March 2013 Vol. 15 No. 2

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#### Public safety and crime prevention in Shoreline

Shoreline Police are committed to preventing crime and maintaining an environment where people feel safe in their homes and in public spaces.

There are 52 employees assigned to the Shoreline Police Department that serve a population of 53,270 residents. In 2012 Shoreline Police responded to 12,045 calls for service, initiated over 11,000 contacts and issued 6,455 citations. The average response time to an emergency call for service in Shoreline was 3.39 minutes; the national standard is five. Shoreline officers know how important it is to be responsive, arrive safely and handle calls in a professional manner.

Despite the fact that Shoreline continues to be a safe community with a stable crime rate and over 90% of residents reported feeling safe in their neighborhoods during the day; the 2012 Citizen Satisfaction Survey reflected a downward trend in residents' feelings of safety at night and in parks.

There are several possible reasons for this dip in satisfaction levels. One reason could be that in the first half

of 2012, the City experienced several high profile crimes that caught people's attention and impacted their perceptions of safety. Whatever the reasons, the City, and especially the Shoreline Police, take the results very seriously and are working on ways to ensure that everyone is safe and feels safe in our community.

On November 27, 2012, City staff and Police held a crime prevention forum for residents of Shoreline. The purpose of the forum was to hear suggestions from residents for improving safety and crime prevention efforts.

Using insights from the crime prevention focus group, input from police volunteers and an assessment of current public safety programs, the Shoreline Police have developed a crime prevention work plan for 2013-2014 to address community concerns. Two key components of the work plan are to improve communication between Police and the community and to enhance crime prevention efforts such as increasing block watch groups.

Crime prevention does not just in-

volve the Police; it involves the whole community. In this issue of Currents there are several articles that highlight Police crime prevention efforts and ways you can protect yourself and your property.

To learn more about crime prevention programs and services in Shoreline, contact the Police at (206) 801-2710, go to shorelinewa.gov/police, follow Police on Facebook and Twitter, or stop by one of the Police Neighborhood Storefronts.

#### **Special Public Safety Issue**

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## Celebrate!

#### New Celebrate Shoreline festival planned for 2013

Over the years, celebrate Shoreline has grown to a week-long signature event held each August. The celebration now includes a dog fest at Hamlin Park, the North City Jazz Walk, a skateboard competition at Paramount Park and the sandcastle building competition at Richmond Beach, in addition to the original parade and festival in North City and Ridgecrest. These events have provided residents an opportunity to come together as a community and celebrate what it means to live in Shoreline.

While many of the events are well attended and even growing in popularity, parade participation has dropped significantly over the last eight years. Since 2005, the number of participants has declined by over 42%, with the number of local participants

declining by over 55%. At the same time, the cost to put on the parade has increased by almost 50%. This drop, combined with other factors, such as completion of the redesigned Cromwell Park, has led the City to transition to a new event format for 2013.

The most visible changes to the event will be the discontinuation of the parade and the relocation of the festival to Cromwell Park. One of the benefits to Cromwell Park is its a central location in the City.

We believe the changes will provide an opportunity for Shoreline residents to enjoy a bigger and better community celebration. As the schedule for the festival is developed, we'll share it at shorelinewa. gov/specialevents.

For commests or suggestions for the festival, please contact Events Coordinator Pam Barrett at pbarrett@shorelinewa.gov or (206) 801-2634.

The 2013 festival will take place in Cromwell Park, 18030 Meridian Ave N



#### Help plan the first phase of **Sunset School Park**

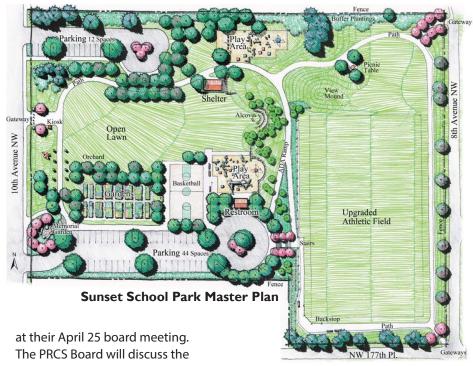
Saturday, March 16 10:00 to 11:30 a.m. **Sunset School Park Site** 17800 10th Avenue NW

Meet at the covered play court at the northeast corner of the site Parking is available along 10th **Avenue** 

Join the City, Friends of Sunset Park and your neighbors to review the site following the Shoreline School District's demolition of the Sunset Elementary School building this past January.

This meeting will provide a list of potential improvements from the Master Site Plan that can be constructed with the limited available budget. The City wants to learn which master plan improvements are most important to you as we prepare our design for the construction in this Phase 1 improvements.

Community comments will be shared with the Parks, Recreation and Cultural Services (PRCS) Board



project and make a recommendation for Phase I Improvements.

In 2012, The School Board approved a resolution declaring that the Sunset site was not currently required for school purposes and authorized the temporary surplus of the property. In January, the City Council approved an agreement with the Shoreline School Districtthat would allow the City to maintain the site as a public park, while still being owned by the Shoreline School District.

Sunset Elementary closed in 2007 and the community, led by the Friends of Sunset Park, has

worked for several years to bring their vision of a park on the site to reality. There is \$205,000 in the City's Capital Improvement Plan budget in 2013-14 to design and construct improvements at the new park site.

Comment forms and more information about the project can be found at shorelinewa.gov/sunset or by contacting Parks Project Coordinator Maureen Colaizzi at mcolaizzi@shorelinewa.gov or (206) 801-2603.

#### MARCH 23 8:30 TO 9:30 P.M.

EARTH HOUR



#### Earth Hour – An Opportunity To Make a Difference

Since 2007, World Wildlife Fund's Earth Hour event has inspired individuals, communities and businesses around the world to turn off their lights for one hour to help protect our planet from climate change. Awareness of our environmental challenges and the commitment to act sustainably have increased to the point that people in 7,000 cities in 152 countries on all seven continents participated in the 2012 event.

Although the City models this type of energy efficiency year-round in its buildings, all non-essential City Hall lights will be turned off during Earth Hour. Shoreline invites all residents and businesses to help make a difference by turning off all non-essential lights from 8:30 p.m. to 9:30 p.m. Pacific time on Saturday, March 23. Visit earthhour.org to learn more.







#### How to create a community project:

Neighborhood and Environmental Mini-Grants Workshop Wednesday, March 20, 6:30 to 8:00 p.m.

**City Hall Council Chamber** 

Did you notice the "socks" on the trees on N. 175th Street just west of I-5 and art in Ronald Bog Park last fall? Did you know there is an outdoor movie night in the Ballinger neighborhood in August? Did you participate in the tours of Shoreline's wildlife-friendly backyards? These projects were organized by Shoreline residents who applied for mini-grant funding. Can you imagine a neighborhood or environmental project that you would like to work on this year? Would you like to connect with others to start a project?

A how-to workshop on March 20 will give you the information you need to apply for either a Neighborhood or Environmental Mini-Grant. Grants of several hundred dollars up to \$5,000 are available on a first-come first-served basis for both types of grants.

Environmental Mini-Grants are used to create a sustainable community through stewardship projects, collaborative community activities and implementation of regional initiatives that protect our environment.

Neighborhood Mini-Grants are used to create neighborhood improvements, increase community involvement and raise the visibility of neighborhood associations.

For more information contact Neighborhoods Coordinator Nora Smith at (206) 801-2253, nsmith@shorelinewa.gov or Environmental Programs Coordinator Rika Cecil at (206) 801-2452, rcecil@shorelinewa.gov.





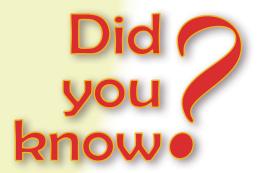
## City launches business mini-grants

In the 2013 budget, the City Council included funds to launch a pilot business mini-grant program that will award up to \$10,000 for eligible projects. The program seeks to improve Shoreline's small business climate by providing matching funds for businesses to collaborate with local artists to grow their business.

"The focus of the grant is on place-making," states Economic Development Manager Dan Eernissee. "Artists often readily understand things that make a place special, where our lives can be positively influenced by beauty, culture, and nature. The business mini-grant is designed to help businesses tap into this artistic ability and awareness. In the process, their business will gain a competitive edge, because we all like to do business in places where we feel good."

Artists and business owners will be encouraged to participate in a QuickStart workshop series designed to complement the mini-grant program. The series will explore such subjects as how to harness neighborhood affinity, how incorporating art into your business can stimulate revenue, and how to gain customers through special events.

Those interested in participating in the pilot business mini-grant program can find more information and an application form by visiting the project page at shorelinewa.gov/businessminigrant.



The average American home uses 25 gallons of hazardous chemicals annually, mostly in the form of cleaning products. It's time for some spring cleaning! Products with "Danger" or "Poison" or "Warning" on the labels are hazardous and may be lurking in your home.

For disposal information, visit HazWasteHelp.org or call (206) 296-4692. Replace them with low-cost, toxic-free cleaning recipes at shorelinewa.gov/greencleaning.





#### Council of Neighorhoods "Building Community"

Put your graphic design skills and creative ideas to work and help the Council of Neighborhoods (CON) create a new look. CON wants a new logo that celebrates the concept of Shoreline as a city of unique but collaborative neighborhoods. CON members are representatives of the 14 neighborhoods in Shoreline who meet monthly to share information and make connections about the exciting events and projects that happen around the City. The new logo will be used on web and print materials as well as event banners.

The goals of the contest are:

- Find a design that visually celebrates the concept of Shoreline as a City of unique but collaborative neighborhoods
- Convey Council of Neighborhood's values of Communication, Connection, Advocacy and Community Building.

Full contest guidelines and rules can be found at shore-linewa/neighborhoods. A small honorarium will be awarded for the winning entry. Entries are due by March 25. For more information, contact neighborhood-coordinator@shorelinewa.gov.



## Top three crime trends in Shoreline

Shoreline continues to be a safe place to live and work, with a crime rate that is lower than many of our comparable cities. Currently, the three most frequent crimes in Shoreline are all non-violent crimes against property: residential burglaries, car prowls and mail theft. Fortunately, there is a lot you can do to help prevent becoming a victim of these crimes.

#### **Residential Burglaries**

Being a victim of a residential burglary can be very traumatic as it happens where we should feel safest –our homes. A large number of such burglaries could easily be avoided. Every month, Police see 30 to 50% of burglaries in Shoreline homes being non-forced entries where burglars enter homes via unlocked doors or windows. A simple sweep of your home before leaving to make sure all of your doors and windows are locked can go a long way in protecting your home from a burglar.

Other issues to consider were brought to our attention by the candid advice of a recently arrested burglary suspect, who admitted to committing numerous residential burglaries in Shoreline, Lake Forest Park, Kirkland and unincorporated King County. When asked why each home he burglarized appealed to him, he replied with the following information:

**Carports** – If the suspect didn't see a car in the carport he assumed no one was home

**Doorbell or Knock** – The suspect would almost always ring the doorbell or knock on the door. If someone answered, he would make up an excuse, such as he was looking for someone. If no one answered he would prowl the house looking for unlocked doors or windows. If he didn't find an unlocked door or window he would force his way into the home.

**Dogs** – The suspect avoided houses with dogs.

**Tall hedges and fences** – The suspect targeted houses with tall hedges or fences as they afforded him privacy and more time to break in.

One of the best ways to protect against burglaries, aside from locking your doors and windows, is to watch for suspicious activity in your neighborhood and be a good neighbor. The suspect discussed above was identified and arrested thanks to an alert neighbor who called 911 immediately upon seeing suspicious activity.

#### **Car Prowls**

Another trend the Shoreline Police have seen is an increase in car prowls. Car prowls involve breaking into cars to steal items left inside. Locking your doors can go a long way in preventing this crime of opportunity. It is also important to not leave valuables in your car and especially not to leave valuables in plain view.

In addition to breaking into cars parked on the street or in a driveway, thieves have started targeting gym parking lots. Suspects enter gym locker rooms looking for unlocked lockers with car keys inside. They steal the keys and use the key fob to find and unlock the car and take items such as credit cards without owners noticing until it is too late. Lock your doors, do not leave valuables in your car and when keeping personal items in a gym locker, be sure to lock it.

## **PUBLIC SAFETY**

#### Crime trends continued

#### **Mail Theft**

Theft of mail from personal mailboxes continues to be a concern in Shoreline. Thieves take mail from mailboxes and easily alter checks and steal identities.

One of the best ways to protect against mail theft is to use the locked cluster mailbox units for several homes or a single residential locking mailbox. These are purchased through private companies and must be approved by the Post Office. The postmaster for Shoreline residents with 98177 or 98133 zip codes can be reached at (206) 364-0663. For residents with a 98155 zip code, call (206) 364-0656.

If you don't have a locking mailbox, then collect your mail every day. One recent suspected mail thief was picked up at 2:30 am with a stack of stolen mail on the passenger seat. Luckily, an alert neighbor called 911 when she saw the suspect taking mail from several mailboxes. Do not leave mail in an unlocked mailbox overnight. If you leave town, even for a few days, stop the mail or have someone pick it up for you every day.

#### Protect yourself and your property

For more crime prevention tips regarding residential burglaries, car prowls, mail theft and other crimes, please visit our website at shorelinewa.gov/police.

## AEDs in patrol cars help to save a life

On January 22, 2013, Shoreline Police Officers Mark Souza and Greg McKinney were recognized by the King County Council for using their patrol car equipped Automatic Electronic Defibrillator (AED) to save the life of a Home Depot employee. In the summer of 2012, the King County Sheriff's Office received AEDs as part of a joint King County Sheriff's Office and Public Health - Seattle/King County program to equip patrol vehicles with life-saving AEDs. A number of Shoreline officers obtained special training on the use of the devices and now have the AEDs in their patrol cars.

On September 2, 2012, an employee at the Home Depot located at Aurora Village suffered cardiac arrest. Another employee began giv-

ing compression CPR and summoned other workers to call 911. Officers McKinney and Souza arrived, relieved the store employee from giving CPR and used their AED to deliver a shock to the patient. They then continued to give CPR until Shoreline Fire and Aid arrived minutes later. Shortly following Aid's arrival, the patient had a spontaneous pulse and blood pressure and was transported to the hospital.

"This is probably one of the most successful responses to a cardiac arrest that our system can provide," stated Shoreline Fire Department Medical Services Officer John Nankervis. "I would even say this is a 'textbook' example of the 'Chain of survival' and how important both bystanders and the speedy response of someone with an AED and CPR skills are for a person to survive."

The City has applied for grants and will continue to seek grant funds to support the expansion of AEDs in Shoreline police cars.

Officer Mark Souza, Chief Shawn Ledford and Officer Greg McKinney



## **PUBLIC SAFETY**

#### **Crime prevention starts with you**

Shoreline Police are steadfast in their commitment to prevent crime, but they can't do it alone. Crime prevention is a community effort, which is why Police emphasize their working partnership with residents and businesses. By partnering with individuals and organizations, Police strengthen community ties and empower residents, which help to reduce crime.

#### **Block Watch**

Forming a Block Watch can be one of the best ways to prevent crime in your neighborhood. Block Watch has shown to be one of the most successful anticrime programs in the country and is proven to reduce burglaries. The simple premise is neighbors getting to know neighbors and watching out for one another. Block Watch focuses on watchfulness, communication, security, and crime prevention through environmental design (CPTED) (e.g. cutting shrubbery back from the house so potential burglars don't have easy places to hide.)

If you are interested in hosting a Block Watch meeting in your neighborhood, follow these three steps:

- 1. Identify a group of neighbors (approx 5 15) that are in close proximity and can look out for each other.
- 2. Sergeant Steve Sowers will assist you with selecting a date/location and how to invite your neighbors; contact him at steve.sowers@kingcounty. gov or (206) 801-2710.
- 3. An officer will conduct the meeting and provide crime trend information and safety tips specific to your neighborhood. The meetings generally last 45-60 minutes.

Don't let crime win by waiting until your neighbor or you become a victim. We are committed to helping you start a Block Watch today!

# Police volunteer conducts a vacation house check

#### Vacation House Checks

If you are heading out of town for an extended trip and need someone to check on your house while you are away, Police trained volunteer teams can help. Volunteers will check on your house and make sure it is secure and notify you if any problems arise.

Vacation home checks are free; just sign-up at either Police Neighborhood Storefront.

#### Residential and Business CPTED surveys

Shoreline Police also offer residents and businesses Crime Prevention Through Environmental Design (CPT-ED) surveys. CPTED is a method of looking at the environment around your neighborhood and your property and finding ways to make it safer by instituting easy design changes. For instance, by improving lighting or clearing vegetation away from windows and entryways it makes it difficult for potential burglars to hide. We can also make recommendations on the proper hardware and simple installation that can significantly reduce the chance of a burglar being able to break into your home. CPTED certified volunteers will come to your home or business and perform surveys to aid in security and crime reduction.

"It makes us feel much more comfortable knowing that an extra pair of eyes will be checking our home while we are on vacation."

- Shoreline resident



#### **Business Watch**

Business Watch is an umbrella of several commercial security programs supporting crime and loss prevention in the business community. The program's purpose is to establish a sense of community awareness among business owners in an effort to prevent crimes against businesses. In addition to creating monthly crime maps and summaries tailored specifically to businesses, businesses can have CPTED surveys done of their property and can complete emergency contact notification cards so Police will know whom to contact in an emergency.

#### Crime Maps and Summaries

Knowing where and what types of crimes occur in your neighborhood can also help your crime prevention efforts.

CrimeReports.com provides up to date local crime maps that list the type of crime and location. CrimeReports maps information from all King County police agencies and provides a broader representation of regional crime.

Shoreline Police also provide monthly crime maps indicating where the most common property crimes occurred in Shoreline the previous month. There are maps for crimes in residential areas and in commercial areas. Visit shorelinewa.gov/blockwatch and shorelinewa.gov/businesswatch to view the most recent maps.

#### **Free Gun Locks**

If you own a gun and have young children at home, it is essential that you find a way to ensure the gun is stored safely and properly. To help ensure gun safety, Police, through grants from Project Child Safe and the U.S. Department of Justice, are providing free gun locks to Shoreline residents.

The cable locks are designed to work on all types of handguns, shot-

guns, and rifles. Since the locks are intended as only one deterrent for children, safe storage of guns and talking to your children about gun safety are also important.

#### **More Information**

For more information on crime prevention programs and services, contact the Shoreline Police Department at (206) 801-2710 or visit shorelinewa.gov/police.

#### **Shoreline Police Contact Information**

#### Dial 9-1-1 for emergencies

#### After hour non-emergency line

(206) 296-3311

#### **Shoreline Police Station**

Chief Shawn Ledford 1206 N 185th Street Shoreline, WA 98133 (206) 801-2710 sledford@shorelinewa.gov

#### **Hours**

8:30 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.



#### **Storefront Officer Leona Obstler**

leona.obstler@kingcounty.gov

#### Westside Police Neighborhood Storefront

624 NW Richmond Beach Road Shoreline, WA 98177 (206) 546-3636

#### Eastside Police Neighborhood Storefront

521 NE 165th Street Shoreline, WA 98155 (206) 363-8424

#### **Storefront Hours\***

M - F: 9:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.

\*Storefronts are staffed by volunteers; hours subject to change.





## PUBLIC SAFETY

## Police partner with Shoreline schools for student safety

The Shoreline Police Department partners with a number of different agencies and organizations in the community to help ensure public safety. However, there is probably no partnership the Police take more seriously than that with the Shoreline School District.

#### **School Resource Officer**

A prime example of this is the City's commitment to the School Resource Officer (SRO) program. Shoreline Police have an officer dedicated to Shoreline's two public high schools. Paid for by the City and partial funding from the School District, the SRO has become an integral link between the School District and the Police. Shoreline's SRO Rob Bardsley has made it his goal to create a strong

partnership between the Police and School District to provide a safe environment in which students, teachers, parents and the community can fulfill the School District's mission and goals.

Officer Bardsley is more than just a "cop" in the school; he is a mentor, a role model and a coach to our high school students. By being on campus and working closely with students, staff and parents, Officer Bardsley's early intervention has often helped troubled students avoid the criminal justice system.

#### **Active shooter training**

Another way the Police work closely with the School District is with active shooter training and school lockdown exercises. In the past decade, local law enforcement agencies across the country have experienced a spike in violent behavior targeting vulnerable locations, such as schools, shopping centers, and movie theaters.

While studying these events

have provided little understanding of why such violent behavior takes place, we do have a better understanding of how law enforcement agencies can respond. Lessons learned have shown that aggressive and decisive action must be taken immediately to stop and limit the scope of the violence.

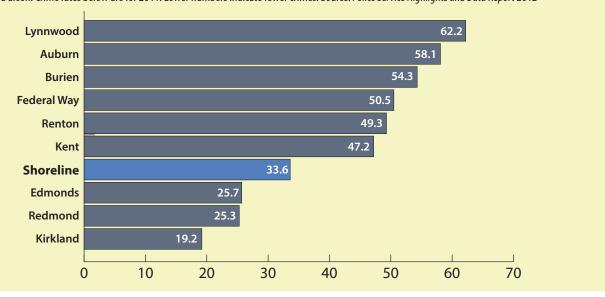
Shoreline Police have trained on Active Shooter and Patrol (ASAP) team tactics. ASAP teams are trained to enter active shooter situations as quickly as possible to eliminate the threat. By drawing on the expertise of multiple sources, Shoreline Police have designed a program that can fit a large number of scenarios.

In the coming year, Shoreline Police will work closely with the School District and private schools in Shoreline to discuss and train on safety issues including what to do in an active shooter situation.



#### **Crime rate comparison**

The Crime Rate is a calculation of the number of Part I Crimes divided by population in thousands. Part I Crimes is a category of crimes established by the FBI. It includes criminal homicide, forcible rape, robbery, aggravated assault, burglary, larceny-theft, motor vehicle theft, and arson. Crime rates below are for 2011. Lower numbers indicate fewer crimes. Source: *Police Service Highlights and Data Report 2012* 



#### Domestic violence advocate services in Shoreline

When domestic violence occurs, it impacts the whole community. Unfortunately, Shoreline is not immune from it. In 2011, the City Prosecutor filed 130 misdemeanor domestic violence cases in Shoreline. Washington State law defines domestic violence offenses as virtually any criminal act committed by one "family or household member" against another (RCW 10.99.020.5). Misdemeanor domestic violence offenses are prosecuted by the Shoreline Prosecutor in King County District Court, while felony offenses are prosecuted by the King County **Prosecutor in King County Superior** Court.

The City's domestic violence response services are designed to assist victims and their children and to hold offenders accountable for their actions. This is accomplished through a partnership among the Shoreline Police, Prosecutor, Domestic Violence Victim Coordinator and community-based agencies that address domestic violence.

#### Domestic Violence Victim Coordinator

The Domestic Violence Victim Coordinator works for the City Prosecutor's Office to support victims and help manage cases. This includes receiving case information and identifying domestic violence indicators, informing victims of their rights and acting as a liaison between victims and the City Prosecutor. For more information, the City's Domestic Violence Victim Coordinator can be reached at (206) 296-9435.

#### **New Beginnings**

The City partners with the non-profit community service agency
New Beginnings to provide a variety
of services to survivors of domestic
violence. New Beginnings provides
comprehensive domestic violence
services, including a 24-hour crisis line,
emergency shelter, advocacy based
counseling, legal advocacy, support
groups, services to children, and referrals. The New Beginnings 24-hour help
line can be reached at (206) 522-9472,
and their website is at newbegin.org.

#### **Shoreline Police**

Shoreline Police are trained on how to respond to domestic violence calls and are ready to help victims and their children if other resources are not readily available. Shoreline Police's Community Service Officer (CSO) Dahlia Corona led the implementation of an "Emergency Housing" program for survivors of domestic violence in emergency situations. The program provides confidential shelter to domestic violence survivors that do not have a safe place to stay (up to three days) when shelters are not readily available or family members are not an option. The program has proved invaluable and has enabled our police officers to provide emergency food and shelter to numerous families.

If you or someone you know is a victim of domestic violence, please contact one of the resources listed in this article for assistance.

### **Point Wells Update**

Located just across Shoreline's border with Snohomish County, Point Wells is a former petroleum and asphalt plant accessible only through Shoreline's Richmond Beach neighborhood. In 2009, the property owner began the process of changing the parcel's zoning in order to allow a new development of approximately 3,100 residential units and 100,000 square feet of commercial use.

Although the City of Shoreline, the Town of Woodway, and the citizens group Save Richmond Beach (SRB) have taken legal actions aimed at reducing the scale of the proposed development at Point Wells, the development is poised to move forward.

A development of such size will impact all Shoreline residents, whether directly or indirectly. Most direct impacts will be felt by the neighborhoods located in the northwestern part of the City, particularly Richmond Beach. Traffic will increase significantly in the area, which will have ripple effects for a large part of Shoreline.

The indirect impacts will be felt by all Shoreline residents. If the development is built as planned, it has the potential of increasing the area's population by more than 6,000 people, all requiring local services. Because of these anticipated impacts, the City is including an annexation provision in any agreement with the property owner and with Snohomish County so the cost of providing these services are shared by the residents of Point Wells.

#### **Latest Developments**

On January 7, 2013, the Washington State Court of Appeals ruled against Woodway and SRB, resulting in the developer, BSRE Point Wells, LP (BSRE), having a vested permit application under Snohomish County's Urban Center designation. The Court's decision clears the way for Snohomish County to process BSRE's permit allowing the project as proposed to move forward.

While SRB has filed an appeal with the Washington State Supreme Court, the City believes there is too much legal uncertainty not to plan for the proposed BSRE development at Point Wells. The City has a responsibility to take actions that mitigate the anticipated impacts caused by the development and to protect the long-term interests of our community. Therefore, the City is continuing to negotiate agreements with BSRE and Snohomish County.

#### **Proposed agreement with BSRE**

On March 4, 2011, BSRE submitted a project application to Snohomish County in accordance with the County's Urban Center code. The application was accepted by Snohomish County planning officials as being a complete application therefore triggering a "vested" permit for BSRE.

Given that this development is controlled by Snohomish County regulations, the City has focused on influencing the scale of the project and mitigating its impacts by negotiating an agreement with BSRE. The City's primary interests have included addressing the increase in traffic, safety concerns of pedestrians, bicyclists, and motorists, and the commitment to fund improvements and ongoing maintenance. In August 2011, the City informed the community of its intentions to negotiate an agreement by issuing a Letter of Intent (LOI), which outlined the conditions required of an agreement with BSRE.

The terms of the agreement, which were also outlined in the LOI, include:

- A traffic cap on the maximum number of vehicle trips on Richmond Beach Drive NW leaving from the Point Wells development;
- A requirement that the impacts from Point Wells traffic do not result in intersection delays beyond the City's standard;
- A Transportation Corridor Study that goes above and beyond the required Snohomish County process by providing Shoreline residents with a voice in how the impacts from the development are managed;
- Guaranteed funding for safety and traffic flow improvements needed as a result of the additional traffic during construction and from the future residents of the Point Wells development; and
- Legal provisions for the City of Shoreline to annex Point Wells in order to provide a long-term funding source for ongoing maintenance and operating costs. The burden of maintaining these services should not be left solely to existing Shoreline taxpayers without adequate measures to compensate for it. With annexation, Point Wells becomes part of the City of Shoreline tax base.

The City believes an agreement will provide residents with a direct role in identifying mitigation and in developing a plan to lessen adverse impacts.

#### Alternatives to an agreement

#### Continue to seek legal challenges

While some may believe a legal challenge provides the best mechanism for opposing the development, leaving that decision to the courts provides no control or certainty over the outcome, as demonstrated with the recent Court of Appeals decision in favor of BSRE. After issuing the LOI, the City responded to the community's urging to delay negotiating an agreement by consulting with the Foster Pepper law firm, a state leader in representing municipalities on environmental and land use law. Foster Pepper concurred that litigation would most likely be unsuccessful, which was confirmed in the recent Court of Appeals decision in favor of BSRE. The City continues to believe the certainty and control of a negotiated agreement directly with BSRE provides the most effective way to protect the community's long-term interests.

#### Eliminate road access to Point Wells

A suggestion the City often hears from residents is to close or block access to Point Wells. Pursuing this approach puts the City at risk of a legal challenge. Such a strategy has been used in Washington State before and was ruled unlawful.

#### Establish a Metropolitan Park District and purchase Point Wells for a park

Another alternative the City reviewed was the concept of establishing a Metropolitan Park District. While the City has the legal means to condemn the property for public use as a park, the City must compensate the private property owner at fair market value. In examining what this might cost taxpayers, the City used an estimated value of \$50 million repaid over 20 years. It would also require a public vote with at least 60% approval. If the District included all of Shoreline and the Town of Woodway, it would cost the average homeowner in Shoreline approximately \$189 and an average homeowner in Woodway \$550 annually. To put this in perspective, for the 2006 Parks Bond, the average Shoreline homeowner is paying \$70 per year over a 15 year period. The City believes this alternative would have many hurdles to overcome.

#### Mitigation determined by Snohomish County

Under Snohomish County's code, BSRE is required to complete a transportation study to anticipate impacts of the development and to identify mitigation to address those impacts through the SEPA process. This is the default course of action that would prevail in the absence of an agreement with BSRE. Following this process, BSRE would not be required to include public participation opportunities as part of the study. Furthermore, BSRE would not be obligated to negotiate directly with the City of Shoreline for any mitigation. Although the City would have an opportunity to comment on the impacts and provide input on what should be considered for mitigation, Snohomish County ultimately would make the final decision on what conditions may or may not apply to the permit.



#### **Transportation Corridor Study**

The proposed development will take an estimated 20 to 25 years to reach full build out. However, it is during the permitting process that impacts and mitigations must be identified.

A transportation corridor study will allow the community, City staff, and BSRE to examine the effects of additional traffic on Richmond Beach Drive, Richmond Beach Road, surrounding side streets and other major intersections continuing on N 185th Street to I-5. This includes looking at the time spent waiting at intersections, ability for residents to safely access their driveways or intersections, and safety concerns for pedestrians and bicyclists.

Through negotiations, BSRE will be required to invest the time and resources to ensure the study meets the community's expectations for public input. To ensure the process is objective, the City will be hiring a third party facilitator.

The process includes a series of workshops that will give residents an opportunity to explain and show on maps exactly the kinds of capital investments that will make for a safer corridor for pedestrians, bicyclists and motorists. The final recommendations and preferred concept will be presented to Council at a meeting in late April or early May.

For questions or comments about the transportation corridor study, please contact Transportation Planning Manager Kirk McKinley at kmckinley@shorelinewa.gov or (206) 801-2481.



## Residents help plan for light rail

Regional Public Forum Tuesday, April 16, 7:00 to 9:00 p.m. Shoreline-LFP Senior Center 18560 1st Avenue NE

Regular meetings First Monday of each month 7:30 p.m. City Hall Room 303

Ten years from now light rail transit to the City will be a reality, bringing changes not only to the way we commute, but to the City as a whole. Rapid transit will bring new people, new businesses and new opportunities to our City. It is critical that we plan now so that the changes to come are positive and bring benefits for our entire population.

Early in 2012, members of the Echo Lake Neighborhood Association recognized that the development of the new light rail station at 185th could significantly change the neighborhoods around it. Since the station location is at the intersection of three neighborhoods, they reached out to the Meridian Park and North City neighborhoods and in September, held a public forum

with presentations from Sound Transit and City of Shoreline staff. Nearly 100 people attended and heard about the planning process and schedule, and about the City Council's framework goals for the development of the station area.

Seeing the large expression of community interest, the three neighborhood associations decided to form a permanent joint committee to serve as a grassroots voice of the neighborhoods to communicate their vision to City and Sound Transit staff. This committee, called the 185th Station Citizens Committee (185thSCC), was established with encouragement from the Shoreline City Council, and with the vision "to provide educational outreach and create a citizen-driven vision of development for the proposed light rail 185th station-area."

Its goal is to ensure that the process is inclusive of all populations in our neighborhoods, with special attention to those populations who are historically underserved. Grant funds were awarded jointly to the 185thSCC and Futurewise from the Puget Sound Regional Council to work together to accomplish these goals. 185thSCC is also working closely with Senior Services, who is working to reach the senior commu-

nity in Shoreline about the changes light rail will bring to the community. The partnerships with these non-profit organizations will ensure coordination of efforts and efficiency in the use of the public funds.

In April, a second public forum will be held with representatives of the Rainier Valley, Capitol Hill and Northgate communities sharing their experiences, lessons they learned and helping us know what to expect. These three communities are at different stages in the development of light rail and this will be an opportunity to ask questions and benefit from their experiences. The meeting will be held on Tuesday, April 16 from 7:00 to 9:00 PM at the Shoreline-Lake Forest Park Senior

Anyone interested in joining the committee and helping to shape the community's vision can attend a monthly meeting, held on the first Monday of each month at 7:30 PM in Room 303, Shoreline City Hall. Information about the committee, cochaired by Suzanne Wynne and Dale Lydin, can be found on its website at be.futurewise.org/content\_item/shoreline185.

Any inquiries can be sent by e-mail at 185scc@gmail.com.



#### **Eats4Health Month Kickoff Event**

Tuesday, April 2, 6:00 to 8:30 p.m. **City Hall Council Chambers & Lobby** 

#### **Keynote address: Cynthia Lair - "The soup notices"**

Join us for a free event to kick off Shoreline Eats4Health month! This second annual kickoff event is a fun way to learn more about eating well. Before and after a keynote address, residents can sample food, pick up new recipes and get information on making healthy food and lifestyle choices at a vendor fair of local companies and organizations.

The keynote will be given by Cynthia Lair, Assistant Professor and Culinary Curriculum Director at Bastyr University. She's also the author of Feeding the Whole Family (Sasquatch Books, 2008) and Feeding the Young Athlete: Sports Nutrition Made Easy for Players, Parents and Coaches (Readers to Eaters, 2012) and the host of the online cooking show Cookus Interruptus where there are over 170 videos showing you how to cook fresh local organic whole foods despite life's interruptions. (www.cookus.tv). In fall 2012 she was invited to do a TEDx talk titled "How to Cut an Onion."

Lair's talk, "The soup notices," will be on mindful cooking: When you shop for food, where are your thoughts? How about when you prepare your meals? Your sense of well-being can soar if you wake up and enter the present moment when you cook. Stress dissolves, habitual choices change and the food tastes better.

For information on the City's Healthy Strategy and other Shoreline4Health events, visit the web page at shorelinewa.gov/shoreline4health.



#### **Upcoming Events**

#### Saturday, March 9

10:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m.

Volunteer work party at Richmond Beach Saltwater Park

#### 6:30 to 10:00 p.m.

Free Tween Night for 5th and 6th graders at Richmond Highlands Rec Center

#### Monday, March 11

No City Council meeting

#### Saturday, March 16

10:00 to 11:30 a.m. Sunset School Park design update meeting at park site. More info on page 3.

#### Saturday, April 6

10:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. Volunteer work party at

Richmond Beach Saltwater Park

#### 10:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m.

Volunteer tree planting and restoration work party at South Woods Park, 2210 NW 150th Street

#### 11:00 .m. to 1:00 p.m.

Community garden season opener and spring cleaning celebration. Bring a potluck item and your gardening supplies!

#### Saturday, April 13

10:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.

**Emergency Preparedness and** Safety Fair at Shoreline Central Market, 15505 Westminster Way N

#### Quick Start Shoreline

#### Free Small Business Workshops

Tuesdays at Noon

City Hall Council Chambers. Visit the City's website for topics.



Currents is produced by the City Manager's Office, (206) 801-2217, ebratton@shorelinewa.gov

#### **Alternate formats** available upon request



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We're on Facebook and YouTube!





#### **City of Shoreline**

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

Spartan Recreation Center 202 NE 185th Street, Shoreline 98155 (206) 801-2600 Fax (206) 393-3380

Shoreline Pool 19030 1st Avenue NE, Shoreline 98155 (206) 801-2650 Fax (206) 362-8450

#### **Shoreline Police Emergency: 911**

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

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

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

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City Council Meetings

Mondays at 7:00 p.m. (no meetings on fifth Monday of month)
Shoreline City Hall, Council Chambers

Agendas: (206) 801-2236 or shorelinewa.gov/councilmeetings

Televised City Council Meetings Comcast Cable Channel 21 & Frontier Cable Channel 37 Tuesday noon & 8:00 p.m., Wednesday - Sunday 6:00 a.m., noon & 8:00 p.m.