

# Currents – News from the City of Shoreline

November-December 2024 – Volume 26 No. 6

## Tommy Collins selected as Shoreline’s new Police Chief

On September 16, City Manager Bristol Ellington selected Tommy Collins of the King County Sheriff’s Office (KCSO) to be Shoreline’s new Police Chief. Collins replaces Kelly Park who was promoted to Chief of the Patrol Operations Division of KCSO. Collins started his new role at the end of September.

Collins has been with KCSO for over 25 years. Before coming to Shoreline, he was the Chief of Police for Maple Valley, which, like Shoreline, is a contract city with KCSO. Prior to becoming Chief in Maple Valley, Collins served in many capacities within KCSO. These include patrol, storefront deputy, school resource deputy, Field Training Officer, Master Police Officer, and Detective for the Joint Transit Anti-Terrorism Team.

Collins has a proven track record of success. In 2015, he was promoted to Sergeant and served as a patrol sergeant and an administrative sergeant for both KCSO Precinct 2 and the City of Maple Valley. He was twice named Sergeant of the Year, in 2015 and again in 2018. In April 2020, he was promoted to Captain where he served as the administrative Captain for Sound Transit. In 2021, he was selected to take over KCSO’s Special Operations section, where he served until he was appointed Chief of Police for the City of Maple Valley.

Prior to joining KCSO, Collins served in the United States Navy aboard the USS Abraham Lincoln and completed two deployments to the Middle East.

“I look forward to working with Chief Collins,” said City Manager Bristol Ellington. “He is committed to transparency and leading a police force that everyone in the Shoreline community can be proud of and where everyone feels respected.”

“I am honored that the City of Shoreline has chosen me to be their new Chief of Police,” said Collins. “This is a wonderful community, and I am excited to be here. I am looking forward to serving the residents of Shoreline.”

Rather than administering its own police force, the City contracts with KCSO for police services. Officers work for King County but are dedicated to Shoreline so they get to know the community. The police chief reports to both the King County Sheriff and the Shoreline City Manager.

## Prepare for fall and winter storms

Fall and winter storms are common in the region. We are committed to helping the community prepare through advanced planning, education, and awareness. Visit [shorelinewa.gov/stormready](https://shorelinewa.gov/stormready) to find out how you can better prepare for winter storms.

## Heavy rain and flooding

Prepare your property by cleaning out gutters, downspouts, and all other rainwater drainage that you have. Remove all leaves and debris so that rainwater can flow away from your home. Redirect downspouts and other drainage flows to keep water away from your home.

Help prevent neighborhood flooding by clearing leaves, debris, and snow from storm drains. Keep roadside ditches empty. Never put soil, debris, or fill of any kind into the ditch near your home. Ditches are critical to moving water away from homes and neighborhoods and returning it back to natural waterways. Do not rake, sweep, or blow leaves, pine needles, grass, or any debris onto the sidewalk or streets. This can clog the pipes that carry rainwater and cause flooding. Throw out yard waste in your green bin.

If you see a storm drain or ditch back up during a storm that you cannot clean, report it immediately at 206-801-2700.

## Power outages

If outside, do not touch or go near any downed power lines. Inside, never use a generator, charcoal, or gas grill in an enclosed space, including your home and garage. These emit carbon monoxide, which is a poisonous gas you cannot see or smell and can kill a person in minutes.

Carbon monoxide poisoning is a serious threat especially when families look for alternate ways to heat their homes during a power outage. Seattle City Light's website allows you to check the status of a power outage by going to [seattle.gov/city-light/outages](http://seattle.gov/city-light/outages). You can contact Seattle City Light for more information through their website or by calling 206-684-3000.

## Snow removal

When it snows, our plows concentrate their efforts on arterial roads (primary routes) to accommodate fire, medical, and police responses, as well as Metro transit, and school buses.

As long as snow continues to fall, we will focus our efforts on primary routes. Once the snow has stopped and all primary routes are clear, plows will move to secondary roads before moving into neighborhoods. If it starts snowing again while plows are clearing secondary or neighborhood streets, the plows will return to the primary routes and the process of clearing streets will begin again.

While we will eventually get to all streets, it may take several days after the final snow before residents see a plow on their street. Snow plowing route maps are available at [shorelinewa.gov/stormready](http://shorelinewa.gov/stormready).

## Property owners: - clear your sidewalks!

Shoreline property owners are responsible for clearing snow and ice off driveways and sidewalks near their property, including the ridge of snow left along the edge of driveways by snowplows. We cannot plow individual driveways. If you plow snow or have it removed from your property, do not place the snow in the public right-of-way. This is illegal and can lead to hazardous street conditions. Please keep the removed snow on your own property or arrange to have the snow removed to another private property location. Also, to help prevent pooling water or flooding, please help clear catch basins to make way for runoff from melting snow.

## Garbage & recycling pick-up

Icy streets may prevent Recology from collecting garbage and recycling on designated days. To learn more about adverse weather and holiday policies, visit [recology.com](https://www.recology.com) or call 206-763-4444.

## Protect your pipes

Every winter, frozen pipes cause damage to homes, apartments, and businesses. When frozen pipes thaw, they can cause cracks, flooding, and water damage. To avoid this, keep your heat on at least 40 degrees, especially when on vacation.

## MORE INFORMATION

[shorelinewa.gov/stormready](https://www.shorelinewa.gov/stormready)

## Did you know...?

### **Affordable housing for low-income renters is available through Shoreline's MFTE Program.**

The City of Shoreline offers Multifamily Residential Property Tax Exemptions (MFTE) to encourage multifamily development and to provide affordable housing. For a list of properties offering affordable housing through the MFTE program, scan the QR code and click on the link for an Affordable Housing Opportunities brochure.

## **Help us plan for a greener, cooler Sunset School Park!**

We are exploring ideas to enhance Sunset School Park with new gardens, trees, and other natural features that help soak up rainwater and reduce heat in the park. Learn more and share your ideas at [engage.shorelinewa.gov/sunsetschoolpark](https://engage.shorelinewa.gov/sunsetschoolpark). Submit your feedback by November 30. Help us shape a greener, cooler park!

## Eastside Off-Leash Dog Area to close at the end of the year

Since 2013, the City has had an agreement with the Washington State Department of Social and Health Services (DSHS) to use their land at Fircrest for an off-leash dog area (OLDA). That agreement is ending and the Eastside OLDA will close permanently at the end of this year. DSHS is making improvements to their property and plan to use the land for other purposes.

The closure of the Eastside OLDA follows the temporary closure of the Shoreview Park OLDA, which will be closed until the summer of 2025 for construction of improvements as part of the 2022 Park Bond. We understand how important these dog-friendly areas are in our community. Fortunately, we have a new off-leash dog area on the eastside at Ridgecrest Park that opened over the summer.

The 2022 park bond helps fund improvements to our local parks and off-leash dog areas. After completing all the 2022 park bond projects, we will have three year-round OLDAs and one seasonal OLDA in Shoreline.

Current locations:

- Ridgecrest Park, 108 NE 161st Street
- Richmond Beach Saltwater Park (seasonal Nov. 1 – Mar. 15), 2021 NW 190th Street

Upcoming locations:

- Shoreview Park (reopening Summer 2025), 700 NW Innis Arden Way
- James Keough, 2350 N 167th Street (anticipated opening the end of 2025)

Learn more about 2022 Park Bonds Projects at [shorelinewa.gov/parkbond](https://shorelinewa.gov/parkbond).

## Did You Know?

Over one-third of what ends up in our landfill is food scraps and food-soiled paper that we could have composted instead! Help reduce waste this holiday season by composting food scraps, food-soiled paper, old pumpkins, leaves, and more in your green compost cart. Composting your food and yard waste creates nutrient-rich soil that helps reduce emissions, holds water, captures carbon, and supports healthy farms, gardens, and orchards.

Recology includes weekly compost service at no added charge with garbage service for single-family residents. To sign up for compost service, call Recology at 206-793-4444.

The City is offering free compost service to eligible apartment properties and condominiums through June 2025. Scan the QR code or contact [sbruemmer@shorelinewa.gov](mailto:sbruemmer@shorelinewa.gov) to learn more.

## **Help celebrate the first birthday of the Shoreline Historical Museum's Miyawaki Forest**

Sunday, December 8

3:30 to 5:15 p.m.

Shoreline Historical Museum

18501 Linden Avenue N

One year ago, 300 community members of all ages planted the Miyawaki Urban Forest on the property of the Shoreline Historical Museum. Help celebrate our growing forest at a party where the museum will also unveil the Welcome Stone, designed by artist Roger Fernandes. The Welcome Stone, a six-foot by three-foot glacial rock, holds carved images based on the teachings of local Coast Salish Tribes. Come listen to Fernandes as he discusses the stories and his inspiration. In addition, there will be hands-on activities, refreshments, and tours of the Forest and Museum. This is a free, outdoor event.

## **Give reusable materials a second life at the Shoreline Transfer Station**

Are you getting rid of reusable building materials or tools that are too good to throw away? Give them a second life and keep them out of the landfill!

To reduce waste and keep valuable materials in use longer, King County has teamed up with Second Use to launch a reuse pilot program, which will be located outside the Shoreline Transfer Station. Second Use is a local business that sells reclaimed building materials at locations in Seattle and Tacoma. The Shoreline Transfer Station is located at 2300 N 165th Street.

Residents heading to the transfer station can stop by the reuse area first to drop off materials. Accepted materials include cabinets, doors, windows, lighting, lumber, tools, hardware, and high-quality furniture in good condition. Second Use staff will assess the materials for suitability before acceptance. This service is free.

The project will help divert high-quality construction materials and household items from the landfill. This program aligns with King County's and Shoreline's goals to reduce waste and cut greenhouse gas emissions.

The reuse drop-off area is open on Fridays and Saturdays from 9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m., near the Shoreline Transfer Station entrance. The pilot program started in early August and will run into early 2025.

“We see this as a huge opportunity to reclaim materials that would otherwise go to waste,” said Dirk Wassink, president of Second Use. “By keeping these items out of the landfill, we are not only conserving resources but also reducing the demand for new materials.”

King County and Second Use will evaluate the success of the project over the six-month pilot period. Based on how well the project does, King County and Second Use could extend its trial or even make it a permanent fixture at the Shoreline Transfer Station.

In addition to supporting climate and waste reduction goals, the project will provide other community benefits. Increasing the availability of reusable construction materials helps provide contractors and homeowners with more affordable options for their building and repair projects.

“Ultimately, our partnership with King County is about more than just waste diversion,” said Wassink. “We want this program to inspire people to rethink waste. By making opportunities for reuse easier, we can all work together to move away from our throwaway system and build a more circular economy.”

Residents who want to check about materials before bringing them in can email [shoreline@seconduse.com](mailto:shoreline@seconduse.com) or call the collection station at 206-423-2728 on Fridays and Saturdays. More information is available at [seconduse.com](http://seconduse.com).

Please note: Customers must live or own a business within King County’s service area to use this facility. King County’s service area does not include the City of Seattle.

## 2022 Park Bond Update

### Ridgecrest Park and Kruckeberg Botanic Garden

Construction at Ridgecrest Park and Kruckeberg Botanic Garden is complete and both parks are open! Residents can enjoy a new off-leash dog park and play area at Ridgecrest Park and a new accessible ramp at Kruckeberg that allows everyone to enjoy both the upper and lower gardens.

### Shoreview Off-Leash Dog Area

Construction continues at the Shoreview Off-Leash Dog Area. We expect to reopen the off-leash dog area by the end of January.

### Richmond Highlands

We started construction at Richmond Highlands Park on October 22. The park will remain closed throughout construction; however, the Richmond Highlands Recreation Center will remain open. We expect to complete construction by the end of 2025. Improvements will include frontage improvements; walkways; a sensory trail; a multi-sport court; a play area; a picnic shelter and tables; new plantings; and more!

## James Keough Park

We anticipate beginning construction at James Keough Park before the end of the year. As with the other parks, it will be closed during this time. We anticipate completing the construction by the end of 2025. Improvements will include walkways; a play spot (with wood fiber surfacing); a small picnic shelter and tables; a Portland Loo restroom; and an off-leash dog area!

## Brugger's Bog Park

Due to the sensitive nature of the wetlands at Brugger's Bog Park, we need to take more time to address stormwater requirements and apply for a Critical Area Special Use Permit. And, because it is a wetland, we will need to wait until drier weather before we start construction. We expect to begin construction in 2025.

## Hillwood Park

Like Brugger's Bog, Hillwood Park also has wetland and stormwater challenges that we are taking extra time to address. We expect to begin construction in 2025.

## Hamlin Park

Permitting is almost complete for Hamlin Park improvements and construction may start before the end of the year.

We are working to protect an Osprey nest found on one of the lighting poles in the park. Potential options include installing a nesting platform on the existing light pole or placing an entirely new pole next to the lights.

While the park will be closed during construction, there will still be access to Hamlin ballfield #5. Visitors will need to park at Shorecrest High School or near ballfields 1 and 2. The parking lot on 25th Avenue NE will also be undergoing improvements and will be closed for most of the project and there will be no direct access to the park from there.

We will also temporarily close the restrooms for improvements. They will re-open once that's completed. We will provide portable toilets in the meantime.

## Additional Park Improvements

We will soon begin the design process for three new parks, located in Westminster, West Echo Lake, and 192<sup>nd</sup> and Hemlock. We will be engaging the community on what the improvements could look like in these new parks over the next several months.

## **MORE INFORMATION**

[shorelinewa.gov/parkbond](https://shorelinewa.gov/parkbond)

## **N 145th Street update: Road closure extended to early 2025**

Due to the complexity of utility relocations and associated delays, the closure of N 145<sup>th</sup> Street between 1<sup>st</sup> Avenue NE and Interstate 5 will be extended until early 2025. This is

a complex project involving multiple agencies, such as Shoreline, Seattle, the Washington State DOT, and various utilities, which are all working together to complete this project. If one part is delayed, it can have a cascading effect on the rest of the project timeline.

Even though the extended closure and ongoing construction are inconvenient in the short term, the long-term benefits of the 145th Street Corridor Project are significant. Once complete, the project will provide a safer and more accessible route for all forms of transportation. The new roundabouts, updated lanes, pedestrian crossings, and bike lanes will reduce congestion, enhance safety, and create a more connected community. It will also provide easier access to the Link light rail Shoreline South/148th Street Station.

### [Pedestrian and Bicycle Detour Update](#)

The pedestrian and bicycle detour has shifted to the north side of N 145th Street. Users can now travel along the north sidewalk between 1st Avenue NE and the I-5 overpass. The detour is along an active construction zone. Please be aware of your surroundings and listen to instructions from construction personnel as you walk, ride, or roll through.

Thank you for your patience as we complete this work as safely and quickly as possible.

### **MORE INFORMATION**

[engage.shorelinewa.gov/145corridor](https://engage.shorelinewa.gov/145corridor)

Email: [145thproject@shorelinewa.gov](mailto:145thproject@shorelinewa.gov)

24/7 project hotline: 206-899-5127

## **Winter Porch Light Parade Suspended for 2024**

Unfortunately, due to staffing issues, the Winter Porch Light Parade has been suspended for 2024. The event is a joint effort between the Cities of Shoreline, Bothell, Kenmore, and Lake Forest Park. We hope to restart this fun event in 2025.

## **Underground Holiday Craft Market**

November 23

10:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.

Shoreline City Hall

Lower-level parking garage

17500 Midvale Avenue N

Start your holiday shopping in Shoreline and find that perfect hand-crafted gift.

Presented by ShoreLake Arts, in collaboration with the Shoreline Farmers Market, with support from City of Shoreline.

[Shorelakearts.org/holiday-market](https://shorelakearts.org/holiday-market)

## Shoreline Tool Library

Do you need a tool for a home project but don't want to go out and buy one? Do you need to power wash your sidewalk? Do you need to trim your hedges or prune your trees but don't have the tools? Are you interested in being part of a more sustainable circular economy? Then check out the Shoreline Tool Library!

**Location:**

16610 Aurora Avenue NE (Evergreen RV building)

**Hours:**

Monday, Wednesday, and Friday - 5:00 to 8:00 p.m.

Saturday - 9:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m.

[seattlereconomy.org/stl/](https://seattlereconomy.org/stl/)