

# KIRKLAND

# City Update



The Official Newsletter of the City of Kirkland, Washington | 4th Quarter, 2014

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## City Council adopts “decisive, responsive” Budget for 2015 - 2016; AAA credit rating affirmed by Standard & Poor’s

After a series of public hearings and study sessions, the City Council unanimously approved the City’s two-year budget for 2015-2016. The Budget is built around the themes of “decisive, responsive government” and marks the first budget that achieves balance without service reductions since the 2007-2008 Biennial Budget (before the “Great Recession”).

Once again the budget advances progress on the [Goals adopted by the City Council](#) and responds to the [results of the biennial community survey](#) by funding key services identified by the citizens of Kirkland as most important. The majority of the general fund is dedicated to police, fire and emergency medical services, which are consistently the top priorities in the community survey. Highlights include \$3 million dollars to complete a new fire station in the north end of the city, over one million dollars for enhanced fire and emergency medical services in the Finn Hill and Juanita neighborhoods, as well as \$160,000 to purchase two water rescue craft for open water rescues along Kirkland’s ten miles of shoreline. The Budget also proposes a Customer Service Initiative which will improve how the City provides customer service, particularly at City Hall.

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## Kirkland 2035 Open House: Voices continue to create City’s future



More than 100 people attended the Nov. 12 Open House. A summary of comments can be found at [www.kirklandwa.gov/kirkland2035](http://www.kirklandwa.gov/kirkland2035).

“What do you think?” was the theme at the Kirkland 2035 Open House held in November. Based on the ideas heard, it was evident that Kirkland’s future was on the minds of those who attended. Many residents had a lot to say about solving Kirkland’s traffic problems, encouraging diverse housing, and enhancing the City’s sustainability efforts. They offered ideas on how the Totem Lake area could have a greater sense of place and how the Cross Kirkland Corridor could be the greenest corridor in America. They gave feedback on where the proposed Aquatics/Recreation/Community (A.R.C.) Center could be located.

All of the Kirkland 2035 plans were featured at the Open House as well as the Neighborhood Safety Program and several Capital Improvement Program projects, including Park Lane, the NE 85th Street Corridor, and the Cross Kirkland Corridor Interim Trail. People toured the Traffic Management Center where real-time traffic monitoring occurs.

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## Citywide outreach planned for proposed Aquatics/Recreation/Community Center

The need for more multi-use aquatic, recreation, and community space in Kirkland has been an ongoing community conversation. And the conversation continues with citywide outreach planned for the upcoming months.



The Kirkland Aquatics/Recreation/Community (ARC) Center Study continues to evaluate the north side (ball field side) of Juanita Beach Park and to seek out privately-owned sites.

Outreach will continue to engage community members and stakeholders who have an interest in the proposed facility and to reach out to more stakeholders through meetings, project updates and educational materials. A public opinion survey about the ARC Center is scheduled for February 2015.

Kirkland's 22,000 square feet of existing recreation space built to serve a 1990 population of 40,000 no longer meets the needs of the 80,500 people who live in the City today.

Long range plans, citizen surveys, and public sentiment continue to support the development of a facility that would offer a wide array of indoor and outdoor activities to serve the diverse needs and interests of all Kirkland residents.

For background information and to receive project updates via email, go to [www.kirklandwa.gov/kirklandarc](http://www.kirklandwa.gov/kirklandarc).

## Kirkland 2035 Open House

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The Kirkland 2035 conversation continues with outreach to the Neighborhood Associations about updates to [Neighborhood Plans](#). The Planning Department is reviewing comments and suggested edits from citizens on the plans and will make a recommendation to the Planning Commission on which edits should be included in the updates to the plans, considered for later full updates to the plans, or not be considered.

In the coming months, the Planning Commission will consider the preliminary draft updates to the neighborhood plans for Moss Bay, South Rose Hill/Bridle Trails, North Rose Hill, Norkirk, Everest, and Totem Lake. The Juanita Neighborhood Plan will be re-organized and combined into one document. New Neighborhood Plans will be created for the Kingsgate and Finn Hill Neighborhoods. As part of its consideration of the Neighborhood Plans, the Planning Commission will also be considering the proposed [Citizen Amendment Requests](#). Lakeview, Central Houghton and Market Neighborhood Plans have been updated in recent years so there may not be any needed changes to the plans other than updating maps. Staff is working with these neighborhood associations to make this determination.

The Planning Commission will also be reviewing proposed changes to the [various elements of the Comprehensive Plan](#). Schedules for presentations to Neighborhood Associations and the Planning Commission agenda can be found at [www.kirklandwa.gov/kirkland2035](http://www.kirklandwa.gov/kirkland2035).

New to the adopted list for Kirkland 2035 Plans is the [Surface Water Master Plan](#) which identifies the priorities and projects that will reduce flooding, improve water quality and aquatic habitat conditions and, protect and maintain infrastructure.

The City Council continues its study of the [Transportation Master Plan](#) which is expected to be adopted, as is the [Parks, Recreation and Open Space Plan](#), prior to adoption of the [updated Comprehensive Plan](#).

The City continues to engage community members in the planning of Kirkland's future. To request a presentation to your business, non-profit agency, or community group, please email [kirkland2035@kirklandwa.gov](mailto:kirkland2035@kirklandwa.gov) or call 425-587-3001.



## City Council adopts “decisive, responsive” Budget for 2015-2016

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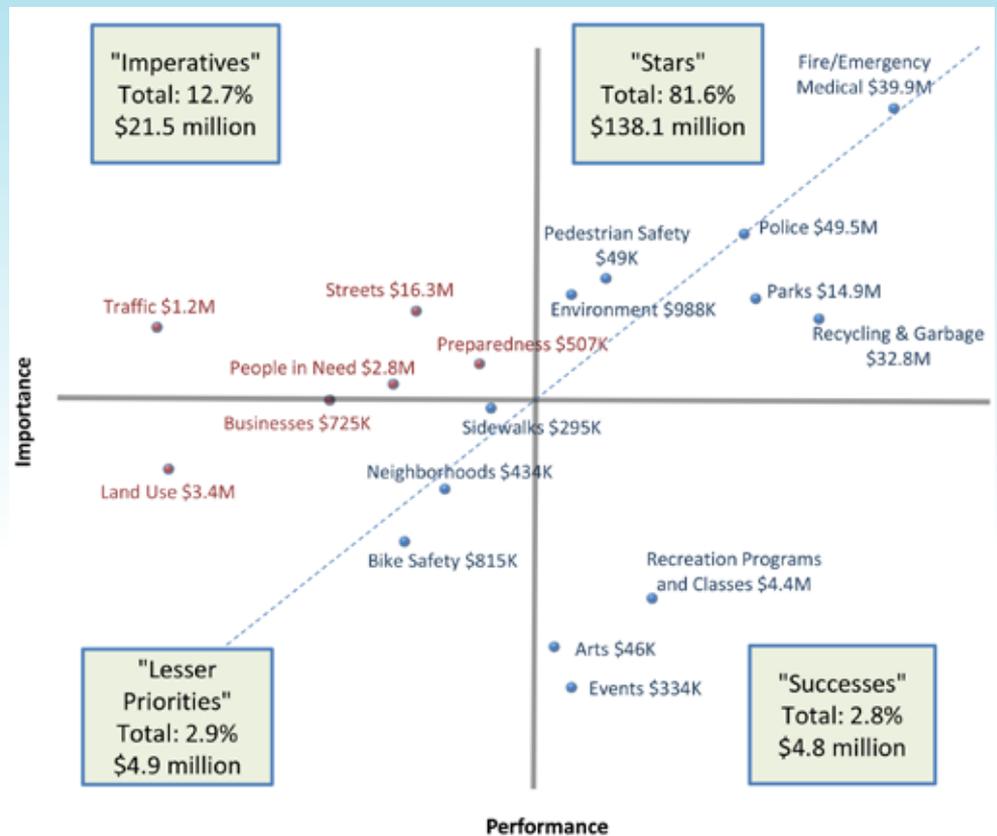
The City continues to support success in its high performing/high importance services categories (“Stars”, as shown in the Kirkland Quadrant to the right), including Public Safety, Pedestrian Safety, and City Parks, while also dedicating strong support to services and programs that are of high importance to citizens and have potential for performance enhancements. These ‘Imperatives’ shown in the upper left hand quadrant of the Kirkland Quadrant, include maintaining streets, helping people in need, and attracting and retaining businesses. For the second successive biennium, progress has been made in increasing funding to these imperatives, with total spending and share of the budget increasing by \$1.1 million and 0.3% above the 2013-14 Biennial Budget.

The balanced two-year budget helps to sustain the City’s AAA credit while recognizing the need to be prepared for events that will impact the City in the future, such as the loss of revenue from the sunset of the State Annexation Sales Tax Credit in 2021.

The Budget Message is formulated around two themes: “Stay Steady” and “Get Ready.” “Stay Steady” refers to the conservative revenue projections used to hedge against economic uncertainty and prepare for the expiration of the Annexation Sales Tax Credit in 2021. Substantial contributions are made to reserves and public safety sinking funds and only a limited number of new ongoing positions are proposed in the general fund. In addition, the City is proposing a high-deductible, consumer-driven health care program for its employees (Healthy Kirkland Plan), both to promote employee health and control cost growth.

“Get Ready” reflects that the budget further increases quality of life investments as part of the City’s economic development strategy, including the Walkable Kirkland Initiative, which adds an additional \$2.4 million dollars over the next six years to accelerate efforts related to pedestrian and bicycle safety and school walk routes. In addition, the budget proposes substantial infrastructure investments in parks, roads, sidewalks, surface water, solid waste, and water and sewer systems and sets aside significant amounts of Real Estate Excise Tax, impact fees and sales tax revenue to help fund projects that emerge from the [Kirkland 2035 plans](#) after they are completed in 2015.

### 2014 Survey Results With 2015 - 16 Budget



The Budget is developed around the [City Council's adopted Goals](#) of Balanced Transportation, Dependable Infrastructure, Economic Development, Human Services, Housing, Neighborhoods, Parks and Recreation, Public Safety, Financial Stability, and Environment. New and enhanced funding is presented according to one or more goal areas that it supports. Complementing this goal-oriented approach to budgeting, is emphasis on citizen input from the [2014 Community Survey](#). For the second successive biennial budget, the City has scrutinized its spending in the context of citizen input on the relative importance of services and the City’s track record in providing them.

On December 10th, Standard & Poor’s affirmed Kirkland’s AAA credit rating, calling both the Kirkland economy and management “very strong.”

The 2015-16 Biennial Budget can be viewed in its entirety at [www.kirklandwa.gov/budgetdoc](http://www.kirklandwa.gov/budgetdoc).



## Emergency Preparedness: Don't let Winter Wonderland keep you guessing

It's not likely that Kirkland would ever get the snow accumulations that cities back east have experienced recently. But it's likely there will be snow, most definitely rain, and possibly ice this winter season. Here are some helpful hints to take the guesswork out of preparing for winter weather:

### Be prepared everywhere

- Make a plan to exit your home or office and practice your plan.
- Stock several days of emergency supplies in your car, work area, and home.
- Have a battery-operated or wind up radio and flashlights within close reach.
- Learn how to shut off utilities (e.g. gas)
- Know what roads will be plowed for snow/treated for ice before traveling (see page 5)

### Be informed during the storm

- Monitor weather conditions
- Check road conditions
- Verify transit schedules
- Receive city storm updates
- Confirm garbage/recycling/compost collection



### Make the right call when the rain and snow fall

- Stay home, if you can, during major weather events
- Do not drive on closed roadways
- Report Life-threatening emergencies - Police/Fire : 9-1-1
- Report Street/water/sewer emergencies  
Public Works: 425-587-3900 (24 hour)
- Report Power Outage - Puget Sound Energy: 1-888-225-5773
- Find Out Recycling/Garbage/Compost Collection -  
Waste Management: 1-800-592-9995

For emergency preparedness information go to [www.kirklandwa.gov/prepare](http://www.kirklandwa.gov/prepare).

### Get Storm Updates from the City

By Email:  
[www.kirklandwa.gov/ebulletins](http://www.kirklandwa.gov/ebulletins) (Select News Room)

By Twitter:  
[@kirklandgov](https://twitter.com/kirklandgov); [@oemkirkland](https://twitter.com/oemkirkland)

By Facebook:  
[KirklandWa.gov](https://www.facebook.com/KirklandWa.gov); [KirklandOEM](https://www.facebook.com/KirklandOEM)



## Proposed updates to Snow and Ice Response Plan pave way for City's winter readiness

Enhanced weather monitoring, priority system, and staffing helps City to be more proactive

The National Weather Service has predicted an "El Nino" winter for the 2014/2015 season – higher than normal temperatures and lower than normal snowfall. But that's not to say Kirkland won't experience freezing winter conditions and when it does, the City's Street Division is ready. Key updates to the [City's Snow and Ice Response Plan](#) proposed to the City Council include enhanced weather monitoring capability, changes to the priority routes for snow plowing, anti-icing/de-icing, and staffing levels that bring in more employees for longer shifts. Community outreach will be conducted to get feedback on snow and ice removal priority routes.

### Weather Monitoring

The City now subscribes to a daily weather forecasting system that provides atmospheric and pavement forecasts. The Washington State Department of Transportation, King County and surrounding cities use the same system. The new forecasting service will enable the City to proactively prepare for storms, allowing for quicker response.

### Snow Plowing

**PRIORITY 1:** Crews will give the greatest attention to access to and from Evergreen Health (Hospital and Medical Center), fire stations, the Kirkland Justice Center, and freeway interchanges.

**PRIORITY 2:** Once Priority 1 roadways have been plowed, focus turns to high volume arterials throughout the City, such as NE Juanita Drive, NE 132nd Street, NE 116th Street, Market Street, Lake Washington Boulevard, 6th Street South, 116th Ave NE, among others.

**PRIORITY 3:** Once Priority 2 arterials have been plowed, crews will address neighborhood collectors that serve Priority 2 roadways.

Roads prone to hazardous conditions, such as the steep side streets off of Market Street from 9th Ave to 14th Avenue, will be proactively closed during snow/freezing weather as it would not be possible for crews to conduct plowing or anti-icing/de-icing.

Street sweeping and cleaning out storm drain pipes will be a high priority following all snow and ice response events so that sand can be removed quickly so as to not clog the stormwater systems.

### Staffing

To maximize staff resources and equipment, response crews will work 12-hour shifts. Also, based on weather forecasts, a small-sized "skeleton crew" will be on duty to perform de-icing, flood response, and/or storm clean up.

For questions about the draft Snow and Ice Response Plan, contact Erin DeVoto at 425-587-3911 or [edevoto@kirklandwa.gov](mailto:edevoto@kirklandwa.gov).

## IMPORTANT TO KNOW....

Residents and businesses are responsible for shoveling and de-icing their sidewalks and steps. This helps to keep pedestrian pathways open and safe.



### Snow Plow Priority Map

To view this map, the Anti-Icing Routes Map and the Storm Sweeping map, go to [www.kirklandwa.gov/prepare](http://www.kirklandwa.gov/prepare)

## Utility Rates for 2015: Water, Sewer, Garbage & Surface Water fees adjusted

City water, sewer, and garbage customers will see increases in their utility rates.\* The water and sewer increases are primarily due to higher charges from the City's water supplier, Cascade Water Alliance and the King County Wastewater Division for waste treatment services. The total impact of all increases is about 4 percent; approximately \$5.34 per month for the average residential household.

Due to increases in King County's per ton garbage disposal fees and an inflationary increase in service charges from Waste Management, a 3.2 percent increase, approximately 72 cents per month, to garbage collection fees for the average residential household.

Surface water fees are collected by King County on the City's behalf and are included on your property tax statements. These fees are increasing by 4 percent, or approximately 62 cents per month, for all customers to implement the actions recommended by the recently adopted [Surface Water Master Plan](#).

Rate changes take effect January 1, 2015. Rate information is included in upcoming utility statements and can be found at [www.kirklandwa.gov/utility](http://www.kirklandwa.gov/utility). Kirkland customers with rate questions can contact the City's Utility Billing Division at 425-587-3150 or [utilitybilling@kirklandwa.gov](mailto:utilitybilling@kirklandwa.gov).

\*Adjustments apply to only City of Kirkland utility customers. If you are serviced by the Northshore Utility District (425-398-4400) or the Woodinville Water District (425-487-4100), please contact them directly to obtain current rates.



**kgt** →  
**Kirkland Green Trip**

Let us help you **green up the way you get around!**

Pledge to drive alone less! If you pledge to change drive-alone trips to trips by bus, walking, biking or car/vanpooling at least twice a week you may earn up to \$50\* in rewards!

Get started by visiting  
[www.KirklandGreenTrip.com](http://www.KirklandGreenTrip.com)  
[support@KirklandGreenTrip.com](mailto:support@KirklandGreenTrip.com) • 425-453-0644

*\*Rewards are only available while supplies last.*



**Living together?**

**Make it legal!**  
**License your pet.**

All cats and dogs must be licensed – King County Code 11.04.030 and applicable city law.

- Licensing helps save animals' lives
- Lost pets are returned home
- Helps to fund the animal shelter
- Homeless pets get adopted

Please do your part! License online.

Regional Animal Services of King County  
[kingcounty.gov/pets](http://kingcounty.gov/pets)



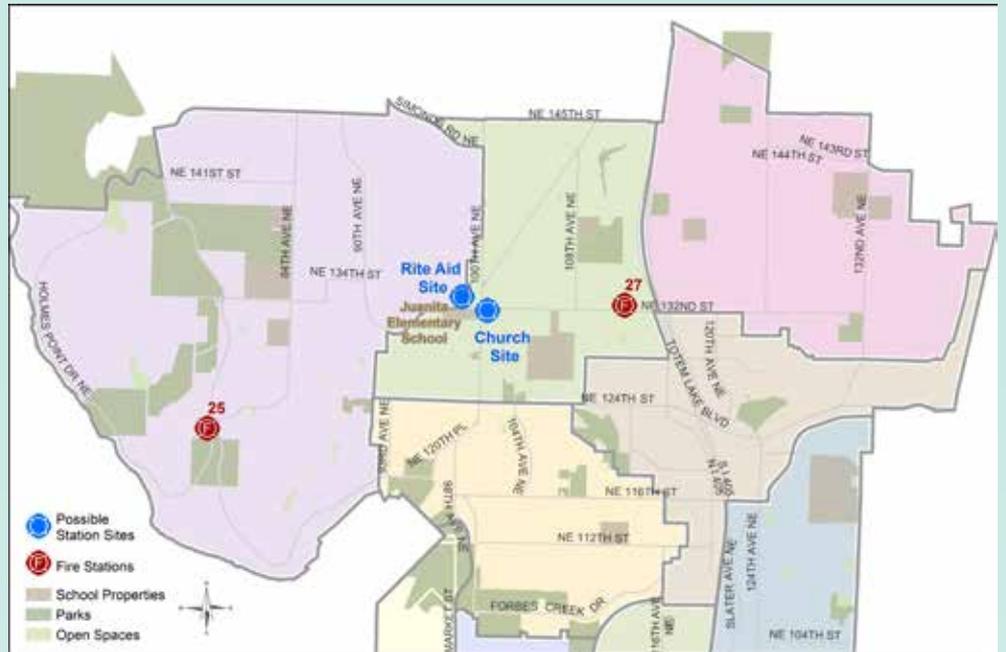
## North Kirkland Fire Station: Community outreach; due diligence studies happening now

A comprehensive siting study has led to the identification of two preferred sites for a new fire station that would best serve the north central area of Kirkland. The two sites are located at the intersection of NE 132nd Street and 100th Avenue NE in the Juanita Neighborhood. The City has begun community outreach with neighborhood associations and school officials to better understand concerns citizens may have, while due diligence studies are being started on the two properties.

Analysis shows that the two sites provide the greatest improvement in response time to the largest number of Kirkland residents. Both sites allow for four-minute emergency response travel time which meets national standards.

Due Diligence studies are under way for the "church" site located at the southeast corner of NE 132nd Street and 100th Avenue and the "Rite Aid" site located at 9820 NE 132nd Street. These studies include evaluating traffic impacts, property conditions, title search, and appraisal. Results of the studies will be shared at neighborhood association meetings and through City email subscriptions.

As part of the siting analysis, more than 20 sites have been considered. The City Council approved the concept of a "dual station" which keeps Fire Station 25 (Holmes Point) at its current location and builds a new fire station that better serves the Finn Hill and Juanita areas while providing back up to Fire Station 27 (Totem Lake). The Fire Station 24 building (located on 84th Avenue NE) will be sold to support the funding of the new station.



The Fire Strategic Plan and Standard of Coverage Plan contain short term and long term recommendations. The City is proceeding with the "dual station" model in the short-term and will continue to study the long-term recommendations to relocate Fire Station 27 to the east of I-405.

To request a public presentation to your neighborhood association, business or community group, contact the City Manager's Office at 425-587-3001. To subscribe to receive updates, go to [www.kirkland-wa.gov/ebulletins](http://www.kirkland-wa.gov/ebulletins) and select "Neighborhood News."

## Get the City news you can use



New email subscription available:  
Kirkland Biz News

The City offers several email subscriptions that get you the City news you can use. Go to [www.kirklandwa.gov/ebulletins](http://www.kirklandwa.gov/ebulletins) and select the topic(s) of your choice: City meeting agendas, major project updates, news releases, and more. Now introducing: Kirkland Biz News – news about and for businesses.

# KIRKLAND CITY UPDATE

123 5th Avenue  
Kirkland, WA 98033  
[www.kirklandwa.gov](http://www.kirklandwa.gov)

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## 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)

Neighborhood Association meeting  
information:  
[www.kirklandwa.gov/neighborhoods](http://www.kirklandwa.gov/neighborhoods)

### MEETS AS NEEDED

Human Services  
Advisory Committee ..... Call: 425-587-3322

### \* 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](http://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  
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

### Kirkland Justice Center

Municipal Court ..... 425-587-3160  
(11740 NE 118th Street, Kirkland, WA 98034-7114)  
Police Department ..... 425-587-3400  
(11750 NE 118th Street, Kirkland, WA 98034-7114)

**For Police, Fire & Medical Emergencies Call 9-1-1**  
**To Report Road Emergencies in Kirkland Call 425-587-3900 (24h)**

### 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 [titlevicoordinator@kirklandwa.gov](mailto:titlevicoordinator@kirklandwa.gov).