

KIRKLAND PARKS & COMMUNITY SERVICES – NOVEMBER 2021



Despite inclement weather, our first Kirkland Health Fair and Community Vaccination Event was successfully held on Saturday, November 6, 2021, at Juanita High School. There were multiple goals for this event including providing access to COVID-19 vaccination doses, education, and information focusing on those whose first language is not English; providing access to other health services; connecting individuals with human service community organizations operating in Kirkland; and providing opportunities to reconnect neighbors and community organizations with each other.

To achieve those goals, the Human Services Division worked in collaboration with Public Health-Seattle and King County, Lake Washington School District, and over 11 community organizations. COVID-19 vaccinations of all three types (1st, 2nd, and 3rd/booster doses) were provided at the event as well as free health services such as basic health screenings, dental services for the uninsured, oral screenings/dental referrals for adults and children, Orca lift card signup, and enrollment for breast and cervical health screenings. The event was promoted with flyers in six languages. In-person interpreter services were offered at the event in five languages including American Sign Language.

Here are some highlights of the event:

- Around 200 attendees and 130 exhibitors and volunteers.
- 157 COVID-19 vaccinations given
- 31 Basic Health Screenings
- 13 adults and 3 children received dental exams and 8 dental procedures performed
- 12 community organizations on site
- 80 surveys were completed with more than half of attendees identified as Latina/e/o/x or Hispanic or Chicana/o/x and 48% of survey respondents accessed language services at the event.
- 150-200 meals served

A bonus of this gathering of agencies was that they were able to share with each other the work they are doing in the community, something they said was one of the highlights of the event.

We are thankful for the time and services provided by all partners and volunteers including the Juanita High School Latino Club, City of Kirkland staff, and individual volunteers from Microsoft. Special thanks for the advocacy and leadership provided by the Kirkland Promotoras group throughout this project.



HUMAN SERVICES

RESIDENTIAL RENT, MORTGAGE, AND UTILITY RELIEF PROGRAM

As of November 29, more than \$86,000 has been distributed to provide financial relief to 21 households in the City of Kirkland. This remains an ongoing process and we will see many more households receiving assistance in the coming weeks and months.

PARKS MANAGEMENT



The mission of the Green Kirkland Partnership (GKP) is to **restore and maintain 509 acres** of natural parklands **by building a supportive community** that works together to protect Kirkland's natural resources for current and future generations.

To reach our goal of enrolling all 509 acres of natural areas into restoration by 2035, we need to initiate restoration in **18 NEW ACRES** each year.

16 new acres enrolled based on data received from Stewards & crews by 11.23.21

To ensure long term success, we need to **MAINTAIN all 259 ACRES** already enrolled in restoration.

35.3 acres maintained based on data received from Stewards & crews by 11.23.21

To meet our goal of enrolling all 50 natural area locations into restoration by 2035, we need to recruit **5 NEW STEWARDS** each year.

7 new Stewards recruited as of 11.23.21

To keep our community engaged in caring for our natural areas, we need to host at least **500 VOLUNTEERS** in 2021.

766 volunteers participated as of 11.23.21

RAIN, RAIN GO AWAY...SO WE CAN GET A FEW PROJECTS DONE THAT REQUIRE DRY WEATHER

Parks Management is clearing leaves, branches, limbs, and downed trees daily amid the stormy weather. But we've still managed to sneak in a few priority projects every time we get some dry weather. Here are highlights from our four teams:

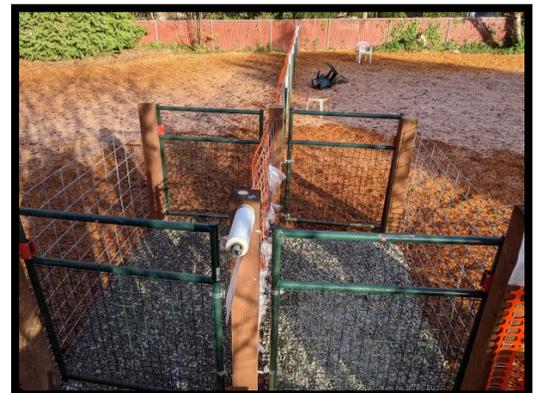
BALLFIELDS/CEMETERY TEAM

- Installed new winter nets at Juanita Beach sports courts
- Completed several burials and internments
- Improved drainage along the trail at south end of Everest Park
- Cleaned the volleyball court at Houghton Beach
- Ordered replacement backboard to replace the one damaged at Mark Twain Park



HORTICULTURE TEAM

- Installed holiday lights at Heritage Park
- Hosted annual chainsaw safety training for staff
- Prepared snow and ice response materials
- Installed dock boxes at 2nd Ave and Marina park docks
- Identified and repaired an underground water leak at McAuliffe Park
- Added cedar chips to all off-leash dog parks
- Installed specimen trees such as sunset maple, white oak, and magnolia at Heritage, Mark Twain and Houghton Beach parks



NATURAL AREAS/GREEN KIRKLAND PARTNERSHIP TEAM

- Distributed thousands of native plants to volunteer Stewards for planting
- Removed milfoil and dragged the beach at Juanita Beach
- Spot sprayed invasive blackberry sprouts in restoration areas and treated blackberry bushes at Watershed Park
- Repair deer-damaged fencing around the native plant nursery at McAuliffe
- Spread wood straw at Crestwoods reclaimed dumpsite to prevent erosion

SUPPORT TEAM

- Winterized plumbing, irrigation and restrooms at multiple parks
- Repaired benches and tables at Houghton Neighborhood and Everest parks
- Installed a double gated entrance at the Juanita Beach dog park
- Cleaned dock lights at Waverly, Houghton Beach and Marina parks
- Installed holiday lights at Juanita Beach Park
- Inspected all playgrounds and initiated repairs as needed



PARK PLANNING AND DEVELOPMENT

Below is a high-level summary and status update of the active Park Planning and Development projects. Please visit the Park Planning and Development [WEBSITE](#) to learn more about these projects, to access project files, master plans, outreach efforts, and other details.

132ND SQUARE PARK

Construction started June 28, 2021. Progress continues the surface water vault construction as well as further work on the park site. The western side of the park with the playground and walking area is now closed to the community during the estimated one year of construction. The project is expected to be completed in July 2022.

Background of Project: 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.

DAVID E. BRINK PARK SHORELINE RENOVATION

Construction continues and remains on schedule. Construction began the last week of August 2021 and is expected to be finished by spring 2022. The images below show the north beach before and after.



Background of Project: This is part of a larger shoreline infrastructure project conducting major maintenance of docks, piers, and shorelines.

JUANITA HEIGHTS TRAIL PROJECT

The City of Kirkland in collaboration with King County Parks applied for a King County Parks Levy grant to acquire the Kosalos property. These parcels are adjacent to the WinSki parcel which was purchased earlier this year.

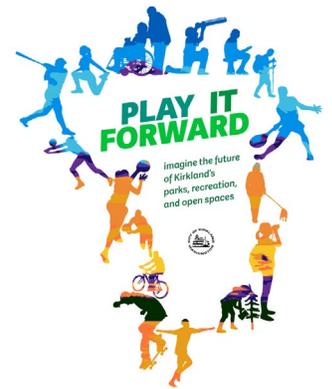
Background of Project: The expanding Juanita Heights Park is envisioned to allow trail connections to the surrounding neighborhoods down to Juanita Bay Park.

PARKS, RECREATION, AND OPEN SPACE (PROS) PLAN UPDATE

Details about the plan and ways to get involved can be found at

KIRKLANDWA.GOV/PLAYITFORWARD. Sign up for our [EMAIL LIST](#) to learn about upcoming events and progress.

Background of the Project: The department is updating its Comprehensive Parks, Recreation, and Open Space (PROS) Plan in 2021 to reflect substantial growth and changes in the community and to the park system. GreenPlay LLC was selected as the consultant for this project. It is expected that this project will be complete by May 2022 with an anticipated adoption by City Council.



RECREATION SERVICES

GIVING TUESDAY RECREATION SCHOLARSHIP CAMPAIGN

Recreation staff held a Giving Tuesday campaign on the Department's Facebook page on Tuesday, November 30. This resulted in \$1025 of donations to benefit the recreation scholarship fund. Learn more about the recreation scholarship fund on our [WEBSITE](#).

NEW CLASSES AT NORTH KIRKLAND COMMUNITY CENTER

North Kirkland Community Center debuted two new fitness-based classes this fall that have been well received by the community.

Rock Steady Boxing is an evidence-based boxing fitness class designed specifically to help fight the effects of Parkinson's Disease. Non-contact boxing drills, strength, balance, cardio and coordination activities create the basis for functional improvements for people with any level of Parkinson's. In addition to improved strength and function, participants enjoy a new sense of confidence and build supportive relationships with fellow class members. A Rock Steady Boxing community and support system have quickly formed with 19 current fighters in the program at the North Kirkland Community Center.



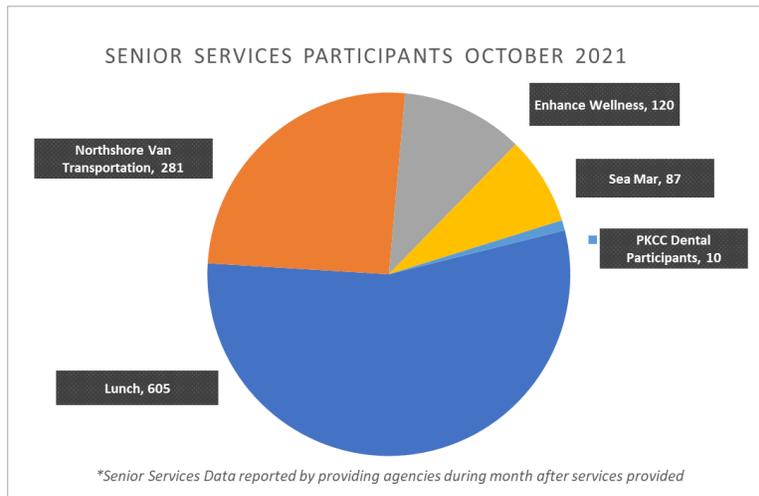
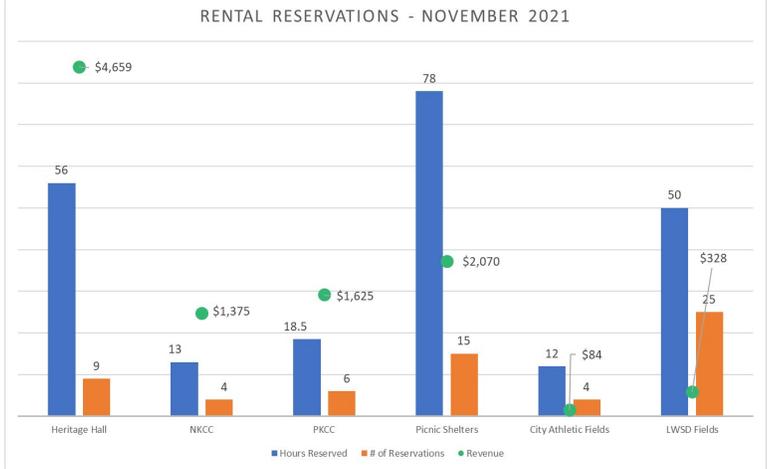
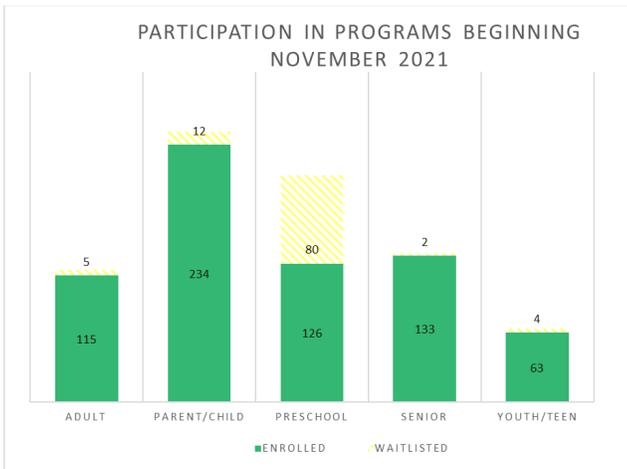
The second class is Kendo, the ancient Japanese art of sword fighting! Kendo is a coed martial arts sport based on Samurai traditions requiring both mental and physical discipline. Our class is open for ages 8 and up and families are welcome! Like Rock Steady Boxing, we have seen community members come together for this program and have seen a culture within the program grow. We have had 47 sword fighters participate in this program since it began in September.

NEW CAPOEIRA CLASSES AT PETER KIRK COMMUNITY CENTER

The Peter Kirk Community Center is delighted to be offering a new class to youth and teens ages 6-15 called Capoeira. This exciting Brazilian martial art incorporates music and dance with a physical and mental discipline so that participants develop self-confidence and coordination. This class has had such a strong following that we will be adding adult classes in January 2022!

YOUTH BASKETBALL PROGRAM RETURNS

The Youth Basketball program kicked off with a volunteer coaches meeting on November 20, 2021. We were very excited to restart this program after the 2019-2020 program was cut short due to COVID-19 and the 2020-2021 program was cancelled out of an abundance of caution. The program serves over 400 youth in 3rd through 6th grades from over 15 Kirkland schools. Coaches from all the divisions in the program were well represented at the kick-off meeting. Thank you to all our volunteer coaches that make this program a fantastic opportunity for the youth of our community to learn new skills, sportsmanship and fair play!



UPCOMING EVENTS

DATE/TIME	EVENT	LOCATION	OTHER INFO
December 11, 2021 2:10PM	Community Bonfire	Marina Park	WWW.ARGOSYCRUISES.COM/CHRISTMAS-SHIP-FESTIVAL-SCHEDULE/
December 12, 2021 6 – 9PM	Light Up Kirkland	Juanita Beach Park	WWW.KIRKLANDWA.GOV/WHATS-HAPPENING/COMMUNITY-EVENTS/PARKS-AND-COMMUNITY-SERVICES-EVENTS/LIGHT-UP-KIRKLAND
December 19, 2021 2:35PM	Community Bonfire	O.O. Denny Park	WWW.ARGOSYCRUISES.COM/CHRISTMAS-SHIP-FESTIVAL-SCHEDULE/
January 22, 2022 1 – 2PM	Polar Bear Plunge	Houghton Beach Park	KIRKLANDPARKS.NET

SPECIAL EVENTS

Staff supported the activities listed below through permitting; coordination with other City departments for street closures, fire and police support, safety and sanitary regulations and banners; City facility use; evening and weekend on-call logistical support as needed; and communication with the public. Information about permitting can be found at WWW.KIRKLANDWA.GOV/SPECIALEVENTS.



LAKE WASHINGTON HALF MARATHON



Congratulations and kudos to all 655 diehard runners who came out to the annual Lake Washington Half Marathon at Juanita Beach Park on November 6! The committed athletes, along with event staff, vendors, more than thirty course safety monitors, and twenty-eight off-duty Kirkland Police Officers experienced several hours of intense rain leaving everyone soaked. Orca Running, the event production company, hosts several races in Kirkland throughout the year. The company is committed to environmentally responsible events and has the goal of becoming carbon neutral by 2022. Learn more about their efforts to go green at ORCARUNNING.COM/GREEN/

FILM PRODUCTION PERMITS

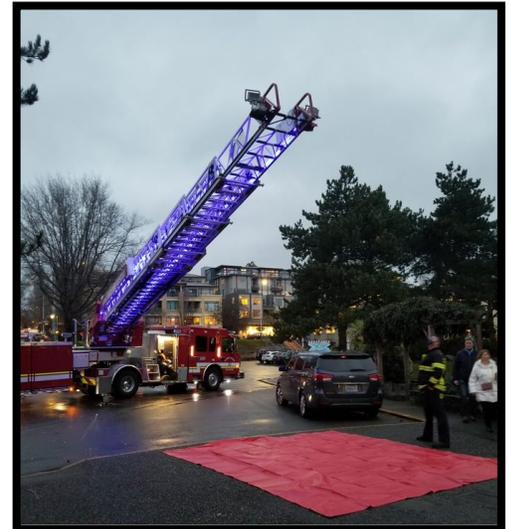
Two film projects were permitted in Kirkland during November. Seattle-based, Watts Media, set up in the Juanita neighborhood. The cast and crew of twenty-five spent three days filming for an XBOX Generations project. While Los Angeles-based, Seed Media Arts, filming with a cast and crew of twenty-five, spent one day getting shots on the 2nd Avenue South Dock and at Waverly Beach Park for a Windows 11 project. Public impacts were limited to temporary parking restrictions.

GRAND MENORAH LIGHTING



The Chabad of Kirkland hosted its annual Grand Menorah Lighting at Marina Park on November 28. The menorah lighting marks the beginning of Hanukkah, the Jewish eight-day wintertime festival of lights. Those in attendance gathered to sing, celebrate, and share in the uplifting words spoken by Rabbi Chaim Rivkin. As a special treat, the Kirkland Fire Department

arrived in a ladder truck to deliver gifts to all the children. Learn more about the host organization at WWW.JEWISHKIRKLAND.COM.



UPCOMING EVENTS

DATE/TIME	EVENT	LOCATION	OTHER INFO
December 12, 2021 9:00AM	12K's of Christmas	Marina Park	SRC12KSOFCHRISTMAS.COM