

CITY OF SHORELINE CURRENTS

April 2003 Vol. 5 No. 2

Inside



North City Project Update
Shoreline's North City Project
heads to final design and
construction this year. Page

10

More Inside:

Preparing for Disasters 3

Metro Sewer Public Meeting 6

"Owner Will Maintain" Program 7

Shoreline Property Taxes Update 8

New on the Web Site 9

Aurora Update 14



Family emergency preparedness is always practical

The Puget Sound area is prone to a number of situations — earthquakes, severe storms — that make emergency preparedness not just a good idea, but a vital one. Now being prepared to care for yourself and your family in the event of an emergency has become more focused since the Sept. 11 terrorist attacks and the conflict in Iraq.

The City of Shoreline, Shoreline Police Department and Shoreline Fire Department encourage you to take another look at how well you are prepared for an emergency.

"The rule of thumb is to be able to care for yourself and your family for at least 72 hours without outside help," says Shoreline Police Chief Denise Pentony. "The first 72 hours of an emergency are when first responders such as police and fire are the busiest and may be unavailable to offer assistance. This is also the time when utilities outages are most likely."

The facing page is a two-sided flyer with family preparedness tips. The American Red Cross and Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) offer detailed guides on preparing a fam-

ily disaster plan and what supplies you should have on hand. You can order these publications by phone at (800) 480-2520 or via the internet at www.ready.gov or www.redcross.org.

Beyond preparing your family, Shoreline Fire and Police Departments are now offering a class on how neighborhoods can work together in the event of an emergency. See the story about the Community Emergency Response Teams (CERT) training on page 2 for more details.

The City of Shoreline is also prepared with a City Emergency Plan. The City works with the Shoreline Police Department, Shoreline Fire Department, Shoreline School District, utilities and other agencies to continuously improve and update the plan to respond to changing conditions.

"The Shoreline Police Department keeps in close contact with federal, state and other local agencies to evaluate threat levels in our area. While analysts consider our region vulnerable to terrorists attacks, there are no specific or credible threats at this

See Preparedness page 2

Police and fire offer emergency training

Shoreline Fire and Police Departments are offering an eight-week Community Emergency Response Teams (CERT) class beginning Thursday, May 8, from 6:30 p.m. to 9:30 p.m.

CERT is a way for neighborhoods, businesses, schools and other organizations to be prepared for a major disaster – and to find ways to cope during the first few days. The classes will be held on consecutive Thursday evenings through June 19, with an additional class on Saturday, June 21.

“We have urged people to be prepared to take care of themselves for 72 hours in the event of an emergency,” says Shoreline Police Chief Denise Pentony. “With the increased focus on Homeland Security, there is a greater push for everyone to be aware of what they need to do to be prepared.”

CERT classes help people learn how to rely on each other during emergencies, whether it is a major windstorm, an earthquake or an act of bioterrorism. This, in turn, helps police and firefighters do their difficult jobs when disaster strikes.

The CERT class, to be held at Fire Department Headquarters, 17525 Aurora Ave. N., is available to the Shoreline general public. It will be taught by Shoreline firefighters and police officers. Class content includes information and hands-on experience in basic fire suppression, triage and disaster first aid, light search and rescue, psychological effects of disasters, and personal, family and neighborhood preparedness.

Students must be willing to attend all eight sessions and to pay a \$25 fee for approved safety equipment. Hands-on instruction will be conducted at the Shoreline Fire Department Training Center and will include light lifting, search and rescue, use of a fire extinguisher, basic medical treatment and a session on CERT and terrorism.

The CERT Web site, accessed through www.fema.gov or www.ready.gov contains complete

descriptions of CERT and how it can help communities, businesses and schools prepare for disasters. FEMA's new and updated citizen emergency preparedness manual, *Are You Ready* is available by calling 1-800-480-2520 and asking for publication H-34.

If you would like to register or have further questions about Shoreline CERT classes, please call Shoreline Fire's Community Education Division at (206) 533-6564.

City communication during emergency situations

1. Emergency Alert System: The City of Shoreline can request that King County activate the Emergency Alert System which immediately interrupts television and radio broadcast to warn of an emergency situation and provide necessary instructions. One thing individuals can do to make sure they hear an alert is to purchase a weather band radio with a Storm Alert feature. The Storm Alert alarm sounds when activated by the National Weather Service in the event of pending severe storms or an emergency condition. This is tied to the Emergency Alert System. The radio does not have to

be playing to sound the alarm.

2. Shoreline Web Site and Government Access Channel 21: If possible, the City of Shoreline will provide information through www.cityofshoreline.com, and over the government access cable channel 21. These means of providing information are limited by staff time and the availability of electricity and cable.

3. Public Address System from Official Vehicles: If necessary, the City of Shoreline will send official vehicles to make announcements via a public address system. This method would most likely be used for evacuations.

Preparedness from page 1

time,” says Chief Pentony. “But we need residents to be our eyes and ears in the community. Residents are urged to be aware of their surroundings and notify the police by calling 911 if there is something that seems out of place.”

For more information about

rankings for potential emergencies in Washington State, visit the Washington Military Department Emergency Management Division's state hazard analysis online at <http://www.wa.gov/wsem/3-map/a-p/hiva/update-analysis/update-analysis.htm>.

Preparing your family for a disaster

Being prepared for emergency situations can go a long way toward lessening the impact to you and your family. Following are suggestions courtesy of the American Red Cross and the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) on how to prepare for disasters.

Be prepared...

Create a disaster plan...and practice it.

- Discuss the types of disaster that are most likely to happen and what to do in each case.
- Pick two places to meet: one immediately outside your home for sudden emergencies like fire and one outside your neighborhood in case you can't return home.
- Designate an out-of-state contact. After a disaster it is often easier to call long distance. In a disaster, family members should call this contact to tell them where they are.
- Discuss what to do in an evacuation. Plan how to take care of your pets.

Complete this checklist:

- Post emergency phone numbers by phones.
- Teach children how and when to call 911.
- Teach each family member how and when to turn off utilities.
- Teach each family member how to use the fire extinguisher and where it is kept.
- Install smoke detectors on each level of your home, especially near bedrooms.
- Conduct a home hazard hunt and fix potential hazards. Home hazards are anything that can fall, break or cause a fire.
- Stock emergency supplies and assemble a Disaster Supplies Kit.
- Take a Red Cross first aid and CPR class.
- Determine the best escape routes from your home. Find two ways out of each room.
- Find the safe spots in your home for each type of disaster.

Disaster Supply Kit

Keep enough supplies in your home to meet your needs for at least three days. Store these supplies in sturdy, easy-to-carry containers such as backpacks, duffle bags or covered trash containers.

Include:

- A three-day supply of water (one gallon per person per day) and food that won't spoil.
- One change of clothing and footwear and one blanket or sleeping bag per person.
- A first aid kit that includes family prescription medications.
- Emergency tools including a battery-powered radio, flashlight and extra batteries.
- A set of car keys and a credit card, cash or traveler's checks.
- Sanitation supplies.
- Items for infant, elderly or disabled family members.
- An extra pair of glasses.
- Keep important family documents in a waterproof container.
- Keep a smaller kit in the trunk of your car.

Preparing your family for a disaster

If disaster strikes...

Remain calm and patient. Put your disaster plan into action.

Check for injuries. Give first aid and get help for seriously injured people.

Listen to your battery powered radio for news and instructions. Evacuate, if advised to do so. Wear protective clothing and sturdy shoes. Take your Disaster Supplies Kit.

Check for damage in your home

- Use flashlights. Do not light matches or turn on electrical switches if you suspect damage.
- Check for fires, fire hazards and other household hazards.
- Sniff for gas leaks, starting at the water heater. If you smell gas or suspect a leak, turn off the main gas valve, open windows and get everyone outside quickly. Shut off any other damaged utilities. (Turn off the utilities only if you suspect damage or if you are instructed to do so. If you turn the gas off, you will need a professional to turn it back on.)
- Clean up spilled medicines, bleaches, gasoline and other flammable liquids immediately.

Remember to...

- Confine or secure your pets.
- Call your family contact — do not use the phone again unless it is a life-threatening emergency.
- Check on your neighbors, especially elderly or disabled persons.
- Make sure you have an adequate water supply in case water service is cut off.
- Stay away from power lines.

To find out more about preparing your home, family and business for emergencies, call FEMA at (800) 480-2520 or write: FEMA, P.O. Box 2012, Jessup, MD 20794-2012. Emergency preparedness publications are also available on FEMA's Web site, <http://www.fema.gov> and the American Red Cross Web site, <http://www.redcross.org>.

Who to call

911

**Emergency
Fire, Medical &
Police Assistance**

And to report
dangerous situations or
contact a police officer

**Shoreline Police Dept.
Non-Emergency
(206) 296-3311
(206) 546-6730**

**Shoreline Fire Dept.
Non-Emergency
(206) 533-6500**

**City of Shoreline
(206) 546-1700**

Call Shoreline's 24-hour
Customer Response Team
to report roadway, drain-
age system or other City
infrastructure damage.

**Seattle City Light
(206) 684-3000
(206) 706-0051**

Call either number to
report power outages and
hear recorded outage
information.

**Puget Sound Energy
(888) 225-5773**

Call to report gas leaks.

Bond Advisory Committee begins work

The Shoreline City Council has appointed 24 community volunteers to serve on the City's new Bond Advisory Committee.

The Committee is responsible for providing recommendations to the City Council for capital improvement projects for a potential bond issue vote in the spring of 2004. The committee will work with staff, consultants and the public to review and prioritize possible projects and to determine the feasibility of financing projects through bonds.

"The Bond Advisory Committee may find that the needed projects, timing and financial issues do warrant a voter-approved bond issue, or they may find that

there are improvements that need to be made but that the timing or scale of the improvements do not warrant a public vote," says Shoreline Deputy City Manager Bob Olander. "The City has no forgone conclusion, but wants to explore this issue to find out what the best options are for the future."

The first Bond Advisory Committee meeting was March 31. The group is expected to meet seven more times through September. Public open houses and a community survey conducted this summer will be part of the Committee's review process.

Thank you to the following community members who have

volunteered to serve on the Bond Advisory Committee: Larry Blake, Michael Broilli, William Clements, Raymond Coffey, Brenda Crist, Stan Diddams, Jim Doherty, Kennie Endelman, Darlene Feikema, Sally Granger, Patricia Hale, Starla Hohbach, Christopher Kuehn, Paul Lesh, Jeffrey Lewis, Paul Mack, Bonnie Mackey, Richard Matthews, Sydell (Sis) Polin, Jeff Pozarski, Cindy Ryu, Jim Shea, Kellie Swenson and Shari Winstead.

For more information about the Bond Advisory Committee, contact Parks, Recreation and Cultural Services Director Wendy Barry, who serves as project manager, at (206) 546-5041.

Council appoints PRCS Advisory Committee

Five Parks, Recreation and Cultural Services (PRCS) Advisory Committee members and one alternate were confirmed at the March 24 City Council meeting.

The PRCS Advisory Committee advises the City Council and City staff on a variety of parks and recreation issues including plans and policies, park operation and design, program activities, property acquisition and development of rules and regulations.

Welcome back to Michael Broilli, Larry Blake, Margaret Boyce, Patricia Hale and Londa Jacques who were reappointed to another term. Welcome to William Martin, the committee's new alternate.

Members of the PRCS Advisory Committee are appointed by the City Council for four-year terms with one alternate member

serving a two-year term. Committee members are all volunteers who live, work or own property in the City of Shoreline.

The four other committee members whose terms expire in 2005 are Carolyn Ballo, Herb Bryce, William Clements and Dwight Stevens.

The PRCS Advisory Committee meets eight times a year on the

fourth Thursday of the month from 7:00 to 9:00 p.m. Meetings are scheduled for January through July and September. The committee may call additional meetings if necessary.

For more information about the PRCS Advisory Committee, contact Shoreline Parks, Recreation and Cultural Services Department at (206) 546-5041.

Owner's Manual Correction

In the new edition of the City of Shoreline's Owner's Manual, the phone number for the Richmond Highlands Recreation Center is incorrect. The correct number is (206) 542-6511. We apologize for the inconvenience this causes.

Public meeting, tests planned for Hidden Lake Pump Station, sewer improvements

A contractor for King County's Wastewater Treatment Division will be conducting soil and groundwater investigations in April and May in west Shoreline. King County will use the information in designing its Hidden Lake Pump Station, a storage pipe and nearby sewers.

Also, King County will hold a community meeting on **Wednesday, April 30**, to discuss project details and get public comment on landscape and facility design, such as site layout, aesthetics and appearance of aboveground facilities. The meeting is scheduled to run from 6-8:30 p.m. at the Richmond Beach Congregational Church, 1512 N.W. 195th St.

King County protects public health and water quality by conveying and treating the region's wastewater. The pump station serves part of Shoreline and collects sewage from the Ronald

Wastewater District and Highlands Sewer District.

Project engineers have determined that King County must replace the aging pump station and part of the Boeing Creek trunk sewer. King County also needs to build an underground wastewater storage pipe to help limit overflows to nearby Puget Sound. Construction is tentatively scheduled to run from 2004-2006.

What to expect during testing

Beginning the week of March 31, the contractor will use a drilling truck to gather soil and groundwater data. The work will take about eight weeks, and no weekend work is planned.

Work will take place according to City of Shoreline standards along selected street rights-of-way from King County's Richmond Beach Pump Station at NE 198th St. and Richmond Beach Dr. south to about 10th Ave. NW and Innis

Arden Way.

King County will get the permission of property owners if it needs to conduct tests outside the public right-of-way. Nearby residents and property owners will receive a map and other information about the project.

The drilling truck will operate from 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. weekdays. The work crew will spend about half a day at each location. During work hours, nearby residents and park users may hear some equipment noise.

When the crew finishes its work, workers will cover each test hole. The crew will clean the site and haul away all excavated material.

For more information, contact Jennifer Kauffman at King County's Wastewater Treatment Division at (206) 263-6029 or visit the project Web page at <http://dnr.metrokc.gov/wtd/projects/hiddenlake.htm>.

Celebrate Earth Day with natural yard care

In celebration of Earth Day on April 26, the City of Shoreline and Central Market invite you to explore natural yard care for use year-round.

Shoreline residents are invited to try techniques that will reduce pollution and save money Saturday, April 26, from 9:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. at Central Market (15505 Westminster N.). Volunteers from the King County Master Recycler Composter and the Master Gardener Programs will provide educational resources and answer questions.

You can learn how to:

- Build healthy soil with compost and mulch;
- Plant right for your site;
- Practice smart watering;
- Think twice before using pesticides; and
- Practice natural lawn care.

Free samples of natural yard care products and a "Good Bug Guide" will be available, plus compost bins will be for sale for only \$15 each to Shoreline residents.

For more information, contact Shoreline Customer Response Team at (206) 546-1700.



Dogs must be on leash in Shoreline parks

Warmer weather will soon inspire more visitors to Shoreline parks. As you take advantage of the change in season to enjoy the outdoors, the City of Shoreline reminds you that dogs must be on leash at all times in City parks.

Shoreline receives regular complaints from residents about dogs running free in parks, knocking down children and older adults, and generally making people feel less safe.

"This law ensures everyone can enjoy our parks in comfort and safety – including dogs," explains Shoreline Parks, Recreation

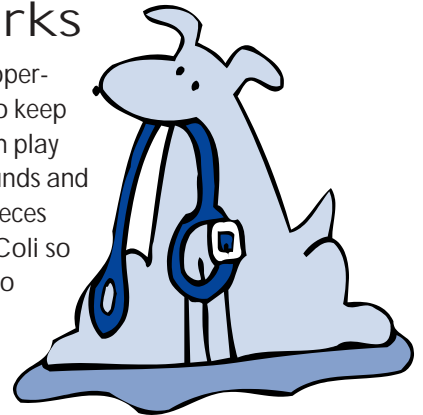
and Cultural Services Director Wendy Barry. "By keeping your dog on leash, you not only protect other park visitors from unwanted advances from your dog, but keep your dog safe."

The City is collaborating with King County Animal Control to begin unannounced patrols in Shoreline parks. Animal Control Officers will issue \$66 tickets for violations of the City's leash laws. Animal Control Officers will also have brochures listing parks in Seattle, King County and Edmonds where dogs can lawfully be off leash.

Dog owners are also reminded

to be good pooper-scoopers and to keep dogs away from play fields, playgrounds and beaches. Dog feces can spread E. Coli so the City needs to minimize the chance of children coming in contact with it while playing.

For more information about the Shoreline Parks Ordinance, call the Shoreline Parks, Recreation and Cultural Services Department at (206) 546-5041.



Spring weed control program in Shoreline

This month marks the beginning of the City of Shoreline's annual roadside weed control program which includes the application of small amounts of herbicides on a carefully controlled basis.

The City sprays street shoulders on an alternating two year cycle: areas west of Aurora Ave N are sprayed one year and areas east of Aurora Ave. N. are sprayed the following year. The eastside of the City will be sprayed this year.

Herbicide applications are designed to keep road shoulders safe for bicyclists and pedestrians, prevent root systems from damaging roadways and reduce sod buildup that causes road flooding



and icy conditions in winter. Weed control also reduces fires that can ignite uncontrolled vegetation and overgrowth that can cause accidents due to reduced visibility.

Residents may request that the spraying not take place along their property. Those residents must sign an agreement with the City to maintain the right-of-way themselves and post "Owner Will Maintain" signs provided free by the City. Maintenance agreements must be completed and returned to the City Public Works Department's Operations Division before "Owner Will Maintain" signs can be issued.

Maintaining one's own road shoulder may require very little

work, depending on the amount of vegetation along the edge of the asphalt. Vegetation can be controlled using non-toxic methods such as edging and mulching.

The maintenance agreement is available by calling (206) 546-1700 or by visiting the City's Web site at the Weed Control article at <http://www.cityofshoreline.com/cityhall/departments/public/streets>.

Thanks Gerber Towing

The City of Shoreline thanks Gerber Towing for its volunteer service to the Neighborhood Traffic Safety Program (NTSP). At no charge, Gerber Towing is relocating the radar reader boards to neighborhoods participating in the NTSP. The NTSP helps neighborhoods address traffic concerns on non-arterial streets. For more information about the NTSP, contact the Shoreline Customer Response Team at (206) 546-1700.

2003 Property Tax in the City of Shoreline

The City of Shoreline 2003 property tax levy rate is \$1.36 per \$1,000 of assessed value, which is

5% below the 2002 rate of \$1.43. The annual levy rate has been dropping for the last four years.

without voter approval.

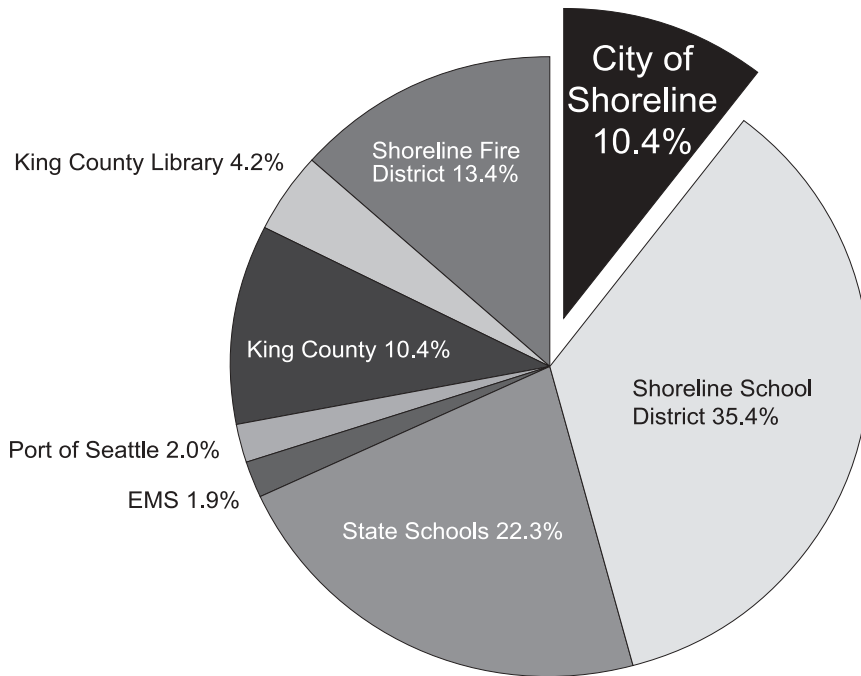
This limitation does not apply to any new construction that occurs during the year. Shoreline's total taxable property value increased by 6.5%, causing the City's levy rate to fall by 5% to \$1.36.

The levy rate is applied to the City's total taxable property value to determine the annual property tax levy. The City cannot increase its annual levy by more than 1%

Where does your property tax go?

The City of Shoreline is only one of the taxing agencies that collect property taxes from local residents. Typically, the City receives about 10% of the total property taxes paid in Shoreline.

The City's share of property tax paid by Shoreline residents has decreased from 10.8% to 10.4%. In 2002, voters approved levies that went into effect in 2003 for the Shoreline School District, Shoreline Fire District and King County Library District. The 2003 Port of Seattle budget approved on Nov. 26, 2002, includes an increase in the Port's property tax levy from 19 cents to 26 cents per \$1,000 assessed valuation. The Port is permitted to levy up to 45 cents per \$1,000.



Impact of property tax on typical City of Shoreline homeowner

Year	Home Value	City's Levy Rate	Annual Property Tax Paid to the City
2002	\$240,000	\$1.43 Per \$1,000 of Value	\$344.30
2003	\$262,000	\$1.36 Per \$1,000 of Value	\$354.82
Average Increase/Decrease	+9%	-5%	+3%

www.cityofshoreline.com

New on the City of Shoreline's Web site

If you haven't visited the City of Shoreline Web site, www.cityofshoreline.com, lately, it has a few new features you might want to check out.

Permit Submittal Packets

Under City Permits, you will now find submittal documents available for downloading attached to the individual permit definitions.

The permit types are listed on the right hand column on the City Permits page at <http://www.cityofshoreline.com/cityhall/permits/index.cfm>. When you click on the permit type you want (A, B, C or L), it will take you to a list of definitions. At the end of each definition there is a link called Submittal Packet that takes you to a list of downloadable documents needed for applying for that type of permit.

"The City wants to make the permit process as easy as possible and we hope this can save some people the time it would take to visit City Hall," explains Planning and Development Services Director Tim Stewart.

For more information about Shoreline permits, contact Shoreline Planning and Development Services at (206) 546-1811.

Traffic Count Program

For the past four years, the City of Shoreline's Annual Traffic Count Program has collected traffic data from a variety of locations throughout the City. The traffic data includes information about

average traffic volumes, intersection turning movements and traffic speeds.

Now you can get the traffic counts and spot speeds on Shoreline's Web site from the Traffic Count Program page, <http://www.cityofshoreline.com/cityhall/projects/trafficcount/index.cfm>. For more information about the Traffic Count Program, contact Project Manager Kris Overleese at (206) 546-1700.

Comprehensive Plan

Adopted in 1998, the Comprehensive Plan is a guide for Shoreline's physical, economic and social development over the next 20 years and is required by the State Growth Management Act (GMA). The Plan contains land use designations and a policy framework that provide direction for the physical development and redevelopment of the City.

Now you can view the plan organized by chapters online by clicking the Comprehensive Plan link on the Planning and Development Services page, <http://www.cityofshoreline.com/cityhall/departments/planning/index.cfm>.

The annual Comprehensive Plan Amendment Process is also explained online and includes a downloadable amendment application.

For more information about Shoreline's Comprehensive Plan, contact Shoreline Planning and Development Services at (206) 546-1811.

Web site use survey

The redeveloped City of Shoreline Web site debuted a year ago. Since then, the City has continued to look for ways of making it more valuable to users.

By taking just a few minutes to complete the survey online, you help the City tailor the Web site to fit the community's needs. The survey is accessed through the Home Page at www.cityofshoreline.com.

For more information about the City's Web site or the survey, contact Communications Specialist Susan Will at (206) 546-8323.

Email subscription lists

Although this new feature was mentioned in the last issue of *Currents*, it bears repeating. You can now subscribe to receive project updates via email. Four projects currently have subscription lists: Aurora Corridor, Interurban Trail, North City Business District and Richmond Beach Overcrossing Bridge.

To subscribe (or remove your name from the email list) simply follow the links on each of these projects special pages, or go to <http://www.cityofshoreline.com/directory/email/index.cfm>.

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



Shoreline's North City Project begins final design, heads to construction this year

Dedicated neighbors and business owners in North City will soon see their hard work pay off when the North City Project begins construction later this year.

Soon after incorporation, the North City neighborhood and business associations began working with the City to develop a plan to make their vision for a revitalized business district a reality. The City committed to investing in infrastructure improvements – sidewalk, roadway and streetscape improvements – that would stimulate business and attract new development. Now the City begins the visible delivery of that promise.

"Everybody just can't wait for this project to begin," says

Gretchen Atkinson, a North City Business Association member who has been very active in the project. "People are even excited about the paint on the sidewalks (from the surveying) because it means something is happening."

Shoreline City Council approved the project scope for the North City Business District/15th Ave. NE Corridor Project at its Feb. 24 meeting. The project has moved into final design and the City expects construction to begin by the end of the year.

The North City Project began as a series of capital improvement projects that were folded into one comprehensive project. The project not only includes improvements to the commercial area aimed at revitalizing the shopping district, but also rechannelization and pedestrian safety improvements along the entire corridor.

"As we work on final design, we will continue to meet with business owners to discuss details about driveway access, parking and other issues," says Project Manager Jan Knudson. "We'll also be meeting with individual groups to discuss neighborhood

traffic mitigation."

Approximately \$5.96 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. KPG, a engineering firm specializing in mainstreet improvement projects like North City, is under contract to design the improvements.

With the help of residents, business owners and potential developers, the City of Shoreline completed the North City Subarea Plan in 2001 to encourage redevelopment of this neighborhood business district. The plan is not only designed to attract new developers and businesses to the area, but to improve the retail climate and the streetscape for existing businesses. The plan includes coordinated street and sidewalk improvements to enhance the streetscape, new street lighting and underground utilities.

Besides investing in the improvements, the City is offering other incentives to attract redevelopment such as a streamlined environmental process and a tax ex-

See North City page 13



Project Information
(206) 533-2280
northcity@ci.shoreline.wa.us

Emailed Updates
Subscribe to receive project updates via email at:
www.cityofshoreline.com/directory/email/index.cfm

Neighborhood traffic calming in North City

Shoreline City Council adopted the North City Subarea Plan as an amendment to the Comprehensive Plan in 2001. Ordinance 281 adopting the plan outlines neighborhood traffic mitigation for North City. Ordinance 281 mitigation includes:

- Traffic calming devices such as traffic circles and other improvements east of 15th Ave. NE on NE 168th St. and NE 177th St.
- Sidewalk connections on NE 175th St.

- Closure of NE Serpentine Pl. between NE 175th and 177th Streets.

- Removal of the centerline stripe along 10th Ave. NE.
- Monitoring of neighborhood traffic in areas west of 15th Ave. NE.

City staff are meeting with individual groups to discuss and review these plans. The goal is to begin construction of the traffic calming devices late summer 2003.

Baseline traffic monitoring on the east side of I-5 has been completed. This information will be used to compare traffic volume and pattern changes after construction is completed to determine if additional traffic calming devices are needed in surrounding neighborhoods. The follow-up traffic monitoring will be conducted approximately six months to a year after all construction in North City is complete.

See Traffic Calming page 13

Features of Shoreline's North City Project

The North City Project began as three different capital improvement projects that were merged because of location. By completing them together, the City can save time, money and effort, and reduce construction impacts to the surrounding area. Here's a brief look at what is planned for North City:

North City Business District: NE 172nd to 180th Streets

- Reconfigure the four-lane 15th Ave. NE to three lanes: one through-lane in each direction with a center two-way left-turn lane
- 10-foot sidewalks with street trees surrounded by grates
- Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) compliant curb ramps
- Underground utilities
- Improved lighting
- Amenities such as bike racks and trash containers
- Decorative pavement
- Public art opportunities
- Intersection sidewalk bulb-outs to provide holding areas for pedestrian crossings and sight distance so pedestrians can see past parked cars



A typical cross-section of 15th Ave. NE in the North City Business District

Neighborhood Traffic Mitigation: Ordinance 281

- Traffic calming devices such as traffic circles and other improvements east of 15th Ave. NE on NE 168th St. and NE 177th St.
- Sidewalk connections on NE 175th St.
- Closure of NE Serpentine Pl. between NE 175th and 177th Streets
- Removal of the centerline stripe along 10th Ave. NE
- Monitoring of neighborhood traffic in areas west of 15th Ave. NE (The project budget reserves \$150,000 for traffic calming to quickly respond to the monitoring results.)

15th Ave. NE Pedestrian Safety Improvements (south of 172nd)

- Reconfigure 15th Ave. NE to three lanes from NE 172nd to NE 150th Streets
- ADA compliant curb ramp improvements
- New traffic signal at NE 150th St.
- New pedestrian signal at NE 147th St.
- Pavement overlay to allow re-striping

Remodeling, rebuilding boom in North City

Although Shoreline will not begin construction on North City capital improvements until late this year, many neighborhood businesses have already completed or are working on improvements of their own.

"It is encouraging to see so many people taking pride and re-investing in their businesses as we head toward final design and construction of the North City improvements," says Shoreline Mayor Scott Jepsen. "That is exactly what we hoped the City's investment in the area would stimulate and it is exciting to see it happen even before construction has started."

Gary East is one of the property owners who recently invested in a new building.



"The City of Shoreline is doing what cities are supposed to be doing in terms of helping the economic growth while maintaining positive and beneficial control," says East. "I have been impressed by the efforts and resources the City has put into this plan, but even more by the sincerity of the people at the City who are working on it – they are truly sincere about working with us to make this happen."

East said he had told the contractors who worked on his project that they should expect



Gary East's new office building (above) is just one of many new faces in North City's business district. The Meditation Center (lower left) was recently remodeled and Glen's Deli (facing page) is currently under construction. Other businesses with new looks include Leena's, Suni's Pizza and the North City Office Building.

Shoreline's permit process to be a better experience than what they were used to in other cities.

"And the contractors were amazed," said East. "I could have just been whistling in the wind, but it turned out that the City delivered on its promises."

East's new building is on the west side of 15th Ave. NE between NE 175th and 180th Streets. On the lower floor which faces the back of the building is his law office and Puget Sound Alarm Company. The street side of his building was designed for an internet café-type business according to neighborhood desires expressed during the planning process. East has a potential tenant who he thinks will not only be perfect for the building, but a great addition to the community. Besides internet access, the new business will specialize in coffee, bakery goods and a small lunch menu. East said the new tenants hope to open shop early this summer.

"These people have been very

successful at what they do elsewhere and are very community spirited," East says. "Among other plans, one of the first things they want to begin is free Wednesday night internet access and instruction for seniors, which is something the neighborhood said it was interested in."

Besides the street, sidewalk and landscape improvements the City is building in North City, Shoreline is offering other incentives for potential developers interested in investing in North City.

One incentive is a streamlined permitting process through an environmental review tool called the Planned Action Environmental Impact Statement (EIS). The EIS completed by the City in 2001 provides impact analysis of proposed land uses so that any future project consistent with the Plan can move through the per-

See Building Boom page 13

Building boom from page 12

mitting process more quickly and easily.

As another incentive to revitalization, the City adopted a tax exemption program in November 2002 for new multifamily development projects. The program is designed to provide a 10-year property tax exemption for new multifamily residential improvements in the North City Business District.

This exemption enhances the viability of new projects and will encourage additional reinvestment by existing business owners. It will also bring new residents to the area to purchase goods and services from local businesses.

It looks like the first developer to take advantage of both incentives the City is offering will be Catherine Tamaro. Tamaro specializes in affordable housing and is planning to build 89 new multifamily units on the southwest corner of 15th Ave. NE and NE 180th St. The plan is for a five-story building with underground parking that is consistent with the land uses in the North City Subarea Plan. This will allow her to take advantage of the streamlined environmental process.

"North City was attractive because of the incentives offered by the City plus the location meets many of the criteria set out by those who provide funding for this type of project," explains Tamaro. "Our project is also a little unique because it includes more three-bedroom units which can be hard to find."

Some of the more attractive

aspects of the location are that it has appropriate density zoning, services such as Safeway and Walgreen's are within walking distance, it is within a business district and it is near bus service.

Tamaro is nearly done securing financing and the architects plan to submit permit applications to the City in May 2003.

A recent article on the Seattle-King County Association of Realtors Web site said this about Shoreline's tax exemption:

"Shoreline's ordinance is an excellent example of promoting housing, protecting neighborhoods and stimulating the economy - the goals of the REALTOR® Quality of Life campaign.

North City from page 10

emption for new multifamily developments (see related story).

"It is great to see all the changes business owners are already making," says Atkinson. "These are all people that are excited about the improvements the City is going to do so they have

Traffic calming from page 11

"People may take many different routes to avoid construction and may continue to use those routes for awhile after construction is complete," explains Project Manager John Vicente. "By giving traffic time to settle after construction is complete, it allows us to accurately judge what true driving patterns are likely to be."

The tax exemption will attract investment - an important factor in this sluggish economy. The creation of new, quality housing will, in turn, create a sound economic base for future commercial investments and job opportunities. In addition, focusing compact residential growth in a specific area will protect neighborhoods and reduce community opposition to new housing."



invested in remodels, new buildings and new signs. We've even had five new businesses join the association which is significant for a small group like ours. It tells me that people are excited about the future."

The North City Project budget reserves \$150,000 for additional post-construction traffic calming measures.

"We're holding this money in reserve so we can respond quickly to any traffic concerns raised by the follow-up monitoring," says Project Lead Jan Knudson. "We also hope to place any project savings into this reserve."

AURORA

CORRIDOR

SHORELINE



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. Aurora Ave. N. between N. 145th and 205th Streets lacks consistent sidewalks, effective storm drainage, adequate roadway lighting, and has

been identified by the Washington State Department of Transportation as one of the most dangerous stretches of state highway in Washington.

"Aurora is not just the largest street in Shoreline, it is the center of our City," says Shoreline Mayor Scott Jepsen. "Improving it will

have long-lasting, positive impacts for the entire community."

Shoreline's section of Highway 99 carries about 45,000 vehicles per day and is a major transit and commerce route. It also has one of the highest accident rates of any highway in the state, averaging one fatality per year.

Improving safety for both pedestrians and motorists is one of the driving forces behind the project. Other goals are improving traffic flow, improving economic development potential, enhancing the livability of adjacent neighborhoods and supporting the goals and vision for this corridor that the community has expressed since before incorporation.

The City of Shoreline has nearly \$24 million in federal, state and a local fund committed to the project, and is pursuing the additional funds needed for completion of the project.

While the City has a vision to improve the entire three miles of Aurora, its current project is for the first mile between N. 145th and 165th Streets. At its Dec. 9, 2002, meeting, the Shoreline City Council selected "Modified Alternative A" as the design for the Aurora Corridor Project from N.

See Aurora page 15

More information

Kirk McKinley
City of Shoreline
Aurora Corridor Project Manager
(206) 546-3901
www.cityofshoreline.com

Aurora Corridor Project continued from page 14



145th to 165th Streets.

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 included features such as curbs, gutters, sidewalks, landscaped medians and upgrades of storm water facilities.

Modified Alternative A includes three travel lanes in each direction, one of which is a business access/transit lane; a continuous seven-foot sidewalk with an adjacent four-foot amenity zone and six-inch curb; and a raised center median with left- and U-turn pockets. The alternative includes seven northbound and seven southbound turn pockets, an average of one every 750 feet. Where there are parking or building issues on bordering properties,

the modified plan reduces the amenity zone and sidewalk widths to accommodate specific needs.

The design features of the "build" alternatives studied in the DEIS were developed during the Aurora Corridor Multi-modal Pre-design Study. The Pre-design Study was an extensive public process that included three community-wide public meetings plus participation from a Citizen Advisory Task Force made up of representatives from the business community, neighborhoods and transit users. There was also an inter-agency team that included public sector stakeholders.

These groups recommended a preferred design concept very similar to Alternative A that was unanimously endorsed by the Shoreline City Council in 1999. The final recommendation in-

Project Benefits

- Improved vehicular and pedestrian safety
- Improved pedestrian access
- Provides greater access for disabled
- Protects neighborhoods from cut-through traffic
- Enhances streetscape and security
- Increases transit speed and reliability
- Increases transit passengers' comfort and safety at stops
- Increases property values
- Boosts economic investment
- Improves stormwater quality
- Increases vehicular capacity
- Improves traffic flow
- Accommodates growth
- Improves nighttime visibility and safety

cluded a set of implementation principles called the "32 Points" established to address issues and concerns raised during the pre-design study.

Besides the "32 Points," Modified Alternative A includes an additional list of mitigation measures to be incorporated into the project design and construction. These include 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.

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

April 2003 Vol. 5 No. 2

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

Editing, writing & design:
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.
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



17544 Midvale Avenue N.
Shoreline, WA 98133-4921

PRSR STD
US Postage
PAID
Seattle, WA
Permit No. 6651

ECRWSS
POSTAL CUSTOMER