



# CURRENTS

News from the City of Shoreline Volume 23 No. 2

March 2021

## City Council places Shoreline Proposition 1 on April ballot

### Bond measure to make park improvements and acquire and improve park land

On January 25, City Council approved placing Shoreline Proposition 1 on the April 27 special election ballot. Approval of Proposition 1 will allow the City to make improvements to eight parks and acquire and improve new park land. The City would issue up to \$38,500,000 in general obligation bonds to be paid back through an increase in property taxes.

Five parks that would receive significant improvements are: Brugger's Bog, Hillwood, James Keough, Richmond Highlands, and Briarcrest Community (east Hamlin). Park improvements would 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.

Additional investments in park amenities include constructing a new off-leash dog area and play area at Ridgecrest Park; upgrading the off-leash dog area and converting the dirt soccer field to grass at Shoreview Park; making the education center and children's garden accessible to people of all abilities at Kruckeberg Botanic Garden; and installing permanent and temporary public artworks in parks and public spaces throughout the city.

Park land acquisitions and improvements will expand Paramount Open Space, Brugger's Bog, and Rotary Parks, and will include additional park land acquisitions in the light rail station areas and after parts of the city.

The owner of a median valued home (\$517,000 in 2020) would expect to pay approximately \$112 a year, or \$9 a month. It would be an increase of \$36 a year, or \$3 a month, over what they are currently paying with the expiring 2006 park bond.

The City will be providing factual community presentations on Proposition 1 via Zoom. To see the schedule of presentations and how you can participate, go to [shorelinewa.gov/prop1](http://shorelinewa.gov/prop1).

### MORE INFORMATION

[shorelinewa.gov/prop1](http://shorelinewa.gov/prop1)



Link Light Rail update

Page 3



Don't feed the water birds

Page 5



185<sup>th</sup> Subarea Plan update

Page 6

## CONTACT YOUR Shoreline City Council



**MAYOR**  
**WILL HALL**  
206-373-1630  
whall@shorelinewa.gov



**DEPUTY MAYOR**  
**KEITH SCULLY**  
206-735-9030  
kscully@shorelinewa.gov



**SUSAN CHANG**  
206-373-1639  
schang@shorelinewa.gov



**DORIS FUJIOKA McCONNELL**  
206-731-9323  
dmconnell@shorelinewa.gov



**KEITH McGLASHAN**  
206-330-3948  
kmcglashan@shorelinewa.gov



**CHRIS ROBERTS**  
206-391-2733  
croberts@shorelinewa.gov



**BETSY ROBERTSON**  
206-396-5807  
brobertson@shorelinewa.gov

**CONTACT ALL COUNCILMEMBERS:**  
(206) 801-2213  
council@shorelinewa.gov

**CITY COUNCIL MEETINGS:**  
Mondays at 7:00 p.m.  
Virtual meetings via Zoom  
Agendas: [shorelinewa.gov/councilmeetings](http://shorelinewa.gov/councilmeetings)

## The role of a City Councilmember

**THE CITY OPERATES** under a Council-Manager form of government. As the City's governing body, Shoreline's seven elected part-time City Councilmembers establish City policies and laws, adopt the City's budget, approve expenditures and contract for services, and grant franchises. City Councilmembers serve staggered four-year terms. Roughly half the Council is up for election every two years. The City holds Council elections in odd numbered years. All Councilmembers are "at-large" meaning that they serve the City as a whole as opposed to a specific district.

The City Council chooses a Mayor and Deputy Mayor from among its members at the first meeting of the new year following an election. The Mayor presides at Council meetings and represents the City at ceremonial functions and inter-governmental meetings. The Deputy Mayor presides in the Mayor's absence. The City Manager is hired by the City Council and implements the Council's policies and oversees the City's day-to-day operations.

### Regular Meetings

Regular meetings are opportunities for Council discussion and for the Council to gain information on items from staff. We list these items on the agenda as Study Items. The Council may also take final action on business listed on the agenda under Action Items. Usually, when an item is scheduled for action on a meeting agenda, it is the second time the item has been before the Council. The Council has had the opportunity to hear from staff and the public and to discuss the item in detail and is prepared to make a final decision. Council meets on Monday nights at 7:00 p.m. To find Council agendas, go to [shorelinewa.gov/councilmeetings](http://shorelinewa.gov/councilmeetings).

At the beginning of regular meetings, Council invites the public to provide input on agenda items, which are not quasi-judicial in nature, or on any topic not on the agenda.

### Public Hearings

Public hearings give the public a chance to tell the City Council what they think about the subject of the hearing. Some hearings are required by law because of the subject matter and some may be scheduled to obtain as much public input on a subject as possible. After everyone has spoken, the hearing is closed and Councilmembers discuss the issue. They may make a decision at that time or may continue the item to another meeting for the ultimate decision.

### Quasi-Judicial Items

Sometimes the City Council acts on land use requests, such as subdivision requests, street vacations, and small rezones. These are called quasi-judicial items since Councilmembers act as judges and consider evidence for and against the proposal. To be fair, the City Council only takes public input on such items during a public hearing. Often, the City's appointed Hearing Examiner has already conducted a public hearing before the item comes to the Council. In these cases, the Council acts on the record made before the Hearing Examiner and does not hear further public comment.

### Executive Session

The only portion of a City Council meeting that is not open to the public is the executive session. State law authorizes the Council to hold executive sessions when confidentiality is required and public disclosure would harm individual interests or the legitimate interests of the City. Council conducts executive sessions to discuss issues such as buying or selling property, personnel matters, litigation or pending litigation. Before the City Council conducts the executive session, the Mayor must announce the reason for the executive session and the approximate length of time it will take.

**MORE INFORMATION**  
[shorelinewa.gov/council](http://shorelinewa.gov/council)

# Get safe, secure, easy, and free tax help

**THROUGH APRIL 18**, trained and IRS-certified tax experts will be available to provide safe, secure, and 100% online assistance in filing your taxes. The experts know all the new tax laws and available credits, including those in the new relief bill, so that they can maximize your return and you can keep more of your money. They can also assist with claiming stimulus check money.

Free tax help is available to everyone, including ITIN holders.

## Chat with someone to get help

Free tax experts are ready to help with any questions you may have. Go to [uwkc.org/need-help/tax-help](http://uwkc.org/need-help/tax-help) and you can start a chat or leave a message and they will get back to you as soon as they can.

So that they can best help you with your taxes, here are a few things you will need as well as some additional optional, but helpful, documents to gather and have available:

- A photo identification card
- A selfie of yourself holding your photo identification card next to your face
- Social Security Card or ITIN document
- Any income documents (W-2, 1099-R, etc.)

### Optional other documents to have available:

- Previous year's tax return
- Health Insurance Marketplace Statement (1095-A)
- Child Care Statement
- Gambling Winnings Statement
- Tuition Statement



## Easy Ways to File Taxes for Free

**Have someone help you:** [GetYourRefund.org](http://GetYourRefund.org)

Get free tax preparation services virtually. IRS-certified tax experts will work with you and then remotely prepare your tax return and file it electronically for you. A safe, secure portal makes it easy to upload your relevant documents.

**File on your own:** [MyFreeTaxes.com](http://MyFreeTaxes.com)

With [MyFreeTaxes.com](http://MyFreeTaxes.com), you can file your taxes on your own for free. This service will require you to create an account, fill out and file your taxes on your own.

**Call for assistance:** 2-1-1

You can call 2-1-1 to get information and assistance in different languages, including help on how to file your taxes for free.

## MORE INFORMATION

[uwkc.org/need-help/tax-help](http://uwkc.org/need-help/tax-help)

# Sound Transit Lynnwood Link Extension Light Rail Update

**WITH CIVIL CONSTRUCTION** on the Lynnwood Link extension now more than 25 percent complete, Shoreline residents will have noticed significant changes to the project area. Neighbors and drivers along the corridor can now spot this 140 feet difference when traveling along Interstate 5. Many girders and spans have already been placed and will continue to be placed along the elevated guideway. These are the structures that support the Link guideways, trains, and most importantly, the passengers as they eventually ride between south Snohomish County and the University of Washington, downtown Seattle, the Eastside, Sea-Tac Airport, and more. A total of 77 girders will be set in Shoreline. Each girder ranges from 150,000 to 200,000 pounds. The elevated portion of the guideway will be at NE 145<sup>th</sup>, NE 155<sup>th</sup>, and NE 175<sup>th</sup> Streets. Neighbors can expect to see lots of concrete trucks hauling material and cranes picking up equipment as crews work to complete girder installation by February of 2022.

## MORE INFORMATION

**Subscribe to updates:** [soundtransit.org/subscribe](http://soundtransit.org/subscribe)

**Report Issues:** 24-hour construction hotline - 1-888-298-2395

**ST Community Outreach:** 206-398-5300,

[lynnwoodlink@soundtransit.org](mailto:lynnwoodlink@soundtransit.org)



# 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 Community Outreach Deputy Paula Kieland will introduce herself.*

## COMMUNITY OUTREACH DEPUTY PAULA KIELAND

My name is Paula Kieland and I am a detective with the King County Sheriff's Office. I have been with the King County Sheriff's Office for 20 years. I have had the opportunity to work various assignments throughout King County, including working with our training program as a trainer and a Master Police Officer and as an undercover detective. I have served the City of Shoreline twice in my career; first from 2006 to 2011 and then returning in 2015.

I am currently the Community Outreach Deputy in Shoreline. As the Community Outreach Deputy, I re-

spond to requests from community groups to discuss crime prevention tactics, general safety tactics, and current crime trends. I also provide residential and business security surveys and training in how to respond in an active shooter situation. I also assist our two detective units with search warrants and various operations.

The best part of my position is working with the different groups and people in the community. I enjoy the wide array of tasks that the position provides me.



## HATE CRIMES

A hate crime, also known as malicious harassment, is an act that is done maliciously and with the intent to intimidate and/or harass a person based on the perception of the victim's race, color, religion, ancestry, national origin, mental, physical, or sensory handicap, or sexual orientation.

For a crime to be classified as a hate crime, one or more of the following acts must occur:

- Cause physical injury to a person;
- Cause physical damage to, or destruction of property of another person; or
- By words or conduct, place another person in reasonable fear of harm for their safety, or property; or to the safety or property of a third person.

Under Washington State law, speech or acts that are only critical, insulting, degrading, or do not constitute a threat of harm to the person or property of another are not considered criminal.

The victimization of people because of skin color, religion, heritage, or sexual orientation causes great harm in a community. The Shoreline Police Department considers bias crimes to be very serious and it is the department's policy to investigate all reports of hate crimes as defined by RCW 9A.36.080. The police must be mindful that it is not only the individual who is personally victimized by these offenses, but it is the entire class of individuals residing in the community who are affected as well.

With City Council's passage of Resolution 467, the City has commit-

ted itself to educating the community on reporting hate crimes in Shoreline, communicating the hate crime investigative procedures, communicating outcomes to hate crime victims in a timely and understandable method, and reporting these crimes in the Annual Police Services Report to City Council.

If you believe you have been the victim of a hate crime, please contact the Shoreline Police and file a report.

### MORE INFORMATION

**Shoreline Police non-emergency line:  
206-296-3311**

# Tracking the source of fecal pollution in Littles and Thornton Creeks

TWO OF SHORELINE'S beloved streams, Littles and Thornton Creek, have persistent poop problems. This past fall and winter, the Surface Water Utility partnered with King County Environmental Labs to conduct a series of DNA analyses to help identify the sources of fecal pollution. Preliminary results point to dog and human waste as the culprits. Dog and human waste can come from several activities, including failure to pick up pet waste in parks, streets, and even in one's own backyard; leaky side sewers; and illegal dumping of waste in streams or storm drains.

The Surface Water Utility will continue its investigation of the activities causing fecal waste pollution in Littles and Thornton Creeks. Shoreline residents can help reduce poop problems in streams, ponds, lakes, and Puget Sound by taking the following actions:

- **Pick up pet waste every time, even in your own backyard.** Backyard pet waste pickup is especially important for homes that border streams, lakes, and Puget Sound.
- **RVs: use approved dump stations.** Search for your nearest RV dump station using [sanidumps.com](http://sanidumps.com).
- **Side sewer repair.** Many side sewer contractors offer free consultations to determine repair and replacement needs for side sewer defects, such as breaks or holes. Some repairs are more affordable than you think.
- **Don't feed ducks, geese, or other waterbirds.** Human feeding of waterbirds can lead to larger than typical populations and overfed ducks - all which produce more poop! This is especially a problem at our lakes, where waterbirds learn to hang around the beach waiting for food and end up defecating in higher volumes on the beach. On January 25 (see article below), the City Council adopted an ordinance expressly prohibiting waterfowl feeding in City park facilities.

## MORE INFORMATION

[shorelinewa.gov/waterquality](http://shorelinewa.gov/waterquality)



### CLIMATE ACTION TIP

#### Food choices and climate impact

The food we eat takes resources to grow, harvest, and transport. Some foods – like beef and lamb – use a lot more resources and have a bigger climate impact than foods like chicken, grains, or legumes. For example, replacing beef or lamb with low impact foods like beans, nuts, or yogurt once a week for a family of four is like taking an average car off the road for 1,500 miles! Eating even a little less beef and lamb each week is an easy way to cut your climate impact and save other natural resources. You may even save money on groceries as well!

Learn more and join the many Shoreline households that are taking action to live sustainably at: [shorelineclimatechallenge.org](http://shorelineclimatechallenge.org).



## DON'T FEED THE BIRDS!

### City prohibits feeding waterfowl in City parks to help protect our waterbodies

ON JANUARY 25, City Council passed Ordinance 910, which prohibits the feeding of waterfowl in Shoreline park facilities. Human feeding of waterfowl in parks can lead to larger waterfowl populations, an increased volume of waterfowl feces, and an increased concentration of waterfowl feces within waterfront areas where human recreational activities occur (e.g., wading, swimming, fishing). In addition to the impact on recreation uses, the increased feces can increase pathogenic fecal bacteria and algae blooms in waterways, which can then increase closures of Shoreline swimming beaches. Eliminating park user feeding of waterfowl is an important step to reducing the volume of waterfowl feces in lakes and ponds to improve water quality and help ensure healthy, safe beaches for recreation.

Please help keep our waterways clean and do not feed waterfowl.



# 185<sup>TH</sup> SUBAREA PLAN UPDATE

## CONSTRUCTION ON THE

Lynwood Link Light Rail Extension through Shoreline is well underway. Sound Transit anticipates opening it for service in 2024. With two stations in Shoreline, the opening of the extension will connect Shoreline's neighborhoods to the region with frequent and reliable high-capacity transit.

To prepare for and leverage the region's investment in light rail, the City Council adopted ambitious plans for each of the areas around the two stations. The 185<sup>th</sup> Street Station Subarea Plan has been in effect for six years. It establishes the vision for a compact neighborhood centered around the Shoreline North/185<sup>th</sup> Street Station with a variety of housing, parks, and safe streets for all users.

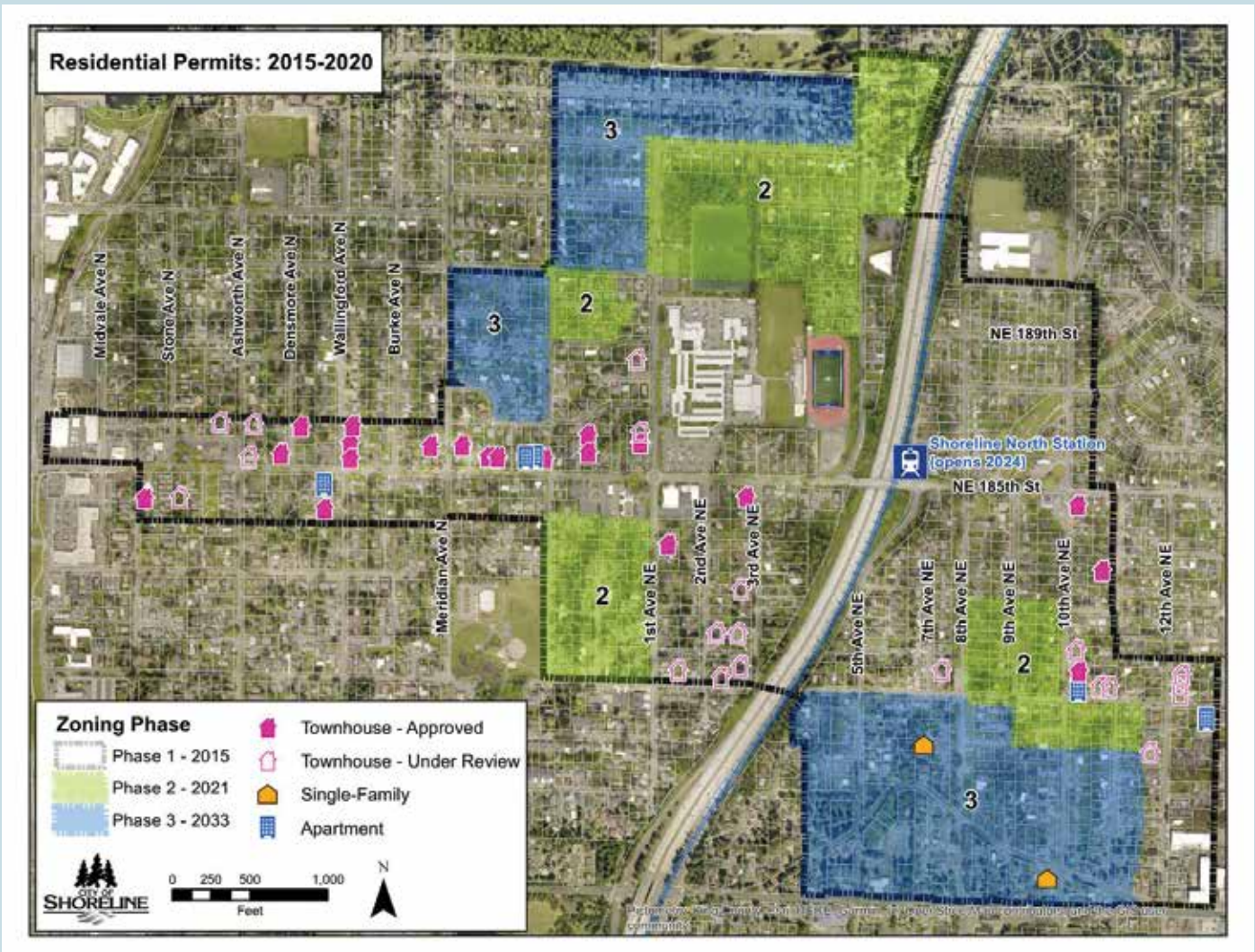
To implement the vision of transforming the area to transit-supportive land uses with apartments, townhomes, and neighborhood-serving commercial businesses, the City identified approximately 430 acres of land around the station to rezone in three separate phases. The first phase of rezoning occurred in 2015 when the plan took effect. The second phase will take effect this month, and the third phase will take effect in March 2033.

### Development trends

The recently completed 185<sup>th</sup> Street Station Subarea Plan Progress Report reviewed development trends and progress on the 2015 plan's overall objectives.

The progress report found that:

- Residential growth is occurring as expected through the first five years of the plan, with an average of about 73 residential units permitted per year.
- A net total of 371 residential units are either under review or have been permitted, including 264 townhomes and 171 apartments.
- 30 apartment units have been designated as affordable (affordable for households making a maximum of 80% area median income).
- There was a decline in permit activity in 2020 likely due to the COVID-19 pandemic. It is yet to be seen how that may impact overall progress on the plan.



# Shoreline Speed Limit Study

- New developments are meeting the City's green building requirements and paying impact fees, helping to achieve broader city-wide goals.

## Infrastructure improvements

The progress report also documents the ongoing public investments in infrastructure that are keeping pace and supporting private development. Some of the key infrastructure projects include:

- Street improvements surrounding the Shoreline North/185<sup>th</sup> Street Station, including sidewalks, a reconstructed 5<sup>th</sup> Avenue NE with pedestrian pathways, and new roundabouts on NE 185<sup>th</sup> Street at 8<sup>th</sup> Avenue NE and 10<sup>th</sup> Avenue NE.
- The City completed the 185th Street Multimodal Corridor Strategy in 2020, which establishes the transportation vision that will complement the land use on the 185<sup>th</sup> Street corridor.
- Planning for future parks and open space. The City has identified four opportunity sites on the 185th Street corridor for possible enhanced open spaces.

While overall the plan is progressing as anticipated, there have been challenges. For example, there has not been any new commercial development activity to-date nor has there been any new development in the area nearest to the station that allows for the highest intensity development. We need to conduct further study into the reasons behind these findings. We anticipate making refinements to the plan over the years to adjust to changing circumstances. However, it is important to remember the plan is a long-range vision to be achieved over generations.

You can find the full report on the Light Rail Station Subarea Planning page of the City's website at [shorelinewa.gov/185subarea](http://shorelinewa.gov/185subarea).

**THE CITY**, in conjunction with Washington State's Target Zero plan, strives to reduce fatal and serious injury collisions. One strategy identified by the Target Zero plan is to review and set appropriate speed limits. In 2020, we worked with a traffic consultant to complete a speed limit review of six, 35 mph arterial corridors.

Industry standards have historically used vehicle operating speeds (the speed at which 85% of traffic is traveling at or below) as the primary factor in speed limit setting. This has largely ignored the experience of the road's most vulnerable users. Recent shifts in research and practices urge local governments to utilize new speed limit setting methods that consider pedestrians, bicyclists, collision history, and land use as significant and relevant factors. As such, the City's study applied a new draft speed limit setting tool from the National Cooperative Highway Research Program (NCHRP). The new tool more carefully considers the roadway's most vulnerable users, while also factoring in collision history, adjacent land use, driveway spacing, geometry, and traffic control devices.

Analysis with the new speed limit setting tool resulted in a recommended speed reduction of 5 MPH for five of the six roadways as shown in the table below. After our Traffic Services Division has finalized the NCHRP tool and studied two additional corridors (1<sup>st</sup> Avenue NE - 195<sup>th</sup> to 205<sup>th</sup> and Dayton Avenue N - Westminster to 160<sup>th</sup>), they will bring back a proposed ordinance to Council for discussion. Council tentatively plans to discuss this again in early spring 2021.

STUDY ROADWAY	EXISTING SPEED (MPH)	RECOMMENDED SPEED (MPH)
Meridian Avenue N (145 <sup>th</sup> to 205 <sup>th</sup> )	35	30
N/NE 175 <sup>th</sup> Street (Aurora to 15 <sup>th</sup> )	35	30
15 <sup>th</sup> Avenue NE (145 <sup>th</sup> to 175 <sup>th</sup> )	35	30
Greenwood Avenue N (Westminster to 160 <sup>th</sup> )	35	30
Richmond Beach Road (Fremont to 3 <sup>rd</sup> )	35	30
15 <sup>th</sup> Avenue NE (180 <sup>th</sup> to 196 <sup>th</sup> )	35	No change

## MORE INFORMATION

[shorelinewa.gov/traffic](http://shorelinewa.gov/traffic)

## ALERT SHORELINE

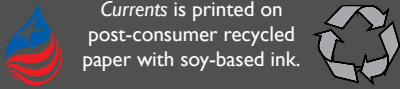
Get email notifications about important community news by signing up for Alert Shoreline. You can choose the news categories you would like to receive including Council agendas, project updates, neighborhood news, road closures, and more.

Learn more at [shorelinewa.gov/alert](http://shorelinewa.gov/alert).

March 2021 Vol. 23 No. 2  
**CITY OF SHORELINE**  
**CURRENTS**

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

**Alternate formats  
available upon request**



Web: [shorelinewa.gov](http://shorelinewa.gov)

[facebook.com/shorelinewa](https://facebook.com/shorelinewa)

[twitter.com/shorelinewagov](https://twitter.com/shorelinewagov)

[youtube.com/cityofshoreline](https://youtube.com/cityofshoreline)



17500 Midvale Avenue N  
Shoreline, WA 98133-4905

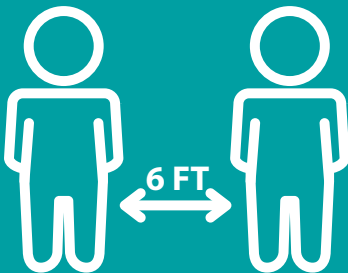
PRSR STD  
US Postage  
PAID  
Seattle, WA  
Permit No. 248

ECRWSS  
POSTAL CUSTOMER

## PROTECT OUR COMMUNITY



**WEAR YOUR MASK**



**KEEP YOUR DISTANCE**



**WASH YOUR HANDS**

## Getting Vaccinated for COVID-19

Fighting the pandemic has been hard, but now we have two vaccines to protect us from COVID-19.

### Both vaccines are provided at no cost.

The federal government will cover the cost of your vaccine. You should not be charged or billed. Your provider should also not charge you for an office visit if you only go in to get the vaccine.

### You will need to get two doses.

You will get two doses of vaccine, three to four weeks apart.

### You may feel side effects.

Like other routine vaccines, you may get a sore arm, fever, headaches, or fatigue after getting vaccinated. These are signs the vaccine is working.

### Both vaccines are safe and effective.

The vaccines are 94 to 95 percent effective. The U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) authorized the vaccines for emergency use and found no serious safety concerns. Independent experts confirmed it met high safety and efficacy standards.

### People at highest risk will get the vaccine first.

As we get more vaccine, more people will be able to be vaccinated. Visit [FindYourPhaseWA.org](https://FindYourPhaseWA.org) or call 1-800-525-0127, then press # to find out when you can get vaccinated. (For interpretive services, say your language when the call is answered.)

### Questions about COVID vaccines?

Find answers to frequently asked questions and get the latest information at [CovidVaccineWA.org](https://CovidVaccineWA.org).