



# INSIDE LYNNWOOD

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## Creating a Veteran-Supportive City

Starting in 2015, Mayor Smith and the City Council made a commitment to embark on a Veterans Initiative and make Lynnwood a Veteran-Support City. Through great partnerships, here's a look at what we've been able to accomplish so far:

- **Veteran Services Roundtable:** A diverse group of service providers gathered to collaborate, share resources, and figure out a way to provide better services to our nation's heroes.
- **Veterans One-Stop Resource Center:** Opened in early 2016, the center is staffed by local professionals available to assist with referrals to Veterans Affairs, medical and employment assistance, career transitions, and more. Open every Tuesday and the 1st Wednesday of each month from 9:00am to 3:00pm at the Verdant Wellness Center.
- **Hero's Café:** a monthly gathering for veterans to focus on fostering positive outreach, interaction, and welfare within our community. Open the last Tuesday of each month from 9am-3pm at the Verdant Wellness Center.
- **Sebastian Place Partnership:** The City and the Lynnwood Rotary provided home furnishings for the 20-unit apartment building for homeless veterans.
- **Korean War Veterans Memorial Ceremony:** Hosted in partnership with Edmonds Community College, Lynnwood's Sister Cities Association, the Korean Consulate General, Mr. Moon Duk Ho and WA State Representative Cindy Ryu.
- **Northwest Veterans Museum at Heritage Park:** The museum will be a place for community members and veterans to share history, stories, and meet each other. Rotating historic artifacts and displays will be featured in the Museum. Coming soon - stay tuned for more info!

As these grass root efforts continue to grow, it is with great pride and honor to say that—yes—Lynnwood is a Veteran-Supportive city where our nation's heroes can live, work, educate, recreate—and thrive!



### LEARN MORE

For more information on the City's Veterans Initiative contact [gisrael@LynnwoodWA.gov](mailto:gisrael@LynnwoodWA.gov) or call 425-670-5004.

## Message from Mayor Nicola Smith

*Safe & Welcoming City*



On January 23, we adopted a Safe and Welcoming City Resolution. In that resolution, I was joined by the City Council and Chief of Police Tom Davis in a commitment to make Lynnwood a safe, welcoming, and equitable community for everyone. In that resolution we also made a commitment to stand together with the people of Lynnwood in opposing hate, violence, and acts of intolerance

committed against our community members. All members of our community that choose to live here peacefully, deserve to feel safe and secure in their community - at home, work, school, and places of worship.

We have made intentional progress towards removing barriers and promoting a pro-equity way of doing business. We have established a new Diversity, Equity and Inclusion volunteer commission that will help advise the City on ways to promote equity and build trusting relationships with our diverse community. We are enhancing our employees' cultural competencies through a variety of trainings and experiences, examining the way we communicate and reach out to community members, and we are reviewing our city policies and procedures.

Our Lynnwood Police Department has made great efforts to focus on community-oriented policing. Last September we launched the Communities of Color and Police Relations Taskforce. That group is tasked with providing advice on city policies to promote equity, ensure trust and transparency, and identify ways the city can proactively listen and engage with all members of our community. Our Police Department has also recently launched a new program called *Cops and Clergy* which aims to build open and trusting relationships between our officers and our faith and religious leaders.

These are just a few examples of how we are 'walking the talk' of being a safe and welcoming city. We want all people of Lynnwood to feel safe, be engaged, participate, have access to City service, and contribute to our efforts of making Lynnwood a place that we can all be proud to call home!

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Nicola Smith".



## Conversations with Council

**SAVE THE DATE:** In a special effort to meet and greet with residents in their own neighborhoods, The Lynnwood City Council wants to invite you to a new community- style meeting set for 7 p.m. Wednesday, May 17, in the south Lynnwood neighborhood; specific location and more details to follow. Everyone is welcome, bring your family of all ages and neighbors, we want to hear from all of you! We look forward to seeing you!

While all of the Council's meetings are open to the public, this new opportunity offers an alternative to the traditional City Council meetings. For more info on the City Council, check out the *Council Corner* inside.

## Save the Date— Mayor Smith's 2017 State of the City Address

*Thursday, June 1, 8-9:30am,  
Lynnwood Convention Center*



# Volunteers Make a Difference

Global Peace Foundation along with Cub Scout Pack 331 and other community volunteers helped to make MLK Day of Service a fantastic success! The volunteers successfully spread 50 cubic yards of recycled wood chips throughout Lynndale Park, covering 5,000 square feet of tree rings and informal beds. This work will help to reduce weeds and conserve water throughout the year. Volunteers also cleared and cleaned up 10 yards of English Ivy growing up several trees throughout the park.

We have a wonderful Parks Maintenance crew that work hard to keep things in top condition, but we can't do it alone. In fact, each year teams of dedicated volunteers contribute many

hours to help maintain and improve our parks and trails system.

If you are interested in getting involved, the Park Volunteer Service Program offers a variety of ways you can help Lynnwood's parks. Volunteers can: remove invasive plants, clear debris from trails, add surfacing such as crushed rock, mulch or bark, cut back vegetation from encroaching on trails, maintain flower beds, clean graffiti, pick up litter, repaint benches, picnic tables and wood signs, and much more!

You can join an upcoming work party, identify your own group work party, or Adopt-a-Trail. Tools, gloves and equipment are provided. All ages are welcome to participate.

## GET ENGAGED

### *Upcoming Work Parties*

- **Heritage Park Spring Clean**
  - Thursday, April 6 from 10am-3pm
  - Potluck lunch provided
  - RSVP to [mharrington@LynnwoodWA.gov](mailto:mharrington@LynnwoodWA.gov) or 425-670-5532
- **Earth Day Clean Up Project at Meadowdale Park**
  - Saturday, April 22 from 9am-12pm
  - Includes general park cleanup, invasive plant removal, and placement of woodchips in playground. Tools provided.
  - RSVP to [mharrington@LynnwoodWA.gov](mailto:mharrington@LynnwoodWA.gov) or 425-670-5532



## Regional Fire Service

To create a balanced and sustainable budget, it may be necessary to streamline, reinvent, or even divest in certain areas. Some residents argue for lower taxes while others ask for new or expanded City services, and City leaders work hard to balance diverse community input with fiscal realities.

Like many other cities across our nation, Lynnwood is faced with rising costs of providing services and diminishing resources. One of the goals outlined in the 2017-2018 budget process was to address long-term financial sustainability. The Lynnwood Fire Department has experienced a dramatic increase in calls for service over the last several years, and with the expected growth of the City, calls for service will increase even more. Lynnwood and Fire District 1 have formed a Regional Fire Authority (RFA) Planning Committee, comprised of 3 elected officials from each agency, to review how regionalization could provide for greater control over rising costs, and provide a more sustainable and effective fire service for our growing community.

The RFA Planning Committee is working to create a plan that will be presented to Lynnwood and Fire District 1 voters which will include information on how the new RFA will be governed, financed, and operated. The RFA Planning Committee will be delivering the plan to both the Lynnwood City Council and Fire District 1 Board of Commissioners in late April. If both agencies decide to move forward with the RFA Plan, area voters can expect to see this issue on their August 2017 ballot.

Without regionalization, the City of Lynnwood will need to determine how to fund millions of dollars for additional resources to our City fire department without jeopardizing other city services. We must take a critical look at our City services to ensure that we are leveraging every tax dollar to achieve maximum results. This thoughtful and thorough examination of our city services will help us to create a financially resilient community that propels us toward achieving our community vision of being "a regional model for a sustainable, vibrant community with engaged citizens and an accountable government."

### LEARN MORE

For more detailed information on the Regional Fire Authority Planning Committee visit [www.LynnwoodFD1RFA.com](http://www.LynnwoodFD1RFA.com) or email [info@LynnwoodFD1RFA.com](mailto:info@LynnwoodFD1RFA.com)



## New Off-Leash Dog Area

Lynnwood's first Off-Leash Dog Area opened at Lynndale Park on Saturday, February 11th. Open to our furry friends, the off-leash area is fully enclosed and features seating, drinking fountain, agility stations, an informational kiosk, and a smaller pin for shy-dogs.

### LEARN MORE

For more information, visit: [www.Lynnwoodwa.gov/PlayLynnwood/Parks/Lynndale-Park/Off-LeashDogArea.htm](http://www.Lynnwoodwa.gov/PlayLynnwood/Parks/Lynndale-Park/Off-LeashDogArea.htm)

## Keep Our Sidewalks Clear and Safe

The City would like to remind homeowners and business owners that it is the responsibility of the property owner to keep vegetation trimmed back from sidewalks, driveways and corners to help increase visibility and keep pedestrians and motorist safe. Staff from the Lynnwood Code Enforcement Office will be traveling through our neighborhoods and commercial areas to identify potential problems and will first contact owners to identify issues and ask for voluntary compliance. Please help us to keep our neighborhoods safe and attractive.

### LEARN MORE

Contact our Code Enforcement line at 425-670-5420 for more information.

## Recycling News

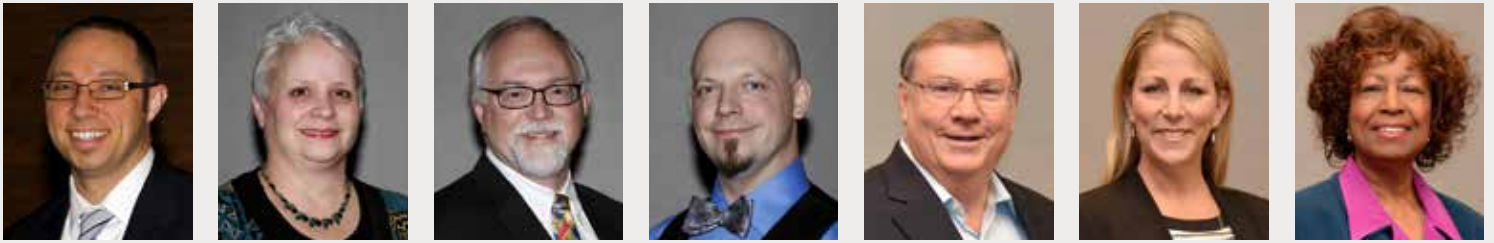
### **Free Recycling Drop Off: Electronics, Styrofoam, and Paper**

**Shredding:** Saturday, March 18th from 10am-3pm at Edmonds Community College. Drop off your unwanted computers, monitors, TVs, laptops, cell phones, tablets and clean Styrofoam blocks (no peanuts please).

**Spring Clean Event:** This year the City of Lynnwood will be introducing electronic Spring Clean Coupons! Sign up for eNews to be alerted when coupons become available.

### LEARN MORE

Sign up for our 'Recycling News & Events' topic list on Lynnwood eNews and receive information on upcoming recycling events and other important information. [www.LynnwoodWA.gov/eNews](http://www.LynnwoodWA.gov/eNews)



Pictured L-R: Council President Benjamin Goodwin, Council Vice President Ruth Ross, M. Christopher Boyer, Ian Cotton, George Hurst, Shannon Sessions, and Shirley Sutton. City Council Work Sessions are held the 1st, 3rd and 5th Mondays of the month and the third Wednesdays from 7-10pm. Council Business Meetings are held on the 2nd and 4th Mondays of the month from 7-10pm at the City Hall Council Chambers, 19100 - 44th Avenue West, Lynnwood. Council Business Meetings are broadcast on Comcast Channel 21 and FIOS/Frontier Channel 38, on Wednesdays at 7:30pm and Sundays at 7:00am and 2:00pm. Contact Beth Morris, Council Executive Assistant at 425-670-5011 or [bmorris@LynnwoodWA.gov](mailto:bmorris@LynnwoodWA.gov) for more information.

## Council Corner: Human Services

### *Supporting our underserved and underrepresented community members*

Lynnwood's Community Vision calls for a *cohesive community that respects all residents* and states that Lynnwood will be a *city that is responsive to the wants and needs of our residents*. In order to better address the needs of Lynnwood's lower income residents, the homeless, seniors, veterans, victims of abuse, youth and others that are typically underserved - our City created a new Human Services Commission.

The Human Services Commission is an advisory body to the City Council and City Administration. The City is fortunate to have seven individuals who are committed to supporting our underserved and underrepresented community members.

The Human Services Commission recently conducted a needs assessment and identified the top areas of concern as: basic needs such as shelter, food, and clothing; homelessness; substance abuse; mental illness; and support for Veterans. The work of the Commission encourages partnerships and collaboration between City Departments, such as Community

Development, Police, Fire, and Parks. We also partner with service providers from non-profits agencies, the faith community and government agencies to enhancement our community's response to complex social issues.

Last year, the City adopted a Human Services Element to the Comprehensive Plan to further enhance our commitment to serving our vulnerable community members. We continue to work with the YWCA to provide a Homeless Engagement Liaison who works closely with our Community Health and Safety Section of the Police Department. And later this year the City will be seeking proposals to further expand services to those most in need.

### **LEARN MORE**

You can find additional information on the City's human services efforts at [www.lynnwoodwa.gov/Government/Boards--Commissions--and-Committees/Human-Services-Commission.htm](http://www.lynnwoodwa.gov/Government/Boards--Commissions--and-Committees/Human-Services-Commission.htm)



*Human Services Commission, Left to Right: Kathy Coffey, Peter Schmidt, Julio Cortes, Sandi Farkas, Mary Anne Dillon, Michelle Reitan, Pam Hurst*

## 2017 Legislative Priorities

The City of Lynnwood has developed the following Legislative Priorities for 2017. These legislative priorities allow our elected officials and city leadership to efficiently and effectively convey our City's top priorities to our State Legislators and Senators. Many decisions that are made in Olympia have direct or indirect impacts on our City's ability to provide services to the people of Lynnwood. When our representatives know our City priorities, they are better equipped to represent our interests in Olympia!

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### *Economic Development*

- Fund the state sales tax incentive and re-establish programs to support large scale annexations consistent with the Growth Management Act and the efficient provision of city services. Lynnwood continues to review annexation opportunities of up to 30,000 people.
- Provide local government with financing tools to fund public infrastructure needed for economic development and community revitalization.
- Retain full funding for Associated Development Organizations such as the Economic Alliance Snohomish County, a catalyst for economic vitality and building strong partnerships with local communities.
- Extend the taxing authority of Public Facilities Districts for 15 years, to allow these valuable community assets to address their capital and operational needs.
- Support passage of the Tourism Marketing Act.
- Provide capital and program funding for a new STEM building at Edmonds Community College.

### *Fiscal Sustainability*

- Protect the level of state shared revenues provided to local governments.

### *Housing, Human Services & Health*

- Support efforts to address mental health, homelessness and affordable housing.
- Provide additional resources for mental health and chemical dependency programs, and create local options to generate revenue that address affordable housing and homelessness via the Housing Trust Fund and raising the document recording fee.
- Re-establish equitable funding for local public health districts that has diminished since the repeal of the motor vehicle excise tax in 2000. Public health services, including responding to communicable diseases and immunization of vulnerable populations, are essential and fundamental functions of responsible government.
- Support raising the state minimum age of sale for all tobacco products to 21-years old.

### *Transportation & Infrastructure*

- Improve and expand transportation programs through state or federal funding grants.
- Protect and increase the Public Works Trust Fund.
- Expand the use of design-build and general contractor/manager (GC/CM) contracting procedures for cities to achieve greater efficiencies in local capital project implementation.
- Enhance local funding options to provide diverse revenue sources for infrastructure operations, preservation and capital needs.
- Support planning and funding solutions for chokepoint and congestion relief in alignment with transportation priorities of Lynnwood and the region



Lynnwood is committed to Washington's economic prosperity and is a regional center for business and commerce - ranking in the top 10 cities statewide generating millions of dollars annually in taxable retail sales and trade. The retail sector forms the second largest employment base in the city, which includes more than 3,200 businesses of which over 200 are Korean-owned businesses. An important fact to note is that we have started to explore a journey of economic, educational and cultural exchanges internationally with our new Sister City relationship with Damyang, South Korea.

## Public Safety and Emergency Responsiveness

- Increase state funding for law enforcement training academies to support local public safety needs.
- Continue funding public safety programs such as victim notification, sex offender verification and auto theft prevention.
- Support the mobilization of “all risk resources” during an emergency, to improve emergency management, coordinate responses, and enhance communications.
- Fund training and specialized equipment to meet the emergency service demands from natural disasters.

## Statewide Acts

- Strengthen the Public Records Act in response to changing technology by giving cities more flexibility to address the increase of egregious public record requests.
- Support the False Claims Act and empower public contracting agencies with stronger rights and protection against false claims.

## U.S. Congress

The City of Lynnwood echoes the Association of Washington Cities (AWC) push that federal fiscal policies should enhance the ability of local elected officials to respond to needs at the local level. Lynnwood and other cities rely on federal funding to build infrastructure, support economic development, deliver human services, and ensure public safety. With sufficient federal funds, we can demonstrate a substantial return on investment. This funding must be consistent, stable, and reliable. We also echo AWC’s position to oppose federal policies that undermine local government regulatory authority, impose unfunded mandates, or preempt local government revenues and revenue authorities.

Lynnwood & other Washington cities need Congress to:

- Close the online sales tax loophole
- Protect municipal bonds
- Invest in infrastructure
- Maintain community development funding
- Ensure safe communities



*Lynnwood is focused on meeting the basic needs and services for individuals and families, addressing homelessness, seniors, veterans, youth, and those underserved, under the guidance and responsibility of a seven-member Human Services Commission established early 2016.*



*Lynnwood takes great honor in ensuring the public safety of all people in the city. Our professional firefighters and police officers are highly trained, well-educated, extremely motivated, and focused on the core mission of service to the community. We have a robust Emergency Operations Center that can be activated in times of emergency, led by the Lynnwood Fire Department. And with a vision to be a cohesive community that respects all people in such a diverse city, the Lynnwood Police Department is leading a charge of discussions called “Communities of Color and Police Relations.”*



*Lynnwood is a regional transportation and transit center serving the north Puget Sound area. We are one of only three cities in the country to receive a 2016 grant from the Federal Transit Administration to explore transit-oriented development in preparation for Sound Transit Lynnwood Link Light Rail in 2023, which is projected to be one of the busiest stations. And with the recent passage of the Transportation Package by the Washington State Legislature, Lynnwood will receive a state grant for the 196th Street SW project (pictured above) that will add additional lanes, median barriers, wider sidewalks and landscaping – making the area safer and more attractive.*



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# What's Happening *Sign up for e-news at [www.LynnwoodWA.gov/enews](http://www.LynnwoodWA.gov/enews)*

**Nightwaves** Saturday, March 11th and May 20th from 8pm-11pm are the nights Middle School teens look forward to all year! Dance to a DJ, swim, play games, watch movies, eat tasty snacks, and hang out with friends. Teens in 7th & 8th grade admitted with current school ID, cost is \$5.

[www.LynnwoodWA.gov/PlayLynnwood/Activities/Nightwaves.htm](http://www.LynnwoodWA.gov/PlayLynnwood/Activities/Nightwaves.htm)

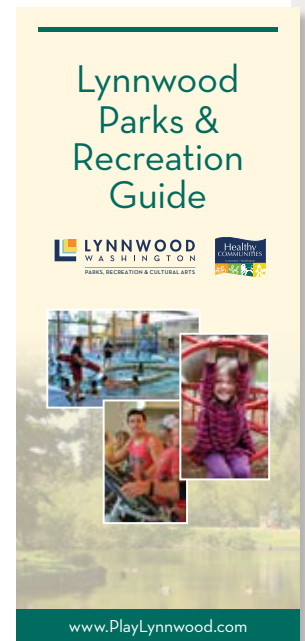
**New Home for Lynnwood Chamber** The Lynnwood Chamber of Commerce recently settled into their new home in the Wicker's Building at Heritage Park. A welcoming event will be offered in the spring.

To contact the Chamber, call 425-563-7505 or visit [www.TheLynnwoodChamber.com](http://www.TheLynnwoodChamber.com)

**Lynnwood is a Healthy Community!** Have you seen our new Healthy Communities website? Check it out for the latest news, updates, and events on health, wellness, nutrition, and social connectivity opportunities in Lynnwood.

Visit the website at [www.HealthyLynnwood.com](http://www.HealthyLynnwood.com).

**New Parks Guides Now Available** Pick up a copy of the new parks guide and map of your local parks and recreation facilities. Maps available for pick-up at the Recreation Center or viewable online at [www.lynnwoodwa.gov/PlayLynnwood/Parks/ParkRentals.htm](http://www.lynnwoodwa.gov/PlayLynnwood/Parks/ParkRentals.htm)



**Park Improvements** Meadowdale Neighborhood Park recently was improved with the addition of a rentable picnic shelter and expanded parking lot. If you would like to reserve the new picnic shelter, call the Recreation Center at 425-670-5732.

More info: [www.lynnwoodwa.gov/PlayLynnwood/Parks/ParkRentals.htm](http://www.lynnwoodwa.gov/PlayLynnwood/Parks/ParkRentals.htm)

**New Series from Leadership Snohomish County** Mark your calendar for Leadership Snohomish County's new community series, *Step Up: Understanding and Implementing Racial Equity*. This event will be held on Friday, April 28 from 8am-5pm at the Lynnwood Convention Center. Learn how pro-equity tools can help remove barriers and enable businesses, community organizations, non-profits, and schools to deliver services for all people in our community, regardless of race, religion, socioeconomic status, gender identity, or age. Tickets are free and will be available beginning March 15th.

For more information, visit [www.leadershipsc.org](http://www.leadershipsc.org).

Connect with Lynnwood!



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



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