cityofshoreline.com or call City Engineer Jill Marilley at (206) 546-8887.



Construction to begin on last section of Interurban Trail this summer

The North Central Section of the Interurban Trail from N. 175th to N. 192nd Streets is often referred to as the heart of Shoreline. This section, as well as two bridges – one over Aurora Avenue and another over N. 155th Street – will be under construction this year. This work will complete Shoreline's 3.25-mile trail project that began in 2003.

The City will open the project for bids in April and plans to award a contract in May. Businesses on the Seattle City Light right-of-way are removing their buildings per their agreement with Seattle City Light. Construction on the North Central segment of the trail is expected to start in June.

Several additional improvements are being considered for the last segment of the trail and they may be incorporated into the entire three-mile span. They include: overhead lighting improvements to enhance safety and to light dark spots along the trail, landscaping, trailhead parking and constructing connections from neighborhoods and businesses to the trail system.

City staff will work with the Shoreline Parks, Recreation and Cultural Services Board to outline a program over the next several months and then report back to the City Council with community priorities and cost estimates.

Discussions are also under way regarding a future park site near the North Central Section of the Trail. Referred to as "Heritage Plaza," the 2.15-acre site includes the area east of Ronald Place to

15 feet west of Midvale Avenue N. and the north edge of the Walgreen's site to 50 feet south of the N. 180th Street connection between Aurora Avenue and Midvale. In the future, two additional parcels west of Ronald Place may be acquired by the City, creating a 3 ½-acre site for a future urban park. Red bricks

removed from the original brick road at Ronald Place may be incorporated into the design of the plaza area at the proposed Heritage Park.

For more information about construction on the North Central Segment of the Interurban Trail, contact Dave Buchan at (206) 546-2005.

2-1-1 community resource line now available

- Who does a worried father call to find drug counseling for his teenager?
- Who do you call when an older parent needs support to continue living independently?
- Who do you call when you want to volunteer your time and talents?
- Who does a single mother call when she has no food and her children are hungry?
- Who do you call when an earthquake strikes, and you need to find shelter?

United Way 211 can answer these questions and hundreds more. 211 is an easy-to-remember, free phone connection that connects people needing help-or those wanting to help others-with the appropriate resources. 211 works to get people the information they need, coordinate services and save costs by avoiding duplication of services.

Working with the Crisis Clinic and other public and private partners, United Way of King County helped launch the 211 information line in King County.

United Way 211 is available seven days a week from 8 a.m. to 8 p.m. During the initial phase of the launch, the 211 number will be easily available on land lines but it may take time for wireless companies to include it in their system. United Way of King County is working to secure funding that will expand service to 24 hours and to the rest of Washington state.

Courtesy of United Way King County.

City begins gathering community ideas for Saltwater Park Master Plan

This month the City of Shoreline began work with the community to develop a master plan for Richmond Beach Saltwater Park, a 40-acre park featuring breathtaking views and Shoreline's only public saltwater beach.

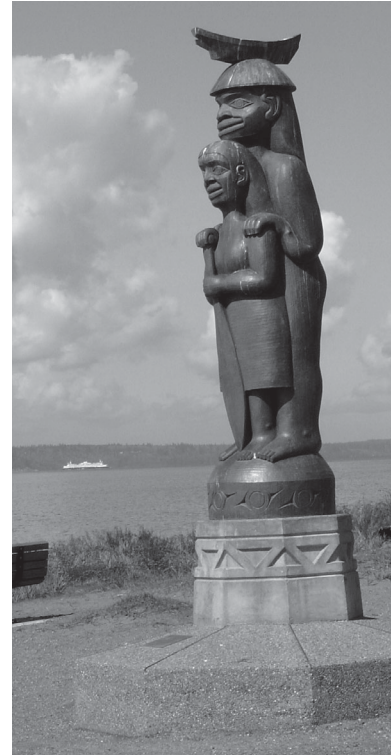
The master plan will guide the park's future development and facility upgrades. It will also include a vegetation plan to help control erosion and restore the park to a more natural state.

The first step in developing the master plan was completing an inventory of existing conditions including natural features, soils, erosion, vegetation, invasive plant species and beach conditions. The City shared this information with the community at an open house

earlier this month. The open house was the first in a series of public meetings to gather community ideas and suggestions about how the park is currently used and its future.

The Shoreline Parks, Recreation and Cultural Services Board will review the master plan and present recommendations to the City Council in mid-2006. Upgrades and improvements to Saltwater Park are one of the projects that would be covered by the bond levy that will be voted on by Shoreline residents in May.

For more information about the Richmond Beach Saltwater Park Master Plan, contact Capital Projects Manager Dave Buchan at (206) 546-2005.



March is Tsunami Preparedness Month

A tsunami is a series of ocean waves usually caused by earthquakes. Following an earthquake far out in the Pacific Ocean, the West Coast and Alaska Tsunami Warning Center alerts local officials who may order evacuation. While tsunamis occur infrequently in Puget Sound, it is important to be aware of their potential danger. If you see a sudden drop or rise in sea level, move to high ground or inland immediately.

When you feel the ground shake:

- Drop, cover and hold. Get under a sturdy object and hold on.
- As soon as the shaking stops, move to high ground or

inland immediately. Do not wait for an official notification.

- Tsunami and earthquake evacuation signs have been placed along roadways to assist people find safer locations or to higher ground.
- Listen to your battery-powered radio for information on shelter locations and emergency broadcasts.
- Stay away from the coast. Waves may continue to arrive for hours.
- Do not return to the beach until emergency officials give the "All Clear" notice.
- Be prepared. Each home should have a three-day disaster kit. Your kit should be adapted to your personal needs — but keep it

light and manageable in case you must evacuate on foot. Have your kit ready to go if told to evacuate immediately.

- Develop a family disaster plan. Everyone needs to know what to do on their own to protect themselves from earthquakes and tsunamis.
- Be familiar with local emergency management earthquake and tsunami plans. Know where to go to survive a tsunami.
- Take a first aid course and learn survival skills. Knowledge is your greatest defense against potential disaster.

For more information on emergency preparedness, visit www.cityofshoreline.com.

Police Citizen's Academy begins March 21

The Shoreline Police Department is now accepting applications to its free Citizen's Academy. The King County Sheriff's Office and Shoreline Police have designed this program to increase the community's understanding of the police department.

The class is limited to individuals who live or work in Shoreline. It will be held every Tuesday evening from March 21 through May 23, 6:00 – 9:00 p.m., at the King County Sheriff's Office Precinct 2 in Kenmore.

The class size is limited and will be filled on first-come, first-served basis. Applications are available at the Shoreline Police Station (1206 N. 185th St.), the Eastside Neighborhood Police Center (521 NE 165th St.) and the Westside Neighborhood Police Center (624 Richmond Beach Road). The class is free.

For more information, please call Sgt. Larson at (206) 546-6678, Officer Elfenson at (206) 363-8424 or Officer Obstler at (206) 546-3636.

Topics

The ten-week course covers a variety of topics, including:

- History of Policing
- Police Training
- Recruiting Unit
- Police Services Contracting
- Defensive Tactics
- Domestic Violence Unit
- Traffic Enforcement & Procedures
- Major Accident Investigations
- Checks/Fraud/Computer Forensics
- Drug Enforcement /Street Crimes
- Homicide & Major Crimes
- Green River Task Force
- 911 Communications Center
- Fingerprint Identification System
- Special Weapons & Tactical Unit
- Guardian One Helicopter
- Hostage Negotiations
- Marine Patrol
- Search & Rescue
- K-9 Unit
- Bomb Unit

Shoreline's Irish dance students invited to Seattle

The Shoreline Parks, Recreation and Cultural Services Department's Irish dance students have been invited by the Seattle Irish Heritage Club to participate in this year's Irish Week activities held at the Seattle Center and downtown Seattle March 16-18.

As they dance their way down 4th Ave. they'll proudly carry the City of Shoreline banner in the annual St. Patrick's day parade. They will also host a Ceili (Irish dance) at the Richmond Highlands Recreation Center where professional dancers will perform for and with our students.

The instructor, Peggy O'Toole Weber, has brought this popular dance program to Shoreline and the response has been terrific. Twenty four students, youth and adults, meet weekly at the Spartan Recreation Center for Irish dance



lessons. An additional class for youth will be offered this spring. For more information, contact the Spartan Recreation Center at (206) 418-3383.

Earth Day 2006: April 22

The City of Shoreline has a weekend full of events planned to celebrate Earth Day. Be sure to mark your calendar and get ready to remove invasive plants such as ivy from our parks, save the Kruckeberg Botanic Garden from weeds and learn more about natural yard care. Volunteers will receive a special bag full of goodies as they join their neighbors to celebrate Earth Day. Look in the next issue of Currents for a full listing of events or visit the City of Shoreline Web site at www.cityofshoreline.com.

Who, what, where in the City of Shoreline

City of Shoreline

Shoreline City Hall
17544 Midvale Ave. N., Suite 100
Shoreline, WA 98133-4921
(206) 546-1700
Fax (206) 546-7868

City Hall Annex
Home of Planning and
Development Services Department
and Public Works Department
Highland Plaza
1110 N. 175th St., Suite 105
Shoreline, WA 98133


CURRENTS

March 2006 Vol. 8 No. 2

Currents is produced by the
City of Shoreline Communications
and Intergovernmental Relations
Department, (206) 546-0779.

Editing, writing & design:
**Tami Beaumont, Susan Will
and Joyce Nichols**

Alternate formats
available upon request.

City Council

Mayor Bob Ransom
Deputy Mayor Maggie Fimia
Rich Gustafson
Ron Hansen
Keith McGlashan
Cindy Ryu
Janet Way

Meeting Location
Shoreline Conference Center
18560 First Ave. NE
Mt. Rainier Room

Workshop Meetings
First and third Mondays
beginning at 6:30 p.m.

Regular Meetings
Second and fourth Mondays
beginning at 7:30 p.m.

Agenda Line
(206) 546-2190

Televised City Council Meetings
Cable Channel 21
Tuesday noon and 8 p.m.
Wednesday through Sunday
6 a.m., noon and 8 p.m.

Shoreline Police

Emergency: 911

Shoreline Police Station
Chief Tony Burt
1206 N. 185th St.
Shoreline, WA 98133
(206) 546-6730

Westside Neighborhood Police Ctr.
Officer Leona Obstler
624 NW Richmond Beach Road
Shoreline, WA 98177
(206) 546-3636

Eastside Neighborhood Police Ctr.
Officer Deneese Elfenson
521 NE 165th St.
Shoreline, WA 98155
(206) 363-8424

City of Shoreline Web site

Information about meetings,
projects and programs is
available online.

www.cityofshoreline.com



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