Shoreline tightens its belt to maintain critical City services

In last month’s Currents, City Manager Robert Olander shared that the City may be faced with financial challenges as the national recession has grown worse and impacts are being felt throughout the state. On March 23, staff recommended to the City Council that the 2009 budgeted operating revenues be reduced by 5.4% or $1.7 million. Reductions were made in the areas of sales tax, gambling tax and development revenues, which have all seen downturns as a result of the recession.

To keep the 2009 budget in balance and provide essential services, staff recommended a three-pronged approach for the City Council to discuss at its April 13 meeting:

1. $730,000 – Budget reductions including:
   - $237,500 from shifting some personnel to the capital budget from the operational budget. The City is using staff resources currently available due to the slowdown in development activity to do capital project work normally contracted out.
   - $131,000 by extending the replacement life of City vehicles and major equipment by four months and not funding 2009 major repair and replacement accounts for City facilities and parks.
   - $128,000 in reductions by all departments in areas such as supplies, advertising and contracted services.
   - $75,400 by eliminating services that were backed by development revenues that will not materialize in 2009.
   - $73,000 by eliminating non-benefited, temporary wages for some “extra-help” employees who assist during busy times.
   - $60,500 from reducing budgeted travel and training by 20%.
   - $15,000 of neighborhood/environmental mini-grant funding.
The Shoreline City Council appointed Tom Moran to fill an unexpired Library Board term. Moran is interim dean of Library, eLearning and Technology at Shoreline Community College and lives in the Ridgecrest neighborhood. He will serve the remaining three years of the term.

The Shoreline Library Board was formed by the City Council in the spring of 1996 to act as a liaison to the King County Library System Board of Trustees, the City Council and the Shoreline community.

The Library Board consists of seven members and meets at 7:00 p.m. the second Thursday of each odd numbered month. The meetings are held alternately at the Shoreline Library and the Richmond Beach Library.

Thank you, Shoreline volunteers!

Shoreline honors its many volunteers during National Volunteer Week April 18 – 25 and at the annual volunteer breakfast this month. In 2008, volunteers donated more than 10,504 hours to various City programs, events and organizations. Here are some of the many ways volunteers help:

- Adopt-a-Road
- Backyard Wildlife Habitat
- Community Emergency Response Team (CERT)
- Council of Neighborhoods
- Economic Development Advisory Committee
- Emergency Operations (e.g. HAM Radio operators)
- Environmental Educators
- Ivy OUT events and Park Stewardship
- Kruckeberg Botanic Garden Foundation Volunteers
- Library Board
- Long Range Financial Planning Citizens Advisory Committee
- Neighborhood Associations
- Neighborhood Traffic Advisory Committees
- Planning Commission
- Police Eastside & Westside Storefronts
- Police Explorer Program for teens
- Parks, Recreation and Cultural Services Advisory Board
- Parks, Recreation and Cultural Services Teen Program
- South Woods Preservation Group
- SE Neighborhoods Subarea Planning Citizen Advisory Committee
- Trail Corridor Study Group

For information about volunteer opportunities in Shoreline, contact Neighborhoods Coordinator Nora Smith at (206) 801-2253, nsmith@shorelinewa.gov.

Balanced 2009 City Budget

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• $11,000 in police overtime.
2. $376,000 – Budgeted Contingency that was reserved in case revenue estimates needed to be reduced in 2009.
3. $595,000 – Use of 10% of the City’s Revenue Stabilization Fund. This fund was created to address revenue shortfalls during short-term economic downturns. This is the first time that the City must use a portion of the fund; the monies will be repaid.

The City will continue to monitor the impacts of the current recession on revenues and its ability to provide the most crucial services to the Shoreline community. For more information, contact Finance Director Debbie Tarry at (206) 801-2301 or dtarry@shorelinewa.gov.
Earth Day Every Day Event  
Saturday, April 18  
9:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.  
Central Market  
15505 Westminster Way N

Learn about new eco-living tips and tools for the home and yard. Take home these free earth-friendly products that minimize the amount of pollutants and chemicals released into soils and waterways:

- Kitchen compost pail and compostable bags
- 15 lb. bag of worm castings
- Simple Green 2 oz. car wash soap and a Brown Bear car wash coupon

Kruckeberg Work Parties  
Sundays  
April 19, May 3 and 17  
12:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m.  
Kruckeberg Botanic Garden,  
20312 15th Avenue NW

Join volunteers at Kruckeberg Garden for work parties on the first and third Sundays of the month. Garden staff will help identify weeds and answer questions about our many native and exotic species. Bring your own gloves, tools and kneeling pads. For more information, contact Garden Manager Sarah Baker (206) 546-1281.

Richmond Beach Park Clean Up Day  
Saturday, April 25  
9:00 a.m.  
2201 NW 197th Street

This year's project will be to paint the walls of the Richmond Beach Community Park.

Ivy OUT Work Parties  
Saturday, April 25  
10:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.  
Grab your gloves, weeding tools and loppers and join us as we save our parks from ivy and other invasive plants that crowd out native species. Minors 14 and under must be accompanied by a parent or guardian. Garbage bags, some tools and snacks provided. For more information, contact Shoreline Parks, Recreation and Cultural Services at (206) 801-2611.

- Boeing Creek: Meet at kiosk near NW 175th Street and 6th Avenue NW
- Paramount Park Open Space: 946 NE 147th Street
- South Woods: Meet at the south parking lot of Shorecrest High School on 25th Avenue NE at NE 153rd Street
- Twin Ponds: Meet at the Trail of Cedars (look for sign) on Meridian Avenue N at N 152nd Street
- Native Garden Building and Planting: Echo Lake Elementary 19345 Wallingford Ave N

Rain Garden Workshop  
Saturday, April 25  
6:30 to 8:30 p.m.  
South Seattle, Washington

Learn how rain gardens help protect our local waterways. You’ll receive a free rain garden manual and additional materials.

Workshops are free, but advance registration is required. To register contact Stewardship Partners at (206) 292-9875 or ba@stewardshippartners.org.

Annual MsK Nursery Mother’s Day Plant Sale Debuts Art Installation  
Friday through Sunday, May 8-10  
Members-only Thursday, May 7  
10:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.  
20312 15th Avenue NW

Art students from Seattle Pacific University (SPU) are creating temporary art installations for the Kruckeberg Botanic Garden in Shoreline. Set to open as part of the annual Mother’s Day Plant Sale, this exhibit is a collaboration between the City of Shoreline, the SPU Art Department and the Kruckeberg Garden Foundation.

Dr. Roger Feldman, chair of the SPU Art Department, is working with his advanced sculpture students to create the works of art. After visiting the Garden, the students collaborated in teams to design art installations that reflect the landscape or uses of the site. Students will be available during the opening weekend to answer questions about their work and process.

Temporary public art projects are another means of increasing opportunities for observers and artists and the City sees this pilot project with the Kruckeberg Botanic Garden as an exciting beginning.

For more information about the Garden or sale call (206) 546-1281 or visit www.kruckeberg.org. For more information about Shoreline’s public art program, call Public Art Coordinator Ros Bird at (206) 801-2661.
Beginning March 31, Shoreline residents will see an increase in their Seattle Public Utility (SPU) water bills as a result of the City of Seattle increasing their utility tax rate by 4%. This is a temporary increase that applies to all city water customers and will help pay for refunds for fire hydrant costs that were wrongly charged to water customers from 2002 to 2004.

The City of Seattle funded fire hydrant services in its water utility service area through water rates. In 2008, the state Supreme Court ruled that fire hydrants are a basic governmental responsibility that should not be assessed to ratepayers. The court ordered a refund to individual ratepayers by SPU. However, in SPU franchise areas such as Shoreline and King County, the utility was unable to assess the refund, court costs awarded or ongoing hydrant services to the franchising authority under the terms of its franchise.

The surcharge from March 31, 2009, to December 31, 2011, will cover the refunds and other costs ordered by the court since Seattle Public Utilities does not have the cash reserves to pay the refunds. The water utility tax rate will be increased from 15% to 19% for the period of the surcharge.

Anyone who was a Seattle Public Utilities water customer between March 2002 and December 2004 is due a refund. Eligible water customers will get their full rebate later this year.

For more information, contact Seattle Public Utilities at (206) 684-3000 or visit www.seattle.gov/util.
CITY DEPARTMENT SPOTLIGHT

Surface Water and Environmental Services

The Surface Water and Environmental Services (SWES) division of Public Works is responsible for a variety of programs that protect the environment.

- Responds to requests to investigate environmental concerns and possible violations of water pollution ordinances.
- Maintains long-term water quality by monitoring sites on streams, lakes and wetlands throughout the City, and participates in salmon recovery planning efforts locally and regionally.
- Inspects and monitors drainage infrastructure to ensure optimal performance and compliance with City ordinances and county, state and federal requirements.
- Implements programs to meet the requirements of the National Pollution Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) permit.
- Educates businesses, residents and schools about what they can do to protect the environment for current and future generations.
- Provides opportunities for the community to practice stewardship at events, workshops and field activities that promote recycling, natural yard care, storm drain stenciling, green remodeling and habitat restoration.

- Monitors activities that contribute to global warming and educates residents and businesses about ways to protect the climate.
- Manages the solid waste collection contract and provides customer service support for other utilities in the City.
- Collaborates regionally with city, county and state jurisdictions to maximize the effectiveness of environmental programs that protect endangered salmon in Watershed Resource Inventory Area 8, flooded homeowners in the Lake Ballinger Watershed, and residents in King County from hazardous waste.

For more information, contact Surface Water Quality Specialist Jessica Williams at (206) 801-2453 or jwilliams@shorelinewa.gov, or visit www.shorelinewa.gov.
Join the Club and protect your car from theft

Shoreline Police sell a steering wheel lock device known as the Club, at cost, to Shoreline residents and those who park their cars at their workplace in Shoreline. The locks are $15 and may be purchased by check or money order at one of the two Shoreline Police Storefronts listed on the back page. Go to www.shorelinewa.gov and click on the “Emergency” link to access the police department page for more anti-auto theft tips.

Spring/summer classes & camps

Shoreline Parks, Recreation and Cultural Services is now accepting registration for spring/summer classes and camps. For complete information go to www.shorelinewa.gov/parks or call (206) 801-2600.

May – Shoreline Pool and Shoreline Live
June – Summer Camps, Swim lessons and other activities
July – Summer Concerts
August – Celebrate Shoreline, Fall Registration Information

Update: Regional jail planning

A coalition of cities in north and east King County (NEC), led by Shoreline, Bellevue, Kirkland, Redmond and Seattle, announced last November that it was initiating an environmental study on six possible sites around north and east King County for a joint municipal jail.

A new regional jail is needed to replace the beds the cities will lose when King County stops accepting city misdemeanor inmates in about four years.

In order to participate in the study for locating a regional municipal jail, each of the major participants was required to nominate potential sites within their communities. Several sites in Shoreline were identified administratively for further review and staff selected the one located at 2545 NE 200th Street in the Ballinger neighborhood for inclusion in the final environmental review.

The NEC is currently developing an Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) to look at the environmental impacts of building a regional jail at each of the six possible sites. Thanks to Shoreline residents’ comments, the EIS will include studies on economic impacts and property values of surrounding communities.

The consultants expect the draft EIS to be completed by mid-August 2009. The public will have an opportunity to comment on the accuracy and content of the DEIS, then the consultants will make appropriate changes before the EIS is finalized in the first quarter of 2010. A final decision on a preferred site will be made by the city councils of each of the NEC Cities.

The Shoreline City Council will deliberate on identifying the preferred site during its meetings, which are open to the public and provide opportunities for community input. The Council will consider several factors in addition to the EIS: the hundreds of community comments; the social and economic impacts to the surrounding neighborhoods; inmate transportation issues; and the location of services needed to help inmates upon release.

Final site selection will be made in conjunction with the other participating cities, but in the end the final site is subject to ratification by the City Council of the city in which the facility would be located.

King County owns one of the six sites selected for the EIS study located in downtown Seattle directly adjacent to the current King County jail. The NEC is actively pursuing partnering with the County to build an annex to the existing jail on that site. Pursuing this partnership option would mean King County would continue to provide jail services to the NEC cities.

However, while the NEC works with King County to determine the feasibility of jointly building and operating a jail annex on that site, it is still necessary for the NEC to continue to study the other five sites.

To check for updates on the EIS process and to see answers to frequently asked questions, visit www.shorelinewa.gov and click on Regional Jail Planning under Popular Links on the right side of the page.
Monthly small business classes offered through 2009

Shoreline is home to many small businesses. An estimated 80 percent of employment in Shoreline is in businesses with fewer than 20 employees, and half are locally owned. The City of Shoreline and partners Community Capital Development, Shoreline Chamber of Commerce, and Shoreline Community College, are offering monthly classes throughout the year to help small business owners and employers. Classes are hands-on with each student receiving individual attention and input from top professionals in each subject. Upcoming classes include:

- April 16 – Basic Bookkeeping for the Small Business
- May 21 – Turn Your Website into your #1 Salesperson
- June 18 – Green Business Certification: Making Dollars out of Sense!

For a flyer listing all 2009 classes, visit www.shorelinewa.gov. Class fees are $35 per person, or $25 for members of the Shoreline Chamber of Commerce. Classes are held from 8:00 to 9:30 a.m. at Shoreline City Hall, 17544 Midvale Avenue N. To register, go to classes@seattleccd.com or www.seattleccd.com, or call (206) 324-4330, extension 100. Drop-ins are welcome. For more information about small businesses and economic development in Shoreline, contact Economic Development Manager Mark Mayuga at (206) 801-2218.

Free gun locks available

Shoreline Police are offering free gun locks to Shoreline residents with the help of a grant from Project Home Safe and the U.S. Department of Justice.

The cable locks are designed to work on all types of handguns, shotguns and rifles and come with an instructional booklet and a key. The locks are intended as only one deterrent. Safe storage of guns and talking to your children about gun safety are also important.

Young people may be curious about guns and be tempted to “play” with them. Make sure children in your home are aware of and understand these safety guidelines:

- Don’t go looking for guns in your house or a friend’s house. Don’t let other kids look for guns in your house.
- If you find a gun in your house—or anywhere else—STOP! Leave it alone and don’t touch it. Leave the area and tell an adult.
- Even if a gun looks like a toy, don’t touch it. Some real guns may look like toy guns, so don’t take a chance.

If you would like a free gun lock, schedule an appointment with one of the Shoreline Neighborhood Police Center officers listed on page 8.

Deadline Extended for Economic Development Advisory Committee

The Shoreline City Council will continue to accept applications through April 20 for volunteers interested in serving on the Economic Development Advisory Committee.

The Committee is responsible for identifying community economic development opportunities, encouraging business growth, initiating business development programs and advising the City Council on the future of the Shoreline business community.

Interested individuals may apply for the position by submitting a completed application to the City Clerk’s Office Monday, April 20, by 5:00 p.m. Applications are available to download at www.shorelinewa.gov or at the City Clerk’s Office, Shoreline City Hall, 17544 Midvale Avenue N, Suite 100.

For more information or to request an application by mail, please contact Administrative Assistant Heidi Costello at (206) 801-2214.

Emergency Preparedness Fair

The City of Shoreline Emergency Management, the Shoreline Fire Department and Central Market will host an Emergency Preparedness Fair on Saturday, May 2, at Central Market in Shoreline from 10:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. Shoreline Police, Shoreline Community Emergency Response Team (CERT), Shoreline Auxiliary Communications Service Team, American Red Cross and local vendors will also be participating. For more information, contact Emergency Management Program Assistant Peggy Williams Scott at (206) 801-2256, pscott@shorelinewa.gov.
Who, what, where in the City of Shoreline

City of Shoreline
17500 Midvale Avenue N, Shoreline 98133
(206) 801-2700 Fax (206) 546-7868
www.shorelinewa.gov

City Hall Annex - Highland Plaza
1110 N 175th Street, Suite 105

Spartan Recreation Center
18560 1st Avenue NE, Shoreline 98155
(206) 801-2600 Fax (206) 801-2600

Shoreline Pool
19030 1st Avenue NE, Shoreline 98155
(206) 801-2650 Fax (206) 801-2650

Kruckeberg Botanic Garden
20312 15th Avenue NW, Shoreline 98177
(206) 546-1281

Departments & Programs
City Manager's Office (206) 801-2213
Code Violations (206) 801-2700
General Info (CIT) (206) 801-2700
Human Services (206) 801-2251
Jobs (206) 801-2243
Neighborhoods & Volunteers (206) 801-2253
Parks and Recreation (206) 801-2600
Permits, Zoning & Land Use (206) 801-2400
Public Works (206) 801-2400
Projects & Engineering (206) 801-2470
Recycling (206) 801-2450
Street Maintenance (206) 801-2440
Traffic Services (206) 801-2430

Shoreline Police

Emergency: 911

Shoreline Police Station
Chief Dan Pingrey
1206 N 185th Street
Shoreline, WA 98133
(206) 801-2710

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

Eastside Neighborhood Police Center
Officer Greg McKinney
521 NE 165th Street
Shoreline, WA 98155
(206) 363-8424

Shoreline City Council

For all Council members (206) 801-2200
council@shorelinewa.gov

Mayor Cindy Ryu (206) 801-2201
cryu@shorelinewa.gov

Deputy Mayor Terry Scott (206) 801-2202
tsscott@shorelinewa.gov

Chris Eggen (206) 801-2206
cceggen@shorelinewa.gov

Ron Hansen (206) 801-2205
rhansen@shorelinewa.gov

Doris McConnell (206) 801-2204
dmcconnell@shorelinewa.gov

Keith McGlashan (206) 801-2203
kmcglashan@shorelinewa.gov

Janet Way (206) 801-2207
jway@shorelinewa.gov

Meeting Location
Shoreline Conference Center, 18560 1st Avenue NE
Agenda Line: (206) 801-2236

Study Sessions: Mt. Rainier Room, first & third Mondays 6:30 p.m.
Business Meetings: Mt. Rainier Room, second & fourth Mondays 7:30 p.m.

Television City Council Meeting
Comcast Cable Channel 21 & Verizon Cable Channel 37
Tuesday noon & 8:00 p.m., Wednesday - Sunday 6:00 a.m., noon & 8:00 p.m.
Also on www.shorelinewa.gov

Popular Numbers

Arts Council (206) 417-4645
CleanScapes (206) 763-4444
Comcast (877) 824-2288
Historical Museum (206) 542-7111
KC District Court (206) 205-9200
KC Libraries (206) 368-4122
Puget Sound Energy (888) 225-5773
Qwest (800) 244-1111
Ronald Wastewater (206) 546-2494
School District (206) 625-3000
Seattle City Light (206) 684-5900
Seattle Public Utilities (206) 365-1536
Senior Center (206) 368-4122
Shoreline Center (206) 533-6500
Shoreline Fire (206) 362-8100
Shoreline Water (206) 296-4466
Verizon (800) 483-4100

City of Shoreline
17500 Midvale Avenue N.
Shoreline, WA 98133-4921