



Summer 2016



City News

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206-368-5440

City Council Unveils Strategic Plan

The Lake Forest Park City Council has finished the framework of the City's first strategic plan. It was developed over three retreat sessions with the professional guidance of Rich Callahan, a consultant provided by the State Auditor's Office for Excellence in Local Government. It has been available on the City web site since late April and was the subject of a Town Hall on May 5, 2016. "The Council recently adopted the updated Comprehensive Plan, which is our 20-year vision," said Deputy Mayor Catherine Stanford. "I am pleased that soon we will adopt a Strategic Plan, which focuses on how to achieve our Council Goals in the next 3-5 years. We will finally have a complete roadmap to guide our policy decisions."

The Town Hall was attended by approximately 45 community members. Engaging in two-way dialog with Councilmembers and making preferential resource allocations on project-level charts allowed

citizens a voice into whether they thought the City was on the right track. For the most part, it was the right track.

Rather than governmental titles or stuffy terms, attendees found a plan that was organized by out-



comes: Mobility; Healthy Environment; Community Involvement; Public Safety and Access to Justice; and Engaged and Accountable Government. Using outcomes lets the City Council focus its priorities

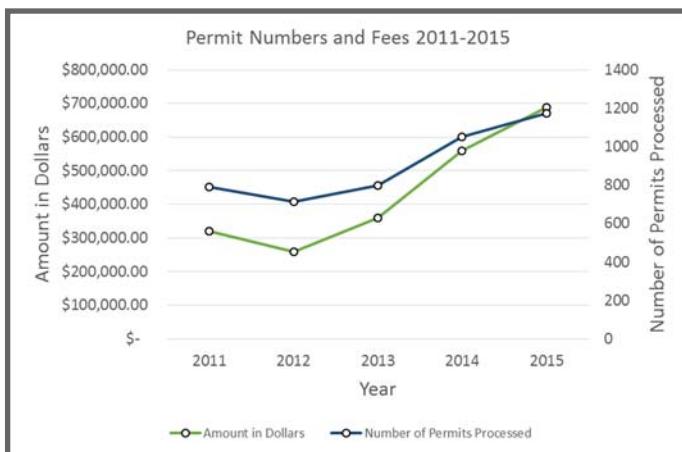
Continued on page 2, "Strategic Plan"

Recent Permitting Activity in Lake Forest Park

The Lake Forest Park Planning Department processed a record number of permits in 2015, and permit numbers are expected to climb higher still this year. In 2015, the Department processed 1,175

permits for a wide variety of activities, including new single-family construction, short plats, plumbing and mechanical installation, and tree removal and replacement. The record number of permits also led to a record amount of permit revenue — \$687,594 — as shown in the chart, left.

In the first quarter of 2016, permit numbers and fees increased above the levels seen in previous years. Led by both large and small development projects alike, the first quarter of 2016 saw a 38 percent increase in the number of permits processed and a 130 percent increase in permit revenue compared to the first quarter of 2015.



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Strategic Plan (continued from page 1)

and resources in the direction of achieving the goals and thinking outside the box of the usual budget categories.

The plan includes several goals and projects to move our city in those directions. The City administrative staff concurrently developed a tiered work plan, the first layer of which reflected projects identified by the Council or staff to move toward fulfilling the goals. The Town Hall voting included current work and proposed new projects.

Energy in the room was generally focused on new projects rather than current work, and top priorities in the new projects zeroed in on certain plans and studies. "We are focused on doing rather than planning," said Councilmember John Resha, a diligent architect of this process, "but it became apparent that, to make a great leap, we need to make great plans. We saw that if you fix the highways and roads and restore the creeks, we are well on the path to creating a vibrant Lake Forest Park." Final adoption of the plan is anticipated in June or July, following a public hearing to give the community a chance to have a voice on the final product. The Council also appreciates comments at its Regular Business meetings and via email. We want you to help us plan our future. To review the plan, go to the City's website, www.cityoflfp.com, and click on "Strategic Plan" on the left side of the page.

LFP Municipal Court Hosts Heroin Epidemic Education Session

As the heroin epidemic persists statewide and across the nation, LFP Municipal Court Presiding Judge Linda Portnoy continues to see more heroin and opioid addiction on the court's caseload. In an attempt to better understand the issues surrounding the problem, and how



to manage them, the Municipal Court hosted a regional training session in March, which included primarily judges and

City Receives Award for Lyon Creek Flood Mitigation Project



Mayor Johnson and the project team received the American Public Works Association of Washington Environmental Project of the Year Award on April 7, 2016 for the Lyon Creek Flood Mitigation Project.

City Wins 2016 WellCity Award

Lake Forest Park is one of 112 cities, towns, and other local governments in the state to have earned the distinguished WellCity Award from the Association of Washington Cities (AWC). Lake Forest Park receives employee health benefits from the AWC Employee Benefit Trust, Washington State's largest local government employee benefit pool for cities, towns, and other local governments.

The WellCity Award earns the City a 2 percent discount on 2017 medical premiums. This is the City's sixth year receiving this award.

Epidemic Education Session

probation officers. Four speakers, experts on subject matter such as research, treatment, law enforcement and probation, gave presentations to the group of about 40. The information presented was revealing and distressing, yet valuable for both the Judge and Probation Officer Phil Stanley to better understand the challenges of supervising a heroin or opioid addicted defendant. Educational credit was given by the Administrative Office of the Courts (AOC) for the judges who attended. The session was video recorded with funding from the District and Municipal Court Judge's Association (DMCJA) and can be accessed from "quick links" on the Court's homepage.

On the Mayor's Mind...

As I come to the six-month mark in my term as Mayor, I'd like to let you know that I hear your concerns about traffic, parking, and pedestrian safety, among others. I understand there are steps we can take as your city government to reduce the impact of these things on our community. It was a rough start to the year with the tragic pedestrian fatality and, as we move forward, I am committed to the Safe Streets program and finding ways to improve pedestrian and bicycle safety in our neighborhoods. If I could say just one thing to you at this time, it would be, "I hear your concerns, we are all in this together, and I am committed to working on solutions."

As we move into the summer months, let's take a quick look back at some recent fun and successful community events. This past spring found our community the starting point for two well-attended fun runs: the first annual Get Up and Go 5K, sponsored by the Sheridan Guild, with proceeds benefitting Seattle Children's Hospital Uncompensated Care and Research; and the first annual Pack the Park Fun Run/Walk, hosted by the Lake Forest Park and Brookside Elementary PTAs, and benefitting the Friday Food Packs program. I'd like thank the Northshore Emergency Management Coalition Volunteers and Radio Group who volunteered their time to assist with these two events by coordinating communication during the races, tracking participant progress, setting up first-aid stations, and assisting City staff at City Hall.

Throughout the summer, the Town Center at Lake Forest Park offers a variety of family friendly events. From early May through October, the Farmers Market is a Sunday destination for many. The Secret Gardens of Lake Forest Park 14th Annual Garden Tour and Plant Sale on June 18, 2016, offers those who enjoy gardening

an opportunity to explore beautiful private gardens and purchase many different kinds of plants.

Building on the events mentioned above, we are developing a late-summer community celebration to highlight the City's parks.

Planned activities include a "Mayor's BBQ;" children's activities like face painting, scavenger hunt, flowerpot painting/planting, and a chance



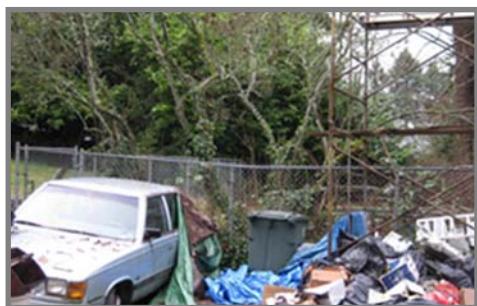
for kids to explore a dump truck and street sweeper! Watch for more information on the City's website, www.cityoflfp.com, or call City Hall, 206-368-5440.

We don't want to stop there, though. As Mayor, I am working on starting an Events Task Force, with the goal of creating a citizen/city staff partnership to come up with ideas and a framework for new community events. I'm also working on a Parks & Recreation Task Force to provide citizens a chance to think of ways to increase the use of our existing City parks and offer ideas for enhancing our recreational opportunities with the acquisition and development of future parkland and open space.

I hope you'll stay tuned for additional details about our "under construction" event and join us if your schedule permits. If I don't have the opportunity to see or speak with you before then, I'd like to wish you a happy summer!

Code Enforcement Regulations Update

Getting good outcomes on difficult code enforcement cases like the one pictured here should be more likely in the coming months. The majority of the City's code enforcement provisions were adopted in 1962 and include such outdated violations as "the use of a common



What do you do if your neighbor's property looks like this?

public drinking cup or roller towel." Legal review of Lake Forest Park Municipal Code (LFPMC) Chapter 18.71 discovered several inconsistencies and other areas that could benefit from revision. Ultimately, it was recommended the chapter be repealed in its entirety and a new code enforcement chapter be adopted to apply to all civil violations.

Key highlights of the revisions include:

- Creation of a new LFPMC Ch. 1.25 to apply to all civil code violations, not only land use violations

- New process for administrative enforcement hearings before a neutral third party (hearing examiner)
- Deletion of outdated provisions
- Insertion of consistent enforcement language

A key benefit of these revisions will mean that, if you as a citizen are charged with a code violation, it will be much easier to understand how to respond and what your rights are to contest it or ask for more time to remedy the situation. The City Council will hold a public hearing on these amendments in the next couple of months. Contact Planning Director Steve Bennett, 206-368-5440, if you have questions or would like to see the current draft amendments.

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Caring for Your Infrastructure to Keep LFP Healthy, Safe & Vibrant

Did you know the City maintains more than 110 lane miles of street pavement valued at more than \$5 million? Routine maintenance of streets is important to extend the life of the pavement and a continued investment is necessary to ensure our streets are adequately preserved. Making the decision about which streets to include in the citywide annual overlay program includes consideration of pavement conditions such as distress (cracking), rutting, roughness, traffic volume, type of road, maintenance history, other capital project conflicts, and allocated funding levels to then prioritize a list of streets to pave. The overlay budget for 2016 is \$334,000.

Streets included in this year's proposed overlay are portions of NE 193rd Street; 53rd Court NE; 50th Avenue; NE 194th Place; and 49th Place NE. Two ADA ramp upgrades are also planned for 53rd Court NE. For more info, call Public Works at 206-368-5440.

Save the Date – August 2, 2016 is National Night Out

Neighborhoods from across the country are coming together for National Night Out on August 2,



2016. In LFP, the Police Department will emphasize crime prevention through citizen awareness and communication, which includes the kick-off of a safe pedestrian project in partnership with our business community and the Rotary Club. Also included is a partnership with the Northshore Fire Department to relay prevention and preparedness tips so our citizens have an active resource when the time comes.

If your neighborhood is interested in sponsoring an event this year, call Crime Watch Coordinator Casey Krzyminski at 206-364-8216 or send an email to casey@cityoflfp.com. If you schedule an event, we will do everything we can to ensure someone from the Police Department attends to answer questions and be an active participant.



Chief for a Day Ethan Hennig, Mayor Johnson, members of the City Council, and Chief (for more than a day) Steve Sutton

Early Recreation Registration—Aug. 24

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 Fall 2016 opens Wednesday, August 24, 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.shorelinewa.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, or follow us on Facebook and Twitter.

