
Council Meeting Date: April 7, 2003

Agenda Item: 5(b)

CITY COUNCIL AGENDA ITEM
CITY OF SHORELINE, WASHINGTON

AGENDA TITLE: 2000 Census Summary DEPARTMENT: Parks, Recreation and Cultural Services PRESENTED BY: George Smith, Human Services Planner

PROBLEM/ISSUE STATEMENT:

The purpose of this staff report is to inform the Council of changes in population, income and housing occurring during the last census period, 1990-2000.

RECOMMENDATION

No action is required. This is an informational presentation to acquaint the Council with changes in the community as reflected in the 2000 Census.

Approved By: City Manager  City Attorney 

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INTRODUCTION

The federal Census was taken on April 1, 2000. The questionnaire included seven questions for each household: name, sex, age, relationship, Hispanic origin, race, and whether the housing unit was owned or rented. Census 2000 also sampled the socio-economic status of the population, providing a tool for government, educators, business owners and others to get a snap shot of the state of the nation. A preliminary report to the Council on the results of 2000 census was made in March 2001. This more detailed report is based on information not available at that time.

BACKGROUND

In addition to the seven questions everyone answers, about 17 percent of households answered a longer questionnaire including questions about ancestry, income, mortgage, and size of housing unit.

Since Shoreline was created in 1995, this is the City's first census. To compare changes since 1990, data were obtained from the 1990 Census from the census tracts that comprise the current boundaries of the City of Shoreline and/or from the 1999 Demographic Portrait produced by Shoreline Planning and Development Services.

DISCUSSION

Total Population

The population of the City of Shoreline in 2000 was 53,025, a growth of 2.3 percent since 1990. Most of the growth in population was due to annexation. By comparison, the other northern tier cities also had small real growth in population with the exception of Bothell, which grew by 35 percent (King County portion).

The Puget Sound Regional Council's latest forecast projects a 2.3 percent growth for Shoreline over the next ten years, about the same rate as the last ten years. By contrast, the County is projected to grow by 7.6%. However, this is half of the County's 15.2% rate of growth in the last decade.

Fewer Children and More Older Adults

The number of children under 5 remained almost unchanged countywide between 1990 and 2000 but declined by 25% in Shoreline. This drop in young children will continue a three-decade trend of declining enrollment in the Shoreline School District.

People 65 and older are now 14.5 percent of the Shoreline population, compared to 10.4 percent for the County as a whole. This group will increase sharply beginning in 2011, as the first wave of the baby boomers reaches 65. Another indicator of the aging of the population is the median age, which increased from 35.9 years in 1990 to 39.3 years in 2000. Baby boomers, those born between 1946 and 1964, make up one third of the population. If the first wave of the baby boomers, those 45 and older, are combined with those 65 and older, they total 40% of the population.

Areas With Greatest Population Changes

Of the 13 census tracts making up Shoreline, three lost population, one was unchanged and nine increased in population. The greatest population increase was in the Briarcrest neighborhood which grew by 17.3 %. The smallest increase, less than one percent, was in the East Richmond Beach and Hillwood neighborhoods. Other neighborhoods with higher growth included Echo Lake, 8.7 percent, and Ridgecrest, 6.1 percent. The areas with negative growth of 1-2 percent included Richmond Highlands, Innis Arden, The Highlands, Highland Terrace and Westminster Triangle.

Household and Family Size Changes

A household includes one or more persons who occupy a housing unit. There are two types of households, family households and non-family households. In Shoreline, 65 percent of households are families and 34.9 percent are non-family households. Household size continued a 30-year trend of decline, dropping from 2.7 in 1990 to 2.5 in 2000, but remained unchanged for the County as a whole at 2.4. It is estimated that future growth will be in households that range from 1.54 to 2.2 persons. There is a slow trend in the growth of non-family households, and more than a quarter of households, 26.5 percent, have a single occupant.

A family household includes a householder and one or more persons living in the same household who are related by marriage, birth or adoption. Shoreline's average family size is 3.03, the same as for the County as a whole. Among family households, 79.2 percent are married couples, 5.6 percent are male headed, no wife present and 15 percent are female headed, no husband present. Less than half of married of couples, 45 percent, have children.

While 97.5% of all residents live in households, 2.5 percent of Shoreline's population live in group quarters. The two general categories of group quarters include institutionalized (e.g. correctional facilities, nursing homes) and non-institutional (e.g. college dorms). One percent of Shoreline residents are in institutional group quarters and 1.4 percent are in non-institutional group quarters.

Diversity

The census offers citizens five race choices - white, black or African American, Asian, American Indian and Alaska Native and Native Hawaiian and other Pacific Islander. For the first time, citizens could indicate if they were more than one race. Major changes in diversity include:

- The white population declined from 79.5 percent in 1990 to 77 percent in 2000.
- Asians comprise the largest non-white group at 13.2 percent, with Chinese, Filipino and Korean the three largest subgroups in that order. The proportion of the Shoreline population that is Asian is greater than King County's 10.8 percent.
- Black or African Americans are 2.8 percent of the population, about half their proportion countywide of 5.4%.

People who are Hispanic or Latino may be of any race and number 3.9 percent of Shoreline's population, a smaller proportion than the County's 5.5 percent. Over half of the Hispanic population reports Mexico as their country of origin.

Foreign-born residents increased from 12.3 percent of the population in 1990 to 16.9 percent in 2000 and are another indicator of the increasing diversity of Shoreline's population. One in five residents speaks a language other than English and 8.7 percent speak English less than "very well," more than double the number from the 1990 census.

Income

- Median Household income is \$51,658 in Shoreline vs. \$53,157 for the County.
- Median Family income is \$61,450 in Shoreline vs. \$66,035 for the County.

Some reasons why median income is lower in Shoreline than for the County include:

- One third fewer people employed in manufacturing and information fields, relatively high paying jobs;
- Largest single group (22.7 percent) employed in education, health and social services, affording more modest incomes;
- Full-time male workers earn about \$5,000 less than their County counterparts.

Most families in Shoreline earn between \$25,000 and \$74,999 per year.

Economic Security

Poverty thresholds are national statistical standards determined by household size and age composition and updated annually. They are used to determine eligibility for many federal, state and local programs. The poverty thresholds define income inadequacy, not how much income is enough to live on. Poverty threshold examples :

- Three person household, including two children, \$14,494;
- Four person household, including two children, \$18,244.

At 6.9%, Shoreline's poverty rate ranks 14th among the 39 cities in King County, flanked by Des Moines at 7.6 percent and Carnation at 6.7 percent. The two adjacent cities, Lake Forest Park and Seattle, have widely varying rates of 3.8 percent and 11.8 percent respectively.

The poverty rate in Shoreline increased 18.9 percent from 5.8 to 6.9 percent during the past decade. For the county as a whole, the poverty rate increased by .4 percent to 8.4 percent. Poverty rates are highest for those over 75 and under five years of age.

If poverty is the measure of income inadequacy, how much does a person or family require to meet basic necessities? For several years, Communities Count, the annual health and social indicators report for King County, has defined the income necessary to pay for basic necessities - shelter, food, clothing and transportation as a "living wage."

The living wage is defined as twice the poverty rate. For the three-person household example above, this would be twice \$14,924, the poverty threshold, or \$29,848. In Shoreline, 19 percent, or almost one in five, has an income below a living wage. People with an income below a living wage are spread throughout the community.

Housing

The census defines a housing unit as a house, an apartment, a mobile home, a group of rooms, or a single room that is occupied as separate quarters. Of the 21,330 housing units in Shoreline, 74 percent are single family houses, including condominiums.

The largest proportion of homes, 39.8 percent, was built between 1940 and 1959. More than a quarter of all residents, 26.2 percent, own their homes free and clear and another 73.8 percent have a mortgage with a median monthly payment of \$1,423.

By type of tenure, 68 percent of residents live in owner occupied housing and 32 percent rent housing. The median rent in 2000 was \$798 per month and rent increases countywide were 7.4 percent in 2001 and -1.6 percent in 2002. Rent, as a percent of household income, exceeds 30% (a national standard for reasonableness) for 37 percent of households.

In 2000 the median priced home, (includes condominiums) as reported in the Census, was \$205,300 in Shoreline, compared to \$236,900 for King County as a whole. By the first quarter of 2002, the median price of all homes, including condominiums in King County was \$256,000, an 8% increase.

Affordability Gap

The median household income in 2000 of \$51,658 was adequate to purchase a home costing approximately \$145,000. This creates an affordability gap of \$60,300 between what the median income household can afford and the median price of \$205,300. This scenario is based on 5% down and a 30-year fixed rate mortgage of 6 percent.

SUMMARY

Major Trends

- Stable population--no significant growth forecast for next ten years.
- Household size is decreasing, more than one quarter are one person.
- Future growth will be in small households of 1.54 to 2.2 persons.
- Population is aging--median age is increasing and proportion over 65 is growing.
- Families with children are decreasing, as evidenced by drop in under five age group and three decade decline in school district enrollment.
- More ethnically and racially diverse.
- One in five residents is economically stressed by low income.

Implications For Shoreline

- Fewer children mean future excess school capacity and a change in the image of Shoreline as a place to raise children.
- An increasingly older population means:
 - a) shifts in demand for leisure and cultural activities, with increasing demand for quality leisure and cultural activities;
 - b) increases in demand for life support services provided by Shoreline Fire Department;
 - c) increases in demand for lifetime learning and for meaningful volunteer roles.
- Decreasing household size will create demand for different types of housing, including more multi-family, cottage housing and accessory dwelling units.
- Smaller household size and increasing age will combine to create demand for retirement and assisted living housing options and for smaller homes.
- Demand for safety net services to help low-income families overcome unexpected emergencies will put pressure on the City to maintain funding for basic human services.
- User fees for City services, such as recreation, will be a barrier to use for low-income families, without subsidy.
- The cost of single family housing will remain high and pose a major barrier to attracting younger families to the community. This in turn will increase the income differential between long-term and new residents and contribute to the aging of the population.

RECOMMENDATION

No action is required. This information is provided to inform the Council concerning demographic and economic trends that will affect the future development of the City.