



The Official Newsletter of the City of Kirkland, Washington | 2nd Quarter, 2012

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www.kirklandwa.gov



Photo: Jim Eagan

Council Moves on Streets and Parks Ballot Measures

NOVEMBER BALLOT WILL OFFER VOTERS TWO PROPOSITIONS

When funding for Kirkland's network of streets and parks began to erode in 2009, their condition began dwindling as well. The pavement condition index for the City's arterials slipped to 59, 11 points shy of the City Council's goal.

In Kirkland's parks—where budget reductions have cut more than 11,000 labor-hours in the past three years—the evidence was everywhere: too many weeds in the spring, garbage cans that are too full and heavily used parks that were showing wear and tear.

Over the past three years in the face of declining revenue, Kirkland's leaders have searched for ways to protect the City's criti-



Kirkland voters to decide on street improvement and pedestrian safety and parks maintenance, restoration and enhancements measures on November 6 ballot.

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City on Right Track with Cross Kirkland Corridor

Since taking ownership of the [Cross Kirkland Corridor](#) in April, the City is working to immediately improve the usability of the Corridor, drafting the scope of a Master Plan that will guide future development, and is thanking State legislators for helping to secure grants that support the development of an interim multi-use trail.

Within days of acquiring the Corridor, security fences were installed at the Kirkland Way and NE 68th Street overpasses.

This summer, Public Works crews will be improving existing trail crossings on the Corridor aligning with NE 60th Street (Central Houghton Neighborhood), NE 85th Street below the overpass at (Moss Bay Neighborhood) and NE 100th Street near Crestwoods Park (between Highlands and Nor-kirk Neighborhoods).

The City seeks interested neighborhood, business, and community service groups to adopt quarter-mile sections



Seattle skyline can be seen from the Cross Kirkland Corridor near NE 87th Street in the Highlands Neighborhood.

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NEIGHBORHOOD NEWS: Pipe Replacement is Cost Effective, Less Intrusive

CONSTRUCTION TO REPLACE NE 53RD ST. SEWER MAIN PROMPTS TEMPORARY CLOSURE OF 108TH AVE. NE AT NE 53RD ST.

For some homeowners, the phrase “pipe bursting” might bring a visual of water pipes in a basement that have burst due to freezing temperatures. For the Public Works Department, pipe-bursting is a trenchless construction method that is efficient in replacing deteriorating pipe. It’s a technique the City plans to use when replacing the 50+-year old sewer main that runs along NE 53rd Street from the middle of 108th Avenue NE east to the intersection at 111th Avenue NE in the Central Houghton neighborhood.

The planned replacement is expected to begin in August and will replace approximately 850 linear feet of sewer line. Also slated to be replaced are four sewer manholes constructed of brick, one of which is a 25-foot deep, undersized manhole located at 108th Avenue NE. It is anticipated that 108th Avenue NE at NE 53rd Street will be closed for a period of up to two weeks sometime after August 13 to complete the manhole replacement. Once 108th Avenue NE is reopened, construction will continue east of 108th Avenue NE on NE 53rd Street through October with minimal, if any, interruptions of traffic on 108th Avenue NE.

Pipe-bursting is a method of replacing buried pipelines such as sewer, water or natural gas pipes. In simple terms, a mechanical



Top photo: Example of pipe bursting. Bottom photo: Aging, undersized manhole on 108th Avenue NE to be replaced

device proceeds along the pipe and bursts it in place as a first step. Then, a new plastic pipe is inserted into the same alignment, and pulled through between manholes. It is similar to re-threading a string into the hood of a sweatshirt.

Once the new pipe is inserted, connections will be made to sewer manholes as well as any laterals that connect to buildings. This method avoids the need to dig lengthy trenches along a roadway, reduces pavement restoration costs, and minimizes impacts to the traveling public.

Another unique technique to be introduced for this project is the rehabilitation

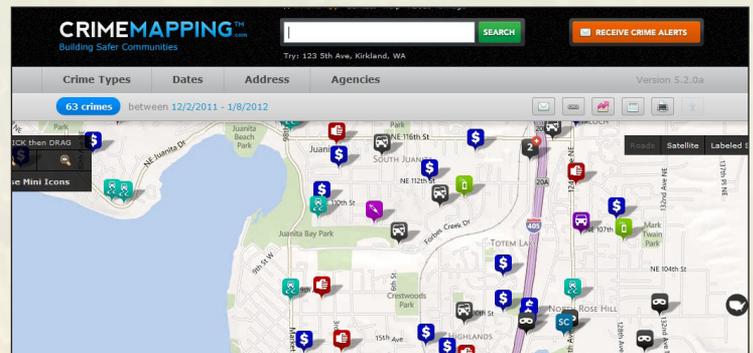


of the manhole at 111th Avenue NE and NE 53rd Street. Sulfuric acid is released from wastewater and reacts not only with the concrete sewer pipes but also the walls within a manhole that have condensation,

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Police Department Introduces Online Crime Mapping Tool

Residents can now search for crime incidents in their neighborhood, near their business, or the school where their children attend. The Kirkland Police Department has launched a new online tool - [Crime Mapping.com](http://CrimeMapping.com)™ - that allows browsers to customize their search by area, date (within the past 180 days), or by crime type. Crime types displayed include arson, assault, burglary, public disturbance, robbery, motor vehicle theft, and various other crimes. In addition to the crime data, browsers can link to crime prevention tips. The online tool will help citizens be more aware of what crime incidents are occurring where they work, live, and play. It is also an analytical tool for the Police Department.





CROSS KIRKLAND CORRIDOR

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of the Corridor and remove litter, vegetation, and other unwanted items. Contact the Public Works Department at 425-587-3900 or pwservice@kirklandwa.gov.

The [Transportation Commission](#) has worked with the Park Board to draft a scope of work for the development of a Master Plan. The Master Plan will provide a framework for realizing the eventual future of the Corridor. It is anticipated that the draft scope will be presented to the City Council in August.

In recent months the City has been working with the Washington State Public Works Board who is serving as the grant administrator for \$2 million Kirkland is receiving to establish an interim trail along the Corridor. In August, the City Council will consider a recommendation to remove the existing rail tracks and ties so that design and construction of a crushed gravel interim trail can begin. As these state funds are to be spent by the end of 2014, it is planned that the rails will be removed in 2013 making way for construction to begin in the spring of 2013 and be completed in early 2014.



Top photo: NE 68th Street Overpass by Lakeview Elementary. Bottom photos: Security fence installed at overpass.



In addition to the state grant, the City awaits a final decision on a \$1+ million federal transportation grant that, if awarded to Kirkland, can also support the construction of an interim gravel trail.

The amount of grant funding does not cover the full estimated cost of \$3.6 million to remove the rails and complete the trail. Funding for the Master Plan (estimated at approximately \$400,000) has not yet been identified.

For more information on the latest with the Corridor, visit www.kirklandwa.gov/crosskirklandcorridor

NE 53RD ST SEWER MAIN REPLACEMENT

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thereby causing erosion and degradation of the manhole. By spraying a concrete substance with an anti-corrosion element on the manhole walls, the life of the manhole can be extended without having to replace the manhole in its entirety. This is an efficient and cost effective means of prolonging infrastructure life. About 25 percent of the City's sewer infrastructure includes pipes that are old and are reaching the end of their design life. Annual efforts at addressing the oldest sewer systems are part of the current capital improvement plan. For more information, go to www.kirklandwa.gov (Search: 53rd Street) or call the project line at 425-587-3838.



Sewer manhole on NE 53rd Street



Potala Village Applicant Proceeds with Environmental Impact Study



The applicant for the proposed mixed-used development, Potala Village, recently initiated the Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) process with the City. In such a process, a third-party consultant conducts the study under the supervision of the City and prepares a draft and final EIS document. The applicant funds the EIS but has no involvement in conducting the study.

An EIS is a document that provides an impartial discussion of significant environmental impacts, reasonable alternatives, and mitigation measures that would avoid or minimize adverse impacts. The Potala Village EIS is being prepared because the City has determined that the proposal has the potential to result in significant adverse impacts.

In 2011, the applicant applied to the City for a Shoreline Permit that proposes a mixed-use development on Lake Street South in the Neighborhood Business Zone. (See "Commercial Code Study" page 5).

In the permit application, the project is shown as a 6,200 square foot commercial development with 143 housing units within a single four-story structure at 30 feet in height above average existing grade and 316 parking stalls.

The Potala Village EIS will address land use patterns (residential density), plans and policies (including environmental clean-up), aesthetics (bulk, height and mass of the building), transportation traffic, neighborhood circulation, parking and safety assessment including pedestrians, and construction impacts. Although threatened and endangered species (bald eagles) are not part of the scope of the environmental analysis, these will be addressed.

A draft EIS is expected in mid-July with a 30-day public comment period in which written comments can be submitted. Additionally, a public hearing will be held to receive written and oral comments. A final EIS is expected in October. Once the EIS is complete the City can make its final determination on the Shoreline Permit application.

For more information, contact Teresa Swan, Planning & Community Development Department at 425-587-3258 or tswan@kirklandwa.gov. To receive email updates, go to www.kirklandwa.gov/e-Bulletins and select "Potala Village Project Update."



Planning Commission Continues Study of Commercial Codes

As part of its City Council-approved Work Plan, the Planning Commission began a study of codes and policies that regulate development in a number of commercial zones.

The goal of the Planning Commission study is to examine how commercial and residential uses are currently regulated and how to best ensure that the Kirkland Zoning Code (KZC) allows for appropriate mixed-use development within these zones. Mixed-use development typically refers to a combination of commercial and residential uses within the same development.

The study includes the Neighborhood Business (BN), Community Business (BC), and similar zones that are intended to provide shops and services to the surrounding neighborhoods. The KZC establishes development standards such as minimum commercial floor area, lot coverage, and building height.

What the code does not currently regulate is maximum residential density – the number of housing units allowed per acre. Within the City's neighborhood business zones, the Planning Commission is considering whether to impose maximum residential density limits and what the appropriate density would be.

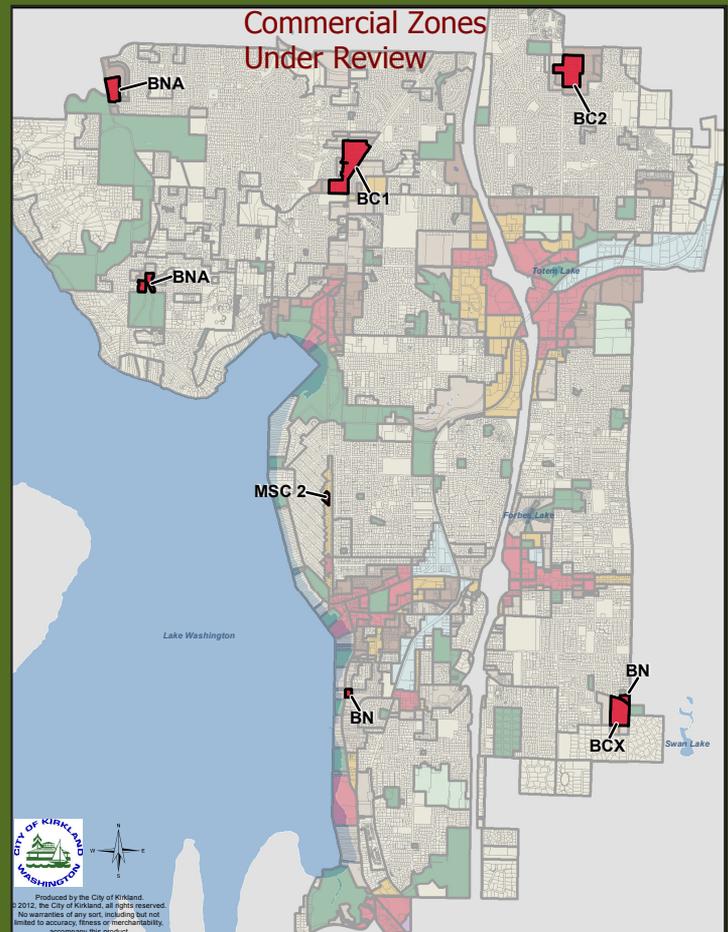
The City's land use policies encourage mixed use development as a means of accommodating growth within areas that are close to shops, services, and transportation choices. City policies also emphasize the importance of retaining the commercial focus of neighborhood districts so residents don't need to travel far to shop for daily needs (like groceries).

Density is of concern to some residents because of a proposed development called Potala Village that is planned to be built on property located on Lake Street South. (See "Potala Village" page 4).

The site is zoned BN and some would like to see the Planning Commission impose a maximum residential density in the commercial codes study to ensure development is compatible with the neighborhood.

A current moratorium on development in BN zones is in effect until November 2012.

There are two BN zones – the Potala Village site and a site in the South Rose Hill Neighborhood at the northwest corner of NE 70th Street and 132nd Avenue NE. The South Roes Hill site contains a small-scale commercial development.



Since the fall of 2011 when City Council enacted the BN Zone development moratorium and then extended it, the Planning Commission has held several study sessions and a public hearing as a means to begin to draft regulations that establish new and amend existing commercial development codes.

It is anticipated that the proposed regulations will be presented to the City Council in August.

For more information, contact Jeremy McMahan, Planning & Community Development Department at 425-587-3229 or jmcmahan@kirklandwa.gov.

Fun Runs, Dog Runs, and Home Runs Make for Summer Fun

With Kirkland's 4th of July community celebration just over, there's a great deal more summer fun planned for July, August and September.

Kirkland's signature events, Kirkland Uncorked (July 20-22), Go Dog, Go! (July 28), Cruise In Dance (July 28), Classic Car Show (July 29), Junior Little League World Series (August 12-18), and Kirkland Triathlon (September 30) return this year.

Summer is host to neighborhood picnics and events, including the Houghton "Hought" Down (September 3) and Denny Fest (September 9).

The North Rose Hill neighborhood will host its picnic on July 21 at Woodlands Park. The Juanita Neighborhood picnic will be held on August 18 at Juanita Beach.

The Highlands and Norkirk Neighborhoods will double the fun at their picnic on August 25 at Crestwoods Park. For event information, visit www.kirklandwa.gov/neighborhoods. Community events are often made possible because of dedicated Kirkland citizens and



businesses who volunteer their time to create the concepts of an event, seek out sponsorships, and coordinate the event. The Kirkland Summer Concert Series (July 10 – August 30), and newcomer Kirkland SummerFest (August 10-11) are such events. SummerFest will showcase art, food, kids activities and Shakespeare in the Park performances.

Also new to the event line-up are the Lady Washington and Hawaiian Chieftain tall ships coming to Carillon Point (August 27) and Marina Park (August 30).

What would summer be without the farmers markets? The Juanita Friday Market (3-7 p.m., Juanita Beach Park) and the Kirkland Wednesday Market (2-7 p.m., Park Lane) will showcase fresh produce, art, and other treasures through mid-October.

To plan your summer social calendar, be sure to subscribe to receive the City's monthly Events Guide via email. Visit www.ExploreKirkland.com to sign up.

City Sees Uptick in Residential Construction

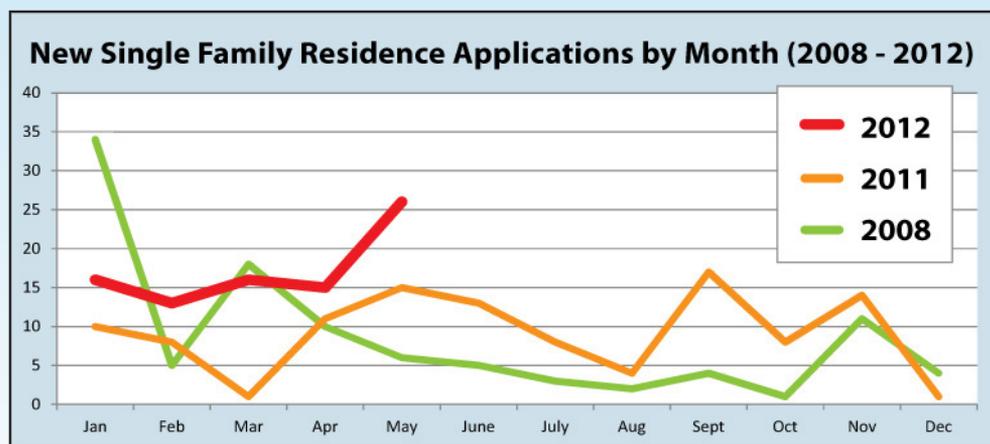
Kirkland's single family housing sector is showing signs of its first sustained rebound, after four years of depressed activity.

Kirkland received 26 applications in May, eight shy of the City's five-year peak. May has been the City's most active month in construction applications since January 2008.

Data from the City of Kirkland indicates the rebound began in January 2012, when the City's building department received 16 applications to build single family homes.

The growth trend has been consistent through May.

Many of the bids are part of larger, ongoing projects, such as the 24-unit development on 4th Avenue South by Camwest and the 51



units Burnstead construction is building on 136th Ave. NE in the Totem Lake neighborhood.

To view active construction permits online, visit www.kirklandwa.gov and search "Development Services."



BALLOT MEASURES; November Election

Continued from Page 1

cal public safety services but were challenged in be able to preserve its streets and parks at the same time. On July 3, after several rounds of surveys and meetings, committees and recommendations, the Kirkland City Council agreed on preliminary solutions for both: Ballot measures that entrusts two of Kirkland's more fundamental assets to its citizens.

Last year citizens approached the City Council about a parks levy and in response the Council created the [Park Funding Exploratory Committee \(PFEC\)](#).

PFEC members represented Kirkland's neighborhoods, businesses, educational institutions, sports, and civic interests.

Earlier this year, the PFEC recommended to the Council that it place an ongoing levy on the ballot to maintain, repair and enhance Kirkland's park system

In the biennial community survey conducted

in February, residents identified street maintenance and repair as a service of high importance to them, but one that wasn't being performed at a satisfactory level.

Residents also indicated support in the survey for a tax measure aimed at repairing the City's streets.

The street improvement and pedestrian safety measure would raise \$3 million a year to repair streets, build sidewalks to schools along streets that have none and make crosswalks safer and more accessible.

Kirkland would restripe 230 crosswalks throughout the City and upgrade 50 of its busiest ones with visible and energy-efficient warning lights. But the bulk of the levy would be invested in repairing and maintaining the City's streets.

The levy will allow the City to improve street surfaces to a condition that would cost the

City roughly \$1,700 a block to repair, as opposed to the \$16,000 per block it would cost if citizens allow their streets to continue to degrade. With the annual \$3 million levy, Kirkland's public works department could resurface, restore or replace roughly 90 lane-miles of arterial streets and prevent further damage to 650 lane miles of local and neighborhood streets.

To achieve this, citizens would need to approve a property tax increase of 20 cents per \$1,000 of assessed value. For a single family home in Kirkland (median value of \$346,000), that would be about \$71 a year.

The parks maintenance, restoration, and enhancement measure asks citizens to fund a \$2.3 million permanent, annual levy that would put lifeguards back on City beaches and work crews back in City parks.

More than half of the annual levy would renovate and enhance Kirkland's park assets, such as City docks and shorelines, the Juanita Beach Park bathhouse and neighborhood parks, and transform the 5.75 miles of rail corridor into a walking corridor.

To achieve this goal, citizens would need to increase their property tax rate by 16 cents per \$1,000 in assessed value. For single family home in Kirkland (median value of \$346,000) that is about \$56 a year.

Before citizens get the opportunity to vote, however, they'll first have the opportunity to speak at two public hearings on July 17. Following the hearings the City Council will discuss and then decide on the final language for the ballot measures.

The Council will also appoint members to the "pro" and "con" committees that will be responsible for writing voter pamphlet statements for each ballot measure.



Boat noise ordinance now in effect

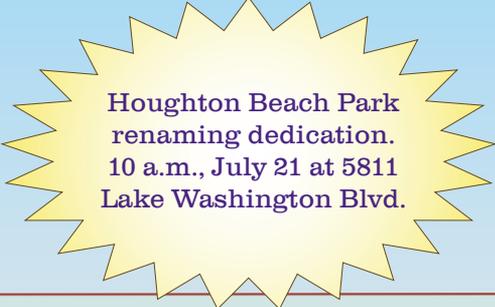
The Kirkland Police Department and King County Sheriff's Office Marine Unit ask for your cooperation in complying with the new public disturbance regulations that apply to watercraft (Kirkland Municipal Code 11.84A.070). Prohibited noise

includes frequent, repetitive or continuous sounds from a horn or siren; excessive engine noise; and audio sound system noise audible from 300 feet or more. Please be considerate of your boating and land neighbors. www.kirklandwa.gov/watercraftsafety



KIRKLAND CITY UPDATE

123 5th Avenue
Kirkland, WA 98033
www.kirklandwa.gov



**Houghton Beach Park
renaming dedication.
10 a.m., July 21 at 5811
Lake Washington Blvd.**

MONTHLY CITY MEETINGS

MONDAY

Design Review Board* 1st & 3rd Monday · 7 p.m.
Youth Council* 2nd & 4th Monday · 6:45-8:30 p.m.
Houghton Community Council* 4th Monday · 7 p.m. (Agenda/Packet online)

TUESDAY

City Council* 1st & 3rd Tuesday; Study Session · 6 p.m.
Regular Meeting · 7:30 p.m. (Agenda/Packet online)
Civil Service Commission* 2nd Tuesday · 4 p.m.
Senior Council 2nd Tuesday · 5:30 p.m. (Peter Kirk Community Center)

WEDNESDAY

Park Board* 2nd Wednesday · 7 p.m.
Transportation Commission* 4th Wednesday · 6 p.m. (Agenda Packet Online)
Library Board 3rd Wednesday · 6 p.m. (Alternates between
Kirkland and Kingsgate Libraries)
Cultural Council* 3rd Wednesday · 4 p.m.

THURSDAY

Parking Advisory Board* 1st Thursday · 7:30-9:30 a.m.
Tourism Development Committee* 1st Thursday · 9-10 a.m.
Planning Commission* 2nd & 4th Thursday · 7 p.m. (Agenda Packet Online)

MEETS AS NEEDED

Human Services
Advisory Committee Call: 425-587-3322
Neighborhood Association meeting information:
www.kirklandwa.gov/neighborhoods.

* Meetings held at Kirkland City Hall, 123 5th Avenue

- Special meetings may be scheduled; regular meetings may be cancelled.
- Agenda/Packets are posted to the City's website at www.kirklandwa.gov. Search the name of the board/commission.

IMPORTANT CITY PHONE NUMBERS

Kirkland City Hall

123 5th Avenue, Kirkland, WA 98033 425-587-3000

City Council & City Manager's Office 425-587-3001
City Clerk's Office/Public Records 425-587-3190
Building Department 425-587-3600
24-Hour Inspection Request Line 425-587-3605
Fire Prevention 425-587-3650
Planning & Community Development 425-587-3225
Public Works Department 425-587-3800
24-Hour Inspection Request Line 425-587-3805
Finance & Administration 425-587-3100
Business License 425-587-3140
Utility Billing 425-587-3150
Human Resources 425-587-3210
(505 Market Street, Kirkland)
Municipal Court 425-587-3160
(11515 NE 118th Street, Kirkland)
Parks & Community Service 425-587-3300
North Kirkland Community Center 425-587-3350
Peter Kirk Community Center 425-587-3360

Parks Maintenance 425-587-3349
Public Works Maintenance (24 Hour) 425-587-3900

Other Numbers to Know

Animal Control (King County) 206-296-7387
Cable TV Comcast: 1-800-266-2278
Frontier Communications: 1-877-462-8188
Electric/Gas: Puget Sound Energy 1-888-225-5773
Garbage/Recycling: Waste Management, Inc. 1-800-592-9995
Phone Service Comcast: 1-800-266-2278
Frontier Communications: 1-877-462-8188
Qwest: 1-800-475-7526
School District: Lake Washington School District 425-702-3200
Transit King County Metro 1-800-542-7876
Sound Transit 1-800-201-4900
Vehicle Registration: Washington State
Dept. of Licensing, Kirkland Office 425-828-4661
Voter Registration: King County Elections 206-296-8683

**For Police, Fire & Medical Emergencies..... Call 9-1-1
Police Non-Emergency..... 425-587-3400**