



Kenmore NEWSLETTER

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Central Segment of SR 522 Improvement Project Nearing Completion

The central segment of work on SR 522 is nearing completion. In the last few months, a majority of roadway work was completed, including final roadway paving in the project area from 65th Avenue NE to 73rd Avenue NE and related side streets. Traffic barrels have been removed from the Business Access and Transit (BAT) lanes to open them up and allow for more efficient transit travel. Landscaping work, final utility connections, property restoration, and traffic signal work is all underway as the team works to complete this project.

Utility Conversions

A majority of the remaining work taking place on the SR 522 corridor includes coordinating the conversion of utilities to individual businesses throughout the central phase of the project. Several utility companies have been working together to make the required conversions from overhead utility wires to underground service. Once this work is completed, existing power poles and overhead wires can be removed and final sidewalk and roadway patching can be completed.

In addition to utility conversions, crews are completing traffic signal work. The central segment includes new signals at the intersections of NE 181st Street and 68th Avenue NE as well as NE 181st Street and 73rd Avenue NE. These signals can be energized after utility conversions are completed and power poles and overhead wires have been removed.

Landscaping & Aesthetic Improvements

Landscaping work has also been underway, including planting new trees and shrubs along the corridor. Other aesthetic improvements include tree grates, leaf patterns in the sidewalks at selected intersections and new street lighting.

The City of Kenmore realizes that roadway construction can be a major inconvenience to those that live, work and visit Kenmore. Thank you for your continued patience and for supporting the local businesses.

Project Design is Underway for West Segment

The City is currently designing the west segment of the SR 522 Improvement Project between 60th Ave NE and 65th Ave NE. Design for this segment includes roadway widening, new sidewalks, conversion to underground utilities, landscaping and medians. The City continues to actively pursue the remaining funds needed to move forward with right-of-way acquisition and construction. A community open house will be held in spring 2010 to present the complete plans to the community.

Stay Informed

Follow the project's progress at www.KenmoreSR522.com and sign up to receive e-mail updates. If you have questions or concerns regarding the project, please contact us at 425-361-6300 or at info@KenmoreSR522.com.



New landscaping includes trees along SR 522.

RPIN.org
Breaking News
and Alerts

TRAFFIC - WIND - EARTHQUAKE - FLOODS

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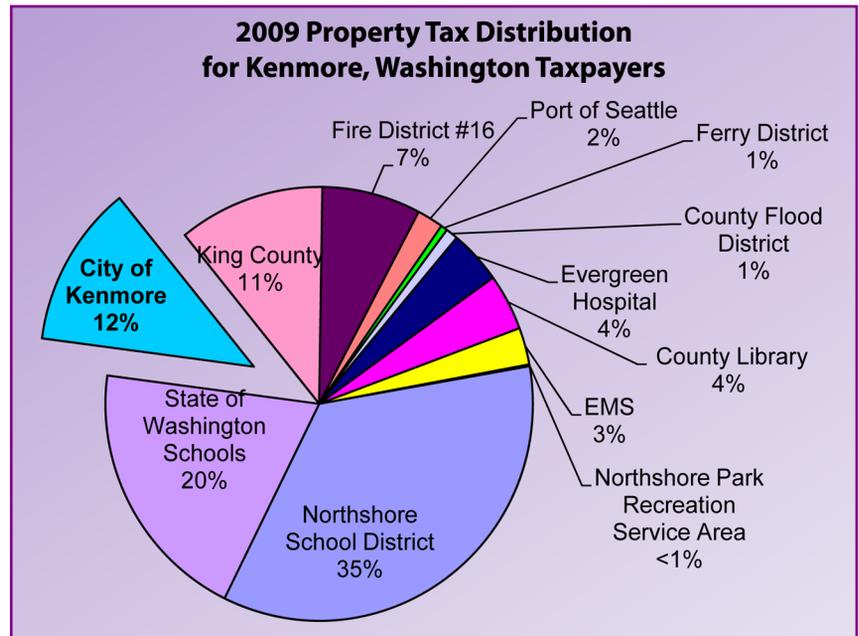
City Council Adopts Biennial Budget Amendments; No Increase in 2010 Property Tax Levy

On November 30 the City Council voted to maintain the same property tax levy in 2010 as in 2009, a zero percent increase other than new taxes resulting from new construction going on the tax rolls. Approximately 12 percent of a Kenmore taxpayer's total tax bill goes to the City, as shown on the chart to the right:

Many homeowners will notice a reduction in the assessed value of their homes this year. It is estimated that assessed values in Kenmore will decline by an average of 16 percent for 2010. However, this does not mean that there will be similar declines in property taxes for 2010. Depending on the change in value of each property, a taxpayer may pay less but could also pay the same or more taxes in 2010 than in 2009.

Many states have a rate-based property tax system where taxes go up and down depending on changes in property values. Washington is different; the property tax system is levy-based, which means a taxing district can collect a specific dollar amount (the levy) each year. Due to Initiative 747 approved by voters in November 2001, this levy can generally only be increased by 1 percent annually. Each year the county assessor calculates the tax rate (also known as the millage rate) by dividing the levy amount by the total value of all property in the City. This determines the tax rate, which is expressed in dollars per \$1,000 of assessed value, and which is applied to each property to determine the tax liability.

Using this formula, the tax rate increases when the total value of the property in the City falls, in order to raise the same amount of money (the levy). This explains the increase in Kenmore's tax rate between 2009 (\$1.19) and 2010 (\$1.44 estimate). For 2010, the City Council did not increase the levy

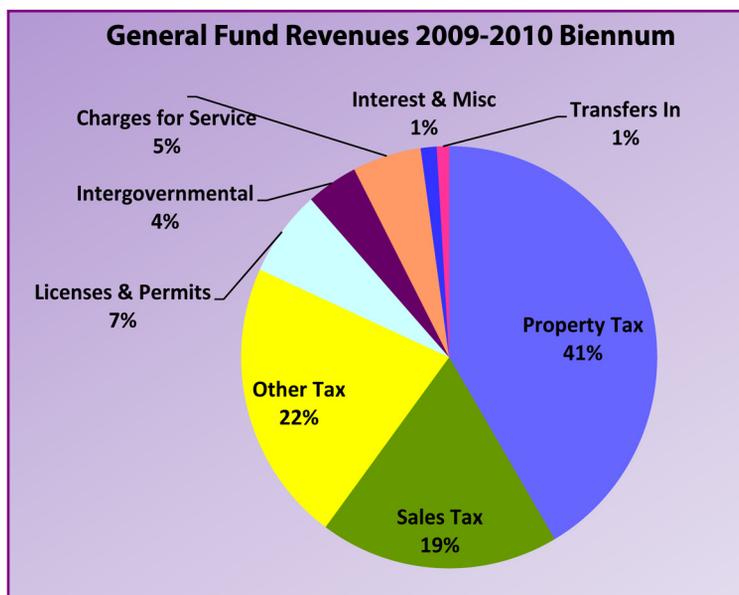


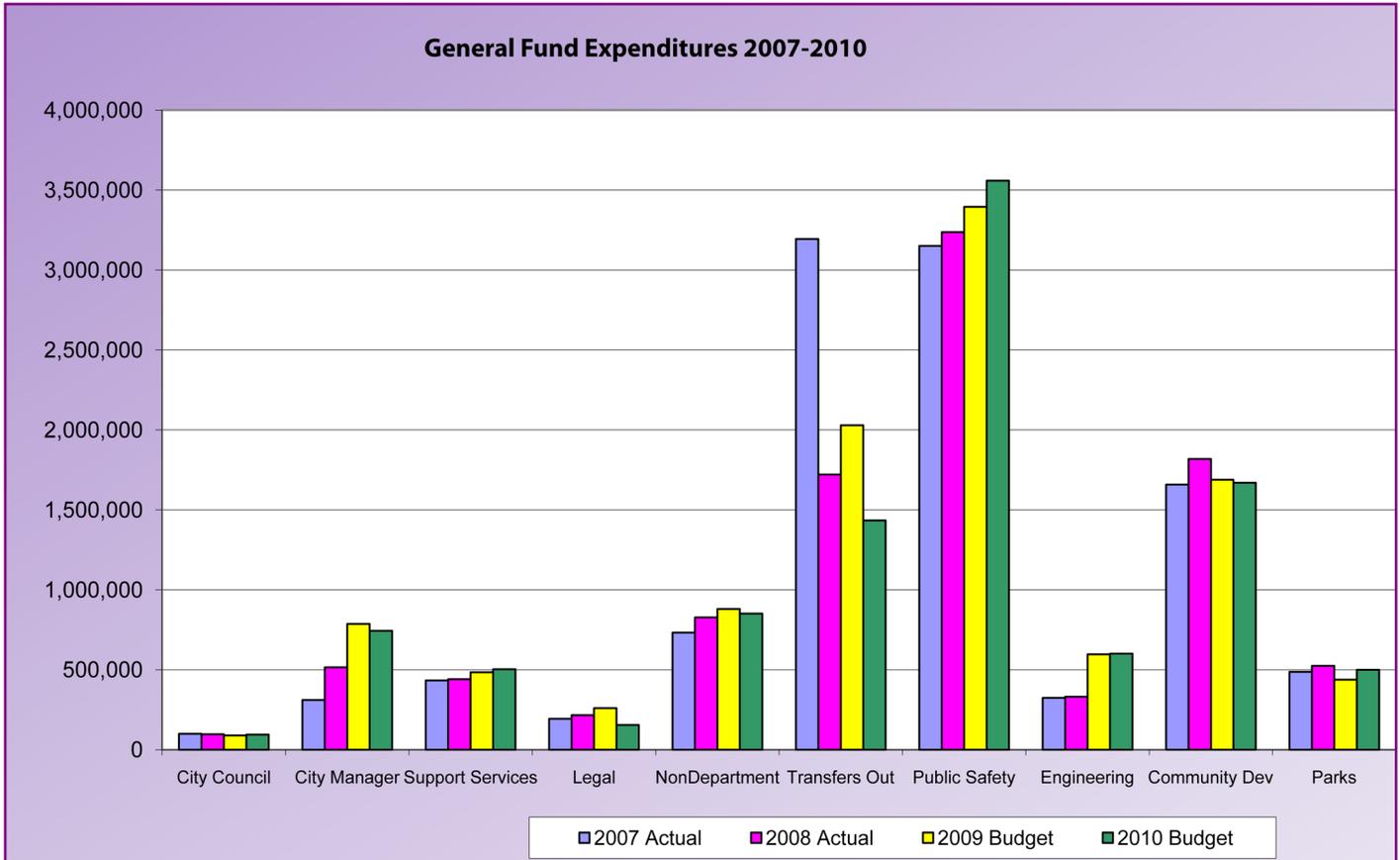
which was \$4,014,900 in 2009. In fact, the City Council has not increased the property tax levy since 2004, although the addition of new construction each year has added to the tax revenue and caused the levy rate to go down.

The City's property tax levy comprises 41 percent, or \$7,870,521, of the total general fund (operating) resources of \$18,950,806 for 2009-2010 which supports the operating budget.

The City's operating budget for 2009-2010 is \$20,761,883. The operating budget is used to provide a variety of services to Kenmore residents including public safety, human services, planning and development, park and street maintenance, emergency response, public works and engineering. The graph on page 3 shows how the cost of services in the general fund budget has changed over the last several years.

Since this is the first year of the City's first biennial budget, for the years 2009-2010, the City Council performed a mid-biennial review and adopted budget amendments to adjust certain budgetary items based on changing economic conditions and City Council priorities. General Fund revenues have not shown dramatic declines and have been stable and close to projections due to conservative budgeting. Pressures from the recession, and particularly unemployment, remain a threat to the local economy, and may for several years; therefore, the City must continue to be conservative, vigilant, and prepared to make reductions in services and expenditures. General Fund expenditures have increased in some unanticipated areas, but reductions in other areas offset these increases. Overall, the total of the proposed adjustments to the General Fund expenditures have no net impact to the budgeted ending fund balance.





Throughout the year, the City Council has been advised that the economic climate, and particularly the depressed real estate market, has had an adverse effect on the capital funds, which experienced severe declines in park and transportation

impact fee revenues and real estate excise tax revenues. A number of adjustments were made to those funds.

For more information about Kenmore property taxes, visit www.cityofkenmore.com or contact the City at 425-398-8900.

Notices of Application Issued for the Period of Sept. through Nov. 2009

1) 19322 63rd Avenue NE

Kenmore File No. CUP2009-037

Conditional Use Permit (CUP) for a proposed conversion of an existing 4,412 square foot single-family home into a bed and breakfast.

2) 5653 NE 180th St.

Kenmore File No. PSP2009-030.

Proposed residential short plat of existing 29,193 square foot lot into two lots, existing residence to be removed. Access would come from NE 180th St. and a driveway tract along the east side of the property.

City Seeking Members to Serve on the Planning Commission and Downtown Task Force

The Kenmore City Council is seeking Kenmore citizens who are interested in serving on the Planning Commission or Downtown Task Force as openings become available. The Planning Commission is a seven-member advisory group that provides guidance and recommendations to the City Council on policy matters relating to amendments to the City's Comprehensive Plan and/or related land use regulations. The Downtown Task Force is a thirteen-member advisory group that provides guidance and recommendations to the City Council on achieving the goals of the City's adopted Downtown Plan. All members are appointed by and serve at the pleasure of the City Council.

Planning Commission positions are open to Kenmore residents only. Downtown Task Force positions are open to Kenmore residents and property and business owners within Kenmore. To be considered for appointment, please complete an application form and submit to the City Clerk at lbatchelor@ci.kenmore.wa.us or via mail to Kenmore City Hall, PO Box 82607, Kenmore, WA 98028. Application forms are available on the City's website, www.cityofkenmore.com or at Kenmore City Hall, 7330 NE Bothell Way, Suite 201. Completed application forms will be accepted until January 20, 2010.

Help Keep Drains Clear of Leaves to Prevent Urban Flooding

Clean storm drains help prevent localized flooding. City crews work to keep storm drains clear, but with over 4,000 drains in Kenmore, we could use your help! With your assistance, we can keep streets safe and clear and can reduce property damage caused by flooding.

What is a storm drain?

Storm drains are rectangular grates with slats and are normally near the edge of the street. These grates collect water, which then flows to the nearest stream or lake.

What should I do with all of the leaves?

- Check storm drain grates frequently to make sure they are free of leaves and debris.
- Do not remove the grate from the storm drain opening - this does not unclog the system and creates a hazard for everyone.
- Rake leaves away from storm drains



near your house or business. (Do not rake or blow leaves from your property into the street. Our street sweeper cannot pick up large piles of leaves.

- Dispose of leaves in your yard waste container or compost bin.

To Report Severe Flooding

If localized flooding is severe and you are unable to clear the drain, please call Kenmore City Hall at 425-398-8900 during business hours or after hours call 206-296-8100.

Sandbags Available to Kenmore Residents

The City of Kenmore has deployed over 2,000 sandbags at five designated locations for use during the flood season. Please notify the City prior to taking sandbags by calling 425-398-8900. This will allow the City to track the number of sandbags used and to refill the locations.

Sandbag Locations

Near Kenmore Elementary
NE 192nd St & 73rd Ave NE

Old Kenmore Park & Ride
68th Ave NE & NE 182nd St

Log Boom Park
61st Ave NE & NE 175th St

Rhododendron Park
6910 NE 170th St

Arrowhead Drive
67th Ave NE & NE 155th St

Snow and Ice Removal Plan

Winter has arrived, and along with it the possibility of snow and icy streets. While Kenmore does not receive a predictable amount of snowfall each year, public works maintenance crews are prepared to respond. Through the City's contract with the City of Lake Forest Park, there are seven trucks available for treating snow and ice conditions in the City of Kenmore. Four trucks have plows and sanders, and three trucks have plows. During a snow and ice event, maintenance crews will switch to two 12-hour shifts to ensure 24-hour coverage. The overall goal is to provide the safest driving conditions possible to the public.

Snow and ice crews will focus on primary routes first, including arterials, bus routes, and designated emergency routes. These roads will continue to receive treatment as long as necessary to reduce hazardous driving conditions. Once the primary routes are clear, attention will turn to secondary and residential streets. Crews will continue to work around the clock as long as snow and ice conditions exist.

The City of Kenmore urges citizens to remain off roadways during severe weather events; however, if you must travel, motorists should keep these basic winter driving tips in mind.

- Allow ample time to reach your destination.
- Equip your vehicle with all-season tires and tire chains.



- Dress for weather in case you become stranded and have to walk.
- Keep a disaster kit in your vehicle.
- Use caution when following a snowplow or sander by allowing at least 100 ft following distance.

To report icy or hazardous conditions during business hours, call City Hall at (425) 398-8900 or after hours call (206) 296-8100.

**For more information on Emergency Preparedness visit
www.cityofkenmore.com/preparedness**

City Manager's Corner: 2009 in Review

The year 2009 was busy and another one is on the horizon for your City Council. What are the City Council priorities for the City of Kenmore, and what is the score card for the Council in reaching priorities set in recent years? In January, the Council will be reviewing current City projects designed to accomplish the Comprehensive Plan and to meet community needs.

Looking back in 2009, the City Council and Kenmore Community can celebrate the completion of many accomplishments, including several stages of the SR 522 transportation corridor improvements. Traffic is moving smoother already, new bus shelters are in place to protect transit riders, and bike lanes and pedestrian paths all enhance safety.

Another accomplishment of the entire community is keeping the Post Office in Kenmore even if it's in a new location (in the old City Hall). Now the King County Library Kenmore can begin construction early on the new Kenmore branch.

And there are more accomplishments. The Planning Commission and the City Council completed the review of the Bastyr University Master Plan, which was adopted by the City Council in December with a 7-0 vote. An 11-year lease agreement between the City and Bastyr University was also adopted by the City Council, allowing public and league use of the privately-owned ball fields at Bastyr. The City Council adopted the Economic Development Strategy prepared under the direction of Assistant City Manager Nancy Ousley and the Economic Development Task Force. The implementation strategy and marketing approach were also approved in 2009 and began immediately.

Following the adoption of a new Surface Water Master Plan last December, a Swamp Creek Mitigation Plan process began with further review of past studies and actions and current conditions. A Swamp Creek Master Plan for a 40-acre park was initiated as part of this process. An open house was conducted in November 2009 to receive comments from community members on various options. The draft plan and implementation options will be presented to the public early next year.

Rhododendron Park was blessed with new plantings led by Warren Timmons, Inglemoor High school students, and various other volunteers. New restrooms were installed, and in early 2010 a basketball court will be constructed adjacent to the parking lot.

The City completed overlays on 2.38 miles of



In March 2009, the Kenmore City Council, Director of Washington Department of Ecology Jay Manning, Representative Maralyn Chase, and King County Councilmember Bob Ferguson broke ground on the site of the future Kenmore City Hall, which is scheduled to open in Spring 2010.

street. Again, the City was able to benefit from the good bidding environment. In early 2010 the City Council will review the street improvement and overlay program and also consider how additional revenues can increase the amount of street improvements done every year. A new Council priority set in 2009 was the creation of a design and map connecting the various City open spaces and parks.

Let's better see and find what's here and what makes Kenmore a special place!! Kenmore has many places for walking, solitude, becoming part of nature, viewing habitat and open space, and much more, but these many marvelous settings may not be known to many of our citizens. This program will be presented in January to the City Council and the public.

The construction of the Kenmore City Hall remains on schedule and under budget. The construction contract was awarded in March 2009 and occupancy is expected by May 2010. The favorable bidding climate resulted in considerable savings from earlier cost estimates. This project, a priority for many years, will include community meeting space in addition to a City Council chambers, and finally, efficient office space. With the help of the City Hall Public Art Committee, Susan Zoccola was selected to design and install a sculpture at City Hall, in accordance with the City's 1% for Public Art policy.

Truly a busy year! What did I leave out? Daily, City employees work to maintain and improve the quality of life in Kenmore, responding to day-to-day needs as well as making progress on long-range projects and the big problems. The community, City Council, and many volunteers work hard to make and keep Kenmore a great place to live and work. Thanks to all and Happy Holidays.

Sincerely,

Fred Stouder, City Manager

Subscribe to receive
*City News &
Meeting Information*

through the following distribution lists: Kenmore City Council, Downtown Task Force, Planning Commission, Land Use Notices, News Releases & Newsletters

www.listserv.wa.gov

Kenmore City Hall Construction is More Than Fifty Percent Complete

The Kenmore City Council and project team members celebrated the completion of the roof at a Topping Out Ceremony on October 30. Now that most of the structural work is completed, crews will start what is called the “dry in.” This means that the building is enclosed and weatherproof enough to begin installing the mechanical and electrical systems as well as the interiors.

As you drive by the construction site, you will see that the brickwork is well underway on the west side of the building. Crews will continue this work through mid-January. Once the brickwork is complete, crews will install the remaining windows on the building.

As of the end of November, construction of the new city hall is 51 percent complete and well within the total project budget of \$14,421,721 that was approved by the City Council in March 2009. The estimated completion date is Spring 2010.

The project is tracking slightly ahead on the points needed for a Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design (LEED) Gold rating. This is primarily due



to the contractor being able to recycle 95 percent of construction debris, which is 20 percent higher than what was expected. King County awarded a LEED grant for the City Hall project and Puget Sound Energy is awarding a Conservation Grant, recognizing energy saving features in the building's design.

The general contractor is Graham Construction, and the City's project management consultant is Olympic Associates. Weinstein AU is responsible for the design of the new City Hall.

For more information, visit the City's website at www.cityofkenmore.com/cityhall or call 425-398-8900.

Be Careful of Scams

Every year during the holiday season there is a large volume of fraudulent scams. The following are only a few of the scams commonly used:

Door-to-Door Sales

Beware of anyone who knocks on your door and tries to sell you a service. The most common types of fraud scams are those involving roof repairs, yard work and house cleaning. If you are in need of any of these services, it is always best to contact reputable companies who are willing to give you an estimate.

Telemarketing Sales

When someone calls you on

the phone and wants to sell you anything, always ask them for their tax identification number and for a telephone number, so you can call them back. Never commit to buying anything until you have a chance to check the company out with the Better Business Bureau, and never give out your social security or credit card number to a telephone solicitor.

Mail Theft

Mail theft is always at an all-time high during the holiday season. Do not put any mail that contains checks, money orders or cash in your street-side mailbox. These envelopes should always be mailed from inside the post

office.

Telephone Scam

We have had a group of people working an overseas telephone scam. This is how it works: You receive a telephone call where the caller leaves a message asking you to call either a company or travel agency at an overseas number. When you make the call, the individual is able to tap into your phone line and use it to make numerous, expensive long distance calls.

Never hesitate to call 911 if you have been contacted by a suspicious person or have been a victim of a crime.

Community Calendar

**Kenmore Senior Center
Birthday Celebration**

*Kenmore Senior Center
February 17, 1 p.m. – 3 p.m.*

Celebrate the Kenmore Senior Center's fifth year at Rhododendron Park with birthday cake, silent auction, raffle and crafts. For more information call 425-489-0707.

**Politics of Health in America:
Reform and the Practitioner**

*Bastyr University, Room 146
February 23, 5:45 p.m. – 8 p.m.*

Bastyr University is pleased to present a continuation of "Politics of Health in America," a series of panel discussions that examine a broad spectrum of issues related to the state of our health care system. Three regional health care experts will discuss "Healthcare Reform and the Practitioner." An audience Q&A session will follow the panel discussion. For more information, visit www.bastyr.edu and click on "events."

Spring Egg Hunt

Saturday, April 3

Hop on over to the annual Spring Egg Hunt organized by the City. Children 12 and under will search for more than 5,000 eggs and enjoy inflatable rides, arts & crafts and kids games. For more information visit the City's website at www.cityofkenmore.com/events.

*All events are free

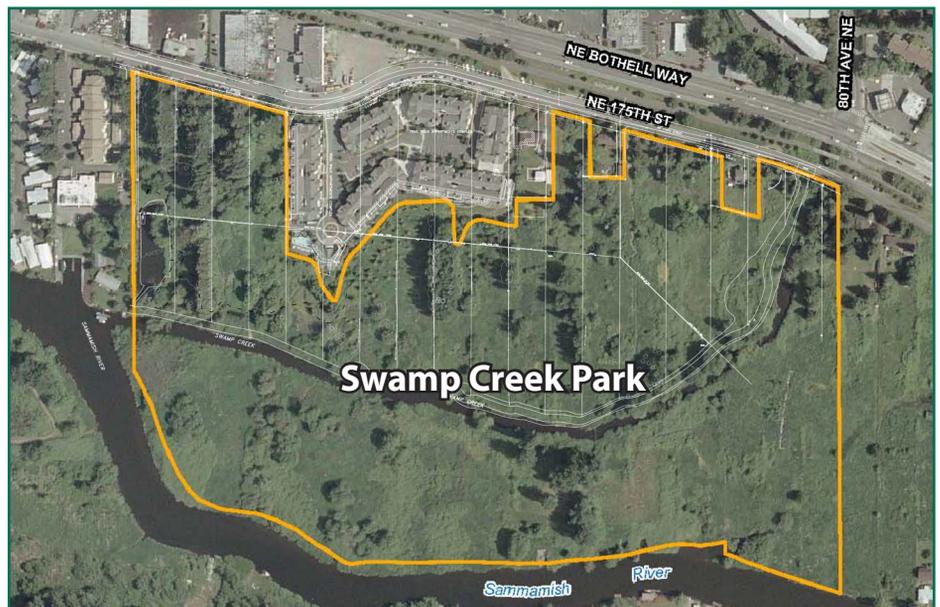
Swamp Creek Park Master Plan

Ownership of the 42-acre Swamp Creek Park property, located just south of NE 175th Street and adjacent to the Sammamish River, was recently transferred to the City from King County. The City is in the process of preparing a park master plan for the property showing all potential future improvements.

The park will serve primarily as open space and can only be developed with passive improvements such as trails, interpretive information, wildlife habitat, viewing areas, limited water access and associated support facilities, such as parking and restroom facilities.

A public meeting was held on Nov. 18 to receive input regarding future development of the park. Various conceptual plans were presented for discussion and can be found on the City's website at www.cityofkenmore.com/cityprojects. Another public meeting will be scheduled in January 2010.

The City Council is also seeking ideas for a new name for the park. Suggested names can be submitted through the end of January 2010 by email at cityhall@ci.kenmore.wa.us. For more information, please contact Bill Evans, Parks Project Manager, at (425) 398-8900 or bevans@ci.kenmore.wa.us.



**Puget Sound Energy Offers
Rebates to Customers**

Puget Sound Energy offers energy-efficient rebates from \$2 to \$3,950 on qualified appliances, lighting, heating, converting to natural gas, insulation, insulation referrals, water heating, showerhead kit, windows, and manufactured homes.

For more information, visit Puget Sound Energy's website at www.pse.com/rebates.

32nd District Legislators Contact Information

The Washington State Legislature begins its 2010 Session on January 11, 2010. The City of Kenmore continues to work with our 32nd District Legislators and several committee chairs on legislative priorities, including transportation funding, stormwater, and parks issues.

Kenmore is in the 32nd Legislative District, which is represented by:

Senator Darlene Fairley
360.786.7662
fairley.darlene@leg.wa.gov

Representative Maralyn Chase
360.786.7880
chase.maralyn@leg.wa.gov

Representative Ruth Kagi
360.786.7910
kagi.ruth@leg.wa.gov

You can contact their offices to comment on issues or sign up for updates. The Legislative Hotline Number is 1.800.562.6000, and the Legislature website is www.leg.wa.gov.

City of Kenmore

7330 NE Bothell Way
P.O. Box 82607
Kenmore, WA 98028-0607

Phone: 425-398-8900

Fax: 425-481-3236

Email: cityhall@ci.kenmore.wa.us

Internet address: www.cityofkenmore.com

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Upcoming Meetings and Events

Kenmore City Council holds council meetings on the first four Mondays of the month. Meetings are open to the public, and public comments are accepted at the beginning of the meeting. Meetings are held at the Northshore Utility District, 6830 NE 185th St. and begin at 7 p.m. Meeting agendas, schedules and locations are available on the City's website at www.cityofkenmore.com/council or call the City Clerk at 425-398-8900.

Downtown Task Force holds meetings on the 2nd and 4th Wednesdays of the month at 7 p.m. at the Northshore Utility District, 6830 NE 185th St. For meeting agendas, visit www.cityofkenmore.com/meetings.

Planning Commission holds meetings on the 1st and 3rd Wednesdays of the month at 7 p.m. at the Northshore Utility District, 6830 NE 185th St. For meeting agendas, visit www.cityofkenmore.com/meetings.

Kenmore Library Advisory Board holds meetings on the 2nd Tuesday of each month at the Kenmore Library at 7 p.m.

Northshore Fire Commission holds public meetings on the 1st and 3rd Tuesdays of each month at the Kenmore Fire Station at 5 p.m. For more information, visit www.northshorefire.com

Northshore Utility District Board of Commissioners holds meetings on the 1st and 3rd Mondays of each month at 5:30 p.m. For more information, visit www.nud.net.

Kenmore Senior Center is a branch of Northshore Senior Center and partially sponsored by the City of Kenmore and Senior Services. For more information call 425-489-0707.

*Photo of choir on page 1 courtesy of Kenmore Reporter

Good Numbers to Know

Emergencies

Police/Fire ----- 911
Flooding/drainage (after hours) ----- 206-296-8100
Street concerns (after hours) ----- 206-296-8100

Public Safety Non-emergency

Police Services ----- 425-398-8900
Fire Services ----- 425-486-2784

Planning and Land Use

Building Permits ----- 425-398-8900
Land Use ----- 425-398-8900
General Questions ----- 425-398-8900
Code Compliance ----- 425-398-8900

Public Works

Public Works ----- 425-398-8900

Other Services

Animal Control ----- 206-296-PETS
Trash Services ----- 206-682-9730
Cable TV ----- 206-286-1818
Water & Sewer ----- 425-398-4400
Kenmore Library ----- 425-486-8747
Electricity & Gas ----- 425-454-2000