2013-2014 Preliminary Budget Discussions Underway

The City Council provides guidance on Kenmore Village site

Budget proposes cuts in expenditures and the addition of two new revenue sources

The City’s preliminary two-year budget for 2013-2014 was distributed at the October 8 City Council meeting. This proposed budget maintains basic levels of service, such as road maintenance and police. The proposed budget also makes investments in economic development, roads, parks, and surface water facilities.

Despite several years of declining General Fund revenues, the City has held down expenditures and maintained the City’s healthy financial position. However, the continued accumulation of difficult economic conditions, including declining revenues and rising fixed costs, have made balancing this budget challenging.

The Street Fund, which pays for maintenance and rehabilitation of the City’s roads, has seen declines in its fund balance in recent years. The City’s General Fund has been subsidizing the Street Fund, but the challenges described above make it difficult for the General Fund to continue transferring money to the Street Fund.

To bridge the gap, the proposed budget recommends additional cuts in expenditures, and it also proposes two new revenue sources to help pay for road maintenance needs: 1) Transportation Benefit District (TBD) funding and 2) a 5% franchise fee on water and sewer utilities.

As reported to you in the Summer newsletter, the City Council voted to form a TBD in April of this year. Funds raised by the TBD would help pay for the City’s transportation needs, including article continued on page 2

City Council Provides Guidance on Kenmore Village Site

The 9.6-acre City-owned Kenmore Village properties are located at the northwest corner of 68th Ave NE & NE 181st Street in the heart of downtown Kenmore. On June 11, the City entered into a Purchase and Sale Agreement with Kenmore Camera owners for the sale of 1.24 acres of the Kenmore Village property. Assuming the sale is finalized, this allows Kenmore Camera to renovate one of the existing buildings and expand its retail business and classes in downtown Kenmore.

On June 14, Council approved an action plan with the objective of bringing the remaining Kenmore Village property to market in a way that advances the City’s downtown goals. Following several public meetings seeking community input in July, the Council affirmed the following Position Statement on September 6, article continued on page 3
Preliminary Budget continued from page 1

road maintenance and rehabilitation. The City Council is currently evaluating potential funding options for the TBD, including a $20 annual vehicle fee. For more information on the TBD, visit the City’s website at www.kenmorewa.gov. In addition, the City Manager is proposing a 5% franchise fee on water and sewer utilities. Currently, there is no utility tax or franchise fee in the City for water and sewer utilities. The purpose of a franchise fee is to pay for the cost of administering a franchise (in this case with Northshore Utility District) and for impacts on the City's infrastructure, especially roads.

As proposed, a franchise fee for water and sewer will be paid to the City by Northshore Utility District (NUD), but the cost would be passed directly on to the rate payers. The cost of the proposed franchise fee to a typical household would be about $4.32 per month.

In total, Kenmore’s overall utility taxes and franchise fees for all of its utilities (electric, water, sewer, garbage, natural gas, etc.), is the lowest among its next-door neighbors. Even with the proposed 5% franchise fee for the water and sewer utilities, Kenmore’s rates, using a weighted average across all utilities, will still be lower than its next-door neighbors. For more information on the proposed franchise fee, go to the City Manager’s budget letter at www.kenmorewa.gov/finance.

Expenditure reductions, combined with the two new revenue sources above, will help maintain basic services and make significant headway toward achieving the City Council's goals. To learn more about the budget process, including the City Council’s budget meeting times and locations, visit the City’s website at www.kenmorewa.gov/council.

We welcome your input and questions. For questions or comments about the budget, contact the City’s Finance Department or City Manager Rob Karlinsey at 425-398-8900. You are also welcome to contact any of your City Councilmembers.
The City Council’s top goal for 2012-2013 is to implement the 2009 Economic Development Strategy. With encouraging signs in the economy, some exciting things are happening on the local business front:

**Kenmore Camera**

Kenmore Camera has been honored as one of three finalists for Small Business of the Year in the King County Executive’s Small Business Awards. This is the second year of the awards program for small businesses throughout King County, and 130 nominations were submitted for awards in 7 categories.

Kenmore Camera is an example of Kenmore’s legacy of successful, multigenerational family-owned and operated businesses, and Jim and Martha Donovan have underscored their commitment to the community by entering into an agreement to purchase 1.24 acres from the City in the Kenmore Village property. Renovating the existing building formerly occupied by Grocery Outlet will provide more than three times the space of their existing store, and will accommodate many of the classes they offer throughout the year. The transaction will close following a feasibility period, which the City and the Donovans recently extended to January 2013.

**Business Incubator Program**

The City Council approved a 2-year pilot business incubator program in Kenmore, focusing on start-up technology ventures. Providing business practice consultation, mentoring and shared work space, business incubators offer networking opportunities and support to new companies. We will continue to work with Bastyr University and the technology industry to establish a longer term program. Stay tuned for news on the launch of the pilot program!

**Business Open House**

The next Business Open House is scheduled for **Tuesday, October 30 from 6:30-7:30 p.m.** at Kenmore City Hall. The Open Houses have been well attended and positive opportunities for local business networking. The Open House will include a presentation by the City Manager on Kenmore business climate and why local businesses need to stay connected and help each other.

We are also excited that a new Kenmore Committee of Greater Bothell Chamber of Commerce members is meeting on a regular basis. Annie Harkess, Key Bank Kenmore Branch Manager, is instrumental in getting these discussions underway. We are also encouraging other efforts for local businesses to meet and lay the groundwork for forming an organization.

**Kenmore Village continued from page 1**

consistent with downtown goals and reflective of the community’s vision for the property: “Kenmore Village is a walkable place with a public square where Kenmore area residents and workers can meet their daily needs and see one another face-to-face.” Also on September 6, Council reviewed specific actions the City should take or commit to before putting the property on the market for sale. Specific actions include: regulatory changes and incentives; investment in amenities and infrastructure; marketing/messaging; dialogue with neighboring users about their needs; and reaching out to potential tenants.

On October 1, Council gave direction to move forward with a process for selling the property. The initial step in the process is hiring an experienced, regional broker to assist the City in finding prospective buyers for the Kenmore Village property. The City will then request prospective buyers to submit their qualifications and select several prospects to be interviewed. Following the interview process, the top two or three prospective buyers will be asked to submit proposals and monetary offers for the property. Following evaluation and negotiations, the City will enter into a letter of intent with the selected buyer, leading to a purchase and sale agreement.

The City’s goal is to be under contract for sale of the property by April 2013. In partnership with the selected buyer, the City will also solicit community input in planning the public square for Kenmore Village.

The City is well-positioned to facilitate the arrival of new investment to the Kenmore Village properties and the downtown quadrants. The goals and action plan outlined above will assist in attracting commercial and residential investment that will lead to a more vibrant downtown.

For questions, contact Assistant City Manager Nancy Ousley at 425-398-8900 or e-mail nousley@kenmorewa.gov. Updates on Kenmore Village will be available on the City’s website, www.kenmorewa.gov/downtown.
The City is currently constructing improvements in the 61st Avenue NE and NE 181st Street intersection. There are two components of these improvements. First, a traffic signal will be installed at this intersection. This signal, along with new left turn lanes both northbound and southbound on 61st Ave NE, will improve vehicular and pedestrian safety. Second, a new and larger underground stormwater culvert is being constructed across the east leg (NE 181st Street) of the intersection. This new culvert replaces existing culverts that are very old and failing. These culverts carry a stream that continues to flow toward Lake Washington. The new culvert will meet current standards, including those associated with fish-bearing streams.

There is presently only one lane available in each direction on 61st Ave NE north of the intersection. The current schedule calls for a traffic control plan to be in place until mid-December. NE 181st Street is closed between 61st Ave NE and 62nd Ave NE. This closure is required to allow for construction of the culvert. This section of NE 181st Street is anticipated to reopen in late October or early November.

City staff expects the new traffic signal to be operational in January, 2013. Once the signal is turned on, the public will have full use of both 61st Ave NE and NE 181st Street. Final paving and striping will be completed in the spring when weather permits.

The construction traffic plans create inconveniences, and the project team appreciates your continued understanding as construction moves forward. Please drive safely through the construction zone and obey all traffic signs and traffic control personnel. There will always be access to businesses within the project area, and they remain open to serve you. If you have questions about construction of this project, please contact Construction Manager Terry Paananen at 425-398-8900.

Crews work to install a new box culvert in NE 181st Street at 61st Ave NE. The new culvert will provide additional conveyance capacity, remove fish barriers and improve fish habitat.

Kenmore Navigation Channel and Lake Washington Sediment Testing

The Washington Department of Ecology and City of Kenmore are moving forward this year with testing and analysis of sediment from the lake bottom and selected water samples. This project, with the cooperation of the State Department of Health and US Army Corps of Engineers, will provide information on the condition of sediment in Lake Washington off Kenmore’s shoreline. The City has been working with our Congressional delegation, the US Army Corps of Engineers, and King County over the past several years to have funds included in the Corps’ budget to perform maintenance dredging in the Kenmore Navigation Channel, which was constructed by the Corps in the early 1980s. Analyzing sediment samples from the Channel will help determine the estimated cost of the maintenance dredging.

Samples will also be taken from the waterfront near Log Boom Park/Harbour Village Marina area and in the Sammamish River area. The State Department of Health will prepare Health Assessment reports for the Kenmore Industrial Park/Lakepointe site and the Log Boom Park area once the samples have been analyzed. Anchor QEA will conduct the sampling and analysis. For additional information, please visit the City’s website for links to the Department of Ecology program.

Highway 522 Improvements Update

While there has not been major construction on the 522 corridor itself for a couple of years, the City has been working behind the scenes toward construction of the West Segment (57th to 65th Avenues NE, including the north and south legs of the 61st/522 intersection).

The current project under construction, to install a traffic signal at 61st Avenue and NE 181st Street, is a component of the West Segment. This signal is anticipated to be active early in 2013 and was partially funded by a $650,000 appropriation from the State legislature.

In addition to this work, the City has received two grants for the West Segment. The first is $2.5 million to acquire the property rights for the project. Property rights include acquisition, temporary construction easements, utility, and wall easements. The acquisition work for the West Segment is anticipated to begin in late 2012/early 2013. The second source of funding received is a $1.1 million appropriation from the State legislature to improve the traffic signal infrastructure at 61st Avenue NE and 522. The City is working to leverage these funds to create a funding package to move forward with construction of a piece of the West Segment from 61st to 65th Avenue NE.

If you have questions about the City’s 522 Corridor work, please contact the 522 Project Manager, Kent Vaughan, at kvaughan@kenmorewa.gov or 425-398-8900.
SR 520 Bridge Activity at Lakepointe

Construction activities for the new SR 520 floating bridge are happening at locations throughout Puget Sound. In Kenmore, construction activities continue at the Kenmore Industrial Park, also known as Lakepointe. The contractor, Kiewit/General/Manson (KGM), is building precast concrete elements, including anchors and roadway deck sections.

Construction of the final four gravity anchors was completed in July. At this time, all eight gravity anchors have been placed in their final locations on the bottom of Lake Washington. To date 22 fluke anchors have been constructed; 13 of these anchors have been transported to the SR 520 Bridge construction site on Lake Washington.

As of the week of October 8, crews plan to begin constructing up to two fluke anchors a week. Shaft anchor construction is complete and project-related barge traffic is expected to decrease.

In early October, a new gantry crane arrived on-site. This crane will be used during the construction of the roadway deck sections. Construction of deck sections is planned to begin this winter. You can view images of work happening at the site on the construction camera, http://oxblue.com/open/SR520/Kenmore.

The SR 520 Floating Bridge and Landings Project replaces the existing floating bridge and approaches from the future west approach structure east of Foster Island in Seattle to Evergreen Point Road in Medina. For more information on the project, including answers to key questions and photos, visit www.wsdot.wa.gov/Projects/SR520Bridge/BridgeAndLandings/KenmoreIndPrk.htm.

Kenmore Senior Center
A Gathering Place for All

“Everyone is welcome!” stated Garreth Jeffers, the manager of the Kenmore Senior Center. Inside the historic Rhododendron Park located at 6910 NE 170th Street, the Kenmore Senior Center utilizes the buildings owned by the City to serve up plenty of programs. Jeffers started as a volunteer at the Northshore Senior Center and has been working as a part-time manager developing programs at the Kenmore branch for six years. “I love it!” exclaimed Jeffers.

The Kenmore Senior Center, a branch of the Northshore Senior Center, offers a variety of free and reasonably priced activities. Once a month, a local field trip is planned. The popular trips have included an inside look at the Bastyr University campus, tour of the new Brightwater Center in Woodinville, and viewing of the King Tut exhibit. On a weekly basis, the Senior Center hosts friendly games of Bridge, Kenmore crafters gatherings, open discussion groups, and several classes including yoga, driftwood sculpture, and creative writing. There is also a computer lab and free Wi-Fi.

For a list of all classes, visit www.northshoreseniortcenter.org.

As a nonprofit organization, volunteers are a powerful force to make sure the daily operations are handled. “I am lucky to have a great core of volunteers,” said Jeffers. Volunteers help with receptionist duties such as answering phones and greeting people. It’s not too time consuming, as volunteers split three hour shifts among five days. “I am always looking for additional help.”

If you are interested in supporting this local nonprofit, monetary donations may be dropped off at the Northshore Senior Center, Kenmore Senior Center or be made online at www.northshoreseniortcenter.org.

Bring a Furry Friend Home for the Holidays

Whether it’s a canine buddy or feline friend, PAWS can help you and your family meet the perfect companion. PAWS has hundreds of wonderful, loving cats, kittens, dogs and puppies available for adoption.

To help them all find the new homes they deserve, PAWS offers periodic adoption specials. From November 17 – December 30, PAWS can help spread some cheer to you and sheltered dogs and cats with our Home for the Holidays event. During this time, adoption fees for adult animals 1 year and older will be reduced to $75 and only $50 for senior cats and dogs, age 7 years or older.

Give yourself and a lucky animal the gift of a forever home and spend the holidays with a new family member that you actually get to pick! Visit one of the animals online at www.paws.org and find out what true love is. It’ll be the best commitment you’ve ever made. PAWS provides shelter services for Kenmore cats and dogs.

Please remember to license your pet. There are many benefits of licensing your pet including reuniting with your found pet quickly, your pet gets a longer care period, and more. Fees also support the return of hundreds of lost pets to their homes and help adopt thousands of homeless pets to new families every year. Pet licenses are available at City Hall during business hours or online at www.kingcounty.gov/pets.
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.

Street Sweeping
The City will continue to provide street sweeping service, not only to keep streets clean, but also to keep debris from blocking the storm drains and ditches to help minimize any flooding. Street sweeping begins mid- to late-October and continues through January.

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 King County Dispatch at 206-296-8100.

Free 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.

Free 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

Downed Power Lines
Stay Clear - Stay Safe

High winds have already caused power outages in our area. As a reminder, if you come across a downed power line, stay as far away from it as you can and call Puget Sound Energy at 1-888-225-5773. Assume it is live. Never touch a downed power line or anything near it.

Do not drive over downed power lines. Should a power line fall on your car when you’re driving, stay in the car until help arrives.

If a person or pet comes in contact with a power line, stay clear and call 911 immediately. Do not touch the victim or the wire.

For more information on Emergency Preparedness visit www.kenmorewa.gov/preparedness
Thank You to the 2012 Event Sponsors

The generous support received from our sponsors allows the City of Kenmore to continue to produce the following events: Fourth of July Fireworks Show, Summer Concert Series, Jack V. Crawford Day, Dog-O-Ween Costume Contest, & Christmas Tree Lighting Ceremony.

Grocery Outlet
Banner Bank
Puget Sound Energy
Allied Waste
Bastyr University
Kenmore Camera
Northshore Utility District
Peoples Storage
Snapdoodle Toys
KBCS 91.3fm
Fazzari Marketing
Kenmore Reporter
BowWow Fun Towne
Kenmore Veterinary
Dmarie’s Doggie Boutique
Maser’s Grooming & Pet Boutique

HO! HO! HO! Santa is on his way

The annual Christmas Tree Lighting Ceremony is scheduled for Thursday, December 6 from 6 to 7 p.m. at Kenmore City Hall. Join us for live performances, crafts, and pictures with Santa. The City will be accepting nonperishable food items to support the Northshore/Kirkland Hopelink Food Bank. For more information, visit www.kenmorewa.gov/events or call 425-398-8900.

Are You Interested in Serving on the City’s Planning Commission?

The City is seeking Kenmore residents who are interested in serving a three-year term on the City’s seven-member Planning Commission. The Commission is an advisory body that provides guidance and recommendations to the City Council on policy matters related to the Comprehensive Plan and associated land use regulations.

The Comprehensive Plan contains the community’s vision of the City’s future and a statement of the long-range goals and policies and serves as the guide for City Council and staff in making decisions regarding ordinances, regulations and public facility investments. The Commission’s annual “docket” work program is approved by the Council each year. All members are appointed by the Council and must be residents of Kenmore. The Planning Commission usually meets once or twice a month in the evening (regular dates/times to be determined).

If you are interested in serving on the Commission, please complete the application form available on the City’s website, www.kenmorewa.gov. Applications must be submitted by 5:00 p.m. on Monday, December 3, 2012, to the attention of Debbie Bent, Community Development Director, via e-mail: dbent@kenmorewa.gov, or by mail: Kenmore City Hall, PO Box 82607, Kenmore, WA 98028.

CPR/First Aid Classes

The Northshore Fire Department offers CPR and First Aid training. CPR classes are offered the first Wednesday of every month. Upcoming CPR only classes will be held during the day on November 7 and in the evening on December 5. This hands-on class is appropriate for the general public and includes practical application without a written test. Participants will receive a signed certificate of completion at the end of class. A combined First Aid/CPR class will be offered the morning of November 10.

To register for a class or find out more information, visit www.northshorefire.com or call 425-354-1780.
Meeting & Other Information

Kenmore City Council meets on the second, third, and fourth Mondays of the month at Kenmore City Hall, 18120 68th Ave. NE. The second and fourth Mondays are regular meetings. The third Monday is a study session. Meetings are open to the public, and public comments are accepted at the beginning of the regular meetings. Meeting agendas and schedules are available on the City's website at www.kenmorewa.gov/council or contact the City Clerk's Office at 425-398-8900.

Kenmore Library Advisory Board holds meetings on the first Tuesday of even numbered months at 7 p.m. in the Kenmore Library meeting room.

City News & Meeting Information is distributed through the City’s listserv. Sign up to receive news and meeting information on the City’s website at www.kenmorewa.gov/contactus or email cityhall@kenmorewa.gov.

Blood Drive: Give if you can, lend a hand! Boy Scout Troop 582 is hosting a blood drive on Tuesday, December 11 from 1 p.m. to 7 p.m. at Northlake Lutheran Church, 6620 NE 185th St. Appointments are available every 15 minutes. For more information, contact Boy Scout Troop 582 at troop582blooddrive@hotmail.com.

Good Numbers to Know

City Hall ------------------------------------- 425-398-8900
Police/Fire Emergency ---------------------- 911
Police Nonemergency Dispatch -------------- 206-296-3311
Police Nonemergency Information .......... 206-205-7656
Fire Department Headquarters -------------- 425-354-1780
Flooding/Drainage (after hours) ---------- 206-296-8100
Street Concerns (after hours) ------------- 206-296-8100
King County Animal Control --------------- 206-296-PETS
Allied Waste ----------------------------- 206-682-9730
Kenmore Library --------------------------- 425-486-8747
Puget Sound Energy ------------------------ 425-454-2000
Northshore Utility District --------------- 425-398-4400

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Prescription Drug Drop Box Now Available at Kenmore City Hall

Residents of Kenmore now have a free and easy way to properly dispose of their unused prescription drugs. The City has installed a prescription drug drop box in the lobby of City Hall, 18120 68th Ave NE. Turning in expired or unused prescription drugs for disposal is the only secure and environmentally sound way to dispose of leftover medicines. Residents may drop off medication Monday through Friday from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m., excluding holidays, no questions asked. We are able to accept any and all prescription drugs or other medications, except for needles, fluids or inhalers.

Protect our kids, families, and the environment. Unused or expired prescription medications are a public safety issue, leading to accidental poisoning, overdose, and abuse. Prescription drug abuse is the fastest-growing drug problem in the country. In Washington State, 11 percent of teens use prescription drugs for nonmedical reasons – a rate among the highest in the nation. Over half of teens abusing prescription drugs get them from a family member or friend, often without their knowledge.

Unwanted prescription drugs left in the home endanger our children, seniors and pets. Over half of the 37,000 calls to the Washington Poison Center in 2009 were for young children poisoned by medicines found at home. The elderly are also at risk of accidental poisonings, and human medications are the leading cause of pet poisoning.

It’s important to properly dispose of drugs. Unused prescription drugs thrown in the trash can be retrieved and abused or illegally sold. Unused drugs that are flushed contaminate the water supply. Proper disposal of unused drugs saves lives and protects the environment.

If you have any questions, please contact the City at 425-398-8900 or cityhall@kenmorewa.gov.