

# CITY OF SHORELINE CURRENTS

May 2001 Vol. 3 No. 3

## Inside

### Stream Inventory

Shoreline recently completed a series of open houses on its Stream and Wetland Inventory. Now the field research is ready to begin.

Page

3



### More Inside:

Drainage Improvements 2

NTSP seeks volunteers 4

Walkable Communities 5

Pedestrian Safety Demo Project 6

Shoreline's utility tax 7

Shoreline Who, What, Where 8



## The City of Shoreline welcomes new City Manager Steve Burkett

For someone who just moved here, new Shoreline City Manager Steve Burkett already has deep roots in the area.

Burkett is originally from Pasco, Wash., and his wife, Bobbi (Roberta Roberts Burkett), grew up in Shoreline and graduated from Shorecrest High School. One of their two daughters lives in Bellingham with one of Washington's biggest attractions for the Burketts: their one-year-old grandson.

"I'm excited to be working in Shoreline because it combines a really good professional opportunity with the chance to return home," says Burkett. "I'm impressed by my interactions with both the City Council and staff, and I'm looking forward to working for a city that is relatively new and still in the process of realizing its own vision as a community."

With over 30 years experience in city government - including 20 years as city manager - Burkett comes to Shoreline most recently from three and a half years as President and Chief Executive Officer of The Woodlands

Community Service Corporation.

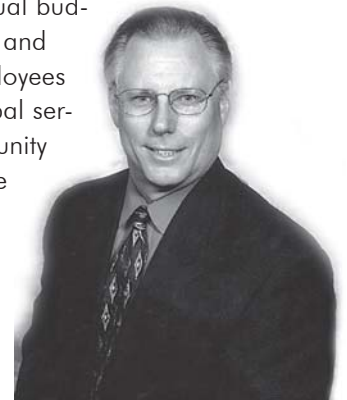
This private nonprofit corporation has an annual budget of \$23 million and 150 full-time employees to provide municipal services to the community associations of The Woodlands, a master planned community outside of Houston.

According to a March article in *The Woodlands'* local newspaper, *The Villager*, a recent survey by the service corporation showed 88 percent of the residents rated the corporation's service as "good," "very good" or "excellent."

"That's really the bottom line, that the residents perceive the quality and the service to be very good," Burkett says. "Customer satisfaction is one of the areas I want to emphasize in Shoreline."

Burkett's first day as Shoreline City Manager was May 1. The Shoreline City Council announced his selection at its March

See **City Manager** page 7



**Steve Burkett**

Meet Shoreline's new City Manager at a **Community Reception** Monday, May 21 6:30 to 8:00 p.m. Shoreline Conf. Center Spartan Room

## Large drainage projects move toward design

Mopping up flood problems throughout Shoreline has been a top priority for the City since incorporation. Each year the City has focused attention and capital improvement dollars to what used to be a long list of small drainage projects. As this list begins to dry up, Shoreline's bigger drainage improvement projects move into the spotlight.

The City of Shoreline is now nearing the design phase of two large drainage improvement projects which, when complete, will alleviate frequent flooding of dozens of Shoreline residences.

### Ronald Bog Drainage Improvements

In February, the City Council reviewed a plan to prevent flooding of 15 to 20 residential properties in the Thornton Creek watershed area of Shoreline surrounding Ronald Bog. The plan would construct a new stormwater system along NE Serpentine Pl. and replace the pump at Pump Station #25 on 2nd Pl. NE. The wetlands south of Cromwell Park and east of Ronald Bog would be regraded to provide stormwater detention. A ballfield will be added in the northeast corner of Cromwell that will also act as a stormwater detention area.

One of the areas where the existing stormwater control system is failing the most severely and causing the worst flooding is where Ronald Bog drains into a storm pipe at its south end. Over the years the pipe has sunk into the ground which, being primarily peat, is too soft to hold its weight. This prevents the water from draining properly, forcing it into the adjacent neighborhood dur-

ing heavy rains.

The proposed solution would replace the pipe system with an open stream channel - referred to as "daylighting" - on Corliss Ave. between Ronald Bog and 171st. Secondary access to the four homes along this street would be provided and bridges would cross at 171st and 172nd. Besides solving the problem of sinking pipes, daylighting improves water quality and wildlife habitat.

As a result of public comment about the daylighting portion of the plan, City Council directed staff to begin design of the other components while studying this area further. As part of the final predesign review, staff will investigate:

- The impact to flooding, cost and possibility of getting a permit to replace the existing piped system;
- The design of an open channel including its stream classification and resulting buffers along with the impact to homes and access;
- The impact to flooding if the rest of the improvements are constructed and this area is not modified.

Staff expects to bring the final predesign to the Council for approval sometime this summer. Because of the extensive environmental permitting process which is anticipated, construction is not expected to begin until 2002.

For more information about the Ronald Bog Drainage Improvements, contact Project Engineer Kris Stouffer-Overleese at (206) 546-1700.

### 3rd Ave. NW Drainage Improvements

At its April 23 meeting, the City Council looked at a plan to keep stormwater away from the doorsteps of as many as 20 homes between 3rd and 6th Avenues NW. For over 20 years, this area has experienced flooding during even moderate storms.

The plan has two parts: a new stormwater conveyance system and an expanded stormwater detention area. Two options for each were presented to the public at an open house and to the Parks, Recreation and Cultural Services Advisory Committee. The solution recommended to the City Council was preferred by both the public and the PRCS Committee.

The recommended conveyance route begins at Hillwood Park and works its way to Boeing Creek Park via 3rd Ave. NW. It was preferred to another similar route because of its potential to intercept more surface water. The recommended additional detention area at the end of the conveyance is at the North Pond of Boeing Creek Park. Already dedicated to surface water management, this location could be improved as part of the project to have more recreational and aesthetic amenities.

The next step is design and environmental review. Construction could begin next year.

For more information about the 3rd Ave. NW Drainage Improvements, contact Project Engineer Jon Jordan at (206) 546-1700.

## North City Sub-Area Plan SEIS released

For over three years, residents, merchants and property owners have been working with the City of Shoreline to create a vision of the North City business district as an inviting, thriving Main Street.

An important milestone in bringing this vision to reality was reached with the release of the Planned Action draft Supplemental Environmental Impact Statement (SEIS) for the North City Sub-Area Plan on April 19. Following a 30-day public comment period, Shoreline will prepare the final SEIS to present to the City Council.

This SEIS focuses on potential impacts associated with increased intensity of development and configuration of 15th Ave. NE in the North City Planned Action area. It supplements the analysis of the Comprehensive Plan SEIS (published in November 1998) with more specific analysis of the North City Planned Action area.

The Shoreline Planning Commission will hold a public hearing on the draft SEIS on Thursday, May 3 at 7:00 p.m. in the Board Room of the Shoreline Conference Center. Written comments may also be submitted to Gabe Snedeker, City of Shoreline, 17544 Midvale Ave. N., Shoreline, WA 98133 by 5:00 p.m. on Monday, May 21, 2001.

The EIS is a requirement of the State Environmental Policy Act and identifies potential environmental impacts and mitigation measures. Comments on the draft SEIS will be addressed in the final SEIS. The final SEIS will be presented to the City Council with three proposed actions:

1. Adoption of a North City Sub-Area Plan which would become part of the City's Comprehensive Plan. The sub-area plan guides redevelopment of the North City business district over the next 15 years.

2. Adoption of development regulations and design guidelines, and amendment of the zoning map to reflect the sub-area plan.

3. Adoption of an ordinance designating the sub-area plan to be a "planned action" for SEPA compliance. Planned action projects are those that meet the sub-area plan's criteria and whose significant environmental impacts have been adequately addressed in the SEIS prepared for the plan. If a proposed project qualifies as a planned action, no SEPA threshold determination or

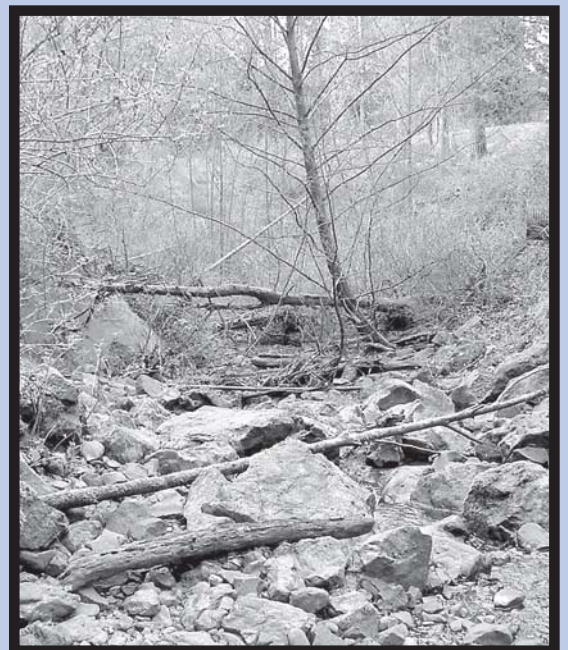
further environmental review is required.

"The dream of the North City Sub-Area Plan relies upon attracting developers to invest in the area," says Shoreline Planning and Development Services Assistant Director Anna Kolousek. "The planned action SEPA makes developing projects in the area more attractive because it can eliminate some of the risk associated with redevelopment. The City and its residents also win because they have more control over the type of development that is built."

These proposed actions and the final SEIS are expected to go before the City Council in June or July. For more information about the sub-area plan or the draft SEIS, contact Snedeker at (206) 546-1700.

## Stream and Wetland Inventory begins soon

**Boeing Creek is one of Shoreline's watershed areas that researchers will inventory over the next two months. The Stream and Wetland Inventory will help Shoreline comply with federal environmental regulations, streamline permitting, plan for the future and identify habitat enhancement possibilities. For more information about the Stream and Wetland Inventory, call Lori Henrich at (206) 546-1700.**



## Traffic Safety Program seeks volunteers

The City of Shoreline will have a new way to deal with non-arterial traffic problems with the June 1 launch of the Neighborhood Traffic Safety Program (NTSP). Since the success of the program relies on community involvement, Shoreline is looking for volunteers to become NTSP

“experts.”

The NTSP works in two phases. Phase one uses community education and traffic enforcement to encourage behavior changes that lead to safer streets. Phase two uses engineering solutions – such as traffic circles, speed humps and narrowed lanes

– to force behavior changes.

“In other cities we studied, education and enforcement have been very successful in solving problems which is why we focus on these strategies first,” says Project Engineer Kris Stouffer-Overleese. “The education element – which can include community meetings, handout distribution and petitions – requires a lot of participation and this is where the volunteers can make a big difference.”

Shoreline is also working with the Council of Neighborhoods to designate a liaison for each neighborhood association. These liaisons will become the association’s NTSP expert, keep track of areas within their neighborhoods that are using the program and provide the City feedback.

The City Council made solving non-arterial traffic safety problems a priority in response to residents’ concerns. Last year, Shoreline created the NTSP User’s Manual detailing the program that was developed with the help of citizen and technical advisory committees. Since then, Shoreline has been pulling together the resources needed to run the program such as educational materials, radar equipment and, now, volunteers.

If you are interested in becoming a NTSP volunteer or would like more information about volunteering, contact Rick Vogler at (206) 546-1700. Once it becomes available on June 1, residents will access the new program the same way they make traffic complaints now, by calling the Customer Response Team at (206) 546-1700.

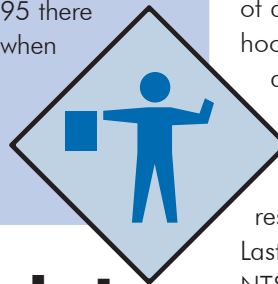
## Construction begins on 15th Ave. NE

Look for construction this month on 15th Ave. NE at N. 165th St. as crews begin preparing for the traffic signal planned for this intersection.

The work will be done in two phases. During May, crews will do street work such as running conduit, laying the signal loops, installing the curb ramps and pouring the foundation for the signal. The signal poles and controller will be installed as the second phase once this equipment is manufactured and delivered to the site.

The new traffic signal and pedestrian improvements are being done in response to safety concerns. Between the summers of 1992 and 1995 there were 10 accidents at this intersection, most of which were caused when cars tried to make a left turn onto 15th from 165th.

Construction will be done by the end of summer. For more information, contact Shoreline’s Customer Response Team at (206) 546-1700.



## SPD’s Business Watch debuts

Burglary, shoplifting and vandalism are crimes the business community is all too familiar with. Learning to avoid these crimes is the focus of the Shoreline Police Department’s new Business Watch Prevention Program.

Shoreline Police will be offering free training classes for business owners, merchants and employees covering topics such as burglary, robbery, shoplifting, employee theft and vandalism. Police will also conduct business security surveys for Business Watch members. These surveys will include a Crime Prevention Through Environmental Design

review and each business will learn the strengths and weaknesses of its present security setup. Surveys will include recommendations for improvements.

The Shoreline Police Department has teamed up with Rotary to pay for printing costs for materials to begin the program. For more information about the program or to become a Business Watch member, please contact Shoreline Police at (206) 546-6730.

## City co-sponsors Walkable Communities Workshop

The City of Shoreline invites residents, business owners and property owners to a Walkable Communities Workshop cosponsored by the Puget Sound Regional Council. The workshop will be held Thursday, May 17, from 8:00 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. at the Shoreline offices of the Washington Department of Transportation. Seating is limited and registration is required.

For the past three years, Walkable Communities Workshops have guided hundreds of communities across the country through a helpful analysis and improvement program. This half-day course is geared toward planning, engineering and law enforcement professionals as well as elected officials and citizens who want to learn how to turn communities into pedestrian-friendly places. Staff from Shore-

line Public Works and Planning and Development Services Departments will attend the workshop.

The course combines presentations on the latest urban designs with real-life situations where participants apply what they've learned to local issues. The Shoreline workshop will focus on the Westminster Triangle and Aurora Square area including the crossing of the Interurban Trail over Aurora at N. 155th St.

"I am looking forward to receiving some good information about what we can do to make our community a better place to walk and advice on how to make that happen," says Shoreline Transportation Planner Sarah Bohlen.

Call Bohlen at (206) 546-3826 for more information or to register to attend the workshop.



**Police volunteer Ray Marik (with Sgt. Rob Dorman in the background) is one of the more than 140 volunteers who donated over 5,500 hours to the City of Shoreline in 2000. Volunteers help the City in a variety of ways such as staffing the Neighborhood Police Centers, serving on advisory groups and leading recreation programs. In honor of all the volunteers in Shoreline, the Mayor Scott Jepsen proclaimed April 15 Volunteer Week. The City hosted a special breakfast at the Shoreline Center on April 19 to recognize its volunteers.**

## New PRCS Committee appointments

The Parks, Recreation and Cultural Services Advisory Committee welcomes back four members and one new member.

The City Council appointed previous committee members Carolyn Ballo, Herb Bryce, William Clements and Dwight Stevens to serve on the PRCS Advisory Committee for four-year terms expiring March 31, 2005. Michael Broili was appointed the alternate member with a two-year term expiring March 31, 2003. Committee members whose terms expire March 31, 2003, are Larry Blake, Margaret Boyce, Patricia Hale, Londa Jacques and Neil Neroutsos.

Members of the PRCS Advisory Committee are all volunteers who live, work or own property in the City of Shoreline. The committee was formed two years ago to advise 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.

The PRCS Advisory Committee meets approximately 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.

## Special spring recycling event

Watch the mail for your pass to the City of Shoreline's Spring 2001 Special Recycling Event where Shoreline residents have the opportunity to unload unwanted household items. The recycling event will be Saturday, May 26, 9:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. at the Shoreline Park and Ride on Aurora at N. 192nd St. To take part in this special recycling event you must present the flyer sent to every Shoreline residence this month. For more information, call the Shoreline Customer Response Team at (206) 546-1700.

## City Manager

*from page 1*

19 meeting following a nationwide search process which drew more than 70 applicants.

"Shoreline has a number of major capital improvement projects on the horizon and Steve has the experience to get these projects done," says Shoreline Mayor Scott Jepsen. "He also understands our desire for continued community involvement with an emphasis on two-way communication."

"To be selected to serve the citizens of Shoreline as their City Manager is a real honor," says Burkett. "Not only am I able to use my skills and experience to help develop and guide a new city, but Bobbi and I get to return home to the great Northwest."

## Shoreline utility tax update

When Initiative 695 (I-695) passed in November 1999, the State Legislature took this as a clear signal that a majority of the public within Washington State was unhappy with the Motor Vehicle Excise Tax (MVET) assessed to car owners. As a result, the legislature took action and eliminated the MVET (which was one of the provisions of I-695) and replaced this with a flat \$30 per vehicle state fee. Even though I-695 was found unconstitutional in 2000 by the Washington Supreme Court, the MVET was repealed.

Repealing the MVET resulted in a \$2.9 million loss of revenue for the City of Shoreline which is equal to 11.5 percent of its operating expenditures. The MVET received by the City was used to fund general City services such as police and parks maintenance. With the loss of this revenue the City would either be required to make significant service delivery reductions (i.e., reduce park maintenance, internal services, etc.) or adopt an alternative revenue source.

The City Council determined that the City was still in the developmental phase of its service delivery and the current service delivery to citizens was at a "minimal" level. Therefore, the Council opted to implement an alternative revenue source to maintain service levels.

The alternative revenue sources that were implemented included a six percent utility tax for telephone, garbage and natural gas utilities, one percent utility tax on cable, and a six percent franchise fee for water and sewer services provided by Seattle Public Utilities. Most cities in Washington collect these fees to support the delivery of City services, but Shoreline had not previously implemented this revenue source. These taxes and fees became effective in 2000, and were originally estimated to generate \$2.8 million in revenue, nearly replacing the revenue lost by the repeal of the MVET. In 2000, actual collections from these new revenue sources totaled \$2.1 million, approximately \$700,000 less than originally projected. The primary area in which the City's collections have not met original projections is telephone. Fortunately, other revenue sources in the City exceeded original projections to help offset the under collection of utility taxes and franchise fees.

The utility taxes and franchise fees are assessed to the utility companies, which pass on these charges to the rate payers. The utility companies are responsible for collecting from the correct rate payers within the City of Shoreline. Because collections have fallen short of estimates, the City has enlisted the assistance of a firm to audit utility providers to ensure that the utility companies are collecting the appropriate taxes and fees. Results from the audit are expected soon.

## Pedestrian Safety Project comes to Shoreline

The Pedestrian Safety Demonstration Project planned for Aurora by the Washington State Department of Transportation (WSDOT) shares one of the motivations for the City of Shoreline's Aurora Corridor Project: safety.

Shoreline's portion of Aurora Ave. N. was selected for the Demonstration Project because it has one of the highest pedestrian-vehicle collision rates of any state route in Washington. Between 1992 and 1996, 42 pedestrians were struck by vehicles on Aurora within Shoreline city limits and 38 percent of those accidents were fatal or disabling (compared to the statewide average of 12 to 15 percent). Though human costs can never be fully quantified, this represents a total societal cost of \$14.2 million.

This month, WSDOT will begin construction on a series of improvements on Aurora Ave. N. at the intersections of N. 165th and N. 170th Streets aimed at increasing pedestrian safety. Improvements include new sidewalks, curbs and gutters; crosswalks and street lighting; planted medians with pedestrian refuge; perimeter landscaping to separate pedestrians from traffic; and

improved access to transit stops.

One of the main features of the improvements is a new technology called Roving Eyes which is an electronic sign displaying a pair of eyes suspended over or on the side of the street. When sensors detect pedestrians, the eyes on the sign direct motorists to be aware of the pedestrians. This new technology has successfully improved pedestrian safety in Florida and Nova Scotia, and can now be seen in Bellevue near Bellevue Mall.

"Although the improvements are not part of the Aurora Corridor Project, they are being planned with that project in mind," says Shoreline Project Engineer Paul Cornish. "For example, the medians will be located in the same area as the medians for the Aurora design. Since the curb improvements are essentially temporary, they are being done with asphalt since it is a less-permanent material."

Education and enforcement will also be big components of the Demonstration Project. With approximately 3,600 transit boardings per day on Aurora in Shoreline, education will target transit riders as well as pedestrians and motorists. Shoreline Police Department will focus patrol efforts throughout the corridor and help with outreach.

"To help kick off the program, Shoreline police officers will be riding buses through Shoreline to hand out pedestrian safety information," says Cornish.

Researchers from the Univer-

sity of Washington will be studying pedestrian and motorist behavior along the corridor before and after the project to determine its success.

For more information about the Pedestrian Safety Demonstration Project and pedestrian safety tips, visit the project's Web site at [www.otak.com/shorelinepedsafety/](http://www.otak.com/shorelinepedsafety/) or call Shoreline's Public Works Department at (206) 546-1700.

## Check out nearby pools

While the Shoreline Pool is closed over the next few months for renovations, check out these other nearby pools for your swimming needs.

### Helene Madison Pool

13401 Meridian Ave. N., Seattle  
(206) 684-4979

### Mountlake Terrace Recreation Pavilion

5303 228th St. S.W., MLT  
(425) 776-9173

### Lynnwood Recreation Center

18900 44th Ave. W., Lynnwood  
(425) 771-4030



### Garbage and recycling questions?

Waste Management now has two customer service numbers for Shoreline residents:

**425-486-4738**  
**425-481-1100**

Watch AT&T Channel 21, the government access channel, for garbage and recycling pick up schedules.

When the Shoreline Pool reopens, look for an expanded women's locker room and lobby; an additional restroom and new family changing room; more work and storage space; and new fixtures and interior finishes. Renovations also include extending the life of the HVAC, electrical, plumbing, boiler and pool filtering system.

## 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



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Susan Will and Ellen Broeske

### City Council

**City Councilmembers**  
Mayor Scott Jepsen  
Deputy Mayor Ron Hansen  
Kevin Grossman  
Rich Gustafson  
Cheryl Lee  
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**  
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.**  
630 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 on agendas,  
minutes and how to partici-  
pate is now available online.  
[www.cityofshoreline.com](http://www.cityofshoreline.com)



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