

# LFP Times

CITY OF  
LAKE FOREST  
PARK

City Hall rainbow photo by K. Zech

A publication of the City of Lake Forest Park • [www.cityofflp.gov](http://www.cityofflp.gov) • 206-368-5440 • 17425 Ballinger Way NE • Lake Forest Park, WA 98155

## Mayor's Corner – Ballinger Way Road Work

Each year the City's Public Works Department contracts with King County for road overlay projects on city-owned streets. Last year we completed improvements to 35th Avenue NE from 40th Place NE to 190th Street, including a new pedestrian pathway along the west side, and new pavement markings throughout the corridor.



Mayor Jeff Johnson

This year, the Washington State Department of Transportation

(WSDOT) undertook filling in potholes and sealing cracks on Ballinger Way (SR 104), one of two state-owned highways in the city, Bothell Way (SR 522) being the other.

I am frustrated with the level of effort from the state related to its maintenance work on Ballinger Way. This is

far from the standard we expect on our city roads, and it is frustrating that the asphalt placed in the potholes was not made level with the road surface, resulting in a different kind of uneven surface for the public.

While we understand the state's desire to delay a complete overlay until after the city's 2024 construction of a roundabout at 40th Place NE and Ballinger Way, and the 2025 replacement of the state-owned culvert under Ballinger Way at 35th Avenue NE. We expect better maintenance of state roads through our city.

I want to let you know that we have heard and agree with your concerns. We will be letting the state know of our displeasure.

Comments may be provided to WSDOT at 425-739-3730.

My thanks to those who reached out to us with concerns about the WSDOT projects on Ballinger Way. When we hear back from WSDOT, we will provide an update.

–Mayor Johnson

## Lake Forest Park Tree Inventory Continues

The City of Lake Forest Park, with support from DCG/ Watershed (formerly The Watershed Company), has embarked on an urban forest assessment. This study includes collecting data on trees within the City in parks and open spaces, along streets, and on private land. The data collected from this inventory provides critical information to help the City better understand and manage our community forest.



This is a communitywide effort! If you received an outreach letter and/or a 'door hanger' about the project, your property was identified as a potential data collection site, as part of a random sampling process. If you received

an outreach letter and/or 'door hanger' and have not yet responded, please use the QR code or link below to support this important effort. Once landowners have

given permission, an ISA Certified Arborist from DCG/ Watershed will arrange for a site visit to evaluate your trees. We would greatly appreciate your support!

For more information about the tree inventory, or the Lake Forest Park Community Forest Management Plan, please visit: <https://www.cityofflp.com/235/Learn-More-about-Trees-Forest-Care>.



Free Stock photo by Vecteezy

## Council Corner – Civility in our Public Discourse

Over 300 neighbors attended a recent City Council meeting where Julie Timm, Sound Transit's CEO spoke and responded to questions from the City Council. I

suspect that this was the largest group ever to assemble at our City Hall both present and past.

I say neighbors because... quite frankly, that is the way everyone behaved – as neighbors. The civility exhibited by all the attendees was remarkable and heartwarming.

In today's unfortunate climate of partisan conflict and uncivil discourse on so many levels, it was



truly refreshing to see our citizens once again choose the higher path and treat our speaker and her staff and each other with respect and dignity.

As a policy maker and civic leader these nearly 12 years, I have striven to foster a culture of civility and inclusiveness, as have my Council colleagues.

It is a foundational part of our Democracy to disagree, and it is fundamental and essential for us to choose the path of civility in our conversations, particularly in light of the political climate at the national level.

For those of you who attended the City Council meeting two weeks ago, I thank you for your kindness, compassion, and civility.

–Deputy Mayor Tom French

## Join Mayor Johnson and the LFP Community at Picnic in the Park on September 9

Picnic in the Park is back! Help the City celebrate our LFP community on Saturday, September 9, 2023, from 10:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m., at Pfingst Animal Acres Park. Join with family and friends for music, booths, kids' attractions and activities, food trucks, and more! We look forward to seeing you there.



Picnic in the Park 2022

## Planning Director Steve Bennett Retires

On August 4, 2023, Planning Director Stephen Bennett retired from the City of Lake Forest Park. He spent more than 19 years serving the residents of Lake Forest Park. During his tenure with the City, Director Bennett was involved in numerous large-scale planning efforts in support of the City, including, but not limited to; Legacy 100-Year Vision, Tree Ordinance, Southern Gateway, Big Five, Cottage Housing, Town Center, Shoreline Master Program updates, Comprehensive Plan updates, ADU/DADU Code, and Stride BRT. Throughout his career, Director Bennett constantly demonstrated that his priority was always the success of our organization.

We wish Steve all the best in his retirement.



Steve cutting his retirement cake



## Locking Mailbox Program Starting Soon

The City will soon offer property owners the opportunity to purchase a locking mailbox at a discount for their homes. The City will be offering two mailbox sizes: small and large. The Lake Forest Park Rotary Club has offered to provide installation service for the mailboxes; or, they can be self-installed. Please be on the lookout for an upcoming news flash on the City's website with further information.



bins. \*Remember, extra yard waste containers (one 96-gallon container + 3 paper yard waste bags) may be placed curbside for pick up each week.

NEVER try to clear a storm drain or culvert if there is moving water greater than ankle deep and always be wary of traffic when working near a roadway. Wet leaves are surprisingly heavy, so be careful not to overexert yourself. Debris from storm drains should be placed in yard waste containers. If flooding is severe or you find evidence of dumping, please call 206-368-5440.

For more information on how you can help the Lake Forest Park Environment, go to:

<https://www.cityoflfp.gov/180/What-You-Can-Do-To-Help-the-Environment>

## Rain is on the Way, Don't LEAF it to Chance!

The City works hard to keep the drains clear, but with close to 1,800, we could use your help by making sure the storm drains near your home remain clear. Please do not remove the grates from the drains as this creates a hazard and does not unclog the system. Instead, rake or blow the leaves away from the drain, but not back into the street. Help prevent minor flooding and big mud puddles by 1) mulching the leaves (adds organic nutrients to soils); 2) composting the leaves; or 3) picking up the leaves and placing them in yard waste



**LAKE FOREST PARK**  
*Washington*

2023 Comprehensive Plan Update

## PROJECT INFORMATION

Lake Forest Park is updating its citywide Comprehensive Plan, an important document that sets the vision, goals, and policies for growth and development over the next 20 years. Public involvement is crucial to make sure the plan reflects community voices! Visit the website below for project information, and stay tuned for opportunities to engage with the planning process!

Keep an eye on [cityoflfp.gov](https://www.cityoflfp.gov) for updates!



## DIRECTORY

### CITY HALL

17425 Ballinger Way NE  
Lake Forest Park, WA 98155  
M-F: 9:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m.  
Phone: 206-368-5440  
Fax: 206-364-6521  
Web: [www.cityofflp.gov](http://www.cityofflp.gov)

### PERMIT COUNTER

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

### PASSPORTS

By Appointment Only -  
Schedule Online at:

<https://www.cityofflp.gov/124/Passports>

M, Th & F: 12:00 p.m. - 4:00 p.m.  
Sat: 10:00 a.m. - 3:00 p.m.  
Phone: 206-957-2834

### MUNICIPAL COURT

M-F: 9:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m.  
Phone: 206-364-7711  
Fax: 206-364-7712

### POLICE

Emergency: 911  
Non-emergency:  
425-486-1254  
Records: 206-364-8216  
Domestic Violence  
Victim Advocate:  
206-964-8277

### SEWER BILLING

Phone: 206-368-5440 x134  
Email: [sewerbills@cityofflp.gov](mailto:sewerbills@cityofflp.gov)



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17425 Ballinger Way NE  
Lake Forest Park, WA 98155

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## Lake Forest Park Recreation Opportunities with the City of Shoreline



Are you a Lake Forest Park resident who is interested in recreation? You can take advantage of recreation programs offered through the City of Shoreline. Lake Forest Park 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! Fall early registration date has passed, but discounts still apply! To receive notices of the early registration dates, sign up for reminders through the City's

website [[www.cityofflp.gov](http://www.cityofflp.gov)], Facebook and Twitter or keep watch on the City of Shoreline's webpage.

The City 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. More information on how to register, scholarships, or our partnership with the City of Shoreline is available on our website: <http://www.cityofflp.com/index.aspx?NID=396>. You can also 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.cityofflp.gov](http://www.cityofflp.gov)

