



**CITY OF KIRKLAND**  
Department of Parks & Community Services  
505 Market Street, Suite A, Kirkland, WA 98033 425.587.3300  
www.kirklandwa.gov

---

## MEMORANDUM

**To:** Kurt Triplett, City Manger

**From:** Jennifer Schroder, Director Parks and Community Services  
Sharon Anderson, Human Services Coordinator  
Dave Wagar, Chair, Kirkland Senior Council

**Date:** September 27, 2012

**Subject:** Kirkland Senior Council Presentation

### RECOMMENDATION:

That City Council receives a presentation from the Kirkland Senior Council on their 10-year accomplishments.

### BACKGROUND DISCUSSION:

Established by the Kirkland City Council on May 21, 2002, the Kirkland Senior Council (KSC) was the first advisory council in the state established by a municipality dedicated solely to senior issues. This year the KSC is celebrating its tenth anniversary. As an advisory group to the City Council, the Senior Council advocate, support, shape and create programs and services that meet the needs of adults age 50+ in the community. KSC is a group of concerned citizens who have dedicated themselves tirelessly to ensuring that Kirkland is, and remains a safe, vibrant community for residents age 50 and older. Its members look forward to continued success in working with and for Kirkland's aging population.

### Accomplishments of KSC over its 10-year history (in the order initiated):

- Worked with King County Elder Abuse Task Force.
- Supported RSVP and other volunteer organizations.
- Sponsored and organized *Baby Boomer and Beyond: A Healthy Living Expo*, 2003, 2004, 2006.
- Encouraged and advised in the formation of the Bellevue Network on Aging (BNOA) with a mission and structure similar to KSC. Promoted similar groups in other Eastside communities.
- Created a volunteer opportunity bulletin board listing community volunteer positions for seniors.
- With the then Community Senior Center Advisory Board proposed a name change from Senior Center to Peter Kirk Community Center.
- Supported the "Sound Steps Walking" program at PKCC, later became "Kirkland Steppers."

- Took part in the city's Street Improvement Regulation Subcommittee, Downtown Action Team, Totem Lake Action Team, and the Juanita Beach Park Master Plan.
- Annually participated in Washington Senior Lobby events and coordinated with Washington AARP to disseminate information about senior issues.
- Co-hosted three legislative forums to discuss various issues important to older adults with state legislators.
- Wrote, produced and distributed locally and nationally six videos:
  - *Aging in Place: Universal Design Standards*
  - *SWAY: How to Influence Your Elected Officials*
  - *Identify, Advocate and Create: How the Senior Council Works for You!*
  - *\*\*Abuse: Elder Neglect and Self-Neglect*
  - *\*\*Excel as a Pedestrian: Streetwise in Kirkland*
  - *Falling into Fitness: How Age-Appropriate Exercise Helps to Prevent Falls*

*\*\* - These two videos won national awards from Pegasus.*
- Conducted a community involvement workshop (2006).
- Published a brochure for seniors wishing to volunteer in the community.
- Supported the Northwest Senior Games Swim Meet in Kirkland (2007, 2008).
- Organized Vial of Life project in collaboration with Evergreen Health. Distributed Vials of Life at every community event where KSC participated.
- Participated in Evergreen Health's Disaster Fair.
- Participated with ARCH and BNOA in a survey of affordable housing for older adults on the Eastside.
- Participated in the Ombudsman Program to provide volunteer help in Kirkland adult family homes.
- Partnering with PKCC, Kirkland Fire Department, Evergreen Health and other organizations, organized a falls prevention fair (2008).
- Published pamphlet on emergency preparedness for older adults.
- Organized *Seniors Are Artists Too!* An annual art fair at Merrill Gardens for artists over 50 (2009-2012).
- Actively participated in the Eastside Easy Rider Collaborative which advocates for and creates programs to older adults and disabled people. Hosted a transportation forum.
- Helped in the creation of an ARCH website section on senior housing decisions and options, including a link to the KSC video "Falling into Fitness".
- Helped design and complete an EERC website, giving an easy link to transportation resources for individuals and organizations.
- Participated in two phases of King County Senior Services "Aging Your Way" initiative to create new programs for older adults.
- Took part in the July 4<sup>th</sup> Parade each year.
- As individual members, attended neighborhood meetings to provide a link between KSC and the community.

**2013 New Event:**

Work in 2012 is laying the groundwork for a special event to promote increased involvement of seniors as volunteers in their community. On April 6, 2013, KSC will conduct *Viva Volunteers!* To be held at the Peter Kirk Community Center. The goal of the fair is to help people become aware of a variety of volunteer opportunities in and around the community. The KSC will then develop a data base of organizations needing volunteers.

**The 2012 members of the Kirkland Senior Council:**

Dave Wagar, Chair	Barbara Flagg	Carolyn Kelso	Betty Stevens
Cherri Hoyden, Vice Chair	Shellie Gehring	Sydne Mack	Jim Templeman
Joan Luster, Co-Secretary	Jim Hall	Art Mussman	Bob Vaughn
Lauren Bolen, Co-Secretary	Sandra Hayes	June Palon	
Diana Bottin	Sheryl Henry	Liz Parks	
Dave Clemons	Penny Kahn	Carolyn Kelso	