Contracted crews are continuing to implement capital improvements throughout the city that ensure community members have access to essential services, such as clean drinking water, sanitation and emergency response.

These services are what helps community members cope with pandemics and national emergencies, but which also contribute to high qualities of life in normal times.

As such, progress on the projects that guarantee these services will continue—assuming contractors maintain the health of their crews.

“As long as contracted crews are compliant with social distancing requirements, these projects are furthering the public purpose and are continuing to provide jobs,” Triplett said.

Gov. Jay Inslee’s ‘Stay Home, Stay Healthy’ proclamation provided an exemption for local governments that are furthering a public purpose.

“All construction activity must meet social distancing and appropriate health and worker protection measures before proceeding” Inslee said in a March 25 memo.

Contracted workers build the sheet-pile wall in early April along Totem Lake Boulevard that will support the roadway and prevent it from eroding toward the Totem Lake wetlands. Like Marshbank Construction, a half-dozen other Kirkland contractors are continuing to make progress on capital improvements this spring. Any illnesses or policies resulting from COVID-19 will alter the construction schedules detailed in the following pages.

Progress continues—with caution
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

Construction begins this spring on a new fire station within the parcel currently occupied by Rite Aid, across Northeast 132nd Street from Juanita Elementary School.

Kirkland’s contractor will begin the construction process in May by removing the Rite Aid building from the site. 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 Marius Eugenio, Jr., meugenio@kirklandwa.gov, (425) 587-3872.

South Rose Hill, Bridle Trails, Finn Hill, Norkirk
Street Preservation

The City of Kirkland is planning to repave sections of five streets this spring in Finn Hill, South Rose Hill and Norkirk. This includes Northeast 70th Street’s intersection with 116th Avenue Northeast.

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 Third Street, from Central Way to Seventh Street and Market Street, from Central Way to 16th Avenue. To help Kirkland prepare for Market Street’s overlay, Puget Sound Energy will be installing a new set of power lines this spring in Market Street’s northbound bicycle lane. Visit www.kirklandwa.gov/streetpreservation or contact Streets Engineer George Minassian, gminassian@kirklandwa.gov, (425) 587-3829.
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.
Central Houghton
108th Avenue Northeast Water & Sewer Main

The 10-month process to upgrade an aging water and sewer main along 108th Avenue Northeast continues until January 2021. Kirkland’s contractor is replacing the two systems—both more than five decades old—to increase their capacities to serve 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 spring 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 Engineer 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

Construction begins summer 2020 on one of the 100th Avenue Northeast Improvements project’s most ambitious tasks: reconstruction of the Cedar Creek culvert. The existing, 28-foot deep, five-decade-old box culvert blocks salmon and trout from swimming upstream and limits the roadway’s width to three lanes. The new 13-foot-wide, eight-foot-tall culvert will accommodate an extra two lanes of traffic and, at the same time, will provide access to a mile of upstream habitat for trout and salmon.

Reconstruction of the Cedar Creek culvert is the first in a series of Phase I improvements the City will be implementing along the corridor’s northern half-mile, between Northeast 139th and 145th streets. Other Phase I improvements include separated sidewalks and elevated bike lanes along both sides of the corridor.

The first phase will also optimize traffic flow and safety at 100th Avenue Northeast’s intersections with Northeast 139th, 145th streets and Simonds Road. Visit www.kirklandwa.gov/100thavedesign or contact Project Engineer Laura Drake, ldrake@kirklandwa.gov, (425) 587-3833.

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 Kirkland’s city council approved in November 2019 will become a construction project at the end of 2021. Among other improvements, the project will replace the 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 48.5 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

Construction begins in late-April on a project that will improve walking, bicycling and driving through Northeast 132nd Street's intersection with 136th Avenue Northeast.

To the intersection, Kirkland’s contractor 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 the end of 2020. 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/rosepointliftstation or contact Project Coordinator Hunter Richards, hrichards@kirklandwa.gov, (425) 587-3244.

Moss Bay

Kirkland Avenue and Lake Street Pedestrian Scramble

Design begins in summer 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.

Library Parking Garage

Nightly closures begin this spring in the municipal parking garage beneath the Kirkland Library. The City will close the parking garage each night between midnight and 5 a.m. “These investments are in response to concerns we’ve heard from community members regarding the need for increased safety measures in the municipal parking garage below the library,” said Kirkland City Manager Kurt Triplett.

The City has already replaced damaged security cameras, as well as the garage’s vehicle and pedestrian doors.

Visit www.kirklandwa.gov/garage or contact Neighborhood Services Coordinator Blair Daly, bdaly@kirklandwa.gov, (425) 587-3877.

North Rose Hill

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 simulator to reflect what a new building will look and feel like so that our folks can practice in them prior to going to the real thing.” Contact Kirkland Deputy Fire Chief Tim Day, tday@kirklandwa.gov, (425) 587-3601.

Totem Lake

Totem Lake Connector Pedestrian & Bicycle Bridge

Progress on the much-anticipated Totem Lake Connector begins later this summer, but the work to prepare for the pedestrian and bicycle bridge has already begun.

The City of Kirkland and the Northshore Utility District are in the midst of projects that will improve the area’s sewer system and reduce its risk of flooding.

During the first six months of the bridge’s two-year construction process, Kirkland’s prospective contractor will be acquiring the materials—mainly steel—to build the bridge and piece it together. That will take place off-site.

When complete in 2022, the Totem Lake Connector pedestrian and bicycle bridge will connect the two ends of the Cross Kirkland Corridor currently severed by Totem Lake Boulevard and Northeast 124th Street.

The bridge will feature an overlook that will extend over the park from the bridge’s loop. The 20-foot-long overlook will taper in width as it extends toward a transparent end-panel. Visit www.kirklandwa.gov/totemlakeconnector or contact Senior Project Engineer Aaron McDonald, at amcdonald@kirklandwa.gov, (425) 587-3837.

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. Visit www.kirklandwa.gov/116thstreetturnlane or contact Project Engineer Catherine Okamura, cokamura@kirklandwa.gov, (425) 587-3832.

**Totem Lake Gateway Roadway Repair**

Construction continues until June on the first in a series 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 replacing 900 feet of five-foot-wide sidewalk with 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**

Totem Lake Park’s renovation and expansion into a recreational destination within the Totem Lake Urban Center begins this spring. This first phase of construction will build a restroom, picnic and play areas, as well as a 10-foot-wide boardwalk that will connect the park to the Cross Kirkland Corridor. City engineers expect to break ground by late spring, for the one year construction project. 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 spring 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., at meugenio@kirklandwa.gov, (425) 587-3872.

**Northeast 124th Street and 113th Avenue Northeast Crosswalk**

Traffic engineers will assemble this fall to determine 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 measures to improve the crosswalk, including a reconfiguration of the existing traffic signal and modifying the left turn phase for automobiles. Visit www.kirklandwa.gov/113thstreetcrosswalk or contact Marius Eugenio, Jr., meugenio@kirklandwa.gov, (425) 587-3872.