

TOWN OF WOODWAY

MAYOR'S MESSAGE

PRIORITY #1: COMMUNICATION

This past May, Town staff and I instituted a monthly email message to all residents who sign up to receive email communication. My goal was to provide short updates on issues the Town was dealing with. These monthly emails seem like the best way to ensure that residents have timely information about issues that pop up as well as receiving a shorthand summary of what Town government is currently focusing on. While these monthly email messages are not a substitute for the Woodway Whisper, they are a timely way to keep information

flowing between residents and Town government.

To date, we have over 100 residents on our email list and I hope to increase that number so that all of the interested households in Town are, in fact, "plugged in" to our mailing list. While not every home in Woodway has a computer, I would guess that majority of our 470 homes are using computers for some level of communication.

If you would like to join the Town's email list, visit our website:

www.townofwoodway.com/how-do-i/email-notifications or call Town Hall.

As a reminder, there are four different email lists (you can sign up for as many as you like):

1. Critical Incident List: People on this list are emailed only when there has been a safety issue, such as a robbery.
2. General Information List: For residents who would like to receive information when something big is planned (important meetings, etc.). The monthly email update I

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NEGOTIATIONS WITH SHORELINE

Discussions between the City of Shoreline & the Town of Woodway's elected officials and staff continue in a positive and constructive direction. Once a joint proposal is finalized, we will report the details to both communities.

SEE YOU AT THE FAIR!

AUGUST 24

10 A.M. TO 1:30 P.M.

DETAILS ON PAGE 4



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MAYOR'S MESSAGE, CONTINUED

referenced earlier will be sent to this list.

3. Town Fair Volunteer List: You can sign up as a student or adult volunteer and help with the annual Community Fair.
4. Woodway Ready! emergency preparedness (listed by zone): Sign up only for the zone you reside in. The Woodway Ready!

page has a map to help you determine your zone.

While I'm talking about communication, I want to remind everyone that our website has routine notices and meeting alerts. Our staff is constantly updating the website so that current notices and information are easily accessible. A calendar of events lists all meetings & other events; you can read

previous copies of the *Woodway Whisper*, sign up for a utility account, and so much more. Check out: www.townofwoodway.com. My goal is to make "Woodway, the Quiet Place" into "Woodway, the Informed Place."



LOCAL CITY MAKES NATIONAL NEWS

By Eric A. Faison, Town Administrator

Recently, the City of Medina made national news for a problem all too familiar to the Town of Woodway. Several news outlets picked up on Medina's ballot measure, asking voters to increase its property tax rate to maintain existing services. A similar proposal was approved by Woodway voters in 2009 and rejected by Woodway Voters in 2016.

Medina, the city with the highest average household income in the state, and home to two of the wealthiest people on earth, is facing a cash crunch. Much like Woodway,

Medina is largely dependent on property taxes to pay for city services. While property values have increased dramatically recently, Washington state law generally limits the amount that cities can collect in property tax to 1% more than they collected the previous year. For Medina, that amount is an increase of \$28,000 a year. For Woodway, that amount is an increase of \$11,000 per year. For both cities, this amount is far less than the increase in cost for fire services alone, not even considering increasing costs for all other expenses required to provided legally required and/or necessary services.

You can read the article here: <https://www.cnbc.com/2019/06/25/medina-wash-home-to-jeff-bezos-and-bill-gates-running-out-of-money.html?qsearchterm=medina>

We bring this article to your attention because the Town will need to return to voters sometime in the next few years with another ballot measure requesting an increase in the property tax rate. The current tax rate is simply not sustainable. We want you to know that we are not alone. This is an issue faced by cities across the State, including the state's wealthiest city.

HOME SAFETY REMINDERS FROM YOUR FIRE DEPARTMENT

By Michelle Pidduck, Community Educator & Public Information Officer for Shoreline Fire Department

Since many 911 calls are made from mobile phones, it is critical to know the address you are calling from. In an emergency, every second counts. Post your address in a prominent area of your home, such as in your kitchen, and in guest bedrooms so visitors to your home will be able to call 911 with confidence.

Periodic maintenance of the life-safety devices in your homes is critical to having them operate correctly during an emergency. Take a few minutes to walk through the following maintenance steps to keep them in good working order.

Smoke Alarms Save Lives!

Place one inside each bedroom, one in hallways outside bedrooms, one NEAR your kitchen, and additional alarms throughout the home.

Replace the complete unit after 10 years - even hard wired ones. Many new alarms that aren't hard wired have 10-year batteries.



Test alarms monthly & use that time to practice your escape plan as a family.

Sleep with your bedroom doors closed to create a barrier from fire.

Carbon Monoxide Alarms

Do NOT place a carbon monoxide alarm within 15 feet of heating or cooking appliances or near bathrooms/humid areas.

Place near sleeping areas.

Newer alarms have a 10-year battery option as well.

Fire Alarm Systems

Have your alarm system serviced annually to ensure all hardware is working properly.

Keep alarms and monitoring devices clean of dust/dirt.

Maintain clear access to your panel.

WILL YOU KNOW WHAT TO DO?

By Henry Veldman, Chair, Woodway Ready!

Multiple earthquakes, power outages in New York, extreme heat hits Europe. Are you prepared in the event something untoward occurs within Woodway or the greater Seattle area? In past *Woodway Whisper* issues, the Woodway Ready! team has discussed family preparedness in the event of a disaster.

If you are new to Woodway, have not heard of Woodway Ready!, or are interested in learning more about being prepared in the event of a disaster, email me at henryveldman@comcast.net. Provide your name, addresses, email, and phone number.

The Town is divided into 10 areas with someone in each area that can help you with information. I will get your information to the person in your area.

In addition, Washington State and Snohomish County have emergency preparedness websites that include a lot of useful information and checklists. Check them out:

<https://snohomishcountywa.gov/719/personal-preparedness>

<https://mil.wa.gov/preparedness>

2019 TOWN FAIR - AUGUST 24 FROM 10 A.M. TO 1:30 P.M.

If you are interested in volunteering at the fair, please contact Town Hall at 206.542.4443. We have opportunities to help prepare and serve food, help with children's activities, and clean up afterward.

The 17th Woodway Town Fair is coming soon! Join fellow residents to gather at our annual summer celebration of the Woodway community. It's an opportunity to reconnect with people you haven't seen in a while, meet new neighbors, share a delicious BBQ lunch, and enjoy activities for all ages.

The BBQ lunch, served by your Councilmembers and Planning Commissioners, is free of charge. We will serve brats, hot dogs, Caesar salad, watermelon, cookies, and an assortment of cold beverages.



Make sure you save some room for ice cream, graciously donated by resident Terry Vehrs.

Entertainment includes the Uptown Lowdown Jazz Band, with their large repertoire of Dixieland jazz loved by young and old alike; children's entertainment Magicia; a photo booth; pony rides; and more.

We will send a postcard soon with a timeline of the day so you don't miss any of the great events.

2ND ANNUAL FLORAL CONTEST AT TOWN FAIR

By Annika Karr, Floral Contest Chair

Hello Residents of Woodway! The annual Woodway Town Fair is coming up on Saturday, August 24, and we will be having our second annual Floral Contest. If you are creative and enjoy winning great prizes, this contest is for you. Good luck!

CONTEST DETAILS:

1. All arrangements must have one element from the garden of the submitting resident.
2. In addition to this element, any other purchased flowers or greenery may be used.
3. Arrangements need to be of living flowers/greenery, no silk etc.
4. Arrangements need to be delivered to Town Hall by 10:45 a.m. on August 24.
5. Contest open to all Woodway residents.
6. Categories:
 - Most Representative of Woodway
 - Most Colorful
 - People's Choice!



DO YOU HAVE A POOL? DID YOU KNOW . . .

The law requires you to contact the Town prior to draining your pool. If you have access to the sanitary sewer system, you may be required to drain into that system. If you do not have access to sanitary sewer service, you may be required to contract with a private pool service company.

Please do not drain your pool into your yard or into the Town's stormwater system without prior approval. Call Town Hall with questions or to request permission to drain your pool.

Would you like to help with the Town Fair but won't be able to attend? Woodway gratefully accepts private donations to help defray the cost of the fair. Please contact Heidi at Town Hall if you're interested in joining other residents in supporting the Fair with a donation.

COMMUNITY RESOURCE SPOTLIGHT: VERDANT HEALTH COMMISSION

By Jennifer Piplic, Director of Marketing & Communications at Verdant Health Commission

Many thanks to the Town of Woodway for inviting the Verdant Health Commission to your annual Town Fair! For those of you not familiar with Verdant, we are your

Public Hospital District. Through the revenue we collect from our Swedish Edmonds lease and our levy, we are able to

invest in a variety of health and wellness programs for residents of South Snohomish County. For example, our Board of Commissioners is very excited to provide funding for the trail and exercise stations currently being

built in at Deer Creek Park in Woodway. While that project is under construction, we'd love to have you join us on South County Walks, which are community walks that take place in Edmonds, Lynnwood, and Mountlake Terrace now through the end of September.



the opportunity to learn about and sample fabulous healthy recipes. Every fourth Tuesday of the month, we host more than 100 veterans at the Hero's Café for companionship and lunch. Do you know someone who could use support managing

their diabetes diagnosis? We regularly offer a 4-week program called Diabetes-Friendly Living.

In addition to our fun and educational programs, we also serve as a resource for our community. We can provide assistance with accessing veterans benefits, understanding Medicare, finding social services, and lowering prescription costs as well as many other health-related services. Please stop by the Verdant table at the Fair and say "hello!" We would love to answer any questions you might have and hear more about how we can best serve you. If you don't get the chance to stop by, please feel free to check out our website at verdanthealth.org or call us at (425) 582-8600.

UPDATE ON TWO COURT CASES INVOLVING THE TOWN OF WOODWAY

By *Eric A. Faison, Town Administrator*

RONALD WASTEWATER DISTRICT

In prior *Woodway Whisper* updates, I've discussed a lawsuit filed by Ronald Wastewater District against the Town, Olympic View Water & Sewer District, and Snohomish County. In the lawsuit, Ronald sought a court ruling affirming its position that it has the right to provide sewer service to Point Wells and the Upper Bluff, to the exclusion of Olympic View or the Town. This has been an issue of several lawsuits/hearings over the years.

The Court of Appeals, following a hearing in January, just ruled in favor of the Town and Olympic View. The Court held that Ronald has no territory in Snohomish County, that the area claimed by Ronald is within Olympic View's corporate boundaries, and that Ronald has no right to serve residents and businesses in Snohomish County without Olympic View's permission. The Court also rejected Ronald and Shoreline's request that the Court reconsider its ruling based on newly submitted arguments. Ronald may appeal the Court's ruling to the

State Supreme Court. However, we believe the Court of Appeals' very detailed analysis will withstand further scrutiny.

If the Town annexes Point Wells, this issue would be significant. It is important to the Town that its residents have the right to vote for the decision makers who are responsible for establishing rates and service levels. We also believe that the provision of services to these areas provides economies of scale that benefit Woodway residents, in addition to benefitting our neighbors in Edmonds and Mountlake Terrace.

BLUE SQUARE REAL ESTATE (BSRE)

A judge on the King County Superior Court just issued a ruling on Snohomish County's termination of BSRE's Point Wells Project. In a nutshell, the Court granted BSRE six months to revise its application to meet County code requirements.

As a reminder, last summer, a County Hearing Examiner denied BSRE's land use application to build over 3,000 housing units at Point Wells. The Hearing Examiner did so based on his determination that BSRE's application included several design elements that were in

substantial conflict with the County's code. These areas included building heights, setbacks from residential areas, setbacks from the waterfront, and proposed buildings within a landslide hazard area. The Hearing Examiner's denial was affirmed by the County Council. BSRE appealed the decision to Superior Court.

What this means is that BSRE has another bite at the apple. They have until December 17, 2019, to submit a revised application that addresses all of the County's concerns. If they do so, their project can proceed to an environmental review, which will address substantive issues, such as traffic. If they fail to address all of the County's concerns, the Hearing Examiner can again reject the project, which will likely lead to another appeal.

There is a twist, however, as there usually is on matters related to Point Wells. Rather than simply addressing the County's concerns in a resubmittal before the deadline, BSRE has appealed the Court's ruling. We are not entirely sure yet of the basis for the appeal. Nevertheless, with this appeal, it is likely that this issue will not be resolved from a legal standpoint for years.

TOWN COUNCIL CORNER

General Government:

- Approved Resolution 19-408: Fee Schedule Update.
- Appointed Councilmembers to serve on various regional boards.
- Approved Resolution 19-409, affirming payment of the optional employer portion of the Washington Paid Family & Medical Leave premium.
- Discussed emergency preparedness with the Woodway Ready! Co-chairs.
- Authorized the Mayor to sign the Snohomish County Health District Interlocal Agreement for 2019.
- Reviewed the 4th Quarter 2018 & 1st Quarter 2019 Financial Reports.
- Approved Resolutions 19-410 & 19-411: Surplus Property.
- Heard a presentation by Jeff Ketchel, Snohomish Health District Administrator.
- Approved Ordinance 19-599: MCI Metro Verizon Business Solutions Franchise & authorized the Mayor to sign the agreement.
- Appointed Brian Bogen to

Council Position 3 after Councilmember Bill Anderson's retirement.

- Reviewed the Planning Commission Annual Report for 2018.
- Approve Resolution 19-412: updating the authorized signers on the Town's bank account
- Authorized an increase of the Deputy Clerk/Permit Technician's hours from 25 to 30 per week.
- Held a retreat to discuss communications, the Town budget, and other items.
- Authorized the Mayor Pro Tem to sign the Business Licensing Services Agreement with WA State Dept. of Revenue.
- Authorized the Mayor to sign the Town Hall Repairs Agreement with Faber Construction.
- Approved Resolution 19-414: Imaging & Disposition of Paper Records (Scan & Toss) Policy.

Land Use & Planning:

- Approved Ordinance 19-600: Shoreline Master Program & Critical Area Regulation Updates.

Public Safety:

- Recognized the officers who were leaving service due to the change in the police contract.

Public Works & Lands:

- Ratified the February 14, 2019 Proclamation of Emergency and associated contracts.
- Discussed a resident-proposed tree code amendment.
- Held a public hearing on and approved Resolution 19-413: Six-Year Transportation Improvement Plan (TIP) 2020-2025.

Building & Municipal Services:

- Authorized the Mayor to sign the subscription agreement with ECityGov Alliance allowing Woodway to join the MyBuildingPermit.com permitting portal.
- Authorized the Mayor to sign a settlement agreement with a resident relating to the building permit for her home renovation.
- Authorized the Mayor to sign the Building Official and Building Inspection Services Agreement with BHC Consultants, LLC with a 90-day contract term.

PLANNING COMMISSION NOTES

*By Jill McCammon, Deputy Clerk/
Permit Technician*

In April, Town Planner Bill Trimm presented the Planning Commission's 2018 Annual Report

for approval to forward to Town Council. Additionally, the Planning Commission elected Per Odegaard as Chair and Robert Allen as Vice-Chair.



TOWN OF WOODWAY

23920 113th Place West
Woodway, WA 98020

SUMMER 2019 NEWSLETTER



TOWN INFORMATION

TOWN HALL DIRECTORY:

Class	Code City
County	Snohomish
Population	1350
Business Hours	9 a.m.—1 p.m. Mon. through Thurs.
Town Hall Phone	(206) 542-4443
Public Works Phone	(206) 542-0183
Website	www.townofwoodway.com
Email addresses	See staff & elected official contact information on our website
Mayor	Carla A. Nichols
Council Meets	1st & 3rd Mondays, 7:00 p.m.
Planning Commission Chair	Per Odegaard
Planning Commission Meets	1st Wednesday, 7:00 p.m.

TOWN HALL STAFF:

Town Administrator	Eric A. Faison
Clerk-Treasurer	Heidi K. S. Napolitano
Deputy Clerk/Permit Tech	Jill McCammon
Public Works Director	Terrance R. Bryant, Jr.
Public Works Crew	Scott Wynne
	Collin Harlow
Town Attorney	Greg Rubstello
Building Official/Plan Checker	Contract
Building Inspector	Scott Dorrance
Police Chief	Doug Hansen
Fire Marshal	Derek LaFontaine
Town Planner	Bill Trimm
Town Engineer	PACE Engineers
Town Hearing Examiner	John Galt
EMERGENCY	911

TOWN COUNCIL MEMBERS:

Brian Bogen, Tom Howard, Elizabeth Mitchell, Mike Quinn, & Tom Whitson

LOCATIONS OF THE TOWN BULLETIN BOARDS:

Woodway Park Road at Algonquin Road
North end of Chinook Road
Bella Coola Road west of Makah Road

Timberlane Road at 240th Street S.W.
114th Avenue W. at 239th Place S.W.
Willowick Road, north side