



CURRENTS

News from the City of Shoreline

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November 2023

Parking Enforcement Program in development for fall 2024 start

OVER THE past few years, mixed-use zones around the city have seen a lot of new development. This includes along the Aurora Corridor and Ballinger Way NE; in the North City neighborhood; and in the light rail station areas. With these new developments comes concerns about parking. Other cities in the region that have already opened light rail stations have experienced an increased need for parking enforcement due to new developments around transit and people who use transit parking in neighborhoods, also known as “hide and ride parking.” To stay ahead of this issue, we are in the process of developing a new parking enforcement program, which we plan to start in the fall of 2024.

Citywide Parking Enforcement

The City Council directed staff to develop the Parking Enforcement Program to address potential light rail impacts and general parking enforcement efforts citywide. As part of this effort, we will hire two parking enforcement officers and an IT functional analyst; purchase an all-electric parking enforcement vehicle; purchase the hardware and software for the enforcement program; and choose a vendor for a potential restricted parking zone (RPZ) program. The Code Enforcement/Customer Response Team will manage the Parking Enforcement Program. If we determine we need an RPZ program, Traffic Services will manage it.

Common infractions parking enforcement officers will cite include parking too close to mailboxes, driveways, and intersections; parking more than 12 inches from a curb; and parking within a bike lane. Parking enforcement officers will also have the authority to ticket and tow abandoned and inoperable vehicles in the right of way. Look for upcoming Currents articles about parking infractions and how to prevent getting a parking ticket in Shoreline.

Parking study for restricted parking zones

As part of the special use permit we issued to Sound Transit to construct light rail through Shoreline, Sound Transit is required to complete a parking study before and after light rail starts operating. The goal of the study is to determine how the light rail stations affect parking in the surrounding neighborhoods. If there are problems, the study will include ways to deal with those problems. If data from the study shows that the opening of the light rail stations reduced on-street parking capacity, then one possible way to address the problem would be to start using RPZs.

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CITY COUNCIL MEETINGS:
Mondays at 7:00 p.m.
Hybrid meetings: City Hall Council Chambers/online
Agendas: shorelinewa.gov/councilmeetings

145th Corridor and I-5 Interchange Projects Aim for Sustainability

NEXT SPRING, we expect to begin major construction on the NE 145th Street and I-5 Interchange Project and Phase 1 of the 145th Street Corridor Project.

Work at the interchange includes replacing signalized intersections at either end of I-5 with roundabouts. The project will improve safety and include connections for people who walk, roll, or bike. We will construct Phase 1 of the 145th Corridor Project at the same time. We will widen the roadway to improve traffic operations, safety, and mobility.

In addition to improving mobility for people that travel on 145th, the two projects will reduce the greenhouse gases emitted along the corridor. Reducing traffic congestion will decrease time spent idling in traffic. Meanwhile, new multimodal connections for people who walk, bike, or roll will encourage travelers to substitute a car trip for something more environmentally friendly. Easy access to Sound Transit Link light rail and Stride Bus Rapid Transit will ensure that mass transit is convenient for all users.



Sign on N 145th Street indicating walkway is not accessible for wheelchairs

Tree removal and replacement

We have designed these projects to affect as few trees as possible. We have worked with arborists to identify how to protect existing trees where feasible. However, the project involves widening the footprint of 145th Street, which will require the removal of a significant number of trees. This removal will begin as soon as February 2024. We will plant new trees once the project is complete.



Trees planted in the median provide shade on Aurora Avenue N

We will strategically plant trees in medians and along sidewalks to expand the square footage of the total tree canopy in the area. This aligns with the City's goals for the corridor and the recommendations found in our Urban Tree Canopy Assessment. A robust canopy lowers temperatures by providing shade and reducing how much heat radiates off human-made surfaces, like concrete. By planting medians or along sidewalks, the City can grow the tree canopy in an area that otherwise would be bare.

Removing trees is a balance between short-term effects and the long-term benefits of a more sustainable transportation system. By carefully selecting which trees to remove and planting new trees at a high rate, we can build toward the future in a responsible way.

Next steps

We are advertising the projects together for contractor bidding and the City expects to secure a contractor by the end of the year. Preconstruction activities began late this past summer and will continue through the fall.

MORE INFORMATION

Engage Shoreline: engage.shorelinewa.gov/145projects
Email the project team: 145thProject@shorelinewa.gov

Balancing tree removals with the need to improve our transportation network

Trees are an important part of our landscape. They help improve water and air quality, prevent erosion, increase property values, and provide carbon storage, wildlife habitat, and natural beauty. A robust tree canopy also lowers temperatures by providing shade and reducing how much heat radiates off human-made surfaces, like concrete. The City takes the protection of our urban forest very seriously. Goal 2 of our Climate Action Plan calls for the City to reduce carbon from the atmosphere by maintaining and increasing our tree canopy and urban forest health.

We recently received a \$1 million grant from the US Forest Service to enhance our urban forestry efforts over the next five years, which will include extensive tree planting. We will combine the grant with City matching funds of \$2.76 million for a total of \$3.76 million. We will:

- Expand efforts to actively track the progress and health of our urban forests and tree canopy and prioritize street-tree planting in neighborhoods with low tree canopy coverage.
- Expand opportunities for the community to plant and maintain trees on private property.
- Expand the Green Shoreline Partnership to provide urban forestry education, stewardship, and explore the creation of a workforce development initiative in partnership with schools and community-based organizations, which will also include tree planting in areas with environmental health disparities.

However, even with our commitment to preserving and expanding our urban forest, there are times when we must remove trees to complete needed capital projects, such as for the 145th corridor project or for new sidewalks.

In our fight to address climate change, we must tackle our biggest contributors to greenhouse gas emissions. Transportation is Shoreline's largest source of emissions. In 2019, transportation accounted for 55% of total com-

munity-wide emissions. Most of these emissions come from gasoline use in passenger vehicles. Reducing community-wide driving is our top strategy for reducing emissions. To do that, we are working to create dense, walkable communities concentrated around transit.

Our climate goals inform our work. We always consider the balance between providing safe, equitable methods for people to get around without getting in their cars and maintaining and increasing our urban forest. We are doing both.

Why is tree removal necessary for capital projects

We do not take the decision to remove trees lightly. We all love trees and appreciate their benefits. Unfortunately, we can't create dense walkable communities without making significant improvements to our transportation infrastructure. This includes repairing our existing sidewalks, constructing new sidewalks, and improving transportation corridors to allow for better access for pedestrians, transit, and vehicle traffic. All this work requires the removal of trees to some extent. We cannot meet our goal of reducing vehicle emissions without providing viable alternatives to them.

Does the City replace trees after removal?

When we remove trees for an infrastructure improvement project, we try to replace them within the same project corridor. If we can't replace them within the project corridor, then we will look to replace them elsewhere in the city, either in a park or along a different transportation corridor.

Sidewalks

Many street trees planted decades ago have caused significant damage to our sidewalks, curbs, pavement, and underground utilities. This damage has created dangerous conditions for pedestrians and bicyclists, especially for anyone using wheels (wheelchairs, walkers, and strollers) or who has mobility challenges when walking. Our projects must meet

Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) requirements. This is not only a federal requirement, but also an important part of our work to ensure that Shoreline is a welcoming and accessible place to live for all our residents.

To provide safe sidewalks for as many residents as possible, we strive to be fiscally responsible and budget for projects wisely. Sidewalk construction is expensive. Our 2019 ADA Transition Plan estimated that the cost to meet ADA standards for city sidewalks was over \$184 million (in 2018 dollars). This is just to repair existing sidewalks. It doesn't include constructing new sidewalks where they don't already exist. That is a separate program.

We have limited resources to do this work and primarily depend on the \$20 vehicle license fee that Shoreline residents pay each year. Ensuring that we use your taxpayer dollars wisely is a priority. Purchasing private property to expand a sidewalk or bumping a sidewalk out into the street adds significant costs to sidewalk projects, limiting the number of overall projects we can do. Adding new and untested mitigation to prevent tree removal can also add to the costs, especially if they do not work and we must redo the project and remove the tree later.

If a project potentially involves tree removal, we hire an arborist to evaluate the condition of each tree and to identify ways we can protect and preserve existing trees. Before making a final decision, we evaluate the arborist's assessment, the future health of the tree after construction, the space available for continued tree growth, ADA requirements, and the project budget. While deciding to remove a tree can be a difficult decision, we believe that the short-term impacts are outweighed by our long-term commitment to climate action and protecting our urban tree canopy.

MORE INFORMATION

shorelinewa.gov/trees
shorelinewa.gov/145projects
shorelinewa.gov/sidewalks



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 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 to the City at 206-801-2700.

Power outages

If outside, do not touch or go near any downed power lines. If 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 but 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/citylight/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. If snow continues to fall, we will only plow 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 might 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.

Property owner responsibilities - 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 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

Help shape the City's next 20 years

Shoreline Comprehensive Plan Update

Shoreline is home to over 60,000 people. We are expected to grow by 13,330 new housing units in the next 20 years; that's around 30,000 new people! The City plans for this growth in our Comprehensive Plan, a 20-year roadmap for Shoreline's future. The Comprehensive Plan guides major city decisions on housing, transportation, the natural environment, jobs, and more. The Plan outlines how we will grow over the next 20 years while also preserving and improving all those things that make Shoreline great today.

We are currently updating the Comprehensive Plan and we need your input!

When are we doing this?

The plan update is due at the end of 2024. We have already heard from many of you about your vision for the future of Shoreline. If you haven't already contributed, or would like to contribute more, there will be more opportunities to share your comments coming up soon. To be sure you don't miss your chance, sign up for updates at shorelinewa.gov/shoreline2044.

What we've heard so far:

Over the past year, we've heard from many of you about your vision for Shoreline. Below are some of the things we've heard so far.

- People want to be able to walk to local shops and restaurants.
- People want to continue improving and expanding our parks.
- People want everyone to have a home.
- People want Shoreline to be an environmentally sustainable city.

More information

shorelinewa.gov/shoreline2044

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206-801-2512, sszafran@shorelinewa.gov

Project Manager Elise Keim, AICP
206-801-2553, ekeim@shorelinewa.gov



How to get involved

We have two outstanding opportunities coming up:

SURVEY

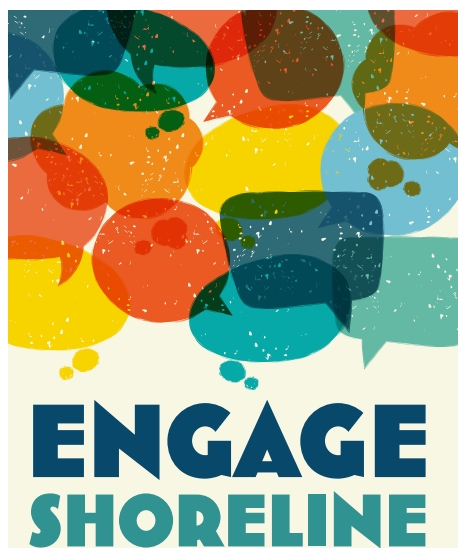
Opens November 8
Visit: shorelinewa.gov/shoreline2044

Share your ideas for Shoreline's future. You can also see our first round of survey results from earlier this year on our website.

OPEN HOUSE

Wednesday, Nov. 15, 6:00 - 8:00 p.m.
Shoreline City Hall
17500 Midvale Avenue N

City staff will be there to share information and hear your thoughts about Shoreline's future.



WE RECENTLY launched a new community engagement platform called Engage Shoreline. This new platform will be our hub for online engagement. It will provide an easy and secure way for residents and others to participate in different community engagement efforts online. With Engage Shoreline, residents, property owners, business owners, visitors, and other stakeholders can share their ideas and feedback on specific projects and initiatives and will be able to see what others are saying. It will allow the City to gather feedback, discuss topics, and inform the public about important policy, planning, programs, and projects taking shape in the community.

With a single registration, you will have full access to all online public engagement opportunities offered on Engage Shoreline. Check it out at engage.shorelinewa.gov to see how it works and register to stay informed about current and future topics of interest.

[ENGAGE.SHORELINEWA.GOV](https://engage.shorelinewa.gov)

Did You Know?

MORE THAN one-third of what ends up in our landfill is food scraps and food-soiled paper that we could compost instead! Help reduce waste this holiday season by composting food scraps, food-soiled paper, old pumpkins, leaves, and more in your curbside compost cart. Composting your food and yard waste creates nutrient-rich soil that helps reduce methane emissions (one of the most potent greenhouse gases), retains water, captures carbon, and supports healthy farms, gardens, and orchards.

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

Shoreline is offering free compost service to eligible apartment properties and condominiums.

MORE INFORMATION

shorelinewa.gov/compost
sbruemmer@shorelinewa.gov

It is illegal to cut trees in parks and the City's right of way without authorization

TREES LOCATED in the City's right of way are the property of the City and it is illegal to cut them, including pruning them, without authorization. Right of way generally refers to streets and other public property reserved for public use, including walkways, sidewalks, bikeways, and parks. This includes the air rights, subsurface rights, and easements related to them. The right of way can often extend well into what appears to be private property. Any tree located in these areas is public property.

The City may issue a right of way use permit for pruning or removal of public trees in the right of way adjacent to an applicant's property if they meet certain criteria. Such criteria could include planting of approved replacement trees in the vicinity.

If you suspect someone of illegally cutting or pruning a public tree, you can first check to see if the City has issued a permit. You can do that by going to shorelinewa.gov/permitsearch. If a permit doesn't exist, call our Customer Response Team at 206-801-2700 during normal business hours or 911 during off-hours.

The City allows a property owner to immediately remove a tree that is an active threat to life or property (falling or about to fall) without a permit. However, we require documentation of the hazardous condition prior to removal, such as photos or an arborist's evaluation.

If you have a question about whether a tree is in the ROW or not, contact the City's Customer Response Team at 206-801-2700 and they can help you determine if it is a City owned tree or a tree on your property. If in doubt, check before cutting.

SOAK UP YOUR WINTER RAINWATER PROBLEMS!

NOTICING ANY rainwater problems in your yard, like backed-up downspouts or pooling water? The City's Soak-It-Up program offers rebates to property owners to install a rain garden or to convert grass, invasive weeds, and areas with hard surfaces (like old patios) to native landscaping. These gardens can fix some drainage issues by allowing water to absorb into the ground naturally. Sign up for a site consultation today to see if your property is eligible for the Soak-It-Up program!

MORE INFORMATION

shorelinewa.gov/soakitup



Transform your yard from this....

To this!



Saint Margaret's Place to open soon!

Permanent supportive housing project at 198th and Aurora

Catholic Housing Services (CHS) is completing construction on the permanent supportive housing project located at 198th Street and Aurora Avenue N, now known as Saint Margaret's Place. They are planning on a late fall soft move in date.

This 100-unit building is a partnership between Shoreline, King County, Washington State, and CHS. Half of the residents will be at or below 30% area median income (AMI) and the other half of the residents will be at or below 50% AMI. Some units will be reserved for certain populations, including those with a Shoreline connection and veterans. CHS's partner organization, Catholic Community Services, will provide case management and other services and will be on site 24 hours a day/7 days a week to assist residents.

How to access housing at Saint Margaret's Place

Coordinated Entry for All (CEA) will be the agency in charge of determining access to housing at Saint Margaret's. CEA is a King County Regional Homelessness Authority program that helps people experiencing homelessness and housing instability find stable housing. CEA uses a standard housing triage tool that matches services and available housing resources.

The best way to connect with CEA is to contact one of their Regional Access Points. The closest access point to Shoreline is:

Solid Ground – North Seattle

1501 N 45th Street
Seattle, WA 98103
206-694-6833

Hours of operation: Monday-Friday, 9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.

Parking Enforcement Program

Continued from page 1

RPZs are residential areas around transit centers - like a light rail station - where a City restricts on-street parking to permit holders during certain hours and/or for certain time periods. Residents within the boundary of an RPZ would be eligible for a certain number of permits. We would determine the size and scope of an RPZ through data collected in the parking study. An enforcement mechanism must be in place to ensure people without permits do not park in the RPZ for more than the allowed time limit. Any RPZs near light rail stations would be effective nine to twelve months after light rail stations open.

MORE INFORMATION

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carcidy@shorelinewa.gov*

LEASHED, LICENSED, LOVED

Your pet license can help reunite your pet with you if they become lost. And, your pet gets a free ride home the first time it is found! A pet license from Regional Animal Services of King County not only provides identification to help protect a cat or dog should they get lost, but it also helps fund the animal care and control program and supports the protection of people and pets in our community.

Get your pet's Collar ID today at kingcounty.gov/LicenseMyPet



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CITY OF SHORELINE
CURRENTS

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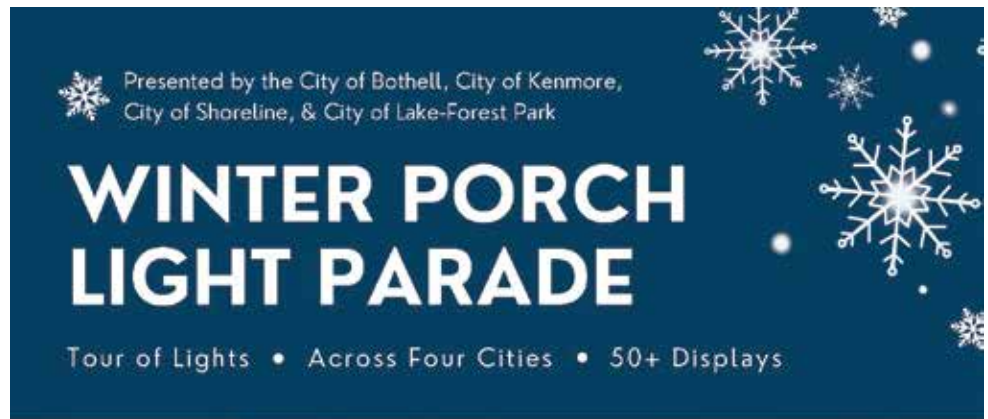
Start your holiday
shopping in Shoreline to
find that perfect hand-
crafted gift!

80+ juried artists,
creators, and makers

Jewelry | Textiles | Crafts
Workshops | Food Trucks
Gourmet Foods | Arts
Holiday Music

November 18

10:00 AM - 4:00 PM | Shoreline City Hall



Presented by the City of Bothell, City of Kenmore,
City of Shoreline, & City of Lake-Forest Park

WINTER PORCH LIGHT PARADE

Tour of Lights • Across Four Cities • 50+ Displays



DECEMBER 1 - 31, 2023

SELF-GUIDED DRIVING EXPERIENCE

PLAN YOUR ROUTE BY USING OUR VITRUAL MAP

[BIT.LY/WINTERPORCHLIGHTPARADE](https://bit.ly/winterporchlightparade)

