

CITY OF SHORELINE CURRENTS

January 1999 Vol. 1 No. 1

State of the City: Shoreline's foundations for change

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Public Art in Shoreline

The *Welcoming Figure* in Richmond Beach Saltwater Park joins a list of new public art on display in Shoreline.



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It is my pleasure to be able to deliver to Shoreline residents our fourth annual review of City affairs. 1998 was a critical year in the young life of our City and, overall, the state of your City is healthy while we continue to improve and mature.

Together in 1998, we developed the basis to gain conscious control over our destiny as a community. By preparing the planning and policy vision for the City's future in critical documents such as the Comprehensive Plan and the Capital Improvement Program, we've created the opportunity for more visible change consistent with the desires of the community.

The Comprehensive Plan, adopted by the City Council in 1998, is a 20-year plan with policy goals that will determine how our City will feel and look in the future.

It was a long, arduous process, but by listening to residents and responding to their comments, your Council has adopted a Comprehensive Plan that accommodates our state-mandated growth targets while working to preserve the quality of our neighborhoods.

It is a modest plan that suggests no radical changes. That is what we heard most residents say they wanted.

But now, with the Comprehensive Plan adopted, it's time to look to the important tasks of creating new City ordinances and codes to implement the plan in 1999. Each one will have a far-reaching impact on the physical appearance of our City.

Another accomplishment was the adoption of the City's first Capital Improvement Program (CIP). The CIP is the six-year plan for improving roads, drainage facilities, parks and other public

See *State of the City* page 7



Scott Jepsen, Mayor
City of Shoreline

Welcome to Currents

Welcome to *Currents*, the City of Shoreline newsletter. Designed to keep you up-to-date on City happenings, *Currents* initially will be produced quarterly. This newsletter is a result of a recommendation to the City Council by Shoreline's Citizen Involvement and Communications Project Committee. We welcome your comments and suggestions. Please contact Joyce Nichols, City of Shoreline Government and Community Relations at (206) 546-0779.

Council adopts 1999 budget

It's official. On Nov. 23, the City Council adopted the 1999 Budget — the fourth full-year budget for the City of Shoreline since incorporating as a City on Aug. 31, 1995. The budget includes funds for the annual operations of the City as well as for capital projects to improve the City's infrastructure.

Here's how it works: The budget appropriates resources to the

as street and surface water programs, capital improvement projects, operation of the building department, and for reserves and the replacement of City assets.

Capital improvement projects pose one long-range budget challenge. Funding the projects identified for years five and six of the CIP will require conservative budgeting, good planning and additional revenues. One solution may be to live with modest service levels to stay within the long-term means of the City budget.

The major resources for the General Fund come from property tax and sales tax. For 1999, the property tax rate is \$1.60 per \$1,000 of assessed property value. This represents 9.89 percent of the total property tax bill and is the same rate that has been levied since the City's incorporation. Without incorporation, citizens in Shoreline would have paid a higher rate to the County of \$1.72.

Major expenditures from the General Fund for City operations include: areas of public safety; a transfer of funds to the General Capital Fund to help pay for the first year of the City's first Six-Year Capital Improvement Program; recreation programs and parks maintenance; transfers to other funds to help pay for their operations (i.e., street services); funds for storm water services and support of other City operations.

A more complete budget overview and a listing and description of the 1999 capital projects can be found in the City's 1999 Adopted Budget Book located at Shoreline libraries and City Hall.

City's 14 separate funds. The General Fund is the largest, representing 41 percent of the total City budget. This fund is used for the City's general operations, such as police and parks maintenance services. The other funds receive dedicated resources for specific purposes such

Owner's Manual

Shoreline marked the new year with the delivery of its *Owner's Manual, A Citizen's Guide to Participation and Services in the City of Shoreline*. Mailed to each residence and business in Shoreline, the *Owner's Manual* is an overview of how Shoreline's government operates, how the departments are organized and how citizens can participate in the City's decision making process. It also acts as a directory for City contacts, services and processes.

The manual was one of the recommendations from the Citizens Involvement and Communications Project Committee to help improve citizen participation, interaction and communication with the City.

The *Owner's Manual* will be updated in early 2000, then every two years thereafter. Because it is meant to be a valuable resource for Shoreline citizens, input is encouraged. Contact Shoreline's Community and Government Relations Department at (206) 546-0779 with your suggestions and comments.

If you did not receive an *Owner's Manual*, call (206) 546-2622 for information on how you can obtain a copy.

1999 budget highlights

- An additional patrol officer is added to help cover the newly annexed Area A-3 located in at 15th Avenue N.E. and Ballinger Way.
- A new Community Service Officer is added to improve public safety operations (e.g. crime prevention) and communications between the police and the growing Asian/Pacific Islander community and focus on youth programs.
- An additional \$50,000 is added for human services funding.
- Funds for an Economic Development Program to coordinate and improve business development opportunities.
- Funds to enhance the pavement overlays as road standards are developed following completion of the City's Comprehensive Plan.
- Funds to improve park maintenance.
- Funds for the first year of the City's Six-Year Capital Improvement Program. This includes funding for 32 capital projects such as creating more off-street parking at Shoreline Pool; \$500,000 to address localized flooding issues; beginning design of major flood control projects at Ronald Bog; and work on Third Ave. N.W.

Winter's here – Are you ready?

Think back to the last big snowstorm... What problems did you face as you tried to keep you and your family safe and warm? Did your pipes freeze? After the furnace quit, did you run out of firewood to heat the house? Did someone slip on the ice and require a trip to the doctor, but the doctor's office was closed?

Remembering what went wrong last time can prove a powerful motivator for preparing yourself for emergencies and disasters. Winter is here, and with it comes the possibility of snowstorms, freezing weather and flash floods. For Shoreline citizens and for the City itself, the best protection in an emergency or disaster is knowing what to do.

The City of Shoreline has drafted its own Emergency Preparedness Plan which was adopted by the City Council in December. The Plan outlines policies and procedures to help Shoreline's 53,000 residents cope with a disaster or emergency.

But it's the things that citizens can do for themselves that matter most, says Gail Perkins, Shoreline Public Works Operations Manager. "We would like the public to be able to take care of themselves and their families for 72 hours, and to know how to access the City, gas company, water district, etc." (See *Numbers to Know* box at right.) If you can't do this, or don't know how, we can help."

Utility companies such as Puget Sound Energy and Seattle City Light also can provide information about how to prepare for an emergency.

Getting to know your neighbors is an often-overlooked part of

preparing for emergency weather or disasters. If a storm or earthquake strikes, you'll be glad to have the support of those around you.

"Shoreline has a high concentration of disabled, elderly and low-income citizens, and they are especially vulnerable in a disaster. Find out where these people are within your own neighborhood, and develop a plan to help them, and yourselves, when needed," Perkins explains. Part of that plan should include identifying emergency contacts outside the city, or preferably outside the state.

For more information about preparing for emergencies, please contact the City of Shoreline Emergency Operations at (206) 546-1700.

Get ready

- Store drinking water, first aid kit, canned/no-cook food, manual can opener, radio, flashlights and extra batteries where you can get them easily, even in the dark.

- Keep cars and other vehicles fueled and in good repair, with a winter emergency kit in each.

- Know how the public is warned (siren, radio, TV) and the warning terms for each kind of disaster in your community.

- Make sure you have sufficient heating fuel; regular fuel sources may be cut off. Safe emergency heating equipment includes: a fireplace with an ample supply of wood; a small well-ventilated wood, coal or camp stove with fuel; or a portable space or kerosene heater.

- Know safe routes to high ground from home, work, and

school.

- Since local phone services

See Winter on page 4

Numbers to Know

Keep these numbers by the phone, so you'll know who and where to call in an emergency or disaster:

**Emergency
Police/Medical/Fire
911**

**City of Shoreline
Customer Response Team
and Emergency Operations
(206) 546-1700**

**Gas Company
Puget Sound Energy
(206) 382-7858**

**Electric Company
Seattle City Light
(206) 625-3000**

**Water Company
(West of I-5)
Seattle Public Utilities –
Water Division
(206) 684-5800
(East of I-5)
Shoreline Water District
(206) 362-8100**

**Cable Company
(West of I-5)
Chambers Cable
(425) 774-5146
(East of I-5)
TCI Cable
(206) 527-7545**

WWW.
cityofshoreline
.com

Visitors to the City of Shoreline's new website at www.cityofshoreline.com can check the City Council agenda, read the municipal code, look for upcoming events, report concerns or find out why Shoreline is a great place to live and do business.

"The City identified five types of users likely to take advantage of a website and tailored the site to meet their needs," explains Shoreline Senior Management Analyst Eric Swansen.

A straightforward, elegant design makes it easy for users to find the information they want. After clicking on the intro graphic heralding the City of Shoreline within the State of Washington, visitors are offered five categories to choose from: News, City Hall, Events and Attractions, City Directory and About Shoreline.

The debut of Shoreline's website meets two goals for the City. Besides being listed in Shoreline's Technology Plan, the creation of a City website was identified as a priority by the Citizen Involvement and Communications Project Committee.

Send comments through the website, or contact Eric Swansen at (206) 546-0608.

Winter *continued from page 3*

will be busy, ask an out-of-state relative or friend to serve as the "family contact." Make sure everyone knows the name, address and phone number of the contact person in case you have to evacuate and become separated.

- Know how to turn off gas, electric power and water.
- Make sure all family members know how to respond in an emergency. Teach children how and when to call 9-1-1, police or the fire department, and which radio station to tune to for emergency information.

• Winterize your home by caulking and weather-stripping doors and windows, insulate walls and attic, and install storm windows or cover windows with plastic from the inside.

• Periodically clear leaves, debris and even ice from grated storm drains near your home to prevent flooding. While the City provides regular maintenance, with over 6,000 grated storm drains in Shoreline, not every drain can be given the attention that it may need to stay clear.

• Know ahead of time what to do to help elderly or disabled friends, neighbors or employees.

• Keep plywood, plastic sheeting, lumber, sandbags and hand tools on hand and accessible.

• Winterize your house, shed or any other structure that might provide shelter for your family, pets or equipment. Install storm shutters, doors and windows, clear rain gut-

ters, repair roof leaks and check the ability of the roof to handle heavy weight from the accumulation of snow or water.

During a storm or emergency

• Monitor your radio or TV for information and emergency instructions.

• If you go outside for any reason, dress warmly. Wear sev-

eral layers of loose-fitting, warm clothing. Outer garments should be tightly woven and water-repellent. Wear a hat, mittens and cover your mouth with a scarf to protect your

lungs from cold air.

• Conserve fuel by keeping your house cooler than normal. Temporarily shut off heat to less-used rooms.

• Avoid travel if possible. If you must travel, go during the day. Don't travel alone and stay on main roads. Keep others informed of your schedule.

After a storm or emergency

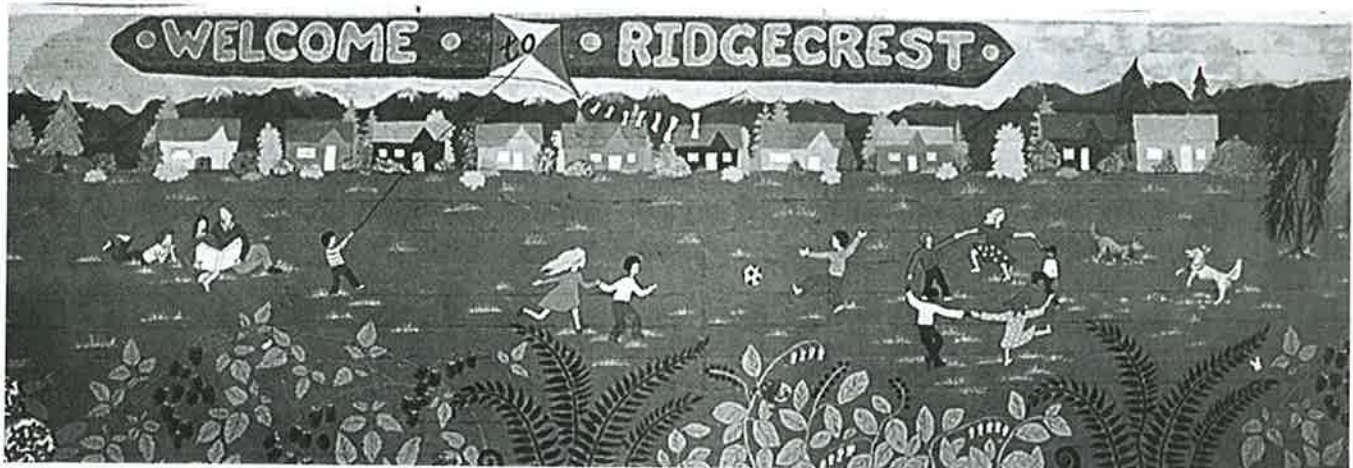
• Report downed power lines and broken gas lines immediately.

• After heavy snows or extreme cold, check to see that no physical damage has occurred and that water pipes are functioning. If there are no other problems, wait for streets and roads to be opened before you attempt to drive anywhere.

• Check on neighbors.

• Beware of overexertion and exhaustion. Shoveling snow in extreme cold causes many heart attacks. Set your priorities and pace yourself.

**Shoreline
Customer
Response
Team**
(206) 546-1700



With over 2,500 hours logged by more than 100 volunteer painters from all over the City, the Ridgecrest Historical Mural is just one example of how Mini-Grant projects have brought together the community.

Mini-Grants inspire neighborhood unity

From the shore of Echo Lake to the points of Westminster Triangle, Shoreline neighborhoods are pooling creativity, hard work and Neighborhood Mini-Grant funds to add distinguishing characteristics to their communities.

For the past two years, the Shoreline City Council has offered matching grants of \$5,000 to each of the recognized Shoreline neighborhoods. Mini-Grant

projects are designed and proposed by the individual neighborhood associations, with assistance from the Office of Neighborhoods. The goal is to promote projects that unify communities. To date, \$45,000 has been awarded representing projects in nine neighborhoods.

"The Mini-Grants have been really effective as part of neighborhood revitalization efforts,"

says Ellen Broeske, Shoreline Office of Neighborhoods. "In many cases, the projects improve the sense of neighborhood pride — people become aware of the neighborhood they live in and know that things are happening in their community."

Just a few of the projects completed so far include: added sand at Echo Lake Beach; tree planting, a mural and the reintroduction of Pacific Tree Frogs into Paramount Park in Ridgecrest; a watering system for a community garden in Westminster Triangle; beautification in North City including banners and hanging planters; school playground equipment in Meridian Park; Sunset Elementary School tile project in Innis Arden; a neighborhood clean-up and the painting of the recreation center in Richmond Highlands; and neighborhood identification signs for Echo Lake and Parkwood.

More info?

Ellen Broeske,
Shoreline
Office of
Neighborhoods
(206) 546-8564

Westminster Triangle Network transformed an unused piece of Seattle City Light property into a community garden which includes a Mini-Grant-funded watering system.



Citizen involvement still needed on Shoreline Comprehensive Plan

The City of Shoreline's Comprehensive Plan was adopted late last year, but there's still a lot of work to do — and plenty of opportunity for citizen input — before the Plan is implemented.

Shoreline residents, the Shoreline Planning Commission and the City Council spent the past two years creating a Plan that will serve Shoreline and its citizens now and in the future. The Comprehensive Plan adopted by the City Council on Nov. 23 will

serve as a guiding document for the City as it faces growth, environmental and land-use issues.

A number of tasks now face the City and the Planning Commission, according to Tim Stewart, Director of Planning and Development Services, and citizens will be involved every step of the way. "Most important is to review and amend the land-use regulations for the City," he explains. "These are the codes that deal with zoning, subdivision, and design standards, and govern how land is used in the City. We hope for plenty of public participation in this process, so stayed tuned to see how citizens can get involved."

Stewart says he was amazed at the citizen participation in drafting the Plan and hopes it will continue as the City tackles the more thorny is-

ssues of policies and regulations. "Shoreline is a very participatory place, which makes it easy to provide a good forum for debate. Issues can be tested, rejected or accepted all within the framework of citizens coming together for the good of their community."

Hot topics such as neighborhood character and preservation and the Aurora corridor transportation study may be addressed on an ongoing basis since the Plan will be amended each year to reflect changing needs and values.

"We're working on the process and timing for the Plan's yearly review," Stewart explains, "but the important thing to remember is this: The Plan is a fluid document that will change as Shoreline — and its residents — change."

Annexation vote in spring

Shoreline's population grew by 1,850 residents with the annexation of Area A-3 in the northeast corner of Shoreline that was effective on Nov. 2, 1998. That annexation also paved the way for the City to schedule an annexation election for the adjacent Area A-2, which would add perhaps as much as another 900 residents.

Area A-2 residents will vote on annexation this spring.



Dedicated September 1998, the Ponies in Ronald Bog Park were an anonymous donation to the City of Shoreline

Public art

Two new installations last year were added to Shoreline's growing list of public art displays. *The Ponies*, bronze statues in Ronald Bog Park, were dedicated in September followed closely by the dedication in October of the *Welcoming Figure*, also bronze, in Richmond Beach Saltwater Park (see photo page 1).

State of the City *continued from page 1*

amenities owned by the City. After many years of deferring to other agencies, we are now in control of the level and prioritization of City capital improvements. This means that your Council will set standards based on the feedback provided by the series of public meetings held throughout the City last year.

However, what we've learned in adopting this first CIP is not all good news. Roads and sidewalks will need more future maintenance than our projected revenues appear to support. While the Council has adopted conservative budgets each year and conscientiously saved revenues to build a capital fund, these savings will need to be used in the first few years of the CIP.

We continue to accomplish more with less and are working hard to team up with other public entities within our City limits. The City is providing services with a property tax rate less than that of King County prior to incorporation. We've found low-cost alternatives for taking care of park maintenance through private-sector contracts, roadway vegetation management using low-risk offenders, using citizen volunteers to staff our two neighborhood police centers, working with our neighborhood associations to clean up and beautify our City and other less visible methods, all to maximize the efficiency of our resources.

I hope that everyone who lived in Shoreline prior to incorporation has recognized and benefited from the improved services we are now providing as a City. Some of these include our Customer Response Team that tracks and quickly responds to citizen requests, im-

proved police response times, community policing services, street overlays, correcting 37 areas with long-standing flooding problems, expanded parks programs, working with North City to improve its business district and beginning the re-design of the Aurora corridor. Everyone at City Hall is working very hard to strike a balance between high levels of service, which the residents of Shoreline have stated they want, with their willingness to pay for those services. Most of the City's efforts in 1999 will focus on the nuts and bolts of implementing the Comprehensive Plan and CIP. But we were also able to provide increases in the 1999 budget to improve local human services, to add a patrol officer and a community services officer, to enhance economic development, to provide another means of two-way communication through a City website and to increase the road overlay program by \$100,000.

There is no doubt that Shoreline's greatest asset is the dedication of its residents. Through citizens advisory committees, neighborhood grant projects and volunteer efforts, residents throughout the community are showing their commitment to sculpting the City into something we can all be proud of in the future.

This is the time to value what we have achieved. But it is also important to continue planning and dreaming. We have accomplished

much in our short time as a City. While the challenges ahead of us are many, I know the energy in Shoreline is great. I hope that each of you will take the time to get involved in your own way. The coming years will determine just how serious we all are in making Shoreline the City that we envision.
Scott Jepsen, Mayor of Shoreline

1998 in Shoreline

In addition to adopting the Comprehensive Plan and Capital Improvement Program, Shoreline accomplished much in 1998:

- The City's first Clean Sweep campaign helped neighborhood organizations improve their areas by providing assistance with recycling events, code enforcement symposiums to improve neighborhood appearance and the beautification of Ronald Bog Park including removing blackberries, spreading bark and plantings.
- The City Council approved recommendations of the Citizen Involvement and Communications Project Committee. Implemented so far: the Owner's Manual; this City newsletter; the City Source column in the Shoreline Enterprise; the City website; Parks, Recreation and Cultural Services Advisory Committee; and leadership development for neighborhood leaders.
- The City Council has begun building strong relationships with other agencies in Shoreline and the region to represent Shoreline's interests and avoid duplication of efforts.
- Community policing service continues to be improved and refined through the provision of house vacation checks and a radar reader board for residents to monitor neighborhood traffic speeds, by operating two Neighborhood Police Centers and by showing zero-tolerance for drug sales by closing down 128 drug houses.
- Shoreline negotiated a new franchise agreement with Seattle City Light that provides new rate controls, returns \$500,000 a year back to Shoreline that formerly went to Seattle's General Fund — to be used to improve our maintenance of roads and parks — and future provision of a uniform street lighting utility.

Who, what, where in the City of Shoreline

City of Shoreline

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Shoreline, WA 98133-4921
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Development Services Department
Highland Plaza
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Shoreline, WA 98133

CURRENTS

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City Council

City Councilmembers
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Deputy Mayor Linda Montgomery
Rich Gustafson
Ron Hansen
Connie King
Cheryl Lee
Bob Ransom

Meeting Location
Shoreline Conference Center
18560 First Ave. NE
Mt. Rainier Room

Workshop Meetings
First and third Mondays
beginning at 6:30 p.m.

Regular Meetings
Second and fourth Mondays
beginning at 7:30 p.m.

Agenda Line
(206) 546-2190

Televised City Council Meetings

- Tues. and Thurs. at noon
Chambers Cable Channel 32
- All day Thurs. beginning at 9 a.m.
TCI Channel 42.

Shoreline Police

Emergency: 911

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

Westside Neighborhood Police Center
Officer Kevin Johannes
630 NW Richmond Beach Road
Shoreline, WA 98177
(206) 546-3636

Eastside Neighborhood Police Center
Officer Kurt Lange
521 NE 165th St.
Shoreline, WA 98155
(206) 363-8424

NEW!

City of Shoreline Website

Information on agendas,
minutes and how to partici-
pate is now available online.
www.cityofshoreline.com



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