Our Vision: Creating Lynnwood’s Best Future
Story from the Visioning Task Force

In life, our proudest achievements are usually the things we plan for. We set goals—big and small—and then plan the steps to arrive there. It’s the same for our city. Knowing what we want Lynnwood to be 20 years from now—and having a flexible plan to meet our city’s changing needs—gives us the power to turn a vision of what our city can be into a reality.

Through the support of Mayor Gough and the City Council, and the input from nearly 400 citizens, we’ve achieved two very important goals. Lynnwood now has:

1. A Vision, the destination toward which all our city operations will work.
2. A Citizen’s Visioning Task Force, charged with communicating about and increasing citizen involvement in the ongoing development and oversight of the Vision.

Our City’s Vision: Adopted by Council on January 26, 2009, is the outcome of over 4,000 citizen comments gathered in 29 community meetings held between June, 2007 and April, 2008. More than 75 citizens participated in an in-depth series of heartfelt discussions. We thought about what kind of character we want Lynnwood to have in the future and what kind of opportunities would lead to prosperity while promoting our
Visioning Continued from cover

special character, all while staying true to the original citizen comments.

The Vision created through this process starts with a big-picture statement that says what Lynnwood will be and includes seven focus-area statements (and related steps) that identify how we will reach that big-picture goal. Our Citizen’s Task Force will soon begin work on defining the terms used in the Vision so that the intent of each statement is clear and specific for the city to put into action.

To join the Citizen’s Visioning Task Force, call 425-670-5023 or email jmoore@ci.lynnwood.wa.us. We’re a friendly bunch, have accomplished a lot—and there is much more to do!

See page 5 for Lynnwood Moving Forward: Our Community Vision.

Good-Bye Old Friend

The beloved old green dragon that gave North Lynnwood Park its nickname (Dragon Park) will soon retire. In keeping with the park’s theme, a fierce new dragon will be the central feature of the new water spray pool at North Lynnwood Park. Renovation of this spray pool and the one at Daleway Park has begun and will be completed by this summer.

The spray pools were considered “state of the art” when they were built in 1972. And until recently, they were the only ones in Snohomish County. After 38 years, the spray pools were showing their age, required a lot of maintenance and didn’t meet current safety and accessibility standards. With state grants from the Recreation and Conservation Office, the old spray equipment will be replaced with ground-related spray features that provide fun and interactive water play for all ages, with improved safety and access.

Everyone is invited to the grand openings that will be planned at each park this summer; the date and time will be announced soon.

EDMONDS SCHOOL DISTRICT NEWS

Superintendent’s Roundtables focus on gifted education, special needs students, and school funding challenges

Please join us for the Superintendent’s Roundtable from noon – 1 p.m. April 8 in the Board Room of the Edmonds School District ESC building, 20420 68th Ave W, Lynnwood.

All topics for the school year are posted on the Edmonds School District webpage, www.edmonds.wednet.edu. Roundtable information can be found under Superintendent and School Board on the left navigation bar.

More School District News on Page 12
Annexation: Will it Impact Current Lynnwood Residents?

Lynnwood City Council has decided to move forward with annexation of the unincorporated areas north, east and southeast of the existing City limits. One central question that this proposal needed to answer was: “What’s the impact on existing City residents?” Will there be a noticeable change in the quality of services we receive from the City and will existing City tax rates need to go up to pay the costs of the annexation? The short answers are that the City is working hard to ensure that City services can be expanded to the newly annexed areas without a noticeable or long term change in the services the City provides to current residents and businesses. Furthermore, the financial analysis undertaken by the City indicates that if the annexation effort is successful, that it will pay for itself.

The City’s financial consultant, Berk & Associates, spent the past nine months assessing the costs of providing services to the annexation area and the new revenue that the annexation would bring to the City. For projecting service costs, the analysis looked at the staffing levels and service levels in the current City limits and applied those staffing-service ratios to the annexation areas. For revenues, the analysis applied current tax rates and state tax law to the annexation. The analysis projects costs and revenues for 1) the current City; 2)
As spring starts, it’s the perfect time to get together with family, friends, and neighbors to brainstorm and plan a community project in your neighborhood. The city could potentially match your volunteer hours up to $2,500 for the project through the new Neighborhood Matching Grants Program!!!

The purpose of the Neighborhood Matching Grants program is to support projects and activities our residents organize that bring people together to enhance and beautify our neighborhoods, or projects that promote the general interest, health and well-being of our Lynnwood community.

The Neighborhood Matching Grants is a city program that provides money to Lynnwood neighborhoods and community organizations for a wide variety of neighborhood-based projects. Some Project Examples Include:

- Hosting a potluck or ice cream social for your neighbors to talk about establishing a Block Watch Program, topics of Emergency Preparedness or other relevant community topics;
- Planting a community garden or installing hanging baskets on your streets;
- Improvements to neighborhood parks such as planting trees, installing benches or painting murals;
- Neighborhood clean ups, like graffiti removal or helping neighbors clean up their property;
- Creating a walking trail through your neighborhood.

These are only a few examples. All projects must have a lasting or direct benefit to the neighborhood or the city as a whole and take place within Lynnwood city limits.

As the title of the program indicates, the city will match with money the volunteer labor or donated cash/services/materials from the community. There is a small grants program for requests up to $500 and a larger grants program for requests from $500 to $2,500. The applications are simple to complete and will be reviewed and determined by your fellow Lynnwood residents serving on the Community Grants Panel. Application deadline is May 15, 2009. Don’t miss out on this opportunity! For more information on grant guidelines and applications go to www.ci.lynnwood.wa.us/grants or call the Office of Neighborhoods and Community Affair at 425-670-5023.

Now Accepting Applications

You could plant a community garden, make improvements to a local park, organize a community clean-up, paint a mural in your neighborhood, and much, much more!

Small grants up to $500  
Large grants $500-$2,500

Application Deadline is May 15, 2009

For more information, visit www.ci.lynnwood.wa.us/grants or call 425-670-5023
Lynnwood Moving Forward: Our Community Vision

The City of Lynnwood will be a regional model for a sustainable, vibrant community with engaged citizens and an accountable government.

Our vision is…

To be a welcoming city that builds a healthy and sustainable environment.
- Safe and walk-able interconnecting residential and commercial neighborhoods
- Vibrant city center
- Promote Lynnwood as an affordable place to live, work, and play
- Aesthetic neighborhood quality through code enforcement
- Preserve and expand natural spaces, parks, and cultural diversity and heritage
- Integrate the built environment to support the natural environment
- Encourage economic development

To encourage a broad business base in sector, size and related employment, and promote high quality development.
- Promote high quality, sustainable development and design (LEED)
- Balanced commercial development mindful of traffic management
- Convention center as an engine of economic growth and community events
- Protect residential areas from commercial use
- Communicate with the community on city plans, policies, and events

To invest in preserving and expanding parks, recreation, and community programs.
- Develop a network of pedestrian and bike trails for recreation and transportation
- Encourage business/organization partnerships & participation to create and promote community events
- Create civic pride through cultural arts, events, parks, and services
- Promote healthy lifestyles
- Provide diverse senior services creating a liveable community
- Establish a new signature event that creates civic pride
- Use parks and cultural arts to attract economic growth

To be a cohesive community that respects all citizens.
- A safe, clean, beautiful, small-town atmosphere
- Build and enhance a strong, diverse, integrated community
- Develop and identify physical neighborhoods
- Encourage citizens to be involved in community events
- Engage our diverse population through effective, inclusive communication
- Continue community communications and open process

To invest in efficient, integrated, local and regional transportation systems.
- Improve pedestrian and bike flow, safety, and connectivity
- Adaptive, safe, well-maintained, state-of-the-art traffic management infrastructure
- Support the needs of commuters and non-commuters
- Reduce traffic congestion

To ensure a safe environment through rigorous criminal and property law enforcement.
- Continue to provide good quality response times for fire, paramedics, and police
- Encourage support for police and fire department citizen volunteer programs
- Become a benchmark city through technology and through neighborhood involvement
- Increase police presence through more patrol and bike officers
- Increase and support public education on public safety

To be a city that is responsive to the wants and needs of our citizens.
- Develop goals and objectives that benefit residents and businesses
- Create/enhance Lynnwood’s brand identity
- Govern and grow in a way to stay true to the city’s defined identity
- Develop and execute a measurable strategic plan (budget, timeline); involve community
- Fair and diverse revenue base
- Promote Lynnwood’s convenient location to maximize opportunities and benefits
- Be environmentally friendly – sustainable
Recreation Center Renovation and Expansion Project Update

The Lynnwood Recreation Center Renovation and Expansion Project had an official kick-off in January. City Council approved funding for the $25.5 million project in November 2008. NAC|Architecture and the project team developed the schematic floor plan and exterior renderings based on the concept design approved by City Council last year.

The proposed floor plan has about 44,740 total square feet. Of that, 28,765 square feet is existing space that will be completely renovated, and 15,975 square feet is new construction.

The aquatics expansion will be about 10,000 square feet and includes a new leisure pool with zero-depth entry, lazy river, water play features, a slide, plunge pool, adult and family whirlpools, and a warm water wellness pool. The building will also feature new, expanded cardio/fitness and exercise spaces, new men's and women's locker rooms and family locker rooms, a new entry and registration desk, new lobby area with comfortable seating and views of the pools, staff offices, and new finishes throughout the existing building.

In January, the City received approval from the State of Washington to use the General Contractor/Construction Manager contracting procedure. The GC/CM method is an alternative to the design-bid-build contracting method historically used by the City. The GC/CM contractor will have primary responsibility for the bidding and construction, and will also participate with the architect and the City during the design and cost estimating phases of the project.

Design will continue through this year. Construction is expected to be about fourteen months, beginning in early 2010, and the new facility is expected to be completed in spring 2011.

The project was registered with the US Green Building Council to obtain LEED (Leadership in Energy & Environmental Design) Silver certification. The City has demonstrated a commitment to innovative and sustainable design; efficient use of energy, water and materials; and a healthier indoor environment.

Planning is underway for moving recreation activities and staff from the current facility during construction. Many activities will be relocated to the Lynnwood Senior Center or another temporary facility. All aquatics programs will be cancelled when the facility is closed. Staff will be providing customers with updated timelines and information about alternate recreation activities and resources shortly.

For more information about the project, contact the City of Lynnwood Parks, Recreation & Cultural Arts Department at 425-670-5501 or check out the project updates and photos on the City’s website at www.ci.lynnwood.wa.us/RecCenterProject.

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Call To Artists

Help us celebrate Lynnwood’s 50th birthday. Enter our Juried Art Exhibit titled “Celebrate 50.” Free to enter, open to everyone!

For more information visit www.LynnwoodArts.org
Olympic View Drive Improvements: Phase I

Phase I improvements to Olympic View Drive are close to completion! Phase I construction, 168th St SW to 178th Place SW, improved underground utilities, added sidewalks, curbs and gutters, left-hand turn pockets (to be striped in the spring) and widened the roadway lanes to 14-feet to accommodate bicycle traffic. Retaining walls were installed to allow construction in existing City right-of-way.

The City used the “Full Depth Pavement Reclamation” process whereby existing pavement is recycled by pulverization with special equipment. Portland Cement and additional gravel are mixed in to form the base on which the asphalt is laid. This is a “green” process which avoids hauling out old and bringing in new materials. The first layer of asphalt was laid down during a break in weather in January. The second (final) layer will be placed this spring, at which time striping will be completed.

Phase 2 construction, 76th Ave W to 178th Place SW, designed and ready to begin construction this Spring, will complete the Olympic View Drive project during the Summer of 2009. Phase 2 includes the same type of street improvements as Phase I and will also include the installation of an underground detention/infiltration system that will be installed on the southerly end of Lynndale Park, adjacent to Olympic View Drive. Traffic control, detours, and potential delays to the traveling public in this corridor are expected.

Residents and citizens have “watched” the progress of the improvements via weekly email updates and the City’s website “slideshow” of photos taken throughout the project duration. You are also invited to do so at www.ci.lynnwood.wa.us, Phase I Reconstruction of Olympic View Drive. To receive weekly emails on construction updates, send your email request to p.simpson@ci.lynnwood.wa.us.

City Continues to Improve Snow Response

The City has updated and improved our website and after-hours telephone numbers with up to date snow information and snow plow route priorities. The after-hours number will connect directly with an on-call City staff person who can more quickly understand and respond to citizen concerns.

During last December’s snow, the City received many calls from residents for snow plows to come and plow their streets. However, when the plows are out working they are following a preset plan of street priorities. These priorities are:

1) Steep sections of arterials
2) Major arterials such as Highway 99, 196th St SW, 44th Ave W, Alderwood Mall Parkway, etc.
3) Secondary arterial intersections, especially where the cross streets are on a hill
4) Residential streets

In the past, City crews have always been able to get to the residential streets within two days of the snowfall. However, in December, with several snowfalls one after the other, neighborhood streets did not get plowed for ten days.

City crew rotation and equipment use has been modified so that in the event of another similar storm, we will hopefully get to the neighborhoods sooner. Please remember, requests for plowing of residential streets will not be fulfilled until the top three priority routes are sanded and plowed.
Lynnwood Police Department Welcomes Two New Officers

Officers Jeff Norris and Agi Wysocki join the ranks of the Lynnwood Police Department.

Norris comes to us as a lateral from the Duvall Police Department. Norris started his law enforcement career as a reserve in Duvall in 1991 and began his full-time work in 1997.

Wysocki, who graduated from the police academy in October, said she wanted to become a police officer because she said she likes the challenge and the opportunity to learn something new everyday.

"Being a police officer; It’s never a dull moment," Wysocki said.

The Greening of Lynnwood’s Fleet

The City of Lynnwood Fleet Division has been actively pursuing ways to maintain an environmentally-conscious fleet of vehicles and equipment. The fleet consists of 170 vehicles and 40 pieces of vehicle-related equipment that are as diverse as fire apparatus, police cars, concrete carts and tractors. Fleet strategies to reduce the "carbon footprint" of the City’s fleet include measuring current emissions and setting goals for reduction of emissions and fuel usage through retrofits, alternative fuels and the procurement of alternative fuel vehicles.

In 2007, the Puget Sound Clean Air Agency received grant funds to install diesel oxidation catalysts in fleet vehicles in Snohomish County. Lynnwood installed the devices in several vehicles and plans to install more in 2009. The devices will reduce emissions of particulate matter by at least 20%, hydrocarbons by 50% and carbon monoxide by 40%. Also, in 2007, the City purchased its first gas/electric hybrid vehicle, powered by both an internal combustion engine and a battery-operated electric motor. The Ford Escape HEV was assigned to Community Development Permits and Inspections Division. The Fleet Division hopes to purchase three more hybrids by the end of 2010.

The City of Lynnwood has been using biodiesel in many of its vehicles since August of 2008. The vehicle maintenance shop has refined the fleet’s preventative maintenance program to keep the fleet well-maintained, engines tuned and tires properly inflated to increase fuel efficiency and reduce environmental impacts. In addition, the shop is using biodegradable parts cleaner and recycling oil filters, oil and antifreeze.

The City of Lynnwood Fleet Division is committed to being environmentally responsible and to work toward cleaner transportation choices. Fleet staff will be exploring new technology and opportunities to manage, maintain and operate the fleet efficiently while minimizing emissions and maintaining budget stability.
City Council Moves Annexation One Step Forward

On February 9th, the City Council initiated the formal and legal process to annex a large area lying north, east and south of the current City limits. If the annexation proposal is supported by the Boundary Review Board, the City is planning to put the ultimate decision to the voters in the areas in question, this November. The Council adopted a “Resolution of Intent to Annex” most of the City’s Municipal Urban Growth Area (MUGA). The boundary of the annexation area generally follows the following public streets and highways:

- 52nd Avenue W (west)
- 148th Street SW (north)
- I-5 and 164th St SW (northeast)
- Larch Way and Filbert Road (east)
- Locust Way (southeast)
- Larch Way, 212th St SW and Mountlake Terrace City limits (south)
- Existing City Limits (south, west and northwest)

The annexation is called the North-East-South (NES) Annexation.

In many respects MUGA residents, neighborhoods and businesses are already part of the “greater” Lynnwood community, yet most decisions about local governance and services are made by Snohomish County in Everett. Annexation would extend the full compliment of City services to these urbanizing areas and would enable the City to manage land use planning and future development of the areas in the long-term best interests of current and future residents. For example, as residents of Lynnwood, the annexation neighborhoods would receive the same level of police protection as our current neighborhoods. They would be able to use the Recreation Center and participate in our quality recreation programs at reduced rates. And when they have a need to speak to local government, they will find it easy to do so. The City’s goal is to extend Lynnwood services into the annexation areas without impacting the current City (see page 3).

The City Council made a decision to proceed with annexation based on a multi-faceted understanding of the issues and effects of annexation. First, the Annexation Fiscal Analysis (Berk & Associates) describes how the City can extend full urban services in a cost-effective manner. This Analysis concludes that the revenues from the annexation will cover the costs of providing City services in the annexation area, and that a state sales tax credit provides a “safety net” to manage unforeseen events. The Analysis also describes a program to “ramp-up” City service capabilities in the first few years following annexation, consistent with expected revenues.

The City held a series of 12 outreach meetings in the potential annexation areas that were attended by hundreds of people. Feedback from the meetings has been important in helping to shape the annexation. Many hours of Council deliberations, public discussions and staff work went into deciding to move forward with this annexation.

For more information about annexation contact the Annexation Hotline at (425) 670-5449 or annexation@ci.lynnwood.wa.us.

Lynnwood Fire Department Needs Your Help

We are recruiting for Fire Corps volunteers. Fire Corps members assist the fire department in ways that do not involve climbing ladders or pulling a fire hose. However, they are an integral part of delivering non-emergency services to the community. Members can choose between the two sections of our program or be involved in both.

We are currently recruiting volunteers to help perform blood pressure checks on an automatic machine and greet those who come to the fire station for information. If you are available on Wednesday afternoons please consider donating your time.

In addition, we have a group of volunteers who aid the fire department by promoting fire and life safety programs in homes, schools, businesses and at community events. They assist in bringing disaster preparedness programs into neighborhoods, provide information on safety at local events and are mobilized during disasters.

If you would like to join Fire Corps or find out more about the program, please call the Fire Department Public Education Office at 425-670-5309.
Spring Clean-up
If you live in a single-family residence within the city limits of Lynnwood, you can participate in the city’s Spring Clean-up the week of April 27.

- There will be a curbside event on your neighborhood’s regular garbage day that week, with limits on the amounts and types of additional garbage and yard debris that you prepare for curb collection. There will be no extra cost for these additional items.
- Unwanted major appliances will be also collected curbside, with resident pre-payment.
- A central drop-off event will be held on Saturday May 2, when residents, including those residing in apartments and condominiums, can bring:
  - Household clutter, yard debris and scrap metal at no cost
  - Major appliances for recycling, with payment at the event
  - Limits and restrictions on amounts and types of materials apply.

Details will be mailed to all single-family residents prior to the event (look for the bright green flyer). For questions call 425-670-5244 or look for Spring Clean-up on our website www.ci.lynnwood.wa.us.

New FREE Electronics Recycling Now Available
Computers • Monitors • Laptops • Televisions

Participating locations include:
- Goodwill Lynnwood Store, 4027 198th St SW, 425-774-6157
- PC Recycle Lynnwood Store, 4520 200th St SW, Ste 201, 425-697-6666
- Snohomish County Transfer Station’s Recycle Area, located just off 212th St SW along 61st Pl W, and look for signs directing you to “Recycle Area”.

For a list of recycling locations county-wide and beyond, visit www.ecyclewashington.org

Annexation continued from 3

Lynnwood Library Events
“Budgeting in Today’s Economy”
Thursday, April 30th, 7-8:30 pm
In today’s economy we don’t have control over the larger economic picture, yet through good money management skills we can take control of our own financial future. Learn financial skills and techniques to help you and your family survive in today’s economy. This class will cover budgeting, planning for future expenses, maintaining your credit, tips for cutting costs and saving money. Presented by the Boeing Credit Union. Attendance is free.
Celebrate Lynnwood with a Commemorative Brick

You can reserve your place in Lynnwood’s history. Orders for commemorative bricks are now being taken for this summer’s installation in Heritage Park’s plaza. 335 bricks have been inscribed in the plaza honoring Lynnwood residents, families and pioneers. Inscribed bricks are $50 each for individuals and non-profits, and $100 for businesses. All proceeds are dedicated to Heritage Park improvements.

Order forms are available at the Visitor Information Center in Heritage Park, and can be downloaded from the City website at www.ci.lynnwood.wa.us/Parks.

For more information, call 425-670-5502.

Flashing Yellow Arrows

The City of Lynnwood Traffic Section has recently installed flashing yellow arrows for left turns at the City traffic signals at 44th Avenue West and 212th St SW. The flashing yellow arrow has the same meaning for a left turning driver as a solid green ball, which is: You may turn left when there are no oncoming vehicles. Lynnwood’s traffic division is monitoring the effectiveness of the change at that intersection.

Use of the flashing yellow arrow has recently been approved for widespread use by federal regulations. Lynnwood’s Traffic Engineer Dick Adams believes that drivers can more easily understand the difference between a green arrow and a flashing yellow arrow than between a green arrow and a green ball. Assuming that the flashing yellow arrows work as well as anticipated, the traffic division will begin changing them throughout the city as funds and staffing are available. Both systems will be in use as the transition to the new flashing yellow lights take place over the next several years.

Honoring the Life and Leadership of Mayor M.J. “Herk” Hrdlicka

The City of Lynnwood will forever be grateful for Mayor Hrdlicka’s vision, dedication and commitment to our city. Mayor “Herk”, as he preferred to be called, believed that our community would be a leader in Snohomish County and worked toward that goal, everyday, for over 30 years.

Mayor Herk served on Lynnwood City Council for six years from 1962 until he was appointed to the position of part-time Mayor in 1968. Mayor Herk was the third part-time mayor of Lynnwood. In 1971 the position became full-time and he served until his retirement in 1993. In all, Herk served 25 years as Mayor of Lynnwood.

Mayor Herk’s commitment to economic development, parks, recreation, commerce, education, our youth and so much more will leave a lasting impact in our community for generations to come.

Serving Lynnwood and the Community
1962 - 1993
In Memory of His Life
1924 - 2008
Happy Birthday to Lynnwood ~ Come Join the Party!

In April 2009 the City of Lynnwood turns 50!

You are invited to come join the party at the Terraces Food Court at Alderwood
1 - 3 p.m. Saturday, April 25th

The party kicks off a year long celebration of 50+ events and activities in honor of Lynnwood’s 50th. We invite all people who live, work, and visit Lynnwood to join in on the fun. Our objectives for the events and activities are:
- to create civic pride;
- to partner with the community (residents, businesses, volunteers, schools, churches, civic groups, and the like); and
- to honor Lynnwood’s history and create a legacy for Lynnwood’s future.

If you or your organization is already planning an event in Lynnwood or if you’d like to partner with the City to do so, please contact us at 425-670-5750 or via email at lynnwood50th@ci.lynnwood.wa.us.

Help Lynnwood High School Celebrate the Closing of the “Old School”!

Join us Saturday, May 30 at the “Old School” Lynnwood High for our Open House and Celebration Events.

1-5 p.m. Open House and Tours
4:30-6:30 p.m. ASB fundraiser dinner
7-8 p.m. Closing celebration in gym

For more information, call 425-431-7044 or email jakalad@edmonds.wednet.edu