



City of Lake Forest Park

City News

www.cityoflfp.com • 206-368-5440

A publication of the City of Lake Forest Park • 17425 Ballinger Way NE • Lake Forest Park, WA 98155



Building on a Great Year for Lake Forest Park

As we approach a new year, let's look back at 2016 and forward to 2017. I think you'll see we accomplished a lot!

- * Strategic Plan and Comprehensive Plan adopted
- * *Picnic in the Park*, with over 1,000 in attendance
- * Special Olympics Salmon BBQ and Lake Forest Park Rotary Club 30th anniversary
- * Tree planting on the Burke-Gilman Trail and responsiveness to citizen concerns about tree clearing
- * Award from American Public Works Assn. of WA for the Lyon Creek Flood Mitigation project
- * Pedestrian crossing lights at Brookside Boulevard near Blue Heron Park and NE 201st Street near Horizon View Park
- * Whispering Willow Park grand opening
- * Parks Task Force formed & recommendations made
- * NE 178th Street roadway improvements near Brookside Elementary School

The Passage of Sound Transit 3 gives us an opportunity

to plan and develop infrastructure improvements for Bothell Way NE (SR 522) to facilitate the 10 Bus Rapid Transit (BRT) stations between Woodinville and Shoreline, and new Business Access and Transit (BAT) lanes on SR 522. These improvements will not only benefit transit users—they will increase pedestrian mobility along our major corridor.

By now, you have likely noticed the new holiday lighting in front of City Hall. Lake Forest Park is a great place to live, and it is very important to me that we build on our sense of community moving into 2017. Holiday lighting, supporting the various “fun runs” that take place in our community in the spring and summer, continuing the City’s contracts with community partners to provide programs and services to our citizens, continuation of “Coffee with the Mayor,” and more family oriented activities next summer are all just a small part of the vision.

My best wishes to you and yours for a happy holiday season and a great New Year! — Mayor Johnson

City Undertakes Transportation Studies: Safe Streets and Safe Highways

The Safe Streets study examines mobility on neighborhood streets to identify safety improvements for pedestrians and bicyclists. It is funded by the City Transportation Capital fund and runs from November 2016-May 2017.

The Safe Highways study examines the state corridors in Lake Forest Park (SR 522 and SR 104) to plan for future improvements. With the completion of SR 522 projects in Bothell and Kenmore, regional planning efforts are underway to consider further improvements to this important route. The design alternatives and cost estimates resulting from this study will guide future planning. The recently approved Sound Transit 3 ballot measure includes a project to construct bus rapid transit (BRT) services on SR 522 along with a park and ride and will require close coordination with Sound Transit. Study activities are expected to run from February-December 2017. The Safe Highways

study is funded by a grant from the state legislature.

Both of these studies include a robust public participation process where all stakeholders can offer input and help ensure the findings are as comprehensive as possible. Watch the City’s website, Facebook, and Twitter for dates, times, and locations of future open houses. Information from the studies will be posted on the City’s website, when available.



Crossing light at NE 201st St. near Horizon View Park

Connect with the City on social media and stay up to date on news & events in Lake Forest Park:

Capital Improvement Plan and Strategic Plan Work Together in 2017-2018

How do we restore the health of our creeks, upgrade our streets, improve our parks, add vibrancy to our community, and make our government more effective? In large part, the City invests in it.

The Strategic Plan is a 5-7 year vision for our community and a road map to achieve it. The Capital Improvement Plan (CIP) is the City's way to measure its progress. It reflects how the City adapts to growth, aging infrastructure, and the need for community improvements.

A key test of commitment to a Strategic Plan is how well it drives the spending habits of a city. The CIP adopted in November makes more than a down payment on the priorities of the City Council. Be sure to watch the City's website and get involved in the outreach opportunities for the projects mentioned below.

With the **mobility goal** of the Strategic Plan, the CIP recognizes the key planning elements put in play this year. Many of our streets are part of the Safe Streets planning process (see related article on page 1). The budget sets aside \$160,000 for investments during the next two years. In addition, the Safe Highways study will use a \$475,000 state grant to plan for our two state highway corridors—Bothell Way NE (SR 522) and Ballinger Way NE (SR 104). The City Council is excited to study the connection between these highways and our city streets to explore options for improving the two. The CIP also includes funding to plan the next school sidewalk project (\$60,000) and street overlays (\$535,000 in 2017 and \$250,000 in 2018).

There are also highlights for the **healthy environment** goal. The CIP includes \$2 million in local funds structured to secure a \$10 million total investment in the next culvert improvements upstream in Lyon Creek. This should go a long way toward restoring fish runs as far as NE 195th Street, and should remove the risk of a culvert loss at Ballinger Way NE and 35th Avenue NE. Funds for 2018 include updating the sewer comprehensive plan (\$200,000) and the design work to replace the Beach Drive sewer lift stations (\$215,000).

The **community vitality** Strategic Plan goal has money set aside for 2017 and 2018 to continue the great start of *Picnic in the Park*. There is also a major investment to buy additional property to add to Pfingst Animal Acres

Plans Work Together—continued from column 1

Park through a King County Conservation Futures grant (\$270,000) and matching City funds, for a total of \$540,000. There is also a project to install a picnic shelter at Pfingst Animal Acres Park (\$92,000). Crossover funding from 2016 to 2017 includes \$110,000 to add a playground to Eagle Scout Park.

The goals for **Public Safety and Access to Justice** and **Accountable and Engaged Government** include a City Hall efficiency study (\$20,000), risk assessment (\$15,000), safety improvements (\$54,000), interior painting (\$23,000), and City Hall entry improvements (\$49,000).

By planning for the future, we can change the City's landscape in many positive ways. In total, the CIP includes \$1,936,000 approved in the 2017-2018 Biennial Budget. Of that total, \$745,075 is provided by county and state sources. By investing in the City Council Strategic Plan, we are investing in the future of Lake Forest Park.

Apply Now—Renew Early to Avoid Delays in Passport Processing

The U. S. Department of State is expecting an increase in passport applications through 2018. Applicants are encouraged to submit passport applications well ahead of their planned travel dates to ensure they get their passports in time. Travelers to certain foreign countries should also ensure that their passports have at least six months of validity beyond their dates of international travel to avoid unintended disruptions. For more information, visit www.travel.state.gov, or call the Lake Forest Park Passport Office at 206-957-2834. Hours: Mondays and Fridays from 12:00—5:00 p.m.; Saturdays from 10:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. at Lake Forest Park City Hall, 17425 Ballinger Way NE.



Love Trees? Want to help make a difference in the community? Consider joining the new LFP Tree Board! Visit <http://cityoflp.com/index.aspx?NID=107> for more info and contact Jake Tracy at jtracy@cityoflp.com with any questions.

Understanding the Tree Moratorium

The City Council has imposed a six-month moratorium on tree removals in response to community concerns about recent tree removal activity. This moratorium was put into place to limit tree removals while the City Council updates the City's tree regulations to provide more protection for existing trees. The current moratorium will expire on March 22, 2017.

What does the moratorium mean?

No person or entity may remove a tree in Lake Forest Park unless it meets one of the criteria discussed below.

Trees less than 6-inch diameter and dead trees

No permit is required for removal of trees that are not in an environmentally sensitive area and less than 6 inches in diameter at breast height (DBH, 54 inches above the ground). To ensure the tree meets this criteria, wrap a tape measure around the trunk at chest height. This measurement must be less than 18-3/4 inches (circumference/3.14 = diameter).

Take photos of your measurements prior to removal. Dead trees may also be removed without a permit. Check with the Planning Department (206-368-5440) to find out if your tree is in a sensitive area or to confirm the tree or trees are exempt prior to removal.

One or two significant trees (and not in a sensitive area or buffer)

Up to two significant trees (less than 28" DBH) may be removed with a permit, provided that the trees are not located in a sensitive area or its buffer, and trees have not been removed from the property within the past three years. Submit a permit application to the Planning Department.

Emergency situations

An extreme-risk tree that is an immediate threat to safety may be removed prior to applying for a permit. You must notify the Planning Department within one working day of the emergency tree removal and submit an application. That application must be accompanied by photos and measurements taken prior to, during, and after removal. Any tree removals found to not be the result of a genuine emergency situation will be subject to a code enforcement action.

What if I am concerned a tree could fall and harm people or property?

The removal of non-emergency but dangerous trees is allowed under certain conditions. For removal of more than two significant trees in a three-year period, trees over 28" DBH, or trees in sensitive areas, permit approval requires a report from an ISA-certified arborist based on ISA 2013 Best Management Practices finding that trees are either an extreme risk, a high risk, a moderate risk with severe conse-



Chief for a Day Ethan Hennig and his family—August 2016

quences, or a moderate risk with significant consequences. To begin the process, submit a permit application and arborist report (or pay for the report to be prepared by the City Arborist).

**[Find a certified arborist at
www.treesaregood.org/findanarborist](http://www.treesaregood.org/findanarborist)**

What do I do if I suspect a tree is being cut down without a permit?

Call the Planning Department at 206-368-5440. If the removal occurs outside of normal business hours, call 911 and let the dispatcher know you have a non-emergency call for the Lake Forest Park Police.

What are the consequences of violating the moratorium?

Any person or entity found to have removed trees in violation of the moratorium faces a fine equal to the appraised value of the tree(s). Tree valuations can reach into the tens of thousands of dollars.



Upcoming City Council Meetings

All meetings take place at City Hall

City Council Work Session Meeting
January 12, 6:00 p.m.

City Council Regular Business Meetings
January 12 & 26, 7:00 p.m.

City Council Budget & Finance Committee
January 19, 6:00 p.m.

City Council Communications Committee
January 23, 4:30 p.m.

City Council Committee of the Whole
January 23, 6:00 p.m.

For the complete City calendar, please
visit our website at www.cityoflfp.com

CITY HALL

17425 Ballinger Way NE

Lake Forest Park, WA

98155-5556

Mon-Fri: 9:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m.
Phone: 206-368-5440
Fax: 206-364-6521
Web: www.cityoflfp.com

PERMIT COUNTER

Tues-Fri: 9:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.
1:00 p.m. – 3:00 p.m.

PASSPORTS

Mon & Fri: 12:00 p.m. – 5:00 p.m.
Sat: 10:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m.
Phone: 206-957-2834

MUNICIPAL COURT

Mon-Fri: 9:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m.
Phone: 206-364-7711
Fax: 206-364-7712

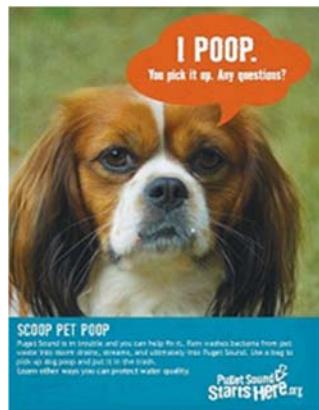
POLICE

Emergency: 911
Non-emergency: 206-364-8216

Domestic Violence
Victim Advocate: 206-417-8267

Remember to Scoop!

Help Lake Forest Park clean up its creeks, Lake Washington, and the Puget Sound. Rain washes bacteria from pet waste into storm drains, streams, and, ultimately, the Sound. Remember to always use a bag to pick up dog poop and put it in the trash. Don't let your pet's waste build up in your yard, either; scoop it regularly, bag it and throw it in the trash.



17425 Ballinger Way NE
Lake Forest Park, WA
98155-5556



Early Registration for Winter Recreation Programs with City of Shoreline begins Friday, January 6, 2017

Live in LFP? Interested in recreation? Take advantage of recreation programs offered through the City of Shoreline. LFP residents are eligible for a 24-hour early registration period prior to the start of each season's programs, plus an 8% discount on all program fees (not rentals) through the entire year! Winter 2017 registration for LFP residents is Friday, January 6, 2017, at 12:01 a.m. online and 8:00 a.m. in person. To receive notices of early registration dates, sign up for reminders through the City's website, Facebook, and Twitter. To set up an account or register, go to shorelinewa.gov/RegisterNow.



Printed on recycled paper. Please recycle this newsletter.