



CURRENTS

News from the City of Shoreline Volume 16 No. 2

March 2014

Vision 2029 calls for housing for all

Imagine if Shoreline was a community where everyone had the opportunity to live in a safe, healthy, and affordable home in the neighborhood of their choice. Shoreline's Vision 2029 describes a city that "offers a wide diversity of housing types and choices, meeting the needs of everyone from newcomers to long-term residents."

Housing choice allows older adults to move out of their large single-family homes, but stay in their neighborhoods. It allows new families to be welcomed into existing neighborhoods before they may be ready to buy a single-family home. With the median price of a home in Shoreline being approximately \$352,000, homeownership is out of reach for many Shoreline families. Having a variety of housing options will allow more of our residents to find affordable housing of their choice.

Many may be surprised at the challenges faced by young or single parents, veterans, and seniors in securing affordable housing with access to jobs and services in Shoreline. According to data from the U.S. Census Bureau's 2008-2012 American Community Survey, approximately 38% of homeowners and 50% of renters in Shoreline spend more than 30% of their income on housing, which is the threshold of what is considered affordable. These households have less to spend on other basic necessities such as food, clothing, and transportation.

To join the conversation about housing, come to the Housing For All Forum sponsored by the City on Thursday, March 20 (details below). At the forum you can share your stories, learn more about housing issues in Shoreline, and help brainstorm solutions.

As a follow-up to the Forum, the Planning Commission will discuss housing at its Thursday, April 3, meeting. The Planning Commission will hear from residents experiencing difficulties finding an affordable place to live in Shoreline, and organizations whose mission involves developing affordable housing.

Housing for All Forum

Thursday, March 20 - 7:00 to 9:00 p.m.
Prince of Peace Lutheran Church
14514 20th Avenue NE

MORE INFORMATION:

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CITY COUNCIL MEETINGS:
Mondays at 7:00 p.m.
Shoreline City Hall, Council Chamber
Agendas: shorelinewa.gov/councilmeetings

Mayor and City Manager meet with Federal representatives

In February, Mayor Shari Winstead, City Manager Debbie Tarry, and Intergovernmental Relations Manager Scott MacColl traveled to Washington D.C. to meet with Shoreline's federal delegation and their staff. These meetings provide an opportunity for our representatives to hear first-hand about the City's priorities, needs, and concerns in relation to federal policies and funding.

In the past five years, our relationship with federal legislators has been instrumental in securing over \$46 million in federal, state, and regional grants in the past five years. As long as there is an opportunity to bring Shoreline taxpayers' money back to Shoreline, these legislative trips will continue to be important.

On the most recent trip, the Mayor and City Manager emphasized three main points. First, that a strong federal-local partnership is required for the City to fulfill its long-term vision for creating transit oriented communities around our light rail stations. In nine years, Shoreline residents will be boarding light rail trains at the NE 145th and 185th Street stations. To make transit oriented developments a reality, the City will need to take ownership of and reconstruct 145th Street and we will need increased capacity in the water, sewer, and electrical infrastructure around the stations areas to prepare for density and growth. The City will need federal, state, and regional financial support to make it possible.

A second area of concern is a proposed change in how Transportation Investment Generating Economic Recovery (TIGER) grants are dispersed. Representative Rick Larsen has proposed a 50,000 population threshold for a third of the grants distributed to cities. Shoreline, with a population of 53,000, would like to see that threshold raised so that we can apply for those grants.

Finally, Shoreline is concerned about proposed changes to how Community Development Block Grants (CDBG) funds are awarded. The City currently receives \$250,000 every year in CDBG grants and uses that money to maintain human services programs at our senior center and our Minor Home Repair (MHRP) program. The MHRP is used for low-income residents to make investments in their homes. If the proposed changes were to go into effect, the City would lose the funds that help pay for these valuable programs.



Get the latest news at shorelinewa.gov

Read weekly City news updates from City Manager Debbie Tarry at shorelinewa.gov/weeklyupdate. The Manager's news includes information on upcoming Council issues, City projects, state and federal legislation that affects us locally, and more. News is updated by Wednesday each week.



At Shoreline's home improvement workshops, residents receive personalized help with their projects.

Free workshops for your home improvement projects

Wednesday, March 26 and Wednesday, April 30
6:00 to 8:00 p.m., City Hall lobby

Summer is coming! Do you have a home improvement project in mind, but need some guidance to get started? Is it a house remodel, subdivision of property, driveway, drainage, deck, or a tree project? The City is offering two workshops to help Shoreline residents take the next steps with their projects.

Visit shorelinewa.gov/homeimprovement to sign up and reserve a time slot with one of the City's technical reviewers. Be sure to leave your address so we can have maps of your property ready for your appointment. After the first workshop you can sign up to refine your plans further at the second workshop.

Technical reviewers will be available to help with questions regarding your house, property, land uses, and street as well as City requirements and permit information. There will also be:

1. Lists of Shoreline consultants, contractors, and material suppliers;
2. Work tables, handouts, and maps of your property available; and
3. A local designer, Master Gardener, energy auditor, material supplier, home loan agent, and a grant funding program representative for residential drainage improvements available to answer questions. (You do not need to reserve a time slot to come in and talk with any of these consultants).

Contact Planning Manager Paul Cohen at (206) 801-2551 or pcohen@shorelinewa.gov if you have questions. Bring your plans and ideas. We hope to see you there!

Get the latest Aurora construction news

For questions or concerns about construction, call the 24-hour project hotline at (206) 801-2485 or email aurora@shorelinewa.gov.

Construction on Aurora Avenue from 192nd Street to 205th Street is scheduled to last until fall of 2015. Work has begun on the west side of Aurora and will move to the east side in late fall of 2014.

Visit shorelinewa.gov/aurora for project news updated weekly or sign up for Alert Shoreline at shorelinewa.gov/alert to be notified by email with important news about the work.



Point Wells Transportation Corridor Study Workshops

As part of their agreement with each other, the City and the property owner, BSRE, are jointly conducting a Transportation Corridor Study to focus extensively on the Point Wells project's transportation impacts to the Shoreline community.

Workshops began in February and will continue through mid-April. Please join us for an opportunity to explain your transportation concerns and work with your neighbors to identify potential solutions.

6:30 p.m. - Doors open

7:00 to 9:00 p.m. - Workshop
Shoreline City Hall

Thursday, March 13 - Segment A*

Wednesday, March 19 - Segment B*

Tuesday, April 1 - Segment B

Wednesday, April 16 - Segment A&B

**Segment A meetings will focus on the area west of 24th Avenue NW. Segment B meetings focus on the area east of 24th Ave NW.*





Mini-Grants Available For Neighborhood and Environmental Projects

Did you see the Echo Lake neighborhood mural on NE 205th at 1st Avenue NE? Have you visited the new plantings, mural and Ridgecrest sign at 5th Avenue NE and NE 165th Streets? Did you participate in Outdoor Movie Night or view *Dirt! The Movie*, “a story with heart and soil”?

These projects were organized by Shoreline neighborhoods that applied for mini-grant funding. Would you like to have fun and improve the community with a neighborhood or environmental project this year?

Neighborhood or Environmental Mini-Grants are available for projects ranging from several hundred dollars up to \$5,000. Funds 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.

MORE INFORMATION

Neighborhoods Coordinator

Nora Smith

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Environmental Programs Coordinator

Rika Cecil

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Ridgecrest neighborhood volunteers planting trees

SustainableWorks continues energy assessments in Shoreline

SustainableWorks continues to provide Shoreline residents with home energy assessments to save energy, lower your utility bills, increase your home's comfort and value, and reduce your carbon footprint. The one day energy saving program combines an assessment of your home's energy usage with immediate improvements to your home's energy efficiency such as duct sealing, air sealing, and installation of energy saving light bulbs. The Save Energy Today program is a \$150 cost to the homeowner (\$1200 value).

SustainableWorks is a non-profit and is funded through a grant managed by Washington State University Energy Program. To learn more about SustainableWorks' Save Energy Today program visit sustainableworks.com or find them on Facebook.

DID YOU KNOW?

Every year the City inspects storm drains to determine whether they need maintenance. One of the most common maintenance needs is sediment removal. In 2013, approximately 50 tons of sediment were removed and disposed of. You can help reduce this unwanted sediment by not allowing dirt and grime from car washing, pressure washing, and landscaping activities to enter the storm drains. By keeping these pollutants out, our community will enjoy cleaner streams and a healthier Puget Sound. Questions? Contact Water Quality Specialist Jennifer Adams at (206) 801-2453 or jadams@shorelinewa.gov.

Shoreline Film Office announces free screening of *Pacific Aggression*



Wednesday, April 2
4:30 p.m. and 7:30 p.m.
Shoreline Community College
Main Stage Theater

The Shoreline Film Office, a collaborative effort to expand digital media production in Shoreline led by the City and Shoreline Community College, is excited to announce the first two public screenings of *Pacific Aggression*, a film written and directed by Washington Filmworks Innovation Award Winner Shaun Scott.

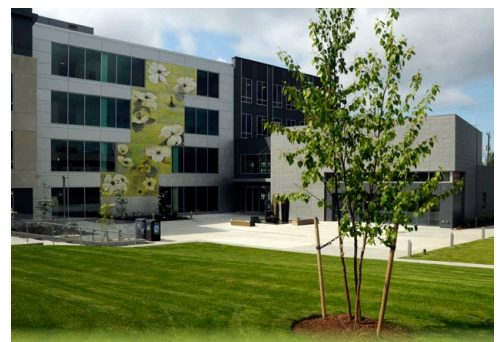
The Film Office was instrumental in helping Scott bring his script to the screen. "The Shoreline Film Office is amazing!" Scott exclaimed. "I was given affordable office and rehearsal space, students worked on my production, and I shot many scenes in Shoreline."

"Having Shaun [a Shorewood and Shoreline Community College graduate] back on campus inspires our students," noted Tony Doupe, Director of SCC's acclaimed Performance Arts/Digital Film Program.

The film was also made possible in part by a Shoreline Business Mini-Grant, which awards grants to artists like Scott who partner with Shoreline businesses. Scott teamed with Isaac Meek, founder and owner of Shoreline's Undercaste Studios, a recording, mixing, and masking studio of pop, hip hop, R&B, and electronic music.

Starring 2010 Stranger Genius Marya Sea Kaminski and Seattle-area theatre veteran Trevor Young Marston, *Pacific Aggression* is a highly-stylized tour of times ever framed by technology in the 21st Century. Shaun Scott will curate the 4:30 p.m. screening of *Pacific Aggression* by showing the film in segments with commentary and Q & A. The uninterrupted 7:30 p.m. screening will be followed by a talk-back. *Pacific Aggression* will likely be rated PG-13 when released.

The public screenings are free and limited to the capacity of the SCC Main Stage Theater. Parking is available for a fee on the SCC campus at 16101 Greenwood Avenue N.



Volunteers needed for City Hall front desk

The City is looking for friendly reception volunteers who can answer questions and provide great customer service to callers and City Hall visitors.

Volunteers must be willing to commit to at least one 4 hour shift per week for a period of one year.

For an application or more information contact Carla Hoekzema at choekzema@shorelinewa.gov or (206) 801-2230.

Earth Hour 2014 March 29 - 8:30 to 9:30 p.m.

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. Last year, more than 7,000 cities and towns across the world participated, including Shoreline.

Again this year, all non-essential City Hall lights will be turned off during Earth Hour. We invite all Shoreline residents and businesses to join us and turn off lights between 8:30 p.m. and 9:30 p.m. on Saturday, March 29.



Enjoy our parks with your pet!

Reminder: dogs must be kept on leash unless they're in a designated off-leash area. Please respect other park users and stop bothersome behaviors immediately.

Help protect the environment and keep our parks and streets clean by scooping, bagging, and disposing of pet waste in a trash can.



Police begin new safe community initiative in parks

Beginning January 1, the Shoreline Police Department assumed the responsibility of locking park gates and restrooms when City parks close for the night. This added police presence furthers the City Council's commitment to promoting and enhancing the City's safe community and neighborhood programs and initiatives.

"This effort has become part of our community policing program aimed at increasing officer presence in our park system while at the same time meeting a need for the Parks Department," stated Police Chief Shawn Ledford.

In the past, the Parks Department has contracted out for this service. The decision to shift this responsibility to the Police Department has resulted in an annual cost savings of \$15,000, but the most notable benefit may be the added security this service provides. Just two days into the effort an officer arrested two individuals



Police officers close and lock all park restrooms and gates every night. The above gate at Kayu Kayu AC is one of the City's public art pieces entitled *Traveling Traditions on the Salish Sea* by artist David Franklin.

for outstanding criminal warrants after finding them in one of the park restrooms after hours. Increased police presence in parks has also led to the arrest of a prolific vandalism suspect who is likely responsible for between forty and fifty offences within the City

in the past three months.

Security in our parks and neighborhoods has always been a community priority. Citizens are encouraged to call 911 to report any suspicious or illegal activity in our parks or neighborhoods.

Police Community Outreach Office now open at City Hall

In 2013, we saw some changes in how Shoreline Police engage with our community. Both the East and West storefronts were combined into the new Community Outreach Office located on the second floor of City Hall.

The new office combines the dedicated police volunteers from both storefronts into one location. The move allows for closer interaction between City staff, Police, and volunteers, and also starts the preparation for the eventual relocation of the Police Department to City Hall.

As always, our volunteers are available to answer your questions whether you call by phone or walk-in. Our new Officer for the Community Outreach Office is Steve Perry, a 9-year member of the King County Sheriff's Office. Before becoming the Community Outreach Officer he worked second shift patrol in Shoreline. Steve is also a member of the Sheriff's office TAC-30(SWAT) team. With his positive personality,

ability to effectively communicate, and creativity Steve is a perfect complement to the position. Steve will be available for community meetings to discuss neighborhood problems or concerns and will have the time to devote to solving problems now normally handled by patrol officers.

Stop in and say hello to Steve or any one of our dedicated police volunteers; they would love to share with you what they do and what the Community Outreach Office has to offer.

Shoreline City Hall, 2nd Floor
17500 Midvale Avenue N
(206) 801-2764
Hours vary, call for availability



Officer Steve Perry

SHORELINE FIRE DEPARTMENT

Celebrating 75 years of service to the Shoreline community!



Child Fire Safety

Parents often ask if they should put a TotFinder sticker in their children's windows. Shoreline Fire, along with the United States Fire Administration and the National Fire Protection Association, does not distribute or even recommend the use of TotFinder window stickers.

There is no way to assure that during a fire a child will be in the room where the sticker is posted. Most people do not remove the sticker when their kids grow up or even move away. This can cause fire crews to spend valuable time and resources focusing on a specific location unnecessarily. Also, many families do not like the idea of identifying rooms where their children sleep to passersby.

Most importantly, fire safety education experts recommend that families focus on having a fire escape plan and practicing it regularly instead of relying on the sticker. The fire department is concerned that parents might believe that TotFinder stickers replace the need for working smoke alarms, a safety plan, and vigilance about fire prevention at home. Having these will be most important in keeping your family safe.

Need to work on that fire and emergency plan as a family? Check out sparky.org or fema.gov/kids/ for activities, games and information that are fun for the whole family.

Plan a visit to the Children's Safety Center

The Shoreline Fire Department's Safety Center in Richmond Beach is celebrating its seventh year of operation. Hundreds of local preschoolers have put it on their list of favorite places to visit.

The Center hosts groups of 15-20 pre-K children in an hour-long play and learn session. Children dress up in firefighter gear, slide down a child-sized fire pole, and sit in the driver's seat of our vintage 70's era Kenworth engine.

Find out more at shorelinefire.com or request a brochure from our Education Specialist Melanie Granfors at melanie@shorelinefire.com.



Welcome and congratulations to our newest firefighters!

From left: Mitchell Larson, Ruslan Cherkasskikh, Jonni Hill, Keenan Miles, Mark Merlino

We have pet resuscitation gear!

One of the most-asked questions we get from citizens is how we would rescue their pets in a house fire. Firefighters are dedicated to saving lives and property. Thus, rescuing pets in a house fire is definitely part of what they do. Sometimes dogs and cats escape a fire BEFORE their humans do. But when they cannot get out or become scared and trapped, it is "firefighters to the rescue".

In house fires, our crews have encountered everything from nursing dogs, kittens, birds, and even a box of snakes!

Firefighters have always done the best they could to give CPR to dogs and cats. But now they can use specially designed masks that fit over the animal's snout and attach to our oxygen tanks. The masks are versatile enough to fit a big dog like a St. Bernard, or a small animal like a kitten or ferret.

Shoreline crews have a set of pet masks on all engines and medic units. The masks are made available to rescue personnel through an animal welfare organization called H.E.L.P. Animals, Inc.



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CITY OF SHORELINE CURRENTS

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**Alternate formats
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**Register now for lessons
starting March 10th!**

Monday/Wednesday,
Tuesday/Thursday and
Saturday options are available

*Lessons options for all ages from
infants to adults*

More info and registration:
(206) 801-2650
shorelinewa.gov/pool
shorelinewa.gov/online-registration

shorelinewa.gov