

CITY OF SHORELINE CURRENTS

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City reaches tentative terms with Seattle to purchase SPU water system in Shoreline Shoreline voters will approve final agreement

The City of Shoreline has agreed to tentative terms with the City of Seattle to purchase the Seattle Public Utilities (SPU) water system within the City of Shoreline. Even though there are tentative terms on price and time frame, the Council will not make a decision to move forward until it has completed a thorough due diligence review and conducted a process to engage the public.

The Shoreline City Council made the purchase of SPU's water system a Council goal to improve local decision-making and long-term capital infrastructure investments.

The Cities of Shoreline and Seattle entered into formal negotiations in 2009, in part because Shoreline's ratepayers do not have a direct say in how the water services are operated. All water utility decisions, including capital investments and rates, are made by the Seattle City Council.

"This purchase allows the City to control reinvestment in Shoreline instead of paying a 14 percent surcharge to Seattle. Controlling the water utility is imperative to the City's long-term economic development goals," stated Shoreline Mayor Keith McGlashan.

To ensure that this purchase makes long-term financial and operational sense for our community, the City will perform due diligence including a detailed financial analysis and feasibility review of the water system. One of Council's objectives in considering this acquisition is to ensure that Shoreline ratepayers' water bills will be equal to or less than what they would have paid to Seattle.

As part of this due diligence phase, the City will be forming a citizens' steering committee to provide a recommendation to the City Manager, which will inform her recommendation to the City Council.

In addition to the committee, the City will reach out to the community through multiple avenues to gather direct feedback from residents.

If the City of Shoreline agrees to terms with Seattle, the purchase would go before both Seattle and Shoreline's City Councils for approval. Assuming both Councils approve, then the final say will go to Shoreline voters.

We will provide more information about this proposal in future Currents. For more information and answers to frequently asked questions, visit shorelinewa.gov/SPUpurchase or contact Public Works Director Mark Relph at (206) 801-2401 or mrelph@shorelinewa.gov.

Holiday Breaks

Shoreline City Hall will be closed for the holidays on December 26 and January 2. Spartan Recreation Center is closed December 24 - 26 and December 31 - January 2. After its December 12 meeting, Shoreline City Council is on holiday recess until the first meeting of 2012 on January 3.

Shoreline City Council and Staff Wish You a
Happy, Healthy and Prosperous New Year!

Economic development benefits of one-stop permitting

The City is working toward a purchase of Seattle Public Utility's (SPU) water system in Shoreline in 2020. The City also has an agreement with Ronald Wastewater District (RWD) to consolidate the sewer utility with other City services in 2017. Why is it important for the City to unify the water and sewer utilities with other City provided services in Shoreline? There are a number of reasons; one of which is the benefit to economic development.

When investors consider a development project, ease and certainty in the permitting process are extremely important. One-stop permitting reduces the confusion, shortens the time and lessens the expense of permitting. For a large project this can be significant. Instead of working with three governmental entities (SPU, RWD and the City), investors would have a single

point of contact with the City. In addition, one-stop permitting allows administrative oversight to be simplified and reduced, lowering the cost of providing services.

One stop permitting is also a big help to individual homeowners that wish to remodel. An efficient and streamlined permitting process will save homeowners both money and time.

By acquiring SPU's water system in Shoreline, the City will ensure that Shoreline ratepayers' money will go towards capital projects that benefit Shoreline, and not projects in Seattle that benefit Seattle. This will allow for greater investment in Shoreline's water system infrastructure. Also, Shoreline residents and businesses will have direct input into the utility's rate setting process.

By unifying the water and sewer utilities, the City will be able to com-

prehensively implement community priorities through infrastructure improvements. For example, when the City redeveloped the first mile of Aurora, SPU's capital project plans did not align with the City's. The City believed that the time to update the water system infrastructure to accommodate future growth was when the road was under construction, but SPU declined. As a result, individual property owners on the west side of Aurora will now have to make expensive and logistically challenging connections to the water system on their own to efficiently develop their sites.

For more information about economic development, please visit the City's webpage or contact Economic Development Program Manager Dan Eernisse at (206) 81-2218 or deernisse@shorelinewa.gov.

Rec Guide cover image contest

Do you think that you have an image that captures spring or summer in Shoreline? Do you have an image of people enjoying Shoreline parks, taking part in a recreation activity or exploring the local culture? Watch for the spring/summer cover image contest coming soon to the City website, Facebook and our winter 2012 recreation guide. Winter registration begins January 4, 2012.



Planning Commission and Library Board openings

The City invites interested individuals to apply for openings on the Planning Commission and the Library Board. Council will appoint volunteers to both advisory committees to serve four-year terms beginning April 2012. Candidates for the Planning Commission must live or own property in Shoreline. Individuals who live, own property, or work in Shoreline are eligible to serve on the Library Board.

Planning Commission

Volunteers who serve on the Planning Commission provide recommendations to the City Council on land use, growth and development issues. They are charged with reviewing and providing recommendations regarding amendments to the Comprehensive Plan, development regulations and major development proposals.

The Commission addresses key questions that affect the quality of life in Shoreline: How should we balance new commercial and residential development with the desire to maintain the character of existing neighborhoods? How do we plan for a future that includes light rail? How can we encourage developers to use green building practices?

The Planning Commission hosts public workshops and hearings to gather public input, develops a record reflecting both technical information and resident input, and provides a thoughtful recommendation for Council's consideration.

No technical background or experience in land use is required – important qualifications are an ability to listen to and work well with others, a willingness to prepare and read staff reports prior to the meetings and a commitment to regular attendance and active participation at the meetings. There are four openings on the Planning Commission.

The Planning Commission meets the 1st and 3rd Thursdays of each month at 7:00 pm at Shoreline City Hall.

Library Board

The Shoreline Library Board was formed by the City Council in the spring of 1996 to act as a liaison to the King County Library Board of Trustees, the City Council and the Shoreline community. The Board provides information, makes recommendations relating to the Shoreline and Richmond Beach Libraries, promotes programs



and reviews library policies. There are two vacancies on the Library Board.

The Library Board has seven members and meets at 7:00 pm the 1st Thursday of each odd numbered month.

To apply

Complete a Community Service Application, available on the City's website or at City Hall. Applications are due to the City Clerk's Office by 4:00 p.m. on Tuesday, January 31, 2012. Applications can be emailed to clerks@shorelinewa.gov, dropped off in the Clerk's Office on the first floor of City Hall or mailed to 17500 N Midvale Avenue, Shoreline, WA 98133.

Comprehensive Plan amendment suggestions due

Every year the City goes through a Comprehensive Plan amendment process. Amendments usually address changing conditions and/or emerging issues. Individuals are encouraged to propose changes to Shoreline's Comprehensive Plan and submit them to the Planning and Community Development Department (P&CD). Application materials

can be found on the City's website on the Permits and Development Information page.

To be eligible for consideration, amendment proposals must be received by the P&CD Department no later than 5:00 p.m. on December 30, 2011. Applications should be submitted to Associate Planner Steve Szafran by email to [\[shorelinewa.gov\]\(http://shorelinewa.gov\) or by mail, 17500 Midvale Avenue N, Shoreline, WA 98133.](mailto:sszafran@</p></div><div data-bbox=)

Once all amendments have been received, the City Council will develop a list of amendments to be studied in February 2012. For more information visit the City's website or contact Steven Szafran at (206) 801-2512.

Prepare for winter weather in Shoreline

Forecasters are predicting a colder and wetter than average winter for the Pacific Northwest. This means more rain, wind, ice and snow. Here's how you can prepare for this winter weather.

Snow Removal

When it snows, City plows will concentrate their efforts on main roads (primary routes) first to accommodate fire, medical and police response, as well as Metro transit, school buses and commuter traffic. Primary routes include roads such as Aurora, 15th Avenue NE, N 155th, N 175th, N 185th and N 205th Streets. As long as it continues to snow, the City will only plow primary routes.

Once the snow has stopped and all primary routes are clear, plows will move to secondary roads. Once the secondary roads are cleared, plows will move into neighborhoods.

If at any time it starts snowing again while plows are clearing secondary or neighborhood streets, the plows will return to the primary routes and the process of clearing streets will start over.

While the City will eventually get to all streets, it is possible that it might take several days after the final snow before residents see a plow on their street. Snow plowing route maps are available at shorelinewa.gov.

Property Owner Responsibilities

Shoreline property owners are responsible for clearing snow and ice off driveways and sidewalks near

their property, including the ridge of snow left along the edge of driveways by snow plows. The City does not have the resources to plow individual driveways.

Property owners that plow snow or have it removed from their property should not place the snow in the public right-of-way. This is illegal and can lead to hazardous street conditions. Property owners must accommodate removed snow on their own property or make arrangements to have the snow removed to another private property location.

Property owners should also help clear catch basins to make way for runoff from melting snow and avoid pooling water or flooding.

The City encourages residents to stay home during a heavy snow storm unless there is an emergency. If residents must travel, the City asks that they use public transportation whenever possible.

Garbage & Recycling Pick-up

Icy streets may prevent CleanScapes from collecting garbage and recycling on designated days. To learn more about its adverse weather and holiday policies visit cleanscapes.com or call (206) 763-4444.

Protect Your Pipes

Every winter, frozen pipes cause damage in homes, apartments and businesses. To avoid this, keep your heat on at least 40 degrees, especially when on vacation. When frozen pipes thaw they can cause cracks, flooding and water damage.

NEW community garden at Twin Ponds Park

Community Meeting

Thursday, January 19, 7:00pm

Trinity Presbyterian Church

1315 N 160th Street (enter off Interlake Avenue N)

Give input on design elements for a new community garden to be located at Twin Ponds Park near 1st Avenue NE and NE 149th Street. For information contact Project Coordinator Maureen Colaizzi at (206) 801-2603 or mcolaizzi@shorelinewa.gov



Solid waste rates increase in 2012

The City contract with CleanScapes provides for annual adjustments to the rates that residents and businesses pay for garbage and recycling collection, based on a formula that combines changes in inflation, fuel and labor costs. After applying this formula to recent costs, the rate increase in 2012 will be 4.31%.

The disposal component of the garbage fee is not included in the CleanScapes cost formula described above, but is a separate component and is based on the following charges:

- King County cost to dispose of garbage
- Local Hazardous Waste Management Program (LHWMP) surcharge
- State refuse tax

Since both the County disposal fee and the LHWMP surcharge will increase starting in January 2012, the State tax amount will, in turn, increase.

When the 2012 disposal costs are combined with



Transfer Station Charge

	<u>Current</u>	<u>2012</u>
Minimum Fee	\$15.31	\$20.00
Per Ton Fee	\$95	\$117.82

the CleanScope 2012 cost adjustment, the resulting overall increase in weekly solid waste collection rates for residential and commercial customers will be an average of 7.06 to 7.58%. These new rates become effective on March 1, 2012. The disposal cost increases are effective in January; however, due to CleanScapes' billing schedule, customers can expect to see January and February charges on their March invoice.

If you have any questions, please call or email Environmental Programs Assistant Tina Han at (206) 801-2455 or than@shorelinewa.gov.

Christmas tree recycling event

Saturday, Jan. 7, 9:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. and Sunday, Jan. 8, 12:00 p.m. to 3:00 p.m.
Meridian Park Elementary School parking lot, 17077 Meridian Avenue N

The City's annual Christmas tree recycling event will take place on Saturday and Sunday, January 7 and 8. To reduce costs, the event will be shorter on Sunday this year, as the City transitions to a one-day, Saturday-only event next year.

After removing all hooks, ornaments, tinsel and tree stands, bring your tree and proof of Shoreline residency to the Meridian Park Elementary School parking lot. Please do not bring flocked, artificial or garden trees, branches, wreaths, or swags.

This is the only Christmas tree recycling event in the City. Trees will be recycled into wood chips, but they won't be chipped on-site at the event.

If there is snow or ice on the road, call (206) 801-2450 on the day of the event to find out if it is cancelled. If the event is cancelled or you cannot make it to the event, other options in Shoreline include:

- Recycle your tree in your CleanScapes curbside yard debris cart. Cut your tree in half if it is taller than 4 feet, and place it next to your yard debris container at the curb for collection at no cost. No flocked, tinsel or artificial trees are accepted; and trees without a yard debris cart next to them will not be collected.
- Recycle your tree at the Shoreline Recycling and Transfer Station at 2300 N 165th Street. Please call (206) 296-4466 for information on rates.
- If you have a flocked, tinsel or an artificial tree, cut it to fit inside your CleanScapes garbage cart for free collection. If the tree is taller than 4 feet, cut it in half and put it next to your garbage cart for a collection cost of \$3.75.

For more information visit the City's website or call the Customer Response Team at (206) 801-2700.





Holiday safety tips

The Shoreline Police Department suggests you keep these tips in mind for a safe and happy holiday season.

- When you're out for the evening, turn on lights in your house, and a radio or TV, so it appears that someone is home.
- Lock all doors and windows while you're out, even if you'll be gone for only a few minutes.
- Don't leave packages or gifts near windows or in other high-visibility areas.
- Stay alert for suspicious-looking couriers delivering packages to you or your neighbors.
- Many con artists take advantage of holiday generosity by going door-to-door seeking donations.

Contact your Police Storefront offices for more information on crime prevention.

Aurora Project receives \$10.8 million in grants

Recently, Shoreline received news that it will receive \$10.8 million in grants for the Aurora Corridor Improvement Project from N 192nd to N 205th Streets. With the \$10.8 million, Shoreline has reached the minimum funding needed to start construction on the final segment of Aurora.

On November 17, Congress awarded \$37.5 million to King County for two Metro Transit RapidRide lines. One of those lines, Line E, will run through Shoreline along Aurora. Of the amount awarded to King County, Shoreline will receive \$4.8 million to go towards Aurora Corridor Improvements, specifically the section from N 192nd to N 195th Streets.

On November 18, the Washington State Transportation Improvement Board (TIB) selected projects for the FY 2013 funding cycle. Shoreline was awarded \$6 million for the final phase of the Aurora Corridor Improvement Project. The award was part of TIB's Urban Corridor Program (UCP).

UCP projects are typically larger and must demonstrate cross-jurisdictional collaboration. They also recognize the importance of partnerships with the business community.

"We were excited to learn that the Aurora project was the second largest TIB funded project in the state and the highest ranked UCP project in the Puget Sound region," stated

Mayor Keith McGlashan.

The Aurora Corridor Project is the City of Shoreline's plan to redesign and redevelop the three miles of Aurora Avenue North (State Route 99) that run through Shoreline. Shoreline's section of Highway 99 carries about 40,000 vehicles and 7,000 bus riders per day, and is a major transit route.

The goal of the project is to improve pedestrian and vehicle safety, pedestrian and disabled access, vehicular capacity, traffic flow, transit speed and reliability, nighttime visibility and safety, storm water quality, economic investment potential and streetscape amenities.

Improving Aurora has been a community goal since the City of Shoreline incorporated in 1995. Shoreline completed the first mile of Aurora Corridor Project, N 145th to N 165th Streets, including the Interurban Trail Pedestrian Bridges in 2007. Construction on the second mile, N 165th to N 185th Streets, is substantially complete and is currently in the final punch list phase. The section between N 185th and N 192nd is under construction with completion scheduled for the first quarter of 2012. The final section of the Aurora project, N 192nd to N 205th Streets, is projected to be complete in 2014.

To learn more about the Aurora Corridor project, visit shorelinewa.gov/Aurora.

Did you know?

The average consumer of small batteries uses 30-50 batteries a year to power toys, radios and cellular phones. Since reuse is the one of the best ways to reduce waste, consider giving rechargeable batteries with your holiday gifts. When the batteries stop working, recycle them at the Richmond Beach Library, Shoreline Library, City Hall lobby or the Shoreline Police Station. By recycling them, you reduce the possibility of contaminating our environment with hazardous chemicals and allow the materials in the battery to be reused. For questions about recycling, contact Environmental Program Assistant Tina Han at (206) 801-2455 or than@shorelinewa.gov.

Dan Hinkley to speak at Kruckeberg Botanic Garden Foundation's annual meeting



Annual Meeting
Thursday, Jan. 12, 7:00 p.m.
Shoreline City Hall

The Kruckeberg Botanic Garden Foundation welcomes plantsman Dan Hinkley to its annual meeting. Dan will discuss too often overlooked plants for Northwest gardens and explore some of his favorite hardy plants that are rarely used. Dan has collected plants around the world and is the founder of Heronswood Nursery.

Free for Garden members; suggested donation for non-members. For more information, contact the Foundation at (206) 546-1281.

City Council weighs in on light rail alignment

Sound Transit is currently in the process of evaluating alternatives to extend light rail north of Northgate. This extension is part of the 2008 voter approved Sound Transit (ST) 2 funding plan that will connect Shoreline to the light rail line with two stops in Shoreline.

Although the ST2 plan identified a light rail alignment along Interstate 5, in order to qualify for federal grants Sound Transit was required to evaluate multiple alignment and mode alternatives. Two alignment alternatives (I-5 and SR 99) remain for evaluation and the environmental review process is now underway.

Throughout October, Council reviewed and sought public input on a set of guiding principles to assist with the selection of a recommended alignment. Using these principles, the Council unanimously selected I-5 as the City's preferred alignment for light rail. This position was forwarded to the Sound Transit Board for consideration as they move through the environmental process.

For questions about light rail serving Shoreline, contact Senior Transportation Planner Alicia McIntire at (206)801-2483 or amcintire@shorelinewa.gov.



Upcoming Events

Monday, Dec. 26
City Hall, Pool and Spartan Recreation Center closed for Christmas holiday.

Monday, Jan. 2
City Hall and Spartan Recreation Center closed for New Year holiday.

Saturday, Jan. 7
9:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.

Sunday, Jan. 8
12:00 to 3:00 p.m.
Christmas tree recycling event at Meridian Park Elementary School parking lot.

Saturday, Jan. 14
6:30 to 10:30 p.m.
Free Tween Night at the Richmond Highlands Recreation Center for 5th and 6th graders.

Thursday, Jan. 19
7:00 to 8:30 p.m.
Public meeting to share design ideas for a community garden planned for Twin Ponds Park. Meeting at Trinity Presbyterian Church.

Tuesday, Jan. 24
7:00 p.m.
Diggin' Shoreline community gardening group meets at City Hall, room 301.

Saturday, Jan. 28
7:00 to 11:00 p.m.
Tween 2 vs. 2 basketball tournament open to 5th and 6th graders at Shorecrest High School Gym.

Quick Start Shoreline

Free Small Business Workshops
Tuesdays at Noon
City Hall Council Chambers. Visit the City's website for topics.

Winter 2011 Vol. 13 No. 11
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CURRENTS

Currents is produced by the
 City Manager's Office,
 (206) 801-2217, ebratton@shorelinewa.gov

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 *Currents* is printed
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 recycled paper with
 soy-based ink. 

We're on Facebook and YouTube!

 

City of Shoreline

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

Spartan Recreation Center
 202 NE 185th Street, Shoreline 98155
 (206) 801-2600 Fax (206) 393-3380

Shoreline Pool
 19030 1st Avenue NE, Shoreline 98155
 (206) 801-2650 Fax (206) 362-8450

Shoreline Police
Emergency: 911

Shoreline Police Station
 Chief Dan Pingrey
 1206 N 185th Street
 Shoreline, WA 98133
 (206) 801-2710

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

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

shorelinewa.gov

Live and video archive meetings are
 available at shorelinewa.gov. Submit
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City Council Meetings
 Shoreline City Hall, Council Chambers | Agenda Line: (206) 801-2236

Study Sessions: First and third Mondays 7:00 p.m.
 Business Meetings: Second and fourth Mondays 7:00 p.m.

Televised City Council Meetings
 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.