

CITY OF SHORELINE CURRENTS

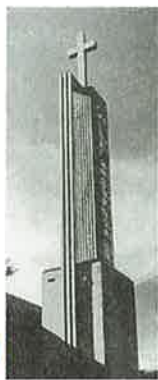
October 1999 Vol. 1 No. 4

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Beautification Awards

The new steeple at Richmond Beach Congregational Church is one towering example of projects throughout Shoreline that show what it means to build community character. **Page**

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Y2K in the City of Shoreline

Endless pages have been written about Y2K and following is one more. But this article brings Y2K to where you live and tells you what the City of Shoreline has done to prepare for the new year.

"Even though we believe the local impacts will be minor, the City will be staffed up and ready to respond to emergency calls for service on New Year's Eve," says Shoreline Finance Director Joe Meneghini.

The Y2K bug refers to a computer programming flaw. Originally, computers used only the last two digits of the year when calculating dates. For example, July 4, 1976, would be 07/04/76. That means the computer would translate January 1, 2000, as 01/01/00 and would read that as 1900. Although improvements in computer technology have made it easier to use the full four digit year, a number of computer software and hardware products may still be vulnerable to the Y2K bug.

"In dealing with its own systems, Shoreline is lucky because it is a new city and is using newer technology. Although the newer system is less likely to have problems, we still tested everything possible," says Meneghini. "We've done the bulk of the updates to our systems and are now making the last few changes. The problems we identified were fairly simple to fix."

Besides updating the City's systems to be Y2K compliant, Shoreline has also researched the Y2K status of City contractors and utilities.

"Utility services in Shoreline
See Y2K page 7

Numbers to know

FIRE/POLICE EMERGENCIES

911

UTILITY OUTAGES OR PROBLEMS

ELECTRICITY:

Seattle City Light (206) 625-3000

NATURAL GAS:

Puget Sound Energy (888) 225-5773

WATER:

(East Shoreline) Seattle Water (206) 684-5900

(West Shoreline) Shoreline Water District (206) 362-8100

SEWER:

(East) Seattle Sewer (206) 684-7506

(West) Shoreline Wastewater Mgmt. (206) 546-2494

PHONE:

(East) US West (800) 244-1111

(West) GTE (800) 483-4100

CABLE:

(West) Chambers Cable (425) 774-5146 (800) 547-8921

(East) AT&T Cable formerly TCI (877) 824-2288

GARBAGE:

(East) Eastside Disposal (206) 682-9730

(West) Waste Management Northwest (425) 481-1100

OTHER EMERGENCIES NOT MENTIONED ABOVE

CITY OF SHORELINE:

Customer Response Team (206) 546-1700

Shoreline begins process for Budget 2000

At its Oct. 11 workshop meeting, Shoreline City Council discussed the 2000 budget process, impacts of Initiative 695 and options for dealing with those impacts if the initiative passes.

Initiative 695 would repeal the existing motor vehicle excise tax (MVET) and substitute a \$30 per year license tab fee. The initiative would also require voter approval for any tax or fee increase.

While over 75 percent of MVET revenues go to fund transportation and road related projects statewide, the remaining amount is shared with local governments throughout the state and funds a variety of local services.

Shoreline's service levels inherited from King County were often at a rural level, and in the case of roads and surface water management, were below the level necessary to preserve the infrastructure. While the City has stretched tax dollars to improve service in some areas, Shoreline still provides rather modest services in Parks, Human Services, Public Works and Capital Improvements.

A large portion of the City's general fund revenue base comes from gambling taxes and state-shared revenues. Gambling tax is unstable because of the possibility of changing state laws. When these two revenue sources are combined, they represent 36 percent of the City's revenue base, more than the entire police budget.

Initiative 695 highlights the City's reliance upon state-shared revenues. The full impact of the loss of state-shared revenues if Initiative 695 passes would be felt in 2001 when Shoreline could lose an estimated \$2.9 million or 17 percent of the general fund revenue:

- Over \$2.3 million in sales tax equalization and other MVET revenues which fund City services like police, parks and roads.

- \$148,474 in MVET Criminal Justice revenues which fund programs for at-risk children, do-

mestic violence programs and law enforcement services.

- \$436,431 in local option vehicle license fee revenues could also be lost which fund street maintenance.

City staff has prepared one budget based on existing revenue sources, and one based on the reduced revenue if Initiative 695 passes. Options for dealing with reduced revenue include expenditure reductions, additional revenue sources and a temporary use of the City's 1999 ending fund balance as a reserve fund to help phase in the new lower service levels over time.

An additional revenue source discussed at the workshop was a six percent utility tax on natural gas, telephone, cellular phone and sanitation services and a one percent tax on cable TV. The total is estimated to increase revenues by \$2.3 million.

If Initiative 695 is approved, Shoreline households will average a savings of \$270 a year on MVET fees. If Shoreline implements the utility taxes and franchise fees, Shoreline households would still save an average of \$110 each year.

The City Manager will present the City's budget for 2000 based on existing revenue sources to the City Council at its Oct. 25 meeting.

Potential budget cuts

Below are some examples of potential expenditure reductions if Initiative 695 passes and no other revenue sources are found to make up the \$2.9 million loss.

- Close both Neighborhood Police Storefront Centers.
- Eliminate one reactive patrol officer position and one traffic officer position.
- Eliminate cultural services budget which includes funding for the Arts Council and Museum and all City events such as Celebrate Shoreline.
- Reduce park maintenance.
- Eliminate neighborhood mini-grants and newsletters, and reduce other services.
- Restrict Planning Department's Walk-In Services Program to limited hours.
- Eliminate the North Rehabilitation Facility (NRF) contract for roadside vegetation control.
- Close the pool on Sundays and increase fees.
- Reduction of professional staff and administrative support in nearly every department.
- Eliminate videotaping of City Council meetings.

Kudos to those who beautify our community

Congratulations to winners of the Second Annual Beautification Awards presented at the Sept. 13 Shoreline City Council meeting. The Beautification Awards Ceremony was the grand finale of Shoreline Clean Sweep, an annual series of events to build community pride and spirit by bringing residents together to beautify Shoreline.

The Beautification Awards recognize good development practices and reward those who go the extra mile to make our community a more attractive place to live.

"By becoming an annual tradition of friendly competition, the Beautification Awards promote projects that reflect positive community character," says Shoreline Mayor Scott Jepsen.

A panel of judges from the community reviewed nominations in four categories. This year's winners are:

Best residential single-family project: Christensen residence on 191st Pl. NW

Built on a sloping hillside, this new home takes advantage of the natural terrain and models its style on older Richmond Beach homes. The house is more inviting because the attached garage is nearly invisible — it is built into the slope in back of the house.



Best multifamily project: Chestnut Court Assisted Living on the CRISTA campus

This development was designed to blend in with the CRISTA campus by maintaining the look and feel of the existing architecture. The CRISTA campus was originally the Firland Tuberculosis Sanitarium, built circa 1911.



Best commercial/institutional project: Seattle Restaurant Store at 14910 Aurora Ave. N

Seattle Restaurant Store converted an unused restaurant into a store that is inviting to both pedestrians and motorists. The store sells food service equipment to restaurants and the general public.

Open category: Richmond Beach Congregational Church and Western Wireless Voice Stream

By placing a cell tower within the church steeple, this project is a prime example of how cellular providers are finding attractive ways to site cell towers in the City of Shoreline.

Each winner received an engraved award.

Congratulations also to the honorable mentions in three categories: Epperson residence at 27th Ave. NW, single-family residence; Wehmeyer Condo-

Three of the 1999 Beautification Awards went to Chestnut Court on the CRISTA campus (above), The Seattle Restaurant Store (below) and the Christensen residence (lower left).



minium on Richmond Beach Road, multi-family residence; and Spin Alley Bowling Center on Richmond Beach Road, commercial/institutional project.

Preliminary engineering begins for Aurora

Shoreline is moving down the road to making Aurora into a main street of which to be proud. On August 23, the City Council accepted a preferred design concept for the three miles of Aurora Ave. N. that run through Shoreline. The next step is preliminary engineering and environmental analysis, which will take about a year.

"The engineering will involve a high level of coordination and discussion with property and business owners," says Shoreline Transportation Manager Kirk McKinley.

The plan is to construct the south section first, between 145th

and 165th. Shoreline is also seeking funding from State and Federal sources. Currently, the City has secured \$13 million in grants towards the \$50 million project. McKinley says that both Metro and Washington Department of Transportation are very supportive of the design concept and should help the City in receiving additional grants.

Recommended by the Citizens Advisory Task Force, the new design concept includes two general purpose lanes in each direction as well as a business-access/transit lane in both directions. 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.

"The task force listened to all the comments and did an excellent job of addressing the issues that came up," says Shoreline Transportation Manager Kirk McKinley. "I think that's reflected in their unanimous vote for the recommendation to the City Council."

Neighborhood Traffic Safety Program ahead

Speeding? Limited sight? Dangerous intersections? What are your traffic concerns for your neighborhood?

The City of Shoreline is bringing together residents to develop a Neighborhood Traffic Safety Program to address those concerns. The program will outline how the City responds to neighborhood traffic safety complaints or requests.

"We think of the program as a tool kit of solutions to traffic safety issues," explains Shoreline Project Engineer Kristen Stouffer-Overleese. "Ultimately, when residents come to us with an issue, they will know what the possibilities are and what they can expect from the City."

To better understand neighborhood concerns, the City is forming a five-person Citizen Advisory Committee. A Technical Advisory Committee will have

representatives from the Shoreline Police and Fire Departments, School District, King County METRO, development community and City staff. The two committees will educate each other — the technical staff will learn more about neighborhood traffic issues and the residents will hear the pros and cons of common traffic safety program elements.

One of the City's goals is to create a program that is responsive to citizen needs, makes the most of limited resources and establishes accountability. Shoreline has identified three potential program elements: education, enforcement and engineering.

Education may include neighborhood speed watch programs, traffic safety campaigns and community pacts to obey neighborhood traffic laws. "Other cities with similar programs have told us that education is a critical component of successful neighbor-

hood traffic safety programs," says Stouffer-Overleese.

Enforcement may include neighbors using radar guns and reader boards to monitor speeds in their area, targeted police enforcement and media coverage of police activity.

Engineering could include studies of traffic volumes and speeds and the installation of physical devices such as speed bumps and traffic circles.

Once the elements are in place, they will be implemented based on available funding.

The first of two public open houses will be held in November to gather residents' concerns and issues to be addressed in the program. Residents will have an opportunity to view the proposed Neighborhood Traffic Safety Program at a second open house expected in early 2000.

For more information, contact Stouffer-Overleese at (206) 546-1700.

Shoreline code revision nears final stages

After six months of hard work, the Planning Academy met for its final session Sept. 23.

Since April, the Academy has been working with staff and other professionals on revisions to the existing procedures and standards, which will be incorporated into a permanent development code that implements Shoreline's Comprehensive Plan.

Phase one of the Planning Academy addressed procedural issues of the code and uncontroversial development standards. Phase two focused on the "substantive" changes to the development regulations. During the first phase of the Planning Academy the 37 citizens appointed by the City Council studied and discussed a wide range of development issues such as state laws, permitting processes in other jurisdictions, decision-making procedures and community values for single-family residences. In the second phase the Academy focused on the development standards for multifamily and commercial development, as well as basic issues concerning storm drainage and street standards.

"The Academy members are now well-educated on many code issues and the staff learned from them about their issues and values enormously," says Shoreline Planning and Development Services Assistant Director Anna Kolousek. "As a result, there are some really good suggested changes to the code."

Following public hearings held in September and early October, the Planning Commission is

expected to make a recommendation on phase one to the City Council soon. City staff is preparing the phase two draft to be released early November. After a

comment period, the Planning Commission will hold public hearings and make its recommendation to the City Council on phase two.

Enforcement code also gets facelift

For the past year, the City of Shoreline has been revising its development code to comply with the Comprehensive Plan. While procedures and development standards have received much of the attention, another component is also being revised: how the code will be enforced.

Code enforcement is one way the City maintains quality of life in Shoreline — public health, safety and property values can be adversely affected by code violations. A few examples of violations that are most recognizable would be junk cars in yards, accumulated garbage around a house or business and unsecured abandoned buildings.

Shoreline Code Enforcement Officer Sherri Dugdale has been working with a team of City staff including City Attorney Ian Sievers and representatives from the Police Department, City Manager's Office, Public Works, Planning and Development and Office of Neighborhoods to rewrite Shoreline's enforcement code. For the past four years, Shoreline has relied upon the King County enforcement code that was in place at incorporation. Shoreline is using an updated version of the King County code as a basis for the new enforcement code and customizing it to meet Shoreline's needs.

A draft of the new enforcement code will be presented to the Planning Commission and City Council with phase two of the development code revisions (see story this page). The next step, Dugdale says, is to complete the policy and procedures manual and begin developing proactive code enforcement projects.

"Basically, a proactive approach means looking for solutions to the underlying problems that lead to code violations," explains Dugdale.

One of the City Council's goals is to develop a code enforcement program based on community values. After studying programs in other cities, Shoreline has proposed a "three strikes" model for code enforcement which strives to solve problems rather than simply respond to calls. This approach emphasizes education and voluntary compliance, but proposes stiffer penalties for continued noncompliance and more serious violations.

Last month, Shoreline residents completed a survey about their code enforcement priorities. Dugdale will base code enforcement projects on information gathered from the survey combined with City Council's direction, comments from the Council of Neighborhoods and data collected from calls made to the Customer Response Team.

Holiday season starts at Hamlin



Hamlin Haunt

Scare up some fun at the Hamlin Halloween Haunt. Join the ghouls and ghosts as the fun materializes Friday, Oct. 29, 6 to 8:30 p.m. at Hamlin Park for the fourth annual Hamlin Halloween Haunt.

The whole family will enjoy celebrating the Halloween season at this free event sponsored by the Shoreline Parks, Recreation and Cultural Services Department. Gather around the campfire to listen to spooky songs and tales, then take a horse-drawn hayride through the woods. Return to enjoy the always popular "candy-in-the-haystack" game and face painting.

Remember to dress warmly, and bring a flashlight and a roasting stick for marshmallows. Hamlin Park is located at 165th St. and 15th Ave. NE. For more information, call (206) 546-5041.

Christmas Ship

Kick off the holiday season with a Richmond Beach tradition.

Keep warm by the huge bonfire on the beach at Richmond

Beach Saltwater Park during a visit by the Christmas Ship, Friday, Dec. 3, 7:55 p.m. to 8:25 p.m. The Christmas Ship will be followed by a fleet of vessels, private yachts, sailboats and other small craft all decked out in holiday lights.

All ages are welcome at this free event.

North City Tree Lighting

The North City Business Association plans to make its second annual North City Tree Lighting "bigger and better" than last year. Set for Saturday, Dec. 4, this year's celebration will begin at 3:30 p.m. with craft booths, refreshments and photos with Santa. Musical performances begin at 5:30 p.m. and the tree lighting ceremony is at 6:30 p.m.

Remember to dress warmly and bring a food or toy item to be donated. The festivities will be held at AutoCraft Collision Center at 15th Ave. NE just north of 175th St.

Park master plans report

Over the summer, Shoreline citizens not only played in the parks, but worked on a vision for three Shoreline park properties.

In a series of public meetings held this summer, residents helped design master plans for Paramount Park, Shoreline Pool and Richmond Highlands Recreation Center for review by the Shoreline City Council.

The preferred alternative for Paramount School Park was presented to the City Council Sept. 20. Since the property is owned by the Shoreline School District, the plan will also be reviewed by the School Board.

The master plan for the pool was presented to the City Council Oct. 18.

A master plan is a long-term vision for a park that acts as a blueprint for future projects. Improvements outlined in the master plans are not necessarily funded yet, nor are they expected to be completed immediately.

"Our next step is to bring recommendations back to the Council for phasing and funding options for all three of the master plans," says Shoreline City Engineer Mike Gillespie.

Shoreline prepares for Y2K *continued from page 1*

are not under the control of the City, but we have contacted all of the providers — electric, gas, water, sewer, cable and telephone — and have been assured they are Y2K compliant and ready to continue providing services to our residents on January 1," says Meneghini.

Seattle City Light reports that it is ready for the new year.

"All of Seattle City Light's critical systems have been remediated and initial Y2K testing has been completed," states Marlene Flynn, City Light's Y2K Project Manager. "We have a tradition of reliability for our customers, and the changing of the millennium will be no exception."

Shoreline Wastewater Management District is another utility that has undergone extensive testing to ensure that it is Y2K ready.

"The District's gravity sewer system will continue to operate normally and our sewage pumping stations, which are not date-sensitive, will continue to operate without interruption. A complete investigation of our internal computer systems and external sewage collection infrastructure has been completed, and the District's computer system passed a simulated year 2000 date roll over test," says Technical Support Supervisor, CNA, Michael Derrick. "The sewage will continue to flow away from the homes and the sewer bills will be calculated accurately. Our contingency plans include having extra fuel reserves and backup power for all of our buildings and facilities. We are Y2K ready."

The City also has contingency plans for emergencies. Meneghini

points out that utility service disruption can occur for any number of reasons — a severe storm or earthquake, for example — and that the City prepares for these situations as part of its emergency operations plan. It is also a good idea for individuals to have an emergency preparedness plan for their homes and businesses (see checklist below) not only for Y2K, but for other unexpected emergencies.

In addition to the emergency

operations plan, City staff will be on call over New Year's for emergencies and the police will staff much heavier during the holiday.

"We will be prepared for any types of disturbances or emergencies that may arise because of lack of power or water, although we don't expect anything out of the ordinary," says Shoreline Police Chief Sue Rahr. "We expect a typical New Year's, but if it's not, we will be ready."

Y2K preparation checklist

Preparation for Y2K mirrors that for any natural disaster. The American Red Cross developed the following checklist to prepare for possible Y2K disruptions.

- Check with manufacturers of your home computer-controlled equipment to see if it may be affected by Y2K. This includes any electronic equipment in which an "embedded chip" may control its operation. Most manufacturers have Web pages to address your concerns.
- Stock disaster supplies to last several days to a week for yourself and those who live with you. These include nonperishable food, water and medications.
- Keep your automobile gas tank above half full.
- If the power fails, use alternative cooking devices in accordance with manufacturer's instructions. Don't use open flames or charcoal grills indoors.
- Have extra blankets and clothing to keep warm. Do not use gas-fueled appliances as an alternative heating source. The same goes for wood-burning or liquid-fueled heating devices that are not designed to be used in a residential structure. Camp stoves and heaters should only be used out of doors in a well-ventilated area. Make sure alternative heating devices are approved for use indoors and are listed with the Underwriters Laboratories (UL).
- Have plenty of flashlights and extra batteries on hand. Don't use candles for emergency lighting.
- Examine your smoke alarms now. Every fall, replace all batteries in all smoke alarms as a general fire safety precaution.
- Be prepared to relocate to a shelter for warmth and protection or if local officials request you leave your home. Listen to a battery-operated radio or television for shelter information.
- If you plan to use a portable generator, connect what you want to power directly to the generator; do not connect the generator to your home's electrical system. Also, be sure to keep a generator in a well-ventilated area, either outside or in a garage with the door open. Don't put a generator in your basement or anywhere inside your home.

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) 546-2200

City Hall Annex

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


CURRENTS

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City Council

City Councilmembers

Mayor Scott Jepsen
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 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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