

City Update



The Official Newsletter of the City of Kirkland, Washington | 1st Quarter, 2014

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KIRKLAND MAPS PORTAL

www.kirklandwa.gov

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Photo: Jim Eagan

Neighborhood and city leaders connect to reenergize

Pilot Neighborhood Safety Program to evaluate projects in Juanita, Finn Hill and Kingsgate Neighborhoods

After months of brainstorming, information sharing, and collaboration, there is a renewed feeling of energy among members of the Kirkland Alliance of Neighborhoods (KAN), City Council, and residents. KAN has adopted a new Mission Statement. More residents have been participating in planning for Kirkland's future. City Council members participate in KAN meetings and will host citywide Town Hall meetings. And a pilot Neighborhood Safety Program, approved by the City Council, is about to be implemented.

When the City Council adopted its 2013-2014 Work Program, it sought to "reenergize neighborhoods through partnerships on capital projects implementation and plans while clarifying neighborhood roles in future planning and transportation efforts to further the goals of neighborhoods."

The renewed focus was requested by neighborhood leaders who reported a drop in participation in neighborhood activities and perceived fading of the value of neighborhood associations over the last few years.

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New Mission Statement of the Kirkland Alliance of Neighborhoods

The Kirkland Alliance of Neighborhoods (KAN) is a coalition of the City's neighborhood associations. KAN fosters communication and awareness of issues affecting the neighborhoods among the Neighborhood Associations, the City and appropriate entities. KAN is an effective, collegial voice for the neighborhoods and a valued resource for the City.

Council acts to preserve future transportation funding option

To help preserve Kirkland's ability to enact future transportation funding, the City Council approved a Transportation Benefit District (TBD). A TBD is primarily a financing tool for cities, towns, and counties to pay for transportation improvements including streets, sidewalks, bicycle paths and pedestrian safety improvements. A TBD provides a variety of funding options; several requiring voter approval. The City Council's creation of a TBD in February 2014 did not enact any funding options at that time.

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TBD funding could support street, sidewalk, bicycle paths, and pedestrian safety improvements.



City continues to explore feasibility to replace Juanita High School pool

Park Board recommends North Kirkland Community Center as preferred site



Two public meetings were held in February to receive input on sites and uses for a recreation/aquatic facility.

Following the announcement in late summer 2013 by the Lake Washington School District (LWSD) that the pool at Juanita High School is nearing its useful life and may close as early as 2017, the City Council resolved to seek partners in exploring options to replace the pool. Staff from the Parks & Community Services (PCS) Department and a consultant evaluated several parcels within Kirkland city limits. In January, the City Council sought further analysis of Juanita Beach Park (north side), North Kirkland Community Center, and South Norway Hill Park. To receive input on a replacement facility, residents had the opportunity to give input on sites and uses at public meetings, through an online survey and by participating in a telephone survey.

Survey results were presented to the Park Board which is making the recommendation to the City Council that the North Kirkland Community Center as the preferred site for a combined recreation and aquatics facility with a 50-meter pool. The City Council will consider the Park Board recommendation at its April 1 meeting. For project updates, go to www.kirklandwa.gov and search "Aquatic Center Partnership Project" or contact Jennifer Schroder, Director, PCS Department at 425-587-3301 or jschroder@kirklandwa.gov.

Transportation funding option

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The City Council's legislative action was in response to citizen input received through the [Kirkland 2035](#) campaign that reflects the desire for the City to invest in transportation improvements that keep Kirkland walkable, accessible, and connected.

The City Council's action came as a result of the Metropolitan King County Council announcing it would consider placing a county-wide TBD on the April 22 special election ballot. The County Council approved the formation of a county-wide TBD and adopted a resolution placing the TBD on the ballot. For ballot information, go to www.kingcounty.gov/elections.



Check out the project website to learn the official name of the building as approved by the City Council: www.kirklandwa.gov/publicsafetybuilding.



Comprehensive Plan Update: Draft Vision Statement and Guiding Principles emerge from civic engagement

Next steps: Review of Element Chapters of the Plan

Draft Vision Statement (As of 03/18/2014)

Kirkland



is one of the most livable cities in America. We are a vibrant, attractive, green and welcoming place to live, work and play. Civic engagement, innovation and diversity are highly valued. We are respectful, fair, and inclusive. We honor our rich heritage while embracing the future. Safe, walkable, bikeable and friendly neighborhoods are connected to each other and to thriving mixed use activity centers, schools, parks and our scenic waterfront. Convenient transit service provides a viable alternative to driving. Diverse and affordable housing is available throughout the city. Kirkland strives to be a model, sustainable city that values preserving and enhancing our natural environment for our enjoyment and future generations.

Draft Guiding Principles (to replace Framework Goals)

Livable

Quality of life: safe and well-maintained neighborhoods with convenient access to parks, recreational facilities, the waterfront, community gathering places, excellent schools, and nearby services.

Diverse and Affordable: neighborhoods containing homes and businesses for a variety of incomes, ages and life styles.

Community Design: High quality and attractive architectural design and landscaping, and preservation of historic buildings and sites.

Sustainable

Ecological: natural systems and built structures that protect and enhance habitats, create a healthy environment, address climate change and promote energy efficiency.

Economic: a vibrant economy offering choices in living wage jobs, businesses, services and entertainment throughout the community.

Social: health and human services that fulfill the basic needs of all people without regard to income, age, race, gender or ability.

Connected

Sense of Community: community involvement in government, schools, civic events and volunteer activities creating a sense of belonging through shared values.

Accessible: safe, well maintained and extensive systems of roads, bicycle routes, pedestrian paths, and transit corridors for all users that interconnect neighborhoods and connect to the region.

Technology: reliable, efficient and complete systems for residents and businesses to be connected, informed and involved.

www.kirklandwa.gov/kirkland2035

More than 700 residents, business representatives, and community members have engaged in the “Kirkland 2035: Your Voice. Your Vision. Your Future.” campaign since its launch in February 2013. Citizens have attended workshops, open houses, and neighborhood meetings to give input. Many have participated in online and phone surveys, attended Community Planning Days, and sent correspondence and addressed city leaders at public meetings.

For the Comprehensive Plan Update, this civic engagement brought about an updated Vision Statement (see inset to the left) and new Guiding Principles. These documents emerged from visioning exercises where participants were asked to describe Kirkland in the year 2035 using only one word and responses to topic questions posed during group discussions.

The draft Guiding Principles form the overarching goals and policies for each Element Chapter of the Comprehensive Plan. In the coming months, the Planning Commission will review the Chapters, including Land Use and Transportation Elements. For Commission meeting schedules and to receive agendas via email, go to www.kirklandwa.gov and search “Planning Commission.”



Community Future Day

Learn how your ideas are part of long-range plans for Kirkland's future and help prioritize future transportation, parks, and water quality projects.

Walkable

Vibrant

Green

Sustainable

Livable

Accessible

Healthy

Progressive

Connected

Waterfront

Urban

Unique

Small

Natural

Community

Beautiful

Healthy

Friendly

Sustainable

Natural

Small

Healthy

Friendly

Symposium showcases advanced transportation systems

More than 130 participants got to look into the not so distant future by attending the [Advanced Transportation Symposium: 21st Century Suburban Mobility Solutions](#) hosted by city leaders. The purpose of the symposium was to bring together government and private sector transportation interests to share their knowledge about advanced transit options that are being developed and implemented throughout the world. These applications which are currently deployed in cities, airports, and on college campuses could be adapted to connect the 'first and last mile,' linking suburban business and residential districts to high capacity transit hubs.

The day's presentations and discussions focused on the potential of deploying small-scale transit as an interim use on the [Cross Kirkland Corridor](#) (e.g. ahead of light rail service) or possibly on the entire 42-mile Eastside Rail Corridor. Participants received briefings on the current status of transportation and high capacity transit programs and plans from state and regional representa-



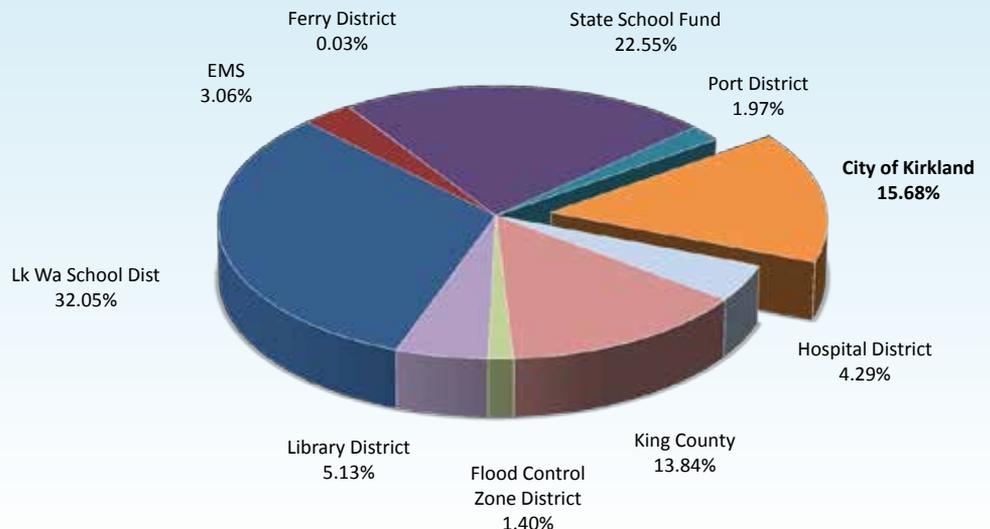
tives. [Panelists](#) described various types of advanced transit. Models included manually operated and automated vehicles running on tires, rail, guide way, and cable. Proponents note that these advanced technologies are energy-efficient, less costly to build and operate than traditional transit, with designs that scale to people and neighborhoods.

To view the speaker biographies, presentations and [to video stream the event](#), go to www.kirklandwa.gov/crosskirklandcorridor.

A Bit About Your Property Taxes and Assessed Value

- Your property's Assessed Value is determined by the King County Assessor's Office (www.kingcounty.gov/assessor)
- Assessed Value is based on the assessor's appraisal of your real and personal property at 100% of its true and fair market value
- There are ten (10) taxing districts on your property tax bill.
- The City of Kirkland represents approximately 16% of your total property tax bill.
- Legislative property tax limitations restrict annual increases to existing property tax revenues to 1%.
- The chart (right inset) shows the most common rate in Kirkland. Your rate may vary based upon where your property is located.

**City of Kirkland 2014 Property Tax Distribution
(Total \$10.95 / \$1,000 AV)**





New road extension on NE 120th Street to shorten commute distance and wait time

City to build first new road in over 20 years

The average wait for a car stopped at the intersection of NE 116th Street and 124th Avenue NE lasts a minute and 23 seconds. That, according to the City of Kirkland's transportation policies, is nearing failure.

But it could get worse. To understand how much worse, transportation engineers created a model more than a decade ago to calculate what the wait time would be at the same intersection in the year 2022. The average wait time, the engineers discovered, would quadruple - to more than four minutes.

The solution is to build a new road extension - with bike lanes and sidewalks - that will connect NE 120th Street to 124th Avenue NE.

Aside from providing a more direct option for drivers heading to the I-405 freeway from 132nd Avenue NE, as well as drivers heading east to the Lake Washington Institute of Technology, the new road extension will ease pressure primarily at four nearby intersections and cut their average wait times in half, from a combined nine and a half minutes to a combined four-and-a-half minutes. And it'll do it by reducing the number of 'competing movements' commuters face at the four intersections. The result for drivers is less time in traffic.

At the intersection of 124th Avenue NE and NE 124th Street, for example, the road extension will cut 50 seconds from the 140-second wait traffic engineers expect by the year 2022. The biggest beneficiary, however, is the intersection of NE 116th Street and 124th Avenue, where traffic would be waiting for more than four minutes on average - if not for the road extension. That's three times longer than the current wait.



For project information and to receive updates via email, go to www.kirklandwa.gov and search NE 120th Street Extension.

The NE 120th Avenue extension will be the first new road the City has built in 21 years and will require seven and-a-half months, starting late this winter. But the City has been planning for these 880 feet of additional roadway since 1997. It's been working on the design and property acquisitions since 2007.

Kirkland Maps portal makes property searches fast and easy

Finding property, zoning, and utility information is a snap these days with a new GIS map portal. Kirkland Maps - <http://maps.kirklandwa.gov> - has interactive features that let you search by address or parcel number to find base maps, zoning and land use information, past and current development permits and environmentally sensitive areas. You can create a property report, print out maps, and link to MyBuildingPermit.com online permitting portal and to the City's utility payment web site.



What you can find on <http://maps.kirklandwa.gov>

- Street, topography, zoning maps
- Property information
- Permit history
- Parks, bus stops, fire station locations
- Transit and Kirkland snow/ice priority routes
- 2010 Census block, voting district and garbage/recycling collection information

Mobile application is coming soon.

KIRKLAND CITY UPDATE

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



Community Future Day
April 26
details inside

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 Arts Commission* 3rd Wednesday · 4 p.m.

THURSDAY

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
Fire Prevention 425-587-3650
Planning & Community Development 425-587-3225
Public Works Department 425-587-3800
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

For Police, Fire & Medical Emergencies..... Call 9-1-1

Police Non-Emergency.....425-587-3400

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, contact Kari Page, Title VI Coordinator at 425-587-3011 or titlevi coordinator@kirklandwa.gov.