After a day of working in late July’s heat, construction workers from Synergy Construction tidy up the pavilion’s courtyard at Juanita Beach Park. Synergy Construction has been renovating park since mid-January with a pair of picnic pavilions, a bathhouse and a new all-ages-and-all-abilities playground that will feature a new swingset. The contractor expects to complete the renovation by the end of summer.

**Visions take shape—cautiously**

Safe practices protect work crews, public from COVID-19

 Kirkland’s decision to proceed—cautiously—with essential improvement projects during COVID-19’s emergence into public life seems to have paid off.

Contracted crews are nearing completion on several essential projects throughout the City, including reconstruction of the Totem Lake Boulevard’s corridor and Juanita Beach Park’s new picnic pavilions, bathhouse and playground, pictured here.

“Providing essential services and protecting the public’s health are two of our most basic responsibilities. COVID-19 has required us to be extremely conscientious to accomplish both. We are demonstrating we can continue to make progress on our projects and protect public health when our workers adopt safe practices.”

As directed by Gov. Jay Inslee’s May 31 Safe Start Plan, the Occupational Safety and Health Administration’ established those safe practices this spring. The Occupational Safety and Health Administration has been regularly inspecting crews for compliance ever since.
Kirkland, city-wide (not mapped)

Intelligent Transportation Systems Phase III

The City of Kirkland is launching an ambitious project this fall that will strengthen the invisible hand of the technology the City uses to maximize traffic flow.

Many of the upgrades will make Kirkland’s traffic signals more resilient to failure and more responsive to changing traffic conditions, as well as to people, who are riding bicycles and buses.

“This project will improve the speed and reliability of transit by implementing transit signal priority,” said Joel Pfundt, Kirkland’s transportation manager. This allows the bus to communicate with the traffic signal. “If the bus is behind schedule and the light is about to turn red, the technology extends the green by a few seconds, which will allow the bus to get through and get on schedule,” Pfundt said.

And by limiting those extensions to a few seconds, it will achieve this without disrupting the traffic signal’s normal cycle.

“It won’t do pre-emption, which is what fire engines do,” Pfundt said. “It’s much smarter than that.”

Visit www.kirklandwa.gov/its or contact Transportation Manager Joel Pfundt at jpfundt@kirklandwa.gov, (425) 587-3865.

Houghton, Finn Hill, Juanita, Kingsgate, Lakeview, Norkirk, North Rose Hill

Neighborhood Safety Program

The seven neighborhood safety program projects proposed and approved by a panel of residents and City staff in 2019 should be complete by the end of summer. Those projects are summarized below.

Central Houghton: rapid flashing beacon on 108th Avenue Northeast, at Northeast 46th Street

Finn Hill: sidewalk at Northeast 134th Street and 87th Avenue Northeast

Juanita: walkway on Northeast 120th Street, from 93rd Place Northeast to 96th Avenue Northeast

Kingsgate: rapid flashing beacon on Northeast 132nd Street’s intersection with 129th Place Northeast

Lakeview: crosswalk on Lakeview Drive, north of Northeast 64th Street

Norkirk: new turn lane, stop sign and bump-out on Northeast 87th Street’s intersection with 114th Avenue Northeast

North Rose Hill: Traffic island on Slater Avenue Northeast, at Northeast 119th Street

Visit www.kirklandwa.gov/nsp or contact Project Engineer Marius Eugenio, Jr. at meugenio@kirklandwa.gov, (425) 587-3872.
Juanita & Finn Hill

Fire Station 24

A Kirkland contractor begins in September the one-year process of building Fire Station 24’s 11,975 square-foot facility just west of Northeast 132nd Street’s intersection with 100th Avenue Northeast.

To make room for the new fire station, Kirkland removed in June the Rite Aid building that had previously occupied the parcel.

The City purchased the parcel in 2019 to build a fire station that would reduce the time it takes firefighters to reach residents who are experiencing emergencies.

It’s part of a citywide effort to reduce firefighters’ response times and ensure fire stations are sustainable, durable, and provide healthier living spaces for firefighters.

Like Finn Hill's renovated Fire Station 25, Fire Station 24 will be able to better withstand earthquakes. It will be energy-efficient and it will improve firefighters' workplace health by separating the decontamination area and engine bay from the places where firefighters work and live. Visit www.kirklandwa.gov/firestation24 or contact Senior Project Engineer Anneke Davis at adavis@kirklandwa.gov, (425) 587-3828.

North & South Rose Hill

Neighborhood Greenways

A Kirkland contractor will begin establishing a variety of features in November along Northeast 75th Street and 128th Avenue Northeast that will transform the two residential streets into Kirkland’s first neighborhood greenways.

The City will add rapid flashing beacons, 20-mile-per-hour speed-limit signs and other devices to slow traffic. The project earned a $692,000 state grant in 2019 that will pay for several of its features, including an elevated intersection between Holy Family Catholic Parish and Lake Washington High School. Greenways are connective corridors, where walking and bicycling are the primary forms of transportation. Visit kirklandwa.gov/greenways or contact Project Engineer Laura Drake, ldrake@kirklandwa.gov, (425) 587-3833.

Finn Hill and Norkirk

Street Preservation

The City of Kirkland is planning to repave sections of three streets this summer in Finn Hill, and Norkirk. Kirkland will pave Finn Hill’s Northeast 132nd Street, from 80th Avenue to Juanita Drive and 84th Avenue Northeast, from Northeast 124th Street to Northeast 132nd Street. In Norkirk, the City is planning to pave Market Street, from Central Way to 16th Avenue. To help Kirkland prepare for Market Street’s overlay, Puget Sound Energy is upgrading its electrical power system along Market Street. Visit www.kirklandwa.gov/streetpreservation or contact Streets Engineer George Minassian, gminassian@kirklandwa.gov, (425) 587-3829.

Central Houghton

108th Avenue Northeast Water & Sewer Main

Progress continues on an ambitious upgrade to an aging water and sewer main along 108th Avenue Northeast. Marshbank Construction, Kirkland’s contractor, expects to finish the project by the end of January.

Marshbank is replacing the two systems—both more than five decades old—to increase their capacities to serve
Kirkland’s residents articulated their vision for a walkable, vibrant and green City during the 2012 Comprehensive Planning process. Since then, Kirkland’s Capital Improvement Program has been busy laying the groundwork for that vision. This map illustrates the location of Kirkland’s ongoing public infrastructure projects in 2020.
The letters in this map correspond to project descriptions within this document.
Kirkland’s growing population and to reduce the systems’ needs for maintenance.

That need is most urgent in the sewer line, which runs from Northeast 68th Street to Northeast 53rd Street. Settling soil has created a sag in the sewer line, allowing sewage to accumulate there and requiring maintenance crews to periodically flush the line. Kirkland is also replacing the water main between Northeast 68th and 60th streets. Visit www.kirklandwa.gov/108thavewatersewer or contact Project Engineer Patrick Herbig at pherbig@kirklandwa.gov, (425) 587-3841.

**Everest**

**Cross Kirkland Corridor Pavilion**

Construction begins fall 2020 on a 576-square-foot pavilion near the Cross Kirkland Corridor’s intersection with Kirkland Avenue. The pavilion, inspired by the old railroad depot that once stood there, will provide a respite for travelers along the Cross Kirkland Corridor as well as a bus shelter for the school children who wait there. Visit www.kirklandwa.gov/ckc or contact Project Coordinator Hunter Richards at hrichards@kirklandwa.gov, (425) 587-3244.

**Juanita**

**Juanita Beach Bathhouse**

Kirkland’s leaders expect to open Juanita Beach Park’s new bathhouse, playground and picnic pavilions to the community by the end of summer.

Most of the park’s 22 acres remain open to the public, including its beach and dock.

The new bathhouse’s location will maximize westward views of Lake Washington. Its restrooms will be open year-round. And the bathhouse will increase space for concessions and lifeguards. The new playground will be accessible to people of all abilities.

Visit www.kirklandwa.gov/juanitabeach or contact Senior Project Engineer Anneke Davis, adavis@kirklandwa.gov, (425) 587-3828.

**100th Avenue Northeast Roadway Improvements**

A short section of 100th Avenue Northeast will close just south of its intersection with Simonds Road for three weeks, starting July 22.

The all-day, all-night closure allows Kirkland’s contractor to replace the three-decade-old Cedar Creek culvert with a new 10-foot-wide, by eight-foot-tall concrete box culvert.

The new culvert will open nearly a mile of upstream habitat to trout, Coho and other salmon. It will also provide enough space for the 100th Avenue Northeast Roadway Improvement Project.

This future project will add two more automobile lanes, sidewalks and sidewalk-level bicycle lanes on both sides of the street between Northeast 139th and 145th streets.

The City is strongly encouraging commuters to use the official detour route—Northeast 145th Street, Juanita-Woodinville Road—while 100th Avenue Northeast is closed.

Kirkland is promoting the detour route on the electronic reader boards, in the project flyer and on a pair of community signs its staff installed at the project’s limits. Visit www.kirklandwa.gov/100thavedesign or contact Project Engineer Debbie Cook, dcook@kirklandwa.gov, (505) 803-0140.

**Northeast 132nd Street Signals (at Juanita High School and 108th Avenue Northeast)**

To improve traffic flow along Northeast 132nd Street at 108th Avenue Northeast and at the entrance to Juanita High School, the City of Kirkland is building a pair of right turn-lanes. Project engineers expect to begin construction in summer. To create the space for the turn-lane at Juanita High School, the City will have to construct a 20-foot-high wall that will support the street’s embankment. Visit www.kirklandwa.gov/132ndstreetturnlanes or contact Project Engineer Laura Drake, ldrake@kirklandwa.gov, (425) 587-3833.

**Kingsgate**

**132nd Square Park Master Plan and Stormwater Detention**

The 132nd Square Park Master Plan that the Kirkland City Council approved in November 2019 will become a construction project at the beginning of 2021. Among other improvements, the project will replace the southern-most soccer field’s grassy—and frequently muddy—surface with a synthetic turf surface that will be playable all year, including during wet weather.

To save costs, Kirkland’s leaders are timing the park renovation project with the installation of a stormwater system beneath the park’s soccer field. The stormwater system will consolidate and treat stormwater run-off from the surrounding 17.5 acres. Visit www.kirklandwa.gov/132ndsquarepark or contact Senior Project Coordinator Brian Baker, bbaker@kirklandwa.gov, (425) 587-3874.

**136th Avenue Northeast and Northeast 132nd Street**

Kirkland’s contractor expects to complete in July a project that will improve walking, bicycling and driving through Northeast 132nd Street’s intersection with 136th Avenue Northeast.
To the intersection, Forma Construction will add a turn-pocket, a pair of bike lanes, a section of sidewalk and a bulbout, which will narrow pedestrians’ crossing distance from one side of 136th Avenue Northeast to the other.

This will create better access for the nearby neighborhoods. Visit www.kirklandwa.gov/132ndstimprovements or contact Project Engineer Scott Gonsar, sgonsar@kirklandwa.gov, (425) 587-3830.

**Market**

**Rose Point Lift Station Replacement**

The replacement of an aging sanitary-sewer lift station in the Market neighborhood should be complete by May 2021. Kirkland is replacing the Rose Point lift station—one of the City’s oldest sewage pump stations—with a 300 square-foot facility that will feature a new wet- and dry-well. The Rose Point Lift Station pumps sewage from 57 homes in the Market neighborhood. Visit www.kirklandwa.gov/rosepointlifstation or contact Project Coordinator Hunter Richards, hrichards@kirklandwa.gov, (425) 587-3244.

**Moss Bay**

**Kirkland Avenue and Lake Street Pedestrian Scramble**

Design begins in July on a project that will transform one of downtown Kirkland’s busiest intersections into a space that alternates between a pedestrian plaza for people who are walking and a signalized intersection for people who are driving. Using traffic signals to hold automotive traffic at all of the intersection’s four legs, people will be able to walk across the intersection in all directions when the pedestrian phase is active.

The project will also elevate the intersection to make people more visible while they are walking.

The scramble will enhance what is already a popular walking route between downtown and Marina Park and extend the pedestrian-friendly feel of Park Lane toward the lake.

The City of Kirkland in 2019 earned $1.5 million in state and federal money to create the so-called pedestrian scramble at Lake Street’s intersection with Kirkland Avenue. Visit www.kirklandwa.gov/pedestrianscramble or call Project Engineer Laura Drake, ldrake@kirklandwa.gov, (425) 587-3833.

**North Rose Drake**

**Fire Training Simulator**

The City of Kirkland is staging a training facility this summer at Fire Station 26 to give its firefighters a controlled environment in which to train for structural firefighting. The two-story ‘building’—constructed with shipping containers—will feature props for firefighters to practice fundamental skills of fire control, such as cutting vent holes in the ceiling to relieve trapped gasses and forcibly entering a burn room through a doorway.

The simulator will also test firefighters with a variety of room layouts

“It’s essentially a bunch of Conex boxes that are changeable,” said Kirkland Fire Chief Joe Sanford. “We can modify the simula-

**116th Avenue Northeast & Northeast 124th Street**

The key to shorter wait times at the southbound leg of 116th Avenue Northeast’s intersection with Northeast 124th Street is a dedicated right-turn lane for drivers intending to head west on Northeast 124th Street. Acquiring the space to create that 200-foot turn-lane is one part of a design project aimed at improving the intersection’s traffic flow.

The project will also upgrade the traffic signal technology and create a sidewalk on the southeast side of 116th Avenue Northeast with a planter strip. Project engineers expect construction to begin fall 2020 and to be complete by the following summer. Visit www.kirklandwa.gov/116thtavenueturnlane or contact Project Engineer Catherine Okamura, cokamura@kirklandwa.gov, (425) 587-3832.

**Totem Lake Gateway Roadway Repair**

Construction continues until mid-October on a series
The transformation of Totem Lake Park into a regional destination began in April. Throughout the next year, contracted crews will build restrooms, picnic areas, boardwalks that connect to the Cross Kirkland Corridor and a playground that is accessible to all abilities.

of improvements to Totem Lake Boulevard, Totem Lake Way and 120th Avenue Northeast.

Marshbank Construction is restoring sections of Totem Lake Boulevard, repaving Totem Lake Boulevard between Northeast 128th and 120th avenues northeast and establishing wide sidewalks and street lights that will complement the Village at Totem Lake’s plazas and walkways.

The most intensive area of work is on Totem Lake Boulevard, just south of Totem Lake Park. There, crews are building a retaining wall, rebuilding sections of the roadway, and building 900 feet of 10-foot-wide sidewalk.

Kirkland is also building a stormwater system that will direct stormwater runoff into Totem Lake and away from the roadway near Comfort Inn. Visit www.kirklandwa.gov/totemlakegateway or contact Project Engineer Patrick Herbig, (425) 587-3841, pherbig@kirklandwa.gov.

Totem Lake Park

The City of Kirkland expects by summer 2021 to have completed Totem Lake Park’s first phase of renovation. The City is building a restroom, picnic and play areas, as well as a 10-foot-wide boardwalk that will connect the park to the Cross Kirkland Corridor. Visit www.kirklandwa.gov/totemlakepark or contact: Senior Project Coordinator Brian Baker, bbaker@kirklandwa.gov, (425) 587-3874.

Willows Road Regional Trail Connection

The City of Kirkland expects to begin construction in July on a multi-use trail that will connect the Eastside Rail Corridor to the Redmond Central Connector, via Willows Road or Northeast 124th Street. The connection narrows the gap in a developing trail network that will extend south along the Cross Kirkland Corridor and King County’s Eastside Rail Corridor Trail to Renton and northwest along the Sammamish River Trail to the Burke-Gilman Trail in Seattle.

Visit www.kirklandwa.gov/totemlakeconnector or contact Project Engineer Marius Eugenio, Jr., meugenio@kirklandwa.gov, (425) 587-3872.

Northeast 124th Street/113th Avenue Northeast Crosswalk

Traffic engineers will assemble this fall to determine how the City can create a safer, more efficient crosswalk at 113th Avenue Northeast and Northeast 124th Street, which crosses from the Olive Garden’s parking lot to The Courtyard at the Marriott.

Kirkland’s staff and consulting engineers will consider a variety of solutions, including a reconfiguration of the existing traffic signal and modifying the left turn phase for automobiles. Visit www.kirklandwa.gov/113thstreetcrosswalk or contact Project Engineer Marius Eugenio, Jr., meugenio@kirklandwa.gov, (425) 587-3872.