



Spring 2016



## City News

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## City Council Tackles Strategic Planning Process

On Saturday, January 16, 2016, the City Council jumped right into business carried over from 2015: development of a Strategic Plan, a process that the Council hopes will drive agenda items for several years to come. Unlike the Comprehensive Plan, which is a 20-year vision for the City, the Strategic Plan will be a 3- to 5-year roadmap to a compelling future for Lake Forest Park.

The plan began its life with a March 2015 Council retreat that developed tangible goal areas identifying what our citizens could expect as the City achieved its goals and objectives:

- ◊ Enhanced Mobility/Transportation;
- ◊ Healthy Environment; Community Vitality;
- ◊ Public Safety and Access to Justice;
- ◊ Engaged and Accountable Government.

In casting this trajectory, the Council discussed the vision and values that would drive this process.

After a few months' hiatus, the Council and Administration Leadership Team received the basics of strategic plan development with training provided by the State Auditor's (SAO) Center for Excellence in Local Government. Rich Callahan from TAP International provided a foundation for both groups, which set them on a path to work together to develop the plan.

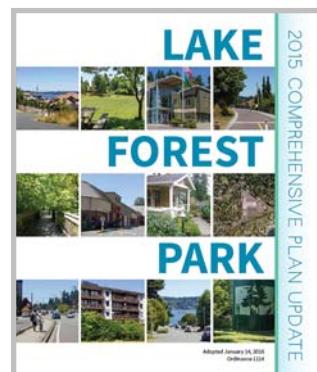
The SAO approved two more sessions, and Rich Callahan returned to facilitate again in January 2016. Coming into the session, the Leadership Team had provided a draft project work plan from the Administration, to aid the process at the detail level. This session positioned the Council to consider the needs that would be used to feed the short- and long-term aspects of the plan, including:

- ◊ Safe highways corridor plan;
- ◊ Safe streets multi-modal transportation plan;
- ◊ Parks service level and maintenance plan;
- ◊ Police staffing and service level plan;
- ◊ Communications plan;
- ◊ Creek restoration/culvert replacement plan; and,
- ◊ Completing a strategic plan.

The third session with Rich Callahan will occur in mid-March and include both the Council and the Administration. The Council intends to bring all of the elements together into a draft plan. Then, the aspirational, the strategic and the details will be rolled out to the public for input prior to approval of the final product.

## Comprehensive Plan Update Adopted

On January 14, 2016, the City Council wrapped up the 18-month effort to update the City's comprehensive plan. The 2015 Lake Forest Park Comprehensive Plan Update looks forward to the year 2035 and provides a vision for the future. It identifies goals and policies to achieve that vision, creates a basis for the City's regulations, and guides future decision-making. The City appreciates the many citizens who were volunteers and participants in the public engagement process that



was the foundation for this planning effort. Over 250 people participated in community meetings, 150 participated in a telephone survey, over 1,000 signed up for email updates, and there were over 4,000 visits to the plan website.

**Greetings from Mayor Jeff Johnson**

I am pleased to begin my term as your Mayor, and would like to take a moment at the top of this article to thank former Mayor Mary Jane Goss for her service to the Lake Forest Park community.

I am very excited about the future of Lake Forest Park, and would like to use the space in this article to let you know a little about my vision for our city.

My top priority is a focus on better communication with the City Council and our citizens. Having just



*Mayor Johnson, right, looks at culvert on NE 195th Street at SR 104*

served four years as a city councilmember, I bring to the Administration knowledge of the kind of information that is helpful to the Council when working through the decision-making process. I am also com-

mitted to providing opportunities for you, the Lake Forest Park residents, to let me know what's on your mind about our community and its government. Soon, I will be introducing an informal *Coffee with the Mayor* program once a month.

## **Lyon Creek Flood Mitigation Project Proves Itself during January Rain Event**

Over two inches of rain fell in Lake Forest Park during a 24-hour period on January 21, 2016, making it the fourth largest event in over 10 years. Those who recall previous rain events of this magnitude likely also recall flooding in the Town Center/SR 522/Sheridan Beach area. There was no flooding this time, as the Lyon

Creek Flood Mitigation Project performed as designed, accommodating the high flows with ease. The next phase of the City's flood reduction and

Look for more information in future issues of the newsletter and in newsflashes posted on the City's website.

Another priority is to work with neighboring jurisdictions, state and county agencies, and state legislators on ways to solve the State Route 522 (Bothell Way) traffic and commuter issues. Coordination and outreach on this goal is already under way, and recently gained momentum when a multi-city meeting was attended by the cities of Lake Forest Park, Kenmore, Bothell, Woodinville, and Shoreline. The outcome was a joint letter to the Sound Transit Board which confirmed the commitment of these five agencies to work together for a solution to the transit problems along the SR 522 and SR 523 corridors.

My longer-term vision for our community is to repair our deteriorating culverts and restore the creeks to a thriving fish habitat all the way to our boundaries, and I will work with surrounding cities to help accomplish this goal.

Lake Forest Park is a great community where I've made my home for 33 years. I look forward to approaching the next four years with a spirit of unity, positivity, and working to make a great city even better.

stream restoration improvements include replacement of a number of culverts upstream of the Town Center area.

More to come on that topic in future newsletters.



*Lyon Creek Flood Mitigation Project*



## Low Impact Development—New Normal for Lake Forest Park

Low Impact Development (LID) is a storm water management strategy that endeavors to mimic pre-development drainage conditions with rain gardens, vegetated roofs, permeable pavements, and rainwater harvesting. Lake Forest Park, along with nearly all other Washington municipalities, is required to make LID the preferred approach to site development by the end of 2016. It is the hope of the City and State of Washington that, as more LID facilities are installed, water quality in Lake Forest Park's creeks and Lake Washington will improve. Over time, improved water quality should lead to healthier salmon runs and a reduction of algae blooms on Lake Washington. LID also stores more water on-site and releases it more slowly, reduc-

ing the number and severity of floods. LID is the new norm and we will be better for it.

### Passport Services at City Hall

Applications for new and renewed passports are accepted at City Hall on Monday and Friday from 12:00 to 5:00 p.m.; and on Saturdays from 10:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. For more information about applying for a passport and associated fees, go to [www.cityoflfp.com](http://www.cityoflfp.com), click on "I Want To," and from the drop-down box, select "Apply for a Passport." To accommodate a significant increase in the number of passport customers in recent months and to help reduce wait times, additional passport clerks are now working on Saturdays. The City has offered this very popular public service since 2004.

## Southern Gateway Update

The first live/work townhouses at 12 Degrees North are nearly complete! The new neighborhood will eventually have 86 townhouses and 27 single-family houses. The live/work townhouses along the entrance street include an ADA-accessible space on the first floor that can be used for office or retail purposes. The neighborhood is located at the former Elk's Lodge property, between NE 145<sup>th</sup> Street and NE 147<sup>th</sup>



*Rendering of multifamily homes—12 Degrees North*

Street, east of Bothell Way NE. The first single-family home is also under construction, with several more on the way. Pulte Homes, the developer, plans to start selling 12 Degrees North homes later this year.

In addition, public notices will be sent out soon for two 5-story mixed-use buildings in the South-

ern Gateway Corridor zone. One building is proposed to include 16 condominium units and the other, 34 apartments. Sign up to receive public notice announcements from Planning. Go to the City's website,

[www.cityoflfp.com](http://www.cityoflfp.com), and click on Notify Me.

### Sewer Utility Customers Have Option to Go Paperless

Last year, the City introduced online billing and payment for its sewer utility accounts. Did you know you can also opt to go paperless? From the City's website, [www.cityoflfp.com](http://www.cityoflfp.com), click "Utility Payments" to get started. After you register, you can make payments online and sign up to receive bills, reminders, and receipts via email.



*Rendering of single-family home 12 Degrees North*

## Police Department Update

Last year was a great one for the safety and security of Lake Forest Park and our residents. The Police Department is very proud of the partnership developed with our citizens related to crime prevention and emergency preparedness. Amazingly, 8 "crooks" were arrested while in the act of committing a burglary and an additional 12 were charged after the investigation was complete. Overall, burglaries were down over 12 percent and thefts down 6 percent for the year. Our citizens got involved by calling 911 and being good witnesses. They reported suspicious activity to the Police, which resulted in our quick response to solving these crimes.

In 2015, the City also partnered with community groups to put on two emergency preparedness workshops and a preparedness fair at the Town Center at Lake Forest Park. We also sponsored Community Emergency Response Team (CERT) training to better prepare our community in the event of a large scale emergency. Go to [www.makeitthrough.org](http://www.makeitthrough.org) for more information about preparing your household.

In 2016, look for opportunities with our Block Watch Program, CERT training, and other volunteer events to ensure our community continues to be safe from crime and natural disasters. You can find out more by going to the City's website, [www.cityoflfp.com](http://www.cityoflfp.com), and clicking on Departments. From the drop-down menu, select Police Department.

Summer may seem far away, but save the date for National Night Out – August 2, 2016. Start planning now!

### NE 178<sup>th</sup> Street Roadway Improvements Phase 2 Project



NE 178th Street at 33rd Avenue NE

**Early Recreation Registration**

Did you know LFP residents are eligible for early registration and an 8 percent discount on all Shoreline Parks & Recreation program fees? The discount does not include rentals. There is something for everyone: toddlers/preschool, youth, teens and tweens, and adults. Early registration for Spring/Summer opens Wednesday, March 23, 2016 at 12:01 a.m. online and 8:00 a.m. in person. Shoreline Parks & Recreation has a new registration system which requires registrants to set up an account. Simply go to [www.shoreline.gov/RegisterNow](http://www.shoreline.gov/RegisterNow) and follow the instructions. To receive timely notice of early registration dates throughout the year, sign up for reminders through "Notify Me" on the City's website, [www.cityoflfp.com](http://www.cityoflfp.com), or follow us on Facebook and Twitter.

