



CURRENTS

News from the City of Shoreline Volume 23 No. 1

February 2021

Council discussion of potential park bond

IN DECEMBER, Council discussed placing a parks improvement bond measure on the ballot in April 2021. During that discussion, Council asked staff to bring forward a draft ordinance for a \$38.5 million bond that would provide significant improvements to five parks; investments in park amenities for three other parks; and the acquisition and improvement of new park land. The Council discussed the draft proposal during meetings in January. At the time of printing, the Council had not made a final decision on whether to place the bond measure on the April ballot or wait until later in the year.

The five parks selected for significant improvements are: Briarcrest Community (Hamlin East), Brugger's Bog, Hillwood, James Keough, and Richmond Highlands. Park improvements include such things as playgrounds, splash-pads, multi-sports courts, walking trails, picnic shelters, off-leash dog areas, and a fully accessible play area for people of all physical abilities.

Investments in park amenities include constructing a new off-leash dog area and play area at Ridgcrest Park; upgrading the off-leash dog area and converting the dirt soccer field to grass at Shoreview Park; improving the education center and children's garden at Kruckeberg Botanic Garden to make it accessible to persons of all physical abilities; and installing public art throughout the city.

Park land acquisitions and improvements will expand Paramount Open Space, Brugger's Bog, and Rotary Park, and will include more acquisitions in other parts of the city.

If approved, the proposed bond measure would authorize the City to issue up to \$38.5 million in general obligation bonds to pay for these projects and use property taxes to repay them. The bonds would mature within 20 years. Although the exact amount of property taxes per household will depend on interest rates and property values, the City estimates the annual property tax rate for the owner of a median valued home (\$517,000) would be \$112 per year, or \$9 per month. This is an increase of \$36 per year, or \$3 per month, from what property owners are currently paying on the expiring 2006 park improvement bond.



Transportation Master Plan update Page 3



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CITY COUNCIL MEETINGS:
Mondays at 7:00 p.m.
Virtual meetings via Zoom
Agendas: shorelinewa.gov/councilmeetings

Resolution 467 – Building an anti-racist community

ON NOVEMBER 30, the Shoreline City Council adopted a resolution reinforcing their commitment to ensuring that Shoreline is an anti-racist community. The resolution commits the City to the following actions:

- Address all the ways racism persists as a systemic and chronic reality.
- Work together with members of our community, especially those who identify as Black, Indigenous, Hispanic, Asian, and other People of Color, to co-create a vision of this anti-racist community and the outcomes and activities that will bring us closer to this vision.
- Build trusting, working relationships with community members, and provide opportunities they find meaningful to engage with us in this journey, recognizing that the City must remain committed to learning, addressing past harm, and supporting the community in using its own strengths to create an anti-racist community.
- Reaffirm our previous commitment to make Shoreline an inviting, equitable, and safe community for everyone; commit to standing together with the people of Shoreline in opposing racism, hate, violence, and acts of intolerance committed against our community members; and commit to continuing our work to reach out to and connect with all members of our community to ensure that our programs are accessible and open to all individuals.
- Recognize the need of the City's Boards, Commissions, Committees, and staff to reflect the diversity of our community.
- Build and include funding for the City's own organizational capacity to lead and embody this work through ensuring that hiring practices align with anti-racist core principles, providing ongoing training for all staff to be successful in building an anti-racist community through their day-to-day work, and investing in managers and supervisors to carry out this vision in their roles as organizational leaders.
- Educate the community on reporting hate crimes in Shoreline, communicate the hate crime investigative procedures, commit to communicating outcomes to hate crime victims in a timely and understandable method, and report these crimes in the Annual Police Services Report to City Council.
- Continue to advocate locally for relevant policies that improve the condition of communities of color, and will support local, state, regional, and federal initiatives that advance efforts to dismantle systemic racism.
- Facilitate community listening sessions to hear directly from Shoreline community members – centering the voices of those who identify as Black, Indigenous, Hispanic, Asian, and other People of Color – about their expectations and desired outcomes for City services, policies, and practices as the City recognizes there are opportunities for changes that would result in a more equitable outcome for Shoreline community members.

MORE INFORMATION

Management Analyst Christina Arciday, carcidy@shorelinewa.gov or 206-801-2216

ALERT SHORELINE

Get email notifications about important community news by signing up for Alert Shoreline. You can choose the news categories you would like to receive including Council agendas, project updates, neighborhood news, road closures, and more.

Learn more at shorelinewa.gov/alert.

Provide early input on the Transportation Master Plan Update

AS WE BEGIN planning for an update to the City's Transportation Master Plan (TMP), we want to hear from you. With the coming arrival of light rail transit, new and higher frequency bus service, new pedestrian/bicycle connections, land use changes and growth, the TMP update provides an opportunity to better align transportation goals, objectives, and policies with the City's Comprehensive Plan vision.

The last update to the TMP was in 2011. We must update it by 2023 to align with the City Comprehensive Plan and meet the Growth Management Act requirements, maintain the City's eligibility for pursuing future grant funding, and set transportation policies for guiding the development of Shoreline.

The TMP supports all forms of travel – by foot, bicycle, skateboard, scooter, stroller, wheelchair, transit, motorcycle, automobile, etc. The TMP provides guidance for public and private sector decisions on local and regional transportation investments, including short-, mid-, and long-range transportation, and related land-use activities. The TMP update will define the City's future transportation policies, programs, and projects for the next 20 years.

Outreach Series 1

Look for a variety of outreach events and activities we will use to engage and inform the community throughout the TMP Update process. There will be multiple opportunities to learn about future transportation needs, envision improvements, and give feedback. Our first events are coming up in February with two online open houses.

Online Open Houses

We are developing two identical online open houses. We will post links to these on the City's online calendar prior to the events.

Wednesday, Feb. 17, 7:00p.m. to 8:00 p.m.

Tuesday, Feb. 23, noon to 1:00 p.m.

Hear a brief presentation about the project and discuss your transportation needs and ideas for future improvements with the project team.

MORE INFORMATION

shorelinewa.gov/tmp

Senior Transportation Planner *Nora Daley-Peng*
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COVID-19 Update

City of Shoreline Outdoor Seating for Restaurants and Bars

Last summer, City Council passed interim regulations to make it easier for restaurants and bars to create outdoor seating areas in parking lots, sidewalks, street parking zones, and other public spaces. The intent of the interim regulations is to provide more flexibility for businesses coping with the COVID-19 pandemic. Here is how it works:

Outdoor seating on private property: After submitting an Outdoor Seating Area Registration Form, eating and drinking establishments can use areas such as parking lots on private property

for outdoor seating. There is no application fee for this registration.

Public right-of-way (public sidewalks, on-street parking, or other public space next to a business): To use a public space for outdoor seating, businesses must apply for a right-of-way site permit. It takes about seven business days to process these permits. The interim regulations include the waiving of the right-of-way site permit fee and the periodic use fee.

On January 11, Council extended the interim regulations for six more months. Businesses interested in outdoor seating can contact City of Shoreline Economic Development Program Manager Nathan Daum: 206-801-2218



Suni Tolton

EMPLOYEE AND TEAM OF THE YEAR

Every year, Shoreline employees nominate peers for Employee of the Year for going above and beyond in practicing the City's values, providing exceptional service to the community, and promoting a positive image of the City. The 2020 Employee of the Year is Diversity and Inclusion Coordinator Suni Tolton.

In addition to the Employee of the Year, the City also honors the Team of the Year. The 2020 winner was the Remote Learning Team.

or ndaum@shorelinewa.gov.

Vaccines

The Food and Drug Administration (FDA) has authorized the COVID-19 vaccine for emergency use. Frontline healthcare workers and nursing home residents began receiving the first shots in December 2020. Multiple vaccines are under development and several are in large scale clinical trials with tens of thousands of volunteers to ensure they are both safe and effective.

Public Health – Seattle & King County is working with the Washington State Department of Health on vaccine distribution.

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POLICING IN SHORELINE

Over the next year, we will be sharing articles on policing in Shoreline. The goal is to try to answer many of the questions residents have about policing, such as how use of force policies are made and enforced, how police officers are held accountable, what police do with information they collect from people who they stop for traffic violations or for other reasons, and what types of training our Shoreline police officers go through.

Several of our officers will also introduce themselves to the community and explain their role in the department. This month Patrol Operations Captain Ryan Abbott will introduce himself.

OPERATIONS CAPTAIN RYAN ABBOTT

I grew up in Washington where I have lived my entire life. I graduated from Central Washington University with a bachelor's degree in criminal justice in 2006. I have worked for the King County Sheriff's Office for almost 15 years. I spent most of my career working the south-end, which includes seven years total in SeaTac as a patrol

deputy then a patrol sergeant. The past three years I served as the spokesperson/media relations officer for the King County Sheriff's Office. I was promoted to Captain on November 1 and was lucky enough to be assigned to Shoreline where I have been for just over a month. I am already really enjoying myself and I look forward to working in

such a great area.

As the patrol operations captain I oversee our patrol unit. It is made up of six sergeants and 24 patrol Officers, a school resource officer, a K-9 Officer, and five traffic Officers. I also oversee the RADAR (Response Awareness De-escalation and Referral) program and Traffic Unit.

TRAINING TO BECOME A POLICE OFFICER

To become a Police Officer with the Shoreline Police Department and King County Sheriff's Office you must have the desire to serve the community. Only 1 in 5 applicants will pass the physical agility test, oral boards, background investigation, medical assessment, psychological evaluation, polygraph test, and commander's interview. The hiring process takes several months for each applicant. Once hired, deputies undergo rigorous training throughout their first year. The training occurs in three phases with a minimum of 2,000 hours of training to prepare them for the various duties of a police officer.

Phase I begins with three weeks of pre-academy instruction where student deputies work on various skills they will need to be successful at the state police academy. These include fitness, stress, and time management. Pre-academy also provides deputies with a familiarization of King County/Shoreline protocols and procedures. The main part of Phase I is attending the Washington State Basic Law Enforcement Academy (BLEA). Student deputies spend five

months in the police academy.

Attending BLEA is mandatory for all city and county entry-level police officers in Washington. Through a centralized model, the Washington State BLEA ensures that all officers are equipped with the same fundamental skills to effectively serve their community with standardized training and justice based policing skills. Academy recruits are trained and evaluated through a litany of tests and mock scene scenarios that incorporate criminal law and procedures, patrol tactics, crisis intervention, traffic, criminal investigations, de-escalation skills, control/defensive tactics, firearms, and cognitive command.

After graduating the BLEA, deputies complete their Phase I training with a month of post-BLEA. This allows veteran King County deputies, specialists in their respective fields, to provide new deputies with more training before entering the field training with their training officer.

Sheriff's deputies are trained (Phase II) at various Precincts throughout the County. The field training program is made up of six segments over several

months. Deputies in the field training program work in a two-person patrol vehicle, under the constant supervision of a Police Training Officer (PTO). If deputies successfully complete the field training program, they advance into Phase III. Approximately 40% of the deputies that graduate from the police academy will not make it through the King County Sheriff's Office field training program.

In Phase III, deputies work independently, but are closely watched and mentored by a Master Police Officer (MPO). An MPO is a veteran PTO/Deputy with extensive experience in training, who will evaluate the deputy for their probationary year to ensure they can effectively perform all duties of a police officer. Numerous deputies for the King County Sheriff's Office are trained in the City of Shoreline and although most of them want to stay in Shoreline, we only pick officers that are the best fit to serve our community.

Implicit bias and why it is important to understand

OVER THE PAST FEW YEARS, Shoreline City staff members have been engaged in training to help understand how racism affects us all and leads to inequitable treatment and results for communities of color. Recognizing the many ways that institutions help maintain those inequities, helps us to change racist policies and practices. One such training has been on implicit bias. The goal of implicit bias training is to bring about awareness of an individual's hidden attitudes so that he or she can be aware of how they may influence their perception of others. These biases may unconsciously affect a person's understanding, actions, and decisions. King County Sheriff's Office staff, which includes our Shoreline Police officers, are also required to complete eight hours of implicit bias training.

Below is more information on implicit bias from the UCLA BRITE Center for Science, Research & Policy.

What is implicit bias?

Implicit (or unconscious) bias occurs when individuals use information from experience, media, culture or other individuals to organize people into social categories according to [noticeable] traits like age, gender, race, ethnicity or social role and then utilize these categories unconsciously in decision making or behavior. Thus, hearing descriptions like "a large Black man" activates a meaning beyond physical character that has been shaped by feelings and expectations molded by experience with social categories, media, culture and information from others. It is the unconscious activation of this supplemental meaning that biases how people respond to such a description (Kang, J. (2009). *Implicit bias: A primer for courts*. Williamsburg, VA: National Center for State Courts. <http://jerrykang.net/research/2009-implicit-bias-primer-for-courts/>).

Could I be racially biased and not be aware of it?

Our attitudes and behavior towards others are often guided by unconscious thoughts, feelings, and judgements that we have and may not be aware of and these can lead us to act in ways that are biased or prejudiced without knowing it. Research shows that this is especially true when we are in a rush or have to make quick decisions. When we are unaware of how these thoughts, feelings, and judgements influence our behavior and attitudes we make ourselves more vulnerable to bias, racial or otherwise. ...

Why is it important to be aware of how unconscious bias works?

Because the processes involved in biasing decisions and behaviors are engaged at the unconscious level with our own prejudices and any stereotypes (thoughts, feelings, and expectations) we might have, all individuals are liable to its influence. This means that even well-intentioned individuals who believe in fairness and equity are prone to behave in ways that can create disparity, as documented by research involving police officers, hiring managers, teachers, judges, and even doctors.

Learning about unconscious biases is also important because it helps shed light on the institutionalized and structural inequalities that reinforce the learning of bias-inducing associations.

UCLA BRITE Center for Science, Research & Policy. (n.d.). *Understanding Implicit Bias: A Toolkit*. <https://britecenter.org/policy-and-impact/understanding-implicit-bias-a-toolkit/>

INDEPENDENT INVESTIGATION TEAM ROSTER

WASHINGTON'S Law Enforcement Training and Community Safety Act requires that an independent investigation team (IIT) investigate the use of deadly force by a police officer when it results in death, substantial bodily harm, or great bodily harm. IITs consist of law enforcement investigators and at least two non-law enforcement community representatives (Community Representatives). The City Manager, working with the King County Sheriff's Office, has appointed ten Shoreline residents to a roster of potential community representatives to serve on IITs in Shoreline should it be necessary.

We received 41 applications from a diverse cross section of Shoreline residents expressing interest in being included on the roster. The City Manager, Chief of Police, two city staff, and a Shoreline community member interviewed 18 of the applicants. The City Manager appointed ten to the roster. If an independent investigation is needed, individuals will be selected from the roster to serve as community representatives on an IIT.

The goal of an IIT is to improve accountability and increase trust between law enforcement and the community when investigating police use of deadly force. IITs conduct investigations in the same manner as a criminal investigation. They work completely independently of any involved agency's administrative investigation.

INDIVIDUALS SELECTED TO BE ON THE ROSTER OF POTENTIAL IIT COMMUNITY REPRESENTATIVES:

- Fausto Betances
- Rika Botch
- David Chen
- Meagan C.
- Munira Ginary
- Stephanie Henry
- Andy Morgan
- Eben Pabee
- Robert Preudhomme
- Annette Promes

DEMOGRAPHIC MAKEUP OF INDIVIDUALS SELECTED TO BE ON THE ROSTER:

Male	5
Female	5
18-30	1
31-45	7
45-60	2
61+	0
Asian	2
Black	2
Hispanic/Latino	2
Indigenous	1
White/Caucasian	3
Other	0



CLIMATE ACTION TIP

Light efficiently

Are you wasting money on inefficient lighting? Using LED bulbs in your home is an easy way to save money and energy! Good-quality LED bulbs last up to 25 times longer and use 80% less energy than traditional incandescent light bulbs, saving you money on both the replacement cost and energy costs. Visit shorelineclimatechallenge.org to calculate how much you could save by switching to LEDs.

Shoreline Farmers Market

TRADITIONALLY, farmers markets are vibrant community spaces where neighbors meet to catch up and enjoy leisurely afternoons outside. When the pandemic hit this spring, farmers markets remained open as an essential business but quickly had to pivot their message. No longer a bustling event, farmers markets went back to their core mission of providing equal access to local and sustainable food. With the support of the community, dedicated volunteers, and fantastic sponsors, the Shoreline Farmers Market was equipped to provide you with a safe and healthy shopping experience. Thank you to everyone who showed up and supported Washington farmers. Your dollars kept farms and small businesses open during a challenging time. No matter what the 2021 season brings, the Shoreline Farmers Market will be ready to connect you with local farmers and producers. Visit the Shoreline Farmers Market online for market updates, vendor information, recipes, and to view their new kids PoP Video series.

MORE INFORMATION
shorelinefarmersmarket.org

Soak It Up Rain Garden and Native Landscaping Rebates

EACH YEAR, the City offers a limited number of rebates to help property owners recreate their yards into environmentally friendly and low-maintenance rain gardens or native vegetation landscapes. These gardens protect local waters, support native birds and pollinators, and can help resolve drainage issues on private property. If you would like to give your yard a more “Pacific Northwest” feel, a rain garden or native vegetation landscaping may be perfect for you!

To see if you qualify, visit shorelinewa.gov/soakitup. The Surface Water Utility offers rebates up to \$2,000 for Shoreline home or business owners to install a rain garden or native vegetation landscaping on their property. These features are part of a natural approach to storm water known as low-impact development, which try to mimic forested conditions by allowing rainwater to soak into the soil.

New this year, we are offering an online workshop to help property owners learn how to design, build, and maintain these gardens.

MORE INFORMATION
shorelinewa.gov/soakitup



COVID-19 Update

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The first supplies of vaccine were limited and offered first to specific groups at highest risk, such as workers in healthcare and people in nursing homes and other long-term care facilities.

The COVID-19 vaccine will not be widely available until later in 2021. Eventually the vaccine will be available for everyone in all recommended groups.

When the vaccine becomes widely available, healthcare clinics, pharmacies, and drive-through and walk-through clinics will provide vaccinations.

Medicare, Medicaid, and most private insurance will cover the cost of the COVID-19 vaccine. Costs will also be covered for those who are uninsured. Public Health will also have free vaccination clinics as more vaccine becomes available.

Vaccine safety is a priority. All COVID-19 vaccines must go through a rigorous and multi-step testing, evaluation, and approval process before they can be used. The FDA will only approve the vaccines if they pass the FDA's safety and effectiveness standards. The FDA will continue to check the safety of the vaccines after approval.

A safe and effective vaccine against COVID-19 is a major break-through. But the vaccine alone will not end the pandemic right away.

Even after a vaccine is available, stopping the pandemic will continue to require everyone – even if vaccinated – to continue to follow all current guidance to protect themselves and others, including wearing a mask, staying at least six feet away from others, limiting activities outside the home and avoiding crowds, washing hands often, following CDC travel guidance, and following quarantine guidance after an exposure to someone with COVID-19.

MORE INFORMATION
shorelinewa.gov/covid

UPCOMING PARK PROJECTS

OVER THE next few months, we will work on several park improvements across the city.

Hillwood Park

We will completely replace the restrooms at Hillwood Park and resurface the tennis courts. This work comes out of the agreement with the Shoreline School District for using the park as a staging site for construction of the new Einstein Middle School.

New Park Land

Last fall, the City bought three pieces of property to add to our park system. The first piece of property is at 1367 N 185th Street. During the first quarter of 2021, we will remove the extensive number of blackberries currently on the property. We funded the purchase through a grant from the King County Conservation Futures tax (CFT) levy. Conditions for the purchase require 85% of the property to remain natural area with only 15% available for park amenities.

The City is in negotiation for the second property at 709 N 150th Street in the Westminster Triangle Neighborhood. In 2021, we will demolish a house on the property to prepare the site for future park improvements. Funds for the purchase of this property came from park impact fees generated from development in the City.

The third property is next to Paramount Park Open Space and will increase the size of this park. Funds for

the purchase of this property came from both a CFT grant and park impact fees.

These three new parks are currently going through a park naming process. The Park Board has received many community suggestions and will be sending their recommendation of final names to City Council to consider this spring.

Shoreline Pool Demolition

We are also developing a plan to demolish the Shoreline Pool. The City permanently closed the pool in 2020 due to the significant costs needed to keep it operational. The City sought proposals from outside agencies interested in taking over operation of the pool, but no agency gave a workable proposal. The School District owns the property where the pool sits.

Preparing for Spring and Summer

As we start the new year, our parks maintenance staff begin preparing our parks and sports fields for spring and summer use. Preparations include:

- Picking-up downed branches and debris left over from winter storms.
- Tilling and leveling our baseball/softball fields and cleaning and repairing dugouts and backstops.
- Pressure washing and deep cleaning picnic shelters, restrooms, and other structures.

- Turning on drinking fountains, irrigation systems, and community garden water.
- Inspecting and maintaining our play areas
- Striping parking lots and accessible parking stalls.
- Mulching and landscaping plant beds throughout the park system to suppress weed growth.

Restoring Habitat

The Green Shoreline Partnership will also be restoring habitat at several parks as well as planting street trees along some of our streets and roadways. The Green Shoreline Partnership is a unique public/private partnership between the City, Forterra, other governmental agencies, nonprofit organizations, educational institutions, local businesses, and the Shoreline community at large. It builds upon existing forest restoration efforts to set up a city-wide community-based stewardship program to support long-term restoration and maintenance of Shoreline's parks and natural areas. Green Shoreline has a goal to restore 140 acres of Shoreline's forested parks and natural areas by 2039.

Our Parks saw increased use in 2020 for a variety of reasons and we expect the increased use to continue. Ensuring that we have a well maintained and functioning park system for all Shoreline residents to enjoy is a priority for the City.



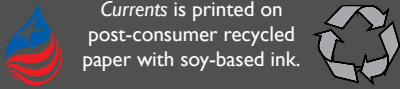
Eastside Off-Leash Dog Area

WE RECENTLY reached an agreement with the Washington State Department of Social and Health Services (DSHS) to extend the lease for the off-leash dog area on the Fircrest campus. The lease will run for another two years with the option to extend it further. At the end of 2019, it looked as though the off-leash dog area would have to close. However, City and DSHS staff worked together to reach an agreement that works for both parties and the community. Included in any potential parks improvements bond measure (see story on front page) will be the addition of new off-leash dog areas, which may eventually eliminate the need to lease space from the State for this purpose in the future.

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CITY OF SHORELINE
CURRENTS

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shorelinewa.gov