



CURRENTS

News from the City of Shoreline

Volume 26 No. 1

February 2024

Love your community grant

DO YOU HAVE an idea for how to foster community connections in Shoreline? We want to help. Apply for funding through the Love Your Community grant program.

In early 2020, the City launched Love Your Community as a pilot program. A few weeks later, COVID-19 stopped us all in our tracks. As life resumed, the purpose of the grant became even more important. The Love Your Community grant is available to community groups for projects to build and strengthen connections within Shoreline. It is intended to support groups who have not previously had access to city grants.

Two Love Your Community grant recipients from 2023 were the Pacific Northwest Seattle Gambian Association and Banchemo Disability Partners. Both groups held events that brought people together to celebrate culture and community.

Pacific Northwest Seattle Gambian Association

In July, the Pacific Northwest Seattle Gambian Association hosted hundreds of people at Shoreline Park and the adjacent fields. There were soccer games, fun activities, music, and food, engaging participants of all ages. The grant helped organizers purchase traditional foods to serve at the event.

The Gambian Association describes their mission as promoting cross-cultural understanding.

“By bringing together people from different backgrounds to play the same games, dance to the same tunes, and eat the same food, we are accomplishing our goal.”

Banchemo Disability Partners

Banchemo Disability Partners provides supported living services to individuals with developmental disabilities in the greater Shoreline community. For the last two summers, they invited clients, staff, guardians, family members, and community volunteers to picnic and play together at Paramount School Park. Grant funding enabled table and chair rental, the purchase of food, beverages, and small gifts to fill a piñata.

Banchemo Disability Partners notes their clients and staff still feel the effects of the long quarantine during the pandemic.

“We are social animals and need large circles of acquaintances and small circles of friends. Building connectedness and kinship is part of a thriving community where people feel valued and have dignity.”

Continued on page 3



Tenant protections

Page 3



145th Corridor construction

Page 4



Shoreline first to sign Re+ Pledge

Page 7

CONTACT YOUR Shoreline City Council



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



DEPUTY MAYOR
LAURA MORK
206-801-2207
lmork@shorelinewa.gov



ANNETTE ADEMASU
206-801-2204
aademasu@shorelinewa.gov



EBEN POBEE
206-801-2201
epobee@shorelinewa.gov



JOHN RAMSDELL
206-801-2205
jramsdell@shorelinewa.gov



BETSY ROBERTSON
206-801-2206
brobertson@shorelinewa.gov



KEITH SCULLY
206-801-2202
kscully@shorelinewa.gov

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

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

Shoreline City Council

ON JANUARY 8, Shoreline District Court Judge Raul Martinez swore in newly elected City Councilmember Annette Ademasu into office. Judge Martinez also swore in returning Councilmembers Keith Scully and Betsy Robertson. After the swearing in, the City Council selected Councilmember Chris Roberts as Mayor and Councilmember Laura Mork as Deputy Mayor.

Shoreline operates under the council-manager form of government. It consists of an elected city council, which is responsible for policymaking, and a professional city manager, appointed by the council, who is responsible for administration. As the City's governing body, Shoreline's seven elected part-time Councilmembers establish City policies and laws; adopt an annual budget; and approve contracts for services. The city manager provides policy advice, directs the daily operations of city government, handles personnel functions (including the power to appoint and remove employees), and is responsible for preparing the annual budget.

Under the council-manager form of government, the city council is prohibited from interfering with the manager's administration. However, the city manager is directly accountable to and can be removed by a majority vote of the council at any time.

Councilmembers serve staggered four-year terms; roughly half the Council is up for election every two years. All Councilmembers are "at-large", meaning 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 council meets most Monday evenings at 7:00 p.m. We encourage the public to attend meetings.

In addition to Council meetings, Councilmembers represent the City at community events; in meetings with community members; and on national, state, and regional boards and committees.

MORE INFORMATION

shorelinewa.gov/council
shorelinewa.gov/councilmeetings

Meet your new Shoreline City Councilmember

ANNETTE ADEMASU grew up next to a forest and fell in love with nature, which led her to earn a Bachelor of Science in Environmental Biology. Her work experience includes being a laboratory analyst in Houston; a biologist in a National Park in the Dominican Republic; an Environmental Specialist for the United States Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) Office of Enforcement; and in pollution prevention at the Washington State Department of Ecology. Her lifetime volunteer efforts include work in anti-racism, prevention of human trafficking, a common-sense rail system, and advocating for human rights issues.

Annette grew up in the Midwest, lived two years overseas (fluent in Spanish), and moved to the Pacific Northwest in 1984. She found her home in Shoreline 25 years ago, raised children here, and plans to retire here. She is dedicated to shaping the future of our community.

Her interests include hiking, world travel, reading fiction, outdoor music festivals, and lifelong learning to reverse desertification.

City Council passes new tenant protections

ON DECEMBER 11, 2023, the Shoreline City Council approved Ordinance No. 996, which establishes a new chapter, Chapter 9.35, of the Shoreline Municipal Code regarding residential tenant protections. The chapter adds additional protections for Shoreline tenants, above those already provided under the Washington State Residential Landlord-Tenant Act (RLTA, RCW 59.18).

There are approximately 23,490 occupied housing units in Shoreline, with almost 9,340 (40%) of them being tenant occupied units (2022, American Community Survey). This number has increased significantly since Shoreline's incorporation in 1995. The tenant protections are meant to help provide stability and certainty to tenants, especially during times of economic instability.

The lack of affordable housing increases economic insecurity among households and creates challenges for employers striving to retain and recruit workers that live within the city. Having greater residential tenant protections will provide households with stability and certainty, while still allowing landlords to raise the rent, collect reasonable costs, and make a fair profit.

Below is a summary of the adopted protections.

- It adds additional notice requirements for base rent increases. For base rent increases greater than 3% but less than 10%, landlords are required to provide 120-day notice. For base rent increases of 10% or greater, landlords must give at least 180 days' notice.
- All move in fees and security deposits cannot exceed a combined one month's rent. Tenants have the right to pay these fees in installments. The number of installments depends upon the length of the lease.
- Late fees cannot exceed 1.5% of the tenant's monthly rent.
- A tenant may propose, in writing, that the landlord change the due date for rent in the rental agreement to a different day of the month if the tenant's primary source of income is a regular, monthly source of government assistance.
- A landlord may request, but can't require, a prospective tenant to provide a social security number or other type of tax identification number for screening purposes.
- Fees
 - A landlord must list all fees in the rental agreement.
 - A landlord may not charge a fee for a tenant's access to common areas and/or a prorated share of utilities for such areas or for the performance of any landlord duty required by the RLTA.
 - A landlord may not charge a fee associated with the issuance of a notice to a tenant, even if the notice is required by state law, including but not limited to a fee for preparing and delivering a notice regarding late payment of rent, a notice to pay or vacate, or a notice of noncompliance with a rental agreement.
- The City has no direct enforcement role; however, the ordinance provides tenants with the ability to pursue a private right of action against a landlord for violation of the code.



Love your community grant

Continued from page 1

2024 Grants

The Love Your Community Grant is available in 2024 to Shoreline residents who are part of a community or cultural group. Projects must foster community connections within the city.

We are accepting applications for up to \$1,000 on a rolling basis through September 2024. City staff are available to support applicants every step of the way.

MORE INFORMATION

shorelinewa.gov/communitygrant
Community Opportunities Coordinator
Constance Perenyi
cperenyi@shorelinewa.gov
206-801-2253



Kindergarten open enrollment

Open through March 1

To attend kindergarten in the fall, children must be 5 years old by August 31, 2024.

Enrollment in Shoreline Schools is guaranteed for families who live in Shoreline and Lake Forest Park.

Choice Transfer Requests will be considered for families who live outside the Shoreline district boundary after the open enrollment period.

To learn more and enroll your child, visit ssd412.org/enrollment.

CONSTRUCTION BEGINS SOON ON 145TH STREET PROJECTS

THIS SPRING, construction on the 145th Street projects begins, highlighted by a six-month closure of 145th Street between 1st Avenue and I-5.

The closure, expected to begin in early spring, allows us to relocate multiple utilities and will reduce the overall amount of time needed to complete the projects. When utility relocations are complete, likely in the fall, construction of the new roundabouts on both sides of I-5 can start.

This month, the construction of a new stormwater detention vault near 3rd Avenue NE on the north side of 145th will begin. We expect to complete this work before beginning work on the roadway. Additionally, we expect tree removal to have already started or to begin soon near the N 145th Street and southbound I-5 off-ramp intersection.

Our commitments

There's no way around it; closing a major corridor like 145th is a significant disruption for people. Our team

is committed to building a quality project and being good neighbors in the process.

In early December, we identified the contractor to build the project, Johansen Construction Company. Based out of the Sumner area, this local contractor has a deep knowledge of the Seattle area and has worked on similar projects in recent years.

Utility crews and our contractor will take measures to keep dirt, debris, and equipment inside the work zones at all times. Noisy activities will be kept to daytime hours as much as possible and communicated to neighbors in advance.

A signed detour will be in place during the closure of 145th Street, and we will coordinate work with the Washington State Department of Transportation and the Seattle Department of Transportation.

A 24/7 hotline will be available for people to call with questions or concerns about the project. You

can also email the project team at 145thProject@shorelinewa.gov.

We will post regular updates about the project to our Engage Shoreline website (engageshorelinewa.gov) and provide answers to some of the most frequently asked questions.

Stay engaged

People should check traffic conditions before heading out and may want to postpone travel until after the peak morning and afternoon commute times to avoid delays.

Utility and contractor crews also need everyone to stay focused on the road as they navigate the work zones and detour routes. Safety is the priority for crews in the field, but it's a shared responsibility with the public. We want everyone to get home safely.

MORE INFORMATION

engage.shorelinewa.gov/145corridor

Email the project team:

145thProject@shorelinewa.gov

Compostable food service ware requirements begin June 1

STARTING JUNE 1, Shoreline Municipal Code 14.15 will require all Shoreline businesses serving or selling food to use:

- commercially compostable plates, bowls, cups, and utensils, for take-out and to-go orders.
- reusable plates, bowls, cups, and utensils to serve customers dining onsite.

Adopted by the City Council last year, the intent of these rules is to reduce disposable plastic packaging that is difficult to recycle; often ends up as litter; and pollutes streams, lakes, and Puget Sound.

Starting June 1, businesses must use approved compostable packaging that is clearly labeled and tinted green, beige, or brown for take-out orders. This not only reduces the amount of single-use plastic in our community but also makes it easier for residents to place food packaging and leftover food

scraps in their green food and yard waste cart at the curb.

To reduce plastic waste even more, businesses must also use reusable dishware when serving customers who dine onsite. Reusable dishware can be washed and reused hundreds of times, which helps to prevent waste and minimize environmental impacts. Studies have also shown that serving food with reusable dishware saves businesses money compared to disposable containers.

These new rules apply to any person or place that serves or sells food. This includes, but is not limited to, restaurants, coffee shops, cafes, bars, cafeterias, delis, grocery stores, convenience stores, caterers, vendors at fairs, food trucks, schools, hospitals, and health care facilities. Foods that are pre-packaged before a business receives them are not included in the law.

MORE INFORMATION

shorelinewa.gov/compost

New requirements for food service

ON-SITE DINING

Reusable dishware such as plates, utensils and cups must be used



TO-GO ORDERS

Reusable or compostable serviceware such as plates, utensils and cups must be used



Economic Development Updates

Shoreline Place Community Renewal Area (CRA)

Merlone Geier has completed construction of the first phase of its redevelopment at Shoreline Place. They turned over the newly constructed spaces at the corner of 155th and Westminster Way to tenants in December. Tenants are now completing the build outs of their tenant improvements. Dining and pet product retailers are among the services that will be coming soon.

Investment Market Updates

Multifamily housing continues to be the strongest market opportunity to realize our Comprehensive Plan goals around redevelopment and investment. However, due to current economic conditions, many projects in the planning phase, or even further, are on pause. Some have even been cancelled. After those projects that are already in construction are completed, we anticipate there may be a significant undersupply of new housing units on the market two to three years from now due to the impending slow down in construction.

According to the Seattle Times, migration into Washington state has returned to nearly 90% of pre-pandemic levels with nearly 14,000 per month moving in, mostly from other US states. More than half of the newcomers settle in the Seattle area. The region is not meeting this growth in population with a similar increase in housing production. In fact, multifamily construction starts (projects that have poured a foundation) are at their lowest level since the housing industry collapse of 12 years ago. However, unlike the Great Recession of 2008, unemployment rates continue to remain at historic lows.

The issue in this case is the reluctance of the financial sector to extend credit to those building new housing. An overabundance of space in office parks and downtown commercial districts across the country is weighing heavily on the balance sheets of the financial institutions that would typically fund new housing starts. Until this issue can be resolved, we will continue to see a housing shortage, which drives up housing prices.

Shoreline projects impacted

Here in Shoreline, developers have had to delay or cancel more than 850 new multifamily and mixed-use units due to unavailable or unaffordable financing.

- Merlone Geier's first phase of mixed-use development has not yet begun construction. Approximately 380 units.
- Storybuilt, like many other builders, has run into capital constraints ultimately ending in bankruptcy proceedings and cancelled plans for a 200-unit mixed use project on 15th in the North City Business District on the site of the former Anderson House.
- Storybuilt is also selling the Scout project, 16 nearly finished townhomes on 185th Street.
- Summerhill Apartment Communities cancelled plans for a 258-unit development at 14925 Aurora Avenue N due to financing.

These challenges are commonplace across the U.S. CoStar, a leader in providing information on commercial real estate, reported that 88% of developers have experienced construction delays this past fall. The most cited factor was lack of available construction financing. The outlook continues to be bleak. Experts predict the decreased housing production will put upward pressure on rents in most markets across the country.



Comprehensive Plan Update

THE CITY is updating its Comprehensive Plan, the guiding document for Shoreline's future. In late 2023, through an interactive website and survey, we asked community members what would make Shoreline a better place to live. We received 3,892 visits to our website, 322 survey responses, and 153 pins on our interactive map. Thank you to everyone who participated! Survey results are now available online at shorelinewa.gov/shoreline2044.

We are now starting to draft the comprehensive plan and will be asking for your comments. The comprehensive plan update is due at the end of 2024. Be sure you don't miss the chance to have your voice heard. Sign up for project updates at shorelinewa.gov/shoreline2044.

JOIN OUR TEAM!

We're hiring!
Check out our open positions at shorelinewa.gov/jobs

Shoreline recognized as first city to sign Re+ zero waste pledge

IN OCTOBER, King County recognized Shoreline for being the first city in the county to sign the Re+ Pledge. The Re+ Pledge shows the shared commitment of King County and its cities to creating a more equitable and sustainable solid waste system.

Re+ is a reimagining of our regional solid waste system from one that is disposal-based to one focused on reduction, recovery, recycling, and regeneration.

Currently, 70% of what goes into our region's landfill is recyclable. When we throw things away, it adds up to a significant loss of valuable materials and comes at a high human, environmental, and climate cost. Recyclables in the landfill also represent lost opportunities for both local job creation and preserving the health of our region's communities, forests, and waterways.

We can reduce climate impacts, conserve resources, and create a healthier environment for our communities by keeping valuable materials out of the landfill and in use as long as possible. Re+ is a roadmap for making a circular economy, which emphasizes products designed for reuse or recycling. Our approach aims to reinvent the current waste management system to be more resilient, future-focused, and equitable.

City and County Collaboration


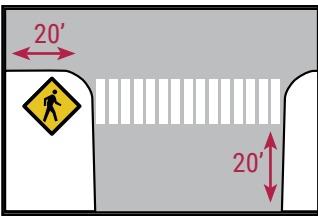
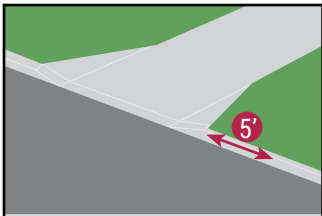
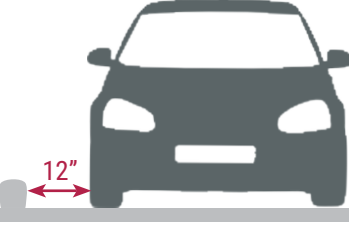
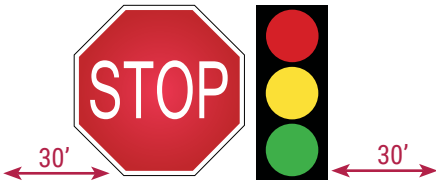
Achieving Re+'s goals by 2030 will require the state, county, and cities to work together. They will need to coordinate and standardize waste and recycling guidelines. The Re+ Pledge, signed first by Shoreline, commits the cities and the county to creating consistent policy across both the county and cities to reduce the amount of recycling and waste that ends up in the landfill.

MORE INFORMATION
kingcounty.gov/re-plus

Parking tips

LATER THIS YEAR, we will begin our new parking enforcement program. To ensure you don't get a parking ticket, please keep these parking tips in mind:

IT IS ILLEGAL TO PARK:

<p>Within 15 feet of a fire hydrant</p> 	<p>Blocking delivery to mailboxes</p> 
<p>Within 20 feet of an intersection or crosswalk</p> 	<p>In front of or within 5 feet of a driveway</p> 
<p>More than 12 inches from the curb</p> 	<p>Within 30 feet (about two car lengths) of a stop sign, yield sign, or traffic signal</p> 

Employee and Team of the Year



Employee of the Year James Wade

EVERY YEAR, Shoreline employees nominate peers for Employee of the Year for exceeding expectations in practicing the City's values, providing exceptional service to the community, and promoting a positive image of the City. The 2023 Employee of the Year is our Senior Public Works Maintenance Worker James Wade. Jim can be counted on for just about any kind of work situation. With his positive outlook and interpersonal skills, he lifts people up even under the toughest circumstances.

In addition to the Employee of the Year, the City also honors the Team of the Year. The 2023 winner was the Prohibited Encampment

Management Team. Shoreline faces the same challenges as other cities in the region with how best to handle the many people who find themselves unhoused in our city. Staff from across the stopCity make up the Prohibited Encampment Management Team, working together to help people find access to housing and services, while also maintaining public space for everyone.

Shoreline Tool Library now open

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!

Shoreline and Lake Forest Park have teamed up with nonprofit Seattle REconomy to create the Shoreline Tool Library. It's like a book library but for tools and other useful items. The Shoreline Tool Library offers many of the tools you need but don't want to buy or store, such as pressure washers, power tools, catering supplies, tables, chairs, party tents, lawn mowers, board games, seeds, toys, and hundreds of other items.

The Shoreline Tool Library also offers discounted used building supplies such as lumber, flooring, hardware, and painting supplies. You can also take classes on topics like sewing basics, intro to power tools, and general home maintenance.

By sharing, reusing, and repairing tools and materials, the Shoreline Tool Library helps our community reduce overall consumption and send less to the landfill. It also creates a welcoming

space for you to access affordable tools, material, and knowledge to repair and maintain your home and household items.

Funding for the Shoreline Tool Library comes from a King County Solid Waste Division Re+ (Zero Waste) Program grant. Re+ is King County's approach to building a healthy environment and economy by reinventing our system of waste management. The goal is to minimize waste by keeping valuable materials in use and out of the landfill.

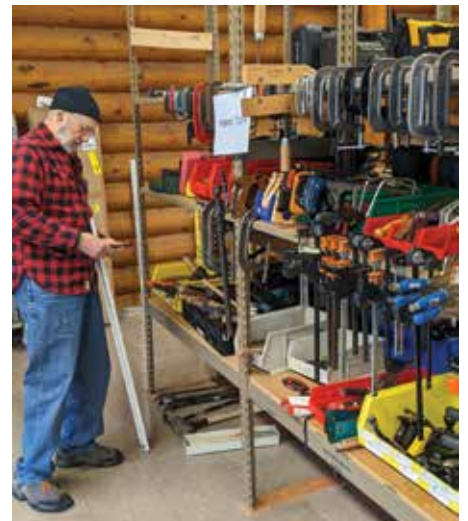
Hours and location

The Shoreline Tool Library is located at the Evergreen RV building (16610 Aurora Ave N). Memberships are on a self-selecting sliding scale starting at \$0/year. All donations are 100% optional, and, except for a few items, loans cost nothing!

Learn more at SeattleREconomy.org or stop in during open hours. The Shoreline Tool Library is open Monday, Wednesday, and Friday from 5:00 to 8:00 p.m., and Saturdays from 9:00 a.m. to noon.

Volunteer

The Tool Library is only able to operate with the help of community volunteers. No experience necessary! For more information about volunteering, email ShorelineTL@seattlereconomy.org.



Inside the Shoreline Tool Library

Donations

The Shoreline Tool Library is also accepting building materials and tool donations. It accepts all working, non-gas-powered tools. Visit seattleREconomy.org for details on what they accept.

MORE INFORMATION

Location: 16610 Aurora Ave N
seattleREconomy.org
206-524-6062
shorelinetl@seattlereconomy.org

Winter is the perfect time to plan your spring garden!

THE CITY offers a \$2,000 rebate to property owners who build a new rain garden or convert lawn or hard surfaces to native plant gardens. These gardens create cleaner waters for salmon, orcas, and other wildlife. They also help fight climate change, solve drainage issues, and beautify our city! And these Pacific Northwest gardens are far less maintenance than grass lawns!

MORE INFORMATION
shorelinewa.gov/soakitup



Before improvements

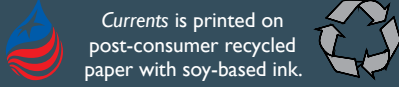


After improvements
partially funded by a Soak It Up rebate

February 2024 Vol. 26 No. 1
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

facebook.com/shorelinewa

twitter.com/shorelinewagov

youtube.com/cityofshoreline



17500 Midvale Avenue N
Shoreline, WA 98133-4905

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

ECRWSS
POSTAL CUSTOMER



SUMMER RESOURCE FAIR

- Summer Camp Information
- Scholarship Applications
- Summer Community Resources
- Fun Children Activities

WEDNESDAY
FEBRUARY 28, 2024



TIME
6:00 - 7:30 PM



SPARTAN RECREATION CENTER
202 NE. 185TH ST. SHORELINE, 98058



To find out more information about our programs
www.shorelinewa.gov/registernow

