

KIRKLAND

2019 Accountability Report on the Park Levy Program
& Parks and Community Services Annual Report

+ GREEN KIRKLAND PARTNERSHIP
volunteers log over 10,000 hours
restoring natural areas **PG.9**



New Parks playground facilities installed at Terrace Park, Tot Lot Park, and Highlands Park



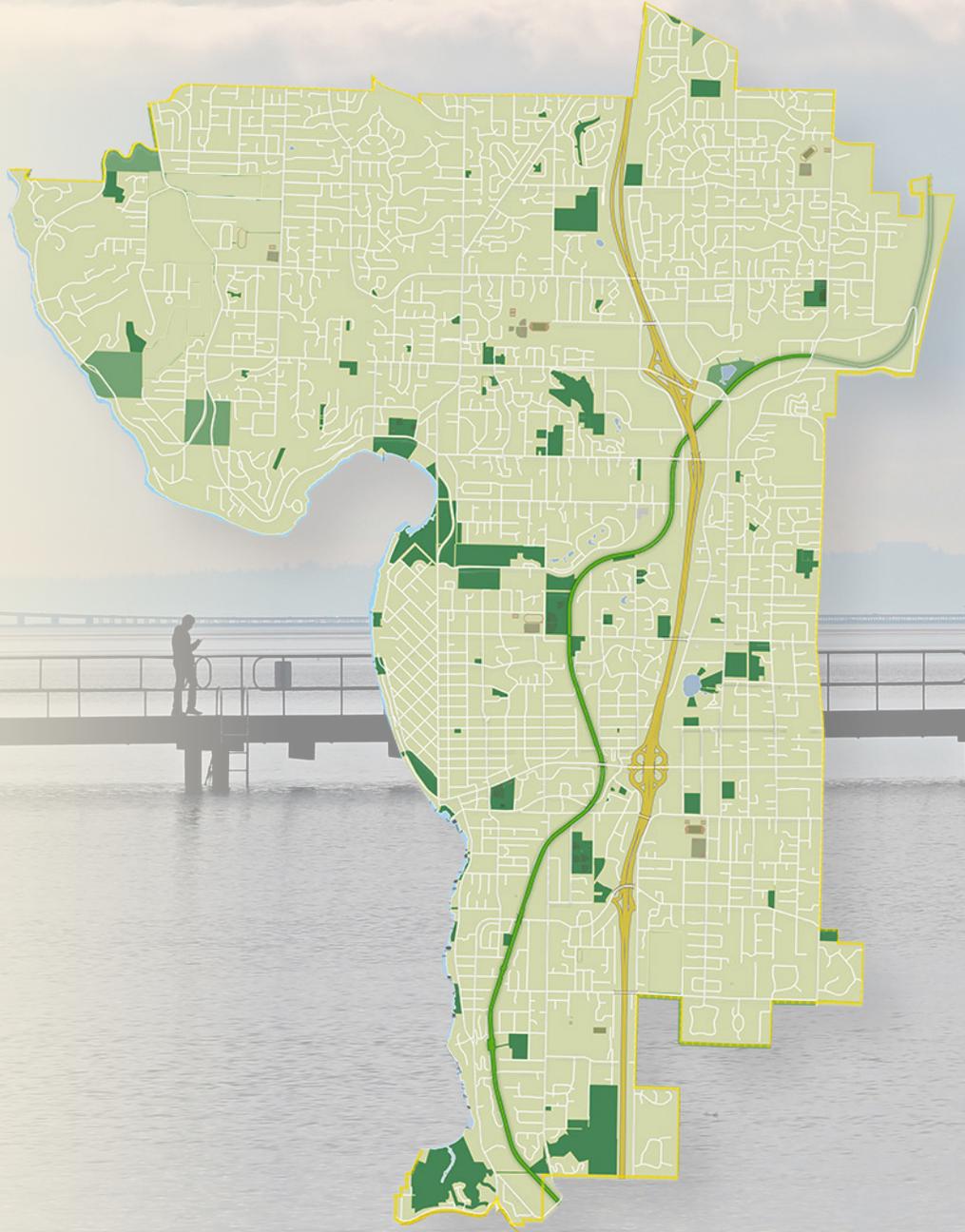
KIRKLAND PARKS & COMMUNITY SERVICES

WHO WE ARE:

- **56.5 FTE** (58 employees)
- **\$13,961,773 Annual Budget**
 - ◆ \$9,516,703 General Fund
 - ◆ \$1,369,095 125 Fund
 - ◆ **\$3,075,975** 128 Fund (Park Levy)

WE CARE FOR:

- **52 Parks**
- **22 Open Space Parcels**
- **3 Swimming Beaches**
- **Peter Kirk Pool**
- **Peter Kirk Community Center**
- **North Kirkland Community Center**
- **Heritage Hall**
- **Kirkland Cemetery**
- **City/School Partnership Playfields**
- **Kirkland Performance Center**
- **Kirkland Teen Union Building (KTUB)**



PARKS LEVY INFORMATION

KIRKLAND'S RESIDENTS DECIDED IN 2012 TO SUPPORT MAINTENANCE AND ENHANCEMENTS FOR THEIR PARK SYSTEM.

IN NOVEMBER OF 2012, Kirkland voters approved a permanent property tax levy to restore and enhance funding for daily park maintenance, summer beach lifeguards, major capital improvements, and acquisition of park land. This annual report summarizes how the levy funds are being used to support and enrich Kirkland's cherished quality of life.

The levy raises approximately \$2.5 million annually, of which about \$1.25 million is used to restore, maintain and enhance Kirkland parks and natural areas. For the first six years (2013-2018), the remaining \$1.25 million helps fund the Parks Capital Improvement Program (CIP) to complete

major repairs and site renovations at parks throughout the community. Priority projects initially identified by the City Council for levy investments include the following:

- Planning for development of the Cross Kirkland Corridor
- Renovations to Waverly Beach Park and Edith Moulton Park
- Park land acquisition for future neighborhood parks
- Docks and shoreline infrastructure renovations in many of the City's waterfront parks
- Replacement of the Juanita Beach Park bathhouse
- Playfield upgrades at select school sites



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 please call 425-587-3011 or email titlevicordinator@kirklandwa.gov.

RECREATION

- **RECREATION PROGRAMS OFFERED:** 2,147 programs
- **RECREATION PROGRAM HOURS:** 16,755 hours
- **ENROLLED PARTICIPANTS:** 18,935 participants

SENIOR SERVICES PROVIDED AT PKCC

In partnership with local agencies, the Peter Kirk Community Center provides opportunities in health and wellness all year long. From nutritional and health services to social work and caregiving consultations, our neighboring agencies work onsite to serve Kirkland Seniors. Recreation staff program daily, weekly and monthly activities onsite to meet the needs and provide social and lifelong recreation for all.

- **People Served:** 13,585 people
- **Hours Programmed:** 2,459 hours
- **Sound Generations - Meals on Wheels:**
6,401 meals delivered to 273 Kirkland residents

FACILITY USE/RESERVATIONS

- **Athletic Field Use**
 - » # of total reservations: 6,252
 - » Hours reserved: 22,636
- **Picnic Shelters**
 - » # of total reservations: 863
 - » Hours reserved: 5,430

HIGHLIGHTED PROGRAMS

- **PEE WEE Sports Program; Basketball, Soccer, and Multi Sports**
 - » Total Volunteer hours: 787
 - » Total Volunteer Coaches: 106
 - » Total Participants: 1,123
- **Youth Basketball Recreation Leagues 3 – 6 grades, Boys and Girls**
 - » Total Volunteer Coaches: 88
 - » Total Volunteer hours: 4,400 (50 hours per coach)
 - » Total Participants: 457
- **Swim Lesson Program**
 - » # of swim lessons completed: 2,626
 - » Wait list for swim lessons: 1,353
- **Adult Volleyball Leagues**
 - Indoor Volleyball**
 - » Coed Teams: 96
 - » Women's Teams: 64
 - Outdoor Beach Volleyball**
 - » Men's Teams: 8



SAFERSWIMBEACHES

THE PARKS LEVY SECURED ONGOING FUNDING OF OVER 1,100 HOURS EACH YEAR FOR LIFEGUARDS AT THREE OF KIRKLAND'S BEACHES.

In 2019, from July 1st through Labor Day, lifeguards were on duty from noon to 6 p.m. daily at Kirkland beaches where they administered 1,635 swim tests to children under the age of 12, loaned out 421 free lifejackets and provided water safety to 10,645 swimmers. Lifeguards recorded 56,598 people on the beaches during these operating hours.



CITY OF KIRKLAND BEACH DATA 2019	Juanita	Waverly	Houghton	All Beaches
Swim Tests	334	805	496	1,635
Lifejackets Loaned	145	167	109	421
Simple Saves	0	4	3	7
Attendance				
Water	5,346	2,570	2,729	10,645
Land	26,439	14,123	16,036	56,598
Total	31,785	16,693	18,765	67,243

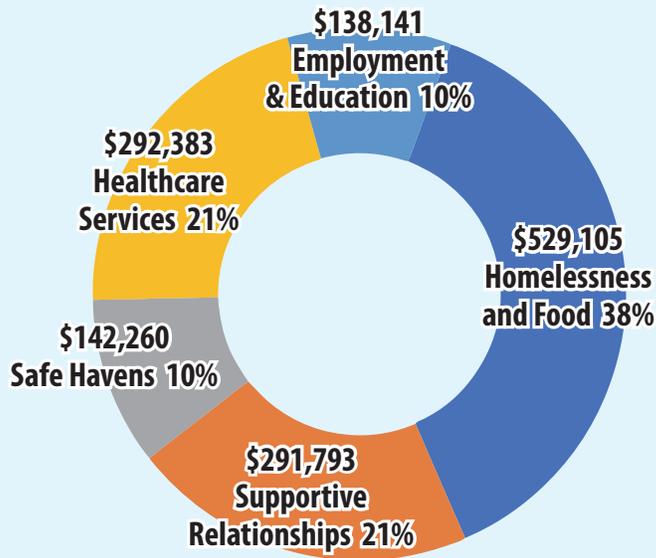
HUMAN SERVICES

HUMAN SERVICES HIGHLIGHTS:

- \$1,393,682 in grant funding supported 87 programs offered by 49 local agencies

HUMAN SERVICES FOCUSES ITS FUNDING INVESTMENTS IN 5 GOAL AREAS

■ Homelessness and Food ■ Supportive Relationships ■ Safe Havens ■ Healthcare Services ■ Employment & Education



TOTAL FUNDING: \$1,393,682

- **Homelessness and Food:** Food to eat and roof overhead (\$529,105)
 - » Highlight: **Hopelink's** emergency food program fed over 2,652 residents
- **Supportive Relationships:** Supportive relationships within families, neighborhoods, and communities (\$291,793)
 - » Highlight: **Assistance League of the Eastside** provided new school clothing to 863 residents in grades K – 12
- **Safe Havens:** A safe haven from all forms of violence and abuse (\$142,260)
 - » **LifeWire** served over 237 residents who are survivors of domestic violence
- **Healthcare Services:** Healthcare to be as physically and mentally fit as possible (\$292,383)
 - » **Healthpoint's** Dental Program served 1,934 residents and Medical Program served 3,607 residents
- **Employment & Education:** Education and job skills to lead an independent life (\$138,141)
 - » **Hopelink's** employment program served 41 residents

KIRKLAND SHELTER FOR FAMILIES AND WOMEN:

In 2018, the City of Kirkland purchased the land, and provided support for the future 24/7 Kirkland Shelter for un-housed women and families with children. On April 10, 2019, City leaders joined community partners at the ground-breaking. This facility will be a two-level 98-bed full-time emergency shelter and day center in Kirkland, for adult women and families with children experiencing homelessness. The **New Bethlehem Project** (a program of **Catholic Community Services**) will offer services to families with children. **The Sophia Way** will offer services to adult women. The 24/7 programs will meet people's basic needs for safety, warmth, comfort, hygiene, and nutrition. In addition, staff will provide personalized and comprehensive housing and case management help along with support in accessing medical, behavioral health, employment, and other vital services.



YOUTH SERVICES

- **Kirkland Teen Union Building—programming provided by YMCA of Greater Seattle**
 - » Youth Check-Ins: 8,516
 - » Drop-In Count: 370
 - » Program Participants: 4,797
 - » Special Events: 493
- **Kirkland Youth Council**
 - » Heard 36 cases in Teen Traffic Court
 - » Conducted 6 service projects
 - » Produced a We've Got Issues Video Program on Depression & Anxiety
 - » Created Student Rights webpage
 - » Funded 11 LWSD programs totaling \$5,627 through its mini grant program

SPECIAL EVENTS

Staff support all special events held on city property through permitting; coordination for street closures, fire and police support, safety and sanitary regulations and banners; City facility use including parks, parking lots, and streets; on-site and on-call logistical support; and communication with the public.

- STAFF SUPPORTED AND PERMITTED 52 DIFFERENT EVENTS
- EVENTS TOOK PLACE OVER 104 DAYS THROUGHOUT THE YEAR
- APPROXIMATELY 160,000 PEOPLE IN ATTENDANCE

CELEBRATE KIRKLAND! 4TH OF JULY

In 1999, Mayor Penny Sweet founded the non-profit Celebrate Kirkland, and organized our community's inaugural 4th of July celebration. In partnership with the City, 2019 marked the 20th year for Celebrate Kirkland! The annual celebration kicks off summer here in the Pacific Northwest with a kids' parade, old fashioned parade, community picnic, and a brilliant fireworks display over Lake Washington.



JUANITA FRIDAY MARKET

Everything sold at the Juanita Friday Market is offered by farmers, producers, and artisans who help sustain the local culture, economy, and environment. This ensures the freshest and highest quality products for consumers, who can find out exactly where their food came from and how it was grown or raised. The market had over 40 vendors, some of whom traveled to Kirkland from Yakima, Zillah, and Chelan.



PARKS MANAGEMENT

THE 2012 LEVY INCREASED MAINTENANCE LEVELS BY RESTORING LABOR HOURS FOR PARKS MAINTENANCE AND APPROXIMATELY \$165,000 ANNUALLY FOR SUPPLIES, MATERIALS AND UTILITIES.

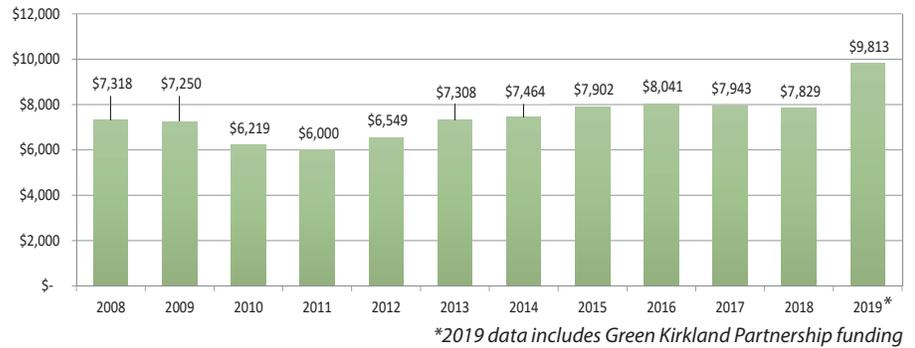
■ **TOTAL MAINTENANCE HOURS:**
59,930.75 hours

The Park Levy supports the operation of the Park Management division. Not only does it provide funding for staff, it also supports the general operations of the entire division. With additional levy funding, restroom service has been restored at select neighborhood parks, and irrigation of lawn areas throughout the city was restored.

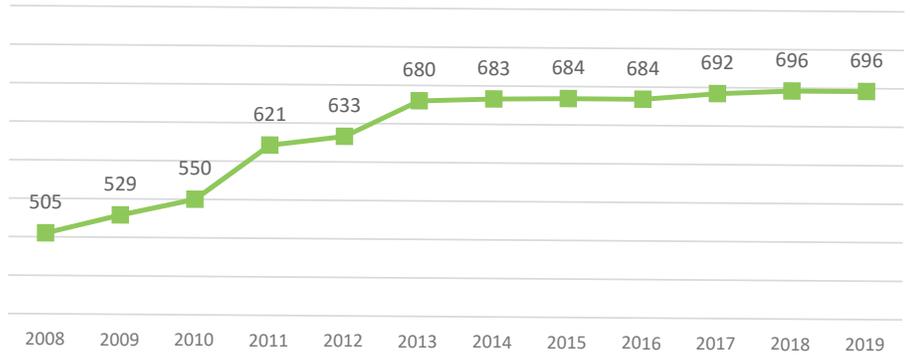
In 2019, staff completed upgrades and enhancements throughout the park system. While often not noticed, the upgrades help keep our parks looking as good as they do. Projects completed include replacement basketball hoops, nets at various tennis courts, upgraded LED lighting, replaced 80+ irrigation heads, and the creation of the “gnome home” from a hollow tree removed from Juanita Beach Park.

2019 marked a new milestone for Parks Management with the completion of the new Park Maintenance Center. On December 9th, the ribbon was cut at the 25,000 square foot facility. Following six months of construction, the facility serves as the new home for Park Management. In addition to being centrally located within the City, the larger location allows Parks Management to centrally and securely locate and store vehicles, equipment, materials, and supplies, thus increasing departmental efficiency by reducing trips and travel times. The new maintenance center will enhance the current level of service throughout the city by providing space for the Green Kirkland Partnership which is now aligned with the Park Management Division.

Maintenance Funding per Acre



Acres Maintained by Kirkland Parks



THE LEVY ENSURES FUNDING FOR THE GREEN KIRKLAND PARTNERSHIP, WHICH CONTINUES TO RECRUIT MORE THAN 2,000 VOLUNTEERS EACH YEAR.

THE LEVY CONTINUES KIRKLAND'S COMMITMENT TO RESTORING NATURAL GREEN SPACES. Thanks to the passage of the Parks Levy, GKP has a dedicated funding source. In 2019, the Green Kirkland Partnership (GKP) was aligned with the Park Management Division; a move that provides more resources and support for the overall goal of conserving and restoring Kirkland's natural areas in parks by replacing invasive plants with native species for the sustainability of urban forests, wetlands and other habitats. Since 2005, through

partnerships with residents, groups, and businesses over 100,000 volunteer hours have restored approximately 119 acres throughout the city.

In 2019, GKP partnered with Washington Conservation Corps to fund a dedicated crew of five focused on the restoration of critical areas in parks including wetlands, stream banks, and steep slopes. Examples of projects include installing trees in the old borrow pit at Watershed Park and removing noxious weeds from the overflow channel in the constructed wetland at Juanita Beach.



The levy supports natural area restoration activities such as removing invasive plants and planting native plants and trees.

Green Kirkland Partnership	2012 (no levy)	2019* (with levy)
Number of staff	1	4.5
Number of volunteers	2,164	2,555
Volunteered hours	9,401	11,102
Volunteer work parties	168	250
Volunteer stewards	22	30
Acres in restoration	40.3	119
Invasive trees removed	336	767
Native plants and trees planted	5,979	6,650
Woodchip mulch applied (cubic yards)	315	354

INVESTING IN PARKS

THE LEVY PROVIDES OVER \$1 MILLION PER YEAR FOR MAJOR RENOVATIONS AND ENHANCEMENTS TO KIRKLAND'S PARK SYSTEM.

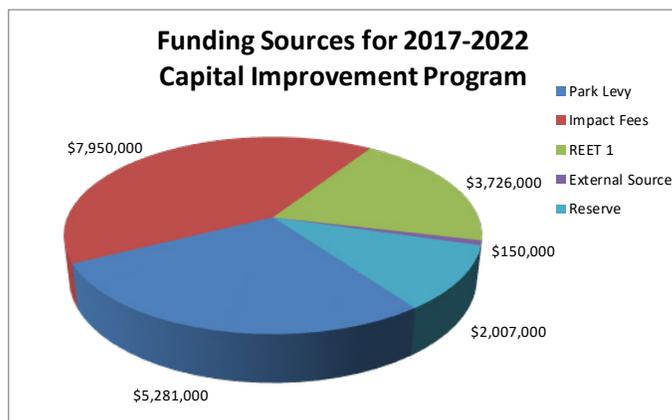
THE CHART AT RIGHT shows the funding sources for the 2017-2022 Parks Capital Improvement Program (CIP). Anticipated funding for parks projects averages \$3.62 million per year, with approximately \$1.25 million per year coming from the 2012 levy and the remainder primarily coming from Real Estate Excise Tax (REET) and Impact Fees placed on new development.

COMPLETED PROJECTS

Cross Kirkland Corridor: Known as the CKC, the 5.75 mile corridor traverses Kirkland from the South Kirkland Park and Ride to the Totem Lake Business District. Levy funding was used to create an overall Master Plan for the corridor.

City/School Partnership: In 2019, enhancements to the Finn Hill Middle School (FHMS) baseball and softball fields as well as the multi-purpose field at Peter Kirk Elementary School were completed. Both fields will be available to the community in 2020.

Edith Moulton Park: Following extensive renovations, the park opened in 2018. It features a new picnic shelter, playground, restroom, off-leash dog trail, improved trails and environmental protections and enhancements.



Waverly Beach Park (Phase 1): Improvements to Waverly Beach included shoreline and beach upgrades, new pier decking, lawn restoration, new pathways and playground. In addition, the Kirkland Rotary Club and Kirkland Parks Foundation raised funds to install a new picnic pavilion for the park. Improvements to the pier, walkways and accessibility of the site will be completed in the future.

CAPITAL PROJECTS

IN-PROGRESS PROJECTS

Park Land Acquisition: Land acquisitions to plan for growth and to protect important natural resources are funded from the levy. New park land acquired in 2019 included 10 acre to be added to Windsor Vista Park.

Dock and Shoreline Infrastructure Repairs: Kirkland's 13 diverse Lake Washington waterfront parks provide opportunities for public access while balancing the needs for habitat enhancement and maintaining ecological function. Levy funds were used to complete repairs at Houghton Beach Park in 2014, to improve boat launch and decking at Houghton Beach Park in 2017 and Marina Park pier in 2018. An updated Dock and Shoreline assessment was completed in 2019. The next project to be completed is at David Brink Park. This project is currently in the design phase and will begin construction in 2021.

Juanita Beach Park: The levy will contribute funding to the replacement of the Juanita Beach Bathhouse, installation of two new picnic shelters and an all-inclusive playground. Design was completed in 2019 with construction beginning in early 2020.

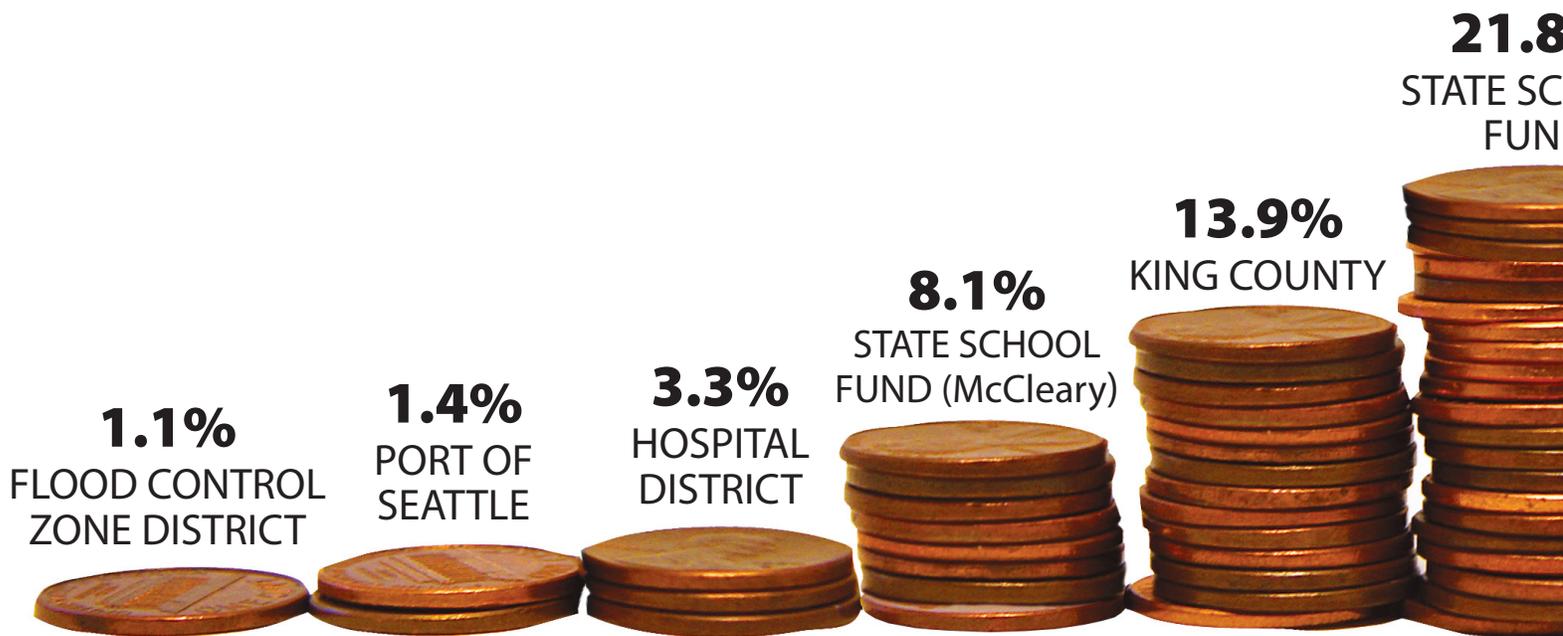
OTHER PARK ENHANCEMENTS AND IMPROVEMENTS

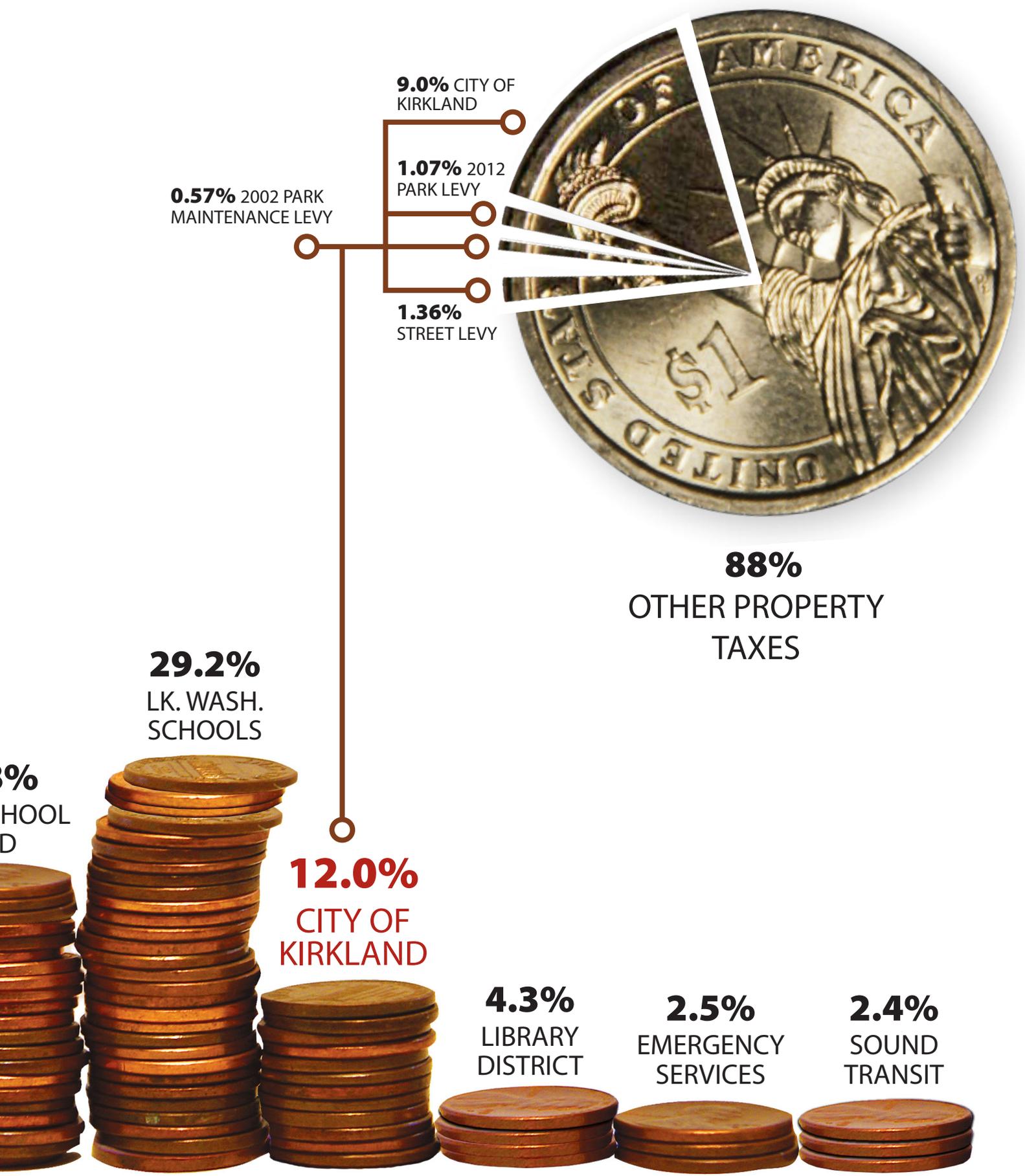
- 1. Totem Lake Park:** The City will create a new park in the heart of Totem Lake. The park will include pathways, an inclusive playground, restrooms, scenic view locations, environmental restoration and a boardwalk connecting the park through the eastern side of the lake property to the Cross Kirkland Corridor. The design of the park was finalized in 2019, with construction planned to begin in 2020. The new park will be completed in 2021.
- 2. 132nd Square Park Master Plan approved and funded:** The City is replacing a non-regulation grass sports field with a synthetic turf field after the installation of a surface water detention structure underneath the field. Project bidding is anticipated in December 2020 with construction beginning in 2021.
- 3. Off-Leash Dog Area Report** and recommendations presented to Park Board in 2019.
- 4. Regional Aquatics Report** completed in cooperation with King County, Redmond and Bellevue. Findings will be presented to the City Council in 2020.
- 5. Pickleball court renovation:** The tennis court at Everest Park was converted to three pickleball courts.
- 6. New playgrounds** were installed at Terrace Park, Highlands Park, and Tot Lot.

WHERE PROPERTY TAXES GO

ACCOUNTABILITY REPORT ON THE 2012 PARK LEVY PROGRAM: 2019 EDITION

The 2012 Park levy accounts for just over 1 percent of Kirkland residents' property taxes, and yet it pays for more than half of the city's park improvement projects and makes up 20% of the department's budget for park maintenance and operations. Property tax is one of the largest City revenue sources and provides significant support of the General Fund, Street Fund, and Park Levy funds. It accounts for nearly one-fifth of the City's General Fund. State law limits Kirkland to a maximum annual revenue increase of 1% or the rate of inflation, whichever is less. State law also allows for new construction. Voters can give Kirkland authority to exceed this limitation, which they did November 6, 2012, when they passed the Park Levy.





KIRKLAND CITY COUNCIL

(425) 587-3001



Pictured from left to right: Toby Nixon, Jon Pascal, Kelli Curtis, Mayor Penny Sweet, Amy Falcone, Deputy Mayor Jay Arnold, Neil Black

KIRKLAND PARK BOARD

Chair Rosalie Wessels | **Vice Chair** Susan Baird Joshi

Uzma Butte | Richard Chung | Mike Holland | Amanda Judd | Heather McKnight | Daniel Triplett

The Kirkland Park Board meets the 2nd Wednesday of each month at 7 p.m.



CITY STAFF

CITY MANAGER'S OFFICE

Kurt Triplett, **City Manager** | 587-3001

Tracey Dunlap, **Deputy City Manager** | 587-3101 • Jim Lopez, **Asst. City Manager** | 587-3212

PARKS & COMMUNITY SERVICES

Lynn Zwaagstra, **Director** | 587-3300

experience it!



Kirkland Parks