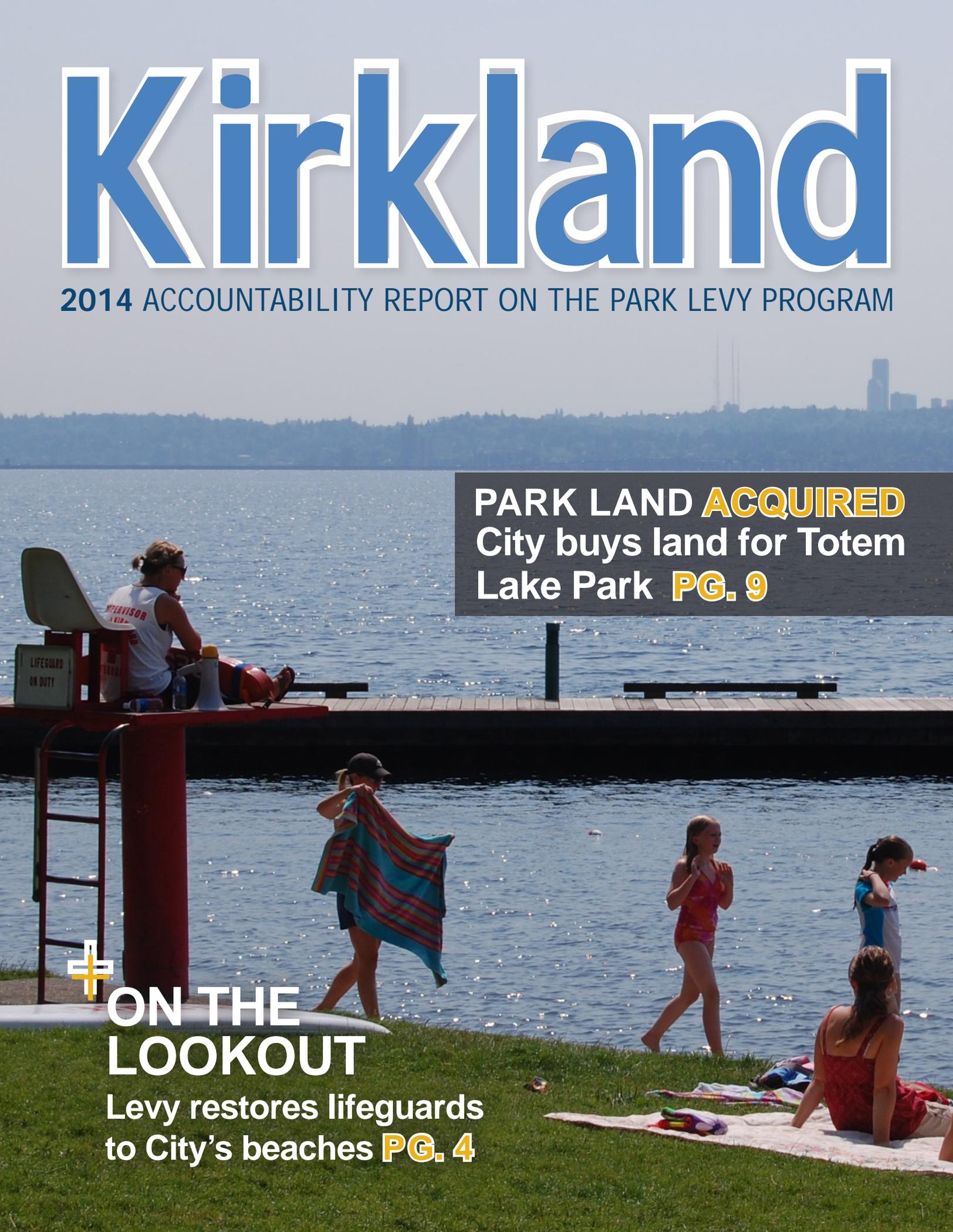


Kirkland

2014 ACCOUNTABILITY REPORT ON THE PARK LEVY PROGRAM



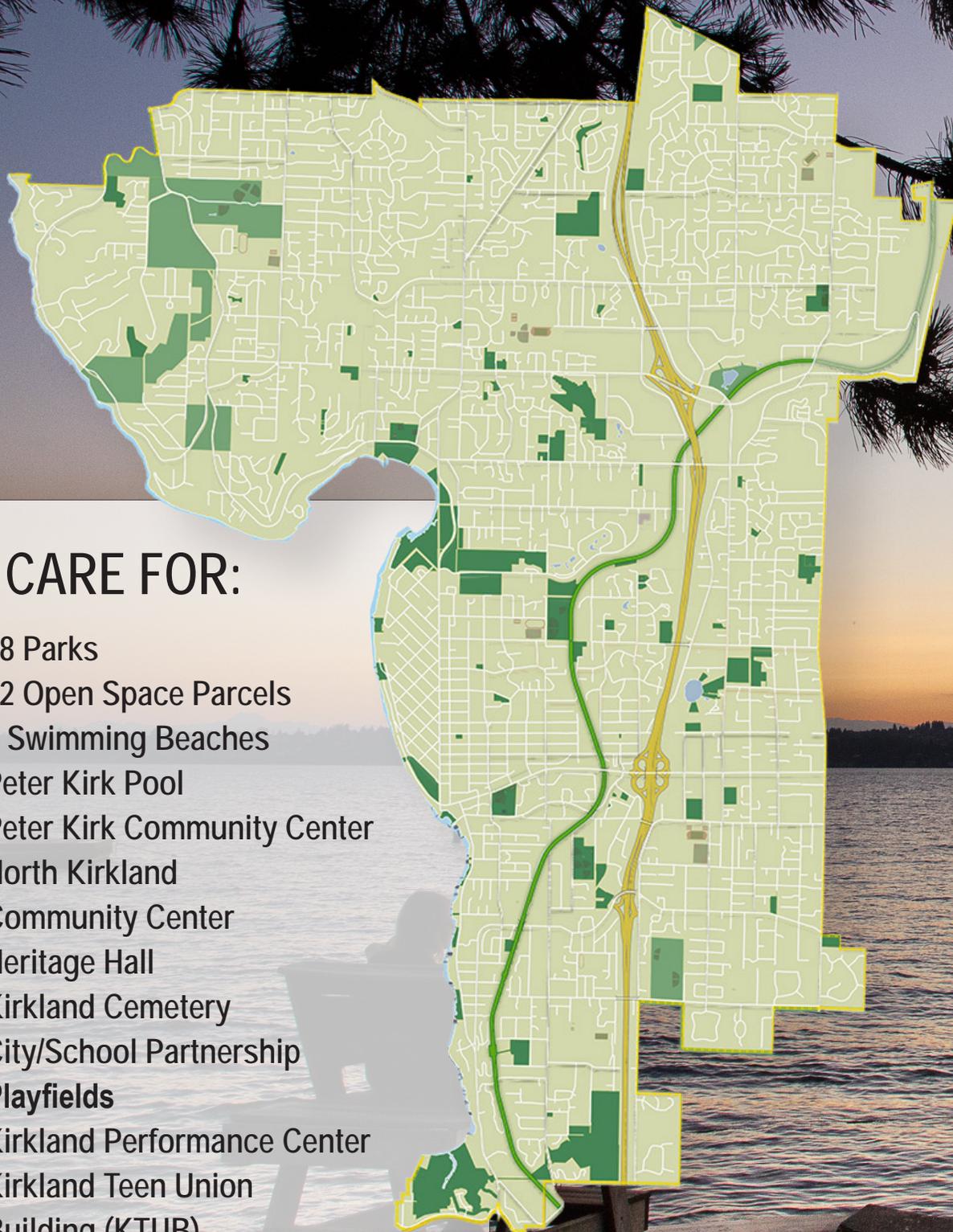
PARK LAND ACQUIRED
City buys land for Totem
Lake Park **PG. 9**



ON THE LOOKOUT

Levy restores lifeguards
to City's beaches **PG. 4**

KIRKLAND PARKS



WE CARE FOR:

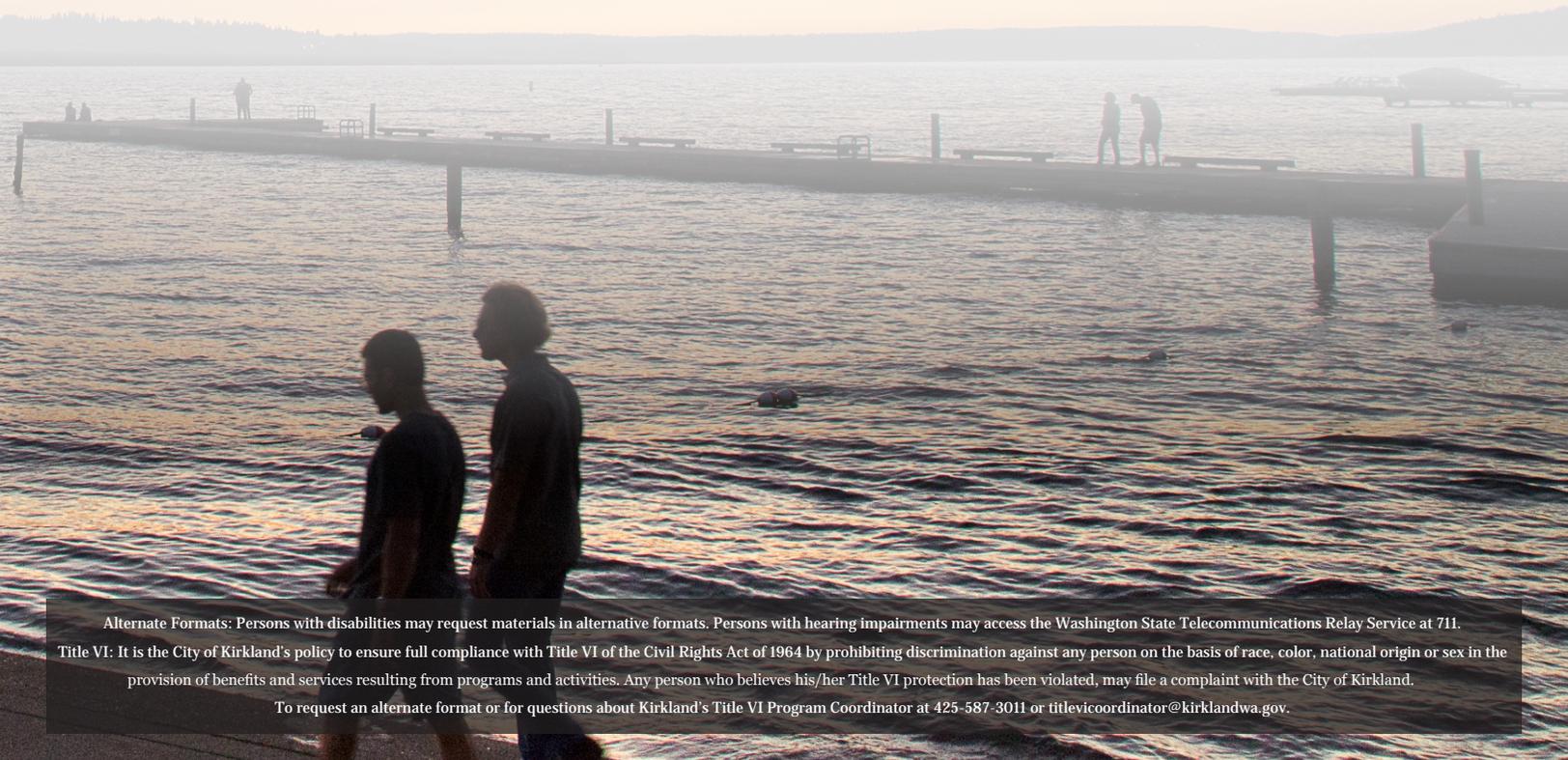
- 48 Parks
- 22 Open Space Parcels
- 3 Swimming Beaches
- Peter Kirk Pool
- Peter Kirk Community Center
- North Kirkland Community Center
- Heritage Hall
- Kirkland Cemetery
- City/School Partnership Playfields
- Kirkland Performance Center
- Kirkland Teen Union Building (KTUB)

QUALITY OF LIFE

KIRKLAND'S RESIDENTS DECIDED IN 2012 TO SUPPORT MAINTENANCE AND ENHANCEMENTS FOR THEIR PARK SYSTEM.

In November of 2012, Kirkland voters approved a permanent property tax levy to restore and enhance funding for daily park maintenance, summer beach lifeguards, major capital improvements, and acquisition of park land. This annual report summarizes how the levy funds are being used to support and enrich Kirkland's cherished quality of life.

The levy will raise approximately \$2.35 million annually, of which \$1.15 million will be used to restore, maintain and enhance Kirkland parks and natural areas and \$1.2 million will be added to the Parks Capital Improvement Program (CIP) to complete major repairs and site renovations, such as rehabilitating deteriorating docks and piers in the City's waterfront parks and performing site updates at Waverly Beach and Edith Moulton parks.



Alternate Formats: Persons with disabilities may request materials in alternative formats. Persons with hearing impairments may access the Washington State Telecommunications Relay Service at 711.

Title VI: It is the City of Kirkland's policy to ensure full compliance with Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964 by prohibiting discrimination against any person on the basis of race, color, national origin or sex in the provision of benefits and services resulting from programs and activities. Any person who believes his/her Title VI protection has been violated, may file a complaint with the City of Kirkland.

To request an alternate format or for questions about Kirkland's Title VI Program Coordinator at 425-587-3011 or titleviordinator@kirklandwa.gov.

SAFER SWIM BEACHES

THE PARKS LEVY SECURED ONGOING FUNDING OF OVER 1,100 HOURS FOR LIFEGUARDS AT THREE OF KIRKLAND'S BEACHES.

In 2014, from July 1st through Labor Day, lifeguards were on duty Noon-6 p.m. daily at each of the beaches where they administered 1,768 swim tests to children under the age of 12, loaned out 1,140 free lifejackets and provided water safety to 20,837.



Lifeguard helps a toddler at Juanita Beach Park.

SWIMMING BEACH	Swimmers (2012)	Lifejackets Loaned (2012)	Swimmers (2013)	Lifejackets Loaned (2013)	Swimmers (2014)	Lifejackets Loaned (2014)
Houghton	4,370	355	3,993	569	5,491	434
Waverly	1,991	93	2,600	305	2,994	278
Juanita	not staffed	not staffed	9,171	394	12,352	428

THRIVING PARKS

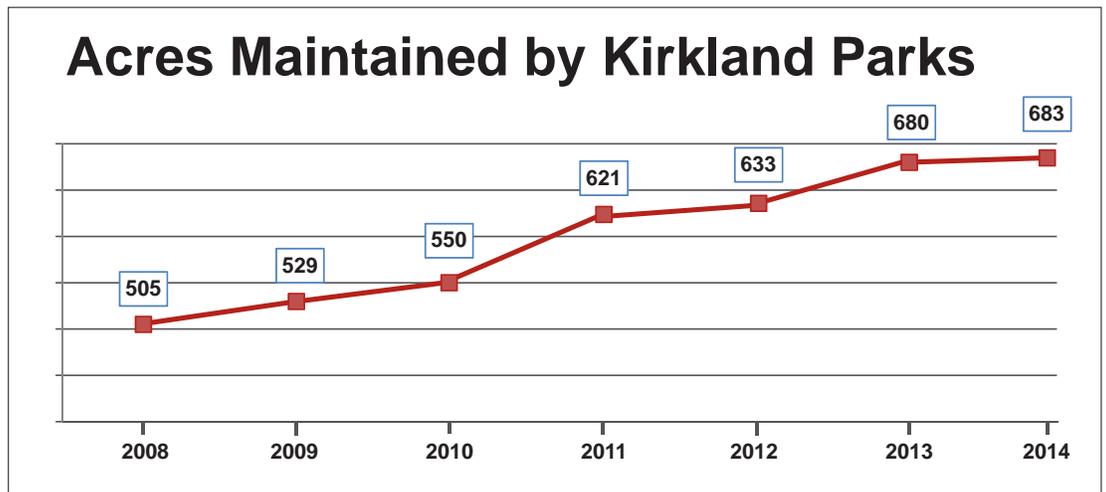
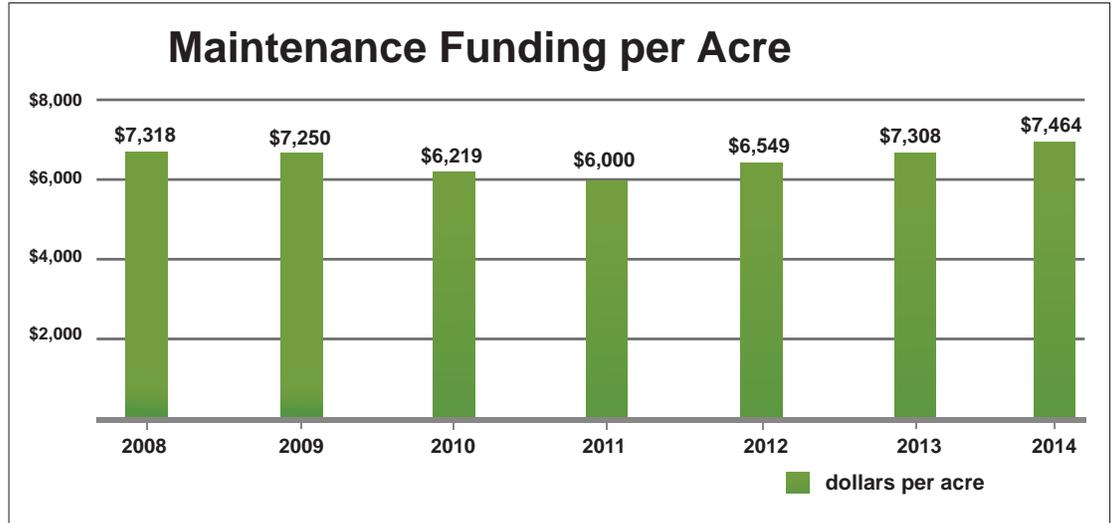
THE 2012 LEVY INCREASED MAINTENANCE LEVELS BY RESTORING LABOR HOURS FOR PARKS MAINTENANCE AND APPROXIMATELY \$156,000 ANNUALLY FOR SUPPLIES, MATERIALS AND UTILITIES.

The impact of the increase in labor can be seen in several areas of the maintenance division's operation.

Restroom service has been restored at neighborhood parks, such as North Kirkland Community Center's "Train Park", Phyllis Needy Houghton Neighborhood Park and South Rose Hill Park.

No more brown parks with irrigation resumed at the lawn areas of Peter Kirk, Crestwoods, Everest, 132nd Square, Spinney Homestead, Terrace and other parks. Labor hours for weeding and mulching of landscape beds have been restored.

Park benches, pathways, picnic shelters, restroom facilities and other site amenities, maintenance of which has been deferred, are one by one getting repaired. In 2014, for example, staff improved backstops, storage sheds, landscapes, benches and fencing at 132nd Square, McAuliffe, Juanita Beach and Heritage parks.



GREEN KIRKLAND

PARTNERSHIP



THE LEVY ENSURES FUNDING FOR THE GREEN KIRKLAND PARTNERSHIP, WHICH RECRUITED MORE THAN 2,000 VOLUNTEERS IN 2012, 2013 AND 2014.

The levy continues Kirkland’s commitment to restoring natural green spaces. The purpose of the Green Kirkland Partnership is to conserve and restore Kirkland’s natural area park land by removing invasive plants and planting native species for the sustainability of urban forests, wetlands and other habitats.

Partnering with citizens, groups and businesses, over 60,000 volunteer hours have restored approximately 59 acres. Invasive plants such as English ivy and Himalayan blackberry are removed and replaced with native trees, shrubs and groundcover needed to sustain these natural areas.

Between 2005 and 2012, the program was financially at risk of losing sources to fund the necessary staff. Thanks to the passage of the levy, the program has a dedicated funding source for staff to recruit volunteers and businesses, write grants, train volunteers, coordinate restoration events, develop restoration plans, and provide education and outreach to the community on the benefits of healthy forests and other natural areas.

GREEN KIRKLAND	2012 (no levy)	2013 (with levy)	2014 (with levy)
Number of staff	1	3	3
Number of volunteers	2,164	2,124	2,365
Volunteered hours	9,401	8,980	8,900
Volunteer work parties	168	189	227
Volunteer stewards	22	22	26
Acres in restoration	40.3	48.5	58.6
Invasive trees removed	336	1,007	1,711
Woodchip mulch applied (cubic yards)	315	750	588

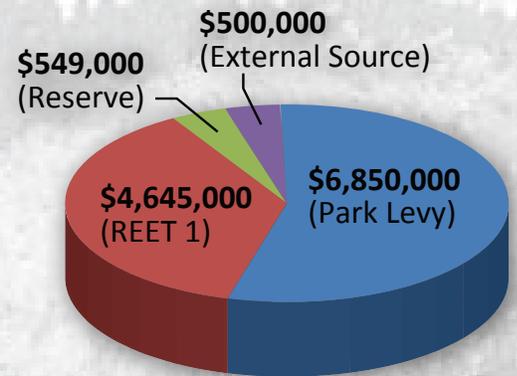


The levy supports natural area restoration activities such as removing invasive plants and planting native plants and trees.

INVESTING IN PARKS

THE LEVY PROVIDES OVER \$1 MILLION PER YEAR FOR MAJOR RENOVATIONS AND ENHANCEMENTS TO KIRKLAND'S PARKS SYSTEM.

The chart at right shows the funding sources for the 2013-2018 Parks Capital Improvement Program (CIP). Anticipated funding for parks projects averages \$1.94 million per year, with approximately \$1.167 million per year coming from the 2012 levy and the remainder primarily coming from Real Estate Excise Tax (REET).



LEVY-FUNDED PARK CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT PROJECTS INITIATED OR COMPLETED IN 2014 INCLUDE:



CROSS KIRKLAND CORRIDOR (\$500,000 levy funds)

Known as the CKC, the 5.75 mile Cross Kirkland Corridor traverses Kirkland from the South Kirkland Park & Ride to the City's northern boundary in the Totem Lake Business District. The City has been actively embracing the community's energy around the corridor's future development as a multi-modal transportation corridor and recreation asset. The City has completed construction of an interim recreational trail, while levy funding was used to create an overall Master Plan for the corridor.



WAVERLY BEACH PARK (\$500,000 levy funds)

The levy will help fund a major renovation of Kirkland's oldest waterfront park. Final design for Phase 1 improvements was completed in 2014, with construction scheduled for 2015/2016. Renovation priorities include the park's extensive shoreline and beach area, pier, pathways, playground, and lawn drainage.

CAPITAL PROJECTS

ONGOING

PARK LAND ACQUISITION (\$2,350,000 levy funds)

Land acquisitions to plan for growth and to protect important natural resources are funded from the levy. In 2014, the City acquired 1.6 acres to expand Totem Lake Park in keeping with a newly-created park master plan. Levy funds in the amount of \$610,000 were used to help fund the \$2.3 million acquisition of the property located at 12031 N.E. Totem Lake Way.

PLANNING/DESIGN

PERMITTING

CONSTRUCTION

COMPLETE

EDITH MOULTON PARK (\$1,000,000 levy funds)

Edith Moulton donated her family homestead in Juanita to the public in 1967, and Kirkland assumed ownership of the 26-acre heavily wooded property from King County following annexation in 2010. A park master plan process was completed in 2014, with final design and permitting occurring in 2015.

PLANNING/DESIGN

PERMITTING

CONSTRUCTION

COMPLETE

DOCK AND SHORELINE RENOVATIONS (\$800,000 levy funds)

Kirkland's 13 diverse Lake Washington waterfront parks provide opportunities for public access while balancing the needs for habitat enhancement and maintaining ecological function. In 2014, levy funds were used to complete repairs to Houghton Beach Park and begin engineering for upgrades to the dock and boat launch at Marina Park.

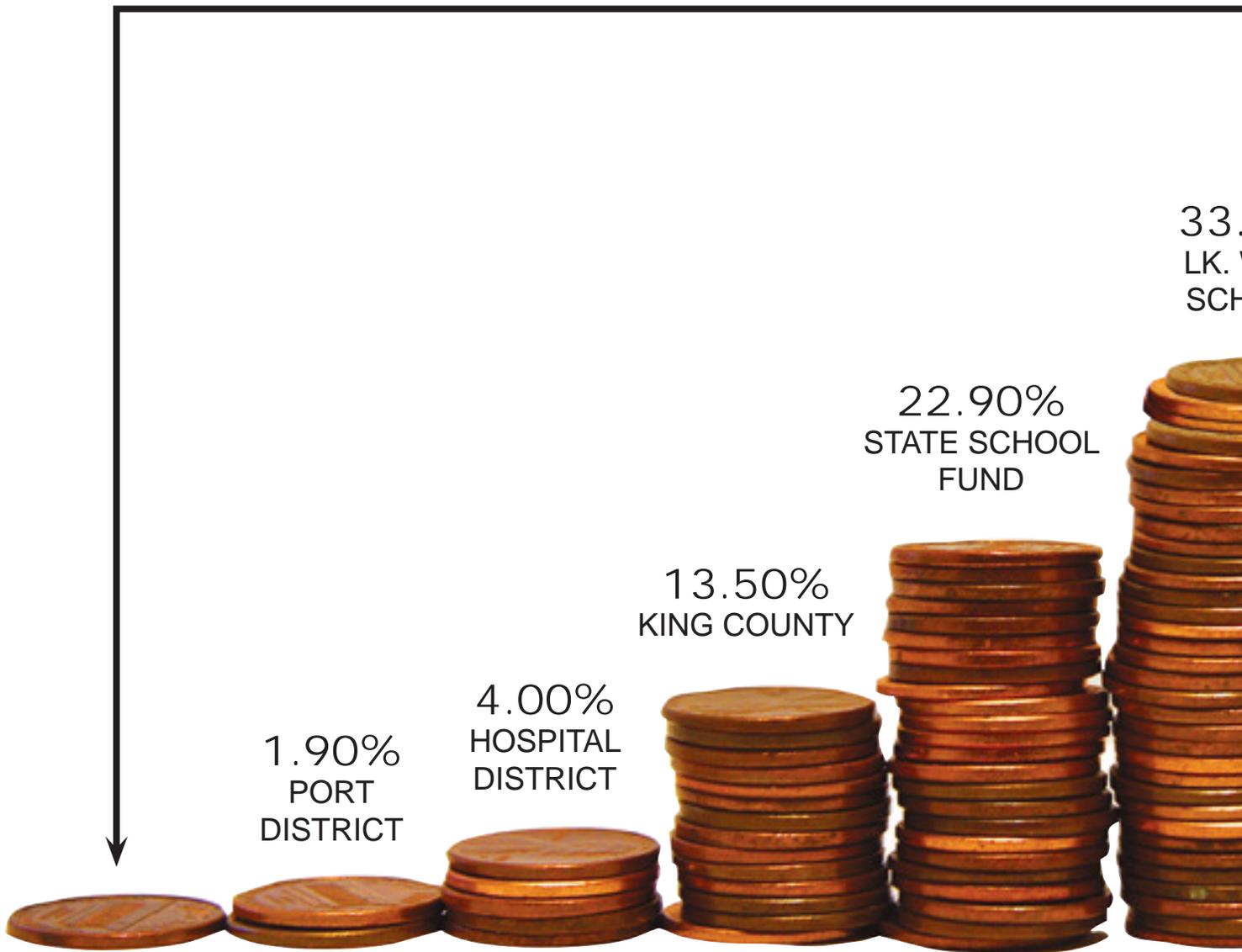
FUTURE LEVY-FUNDED PROJECTS 2015 - 2018

- Juanita Beach Park Bathhouse and Picnic Shelter
- City/School Partnership Field Improvements
- Neighborhood Park Land Acquisitions

WHERE PROPERTY TAXES GO

ACCOUNTABILITY REPORT ON THE 2012 PARK LEVY PROGRAM: 2014 EDITION

The 2012 Park levy accounts for less than 2 percent of Kirkland residents' property taxes, and yet it pays for more than half of City's park improvement projects and makes up 20% of the department's budget for park maintenance and operations. Property tax is the largest of Kirkland's nine primary sources of revenue. It accounts for 19.5% of the General Fund. State law limits Kirkland to an annual increase of its regular property tax levy by the implicit price deflator or by 1%, whichever is less. State law also allows for new construction. Voters can give Kirkland authority to exceed this limitation, which they did November 6, 2012, when they passed the Park Levy.





1.29%
PARK LEVY

98.7%
OTHER PROPERTY
TAXES

20%
WASH.
SCHOOLS

12.15%
CITY OF
KIRKLAND

5.00%
LIBRARY
DISTRICT

3.00%
EMERGENCY
SERVICES

1.66%
STREET LEVY

1.40%
FLOOD
DISTRICT

KIRKLAND CITY COUNCIL

(425) 587-3001

Mayor Amy Walen ♦ Deputy Mayor Penny Sweet
Jay Arnold ♦ Dave Asher ♦ Shelley Kloba ♦ Doreen Marchione ♦ Toby Nixon

KIRKLAND PARK BOARD

Chair Adam White ♦ Vice Chair Kevin Quille
Jason Chinchilla
Sue Contreras
Kelli Curtis
Rick Ockerman
Jim Popolow
Rosalie Wessels

The Kirkland Park Board meets the 2nd Wednesday of each month at 7 p.m.



CITY STAFF

CITY MANAGER’S OFFICE

Kurt Triplett, City Manager.....587-3001
Marilynne Beard, Deputy City Manager.....587-3008
Tracey Dunlap, Deputy City Manager.....587-3101

PARKS & COMMUNITY SERVICES

Jennifer Schroder, Director.....587-3300

