



**Meeting Minutes for the Parks, Recreation
and Cultural Services Board Meeting**

September 23, 2010
7:00 p.m.

Shoreline City Hall
Conference Room 301

1. Call to Order

The meeting was called to order at 7:02 p.m. Attendance was taken.

Park Board Members Present: Patricia Hale, William Clements, Boni Biery, Londa Jacques. Jesse Sycuro, Joseph Neiford, Andrew Delgado

Excused: Kevin McAuliffe, Carolyn Ballo

Absent: Ian Fike

City Staff Present: Dick Deal, Director; Kirk Peterson, Park Superintendent; Maureen Colaizzi, Park Project Coordinator; Ros Bird, Public Art Coordinator; Pam Barrett, Recreation Assistant II.

2. Approval of Minutes

Ms. Biery moved and Mr. Sycuro seconded the motion to approve the minutes as written. The motion carried.

3. Approval of Agenda

Mr. Deal requested the agenda be modified to accommodate a Levy Lid Lift presentation. Ms. Hale proposed the item become 4a on the agenda. Mr. Clements moved and Mr. Neiford seconded the motion to accept the amended agenda. The motion carried.

4. General Public Comment

No public present

Ms. Hale shared that she attended the Kayu Kayu Ac Art Dedication on Tuesday, September 21 and the Point Wells public meeting on Thursday, September 23. Both events were well attended.

4a. Maintenance and Operations Levy Presentation

Debbie Terry, Finance Department Director, presented information outlining Proposition 1 which is a Basic Safety, Parks and Recreation, and Community

Services Maintenance and Operation Levy. Following the presentation she passed out a document on Frequently Asked Questions. A copy of the Frequently Asked Questions document can be found in Attachment A.

5. Public Art at Spartan Recreation Center

Ros Bird, Public Art Coordinator, proposed an update regarding the art scheduled to be installed at the Spartan Recreation Center. The first attempt to bring art to the Center was not successful due to issues with the materials. Ms. Bird has proposed using the same artist creating an art piece made of metal to be installed on the ceiling at the entry of the center.

Mr. Clements moved and Ms. Jacques seconded the motion to approve the art installation. The motion carried.

6. Meridian Park Feasibility Study

Three representatives from the Watershed Company presented the results of the Feasibility Study. Three alternatives were reviewed. The preferred alternative was presented for approval.

Mr. Neiford moved and Ms. Biery seconded the motion to approve the preferred alternative. The motion carried.

7. CleanScapes Grant Proposal & Bench Locations

CleanScapes representative John Taylor gave an explanation regarding the Neighborhood Waste Reduction Rewards Project. The winning neighborhoods chose a list of potential projects and CleanScapes picked the option of adding benches along the Interurban Trail south of North 175th Street. The board was asked to approve the addition of five new benches funded by CleanScapes.

Mr. Sycuro moved and Mr. Clements seconded the motion to approve the installation of five new benches along the Interurban Trail. The motion carried.

8. Boeing Creek Park & Open Space/Sunset Park Update

Lynn Houston representing the Friends of Sunset Park shared the group's enthusiasm for the Sunset Park Master Plan calling it an exciting and viable plan. Mr. Deal explained the need to continue to look for grant money and to update the City and Shoreline School District's Joint Use Agreement.

9. Kruckeberg Botanic Garden Master Site Plan

Mr. Deal explained that the City Council approved the Kruckeberg Master Site Plan and that there are plans to move forward with Phase I. The first phase involves creating parking at the garden. This project is scheduled to begin around in early 2011. Phase II includes work on the trails. There is no projected start date for Phase II. There is \$200,000 of Bond money for trail work which will be spent on Phase II.

10. Parks, Recreation and Open Space (PROS) Plan Update

Mr. Deal gave a brief summary of the background of the previous PROS plan and explained next steps and timeline of the current round of plan updating.

Mr. Deal and Ms. Colaizzi began their review of the parks on the evening's agenda. The Board gave their thoughts and feedback on existing park elements and offered ideas for park improvements on the following parks:

- Beautification Areas and Open Spaces
- Darnell Park Open Space
- James Keogh Park
- Innis Arden Reserve
- Strandberg Reserve
- Richmond Beach Saltwater Park
- Kayu Kayu Ac Park
- Interurban Trail
- Shoreline Pool
- Spartan Recreation Center
- Richmond Highlands Recreation Center
- Kruckeberg Botanic Garden

Details of the park review are included in Attachment B.

At 8:55 p.m., Mr. Neiford moved and Mr. Sycuro seconded a motion to extend the meeting until 9:20 p.m. The motion carried.

At 9:20 p.m., Ms. Biery moved and Mr. Neiford seconded a motion to extend the meeting until 9:30 p.m. The motion carried.

11. General Announcements

Mr. Deal thanked each board member for their hard work and passed out framed photos of Bond projects.

Mr. Deal invited those in attendance to participate in the upcoming Arts Crush.

Mr. Deal encouraged board members to attend some or all of the upcoming PROS Plan public meetings. Ms. Colaizzi shared the agenda for the PROS Plan meetings.

Mr. Deal gave a brief report on the successful Cromwell Park Dedication.

12. Meeting Adjourned

Mr. Neiford moved that the Board adjourn. Mr. Sycuro seconded the motion and the motion carried. The Park Board Meeting adjourned at 9:30 p.m.

Signature of Park Board Chair

Date

Signature of Minute Writer

Date

Attachment A: Proposition I – Frequently Asked Questions
Attachment B: PROS Plan Park Review



City of Shoreline - Proposition 1

Basic Public Safety, Parks and Recreation, and Community Services
Maintenance and Operation Levy



Crime prevention



Athletic Fields



Park and trail maintenance

Frequently Asked Questions

When was the last voted regular property tax levy request by the City of Shoreline?

The City of Shoreline has not asked for a voter approved increase in its regular property tax levy since incorporation in 1995. In 2006 voters approved a capital bond levy for the acquisition of open space and park and trail improvements.

What will Proposition 1 do?

If approved by Shoreline voters, the levy will maintain current levels of service for basic public safety programs such as neighborhood police patrols, traffic enforcement in school zones and neighborhoods, the east and west side police storefront offices, crime prevention programs, School Resource Officer program at the Shorewood and Shorecrest High Schools and the Community Service Officer.

It will also provide funding to preserve safe, well maintained parks, playgrounds, playfields, restrooms, play equipment, soccer and baseball fields, the Shoreline pool, and recreation programs for youth, families, and seniors.

This funding would also assist in maintaining community services including the Shoreline Senior center and basic human services.

The levy will not fund any new services, programs or facilities.

What has the City of Shoreline done to reduce costs and assure efficiencies – before going to the voters?

The City of Shoreline has taken aggressive steps to reduce costs and assure efficiency, including more than one million dollars in budget cuts since 2005 and staff reductions. No cost of living raises were paid in 2010 and none are proposed for 2011.

Have local citizens been involved in this process and helping find a solution?

Yes. Realizing that the City was facing long term structural issues financially, the City Council appointed an 18 person Citizens Advisory Committee in 2008.

This Committee spent nearly fourteen months studying City financial information and challenges, including twenty public meetings and 3 community forums, in formulating their final recommendations.

The Committee concluded that while the City should continue to seek savings and efficiencies, they recommended that a levy measure be put before the voters to maintain basic services.



Neighborhood Mini-Grant program



Shoreline Pool



Playground maintenance

If approved by voters, what would be the cost of Proposition 1 for the average Shoreline homeowner?

The average Shoreline homeowner, with an assessed home value of approximately \$325,000 in 2011, would pay \$7.60 more per month to maintain current levels of police and emergency protection, parks and recreation and community services. If approved, any increase in the annual levy would not exceed inflation (Seattle region Consumer Price Index (CPI-U)) for 2012-16.

How would Proposition 1 affect City property tax rates?

Over the last decade, the City of Shoreline's tax rate declined by 25%. Since assessed values increased faster than the 1% limit mandated by I-747, property tax rates were reduced to comply with state law.

Local Levy Rate for Basic Services

2000	\$1.60 per \$1,000	
2001	\$1.52 per \$1,000	I-747 passed
2011 (without levy)	\$1.20 per \$1,000	(25%) decline since 2000
2011 (with levy)	\$1.48 per \$1,000	New rate if approved by voters

The City of Shoreline has always balanced its budget through budget reductions and efficiencies. Cities are required by law to operate under a balanced budget. But, the City has come to a point that further budget reductions mean the reduction or elimination of services.

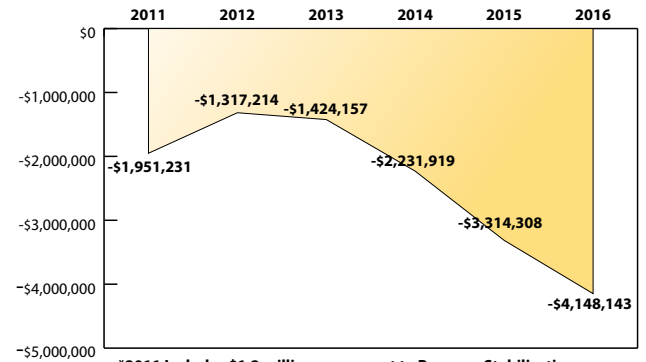
Is the funding shortfall caused by the recession?

No. The City recognized as early as 2005 that the 1% cap from I-747 (property tax measure) would not keep pace with inflation and the expected cost increases for basic city services. This is a long term structural issue facing most jurisdictions in Washington due to the 1% cap. The City has been able to maintain basic service levels through the recession by a combination of budget reductions, efficiencies, and use of emergency reserves. However, the City's reserves have been reduced and can no longer make up the difference. The City will have to make significant additional cuts in basic services to balance its budget if the levy is not approved.

How much of my property tax bill goes to the City of Shoreline?

Approximately 10% of the total property tax bill goes to the City of Shoreline. The other 90% goes to local and state schools, King County, Port District Library District and Fire District.

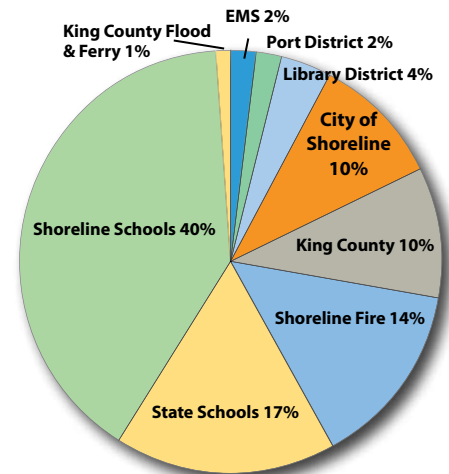
Projected Annual Budget Gaps



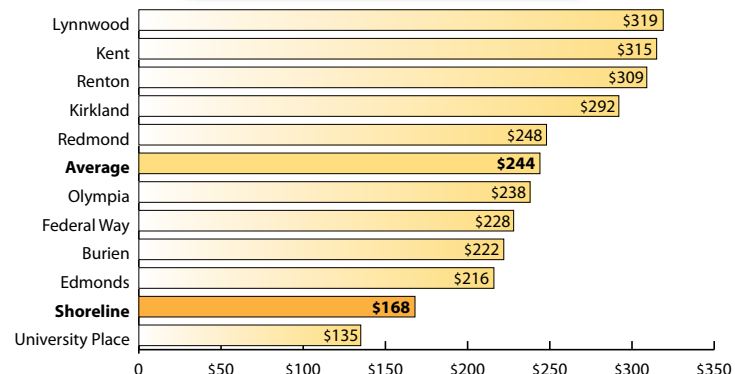
*2011 Includes \$1.2 million repayment to Revenue Stabilization

Residents' 2009 Property Tax Allocations

In 2010 a typical homeowner will pay about 10% of their total property tax bill to the City of Shoreline, which is approximately \$392 for City services.



2008 Police Cost Per Capita





Recreation programs



Neighborhood Police Store-Front



Athletic field maintenance

Why now?

In 2001 Washington voters approved a statewide initiative (I-747) sponsored by Tim Eyman that imposed a 1% annual growth cap on local property taxes for jurisdictions, including the City of Shoreline, unless a new levy is approved by the voters. While the City of Shoreline voters rejected the measure 54% - No to 46% - Yes, the measure passed statewide. Although the initiative was later found to be unconstitutional by the Washington State Supreme Court, the State Legislature voted to re-instate the 1% limitation law. Since assessed values increased faster than 1%, the City's property tax rate had to decline to stay within the 1% cap.

Since passage of the 1% property tax levy cap, inflation has gone up nearly 3 times as fast as the capped level for city property taxes. As a result, funding has not kept pace for these basic city services. (Inflation has increased over 27% in the last ten years while the City's property tax levy, excluding new construction, has increased by just over 9%).

What?	Change since 2000
Inflation	27% increase
Health benefit cost per employee	47% increase
Average cost of gallon of gasoline	65% increase
Cost per therm of natural gas	49% increase
Cost per ton of hot mix asphalt	112% increase
Increase in City Property Tax Levy (excluding new construction)	9.4% increase

Local sales taxes are another revenue source and they have been 5% below inflation, on average, over the last 10 years. Local revenues from casinos have also declined by 46% since the peak in 2004.

In 2009, the Citizens Advisory Committee recommended that the City Council consider proposing a levy to the voters in 2010. In July, the City Council voted to let voters of Shoreline decide on Proposition 1.

Ballot Language

BASIC PUBLIC SAFETY, PARKS & RECREATION, AND COMMUNITY SERVICES MAINTENANCE AND OPERATIONS LEVY

The Shoreline City Council adopted Resolution No. 307 concerning basic public safety, parks and recreation, and community services. If approved, this proposition would maintain current police/emergency protection including neighborhood patrols and crime prevention; preserve safe parks, trails, playgrounds/playfields and the Shoreline pool; and maintain community services including senior center and youth programs.

This proposition would restore Shoreline's property tax rate to \$1.48/\$1,000 of assessed valuation for collection in 2011; limit levy increases for 2012-2016, not to exceed inflation (Seattle CPI- U); and use the 2016 levy amount to calculate subsequent levy limits.

Should this proposition be approved?

YES.....

NO.....

EXPLANATORY STATEMENT

The City of Shoreline has taken aggressive steps to reduce costs and assure efficiency, including more than one million dollars in budget cuts, staff reductions and elimination of cost-of-living pay raises. Since 2001, Shoreline's property tax levy increase has been limited to 1% a year, while inflation has gone up nearly 3 times as fast, and as a result funding has not kept pace for basic City services. If approved, Proposition 1 would maintain current levels of police and emergency services including neighborhood safety patrols, traffic enforcement in school zones and neighborhoods, east and west-side police store-front programs, school safety officer in Shorewood and Shorecrest high schools, enforcement of drug and vice laws, and community crime prevention programs. Proposition 1 would preserve safe, well-maintained and accessible parks and trails; playgrounds and play equipment that meet safety standards, playfields, restrooms and the Shoreline pool; and preserve recreation programs for youth, families and seniors. Proposition 1 would continue funding for community services including the Shoreline senior center and youth programs.

If approved, any increase in the annual levy would not exceed inflation (Seattle region CPI-U) for 2012-2016. Proposition 1 would set the City's property tax rate below the legal limit of \$1.60 at \$1.48/\$1,000 assessed valuation for collection in 2011 and will use the 2016 levy amount to calculate subsequent levy limits. The typical homeowner would pay an additional average of \$9.25 per month to maintain police and emergency protection, parks and recreation and community services.



Senior Center



Youth programs



How long is this levy? How will the levy be determined for the years 2012-2016?

Proposition 1 is a six year levy. Any increase in the levy would be limited to the inflation rate for 2012-16 (Seattle region Consumer Price Index (CPI-U)). Based on regional economists' projections, the average CPI increase over this time will be approximately 2.43% per year.

How does the City of Shoreline's property tax compare to other cities in King County?

Out of the 21 largest cities in King County, Shoreline ranks 18th in the amount of City property taxes paid per person. Total property taxes include local and state schools, King County, Port District and Library District in addition to the City and Fire districts.

Some cities, like Shoreline, belong to fire districts which collect property taxes separately. In this category, Shoreline ranks 14th in the amount of total property taxes paid per person.

How many votes are needed to pass the levy?

A majority of voters (50% +1) is needed to pass the levy.

What happens if Proposition 1 doesn't pass?

The City is asking voters for an increase of \$0.28/\$1,000 to fund basic public safety, parks and recreation and community services. If the measure does not pass, the City will be required to make significant additional cuts to balance the budget.

How does Proposition 1 affect businesses?

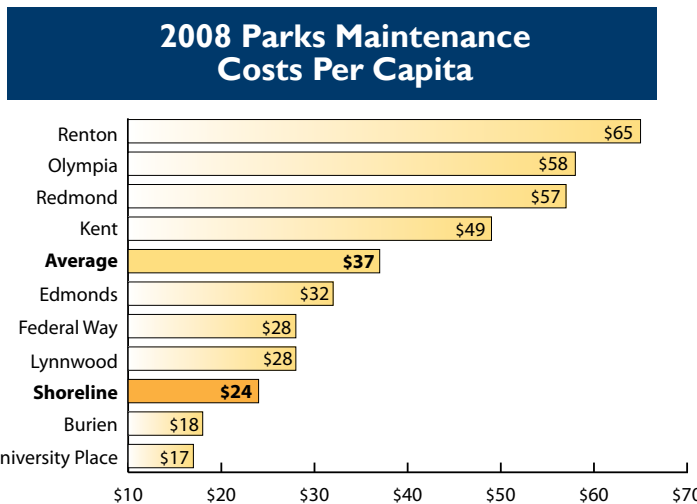
In accordance with state law, commercial property (businesses) are treated the same as residential (homeowners) in terms of the property tax rate per \$1,000 of assessed value.

Approximately 10% of the City's total assessed valuation is from commercial properties; the remaining 90% is residential properties. The amount of property tax paid by both residential and businesses is then determined by their property's assessed valuation.

To give some context for businesses, for each \$1 million in assessed valuation of property they will pay an additional \$280 in property taxes annually.

What about seniors on fixed incomes?

Senior citizens or disabled persons may qualify for tax exemptions or tax deferrals. Contact the King County Assessor's Office at (206) 296-3920 for information.



For more information:
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**Parks, Recreation and Cultural Services Board
Parks, Recreation and Open Space Plan Discussion
6-year and 20-year Draft Considerations
September 23, 2010**

These recommendations are in addition to the staff prepared recommendations they received as part of the presentation materials.

Darnell Park

- Open space more than a park
- Expand view point with picnic tables and Interpretive signage
- Work with storm utility on possible options for restoration

James Keough Park

- Master Plan a priority for this site
- Possible KBG nursery area, demonstration gardens, urban farming or community garden
- Possible OLA
- Possible Spray Park

Innis Arden Reserve

- Vegetation Management Plan
- Consider renaming
- Provide safe pedestrian access to the beach

Strandberg Preserve

- Vegetation Management Plan
- Improve access to Saltwater Park
- Study ownership/easement of driveway access
- Renaming?

Richmond Beach Saltwater Park

- Extend hours for OLA

- Restoration of dunes and intertidal areas

Kayu Kayu Ac Park

- Add more cultural elements
- Have cultural celebrations at the park
- Work with the County to restore wetland and intertidal areas

Interurban Trail

- Echo Lake Trailhead
- Study safety at Ballinger Commons section
- Landscape plan for entire trail
- Replace signs as they are damaged

Kruckeberg Garden

- Programming on and off site
- Off site uses such as nursery locations