



# INSIDE LYNNWOOD

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Although this summer was a little different...we were so happy to engage with Lynnwood neighbors through our summer events!

Thanks to everyone who joined us at **Meet Me at the Park**, **Sandlot Cinemas**, **National Night Out**, **Coffee With a Cop**, **Juneteenth Drive Thru Celebration**, **Spring Clean**, **Lynnwood Walks**, **Recreation Center's 10th Anniversary Celebration**, and more!

Please continue to stay healthy and safe throughout the fall!!



Check out more photos from our summer events inside!!



# Message from Mayor Nicola Smith

## Continued Commitment of Excellence



With the recent rise in COVID-19 case rates, sadly the pandemic is far from over. As a City, we are committed to providing our community with the best services possible. Throughout the pandemic, our services have had to adjust in order to best protect the health and safety of both our employees and our community members.

Our City staff have been attentive, creative and nimble when it comes to the services we provide and the way in which we provide them. Our Recreation team has done an amazing job of keeping our Recreation Center open (as much as possible with restrictions) giving our community a place to recreate. Our Parks team has been very busy keeping our parks and open spaces clean and safe. Our Healthy Communities team and the Lynnwood Police Department have taken all of their events outside to stay safe.

Our Information Technology, Communications, and Customer Service team members have implemented new tools to help us increase and improve our online services. So now community members are able to take care of City business without visiting us in person. These services have allowed our Development & Business Services Team to review building plans and permits online, allowing construction to continue at a fast pace. Our Human Resources team have continued to recruit, interview and hire new City staff through Zoom. And our Finance Team is working closely with Council and Departments to make a plan for how to best use the City's portion of American Rescue Plan Act funds.

This pandemic has been difficult. We've had to make major adjustments to all aspects of our lives. It's uncertain if we'll ever return to the normal we once knew. Through all of the hard and stressful times, I am grateful that our City staff have remained resilient and dedicated to working hard for the Lynnwood community. Although it has been hard, I know we'll all come out of this pandemic as a better community.

Please continue to stay healthy and stay safe.

Best Regards,

# Lynnwood Hires First Race & Social Justice Coordinator

Mayor Nicola Smith has hired Douglas Raiford to serve as the City's first Race and Social Justice Coordinator. The goal of this dedicated staff member is to further Lynnwood's commitment to being a safe, welcoming, and equitable community for all.

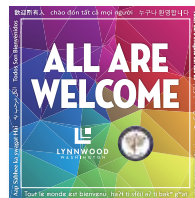
"For many years we've made great strides at advancing equity in our city," stated Mayor Nicola Smith. "Now is the time to move forward with a dedicated staff member to pull together what's been accomplished already, and move us forward with intentionality so that we can truly become a City that provides equitable services and programs, a city where all community members are welcome, and all belong."

"As a long-time resident, raising my two young boys in Lynnwood, it is an absolute honor to join Lynnwood city government," said Raiford. "I am looking forward to working with partners both inside and beyond city government to break down barriers and increase equity for all. My goal is to open the door and create opportunities for everyone to participate and access services, especially those in underrepresented communities."



Raiford is a member of the Mayor's Executive Staff and he will work collaboratively with all City Departments, the City's internal equity team, the Diversity, Equity & Inclusion Commission, as well as our partners and community members.

Raiford, who originally hails from Miami, Florida, has a Bachelor's Degree from Barry University in International Advertising and Communications. He has past experience working for the Department of State in Washington, D.C., and has spent the last seven years in Washington working in higher education. Raiford comes to the City of Lynnwood from Cascadia College where he worked with international students and in the Office of Equity and Inclusion.



For more information on Lynnwood's efforts to create a safe, welcoming, and equitable community for all, visit [www.lynnwoodwa.gov/safeandwelcoming](http://www.lynnwoodwa.gov/safeandwelcoming)

# Lynnwood Receives Resilient Park Access Grant

To support the advancement of community-driven, systems-level strategies for equitable park access that improve the environmental resilience and health of communities, Lynnwood was selected to receive \$300,000 in grant funding from the National Recreation and Park Association (NRPA). Since March 11, 2020, the day the World Health Organization declared coronavirus (COVID-19) a global pandemic, the essential services park and recreation agencies provide has only been magnified. COVID-19 continues to highlight what has been true for many years: parks and recreation is vital to ensuring that all people – no matter their race, ethnicity, income, age, location or gender identity – thrive. The Parks, Recreation & Cultural Arts Department plan to use this grant as an opportunity to complete a community-driven, comprehensive Park & Trail Capital Project Plan and prioritization project centering equity in our park system planning.

## LEARN MORE

To learn more about this project, visit: [www.LynnwoodWA.gov/ParksLove](http://www.LynnwoodWA.gov/ParksLove)



## COMMUNITY PLANNING: South Lynnwood Neighborhood Plan

The South Lynnwood Neighborhood Plan is moving forward! The neighborhood plan is engaging South Lynnwood’s communities to establish a community vision; identify infrastructure needs; identify projects and policies to stabilize housing for all families; preserve and improve parks and open space; provide opportunities for various land uses; create opportunities for businesses to grow; and improve access to transit.

## LEARN MORE

The draft plan will be available to the public for comment in early October. Visit [www.lynnwoodwa.gov/SouthLynnwood](http://www.lynnwoodwa.gov/SouthLynnwood) to learn more.

## More Summer Events!





## What Are You Capable Of?

### *New Construction Trades Pre-Apprenticeship Program Available this Fall*

The City of Lynnwood is thrilled to be partnering with Sound Transit, Edmonds College, Workforce Snohomish, Communities of Color Coalition, Snohomish STEM, and several other partners to fill a critical labor shortage in our community. Construction of Sound Transit 2 to Lynnwood, and the upcoming Sound Transit 3 to Everett needs skilled laborers to construct this important transportation infrastructure.

As a Sound Transit Board Member, Mayor Nicola Smith learned of Sound Transit's critical labor shortage and their urgent need to find skilled laborers in order to accomplish the aggressive construction timeline of the light rail spine. With her background working for Edmonds College for many years, and her knowledge that we have a diverse community that could benefit from the right tools and training to obtain family wage jobs right in their own community and contribute to the building of critical public transportation system, Mayor Smith held a brainstorming meeting.

The outcome of that brainstorming meeting between the City, Edmonds College, Sound Transit, Workforce and other community partners, has led to a new Pre-Apprenticeship program launching this fall quarter. This free pre-apprenticeship program will give community members the skills and support to enter into the construction field through paid apprenticeship programs.

The first Construction Trades Pre-Apprenticeship Program runs from October 4–December 17, from 7:30am–2:00pm, at the Advanced Manufacturing Skills Center.

#### LEARN MORE

For more information visit [www.Edmonds.edu/STapprenticeship](http://www.Edmonds.edu/STapprenticeship) or contact [shelia.dersham@edmonds.edu](mailto:shelia.dersham@edmonds.edu) or 425-267-5777.

## Local Resources

### **All Washingtonians 12 years and older are now eligible to receive a COVID-19 vaccine.**

Make today the day to get your vaccine! Find a location near you by visiting <https://www.snohd.org/587/How-to-get-your-shot>. If you don't have access to schedule online, you can call the Snohomish Health District's COVID Hotline for assistance Monday-Friday 8:30am-4:30pm at 425-339-5278.



### **Call 2-1-1 to get help with past due rent, utilities, more**

Need help with rental assistance or utilities assistance, medical care, employment, and other day-to-day living? 2-1-1 helps connect you to valuable local community resources. Call 1-800-525-0127 and press # or you can also text the word "Coronavirus" to 211-211 for help.



### **September is Suicide Prevention Awareness Month**

September is Suicide Prevention Awareness Month—a time to raise awareness on this stigmatized, and often taboo, topic. Suicidal thoughts, much like mental health conditions, can affect anyone regardless of age, gender or background. In fact, suicide is often the result of an untreated mental health condition. Suicidal thoughts, although common, should not be considered normal and often indicate more serious issues. It's okay to not be okay, and there are resources available to help.

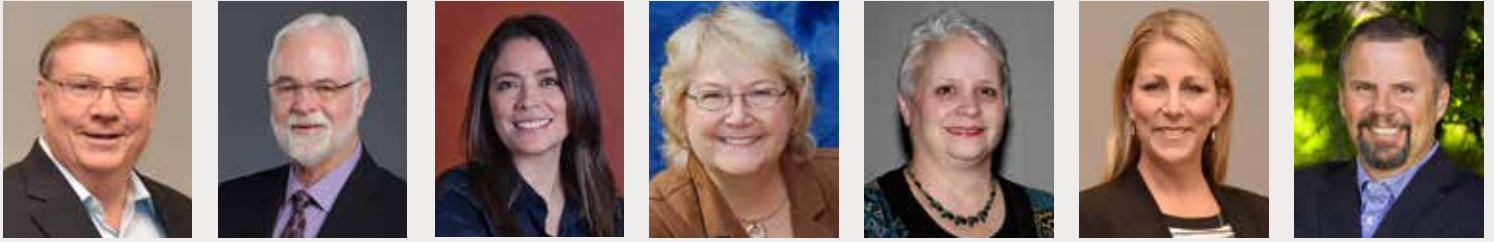
If you or someone you know is in an emergency, call 911 immediately. If you are in crisis or are experiencing difficult or suicidal thoughts, call the National Suicide Hotline at 1-800-273 TALK (8255)

If you're uncomfortable talking on the phone, you can also text NAMI to 741-741 to be connected to a free, trained crisis counselor on the Crisis Text Line.

For more resources visit the National Alliance on Mental Health at [www.nami.org](http://www.nami.org).

It's  
OKAY  
to not  
be  
OKAY.

# Lynnwood City Council



*Pictured L-R: Council President George Hurst, Council Vice President Jim Smith, Julieta Altamirano-Crosby, Christine Frizzell, Ruth Ross, Shannon Sessions, and Patrick Decker.*

*City Council Work Sessions are held the 1st, 3rd and 5th Mondays of the month and the third Wednesdays from 6-9pm. Council Business Meetings are held on the 2nd and 4th Mondays of the month from 6-9pm. At this time, City Council Meetings are being held remotely. As COVID rates trend downwards, we will return to in-person meetings. Council Meetings are streamed live at [www.LynnwoodWA.gov/Live](http://www.LynnwoodWA.gov/Live) or can be viewed on Comcast Channel 21 and FIOS/Frontier Channel 38, on Wednesdays at 7:30pm and Sundays at 7:00am and 2:00pm.*

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## **Council Corner:** *Council responsibilities go beyond Council meetings*

Fall is here and as Shakespeare wrote in a sonnet, “summer’s lease hath too short a date”. As you may know, the City Council does indeed have a “summer break”. Typically, there are no Council meetings after the second week of August, and we resume meetings after Labor Day. But Council Members still attend other meetings in August. Every year, Council Members are appointed by the Council President to serve as members or liaisons to the twelve different City Boards and Commissions. That means Council Members have at least two Board or Commission meetings to attend every month, including August. Council Members are also elected by their peers to serve on outside Boards and Organizations that usually meet every month. And these outside responsibilities can include additional monthly meetings with sub-committees like finance, personnel, etc.

In other words, while the City Council as a whole may not meet for a few weeks in August, each Council Member attends other meetings as representatives of the City of Lynnwood. Council Members have a heart to serve and the time commitment to be on Boards and Commissions is part of that service.

### **Boards and Commissions appointed by the Council President:**

Arts Commission, Finance Committee, Disability Board, History and Heritage Board, Human Service Commission, Lynnwood Public Facilities District Board, Diversity, Equity and Inclusion Commission, Parks and Recreation Board, Planning Commission, Sister City Committee, South County Fire Liaison, Veterans Liaison.

### **External Boards and Commissions Elected by Council Vote:**

Alliance for Housing Affordability, Community Transit (currently held by the mayor), Lynnwood Tourism Advisory Committee, Snohomish County 911, Snohomish County Health District, Snohomish County Tomorrow.

*Interested in serving on a City Board or Commission? Find out more by visiting [www.LynnwoodWA.gov/Community/Volunteer](http://www.LynnwoodWA.gov/Community/Volunteer)*

## **Utility Moratorium Ends September 30th**

**Behind on your City utility payments?** We suggest paying what you can to keep your account balances manageable. The City of Lynnwood offers many discounts and rebates, and financial assistance may be available to qualifying low-income households. Call 425-670-5164, email [ubdiscounts@LynnwoodWA.gov](mailto:ubdiscounts@LynnwoodWA.gov), or visit [www.LynnwoodWA.gov/UB](http://www.LynnwoodWA.gov/UB) to find out more about our discounts and rebates, and contact 2-1-1 for financial assistance.

# Lynnwood City Center Branding

After 20 years of planning, the Lynnwood City Center is becoming a reality.

The future urban center will be an appealing place to live, work and play. Anchored by the Lynnwood Transit Center with light rail opening in 2024, the City Center will begin to distinguish itself as a unique and vibrant place.

Lynnwood's City Center neighborhood future as a transit-oriented, pedestrian-friendly, livable, and vibrant place. This project will include developing a neighborhood-specific logo, community outreach, and storytelling elements.

As part of the Urban Land Institute National Study Visit, one recommendation identifies that stakeholders need a unified message of the City Center's future. This project will support that effort including graphics, outreach, and storytelling of the neighborhood's brand. A successful product will include adoption and use of neighborhood branding by both public and private organizations located in City Center.



Northline Village Rendering, Credit Merlone Geier Partners

## We need your help!

City Center needs a brand and logo to create a sense of identity as it develops. This brand will help communicate the area's future, including:

- Business
- Public Spaces And Parks
- Regional Transit Connections
- Housing
- Pedestrian-friendly Environment
- Enhanced Livability

## VIRTUAL OPEN HOUSE

**October 12  
6-7:30pm**

This event will include a community dialogue about how to represent Lynnwood and our City Center.

More Information:  
[www.LynnwoodWA.gov/citycenter](http://www.LynnwoodWA.gov/citycenter)

## 2024 Comprehensive Plan

The City of Lynnwood is updating the Comprehensive Plan (Plan) for the next 20 years! We want to maintain and improve the quality of life for everyone that lives, works, and plays in our City. We want to hear from you! Your early input will help us understand how the community wants to be engaged for this project.



Visit [www.lynnwoodwa.gov/2024CompPlan](http://www.lynnwoodwa.gov/2024CompPlan) to take the survey and learn more.

## PARC Plan Update Online Open House

A draft update to the Parks, Arts, Recreation & Conservation (PARC) Plan will be published and open for public comment between October 6th and December 6th. The PARC Plan is a 10-year comprehensive plan for the Lynnwood Parks, Recreation & Cultural Arts Department to meet local recreation needs. We invite community members to learn more and participate in an online open house for the PARC Plan Update at: <https://www.lynnwoodwa.gov/Have-Your-Say-Lynnwood/PARC-Plan-Update>



# MAJOR PROJECTS

## STAY INFORMED

We share regular project updates on our City website, Lynnwood eNews and social media. Sign up and follow us to stay up-to-date on what's going on in Lynnwood.

Sign up for Lynnwood eNews at [www.LynnwoodWA.gov/eNews](http://www.LynnwoodWA.gov/eNews), follow us on Twitter @LynnwoodStreets and @Lynnwood, and visit [www.LynnwoodWA.gov/MajorProjects](http://www.LynnwoodWA.gov/MajorProjects)

### Community Justice Center

This project will rebuild and re-imagine our Community Justice Center. We are designing and building a purpose-built police department, a re-imagined misdemeanor jail, and a remodeled court, which will allow us the necessary space and function to bring the best justice services to our community. On August 2, the Lynnwood City Council voted to postpone the construction contract award for the building in response to concerns raised by community members. Mayor Smith then convened a task force to study the viability of changing the building structure to accommodate additional behavioral health and medical services in order to create a Community Recovery Center. The task force is co-chaired by Chief of Police Jim Nelson and WA State Representative Lauren Davis, 32nd District.

In response to community voices, the task force proposed reducing the number of jail beds by 30% in order to make space for services for individuals experiencing behavioral health crisis. The City of Lynnwood has received letters of funding commitment from Snohomish County and the Washington State Legislative to help fund the Community Recovery Center.

*For more information on the project or the work of the task force, visit [www.LynnwoodWA.gov/CJCProject](http://www.LynnwoodWA.gov/CJCProject).*

### Lynnwood Link Extension

The project to extend light rail service from Northgate (opening 2021) to Lynnwood (opening 2024) is well underway. Sound Transit has begun construction of the Lynnwood City Center Station Parking Garage which will contain over 1,600 parking stalls in a five-story structure built to LEED silver standards. Concrete pilings are being erected, showing the spine of the Lynnwood Link Extension.

*For more information or to sign up for project updates, visit [www.SoundTransit.org/LLE](http://www.SoundTransit.org/LLE)*

### 196th Street SW Improvements

Construction continues of this project which will widen 196th St SW (SR524) between 48th Ave W and 36th Ave W. Nighttime work on water main and drainage systems installations, as well as converting overhead utilities to underground utilities continues. Planned improvements are designed to reduce traffic congestion, better accommodate bus and transit travel, increase business access, and promote walkability and safety.

*For more information visit [www.LynnwoodWA.gov/196street](http://www.LynnwoodWA.gov/196street). Construction Hotline: 425-224-2440. Email: [196street@LynnwoodWA.gov](mailto:196street@LynnwoodWA.gov)*

### ADA Sidewalk and Curb Ramp Improvements

The City of Lynnwood recently repaired the following ADA Ramps and Sidewalks, which were prioritized by the City due to concerns heard from the community:

#### **Veterans Park Sidewalk on Veterans Way, west of 44th Ave W to mid-block crossing:**

Removal and replacement of existing sidewalk and curb ramps. This sidewalk had buckled due to large tree roots. Two large trees had to be removed for the safety of pedestrians and to create a solid footing for the new sidewalk.

#### **Northwest Ramp and Veterans Way & 40th Ave W:**

Replacing an existing asphalt walkway with new 5' wide concrete sidewalk, curb ramp, and curb and gutter including pavement patching.

#### **North side of 176th St SW, between 44th Ave W & SR 99:**

Replacement of 10 curb ramps and curb and gutter

#### **Southwest ramp at corner of 48th Ave W & 188th St SW:**

Replacing the southwest curb ramp and removal and replacement of pavement markings.

*Veterans Way Before (left) and After (right)*





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## Halloween Hullabaloo

Bring your family in their Halloween costumes to our daytime family-friendly "Halloween Drive-Thru Hullabaloo." Participants will drive through our Candyland Forest to trick-or-treat at characters' houses along the way! Car decorations encouraged! Free event. Pre-register your vehicle through our online registration, *PerfectMind*, by visiting [www.PlayLynnwood.com](http://www.PlayLynnwood.com).



Saturday, October 30th 2:00-5:00 pm

## Virtual Celebrate Schools Monster Mad Dash 5K

Let's make a difference together! Join us on October 2nd through October 8th for our week-long virtual Celebrate Schools Monster Mad Dash 5K extravaganza! Each day, there will be new and exciting content to enjoy while you walk, run, or wag your way through your own race course! Will you join us to raise money for our schools and important programs that benefit children and educators in the Edmonds School District?



Register Online at: [www.FoundationESD.org](http://www.FoundationESD.org).  
 Questions? Contact Elizabeth Wiley at [elizabeth@foundationesd.org](mailto:elizabeth@foundationesd.org)

## Connect with Lynnwood!



[www.LynnwoodWA.gov](http://www.LynnwoodWA.gov)



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