

Shoreline CityWise Project

What:

A series of 8 interactive classes for Shoreline residents who want to know how the City works. Participants will gain insight into the wide range of services offered in Shoreline by engaging in sessions with elected representatives and City staff from a variety of City departments.

Why:

The City of Shoreline believes that when residents are well-informed about how their City operates, how decisions are made and funds allocated, they will make informed decisions about the future of their City. The goals of the CityWise Project are:

- 1) To involve and engage residents in learning about and understanding the operation of City government, and to improve communication between the City and those who live here.
- 2) To provide insight into how decisions are made, how City funds are allocated, and how City Departments operate.
- 3) To empower and encourage a larger number of residents to become more civically engaged in the future decisions affecting Shoreline's quality of life.

When/Where:

Classes will be held at City Hall in a third floor conference room from 7 to 9 pm on Tuesdays, starting January 24. Ideally, we will have one Saturday class, with visits to different facilities and parks. A Monday evening reception before a City Council meeting will wrap up the experience.

How:

With support from the Neighborhoods Coordinator, presentations will be developed by individual divisions. These will be similar to the PowerPoints presented earlier this year to the Financial Sustainability Citizen's Advisory Committee, but there are some significant differences.

- The focus will not be financial (except for the Finance presentation). This is an opportunity to explain clearly how things get done in the City.
- Unless requested, there will be no PowerPoint template provided. Instead, each division will create its own presentation to share the subject matter in a visually engaging manner.
- PowerPoint presentation will be limited to no more than 20 minutes. Each class will have a relevant interactive component, and ample time for discussion and Q and A.
- There will be handouts for every class. Participants will receive a tabbed notebook at the first class so they can store information.

Each presenting division will be expected to develop:

- 1) a presentation, with a brief PowerPoint and discussion points;
- 2) interactive project to engage participants and help them integrate information;
- 3) handouts.

Proposed Presentation Focus and Sequence (7 weeks of 2 hour classes, limited to 15 participants in first year)

- 1) City Government 101 (January 24)
- 2) Finance and Economic Development (January 31)
- 3) Planning and Community Development (February 7)
- 4) Public Works (February 14)
- 5) Parks, Recreation and Cultural Services (February 18 - possible Saturday field trip)
- 6) Community Services (February 21)
- 7) Police (February 28)
- 8) Reception/Graduation at City Council Meeting (March 6)

Note that this is a tentative schedule, and will be revised based on staff availability. We also have some leeway, and can add a class (Eco Devo separately?) so there are 8 full classes, with graduation on the Monday after the last one.

Proposed Timeline for Classes in Q1 2017

September – October: Finalize Details

- Set schedule, reserve space.
- Outreach to staff at October 18 LT meeting.
- Meet with individual division staff, October 20 – 27.
- Confirm presenting staff, and meet to discuss presentation format, November 1 - 10.
- Develop applications.
- Begin outreach (October, November).
- Applications accepted Dec 1 – January 10).

January 2017: Get ready for classes to start

- Notify accepted applicants first week of January.
- Presentations and handouts finalized at least 2 weeks prior to scheduled presentation. Deadline for first class is January 10.

February – March: Classes