



City of Lake Forest Park
City News

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A publication of the City of Lake Forest Park • 17425 Ballinger Way NE • Lake Forest Park, WA 98155



Mayor's Corner: Finding the Balance

As mentioned in the last issue of the City's newsletter, late summer is the start of budget season for the 2019-2020 biennium. As Mayor, it's my job to submit a balanced budget to the City Council that identifies the funding priorities I feel are of greatest importance to serve the citizens of Lake Forest Park.

Balancing community and department needs and wants with available revenue can be a tough job, and this year we are facing revenue growth that is lower than inflation. As we move through the budget process, there are many chances for you to share your priorities with me and the City Council. Check the City's website for the budget calendar (www.cityofflp.com/Departments/Finance/Budget).

With several of the *Big Five* projects moving to the budget and implementation phases, there are many areas on the list which require us, your elected officials, to take a hard look at available funding and see whether the current and new (as identified by the *Big Five*) levels of service for parks, community safety, and police services, to name a few, can be maintained by existing revenue, or whether we need to explore other funding sources. The City runs on lean staffing, and I'm proud of the way everyone works hard to perform the duties needed to ensure the safety and livability of our fine city.

Your input on the budget is important to me and the City Council, and will help us as we prioritize and make the tough decisions you elected us to make. Your participation in the upcoming budget public hearings (Oct. 25, Nov. 8) and budget open house (October, date to be determined) is valuable and I urge you to attend and share your ideas.

Join me for *Picnic in the Park* at Pfingst Animal Acres Park on Saturday, Sep-

tember 8, from 10:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. I've also scheduled two *Coffee with the Mayor* events for fall. The first is just prior to



Picnic in the Park 2017

the picnic on Saturday, September 8, from 8:30 to 9:45 a.m.; and the second is on Saturday, November 3, 8:30 to 10:00 a.m. *Coffee with the Mayor* is held in the Council Chambers at City Hall.

Watch the City's website and future newsletters for more info about fall and winter events, including a Tree Lighting/Argosy Boat Viewing/Hot Chocolate with the Mayor event.

— Mayor Johnson

Budget Season is Upon Us

It's been said that a person can tell what you care about by looking at how you spend money. If you believe in this school of thought, then a budget is more than just an allocation of financial resources, it's a statement of priorities and policy. The City's budget process is already underway for the 2019-2020 biennium and conversations about priorities are just around the corner.

Unfortunately, some past budget challenges are back again. The most significant, revenue growth that is limited to a rate that is lower than



inflation (the structural deficit), has returned for this budget. Challenges exist, but the Mayor and City Council are laser focused on delivering outstanding value for the community's resources and are well positioned to ensure that outcome. The budget season calendar includes frequent opportunities for community involvement; this is your opportunity to share your priorities and influence the final budget.

The budget calendar is available from the budget tab on the Finance Department page on the website.

Connect with the City on social media and stay up to date on news & events in Lake Forest Park:

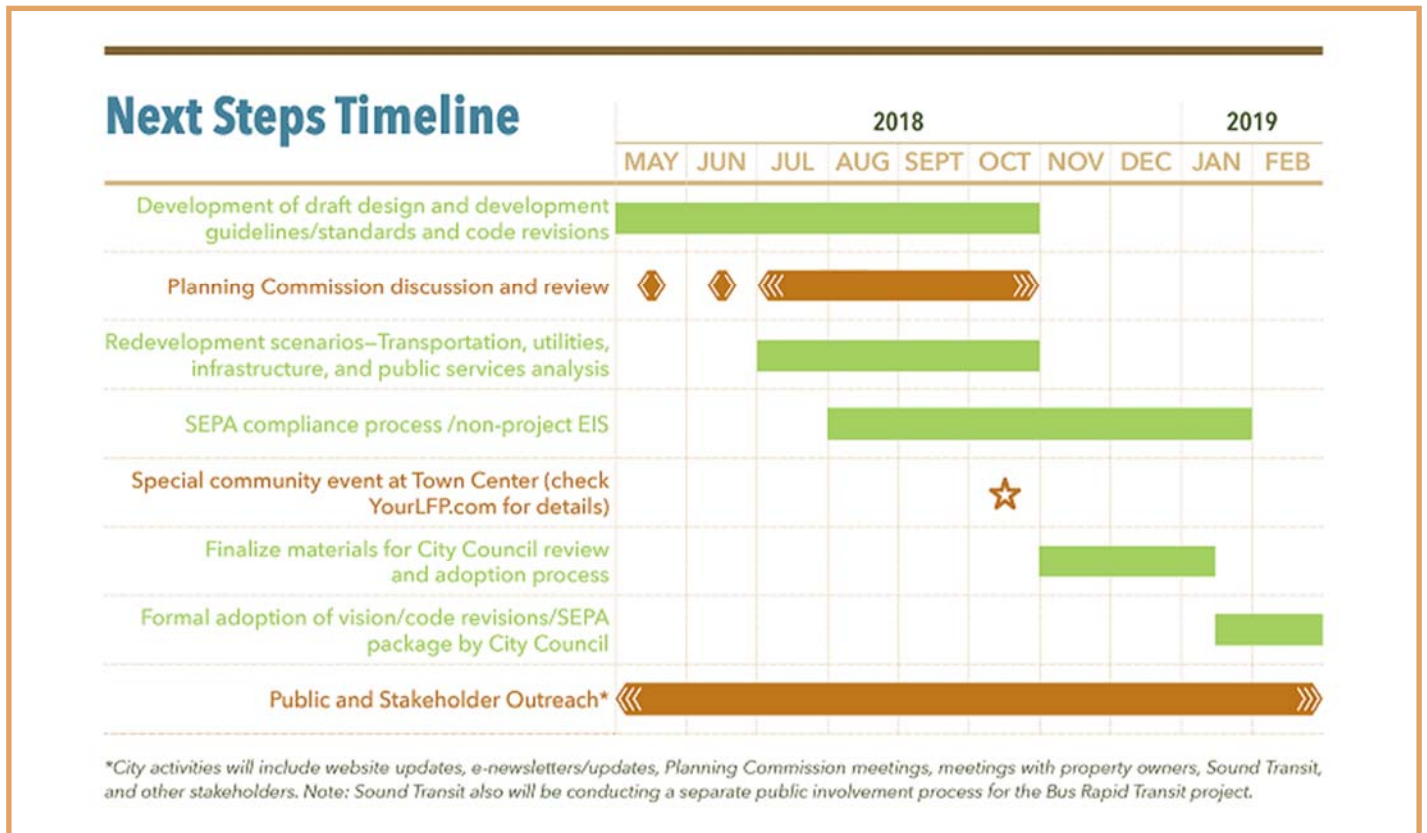
Town Center Vision Update

On June 14, the City Council approved consultant contracts to move the City into the next phase of work on planning for the Town Center redevelopment. With assistance from Shiels Obletz Johnsen, Inc. (SOJ) and Otak, Inc., the City is laying the groundwork for redevelopment of the Town Center to reflect the input received from the community during development of the Town Center Vision (Vision).

The current objective is to update zoning regulations and design guidelines for the Town Center area in a way that reflects the Vision and facilitates the integration of mixed use (residential and commercial) development and Sound Transit's Rapid Ride infrastructure. The Planning Commission met twice a month during the summer in order to

complete its review of draft regulations and design guidelines by November. The Commission will forward a recommended draft of these provisions to City Council, which will formally adopt them in early 2019.

The City and its consultants are also analyzing the level of improvements needed related to transportation, utilities, public services, and other infrastructure to support implementation of the Vision. In order to comply with the State Environmental Policy Act (SEPA), the City plans to issue a determination of significance and complete an environmental impact statement to analyze the potential impacts of development scenarios that would be allowed by the new regulations and design guidelines. That process will likely start in October.



Distracted Drivers Cause Crashes!

We know distracted drivers using their cell phones cause crashes, so in June the Police Department went out to first educate drivers with reader board messages and then wrote more than 60 tickets in a three-hour emphasis. More

emphasis patrols are planned for the future, so please put the phone down and concentrate on driving.





Fall Lawn Care Tips

Fall is the perfect time to get your grass back into shape. Whether you let it go brown during the summer months and it needs some rejuvenation, or you just want to give it a bit of extra vibrancy, be sure to take the proper steps to enhance your lawn as well as protect the environment.

When the rain does arrive (around September), use a slow-release fertilizer, but be careful! Pay close attention to the recommended amounts for application. Too much fertilizer can lead to pollutant runoff, where excess fertilizer that wasn't absorbed in the

soil flows into the nearest waterway. Also, be aware of hard surfaces like sidewalks, driveways and roadways near your application area. Sweep all fertilizer granules from hard surfaces to prevent pollutant runoff from entering the storm drains.

While you prep your yard for winter, be sure to keep the leaves at bay. Mulch them using your mower and provide a top layer of decomposing nutrients for your soil and lawn.

OR

Pick them up and place them in your yard waste bin or compost area as a preventative measure to keep your storm drains free and clear of clogs.

*Extra yard waste containers (one 96-gallon container + 3 paper yard waste bags) may be placed curbside for pick up.

However you plan to nourish your lawn, always keep in mind the nearby waterways that could be affected by your activities. Happy Lawnspring!

The Great Shake Out Earthquake Drill is October 18, 2018

Most of us can recall diving under our desks in elementary school to practice responding to an earthquake. As it turns out, that is still the best advice on how to protect yourself when the next earthquake hits. So, join Lake Forest Park staff and nearly 10 million people worldwide on October 18, at 10:18 a.m., for the Great Shake Out Earthquake Drill.

DROP where you are, onto your hands and knees. This position protects you from being



knocked down and also allows you to stay low and crawl to shelter, if nearby.

COVER your head and neck with one arm and hand. If a sturdy table



or desk is nearby, crawl underneath it for shelter. If no shelter is nearby, crawl next to an interior wall (away from windows). Stay on your knees; bend over to protect vital organs.

HOLD ON until the shaking stops. Under shelter: hold on to it with one



hand; be ready to move with your shelter if it shifts. No shelter: hold on to your head and neck with both arms and hands.

If there is no table or desk near you, drop to the ground and then, if possible, move to an inside corner of the room. Be in a crawling position to protect your vital organs and be ready to move if necessary, cover your head and neck with your hands and arms.

Do not move to another location or outside. Earthquakes occur without any warning and may be so violent that you cannot run or crawl. You are more likely to be injured if you try to move around during strong shaking. Also, you never know if the initial jolt will turn out to be the start of the big one...and that's why you should always Drop, Cover, and Hold On immediately!

Upcoming City Council Meetings

All meetings take place at City Hall

City Council Regular Business Meetings
Sept. 13 & 27, Oct. 11 & 25, Nov. 8,
7:00 p.m.

City Council Work Session Meetings
Sept. 13, Oct. 11, Nov. 8, 6:00 p.m.

City Council Budget & Finance Committee
Sept. 20, Oct. 18, Nov. 1 (if needed),
6:00 p.m.

City Council Committee of the Whole
Sept. 24, Oct. 22, 6:00 p.m.

For the complete City calendar, please
visit our website at www.cityofffp.com

CITY HALL

17425 Ballinger Way NE
Lake Forest Park, WA
98155-5556

Mon-Fri: 9:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m.
Phone: 206-368-5440
Fax: 206-364-6521
Web: www.cityofffp.com

PERMIT COUNTER

Mon-Fri: 9:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.
1:00 p.m. – 3:00 p.m.

PASSPORTS

Mon, Thurs & Fri: 12:00 p.m. – 4:00 p.m.
Sat: 10:00 a.m. – 3:30 p.m.
Phone: 206-957-2834

MUNICIPAL COURT

Mon-Fri: 9:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m.
Phone: 206-364-7711
Fax: 206-364-7712

POLICE

Emergency: 911
Non-emergency: 206-364-8216
Domestic Violence
Victim Advocate: 206-417-8267

Lake Forest Park Earns WellCity Award

For the 8th year in a row, the City of Lake Forest Park earned the distinguished WellCity Award from the Association of Washington Cities, in recognition of meeting stringent program standards and demonstrating a commitment to employee health.



The AWC Employee Benefit Trust is the state's largest local government employee health benefit pool for cities, towns, and other local governments. When an employer meets the WellCity standards, it earns a 2% discount on its medical premiums. For Lake Forest Park, this is estimated to be over \$4,000 in savings in 2018.



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Lake Forest Park Recreation Opportunities with the City of Shoreline for Fall



Early registration for fall programs and classes opened in August. If you missed early registration, LFP residents still receive an 8% discount on all program fees (not rentals) through the entire year! To receive timely notice of the early registration dates, sign up for reminders through the City's website, Facebook and Twitter.

Reminder: the City offers scholarship reimbursements for eligible youth and specialized recreation participants who reside in the City and are registered for and attend cultural, recreation, or aquatic programs and camps. For more information, go to our webpage or call City Hall, 206-368-5440.

