

CITY OF SHORELINE CURRENTS

February 2006 Vol. 8 No. 1

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Front row, from left: Deputy Mayor Maggie Fimia and Mayor Bob Ransom. Back row, from left: Keith McGlashan, Rich Gustafson, Cindy Ryu, Janet Way and Ron Hansen.

Four members of the Shoreline City Council were sworn in to serve four-year terms at the Jan. 3 City Council meeting. With King County Superior Court Judge Richard Eadie presiding, Councilmembers Ron Hansen, Keith McGlashan, Cindy Ryu and Janet Way took the oath of office on Jan. 3.

Following the swearing-in ceremony, the City Council selected Bob Ransom as Mayor and Maggie Fimia as Deputy Mayor, both of whom will serve for two years.

Shoreline operates as a code city under the laws of the State of Washington with a Council-Manager form of government. As the governing body, the seven elected part-time City Councilmembers set policy and appoint a City Manager to

implement policy.

The City Council chooses a Mayor and Deputy Mayor from among its members at the first meeting of the new year following an election. The Mayor presides at City Council meetings and represents the City at ceremonial functions and intergovernmental meetings. The Deputy Mayor presides in the Mayor's absence.

A member of the original City Council, Mayor Ransom served as Shoreline's first Deputy Mayor. He has lived in the area for over 34 years and his term expires Dec. 31, 2007. Deputy Mayor Fimia was elected to the City Council in 2003 and has lived in the area for 18 years. She served as a member of the King County Council from 1994 to 2001. Her term also expires Dec. 31, 2007.

Bob Olander named Interim City Manager

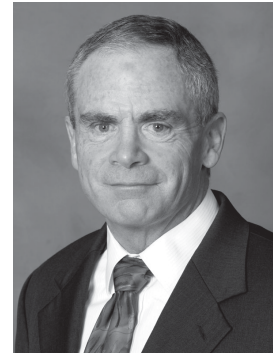
At its Jan. 3 meeting, the City Council named Bob Olander as the Interim City Manager following the Dec. 12 resignation of former City Manager Steve Burkett.

As Shoreline's Deputy City Manager since May 2002, Olander provided leadership and management of City operations and directly supervised the departments of Planning and Development Services, Public Works and Parks, Recreation and Cultural Services.

Olander's past experience includes over 30 years in city government. He was City Manager for Des Moines from

1996 to 2002 following eight years as Assistant City Manager. He has also served as City Manager for Ocean Shores and Anacortes. Olander holds a Bachelor of Arts in Political Science from the University of California Santa Barbara and a Masters of Public Administration from the University of Washington.

Shoreline operates as a code city under the laws of the State of Washington with a Council-Manager form of government. As the governing body, the seven elected City Councilmembers serve part-time and set the policy and direction for the City. The Council



Bob Olander

appoints a City Manager to implement policy. The City Manager oversees the various departments that conduct City business and provide services to the community.

Free tax preparation help available

Several sites in and around Shoreline are offering free tax preparation help for low and moderate income tax payers.

Shoreline/LFP Senior Center

18560 First Ave. NE
February 2 – April 14
Open to people of all ages.
Call for an appointment:
(206) 365-1536

King County Library

342 NE 175th St.
February 15 – April 15
Wednesdays 5:00 - 8:30 p.m.
Saturdays 12:00 - 4:30 p.m.
No appointment needed.

Bothell Hopelink Office

18220 96th Ave. NE
January 17 – April 15
Wednesdays 5:00 - 8:00 p.m.
Saturdays 10:00 a.m. - 2:00 p.m.
No appointment needed.
English and Spanish are spoken at this site.

When you visit one of the sites, bring your end-of-the-year proof of income from all sources (W-2 and 1099), picture identification, Social Security number for yourself and all dependents, a voided check for setting up direct deposit of your tax refund and last year's tax return if you have it.

Remember that you may be eligible for the Earned Income Tax Credit (maximum of \$4,400) with the following qualifications:

- Income less than \$35,263 with two or more children (\$37,263 if married);

- Income less than \$31,030 with one child (\$33,030 if married);

- Income less than \$11,250 if you are between the ages of 25 and 64 with no children (\$13,750 if married).

Tax Tips

- Be sure to use the child tax credit if you have children.

- If you work and pay for child care, you may also be eligible for the dependent care benefit.

- Don't pay triple-digit interest to borrow against your own refund – that's \$30 to \$90 to receive your tax refund a few days early.

- Save money and avoid high fees by using a free tax preparation site. Your return will be filed free and you will receive 100 percent of what's coming to you.

Flooding in Shoreline: No news is good news

The rain's attempt at breaking its own record for continuous days of attendance may have failed, but it has left the Puget Sound area water logged and damaged. So much so that Washington Governor Christine Gregoire declared a state of emergency on January 12.

But the big news in Shoreline concerning the recent storms is that there was no big news.

According to Shoreline's Public Works Operations Manager Jesus Sanchez, the City received no reports of property-damaging flooding in the past two months. There were no weekend calls, and staff overtime and emergency call-outs dropped to zero.

"We had reports of small amounts of water in the roadway and some standing water in driveways, but to have no flooding that damaged property is an amazing record compared to just last year," Sanchez says.

When the City incorporated in 1995, it inherited a deteriorating and poorly designed drainage system that led to flooding in spots throughout the City. Over the past 10 years, the City has focused on completing many small drainage improvement projects as well as larger ones such as the Third Avenue Drainage Improvement Project completed last year that relieved flooding to a 20-home area.

The City's regular schedule of cleaning out catch basins and drainage lines has also made a dramatic difference in reducing flooding.

"Now we're at the point where we can concentrate more time on the next level of priority, which is assessing the condition, repairing and replacing the existing storm drain lines and basins," Sanchez says.

Sanchez said one of the other things the City monitors carefully during heavy rain are areas with a history of erosion and mud slides.

"We have a map of historic hot spots that we are vigilant in watching. For example, we walk the railroad tracks to monitor the shoreline. Although there have been slides to the north and south of us, there has been no noticeable slide activity so far in Shoreline," he says.

Shoreline's two big construction projects currently underway – Aurora and North City – have had some minor delays and impacts caused by the continuous rain. North City Project Manager John Vicente said there were three construction days lost in December due to rainy

weather, but this isn't expected to have a major impact on the construction schedule.

"Rain impacts weather-sensitive work like pouring sidewalks, but it is something we expect this time of year and there is other work that we can do in the rain that is not impacted," Vicente says.

One of the biggest challenges faced by Aurora Corridor construction crews was waiting for a dry day – that finally came January 15 – to paint lane stripes and put down reflectors. Smoothing over potholes is also more difficult in wet weather because the material needs a dry surface to stick to.

"We really appreciate the the patience shown by the community as we try to keep things smooth and safe on Aurora," says Aurora Project Manager Kirk McKinley. "It has been a challenge, but it is one of the difficulties of construction in the winter in our area."

Blood Drive February 16

The community is invited to participate in a blood donation drive sponsored by the City of Shoreline on Thursday, Feb. 16. The Bloodmobile will be in the parking lot of City Hall, 17544 Midvale Ave. N., from 9:00 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. (It will be closed for lunch from noon to 1:00 p.m.)

Those who are interested in participating can schedule an appointment online at <http://www.psb.org/programs/drive.asp?URL=0034> or contact Shoreline Customer Response Team Member Randy Olin at (206) 546-8307 or rolin@ci.shoreline.wa.us. Walk-ins are also welcome.

Welcome Shoreline's new Planning and Development Services Director, Joe Tovar

Joe Tovar joined the City of Shoreline as its new Planning and Development Services Director in October.

Tovar has nearly 30 years experience in planning, including 11 years as Planning Director for the City of Kirkland where he led Kirkland through the conception, adoption and implementation of award-winning plans for downtown design guidelines, business district revitalization, neighborhood plans, public access to the shoreline and public involvement.

He also served 12 years as a member of the state's Growth Management Hearings Board for Central Puget Sound. Members of the Growth Management Hearings Board are appointed by

the governor to hear and determine disputes regarding compliance with the goals and requirements of the Growth Management Act (GMA).

While a member of the hearings board, Tovar authored decisions interpreting GMA and Shoreline Management Act provisions including public participation, comprehensive plan consistency, critical areas regulation, regional coordination and designation of appropriate urban densities.

Since 2002, he has lectured at the University of Washington as an Affiliate Associate Professor of City Planning. More recently, he has served as Assistant City Manager for strategic planning in Covington, Washington. In that

role he developed a new downtown plan and implemented design regulations, prepared amendments to the critical area regulations and advised the City Council on inter-jurisdictional issues.

After his first three months, Tovar says he is enthusiastic about helping Shoreline meet the challenges of growth and change.

"Shoreline is blessed with a tremendous natural setting and regional location," Tovar says. "What makes planning for this community both challenging and promising is the passion that Shoreline residents have for this place and bring to the public dialogue about its future. In order to build on our success as a great community, we must tap and

channel that energy into the City's planning processes. I look forward to helping make that happen."

Tovar filled the vacancy left by Tim Stewart who left the City of Shoreline in September to teach and conduct research in urban planning at Addis Ababa University in Ethiopia.

Get fit at the Spartan Recreation Center

Keep up with your New Year's resolutions at the Spartan Recreation Center.

In addition to the weight room, the Parks, Recreation and Cultural Services Department offers a variety of fitness and wellness programs this winter, everything from cooking classes to exercise programs.

Learn to cook with tofu or make one-pot meals from a well-known nutritionist. Move and groove to great music in Jazzercise classes offered eight times per week. Pilates, yoga, aerobics, dance, Nia, Tai Chi and Irish dance will all help tone your muscles and increase your strength and flexibility all while having fun.

Call (206) 418-3383 or check out the Web site at: www.cityofshoreline.com for a complete schedule.



City seeking volunteers to serve on the Library Board and Planning Commission

The City of Shoreline invites interested individuals to apply for upcoming openings on two important City advisory boards: the Planning Commission and the Library Board.

The City Council will appoint volunteers to each of these boards to serve four-year terms which will begin in April of this year. Qualified candidates for either group must live or own property in Shoreline. People who work in Shoreline also qualify to serve on the Library Board.

The Planning Commission is made up of nine members who work with the City planning staff, hear public comment on proposed amendments to the City's land use plan and zoning code as well as certain development project proposals, and then provide their recommendations to the City Council for final decision and action.

The Planning Commission provides an opportunity for citizens to help shape the future growth and development of the City. No technical background or experience in land use is required – important qualifications are an ability to listen to and work well with others, a willingness to read background reports provided by City staff prior to the meetings, and a commitment to regular attendance and active participation at the meetings.

Important tasks that the Planning Commission is likely to undertake this year include the development of policies, programs and regulations to better manage

natural resources within the City, preparation of neighborhood plans and development design standards for several business districts and an examination of the City's population demographics and the ways in which Shoreline's emerging housing and economic development needs might be addressed.

The Planning Commission meets at the Shoreline Conference Center, 18560 First Ave. NE, on the first and third Thursdays of each month from 7:00 to 9:30 p.m.

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. It provides information, makes recommendations relating to the Shoreline and Richmond Beach Libraries, promotes programs and reviews library policies. The Library Board includes five members, from whom a chair and vice chair are elected annually.

The Library Board meets at 7:00 p.m. the second Thursday of each odd numbered month. The meetings alternate between the Shoreline Library and the Richmond Beach Library.

Community Service Applications are available to download on the City's Web site

Application deadline

Applications for vacancies on the Planning Commission and Library Board must be submitted by **4 p.m. Tuesday, Feb. 21** to the Shoreline City Clerk's Office, 17544 Midvale Ave. N., Suite 100, Shoreline, WA 98133.

at www.cityofshoreline.com or at City Hall (17544 Midvale Ave. N.), Shoreline Library (345 175th St.), Richmond Beach Library (2402 NW 195th Pl.), Westside Police Neighborhood Center (624 NW Richmond Beach Road) and Eastside Police Neighborhood Center (521 NE 165th St.).

For more information about the Planning Commission or the Library Board, visit Shoreline's Web site www.cityofshoreline.com. Please contact Jessica Simulcik Smith at (206) 546-1508 for information about the Planning Commission and Robin Lesh at (206) 546-5667 for more information about the Library Board.

Crime Stopper Tips from Shoreline Police

Someone's knocking: What you should know about door-to-door solicitors

The City of Shoreline has a municipal ordinance regulating the activities of sales people and solicitors (Shoreline Municipal Code 5.07). It requires for-profit solicitors and "Master Solicitors" who employ them to file a written application for a license with the Shoreline City Clerk and carry the license at all times when soliciting or canvassing. Solicitors must produce the license when requested by persons being solicited, police or City officials.

The following are exempt from the license requirements:

- Tax-exempt non-profit

organizations who have filed a current 501(C)3 with the City Clerk. Call the City Clerk's Office at (206) 546-5042 to verify non-profit filing.

- Newspaper deliverers.
- Political candidates, campaign workers and political committees soliciting signatures of registered voters.
- Sales people who solicit businesses.

Below are a few crime prevention tips to safeguard yourself and your home from unscrupulous door-to-door solicitors:

- Always ask solicitors for identification to verify what company they are working for. If they refuse, ask them to leave.
 - Ask to see their license from the City of Shoreline. If they do not have one, ask them to leave.
 - Never invite a solicitor into your home. You can say "no thank you" without opening the door.
 - Never give a solicitor your Social Security number.
 - Avoid paying with a check or credit card. Cash is best -- get a receipt.
 - If an item seems too good or too inexpensive to be true, it probably is.
 - Orders taken are required to be in writing, in duplicate (you get a copy) and to state the name of the solicitor as it appears on his/her license, the solicitor's permit number, the address of the solicitor and their employer, the terms of the agreement and the amount paid to the solicitor.
 - If you encounter a solicitor who becomes aggressive or won't take "no" for an answer, ask them to leave, shut the door and call 911.
 - You may post a "No Solicitor" sign on private property.
- For more information about solicitation regulations, call the Shoreline City Clerk's Office at (206) 546-5042.
- Special thanks to Shoreline Police Volunteer Crime Analyst Paul Scoles for help preparing this article.**

Find out what's just around the corner in North City

The North City Business Directory is now available.

The City mailed over 14,000 out to the neighborhoods surrounding North City. If you didn't receive one, just visit one of the many businesses in North City to pick up a copy. You can also find them at City Hall, both libraries and at various locations throughout the City.

Inside the Directory you will find a listing of all the North City businesses as well as special offers and discounts.

"The Directory highlights the amazing variety of businesses that are located in North City," says Economic Development Manager Tom Boydell. "We encourage you to come see the transformation that is taking place in North City and support our local merchants during construction. They have so much to offer and now the Directory will make it easier to find what you are looking for."

The Directory was produced by the City of Shoreline with special thanks to Forward Shoreline, the North City Business Association and the Shoreline Historical Museum. Thank you to all the merchants who took the time to provide information about their businesses.

For more information about the Directory, contact Tom Boydell at (206) 546-0959.

City takes over public streetlights this year

Shoreline's 2006 adopted budget includes money to begin solving another of the infrastructure challenges the City inherited when it incorporated: streetlights.

There are nearly 3,000 streetlights on the public right-of-way in Shoreline and approximately one-third of those are paid for by individual residents. This year the City is taking over financial responsibility for all streetlights located in the public right-of-way.

When the Shoreline area was unincorporated King County, streetlights were installed by Seattle City Light at the request of either the County or by individual residents, and the financial responsibility for their operation and upkeep fell on the requester.

When Shoreline incorporated it assumed responsibility for all streetlights being paid for by King County. Most of these were on arterial streets along with those on residential streets in the Innis Arden and Briarcrest neighborhoods based on arrangements made by the County in 1994. For the remainder of the City's neighborhoods, however, individual property owners continued to pay for their streetlight services.

To begin resolving this issue, the City conducted a comprehensive audit of its streetlights in 2002-2003. The first plan to finance the cost of paying for all the streetlights in Shoreline through a charge added to all Seattle City Light bills fell through when the State Supreme Court

ruled this type of arrangement illegal in *Okeson vs. Seattle*.

Last year, Council agreed to add \$77,000 to the Public Works operating fund in this year's budget to take over all the streetlights in the public right-of-way that are currently being paid for by individuals.

Once this is complete, Shoreline will begin evaluating new requests and the need for additional streetlighting throughout the City.

City staff is now working with Seattle City Light to transfer these streetlights to the City's responsibility. Because of the complexity of its billing system, Seattle City Light has initially assessed that it can convert payment for the identified streetlights by June 2006.

During this timeframe, Seattle City Light will be sending the names of customers and their addresses to the City for those streetlights that have been transitioned to the City's financial responsibility on a recurring basis. The City will in turn send a preformatted letter to each customer notifying them of their release of responsibility and who to call should they receive any future billings.

If you have any additional questions please call Bernard Seeger, Management Analyst and Streetlight Project Conversion point of contact, at (206) 546-0608 or Rika Cecil, Public Works, at (206) 546-0460.

Frequently Asked Questions Frequently Asked Questions

When can I stop paying my streetlight bill?

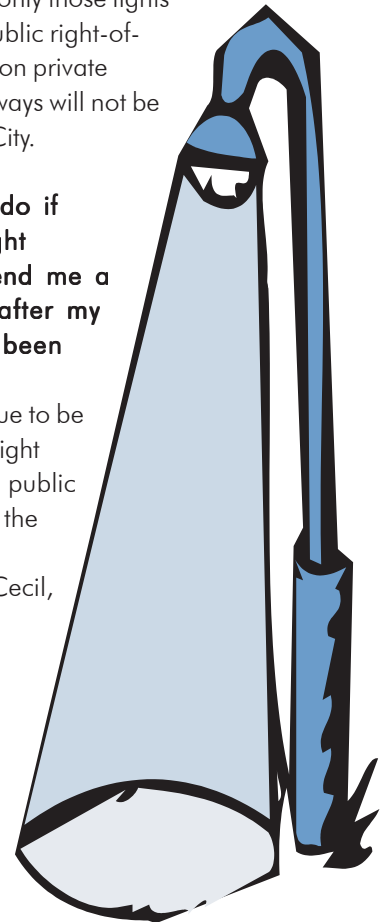
By June 2006 the City expects to have individual streetlight accounts closed and transferred to the City. The City will notify customers that they are released of responsibility once the streetlight has been transferred.

I have a streetlight that SCL put in and illuminates my private driveway. Is the City going to take over that one too?

No. The City will assume responsibility for only those lights that illuminate public right-of-way. Streetlights on private streets and driveways will not be assumed by the City.

What do I do if Seattle City Light continues to send me a streetlight bill after my streetlight has been converted?

If you continue to be billed for a streetlight that illuminates a public street or space in the City of Shoreline, please call Rika Cecil, Shoreline Public Works, at (206) 546-0460.



Who, what, where in the City of Shoreline

City of Shoreline

Shoreline City Hall
17544 Midvale Ave. N., Suite 100
Shoreline, WA 98133-4921
(206) 546-1700
Fax (206) 546-7868

City Hall Annex
Home of Planning and
Development Services Department
and Public Works Department
Highland Plaza
1110 N. 175th St., Suite 105
Shoreline, WA 98133

CURRENTS

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City Council

Mayor Bob Ransom
Deputy Mayor Maggie Fimia
Rich Gustafson
Ron Hansen
Keith McGlashan
Cindy Ryu
Janet Way

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
Cable Channel 21
Tuesday noon and 8 p.m.
Wednesday through Sunday
6 a.m., noon and 8 p.m.

Shoreline Police

Emergency: 911

Shoreline Police Station
Chief Tony Burt
1206 N. 185th St.
Shoreline, WA 98133
(206) 546-6730

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

Eastside Neighborhood Police Ctr.
Officer Deneese Elfenson
521 NE 165th St.
Shoreline, WA 98155
(206) 363-8424

City of Shoreline Web site

Information about meetings,
projects and programs is
available online.

www.cityofshoreline.com



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