# CITY OF SHORELINE CURRENTS

December 2002 Vol. 4 No. 6



Gateway Plan The draft Gateway Policy and Procedure Manual includes design sketches for the top potential gateway sites in Shoreline. The draft manual will be presented to the City Council early next year.

#### **More Inside:**

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# Council to select design for Aurora Corridor

The Shoreline City Council decides this month on a design for the Aurora Corridor Project.

The Shoreline City Council will soon select a design for the Aurora Corridor Project from 145<sup>th</sup> to 165th. According to Shoreline City Manager Steve Burkett, staff will recommend a "Modified Alternative A" to the Council at its Dec. 9 meeting. The City Council meeting begins at 7:30 p.m. in the Mt. Rainier Room at the Shoreline Conference Center, 18560 First Ave. NE.

The Aurora Corridor Project is the City of Shoreline's plan to redesign and redevelop the three miles of Aurora Ave. N (State Route 99) that run through Shoreline to improve pedestrian and motorist safety, traffic flow and economic development potential.

Three alternatives were analyzed and considered in the Draft Environmental Impact Statement (DEIS) for the funded project from N. 145th to 165th Streets: a "no action" alternative and two "build" alternatives. The "build" alternatives both include features such as curbs, gutters, sidewalks and upgrades of storm water facilities.

"Modified Alternative A responds to the concerns raised in the public comment period," Burkett explained. "The changes



The Aurora Corridor Project is the City's plan to redesign the three miles of State Route 99 that run through Shoreline. This view is of Aurora between N. 155th and N. 160th Streets looking north.

we made respond directly to issues identified during the comment period. For example, where there are parking or building issues on bordering properties such as Shay's, CarePlus and Seattle Ski, the modified plan reduces the amenity zone and sidewalk widths to accommodate specific needs."

The plan recommends consid-

See Aurora page 7



More than 100 Shoreline residents turned out for an informational Open House on the North City Business District/15th Ave. NE Corridor Project this fall.

"We were pleased that so many folks came out to learn more about the plans," explains Jan Knudson, Project Lead and City of Shoreline Economic Development Coordinator. "Residents seemed excited about the plans, and we heard clearly their desire for pedestrian safety improvements."

Several information stations

# Christmas Ships at Richmond Beach

#### Wednesday, Dec. 11 Program begins at 7:15 p.m. Ships arrive at 8:20 p.m.

One of Richmond Beach's most popular holiday gatherings is right around the corner. The Christmas Ship will make its way to Richmond Beach Dec. 11 along with Argosy boats, private yachts and other vessels decked out in shimmering lights.

This annual event has become a holiday tradition for Shoreline neighbors, families and friends. Choirs from Syre Elementary and Einstein Middle School will fill the air with song as you wait for the lighted fleet to arrive. Three beach fires will keep you warm and toasty along with hot drinks provided by Shoreline Parks, Recreation and Cultural Services Department and Starbucks. Come celebrate the season.

# No North City Holiday Festival this year

The North City Neighborhood Association and North City Business District will not be holding their annual Tree Lighting Festival this year.

"A combination of circumstances conspired against a festival this year, but we plan on continuing the tradition in 2003," says Charlotte Haines of the North City Neighborhood Association. gave residents a glimpse of the planned changes for the North City Business District and 15th Ave. NE. The project is now in the design phase with construction to begin next year.

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The North City Business District/15th Ave. NE Corridor Project began as a series of capital improvement projects that are now being coordinated into one comprehensive project. The project not only includes improvements to the business district aimed at revitalizing the shopping area, but also rechannelization and pedestrian safety improvements along the entire corridor.

Approximately \$6.4 million has been allocated over the next five years in the City of Shoreline's Capital Improvement Program for design and construction of improvements in the district and along the 15th Ave. NE corridor. This year, \$340,000 is allocated for design.

Knudson asks interested citizens to watch for plenty of updates, notices and news in the first three months of 2003. Another open house will be scheduled this winter, neighborhood meetings will continue and a project newsletter is being developed. Shoreline residents may also sign up for the City's new email subscription service to receive project updates by visiting the North City Business District page under "Projects and Programs" on Shoreline's Web site, www.cityofshoreline.com. See the article on page 7 for more details.

For more information about the project, call the North City project line at (206) 533-2280.



## **Gateways workshop scheduled for January**

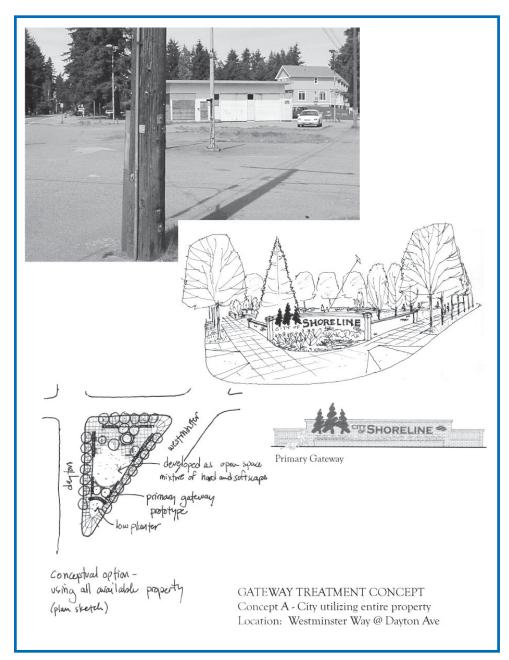
Developing a policy and building welcoming "gateways" at Shoreline entry points is one of the City Council Goals for 2002-2003. Gateways not only act as landmarks, welcoming visitors and establishing a location, but reflect and enhance a sense of community.

Last month, the Planning Commission invited Shoreline residents to a public hearing to comment on the draft Gateway Policy and Procedure Manual and Development Code Amendment.

The Commission shared constructive comments to revise the plan and to strengthen the document's policies. It also recommended approval of the Development Code Amendment allowing sign code exemption for gateways constructed in accordance with the Gateway Manual. Based on the Commission's recommendations, City staff is making minor text modifications to the plan and refining the design sketches for publication in the final Gateway Manual.

The manual includes design sketches for the top six sites that staff recommends be constructed using the City's Capital Improvement Project (CIP) funds during 2003-2005. The Gateway Plan will be presented to the City Council early next year for adoption.

The draft Gateway Policy and Procedure Manual is available for review at Shoreline City Hall Annex, 1110 N. 175th St., Suite 107. For more information about the Gateways project, call Andrea Spencer at (206) 546-1418, or visit the City of Shoreline Web site at www.cityofshoreline.com/ cityhall/projects/gateways/ index.cfm.



The draft Gateway Policy and Procedure Manual includes design sketches for the top six sites staff recommends for construction using 2003-2005 Capital Improvement Program funds. Above is one of the two ideas for a gateway treatment at the corner of Dayton and Westminster. The design sketches as well as the list of possible gateway locations is available on the City's Web site at www.cityofshoreline.com/ cityhall/projects/gateways/index.cfm.



Thanks to a \$35,000 grant through the Washington Traffic Safety Commission, three Shoreline crosswalks will soon have new "Flashing Crosswalks."

The City of Shoreline has identified three sites for a pilot program to install In-Pavement Flashing Lights Crosswalk Warning Systems ("Flashing Crosswalk"). All three crosswalks are frequently used by children to cross major streets; two are in school zones. The crosswlks are located on N. 175<sup>th</sup> St. at Wallingford Ave. N. near Meridian Park Elementary School; N. 155<sup>th</sup> St. at Wallingford Ave. N.

## Plan ahead for winter storms

Winters can be unpredictable here in the Puget Sound region. Our winter storms range from moderate snow over a few hours to heavy snow that lasts several days. A little preplanning now can protect you and your family if high winds and cold temperatures strike over the next few months.

Most winter deaths are caused by car or other transportation accidents and heart attacks caused by overexertion. Many people literally freeze to death in their homes or die from asphyxiation from using fuels such as charcoal briquettes to heat their houses.

Here's what you can do now to prepare for storm season:

• Develop a family disaster plan. Discuss what to do if a storm hits, such as knowing safe routes home from school and work; staying inside the house and making sure pets are safe. Everyone should know what to do if family members are separated.

• Buy and store enough potable water and nonperishable food for several days.

Winterize your car and keep

the gas tank full for emergency use.

• Get a NOAA Weather Radio to monitor severe weather.

• Keep the battery charged on your cell phone.

• Learn how to treat frostbite and hypothermia.

• Make sure each member of the family has a warm coat, gloves, hat and waterproof boots. Keep extra blankets and warm clothing on hand.

• Stock your garage with rock salt and kitty litter to melt ice and provide traction. Keep plywood, plastic sheeting and lumber on hand to patch storm damage.

#### **Protect your property:**

• Make sure your house is properly insulated to conserve electricity and provide protection from freezing temperatures.

• Install storm windows or cover the inside of windows with plastic.

• Know how to shut off water valves.

• Stock up on wood for your fireplace or woodstove.

For more winter storm preparedness tips, visit the Federal Emergency Management Web site at www.fema.gov. near Parkwood Elementary School; and 15th Ave. NE at N. 170th St.

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The Flashing Crosswalk is a series of flashing light units installed on the pavement surface along the crosswalk lines and facing traffic. Its purpose is to warn drivers of the presence of a pedestrian about to cross or already in the crosswalk at uncontrolled intersections.

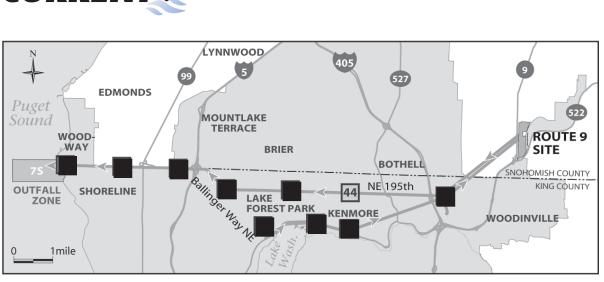
The flashing crosswalk systems to be installed consist of light heads attached to the pavement, a controller and push-button activation devices. The flashing lights are installed perpendicular to the crosswalk across both approaches and across all lanes of traffic to increase visibility and command attention. LED banks (light emitting diodes) provide illumination in each head, which sit behind a clear lens. The system uses a push-button similar to those used in standard traffic signal installations.

Pedestrians activate the system, wait for traffic to clear the crosswalk and come to a stop, and then begin to walk across the street. The flash time is set to allow enough time for a pedestrian to cross the road.

The Flashing Crosswalks are scheduled to be installed by the end of December 2003.







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King County Executive Ron Sim's preferred alternative for Brightwater is Route 9 - 195th System. This is just one of the three systems analyzed in the Draft Environmental Impact Statement. The black squares on the map above represent potential portal locations, although exact locations have not been determined. Each portal area will require one to two acres of land.

## King County issues Draft Environmental Impact Statement for Brightwater

King County has released the Draft Environmental Impact Statement (Draft EIS) for Brightwater, a new wastewater treatment system that is needed by 2010 to serve north King and south Snohomish counties.

The DEIS analyzes the characteristics, impacts and mitigation measures for two potential treatment facility sites, Route 9 in unincorporated Snohomish County and Unocal in Edmonds; three potential conveyance systems; and two marine outfall zones.

Since Shoreline is in the potential siting zone, the City has been closely following the process. Shoreline Mayor Scott Jepsen serves on the siting advisory committee. Although three alternatives are studied in the Draft EIS, King County Executive Ron Sims selected as a preferred alternative Route 9 with a conveyance system running along Shoreline's northern border at the county line with the marine outfall at Point Wells (see map above).

Copies of the Draft EIS are available at area libraries. You may also contact the King County Brightwater Project Team at (206) 684-6799 to request a free CD or purchase a hard copy. You can also view the Draft EIS on the Web at: http://dnr.metrokc.gov/wtd/ brightwater/env/.

King County is accepting comments on the DEIS through Jan. 21, 2003 and is holding a series of public hearings in December. Written comments should be sent to Environmental Planning, KSC-NR-0505, King County Wastewater Treatment Division, 201 S. Jackson St., Seattle, WA 98104-3588.

"It is important for everyone affected by this project to take a look at the Draft EIS and make sure King County hears their concerns and suggestions," says Mayor Jepsen. "The City would also like to hear your concerns. By sending us a copy of the comments you send to the County, we can incorporate and

#### Brightwater Public Hearings

Following are the last two Brightwater public hearings:

Tuesday, Dec. 10 5:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m. Edmonds Floral Conf. Center 201 4th Ave. N., Edmonds

Wednesday, Dec. 11 5:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m. Northshore Utility Dist. office 6830 NE 185th St., Kenmore

reflect the community's ideas in the City's response to the Draft EIS."

For more information about the City's response to the Brightwater Draft EIS, contact Planning Manager Rachael Markle at (206) 546-6778.

## **2003 Shoreline Owner's Manual coming soon**

Keep an eye on your mailbox in early January for the 2003 Owner's Manual: Your Guide to Services and Participation in the City of Shoreline.

The City of Shoreline's Owner's Manual is designed to help you make the most of City services, programs and processes. First published in January 1999,

## **Council schedule**

The City Council meets the first two weeks of December, then is on hiatus for the holidays until its first meeting in 2003, Jan. 6. For the latest Council meeting information, visit the Web site at www.cityofshoreline.com or call the Agenda Line at (206) 546-2190.

The Shoreline City Council typically meets on the first four Mondays each month in the Mt. Rainier Room of the Shoreline Conference Center, 18560 First Ave. NE. All City Council meetings are open to the public and governed by a state law called "The Open Public Meetings Act" (RCW 42.32). At a public meeting, anyone may attend the meeting and observe.

The City Council discusses issues with staff at Workshops which are held on the first and third Mondays of each month starting at 6:30 p.m. Many of these issues will come back to the City Council for action at a later date. Regular Meetings begin at 7:30 p.m. on the second and fourth Mondays of each month. The City Council takes formal action at these meetings, such as approving contracts, awarding bids or passing ordinances.

Council meetings are wheelchair accessible, and reasonable accommodations for individuals with disabilities are available upon request by calling the City Clerk's Office at (206) 546-8919 at least 48 hours before the meeting. TTY service is available at (206) 546-0457. the manual was one idea among many produced by a citizen's task force to bring the City organization closer to the community. This second edition has been revised and expanded to include new information.

"The first manual was very popular and informative," says Mayor Scott Jepsen. "That's why we have updated it and included information on services beyond those the City provides."

The manual is divided into four sections: Inside City Hall, Services, About Shoreline and Directory. **About Shoreline** features a City map, Shoreline's history and local statistics. **Inside City Hall** explains the structure of your City government and the many ways you can help steer the City toward the future. **Services** is the "howto" section: how to apply for a permit; how to register for a parks program; and how to have problems solved, to name just a few. And finally, the **Directory** lists addresses and phone numbers not only for the City of Shoreline, but for other agencies that provide services to our community such as utilities and social services.

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The Owner's Manual will be mailed to all residences and businesses in Shoreline in the first two weeks of January 2003. If you do not receive a copy of the Owner's Manual by the end of January, or would like more information, contact Communications Specialist Susan Will at (206) 546-8323. Since the Owner's Manual will be updated periodically, we also welcome suggestions on how the next issue can be more useful to you.



Shoreline Water Quality Specialist Andy Loch uses a floating fisherman inner tube to measure the lake bottom at Hidden Lake following a recent dredging. Located in Shoreview Park, Hidden Lake's forebay accumulates an average of 180 cubic yards of sediment each year. The sources of sediment are Boeing Creek, channel erosion and impervious roads. Shoreline dredges the lake every one to two years to protect downstream water quality. After dredging, City staff measure the lake contours to determine how the dredging has affected the lake bed.



## **Email subscriptions provide instant updates**

Keeping abreast of City news is now easier than ever through a new email subscription service available to Shoreline residents. The program is part of the City's ongoing communication efforts and allows anyone with email capability to receive regular updates on specific City projects.

Email subscription lists are currently available for the Aurora Corridor Project, Interurban Trail Project and North City Business District/ 15th Ave. NE Corridor Project. To sign up, log on to the City of Shoreline Web site, www.cityofshoreline.com, and go to the Popular Links section on the right side of the screen. Click on "Projects and Programs" to find the Web pages for these projects. On the right side of each project page is a link to subscribe (or unsubscribe) to the email lists.

"Initially, we expect to send email notices when the project Web page has been updated with new information and to let subscribers know about project meetings or open houses," says Communications Specialist Susan Will. "If people find they like gettting information this way, we may add other projects and topics in the future. We want to make sure what we send is useful and welcome suggestions on how this new features can serve people better."

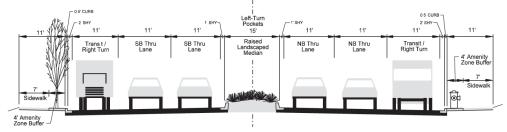
For more information about the email subscription lists, contact Will at (206) 546-8323.

# Aurora Corridor Project

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ering the closure of the eastern leg of the 160th and Aurora intersection to reduce cut-through traffic into the neighborhood and to create a safe crossing for the future Interurban Trail. Modified Alternative A includes seven northbound and seven southbound pockets for U-turns and left turns on the average of every 750 feet. These modifications, which required special State approval, also make the intersections safer for both motorists and pedestrians.

The modified plan includes additional money for storm drainage and electrical hookups for adjacent properties to tie into the underground utilities. The City will also develop a plan to reduce the impacts of construction as much as possible such as using special signage, maintaining business access at all times and maintaining traffic flow.



sed Right-of-W

#### Alternative A-Modified Typical Cross Section at Mid-Block

"We received so many valuable comments from Shoreline citizens during this process," Burkett says. "About 40 people testified at the DEIS public hearing, and more than 70 people submitted written comments. In the Final Environmental Impact Statement (FEIS) we are responding to over 1,000 comments — a big job."

The FEIS will be available by the end of November. Copies will be available for purchase in the City Clerk's Office at City Hall, 17544 Midvale Ave. N. for \$15 for a hard copy or \$3 for a CD. Copies will also be available for review at the City Clerk's Office; Richmond Beach Library, 2402 NW 195th Pl.; Shoreline Library, 342 NE 175th St.; FHWA Washington Division Office, 711 S. Capitol Way, Ste. 501, Olympia, contact Elizabeth Healy (360) 753-8655; and WSDOT Northwest Region Office, 15700 Dayton Ave. N., contact Ben Brown (206) 440-4528.

For more information about the Aurora Corridor Project, call Project Manager Kirk McKinley at (206) 546-3901 or see the Aurora Corridor link under "Projects and Programs" on the City of Shoreline's Web site, www.cityofshoreline.com. Those interested in receiving email updates on the project can subscribe to the Aurora Corridor Project email list on the Web site.



# Who, what, where in the City of Shoreline

### **City of Shoreline**

Shoreline City Hall 17544 Midvale Avenue N. Shoreline, WA 98133-4921 (206) 546-1700 Fax (206) 546-7868

City Hall Annex Home of: • Planning and Development Services Department • Public Works Department Highland Plaza 1110 N. 175th St., Suite 105 Shoreline, WA 98133



Currents is produced by the City of Shoreline Communications and Intergovernmental Relations Department, (206) 546-0779.

Editing, writing & design: Tami Beaumont and Susan Will

Alternate formats available upon request.

### **City Council**

City Councilmembers Mayor Scott Jepsen Deputy Mayor Kevin Grossman John Chang Rich Gustafson Ron Hansen Linda Montgomery Bob Ransom

Meeting Location Shoreline Conference Center 18560 First Ave. NE Mt. Rainier Room

Workshop Meetings First and third Mondays beginning at 6:30 p.m.

Regular Meetings Second and fourth Mondays beginning at 7:30 p.m.

Agenda Line (206) 546-2190

Televised City Council Meetings Cable Channel 21 Wednesday through Sunday 6 a.m., noon and 8 p.m.

#### **Shoreline Police**

#### Emergency: 911

Shoreline Police Station Chief Denise Pentony 1206 N. 185th St. Shoreline, WA 98133 (206) 546-6730

Westside Neighborhood Police Ctr. Officer Leona Obstler 624 NW Richmond Beach Road Shoreline, WA 98177 (206) 546-3636

Eastside Neighborhood Police Ctr. Officer Charlie Akers 521 NE 165th St. Shoreline, WA 98155 (206) 363-8424

#### City of Shoreline Web site

Information about meetings, projects and programs is now available online.

www.cityofshoreline.com

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