

LFP Times

CITY OF
LAKE FOREST
PARK

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Mayor's Corner—Update on City Hall Reopening Plan



Mayor Jeff Johnson

As we navigate these unprecedented times and think about next steps, I would like to take this chance to update the LFP community on changes being made to City Hall in preparation for reopening to the public. While City Hall has been closed, the Administration has been working to make updates that will help protect the public and employees.

Under the State phased reopening plan, customer-facing government services are not allowed until Phase 3. King County is currently in Phase 2.

While we have been under Phase 2 of the plan, employees in all departments are coming in to City Hall on a rotating basis to keep the City running. Police and Public Works, as essential services, are running on regular schedules. The City Hall main phone line continues to be answered between 9:00 a.m. and 5:00 p.m., and all employees are available via email.

In preparation for approval to move to phase 3, the City has prepared a written Safety Plan, outlining how the



Court desk with Plexiglas panel



Social distancing reminder



Elevator signage



Social distancing in courtroom/council chambers



Protective partitioning at the dais



City Hall lobby signage

Natural Lawn Care Ideas

Fall is the perfect time to get your grass back into shape. Whether it turned brown during the summer months and needs some rejuvenation, or if you just want to give it a bit of extra vibrancy, be sure to take the proper steps to enhance your lawn as well as protect the environment.

When the rain does arrive (around September/October), use a slow release fertilizer, but be careful! Pay close attention to the recommended amounts for application. Too much fertilizer can lead to pollutant runoff, where excess fertilizer that wasn't absorbed in the soil flows into the nearest waterway. Also, be aware of hard surfaces like sidewalks, driveways and roadways near your application area. Sweep all fertilizer granules from hard surfaces to prevent pollutant runoff from entering the

workplace will prevent the spread of COVID-19.

Updates to City facilities include:

- Installation of sneeze guards at multiple locations;
- Floor and wall signage to help identify a six-foot space between customers and staff;
- Hand sanitizer available in multiple locations;
- Ordering gloves and face masks for distribution to the departments;
- Implementing protocols for those employees who need to meet one-on-one with members of the public (for instance, building permit applicants and Planning Department customers);
- Reworking combined workspaces, conference rooms, and the Council Chambers/Courtroom to allow adequate distance between work stations and meeting attendees.

It is also important to note that, even after City Hall reopens to the public, the City will continue to hold its public meetings remotely, due to social-distancing limitations in the Council Chambers and other meeting rooms in City Hall.

When King County moves to Phase 3, we will be ready!

—Mayor Johnson

storm drains.

While you prep your yard for winter, be sure to keep the leaves at bay. Mulch them using your mower and provide a top layer of decomposing nutrients for your soil and lawn; or, pick them up and compost them. In whatever way you plan to nourish your lawn, always keep in mind the nearby waterways that could be affected by your activities.

Puget Sound Starts Here!



Council Corner - Keep LFP Streets Safe



Many of us have been spending more time walking in our neighborhoods during this pandemic, often with dogs, children, strollers - or all of these. We recently heard from a resident that a driver, upset because he had to slow down for our resident and his wife as they were walking near their home, yelled out to them "The streets are for cars - not for people."

Well, that's just not true here in our city!

You may have wondered why only some of our neighborhoods have sidewalks. When the original developer, Ole Hanson, wrote his promotional brochures in 1910 to sell lots to anyone who wanted to build a home (but no apartments, saloons or shacks!), the road to Seattle was already being paved and he envisioned his residential park as a place for people who had cars and wished for a more rural lifestyle. He laid out the plats with roads following natural contours, rather than a grid pattern, and left no room for sidewalks.

Other developments, notably Sheridan Beach and Sheridan Heights, were not platted or built until 1927 and 1930 by the Puget Mill Company, and included sidewalks in their plans.

Lake Forest Park incorporated as a city in 1961, and annexed parts of unincorporated King County in the 1990s, many of which did not include sidewalks. With our limited tax base, the City has been able to create some sidewalks in neighborhoods, but much remains to be done.

The **Safe Streets study** was adopted by the City Council in 2017, and has guided our efforts to prioritize projects and raise funds for sidewalks. The City Council identified safe walking routes around our elementary schools as its highest priority, and city staff wrote grant requests which were submitted for regional approval, competing with dozens of projects from across the Puget Sound area.

We heard in July that two of our proposed sidewalk projects have been recommended for \$350,000 in federal funding by the Puget Sound Regional Council: 37th Avenue NE from NE 165th to NE 178th streets, in front of Brookside Elementary School, and the sidewalks surrounding Lake Forest Park Elementary School. The Council is very grateful for the hard work and talent

of our staff in preparing these proposals, and the good efforts of LFP Council Member John Wright, who represents the Sound Cities Association on the Puget Sound Regional Council (PSRC) Transportation Policy Board. We will keep you informed of the final funding decisions from the federal government, which should reach us in November.

In the meantime, while our children will not be returning to school right now, many of us are still out and about, keeping healthy, conversing at a distance with friends and neighbors, and staying close to home as the Governor has recommended. So please, if you are driving, be careful and considerate of our neighbors so we can all stay safe.

In Lake Forest Park our streets are for everyone – not just cars!

–Deputy Mayor Phillipa Kassover

Update on 2021-2022 Budget Process

The budget process for the City of Lake Forest Park started in late July and will continue through November. You can find the budget calendar on the City's website for a list of the meeting dates and times. Citizens are encouraged and welcome to attend during this open and transparent budget process. Budget meetings are currently being held through a virtual platform and will continue to do so until it is safe to resume in person.



The Mayor, City Council, and Administration are scheduled to meet regularly to discuss the current and future financial challenges in building a balanced budget. There will be difficult discussions and decisions through the 2021/2022 biennial budgeting process, but the City is dedicated to making those decisions together. The Mayor's Proposed 2021/2022 Biennial Budget will be presented on Thursday, September 10, 2020 at the regular City Council Meeting.

The City of Lake Forest Park team remains dedicated to proposing and adopting a balanced budget through these uncertain and challenging times.

LFP Municipal Court Jury Trials Resume in September

Lake Forest Park will resume jury trials in September, after pausing them in April in response to the coronavirus (COVID-19) pandemic. Extensive new safety precautions have been implemented to protect juror safety and public health as trials resume. Jury summonses have been mailed, with the first potential trial planned the week of September 1.

New jury processes are in place to protect juror safety, including a front door greeter who will do a brief health screening and take temperatures with a touchless thermometer. The screener will offer each person a new KN95 mask or a face shield. Hand sanitation is required and available throughout the building.

Jury questioning will be done in two groups. People who have internet and video access on home computers can participate from home on the Zoom platform. Jurors without video access will come to the court in a group of no more than 12 people. The six individuals chosen for jury duty will come to the courthouse to hear the trial.

All participants in the trial will wear masks or shields, and there are Plexiglas barriers for the judge and clerk. The jury deliberation room is a spacious doublewide conference room and all seating is more than 6 feet apart. Photos of the courtroom showing the spacing of chairs for jury questioning and spacing for the final jury panel are posted on the [Court webpage](#).

While City Hall remains closed, members of the public can watch court proceedings on the City YouTube channel. Enter the *virtual courtroom* through the link on the [Court webpage](#). For more information, see the Court FAQs and other details on the website.

Call for Volunteers: Tree Board and Parks & Recreation Advisory Board



Eagle Scout Park

The City is seeking applications for several positions on both the Lake Forest Park Tree Board and Parks and Recreation Advisory Board.

If you have questions or are interested in the Tree Board,



please contact Assistant Planner Lauren Hoerr (lhoerr@ci.lake-forest-park.wa.us).

If you have questions or are interested in serving on the Parks and Recreation Advisory Board, please contact Community Volunteer Coordinator Cory Roche (croche@ci.lake-forest-park.wa.us).

Block Watch Program Update

The Lake Forest Park Police Department is getting its Block Watch program back up and running. If you are a Lake Forest Park resident and interested in being a Block Watch Captain, we would love to hear from you!

Please email Lieutenant Rhonda Lehman, rlehman@ci.lake-forest-park.wa.us, or give her a call at 206-364-8216 x560 for more information.

CRIME WATCH



Now is a Good Time to Go Online with Your Sewer Bill



If you are sending us a paper check when you pay your sewer bill did you know the City's online bill service lets you view and pay your sewer bill, go paperless, set up auto-pay, and receive reminder notifications when your sewer bill is due?

Paying with an electronic check from your bank (EFT) is free. If you pay by credit card, a fee of \$3.95 is assessed by the online service provider (Invoice Cloud). There is a limit of \$300 per transaction for credit card payments. Information you need to access the online services is the **name on the account** (last name is enough) and the **account number**.

To get started, visit the City's website, www.cityoflfp.com, and click on the Payments button on the left side of the page.

Emergency Preparedness

Emergencies can happen at any time and many happen without warning. One of the lessons we can all take from the pandemic is to get ready now for the next disaster. Need help understanding how to prepare? The Northshore Emergency Management Coalition (NEMCo) is offering a preparedness class in October, which will be held either in person or online, depending on the pandemic situation at that time. Check the City's website for details, or visit www.NorthshoreEMC.com.

DIRECTORY

CITY HALL

17425 Ballinger Way NE
Lake Forest Park, WA 98155
M-F: 9:00am - 5:00pm
Phone: 206-368-5440
Fax: 206-364-6521
Web: www.cityoflfp.com

PERMIT COUNTER

Mon-Fri: 9:00am - 12:00pm
1:00pm - 3:00pm

PASSPORTS

M, Th & F: 12:00pm - 4:00pm
Sat: 10:00am - 3:30pm
Phone: 206-957-2834

MUNICIPAL COURT

M-F: 9:00am - 5:00pm
Phone: 206-364-7711
Fax: 206-364-7712

POLICE

Emergency: 911
Non-emergency: 206-364-8216
Domestic Violence
Victim Advocate: 206-417-8267

**CITY HALL is CLOSED
TO THE PUBLIC, until
further notice.
Please CALL if you
have any questions.**



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City of Lake Forest Park
17425 Ballinger Way NE
Lake Forest Park, WA 98155

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@city_of_lake_forest_park • @lakeforestparkpd

Lake Forest Park Recreation Opportunities with the City of Shoreline – Updates for Fall 2020

Keep your eye out for the Shoreline Park and Recreation NEW fall registration system, which was mailed in late August. A postcard with information regarding registration dates and links will be mailed, instead of the entire fall guide. A plan for registration will be based on a combination of out-of-school time childcare, Zoom classes, and small group classes. Keep checking in via the [City of Shoreline website](#).

Just a reminder, the City of Lake Forest Park offers scholarship reimbursements for eligible youth and specialized recreation participants who reside in the City and are registered for and attend cultural, recreation, or aquatic programs and camps. For more information, go to our [webpage](#) or call City Hall, 206-368-5440.



City Council Meetings

City Council Regular Business Meetings

2nd & 4th Thursdays, 7:00 p.m.

City Council Work Session Meetings

2nd Thursday, 6:00 p.m.

City Council Committee of the Whole Meetings

Monday before the 4th Thurs., 6:00 p.m.

City Council Budget & Finance Committee Meetings

3rd Thursday, 6:00 p.m.

Please check our calendar online for the most current meeting updates.

www.cityoflfp.com

