

Archived: Monday, November 16, 2020 4:01:57 PM

From: [Janet Way](#)

Sent: Monday, November 16, 2020 3:49:19 PM

To: [Jessica Simulcik Smith](#)

Cc: [City Council](#); [Debbie Tarry](#)

Subject: [EXTERNAL] Requesting Council Support for Landmarking the Historic Seattle Naval Hospital Chapel, Agenda Item 9(b)

Sensitivity: Normal

Attachments:

[Fircrest Chapel images.jpeg](#) ; [Letter to Council on Budget Priorities.docx](#) ; [brick 1.jpeg](#) ; [brick 2 \(5\).jpeg](#) ; [brick 3 \(4\).jpeg](#) ;

CAUTION: This email originated from outside of the City of Shoreline. Do not click links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

Dear Jessica,

Please provide this letter and photos to Council for tonite's meeting.

Thank you.

Janet Way

Shoreline Preservation Society

940 NE 147th St

Shoreline, WA 98155

November 16, 2020

Mayor Will Hall and Shoreline City Council

17500 Midvale Ave N

Shoreline, WA 98133

Subject: Requesting Council Support for Landmarking the Historic Seattle Naval Hospital Chapel

Dear Mayor and Council:

I am speaking to you on an issue pertinent to your Council Agenda Study Item 9(b) Discussing the 2021 State Legislative Priorities. A portion of this item will be devoted to discussing “partnering with State agencies to seek legislative action that supports City goals and the long-term vision of an approved Fircrest Master Development Plan.”

As you may recall, my organization, the Shoreline Preservation Society, an all-volunteer State non-profit is undertaking an effort to Landmark the Seattle Naval Hospital Chapel at Fircrest School. I was in fact the very FIRST Freestanding Naval Hospital Chapel in America. Built in 1944 during World War II by the US Navy, it was later converted by King County to a TB Sanatorium and then by the State to become the Fircrest School, a home for disabled people. Our Hearing with the King County Landmarks Commission is scheduled for this Thursday afternoon, November 19th.

This site is not only one of the most beautiful buildings in Shoreline. We have also nominated a little over 3 acres of native forest surrounding it. This is because the base commander, Captain Boone, a highly decorated hero of World War I specifically envisioned the Chapel to be located on the hillside amidst the native forest to provide respite and comfort to the wounded, their families and staff.

Your Budget priorities are related to development proposals in the Master Plan. There has been relentless pressure to develop these lands which are actually protected under Article 13 of the State Constitution.

You can honor that commitment with support for this Landmark Nomination.

Protecting this forest as a connected landscape surrounding the Chapel is extremely important to the Chapel's integrity and original vision. And it would also be in keeping with our City's commitment to fighting Climate Change, Clean Water and Clean Air goals not to mention the requirements in our Comprehensive Plan to protect historic treasures in Shoreline.

We respectfully ask for your support for this effort to Landmark the Naval Hospital Chapel and its surrounding forested area as you consider Budget Priorities. We ask that you direct staff to support this effort. You are also invited to view our hearing on Zoom this Thursday.

Our nation just celebrated Veterans Day last week and preserving the Chapel as a Historic Landmark would bring well deserved honor to the memory of those members of the military who served there or received care there. There are some artifacts at the Access Garden adjacent to the Chapel that remind us of the remarkable history of this place.

Thank you for your attention.

Sincerely,

Janet Way, Chair
Shoreline Preservation Society



**ELEANOR ROOSEVELT
VISITS
1945**

CHAPEL DEDICATED

1944

EUNICE KENNEDY
SHRIVER
VISITED 1963