

CITY OF SHORELINE CURRENTS

November 2000 Vol. 2 No. 6

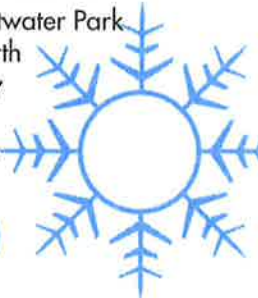
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Shoreline Holiday Events

Get in the spirit of the season with two annual Shoreline holiday traditions — the Christmas Ships at Saltwater Park and the North City Holiday Festival.

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2001 budget process begins

Shoreline's 2001 Proposed Budget adoption process is underway, beginning with the transmittal of the budget to the City Council on Oct. 23.

In transmitting the budget to the Council, City Manager Bob Deis noted that this year's budget is similar to last year's with modest increases for new required services and to address City Council priorities.

"Many of the increases are new services that are not optional, but required such as responding to the Endangered Species and Clean Water Acts, new maintenance needed in parks because of capital projects being completed and issues connected to the adoption of the new Development Code," explains Shoreline Finance Director Debbie Tarry. "The budget also addresses the potential effects of voter-approved initiatives."

The key priorities for the proposed budget are aligned with the City Council 2000-2001 workplan which takes into account the condition of the City's infrastructure and service levels. Some of these include:

- Maintain and improve Shoreline's parks, roads and surface water infrastructures that were inherited from the County in poor condition;

- Define and enhance the City's role in youth services;
- Implement the newly adopted Development Code and Code Enforcement program;
- Continue the City's Six Year Capital Improvement Program with emphasis on the Aurora Ave. and Interurban Trail projects.

The largest issue facing the City during the budget process this year is the effect of initiatives. Last year's Initiative 695, which was not passed by voters in Shoreline although it passed statewide, is being challenged in the courts as unconstitutional. Initiatives on this year's ballot — particularly 722 — could have a serious impact on Shoreline's revenue sources if passed (see

See **2001 budget** page 2

Comp Plan amendment applications available

The City of Shoreline officially kicked off the 2001 Comprehensive Plan amendment process at an Oct. 5 Planning Commission Open House.

As stipulated by the Washington State Growth Management Act, each year the City will provide an opportunity for amendments to the Comprehensive Plan to

See **Amendments** page 7

Initiative could affect Shoreline's budget

Of the many initiatives on the Nov. 7 ballot, the one with the most potential to impact the City of Shoreline's budget is Initiative 722.

Three of the six main provisions of Initiative 722 — the proposed roll back of tax and fee increases adopted between July 2, 1999, and Dec. 31, 1999, repayment of any newly-adopted taxes and fees collected and the limit on property tax increases — are being addressed in this year's budget.

The 2001 proposed budget takes into account the property

tax increase limit proposed in Initiative 722, but does not assume the loss of funds from the utility tax adopted by the Council last year.

"If Initiative 722 passes and there are no replacement revenues, we will be looking at cuts similar to those anticipated under Initiative 695," explains Shoreline Finance Director Debbie Tarry. "Last year the City prepared two budget scenarios, one of which included the necessary cuts to services if funding was lost through I-695 and no additional revenue sources were found.

Since the reductions would be similar if Initiative 722 passes, we will use that scenario rather than do two budgets this year."

Shoreline lost an estimated \$2.5 million or about 13 percent of the general fund revenue for 2001 with the passage of Initiative 695. The City Council adopted a utility tax in October 1999 to maintain services which otherwise would have been lost due to the decreased revenue. While the revenue from the utility tax was meant to cover most of the I-695 losses, the estimate for the utility tax collections for 2001 is \$1.9 million — \$600,000 less than the amount lost.

The state legislature made temporary provisions to replace some of the funding lost by cities — Shoreline's portion was \$722,414 for 2000 and \$1.44 million for 2001. The legislature is expected to look at on-going funding during this session, but as yet has not found a long-term revenue source.

If Initiative 722 passes Shoreline would lose about \$2.2 million in 2001 if there are no replacement revenues. Shoreline could also be required to repay \$2.3 million in utility tax revenues, property tax, recreation fee and development fee increases adopted in 1999 and collected in 2000.

"If Initiative 722 passes and Initiative 695 is ruled constitutional, the City basically has two options: make expenditure reductions which equate to service reductions, or increase revenues by seeking voter approval of the utility tax and other fee increases," says Tarry.

2001 budget from page 1

related story above).

"The proposed budget transmitted to Council assumes Initiative 722 fails although we have taken into account the two percent property tax increase limit the initiative proposes," says Tarry. "The budget does, however, detail the potential financial impacts of Initiative 722 passing."

Because of the instability of some of its revenue sources, such as gambling tax, the City has been conservative in developing its budget so as not to become reliant on them to fund ongoing services. Another unstable revenue source is the State Legislature's money provided to cities to offset Initiative 695 losses. This resource is unstable because the legislature has not yet found a dedicated funding source to continue providing this revenue. The City Council initially authorized up to 50 percent of the backfill be used to fund new

ongoing services. However, the actual proposed budget is even more conservative using only 29 percent. The remainder is earmarked for capital improvements and other one-time expenses.

Budget workshops are scheduled for three consecutive Mondays: Nov. 6, at 6:30 p.m., Nov. 13 at 6 p.m. and Nov. 20 at 6:30 p.m. (if needed). The budget hearing is expected to be held Nov. 27 at 7:30 p.m. in the Mt. Rainier Room of the Shoreline Conference Center.

The 2001 Proposed Budget is available for review at the Shoreline and Richmond Beach Libraries, City Hall and at both Neighborhood Police Centers. For more information about the budget adoption meeting schedule, call the Agenda Line at (206) 546-2190.

Bob Deis resigns to take job with Sonoma County

Last month, Shoreline City Manager Robert E. Deis resigned to accept the offer to become Assistant County Administrator for Sonoma County, California. Deis was appointed Shoreline City Manager in September 1996 and has been responsible for guiding the growth of the newly formed city from a staff of about 35 employees to more than 100.

"Bob Deis has led the development of our city organization in its most important formative stages and in doing so has created a high level of services for our community," said Mayor Scott Jepsen, one of the original City Council members who were first elected in 1995. "With Bob as our City Manager we have truly begun to realize some of the visions our community collectively had as we incorporated five years ago.

"While his departure is a loss for our community in the short run, I know our staff will continue to build on the great work we have begun," said Mayor Jepsen. "We wish him well in his new job and we thank him for the innumerable hours of dedicated work and leadership he has provided for our city government."

Deputy Mayor Ron Hansen said: "Bob did exactly what we hired him to do, and he performed exceedingly well. While we're naturally disappointed to be losing a fine City Manager we are happy for him on a personal level and know that he'll provide Sonoma County an excellent administrator."

"My tenure at the City of Shoreline has been one of the most challenging and gratifying of my career," said Deis. "The support that I have received from our City Council and what they have helped me and my staff achieve has made this job more rewarding than I could have imagined four years ago.

"However, it is now time for me to move on to new opportunities," Deis said. "As much as I have enjoyed working with this Council and our excellent staff, I am also looking forward to new challenges."

Deis will take the number two executive position for Sonoma County, an organization of some 4,000 employees and a budget of \$900 million.

Deis was selected by Shoreline during a nationwide search for City Manager conducted by the City Council in 1996. At the time he had worked for Washington County, Oregon, for 11 years as Senior Administrative Analyst, Deputy County Administrator and Director of Administrative Services. His 21-year career in city government also includes work for the cities of Eugene, Oregon, and Sacramento, California.

The Shoreline City Council appointed Assistant City Manager Larry Bauman as the Interim City Manager during the search for a permanent City Manager.

Shoreline's Customer Response Team answers your questions

What can I do to prevent flooding in my area?

One of the most common causes of flooding — and most preventable — is clogged storm drains. By periodically clearing leaves, debris and even snow and ice from the top of nearby storm drains, you and your neighbors can avoid property damage and unsafe conditions caused by flooding.

The City of Shoreline's surface water system consists of underground pipes, catch basins, open ditches and culverts. City crews keep the system flowing smoothly in a variety of ways: by providing regular street sweeping; by clearing catch basins of debris; by cleaning catch basins in enclosed systems with a vacuum truck that acts as a vacuum; and by monitoring trouble spots. But with over 6,000 grated storm drains covering catch basins, not every drain can be given the attention it may need to stay clear. That is where alert citizens can help.

To report surface water problems or hazardous conditions caused by flooding, contact the City of Shoreline Customer Response Team at (206) 546-1700. After regular office hours, you will be asked to leave a message which will be returned by on-call staff.

**Customer
Response
Team
546-1700**

Development planned for Park & Ride

While the term Transit Oriented Development (TOD) may sound high-tech, the concept is an old one. The idea of concentrating activities such as housing, retail or offices near transportation centers has been around since new communities grew near crossroads.

As part of its economic development effort, Shoreline is now looking at making use of this time-tested idea. Working with King County and the Washington State Department of Transportation, Shoreline is beginning the Master Plan process for a Transit Oriented Development at the Park

and Ride Lot on Aurora Ave. N. at 192nd St.

"Transit oriented developments recognize the importance of transportation in people's lives," says Shoreline Planning Manager Kirk McKinley.

Current TOD projects in the Puget Sound area illustrate how transportation and development can coexist to the benefit of both. King County worked with the City of Redmond to develop a 200-unit apartment complex currently under construction at the Overlake Park and Ride. Each apartment unit will include one bus pass and the complex will

maintain a fleet of vehicles for residents to share. The Park and Ride facilities will remain at the same capacity.

Shoreline is working toward creation of a master plan for a comparable project on Aurora. The City's Master Plan process paves the way for development by decreasing the risk to investors. Through this process, the City will identify a preferred design and complete the public process and environmental requirements before inviting developers to build the project.

"The Master Plan takes the uncertainty out of a project to make it more attractive to a developer," explains McKinley. "At the end of the process, we will have addressed neighborhood concerns and completed the environmental requirements, market analysis and master plan permit process."

The public is encouraged to help decide what type of development should share space with this Shoreline Park and Ride. Following an initial workshop and outreach to the community to gather information, identify concerns and opportunities, Shoreline will hold a design charrette (a participatory workshop) to develop potential scenarios for the project which will be presented at a public open house. A final workshop will distill feedback from the open house to create a recommended master plan.

The recommended design will be presented to the Planning Commission which will in turn make a recommendation to the City Council.

Interurban goes before Parks Advisory Committee Dec. 7

The Shoreline Parks, Recreation and Cultural Services Advisory Committee will hold a special meeting Thursday, Dec. 7, to be briefed on the status of Shoreline's Interurban Trail Project. The meeting will be held in the Richmond Room of the Shoreline Conference Center and is open to the public.

During the summer, Shoreline held two public meetings to gather residents' ideas for trail design and to relay information about how the Interurban Trail and Aurora Corridor projects relate to each other. In October, Shoreline City Council was updated on the progress and connection of these two projects.

While certain landscape elements may be consistent along the entire trail, final project design is being completed in sections. The City is working on preliminary design for the entire length of the trail and final design of the portion between 145th St. and 155th St. which it hopes to build next year.

"While much of the alignment of the Interurban Trail is pretty straightforward, each area will have its own issues to work with which is why we are designing and building it in sections," says Project Manager Paul Cornish. "It was also broken into manageable pieces in order to be more competitive for grant funding."

Three of the four sections of the trail are completely funded through federal grants received by Shoreline. The section between N. 175th St. and N. 185th St. does not have funding for design or construction, but the City is actively pursuing additional funds.

Skateboard park headed for Paramount

Paramount Park will not only be receiving a major overhaul this spring, but will also be the home of a new, much-awaited recreational amenity for Shoreline youth: a skateboard park.

"Paramount will undergo a dramatic change, especially aesthetically," says Project Manager John Vicente. "But the big attraction will be the new skateboard park."

The skateboard park will be located on the north side of the park at the site of the paved parking lot. The roughly 7,000-square-foot skateboard area will feature a pyramid, fun boxes, stairs, ramps and handrails. The centerpiece is a simulated picnic table, made to withstand skateboard feats better than the actual thing. Surrounding the skateboard park will be viewing areas with a concrete patio on one side.

"We want the skateboard park to be open year-round," says Vicente. "Drainage will be

one of the key issues in making sure it can be."

Besides regrading and reconfiguring the fields, park improvements will include adding drainage and irrigation, building a restroom, paving the gravel parking lot and redoing the paths. The plan leaves room for future development of more fields and other park features.

"The new fields alone will make a big difference. The final goal is for these to be the kind of fields you could walk barefoot on," says Vicente.

The skateboard park and Paramount Park improvements were created with the help of skaters and park users during a series of public meetings. The



Shoreline's skateboard park will contain many of the popular designs featured in other skateboard parks such as handrails and ramps.

final design and cost estimate should be complete by the end of this year and construction on the skateboard park and other improvements is expected to begin in the spring.

City and School District to share facilities

To make the most use of public tax dollars and facilities in Shoreline, the Shoreline City Council and Shoreline School Board recently signed a Joint Use Agreement.

The Joint Use Agreement outlines how facilities operated by the School District such as the Shoreline Conference Center and schools, and the Shoreline Pool, operated by the City, will be shared. The agreement provides for shared development and

maintenance of facilities, cooperative scheduling, appropriate cost sharing and elimination of rental fees between the two agencies.

"This is just the first step in the City and School District establishing a strong partnership to benefit the community," says Shoreline Parks, Recreation and Cultural Services Director Wendy Barry. "We serve similar stakeholders and are supported by the same taxpayers. This agreement will allow both agencies to provide the best service at the

lowest cost."

The City Council and School Board collaborated on the vision and policy of the agreement, and now staff from both agencies will develop the procedures and protocols.

"It will be up to us to implement the agreement," says Barry. "There are still many opportunities to explore and plans to develop, but we are excited by this first step."

Aurora Right-of-Way Manual coming soon

The City of Shoreline hopes to adopt the Right-of-Way Policy and Procedures Manual for the Aurora Corridor Project by the end of the year.

The manual will identify criteria used for the final design of the project and act as a guideline for the land acquisition process. Applicable federal and state laws and City standards will be summarized and the manual will include information about sources of assistance for business owners. Input regarding the contents of the manual was solicited at a September public

meeting.

The goal of the Aurora Corridor Project is to improve traffic safety, pedestrian safety, transit use and traffic flow, and enhance economic development through aesthetic improvements. While the Shoreline City Council accepted the design concept recommended by the Citizens Advisory Task Force in August 1999, the detailed design of the project is just beginning.

The environmental process is expected to be complete in spring of 2001. Construction of the first portion of the project between N.

145th St. and N. 165th St. is scheduled to begin in late 2001 and completed by early 2003.

The Aurora Corridor design concept includes two general purpose lanes in each direction as well as a business-access/transit lane in each direction. Landscaped medians with focused left- and u-turn lanes and pedestrian crossing refuge areas will be provided in the center. Intersection improvements, sidewalks, underground wiring and other pedestrian and aesthetic amenities are also included in the plan.

Celebrate the holidays in Shoreline

Kick off the holiday season with family, friends and neighbors at two holiday events in Shoreline

North City Holiday Festival

The beautiful decorations throughout North City light the way and set the spirit for the annual North City Holiday Festival, Saturday, Dec. 2. The fun begins at 5:30 p.m. at AutoCraft Collision Center (17550 15th Ave. NE) with a music program featuring a variety of Shoreline bands and choirs. Santa will arrive and pose for photos and refreshments will be served. A tree lighting celebration will top off the night's celebration.

The North City Holiday Festival is sponsored by the North City Neighborhood and Business Associations, the Ballinger, Briarcrest and Ridgecrest Neighborhood Associations, the City of Shoreline and Shoreline Water District.

For more information, contact the City of Shoreline Office of Neighborhoods at (206) 546-8564.

Christmas Ships at Saltwater Park

Join the festivities to welcome the Christmas Ships as they stop near Richmond Beach on Monday, Dec. 11. Beginning at 7:30 p.m., gather around one of the three fires sipping coffee or cider provided by the City of Shoreline Parks Department. Enjoy cookies served by the Richmond Beach Community Council while local school choirs serenade the crowd with songs of the season.

The festively decked-out fleet of ships is scheduled to arrive off Richmond Beach Saltwater Park between 8:20 and 8:50 p.m. For more information about the Christmas Ships celebration, contact the City of Shoreline Parks Department at (206) 546-5041.



While the bonfires have gotten tamer over the years, the spirit of celebration at the Christmas Ships at Saltwater Park is still going strong.

Master Planning begins for transfer station

In September, Shoreline City Council got a look at King County Solid Waste Division's preliminary plans for redeveloping the First Ave. NE Transfer Station in Shoreline. The Solid Waste Division plans to reconfigure the site to improve efficiency and reduce truck traffic. Shoreline will now work with King County Solid Waste on a master plan for the site.

A master plan completes the public outreach, environmental requirements and permit process for a specific project and becomes a special overlay amendment to the Development Code and Comprehensive Plan. The Shoreline Comprehensive Plan encourages master planning for sites such as the Transfer Station which are designated as essential regional public facilities.

"The Master Plan process allows the City to address community concerns and the interests outlined in both the City of Shoreline and King County Solid Waste Comprehensive Plans," explains Shoreline Project

Manager Jeffrey Thomas. "There will be an extensive public process for this project to give the community a chance to participate in the development."

Of particular interest to the City of Shoreline is the Transfer Station's potential use of the I-5 direct access ramp now used by the Metro Transit maintenance center.

Currently, transfer station trucks make between six to ten trips a day through Shoreline to get to I-5. Direct ramp access would decrease traffic, road wear and noise on Shoreline streets and would provide an additional buffer to residents living near the transfer station as well as save time for the transfer station trucks.

The master plan, which is



Transfer station trucks such as the one above turning onto Meridian make between six and ten trips a day through Shoreline to and from I-5.

expected to be complete some time next year, will actually be Phase II of the transfer station redevelopment. The first phase will relocate weight scales to a temporary location in anticipation of the construction. King County Solid Waste is expected to apply to the City for a permit for the relocation soon.

Comprehensive Plan amendments *from page 1*

respond to the changing needs and circumstances in the City. There are four amendment types including policy amendments, text amendments, general map amendments and site-specific map amendments.

Proposed amendment applications must be received by Dec. 31, 2000, to be considered during the 2001 amendment process. Each proposed amendment will be evaluated using the criteria outlined in the Development Code and information

supplied in the application. There will be no fee for Comprehensive Plan amendments. If a rezone is necessary as part of a site-specific map amendment, a rezone application fee may be required.

Following a public hearing, the Planning Commission will make a recommendation to the City Council on each proposed amendment. The City Council will make the final decision on each

proposed amendment. Amendments will likely go before the Planning Commission in February and before the City Council in April.

Applications are available at the City of Shoreline Planning and Development Services Department, 1110 N. 175th St., or call (206) 546-1811 for more information.

Who, what, where in the City of Shoreline

City of Shoreline

Shoreline City Hall

17544 Midvale Avenue N.
Shoreline, WA 98133-4921
(206) 546-1700
Fax (206) 546-7868

City Hall Annex

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Development Services Department
• Public Works Department
Highland Plaza
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Shoreline, WA 98133


CURRENTS

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City Council

City Councilmembers

Mayor Scott Jepsen
Deputy Mayor Ron Hansen
Kevin Grossman
Rich Gustafson
Cheryl Lee
Linda Montgomery
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

AT&T Channel 21 and
AT&T (Chambers) Channel 47
Wednesday through Sunday
5 a.m., 10 a.m., 4 p.m. and 10 p.m.

Shoreline Police

Emergency: 911

Shoreline Police Station

Chief Denise Pentony
1206 N. 185th St.
Shoreline, WA 98133
(206) 546-6730

Westside Neighborhood Police Center

Officer Darren Young
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

City of Shoreline Website

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



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