

# Currents – News from the City of Shoreline

Winter 2021 – Volume 23 No. 10

## City Council places Shoreline Proposition 1 on February 2022 ballot

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

On November 1, City Council approved placing Shoreline Proposition 1 on the February 8, 2022, 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.

The five parks that would receive a lot of 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 public art 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 other parts of the city.

The owner of a median valued home (\$534,000 in 2020) could expect to pay approximately \$107 a year, or \$9 a month. It would be an increase of \$31 a year, or \$3 a month, over what they are currently paying with the expiring 2006 park bond.

This measure is identical to the measure that was on the April 27, 2021, special election ballot; however, that measure did not have enough voter participation to meet the validation requirement. Seventy-two percent of Shoreline voters who voted in April approved the measure, but it was 122 votes short of meeting the 40% number of votes validation requirement.

[More information](#)

For more information on Shoreline Proposition 1, visit [shorelinewa.gov/prop1](https://shorelinewa.gov/prop1).

The City will be providing factual community presentations on Proposition 1 via Zoom. A schedule of the presentations and how you can participate can be found at [shorelinewa.gov/prop1](https://shorelinewa.gov/prop1).

## Shoreline recognizes work of three outgoing City Councilmembers

Mayor Will Hall and City Councilmembers Susan Chang and Keith McGlashan will step away from their roles as City Councilmembers at the beginning of the year. They all chose not to run for reelection in November. They have a combined 32 years of service on the Shoreline City Council.

Shoreline voters first elected Mayor Hall to the City Council in 2009 and reelected him in 2013 and 2017. He has served as mayor for the past two years. He served as deputy mayor from 2010 through 2011.

Councilmember McGlashan was first elected in 2005 and reelected in 2009, 2013, and 2017. He served as Mayor from 2010 through 2013.

Councilmember Chang was elected in 2017.

We want to thank each of them for their hard work and dedication to the Shoreline community!

## Help shape Shoreline's future; serve on the Planning Commission

The City invites interested individuals to apply for upcoming openings on the Planning Commission. City Council will appoint volunteers to serve four-year terms beginning April 2022. Candidates must live or own property in Shoreline and be fully vaccinated against COVID-19.

Community Service Applications are available at City Hall or from at [shorelinewa.gov/plancom](http://shorelinewa.gov/plancom). Applications are due by Friday, January 7, 2022. You can email them to [clk@shorelinewa.gov](mailto:clk@shorelinewa.gov), mail them to City Clerk's Office, 17500 Midvale Avenue N, Shoreline, WA 98133, or hand deliver them to the City Clerk's Office on the first floor of City Hall (17500 Midvale Avenue N).

### Planning Commission

Residents who serve on the Planning Commission provide recommendations to the City Council on land use, growth, and development issues. They review and provide recommendations regarding amendments to the Comprehensive Plan, development regulations, subarea plans, and major development proposals.

The Planning Commission hosts public workshops and hearings to gather public input about a wide range of land use matters. The elected City Council, the ultimate decision-making authority on these land use matters, relies on the Planning Commission to develop the record, reflecting both technical information and resident input, and to provide a thoughtful recommendation for Council's consideration.

Candidates should have a general interest in environmental, growth, and development issues but we do not require a technical background or experience in land use. Important qualifications are an ability to listen to and work well with others; a willingness to read background reports provided by City staff prior to the meetings; and a commitment to regular attendance and active participation at the meetings.

The Planning Commission meets virtually and, when appropriate, in the Council Chamber at Shoreline City Hall, on the first and third Thursdays of each month at 7:00 p.m.

More information

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

## Meet your new Shoreline City Councilmembers

On January 3, 2022, Shoreline will swear in three new City councilmembers elected this past November. Laura Mork, Eben Pobee, and John Ramsdell will each serve four-year terms.

### Laura Mork

Laura Mork joins the City Council with a wealth of knowledge and experience having served in several capacities already with the City. She served on the Shoreline Planning Commission for eight years. There she worked on many community issues, including affordable housing, spaces for neighborhood businesses, and new construction around our two light rail stations. Her contributions helped the City earn an award for its Deep Green Incentive Program for sustainable construction projects and obtain Salmon-Safe certification for City programs that promote habitat protection.

She was also appointed to the Ronald Wastewater District Board in 2017 and elected to that position in 2019, where she served until the 2021 assumption by the City.

Laura brings a wide range of experience to the City Council from her career as a chemical engineer and as a professionally certified project manager.

Laura has lived in Shoreline for 25 years and is an advocate for parks and sidewalks. Further, she has been an active community volunteer, extending back to the PTA when her children were in school, and as a board member of the Cascade Youth Symphony.

### Eben Pobee

Born in Ghana, in West Africa, Eben Pobee was one of eight children of farmers. At an early age, Eben chose schooling over farming and went on to earn a degree at the University of Ghana and a scholarship to the London School of Business. Rather than moving to London, Eben chose to get his Master of Business Administration degree from Concordia University in Portland, Oregon where he met his wife, Harriet. After graduating, he moved to Shoreline with his wife and their three daughters, Emily, Olivia, and Lydia.

Eben works as a finance manager with EPOBS Suite, a cloud-based Financial Management Software company. He is also co-founder and Artistic Director of JHP Legacy which provides a variety of cultural and arts programs. In 2019, Governor Jay Inslee appointed Eben to the Board of Trustees of Shoreline Community College, where he currently serves as Vice Chair. Eben was involved in the first CityWise Project organized by the City of Shoreline and has been active in PTAs at his kids' schools. He currently serves as the Chair of King County's 4Culture Arts Advisory Committee.

### John Ramsdell

John Ramsdell is an active member of the Westminster Triangle Neighborhood Association. He has held numerous leadership positions and organized neighborhood events. John's love of the outdoors and parks led him to work closely with the City in advocating for the establishment of the new Westminster Park. He is also a volunteer with Gratitude Sailing, a non-profit organization that provides free sailing outings on Puget Sound for individuals with disabilities of all ages. John is the current precinct

committee officer for the 32nd Legislative District Democrats and an active member of Whole Washington.

John has been a licensed mental health professional for the past 25 years and has provided specialized assistance to thousands of King County's most vulnerable citizens, including elderly adults in crisis, individuals with disabilities, people without homes, and foster children. He currently owns and manages a mental health counseling practice in Shoreline, and provides clinical supervision to licensure candidates.

As an Employee Assistance Program clinical account executive, John provided and managed services to over 90,000 employees in over 200 companies, non-profit organizations, small businesses, school districts, native tribes, and municipalities in the Pacific Northwest. He maintains a relationship with First Choice Health as a contracted EAP provider and crisis incident stress debriefer.

John has a Master of Public Administration degree and a Master of Clinical Psychology degree. He also has a Bachelor of Arts degree in Political Science.

## RADAR program update

Maintaining a safe community for all is of paramount importance to City leadership. Recent events, both locally and nationally, have prompted a significant degree of interest in how we deliver public safety services and whether there are alternatives to police officers delivering any of those services.

The North Sound RADAR Program is one such alternative response program that provides Shoreline Police with additional tools when responding to calls in our community. RADAR (Response Awareness, De-escalation and Referral) aims to decrease use-of-force incidents between police and individuals with behavioral health and/or developmental disabilities, and to reduce the repeated use of emergency services for the same individual.

Since the program's inception in 2016, Mental Health Professional (MHP) Navigators have focused on moving people into community-based and long-term systems of care to reduce reliance on the crisis and criminal legal systems and to improve outcomes. Currently, RADAR primarily operates as a referral model. Police officers make referrals to the RADAR program and the MHP Navigators follow-up. Sometimes Navigators are available to respond to a scene that includes someone actively in a mental or behavioral health crisis; however, this is not the norm.

During the 2021 City Council Strategic Planning Workshop, Council expressed interest in seeing the RADAR program become more fully operational. Currently, MHP Navigator positions have only been part-time contractor positions. This has made it difficult to recruit and retain qualified MPH Navigators. Navigators must pass a more stringent criminal background check than typical mental health professionals due to their access to sensitive information in a police department setting. Additionally, because it is a contractor position, they must provide their own liability insurance. The lack of hours, employer paid benefits, and requirement to provide their own insurance have been major barriers to filling the positions. To address this, RADAR is working on transitioning to three full-time positions instead of six part-time positions; hiring them as benefitted staff of one of the member cities; and extending existing City-provided insurance coverage for these positions.

An MPH Navigator is a new position in the mental health profession and is therefore not a typical career track for mental health professionals. A lack of awareness and pre-career/mid-career training are likely keeping professionals from applying for these relatively new positions. In response to this and due to the success of RADAR locally, Shoreline Community College now offers the Criminal Justice Advocacy Certificate. A forensic social worker who also teaches crisis intervention training to law enforcement officers developed and teaches the 15 credit, 60-hour certificate program. The certificate bridges the gap between criminal justice and sociology, law, and psychology, and could support social workers who want to work alongside police to help mentally ill and marginalized populations. The hope is that the Shoreline Community College program will result in a more robust partnership between mental health professionals and law enforcement locally, regionally, and beyond. This certificate is the first of its kind in the country.

RADAR is looking ahead to make program advancements that would expand the services offered to member cities. Moving from a referral model to a hybrid referral/response model is the next overall program improvement RADAR is planning. Instead of only following up on a referral from a police officer, Navigators would be able to respond with a police officer in real time. When acting as an alternative responder, the 911 dispatch service would dispatch RADAR navigators directly without a police officer. This would require the creation of a 'decision tree', new dispatch protocols, potentially different staff training, and the use of RADAR-specific vehicles.

RADAR is also seeking additional funding to target a weak point in the current treatment system, which is the transition from law enforcement contact and crisis to ongoing treatment services. In this transition, many people fall through the cracks and continue down the path of addiction and criminal activity. Shoreline and the RADAR partner cities are committed to meeting the needs of our most vulnerable residents while keeping our community safe.

More information

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

Christina Arcidy, Management Analyst

[carcidy@shorelinewa.gov](mailto:carcidy@shorelinewa.gov)

206-801-2216

## CityWise

Would you like to learn more about your City? Curious residents will have an opportunity to learn how local government works in our annual Shoreline CityWise Project.

Since launching as a pilot in 2017, the CityWise Project has provided participants insight into the wide range of services provided by the City. This coming year, we will offer CityWise again as an online experience. Applications will be available in January 2022, with sessions beginning in February.

Watch for details on our website at [shorelinewa.gov/citywise](http://shorelinewa.gov/citywise).

## Emergency Severe Weather Shelter

St. Dunstan's Church, 722 N 145th Street

Activation Hotline: 206-801-2797

For the third winter season, the City is working in partnership with the North Urban Human Services Alliance (NUHSA) to operate an emergency severe weather shelter. St. Dunstan's Church has offered space to house this important program at their parish. NUHSA is recruiting and training volunteers and providing needed shelter supplies. The City is handling the permitting process. It is also assisting with volunteer recruitment and training as needed.

The shelter officially 'opened' in early November. The threshold for activation will be a prediction of four-plus hours of temperatures at or below 33 degrees overnight or snow accumulation of two or more inches. When activated, the shelter will be open from 8:30 p.m. to 7:30 a.m. NUHSA will update the recorded Severe Weather Shelter Activation Hotline when it activates the shelter.

### Volunteer

To make the shelter successful, we need volunteers to help staff it during activation. Committed and compassionate volunteers must be over 18 years old and commit to being on-call for a certain number of nights each month between November 1 and March 30. NUHSA will train volunteers. Volunteers will be responsible for welcoming guests and supervising the shelter overnight (partial shifts can be arranged). Volunteers will be paired with another person during shelter activation.

If you would like to volunteer, email [staff@nuhsa.org](mailto:staff@nuhsa.org) or call 206-550-5626.

### Other severe weather shelter options

King County Crisis Line: People can connect to the most up-to-date shelter options during severe weather at 866-427-4747.

For Families: Families can access help by calling the King County Emergency Family Shelter Intake Line at 206-245-1026. If a family is located far from a shelter, a Lyft can be sent to pick them up.

## Snow plow routes

When forecasts predict freezing temperatures or snow, the City pre-treats road surfaces with an anti-icing agent. When it snows, City plows will concentrate their efforts on primary snow removal routes first to accommodate fire, medical, and police response, as well as Metro transit, school buses, and commuter traffic. If it continues to snow, these primary routes will be plowed. Once the snow has stopped and all primary roads are clear, plows will move to secondary snow removal routes, and once those are clear, they will plow neighborhood streets. If it starts snowing again, the process of clearing main roads will start over.

Please keep in mind that, during a heavy, continuous snowstorm, it may take several days before we can clear all city streets.

In major snow events, we will close several roads that have traditionally had problems. They are identified on the Snow Event Road Closure map that you can find on the StormReady webpage. We may also need to close other roads due to conditions.

More information

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

## Public Art Residency Program

With a Cultural Facilities Grant from 4Culture in 2019, we remodeled the City-owned small cottage at Richmond Beach Saltwater Park to establish an artist in residency program. The program is currently finishing its second season. It has hosted seven artists to date.

The third season of artist residencies is in the planning stages, with an anticipated Call for Artists in January, a deadline of February 27, and the first residency beginning in early April. Open to emerging as well as established artists working in a wide variety of media, the Art Cottage Residencies offer artists space and time to experiment and explore the site and its history, its spectacular landscape, and the creative process. A panel selects the artists. The artists are offered \$1,800 for the two-month residency that includes new work as well as public engagement.

Visit the City's Public Art page for art cottage event dates at [shorelinewa.gov/art](http://shorelinewa.gov/art).

More information  
[shorelinewa.gov/art](http://shorelinewa.gov/art)

## Introducing Shoreline Small Business Specialist Selam Habte

Since early in the COVID-19 pandemic, the City has worked with our partners to support our local small businesses recover and grow as we (hopefully) put the pandemic behind us. Earlier this year, City Council authorized a contract with the Shoreline Chamber of Commerce to better enable us to reach out to our businesses and understand their challenges, needs, and opportunities. This in turn will help inform City Council about what additional support may be needed to help them.

Since receiving approval from Council, the City and Chamber in partnership have retained the services of business outreach specialist Selam Habte. Selam was selected for her extensive experience collaborating with different businesses and leadership in the community. She will play an important role for the City, the Chamber, and small businesses as we all work together to build back a stronger Shoreline.

More information  
Selam Habte, Small Business Outreach Specialist  
[shorelineoutreach@gmail.com](mailto:shorelineoutreach@gmail.com)

## Shoreline commits to net-zero emissions by 2050

As world leaders gathered last month in Glasgow for the United Nations Climate Change Conference, cities and local governments around the world pledged to reduce emissions from their own communities as part of the "Cities Race to Zero" campaign.

The Race to Zero is a UN-backed, global campaign to rally leadership from businesses, cities, and educational institutions to address climate change. All members are committed to the same overarching goal: keeping global heating below the 1.5°Celsius goal of the Paris Agreement. This means cutting global emissions in half by 2030 and achieving net-zero emissions by 2050 at the very latest.

On October 18, Shoreline City Council voted to join the Cities Race to Zero campaign and committed to updated climate goals based on the best available science. Where our previous targets called for a 50%

reduction by 2030, and an 80% reduction by 2050, we are now committed to achieve a 60% reduction by 2030 and net-zero emissions by 2050.

A 2019 inventory of Shoreline's emissions showed only a 5% decrease since 2009. Reaching these updated targets will require significant, concerted effort to reduce Shoreline's emissions, especially from building energy and transportation, which together account for 97% of community-wide climate emissions.

We are updating Shoreline's Climate Action Plan to identify the most impactful actions the City can take over the next nine years to reach these targets. Over the next six months, we will be looking for community feedback on potential actions to include in the Climate Action Plan. If you live, work, or study in Shoreline, we want to hear from you! Visit [shorelinewa.gov/climate](https://shorelinewa.gov/climate) to take our short survey. Or join us for an upcoming Community Climate Conversation event to share your feedback.

More information

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

Cameron Reed, Environmental Program Specialist

[creed@shorelinewa.gov](mailto:creed@shorelinewa.gov), 206-801-2455

## Let us help you build a rain garden!

Noticing drainage issues with all this rain? Thinking your yard needs a makeover? Perhaps you're craving a more environmentally friendly outdoor space? The Soak It Up Rebate Program helps residents create beautiful, low-maintenance gardens that can help resolve drainage issues and benefit the environment!

Eligible property owners can receive up to \$2,000 to build a rain garden or to swap out lawn, weeds, or hardscape for native plants. Winter is the perfect time to schedule a site consultation to see if the program is a good fit for your landscaping goals!

More information

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

Christie Lovelace, Surface Water Program Specialist

[clovelace@shorelinewa.gov](mailto:clovelace@shorelinewa.gov)

206-801-2420

## King County begins process for appointing a new sheriff

In November 2020, the voters of King County approved Charter Amendment No .5, returning the King County Sheriff to a position appointed by the King County Executive. The amendment requires consideration of community stakeholder input during the selection, appointment, and confirmation process. Additionally, the voters of King County approved Charter Amendment No. 6, allowing the duties of the chief officer of the department of public safety (also known as the King County Sheriff) to be established by county ordinance.

Public Safety Advisory Committee

In March, the King County Council and King County Executive established the Public Safety Advisory Committee to conduct community stakeholder engagement and produce a report to inform the selection process for an appointed sheriff. Additionally, the committee has gathered stakeholder input



and provided guidance on values that stakeholder communities hold on how the county should provide and improve law enforcement services to preserve and enhance public safety.

On September 30, 2021, the Public Safety Advisory Committee (PSAC) shared its recommendations and priorities for improving public safety in King County, sending its full report to King County Executive Dow Constantine and the King County Council. Thanking the PSAC members and all those that supported their efforts, the Executive and Councilmembers will now review the recommendations and continue to engage the public. The King County Council will hold a set of briefings on the report, after which the Executive will begin recruitment for the next Sheriff.

### The King County Sheriff's Office

The King County Sheriff's Office (KCSO) is also referred to as the Department of Public Safety. The department provides and participates in regional services and activities including bomb disposal, search and rescue, homicide investigations, civil and criminal warrants, sex offender registration, dignitary protection, the automated fingerprint identification system, intelligence services and the joint terrorism task force. KCSO is the police department for unincorporated King County, which includes nearly 250,000 residents over a wide-ranging geographic area that encompasses dense urban areas, such as Skyway and White Center, and sparsely populated rural areas, such as Vashon Island and rural east King County.

The county also contracts and partners with twelve cities, including Shoreline, and the Muckleshoot Indian Tribe to provide law enforcement services to their approximately three hundred thousand residents through the King County Sheriff's Office. KCSO also provides public safety services for transportation agencies, including the King County International Airport, the Metro transit department, and Sound Transit.

### Excerpt from Executive Summary of Recommendations on Hiring a New Sheriff & Improving Public Safety - Public Safety Advisory Committee

The future King County Sheriff's Office should approach public safety as a partnership grounded in community relationships. Sheriff's Deputies should be seen – and see themselves – as integral members of the communities they serve. In this way, everyone can recognize that we are all working together to make sure that each of one of us is cared for in our community and that we all get home safely.

The County must improve public safety by providing for people's basic needs and must approach this work with a focus on race and social equity.

Core values of and priority outcomes for the new Sheriff and Sheriff's Office should be led by shared leadership, racial equity, healing, equitable outcomes, and collaboration.

The new sheriff should have both a law enforcement background and a track record of making decisions with the community as a focus. They should exhibit strong leadership and commitment to lasting change and have a history of collaboration and partnership.

To see the full report, visit [kingcounty.gov](https://kingcounty.gov) and search for Public Safety Advisory Committee.

## King County Executive appoints Patti Cole-Tindall as interim Sheriff

On November 23, King County Executive Dow Constantine appointed Patti Cole-Tindall as the interim King County Sheriff. Cole-Tindall will serve until the permanent sheriff is appointed, most likely by mid-2022. She joined the King County Sheriff's Office in October 2015, serving as the Chief of Technical Services Division for almost five years before being appointed to Undersheriff, where she has been responsible for day-to-day operations with the team of three Division Chiefs. Cole-Tindall will be the first person of color to serve as Sheriff in King County's history.

## Holiday Tree Collection

Recology will collect natural, undecorated, unflocked trees in 4-foot lengths from customers who subscribe to compost (food scraps and yard debris). No special arrangements are necessary; just put your tree curbside on your regular food scraps & yard debris collection day.

Flocked trees are not accepted in food scraps & yard debris collection. The flocking can often contain non-compostable materials including adhesives, flame retardant, or additives to make the flocking glitter and shine. Flocked trees are considered garbage, and are not accepted at tree recycling facilities.

More information

Recology Customer Service

[shoreline@recology.com](mailto:shoreline@recology.com)

206-763-4444

[recology.com](http://recology.com)

Winter Porch Light Parade 2021

Communities Shining Bright

Bothell – Kenmore – Lake Forest Park – Shoreline

December 1st through 31st

See all four cities transform into a magical wonderland of lights! Enter your creative light display to be included on the virtual map. Take a tour of the displays during the month of December.

<https://bit.ly/winterporchlightparade>

## Contact your Shoreline City Council

- Mayor Will Hall, 206-373-1630, [whall@shorelinewa.gov](mailto:whall@shorelinewa.gov)
- Deputy Mayor Keith Scully, 206-735-9030, [kscully@shorelinewa.gov](mailto:kscully@shorelinewa.gov)
- Susan Chang, 206-373-1639, [schang@shorelinewa.gov](mailto:schang@shorelinewa.gov)
- Doris Fujioka McConnell, 206-731-9323, [dmccconnell@shorelinewa.gov](mailto:dmccconnell@shorelinewa.gov)
- Keith McGlashan, 206-330-3948, [kmcglashan@shorelinewa.gov](mailto:kmcglashan@shorelinewa.gov)
- Chris Roberts, 206-391-2733, [croberts@shorelinewa.gov](mailto:croberts@shorelinewa.gov)
- Betsy Roberston, 206-396-5807, [brobertson@shorelinewa.gov](mailto:broberson@shorelinewa.gov)
- Contact all Councilmembers, (206) 801-2213, [council@shorelinewa.gov](mailto:council@shorelinewa.gov)

City Council Meetings  
Mondays at 7:00 p.m.  
Virtual meetings via Zoom

Agendas: [shorelinewa.gov/councilmeetings](https://shorelinewa.gov/councilmeetings)