

CITY OF SHORELINE CURRENTS

INSIDE • 2 Weathering the Economic Crisis • 3 Visioning Public Hearing • 5 Free Tax Help • 6 Mini-Grants Available

Come celebrate completion of Saltwater Park improvements at March 21 dedication

After months of construction, improvements are complete and Richmond Beach Saltwater Park is open. Final touches are being made to the art features, trellis and landscaping in preparation for a dedication ceremony Saturday, March 21, at 1:00 p.m. at the newly created terrace south of the caretakers house at 2021 NW 190th Street.

The project has improved the park entrance and road, pedestrian sidewalks, stairs, trails and slope stability. The park now boasts: a new beach wash-down area, an overlook parking area across from the caretaker's residence, a terrace activity area with parking just south of the caretaker's residence, picnic area and gathering space, new entry, way-finding and interpretive educational signs and a public art piece.

The 1% for the Arts program is funding installation of *Reflex Solaris*, a public art piece by Laura Haddad and Tom Drugan. It includes an interactive concrete and steel sundial in the central activity area and five steel

Continued on page 3



Council approves two off-leash dog park sites

King County Animal Control estimates that Shoreline residents collectively own over 12,000 dogs.

By spring, these Shoreline dogs and their people will have a park of their own for year-round romping and socializing. A second seasonal-use park will provide the much coveted access to real saltwater from November through early spring.

The two new dog parks will be developed at Shoreview and Richmond Beach Saltwater Parks respectively. These pilot sites, recommended by the Parks, Recreation and Cultural Services (PRCS) Board and the Off-Leash Dog Area Study Group, were approved by the City Council at its January 26 meeting.

"Shoreline's quality of life is enriched by the wealth of recreation opportunities our beautiful and abundant parks offer — ball fields, a skate

Continued on page 7



Weathering the economic crisis

A message from Shoreline City Manager Bob Olander



MANY OF YOU MAY BE feeling the impact of the current economic crisis through a layoff, a mortgage that has become unaffordable or losses to your retirement savings. As your City government we are concerned about the negative impacts that this crisis is having on our residents and businesses. During these times it is even more critical that we deliver services to our community such as police protection, aid to human service agencies, low-cost recreational opportunities and efficient transportation systems. I want to take this opportunity to let you know how this crisis is affecting the City and how we are working to protect and sustain our operations.

The economic situation affects us in several ways. We see evidence of the crisis in state and King County budget shortfalls that often impact the City's budget. Revenues that the state has historically shared with the City are reduced or county reductions in human services result in increased demands on City resources. These are critical services at any time, but even

more important in tough economic times. Just like the state and the county, the City is seeing declining revenues as a result of the current economic crisis, making it more challenging to deliver these critical services. Our revenue is declining in building and development permits, sales tax and investment interest.

Like our residents and businesses, the City must have a strategy to address these declining revenues. A

central component of our strategy is an emergency reserve specifically designated to help bridge revenue gaps during a recession. This reserve was established by the City Council to provide adequate funds during periodic short-term recessions to allow the City to continue providing essential services. We have also implemented a modified hiring freeze, limited ex-

penditures for non-critical items for 2009 and delayed purchases and projects where feasible.

The City has implemented many cost-saving measures over the last few years that are paying off in these tough times. Our new phone system is saving us \$100,000 a year in ongoing costs. We now pay for the use of canine services in our police department on an as-needed basis instead of paying for a full-time dedicated canine unit, saving us \$100,000 a year. Our employees willingly modified the City's health benefit policy five

years ago resulting in an estimated \$200,000 savings this year alone.

Even with these actions, we know that there are challenging times ahead. Our financial planning already assumed budget gaps in the long-term before the recent economic crisis. Assuming that there may be a long, slow recovery to the current crisis — some are saying it may take several years — we may face even more difficult decisions in the future

Our City Council has provided solid financial planning and policies that recently resulted in an upgrade in our bond rating by Standard & Poor's from "AA-" to "AA+". In addition, we were rated "Strong" in their financial management assessment. These ratings provide financial strength and stability to help us get through this period of economic turmoil. We are also working aggressively to promote economic development in Shoreline.

as we strive to provide key services to our community with the financial resources we have available. We are already working with a Citizens Advisory Committee to provide recommendations to the City Council on long-term financial strategies. Through this process we may find that there are certain services we cannot continue to provide or we may

need to seek additional tax support from the community to maintain key services.

I remain confident that the economy will improve. Whatever happens, I am grateful for the community members who remain actively involved in the City and to our employees who are committed to serving the Shoreline community. We will rely more than ever on our ability to work together to weather the current challenges and build new strengths for the future.

What's your **VISION** for Shoreline?

April 13 City Council Public Hearing on Shoreline's 2029 Vision

Meetings and discussions continue this spring as community members finalize a Shoreline Vision for the next 20 years.

The City Council and Planning Commission hosted the final Town Hall Meeting, or "Community Check-In," on March 2. The community was invited to take part in roundtable discussions with the City Council and Planning Commission to review and provide input on the Planning Commission's working draft of the Vision Statement and framework goals. On March 27, the final drafts and comments from the March Town Hall meeting will be posted and available on Shoreline's website. An official public hearing is set for Monday, April 13, at 7:30 p.m. in the Mt. Rainier Room, Shoreline Conference Center, 18560 1st Avenue NE. For more information or to be added to the mailing list, contact Associate Planner David Levitan at (206) 801-2554 or dlevitan@shorelinewa.gov.



Saltwater Park improvements include the new picnic area and gathering space overlooking Puget Sound, pedestrian sidewalks, stairs, trails and slope plantings for stability.

Saltwater Park Completion

continued from page 1

reflectors that will cast images of the surrounding environment. Standing on the sundial at designated spots, one can look east at the hillside to see the steel reflectors along true north, winter and summer solstice and fall and spring equinox lines.

Habitat restoration, a goal of Shoreline's Master Plan, continues with the completion of the Vegetation Management Plan. Community leaders are still needed to spearhead

the Friends of Saltwater Park group to help maintain the restored areas of the park throughout the year. If you are interested in being a member, please contact Maureen Colaizzi at mcolaizzi@shorelinewa.gov or (206) 801-2603.

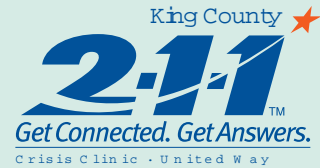
For more information about the park and its improvements, contact Capital Projects Manager Dave Buchanan at dbuchan@shorelinewa.gov or (206) 801-2475.

DTV conversion delayed



The federally mandated switch from analog to digital television has been delayed to June 12. If you have an older analog TV, call 888-DTV-2009 or visit www.dtv2009.gov to request a \$40 voucher toward the purchase of a converter box.

Work on Council's Healthy City Strategy begins



Shoreline's Human Services goals:

- More youth involved in structured, positive activities during non-school hours
- Reduce delinquency, violence and crime
- More skilled and prepared young people
- Reduce substance abuse
- Reduce child abuse and neglect
- More people have adequate food, shelter and clothing
- More youth have contact with caring adults
- Preserve the independence and quality of life for seniors
- More community members work together to solve problems
- Increase affordable childcare
- Increase affordable housing
- Increase employment
- Reduce teen pregnancy
- Reduce domestic and dating violence
- Increase overall levels of academic, vocational and self-improvement learning for people of all ages, to ensure employability and personal growth



The City of Shoreline contracts with the following local human service agencies to provide a variety of services to Shoreline residents:

Crisis Clinic: Information and referrals to community resources in King County

- **Community Information Line:** Call 211 or (206) 461-3200 or (800) 621-4636.
- **Crisis Line:** 24-hour, immediate help for people in crisis (206) 461-3222 or (866) 427-4747.
- **TeenLink:** Confidential helpline for teens from 6:00 to 10:00 p.m. (206) 461-4922 or (866) TEENLINK (833-6546).

Center for Human Services: Family support, anger management classes, family and individual counseling, drug and alcohol assessment and treatment. They also provide East/North Healthy Start which is a home-based support service to new parents under 22 who are pregnant or parenting an infant six months or younger, (206) 362-7282, 17018 15th Avenue NE, Shoreline.

Shoreline/Lake Forest Park Senior Center: Nutrition, recreation and socialization, community events, and a wide variety of classes. Shuttle transportation to the center is available. Call for information (206) 365-1536, 18560 1st Avenue NE #1, Shoreline.

Hopelink-Shoreline Emergency Services: A food bank and other emergency services, including rent and utility assistance, (425) 556-9289.

Hopelink-Kenmore Shelter: Emergency shelter and case management for families, (206) 292-8037, 18015 63rd Avenue NE, Kenmore.

Harborview Children's Response Center: Comprehensive sexual assault services to children, (425) 688-5130.

King County Sexual Assault Resource Center: 24-hour crisis intervention and other services to victims of sexual assault, (888) 99 VOICE (888-998-6423).

The HomeStep Program: Transitional housing and case management to homeless families and individuals, (206) 525-1213, ext. 4000.

New Beginnings for Battered Women and their Children: Emergency shelter, crisis intervention hotline, advocacy, education and transitional housing for battered women and their children, (206) 522-9472.

Hang Time: After school activities sponsored by Dale Turner YMCA at Kellogg Middle School, (206) 569-7004.

City helps ensure access to needed services

IN JULY, THE SHORELINE CITY Council added a new goal to its work plan: Develop a healthy city strategy to ensure the community's access to needed human services. Council Goal No. 8 may be new, but the effort to create a healthy city for all Shoreline residents has been a priority since Shoreline incorporated in 1995.

The Human Services program works with organizations and individuals to help Shoreline residents meet their individual and family's needs for physical, mental, social and economic well-being. Shoreline contracts with agencies like the Crisis Clinic, Hopelink, the Shoreline-Lake Forest Park Senior Center and the Center for Human Services to provide services to Shoreline residents such as food and financial assistance, shelter, family support, counseling and senior services. Human Services is also responsible for the Community Development Block Grant allocations.

"The City's overall strategy is to engage residents, organizations and agencies in ways that expand availability and access to services in Shoreline," says

Free tax help available

Community Services Division Manager Rob Beem. "This is done through direct funding and the creation of partnerships. Our main goals this year are to update the Human Services Plan to carry us into the next decade, develop more affordable housing in Shoreline and to continue our efforts to bring even more events that celebrate cultural diversity into the community."

Over the past 10 years, the City has partnered with Shoreline Public Schools on the Community Resource Team bringing together 20 agencies, schools and governments to identify and address issues facing school age youth and families. It also worked with United Way and Hopelink to establish a permanent food bank and emergency services center in Shoreline. Other recent accomplishments include adopting a comprehensive housing strategy, developing cultural diversity events like free lunchtime concerts in Shoreline parks and adopting the theme "Celebrating Shoreline's Cultural Diversity" for Celebrate Shoreline 2007.

Shoreline is creating an ad-hoc citizen advisory committee to guide its efforts in updating and revising the Human Services Strategic Plan that was adopted in 1998. The committee will be appointed by the City Council and will include members of the community, representatives from the school district, human service providers, funders, the business community and the faith-based community. Recommendations for updating the human services plan are due to the City Council this fall. A second phase, updating the Youth Service Plan, will begin in late 2009 and be completed by Spring of 2010.

For more information about Human Services in Shoreline, contact Community Services Division Manager Rob Beem at (206) 801-2251, rbeem@shorelinewa.gov.

United Way of King County and AARP provide free tax preparation for seniors and households making less than \$42,000. IRS-certified, multilingual volunteers help prepare your return and claim all eligible tax credits including the Earned Income Tax Credit and Child Tax Credit. Electronic filing for quick refunds is available. The Free Tax Preparation Campaign allows people to keep more of their hard-earned money and avoid paying unnecessary fees for commercial tax preparation and "rapid refund" loans. All sites have limited capacity; please arrive early to sites that don't require an appointment. Service ends April 15.

NO APPOINTMENT NECESSARY:

Shoreline Public Library, 345 NE 175th Street
Wednesdays, 4:30 to 8:30 p.m.
Saturdays, 12:00 to 4:30 p.m.

Hopelink, 15809 Westminster Way N,
(Aurora Square Plaza lower level)
Wednesdays and Thursdays, 5:00 to 9:00 p.m.
Saturdays, 10:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m.

Lake City Neighborhood Service Center, 12525 28th Avenue NE, Seattle
Tuesdays and Thursdays, 5:00 to 9:00 p.m.
Saturdays, 11:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.

APPOINTMENT REQUIRED:

Shoreline Community Church, 125 NE 185th Street
Call (206) 365-1536 to make an appointment.

Broadview Public Library, 12755 Greenwood Avenue N, Seattle
Call (206) 361-2777 to make an appointment.

For other sites and more information call 211 or (877) 211- 9274.

**NO
APPOINTMENT
NECESSARY!**

WHAT TO BRING-

- Last year's income tax return
- End of year tax statements from all sources of income for all members of household (W-2, 1099, etc.)
- Social Security or Tax I.D. Number for every member of the household
- Birth date of each person claimed
- Child care provider name, address and Tax I.D. Number
- Mortgage interest statement and property tax statement if you own a home
- Checking or savings account number for direct deposit of refund

Parks, Recreation and Cultural Services Board taking applications

The City of Shoreline is now accepting applications for volunteers to serve on the Parks, Recreation and Cultural Services (PRCS) Board.

This 11 member board advises the Council and staff on a variety of parks and recreation issues. Members of the PRCS Board are appointed by the City Council for four-year terms with two youth members (ages 15-19 at the beginning of their term) each serving two-year terms. Board members are all volunteers who live, work or own property in the City of Shoreline.

Four four-year term positions and two youth positions are open for application with the deadline of Friday, March 20.

Those interested in being considered must fill out a Shoreline Community Services Application available in the City Clerk's Office at City Hall (17544 Midvale Ave. N.) or on the City's website, www.shorelinewa.gov. Completed applications must be submitted to the City Clerk's Office by 5:00 p.m. on Friday, March 20.

For more information, contact the Shoreline Parks, Recreation and Cultural Services Department at (206) 801-2602.

COMMUNITY SPOTLIGHT: Shoreline-Lake Forest Park Senior Center offers independence and support

A HOT LUNCH AND A CHANCE to visit with friends. A support group for the hard of hearing. Help learning to use a computer. The Shoreline-Lake Forest Park Senior Center extends a helping hand by offering these services to seniors 50 and over in the community.

Located at 18560 1st Avenue NE #1 in the Shoreline Conference Center complex, the center is open from 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Monday through Friday with events on weekends and evenings.

The center is a bustling place with seminars, daily hot lunches, health monitoring and exercise classes, senior rights assistance, counseling and much more. An affiliate of Senior Services, the center is the only agency that works exclusively with seniors in North King County. It is also an independent, self-supporting non-profit agency.

Center activities include a yearly bazaar, monthly birthday lunches and other events. Annual membership is \$22 for singles and \$35 for couples. Scholarships are available and non-members are welcome to participate in center events at any time. More than 200 volunteers, most of them seniors, make the center programs possible, along with employees.

Outside funding is provided through support from the Cities of Shoreline and Lake Forest Park, corporations, foundations, United Way of King County and other agencies.

For more information about the Shoreline-Lake Forest Park Senior Center, call (206) 365-1536 or visit www.seniorservices.org/sc/shoreline.asp.



Apply now for 2009 Neighborhood and Environmental Mini-Grants



2008 Mini-Grant Examples

Neighborhood: Families prepared for new play equipment at Briarcrest Elementary (above).

Environmental: At the Renewable Energy Fair, volunteers help others learn ways to protect our environment.

Deadline for 2009 Mini-Grant Proposals is June 30

More info: www.shorelinewa.gov

Environmental: Environmental Programs Coordinator Rika Cecil at (206) 801-2452, nsmith@shorelinewa.gov

Neighborhood: Neighborhood Coordinator Nora Smith at (206) 801-2253, rcecil@shorelinewa.gov

Pilot Site Recommended for Immediate Implementation
Shoreview Park—Concept Design



Off-leash dog park sites

continued from page 1

park, tennis courts and playgrounds to just name a few," says PRCS Director Dick Deal. "Adding places for dogs to play without leashes builds on that by offering another way for the community to enjoy its parks."

The Shoreview site is approximately 2.5 acres located in the northeastern corner of the park in an open lot adjacent to Shoreline Community College. Previously used as a parking lot by the College, it is now vacant which allows it to be immediately readied as a traditional off-leash area. The City will add fencing, surface improvements, dog waste stations including bag dispensers, rules signs and a portable restroom. Shoreview Park is located at 700 NW Innis Arden Way.

The site recommended for seasonal use is the 300 feet of beach beginning just south of where the bridge exits into the sand at Richmond Beach Saltwater Park, 2021 NW 190th Street. This 1.2 acre site offers sandy beaches, water access and nearby restrooms and parking. The area will only be open to off-leash dogs from November through early spring during off-peak visitor use. Since this area is along the beach, Shoreline completed an environmental study.

The City also completed an extensive community participation process to determine what sites would be best suited for a dog park. The process began soon after Shoreline voters approved the Park Bond in 2006, which included money to develop off-leash dog recreation opportunities in Shoreline. After two years and dozens of meetings, these final sites were recommended as the ones that best met the criteria developed by the community.

The City will regularly maintain and monitor the dog parks during the pilot period. In late 2010, Shoreline will evaluate the sites to identify issues that should be addressed and to determine if the dog parks are performing as expected.

For more information, visit Off-Leash Dog Park under the projects pull down menu at www.shorelinewa.gov or contact Parks Project Coordinator Maureen Colaizzi at (206) 801-2603.



Are you eligible for the Earned Income Tax Credit?



The Earned Income Tax Credit (EITC) is a tax credit for low-income working families or individuals. To qualify for 2008, a filer must:

- Have a valid Social Security number
- Have lived in the United States for more than half the year
- Have made less than \$2,900 from investment income
- Have earned income
- Be a U.S. citizen or resident alien
- Be between the ages of 25 and 65 or have a qualified dependant

In addition, a taxpayer's earned income and adjusted gross income (AGI) must each be less than:

- \$38,646 (\$41,646 married filing jointly) with two or more qualifying children
- \$33,995 (\$36,995 married filing jointly) with one qualifying child
- \$12,880 (\$15,880 married filing jointly) with no qualifying children

Maximum credit:

- \$4,824 with two or more qualifying children
- \$2,917 with one qualifying child
- \$438 with no qualifying children

For more information on the Earned Income Tax Credit, visit www.irs.gov and search for EITC..

Free prescription drug discount programs available



Shoreline residents are encouraged to sign up for the state's free prescription drug discount program. The program is available to all state residents regardless of age or income. Two years ago, Washington and Oregon joined together to buy drugs in bulk and passed on the savings to consumers. The discounts are especially important for the uninsured, underinsured and low-income seniors. To sign up for a card, visit www.rx.wa.gov.

Who, what, where in the City of Shoreline



City of Shoreline
17500 Midvale Avenue N, Shoreline 98133
(206) 801-2700 Fax (206) 546-7868
www.shorelinewa.gov

City Hall Annex - Highland Plaza
1110 N 175th Street, Suite 105

Spartan Recreation Center
18560 1st Avenue NE, Shoreline 98155
(206) 801-2600 Fax (206) 801-2600

Shoreline Pool
19030 1st Avenue NE, Shoreline 98155
(206) 801-2650 Fax (206) 801-2650

Kruckeberg Botanic Garden
20312 15th Avenue NW, Shoreline 98177
(206) 546-1281

Departments & Programs

| | |
|----------------------------|----------------|
| City Manager's Office | (206) 801-2213 |
| Code Violations | (206) 801-2700 |
| General Info (CRT) | (206) 801-2700 |
| Human Services | (206) 801-2251 |
| Jobs | (206) 801-2243 |
| Neighborhoods & Volunteers | (206) 801-2253 |
| Parks and Recreation | (206) 801-2600 |
| Permits, Zoning & Land Use | (206) 801-2500 |
| Public Works | (206) 801-2400 |
| Projects & Engineering | (206) 801-2470 |
| Recycling | (206) 801-2450 |
| Street Maintenance | (206) 801-2440 |
| Traffic Services | (206) 801-2430 |

Shoreline City Council

| | | |
|--------------------------|----------------|----------------------------|
| For all Councilmembers | (206) 801-2200 | council@shorelinewa.gov |
| Mayor Cindy Ryu | (206) 801-2201 | cryu@shorelinewa.gov |
| Deputy Mayor Terry Scott | (206) 801-2202 | tscott@shorelinewa.gov |
| Chris Eggen | (206) 801-2206 | ceggen@shorelinewa.gov |
| Ron Hansen | (206) 801-2205 | rhansen@shorelinewa.gov |
| Doris McConnell | (206) 801-2204 | dmcconnell@shorelinewa.gov |
| Keith McGlashan | (206) 801-2203 | kmcglashan@shorelinewa.gov |
| Janet Way | (206) 801-2207 | jway@shorelinewa.gov |

Meeting Location
Shoreline Conference Center, 18560 1st Avenue NE
Agenda Line: (206) 801-2236

Study Sessions: Mt. Rainier Room, first & third Mondays 6:30 p.m.
Business Meetings: Mt. Rainier Room, second & fourth Mondays 7:30 p.m.

Televised City Council Meeting
Comcast Cable Channel 21 & Verizon Cable Channel 37
Tuesday noon & 8:00 p.m., Wednesday - Sunday 6:00 a.m., noon & 8:00 p.m.
Also on www.shorelinewa.gov

Shoreline Police

Emergency: 911

Shoreline Police Station
Chief Dan Pingrey
1206 N 185th Street
Shoreline, WA 98133
(206) 801-2712

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

Eastside Neighborhood Police Center
Officer Greg McKinney
521 NE 165th Street
Shoreline, WA 98155
(206) 363-8424

Popular Numbers

| | |
|--------------------------|----------------|
| Arts Council | (206) 417-4645 |
| CleanScapes | (206) 763-4444 |
| Comcast | (877) 824-2288 |
| Historical Museum | (206) 542-7111 |
| KC District Court | (206) 205-9200 |
| KC Libraries | |
| Richmond Beach | (206) 546-3522 |
| Shoreline | (206) 362-7550 |
| Puget Sound Energy | (888) 225-5773 |
| Qwest | (800) 244-1111 |
| Ronald Wastewater | (206) 546-2494 |
| School District | (206) 367-6111 |
| Seattle City Light | (206) 625-3000 |
| Seattle Public Utilities | (206) 684-5900 |
| Senior Center | (206) 365-1536 |
| Shoreline Center | (206) 368-4122 |
| Shoreline Fire | (206) 533-6500 |
| Shoreline Water | (206) 362-8100 |
| Transfer Station | (206) 296-4466 |
| Verizon | (800) 483-4100 |

March 2009 Vol. 11 No. 2

CURRENTS

Currents is produced by the Communications Program,
(206) 801-2219, swill@shorelinewa.gov
Editing, writing and design: Susan Will,
Tami Beaumont, Sheila Edwards
and Tavia Tan. Photos: Adam Buchanan

Alternate formats available upon request

Currents is printed on post-consumer recycled paper with soy-based ink.



17500 Midvale Avenue N.
Shoreline, WA 98133-4921

Postmaster:
Time-Sensitive Material

PRSR STD
US Postage
PAID
Seattle, WA
Permit No. 248

ECRWSS
POSTAL CUSTOMER