



# CURRENTS

News from the City of Shoreline Volume 19 No. 2

March 2017

## Council declares Shoreline to be an inviting, equitable, and safe community for all

ON JANUARY 23, the Shoreline City Council unanimously adopted Resolution 401 declaring the City of Shoreline to be an inviting, equitable, and safe community for all. Council passed the resolution as a way to restate the practices and policies of the City and the values supported by the Shoreline community. Council believed making this statement was necessary, especially in response to some incidents of hate and bullying recently reported in Shoreline.

The resolution states, "As leaders in the community, we have a special responsibility not to stay silent in the face of discrimination, harassment or hate against any of our residents, and we choose to be a leader in protecting human rights, equity, public safety and social well-being."

"It is important for us to say that we are a safe and welcoming community," stated Mayor Chris Roberts. "We care about our residents and we want them to feel safe so they can fulfill their potential as a resident of this city and country."

Resolution 401 also prohibits Shoreline Police Officers and City employees from inquiring into the immigration status of individuals, unless required by law or a court order. This affirms the policy of the King County Sheriff's Office (KCSO), with whom the City contracts for police services. KCSO prohibits personnel from inquiring about an individual's immigration status and from engaging in activities to ascertain such status. Although this is the case, it is important to note Resolution 401 does not prevent cooperation with Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE) Officials. What it does mean is that in the ordinary course of business, Shoreline Police Officers and City employees will not inquire about an individual's immigration status. Shoreline Police will continue to work with ICE Officials as required by law.

Shoreline follows other local communities, including Kirkland, Burien, Seattle, Olympia, and Everett, in reinforcing their commitments to acceptance, equal treatment, and safety for everyone in their communities. The City recognizes and upholds the rights of individuals to be treated fairly and to live their lives with dignity and respect and free from discrimination or targeting because of their immigration status, faith, race, national origin, sexual orientation, gender or gender identity, age, ability, ethnicity, housing status, economic status, or other social status. The City also strongly condemns any act of harassment, bullying, intimidation, violence, or other acts of hate.

The City is committed to ensuring that Shoreline remains a welcoming, inclusive, and safe community for all who live, work and visit here. The City will continue to work, in cooperation with our community partners, to ensure our services and programs are accessible and open to all individuals.



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## CONTACT YOUR Shoreline City Council



**MAYOR CHRIS ROBERTS**  
(206) 801-2205  
croberts@shorelinewa.gov



**DEPUTY MAYOR  
SHARI WINSTEAD**  
(206) 801-2201  
swinstead@shorelinewa.gov



**WILL HALL**  
(206) 801-2207  
whall@shorelinewa.gov



**DORIS McCONNELL**  
(206) 801-2204  
dmconnell@shorelinewa.gov



**KEITH McGLASHAN**  
(206) 801-2203  
kmcglashan@shorelinewa.gov



**JESSE SALOMON**  
(206) 801-2202  
jsalomon@shorelinewa.gov



**KEITH SCULLY**  
(206) 801-2206  
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



Ronald Commons, 17837 Aurora Avenue N

## Economic Development Update: **TOWN CENTER**

**SHORELINE'S TOWN CENTER** -- the zoning area spanning Aurora Ave N from N 170<sup>th</sup> St to N 187<sup>th</sup> Street -- continues to experience sustained growth. Following on the heels of the 2016 Shoreline Marketplace openings of Trader Joe's, Mud Bay, and The Everett Clinic, three residential projects will open in 2017 and early 2018 offering current and future Shoreline residents new housing options.

The Ronald Commons project, at N 177<sup>th</sup> between Aurora and Linden Avenue N is now open. The project is a cooperative project of Compass Housing Alliance, Hopelink, and Ronald United Methodist Church. It is located on the church's property. Compass Housing operates a housing complex offering 60 affordable apartments, including 12 for veterans and their families. Hopelink's Shoreline operations moved from its location at Aurora Square to Ronald Commons. It will provide support programs for families and individuals as well as operate its Shoreline foodbank out of the new location. The project has also allowed the church to remodel to provide an even greater range of resources to the community.

Interurban Lofts at N 170<sup>th</sup> and Aurora along the Interurban Trail is Shoreline's first micro-apartment project and its 80 units are now ready for occupancy. Micro-apartments were pioneered by a Puget Sound-area developer who desired to provide affordable housing without subsidies. In Seattle micro-apartment residents represent a broad cross-section of the population. However, unlike in Seattle, Shoreline micro-apartment projects are required to provide parking based on the number of beds provided. According to its website, the project is "a hybrid of modern and affordable living" with small, high-efficiency units providing convenient access to Town Center amenities and transit.

Just north of Interurban Lofts at N 172<sup>nd</sup> and Aurora, a crane marks the construction site of the 212-unit Paceline project. Paceline is scheduled to open in 2018. "Paceline" is a cycling term that draws attention to the project's strategic location along the Interurban Trail. The investment team building the project is confident Shoreline residents will be drawn to the options to commute, exercise, and run errands provided at the strategic Town Center location. The project will feature large bicycle facilities with an easy-access ramp from the Trail to an indoor bike garage.



# Trail Along the Rail Feasibility Study

## PUBLIC MEETING

Wednesday, March 15

6:00 to 8:00 p.m.

City Hall Council Chambers & Lobby

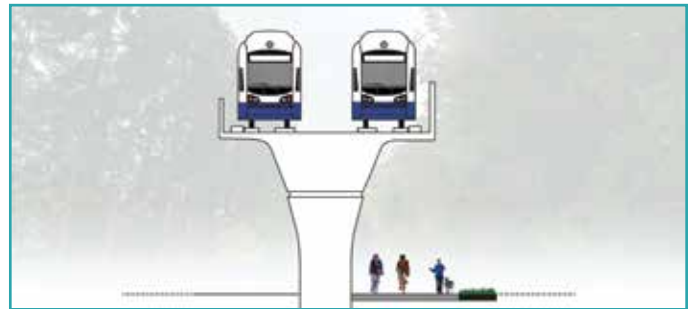
DEVELOPMENT OF LIGHT RAIL through Shoreline presents us with a unique and rare opportunity. The City is looking at the possibility of building a multi-use trail running roughly parallel to the light rail alignment through Shoreline. Located on the east side of I-5, the trail would run from N 145<sup>th</sup> Street to NE 195<sup>th</sup> Street. It would enhance pedestrian and cyclist access to the planned 145<sup>th</sup> Street and 185<sup>th</sup> Street Light Rail Stations, as well as connect to the NE 195<sup>th</sup> Street pedestrian bridge over I-5. In addition, the trail could connect to local streets, parks, open spaces, and schools within the neighborhoods adjacent to the light rail alignment.

Similar to the Interurban Trail, the "Trail Along the Rail" could serve as Shoreline's segment of a potential regional multi-use trail that could ultimately connect cities along the Lynnwood Link alignment from Seattle all the way to Everett.

As the first step to testing out this vision, the City will con-



Trail next to the street alignment



Trail under the rail alignment

duct a feasibility study of a trail along the planned light rail alignment. We need your feedback to develop the preferred trail alignment plan. Please come to the public meeting on Wednesday, March 15 and provide your input.

If you have any questions, contact Senior Transportation Planner Nora Daley-Peng at (206) 801-2483 or [ndaleypeng@shorelinewa.gov](mailto:ndaleypeng@shorelinewa.gov).



## Free workshops and vendor fair for your home improvement projects

Tuesdays, March 28, April 25, and May 23

6:00 to 8:00 p.m., City Hall lobby

RSVP: [shorelinewa.gov/homeimprovement](http://shorelinewa.gov/homeimprovement)

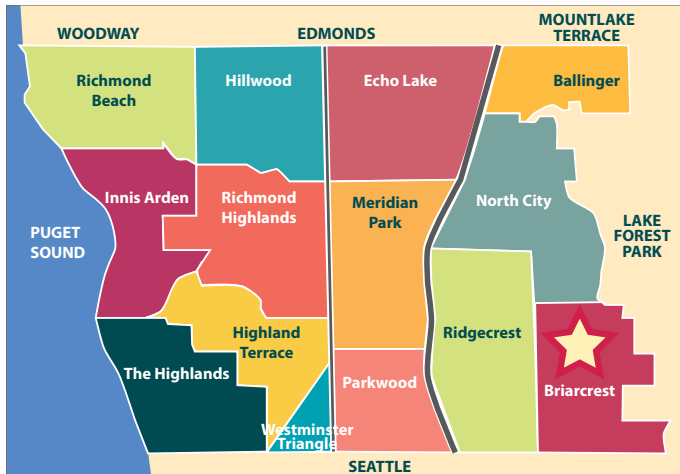
**HOME IMPROVEMENT SEASON IS COMING!** Do you have a home improvement project in mind, but need some guidance to get started? Is it a house remodel or addition; subdivision of property; or a driveway, drainage, deck, or a tree project? Our workshops can help you take the next steps.

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](http://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](mailto:jlewis@shorelinewa.gov).

# NEIGHBORHOOD SPOTLIGHT



## Briarcrest Neighborhood

WITH A NAME ESTABLISHED LONG BEFORE it was ever a neighborhood, Briarcrest brackets the southeastern border of Shoreline. One of the first known uses of the name can be found in a 1912 newspaper advertisement offering “land to let 5 miles north of the city via autobus in Briarcrest.” Briarcrest was platted in pieces, eventually becoming part of Shoreline in February 1997.

Early photos of the area show a trend to modest houses, which still characterize the neighborhood. Many neighborhood students can walk to classes at Briarcrest Elementary, Kellogg Middle School, Shorecrest High School, and Shoreline Christian School. At last count, four Little Free Libraries serve Briarcrest readers of all ages, and residents are glad to have the Shoreline Goodwill Store to anchor the corner of their neighborhood.

At the turn of the 20<sup>th</sup> Century, Puget Mill dominated much of the property along Lake Washington. By 1910, logging had taken its toll of what was once described as a sylvan forest. In 1923, the U.S. Navy purchased and cleared the Hamlin family homestead to build a hospital complex, later becoming the Firland Tuberculosis Hospital. The property is now owned by the State and houses the Fircrest Habilitation Center and the State Health Labs.

Briarcrest residents are devoted to Hamlin Park. The 80-plus acre park is known for its second-growth forest, which is just over 100 years old. Initially developed with Works Progress Administration (WPA) and King County funds, Hamlin now features wooded natural areas with trails, ball fields, a picnic shelter, and public art. In 2007, the City acquired adjacent South Woods. Neighborhood leaders Bettelinn and Charlie Brown played an important stewardship role in revitalizing South Woods, assembling work parties to remove and replace invasive species with native plants.

The Briarcrest Neighborhood Association places equity at the top of their values list. They bring neighbors together at an annual summer picnic and are planning projects to support homeless and other vulnerable students. In the last few years, the Neighborhood Association has hosted regular storytelling evenings. A 2016 collaboration with Northwest Heritage Resources brought Native storyteller Roger Fernandes to present at the Fircrest chapel. This year, a grant from the Shoreline-Lake Forest Park Arts Council will enable them to present a workshop for beginning storytellers.

For more information about upcoming events in Briarcrest, visit [briarcrestneighbors.org](http://briarcrestneighbors.org). The Briarcrest Neighborhood Association meets on the second Tuesday of every month at 7:00 p.m. at the Patty Pan Grill, 15550 27<sup>th</sup> Avenue NE.



Firland Tuberculosis Hospital, on current Fircrest site.



South Woods Park, 2210 NE 150<sup>th</sup> Street





# CULTURE SHARE

## Culture Share: Nepal

**Saturday, March 4, 6:00 - 8:30 p.m., Shoreline City Hall**

In December, the City's Diversity and Inclusion program held its first Culture Share event. The event focused on the music, dance, and food of Ghana, a nation in West Africa.

Culture Share is a variation of the World Dance events the City has sponsored in the past. While World Dance participants learned four to five dances from different cultures, Culture Share events focus on one country and provide participants the opportunity to learn about that country's history, taste regional dishes, enjoy a musical performance, and participate in traditional dancing.

The City hosted Culture Share: GHANA in partnership with JHP Cultural and Diversity Legacy, a Shoreline non-profit organization whose mission is to share different cultures through traditional music and dance performances, workshops, and classes. In addition to the community potluck, participants enjoyed Ghanaian rice, fried plantains, and bofrot, a delicious treat similar to a beignet or doughnut. JHP Legacy's musicians and dancers entertained with Ghanaian drumming and ended the evening with a group dance.

Nepal will be the focus of the next Culture Share event on March 4 at Shoreline City Hall from 6:00 to 8:30 p.m. Culture Share: NEPAL will be presented in partnership with Youth for Culture Promotion (Y4CP), founded by Shoreline resident Subhash Prajapati.

For more information about JHP Cultural and Diversity Legacy, go to [jhplegacy.org](http://jhplegacy.org). For more information on Youth for Culture Promotion, go to [facebook.com/Youth-For-Culture-Promotion](https://facebook.com/Youth-For-Culture-Promotion). If you would like more information about Culture Share events, please contact Diversity and Inclusion Coordinator Suni Tolton at (206) 801-2256 or [stolton@shorelinewa.gov](mailto:stolton@shorelinewa.gov).

# DID YOU KNOW?

Pet waste contains disease-causing organisms that are harmful to humans, water, and wildlife. Even if your yard is not in direct contact with a stream, contaminants from pet waste can be carried by stormwater. Some harmful organisms can survive for weeks and months in your yard if not cleaned up! The best way to dispose of your pet's waste is to bag it and place it in the garbage. Landfills are designed to safely handle materials like dog waste.

For more information, visit [pugetsoundstartshere.org/scoop-poop/](http://pugetsoundstartshere.org/scoop-poop/).

## Need a permit?

Doing a home improvement project? Checked to see if you need a permit? Requiring permits helps ensure safe construction.

All new construction requires a permit. If you are just repairing or replacing fixtures, such as replacing windows, you will most likely not need a permit. However, if you are making additions or changes to an existing system, such as plumbing or wiring, you may need a plumbing, electrical, or mechanical permit. For example, moving or adding an electrical outlet requires an electrical permit.

A construction permit is not needed for items such as: painting or similar finish work; fences no more than six feet high; and platforms, decks, and walks no more than 30 inches high.

Replacement or repair of fixtures, such as changing water faucets or replacing switches, does not normally require a permit. Replacing a water heater or adding a new permanently wired light fixture does require a permit.

Since each construction project is unique, contact Planning & Community Development at (206) 801-2500 or [pcd@shorelinewa.gov](mailto:pcd@shorelinewa.gov) for answers to your specific permitting questions.



Culture Share: Ghana, Deember 2016



# HOW ARE TREES REGULATED IN SHORELINE?

**TREES ARE AN EVER-PRESENT** and important part of our landscape. They help improve water and air quality, prevent erosion, increase property values, and provide carbon storage, wildlife habitat, and natural beauty. However, balancing these benefits with a property owner's right to develop and manage his or her property is an ongoing challenge.

The City frequently hears from concerned residents when a neighbor cuts down trees or when trees are removed as part of a new development. The loss of large trees can be a dramatic change. However, the ability to remove trees that pose a risk to life and property or create nuisance issues such as cracked driveways is also a common concern of property owners. The City's tree regulations aim to balance private property rights with the community's desire to preserve trees and their inherent functions and values.

Among the goals of our tree regulations is to ensure there is no net loss of the City's tree canopy coverage. One way of doing this is by regulating the rate of cutting and requiring replacement trees to be planted.

## **Trees in Critical Areas**

If a tree of any size is in or near an area such as a stream, wetland, or steep slope, then the tree may be in a critical area or its associated buffer. These trees are protected and regulated under the City's Critical Areas Ordinance. City review is required to determine whether these trees may be removed or pruned.

## **Trees of significant size**

Outside of critical areas or buffers, the City's tree regulations only apply to significant-sized trees on private property, unless the area

cleared exceeds 3,000 square feet. Significant trees are defined as eight inches in diameter or larger for evergreen conifers, and 12 inches in diameter for other trees.

Property owners may remove a certain number of significant trees during a 3-year period without a permit based on the size of their property. (See below)

| PARCEL SIZE IN SQUARE FEET | NUMBER OF TREES |
|----------------------------|-----------------|
| Up to 7,200                | 3               |
| 7,201 to 14,400            | 4               |
| 14,401 to 21,780           | 5               |
| 21,781 and above           | 6               |

A permit is required to remove more than the number of trees outlined above. A permit is also required for removal of trees greater than 30 inches in diameter (94.2" in circumference). To receive a permit, property owners must abide by tree retention and replacement requirements. In residential zones, minimum retention for development is typically 20% of significant trees. Depending on tree size, up to three replacement trees may be required for each tree removed (3:1).

## **Trees in the right-of-way**

Trees located in the City rights-of-way are classified as street trees and are subject to different regulations than trees on private property. Please contact the City at (206) 801-2700 regarding tree removal in the City rights-of-way or if you are unsure whether the tree is on City or private property.

In commercial zones, tree removal is exempt unless within a critical area or buffer, or if the existing trees



## TREE REMOVAL CHECKLIST

Before removing a tree on your property, check the list below to see if you need a permit.

- Is the tree on or near a stream, wetland, or steep slope? (Trees of any size)
- Is the tree greater than 30 inches in diameter (94.2" in circumference)?
- Are you planning to remove multiple trees? (Check the table at left)
- Is the tree located in the right-of-way? (City right-of-way extends beyond the edge of the paved road)

were included as required landscaping within the previous three years.

### Pruning

Pruning less than 25% of a tree's canopy is allowed without a permit. Excessive pruning, including topping, stripping, coppicing, or creating imbalances are not allowed unless necessary to protect life and property. When a tree is located in a critical area, the pruning must be completed by a qualified arborist.

### Hazardous trees

A tree that is an active threat to life or property (falling or about to fall) is allowed to be removed immediately without permit. However, documentation of the hazardous condition prior to removal, such as photos or an arborist's evaluation, is required. Property owners should follow-up with the City after-the-fact for review to determine whether a permit and possibly replacement trees are required.

For more information visit [shorelinewa.gov](http://shorelinewa.gov) or contact Assistant Planner Kate Skone at (206) 801-2556 or [kskone@shorelinewa.gov](mailto:kskone@shorelinewa.gov).

# You may qualify for 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](http://kingcounty.gov/depts/assessor/Forms) and click on the link for the appropriate property tax exemption or deferral.

## Utility Assistance Programs

### Seattle City Light and Seattle Public Utilities

Qualifying customers of Seattle City Light (SCL) and Seattle Public Utilities (SPU - water) can save approximately 60% on their electric and water bills. 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 \$37,980 and households with two or more people must have gross income less than \$43,020. For more information please call (206) 546-2494.

### North City Water District

The Shoreline 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.

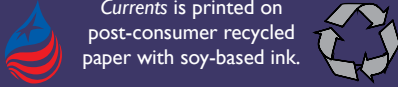
### Low Income Utility Assistance

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.

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**CITY OF SHORELINE**  
**CURRENTS**

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# SPRING SWIM LESSONS

## REGISTRATION BEGINS APRIL 10

Monday/Wednesday  
Tuesday/Thursday  
and  
Saturday options  
are available

12 lessons/6 weeks

### MORE INFO

(206) 801-2650  
[shorelinewa.gov/pool](http://shorelinewa.gov/pool)  
[shorelinewa.gov/registernow](http://shorelinewa.gov/registernow)

