

City HAPPENINGS



MOUNTLAKE
TERRACE

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Volume XXIV, NO. 3

June 2007

Forsake Your Fireworks For City Show

Fireworks & Fun at Evergreen Playfield, 22205 56th Avenue, 6-10:15pm

On Wednesday evening, July 4, Mountlake Terrace will host a community celebration at Evergreen Playfield, complete with live music, children's entertainer Tim Noah, vendors with food and wares, and a city sponsored fireworks display. The event provides the community an opportunity to celebrate Independence Day with fireworks with the new City ban on personal fireworks in effect.

DJ, Catch the Beat, will provide musical entertainment and the Mountlake Terrace High School Alumni Jazz Band will accompany the grand finale fireworks display after dark. The main stage area, located north of 224th,

should be an ideal location to view the fireworks. Please leave personal fireworks, pets, and alcoholic beverages at home and feel free to bring blankets and chairs and stake out your prime viewing area.

Volunteers from Mountlake Terrace Crime Watch, the Community Policing Advisory Board, and Police Cadets will be on hand to assist with the festivities while our Bicycle Patrol Officers will police the event to ensure everyone has a safe family evening.

This is the first 4th of July since the fireworks ban ordinance was passed last year and everyone is reminded that City Ordinance now prohibits individual

fireworks. It is unlawful for any person to sell, possess, use, transfer, discharge, and ignite or "explode any fireworks" within the City of Mountlake Terrace.

The police department will be fielding extra officers on the 4th of July and will be adopting a **zero tolerance policy** for fireworks offenders. Last year, members of the police department teamed up with firefighters from District 1 to educate the public about the upcoming ban. This year, violations will result in confiscations and fines. For more information about fireworks, please contact the police department at (425) 670-8260.

4th of July Schedule of Events

DJ Music/Dancing & Inflatable Toys 5pm-10pm

Tim Noah Performs 6-7pm

Clowns, Magicians, Balloon Artists 6-9pm

MTHS Alumni Jazz Band 9-10pm

Fireworks Display 10pm

Park Closes 10:30pm

Council Corner



By Mayor
Jerry Smith

Summer time in Mountlake Terrace offers a number of opportunities to get to know your neighbors and celebrate our community. I'd like to invite the community to the **Tour de Terrace** festival that is sponsored by the Terrace-Brier Lions Club beginning on Friday, July 27 at 6:45pm with the Seattle Police Motorcycle Drill Team leading the parade down 56th Avenue. Our fantastic volunteers have once again

secured the ever-popular Seafair Pirates and Western Vigilantes to participate and interact with those sitting along the parade route. Tour de Terrace also features arts and crafts vendors, carnival rides, pancake breakfast, beer garden, and live musical entertainment over the last weekend in July. This festival brings about 40,000 people to our City, so don't miss it!

National Night Out Against Crime takes place at the Civic Center campus on August 7 at 6pm. Walk, bike or drive on over to City Hall and meet the City Council, staff, and community members for an evening of fun. Our public safety personnel will have demonstrations and there will be musical entertainment, food, and other fun for you and your family. Local businesses and organizations are welcome to participate and can call our Police Department at (425) 670-8260 for more information. Thank you to all of the

local businesses and sponsors who donate items for this night that attracts up to 1,000 people to our Town Center.

I would like to conclude by thanking all of the wonderful people in our community, including my wife Judi, who contribute their time and talents to put on events that make Mountlake Terrace unique. Without your efforts, Mountlake Terrace just wouldn't be the same. Tour de Terrace and the Tree Lighting Ceremony are planned and implemented by volunteers and the Terrace-Brier Lions Club and they are not city-sponsored events. If you would like to help with either event, please contact me (email and phone number below). Enjoy the summer!

On a side note, with the new Town Center Plan adopted, let me know how you feel either pro or con by emailing me at judnjerr@verizon.net or call (425) 774-7335.

Construction Update - Upcoming 2007 Summer Projects

48th Avenue West Overlay Project: Segments along 48th Avenue West will be repaved between 212th to 216th and 233rd to 236th, along with the intersections of 48th & 244th and 48th & 244th. The improvements include a two-inch asphalt concrete overlay, new sidewalk ramps meeting ADA design standards, and new pavement markings. In total, nearly one-half mile of street segments along 48th Avenue West will be repaved. Construction is scheduled to start in early July.

2007 Street Chip Seal Program: The streets to be chip sealed are those within the area bounded by 236th, 244th, 56th and 60th, totaling 2.17 miles. Construction is expected to take place in late July or August.

Terrace Creek Storm and Water Main Project: The improvements include the construction of a 12-inch diameter storm drain and a 12-inch diameter water main in Terrace Creek Park. The pipeline drain will extend easterly from 53rd Avenue, near the Pavilion, down the steep slope to the flat area adjacent to wetlands and Terrace Creek. At that location, a storm water infiltration facility will be constructed. Construction is expected to start in August.

Interurban Trail Connection: This project provides for the construction of the final segment of the City's Interurban Trail, that portion between route between 226th Place SW and 228th Street SW. When complete, the City's portion will provide a continuous off-street link between Lynnwood's existing trail and Edmonds' future trail. Construction is expected to start in August.

Cedar Terrace ADA Sidewalk & Ramps Project: This project will provide ADA accessibility throughout the Cedar Terrace neighborhood and a sidewalk link to Cedar Way and the Cedar Plaza shopping area via the 228th and 44th intersection. The project includes construction of a new sidewalk on the south side of 230th, between 46th & Cedar Way, and on the west side of 46th, south of 230th where there currently is no sidewalk. Construction is expected to begin in late August. The Cedar Terrace neighborhood is bounded by 230th Place, 233rd, 48th and Cedar Way.

Email Safety Alerts Now Available



CrimeWeb is a uniquely designed (patented) Internet Web site called **crimeweb.net**, a subscription service that provides citizens who sign up with free crime or other police-related updates via e-mail. This web-based clearinghouse allows information collected by public safety agencies nationwide to be quickly and efficiently distributed to citizens, news media organizations and other law enforcement agencies, which may have an interest in the information. The CrimeWeb site provides six basic types of information to subscribers at no cost:

1. Missing Child Alerts
2. Missing Adult Alerts
3. Major Crime Alerts
4. Homeland Security Alerts
5. School Information Alerts
6. Public Safety Community Information Alerts.

The information regarding each type of alert is entered into the CrimeWeb site clearinghouse by a public safety agency using either a workstation or a mobile computer. The Web-based service has been available at www.cityofmlt.com since October of 2006, offers quick updates on burglaries, registered sex-offenders, weather, missing children and adults, and federal Homeland Security alerts.

Using a proprietary zip code system, CrimeWeb allows a subscribing agency to distribute alerts anywhere in the country. Alerts can be sent to citizen subscribers in specific zip codes, up to 99 miles around a specific zip code or to all registered users located geographically between two zip codes. The CrimeWeb clearinghouse will also allow citizens to provide feedback to the subscribing law enforcement agency if they have information or details

regarding an incident that has been entered.

Anyone in any community can instantly receive an alert via email using CrimeWeb. The system is very versatile in that it does not require a law enforcement agency to purchase any hardware or software to begin to utilize the system. The only necessity is an Internet connection on an existing PC.

The CrimeWeb concept is a powerful and effective system that allows any person in the world who has an email address to register to receive information entered for any geographical area in the country. This feature may be particularly of value to children who wish to monitor the crime incidents of the community in which their elderly parents reside, or to parents who wish to be made aware of incidents that occur on a college campus or university their child may be attending.

New Building Options for Homeowners

Options for remodeling your home or building a “mother-in-law” unit on your lot have expanded, thanks to a recent vote by the City Council and recommendations from the Planning Commission, an appointed citizen body. The new rules allow house additions to be built five feet further into the front and back yards and to cover more area than previously allowed. Potential additions may include porches, sunrooms, bay windows, room expansions, garage enlargements, and other types of construction, subject to obtaining a building permit.

Another change is to allow detached accessory dwellings (“mother-in-law”

apartments) to be built on single-family lots, subject to certain standards. The owner must live in either the main house or the accessory dwelling. Accessory dwellings must have rooflines, windows, and siding that match with the main house. Proper permits and building inspections are required for each unit.

Previously, only accessory dwellings attached to the main house were allowed. Various other cities, including Mill Creek and Marysville, have allowed both attached and detached accessory dwellings as permitted uses for several years. Nationally, studies

show that about one accessory dwelling per 1000 single-family homes is built in an average year.

Another important change is that new multi-family development, where allowed, must abide by new design standards. The design standards guide architectural features, pedestrian connections, parking facilities, and open space to help ensure attractive, and walker-friendly buildings.

For information on any of the above code changes, check the City website www.cityofmlt.com, call (425) 744-6280, or visit City Hall during business hours.

Town Center Plan Open House
Tuesday, July 10, 7-8:30pm
City Hall, 23204 58th Avenue W.

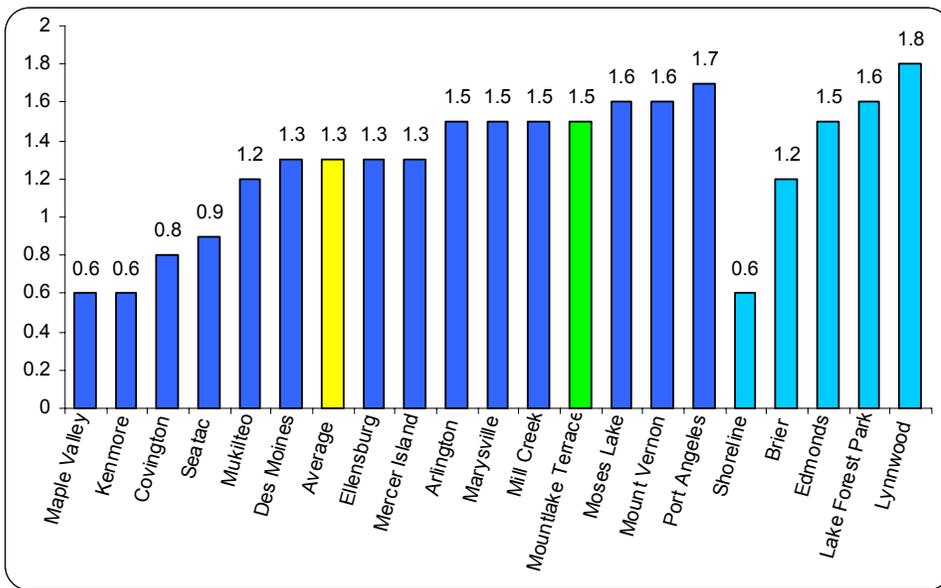
Please drop in any time between 7 and 8:30pm for an open house to review the Town Center Draft Environmental Impact Statement (DEIS). The DEIS identifies potential impacts from future development and ways to address them.

Report Shows Mountlake Terrace is Safe and Solvent

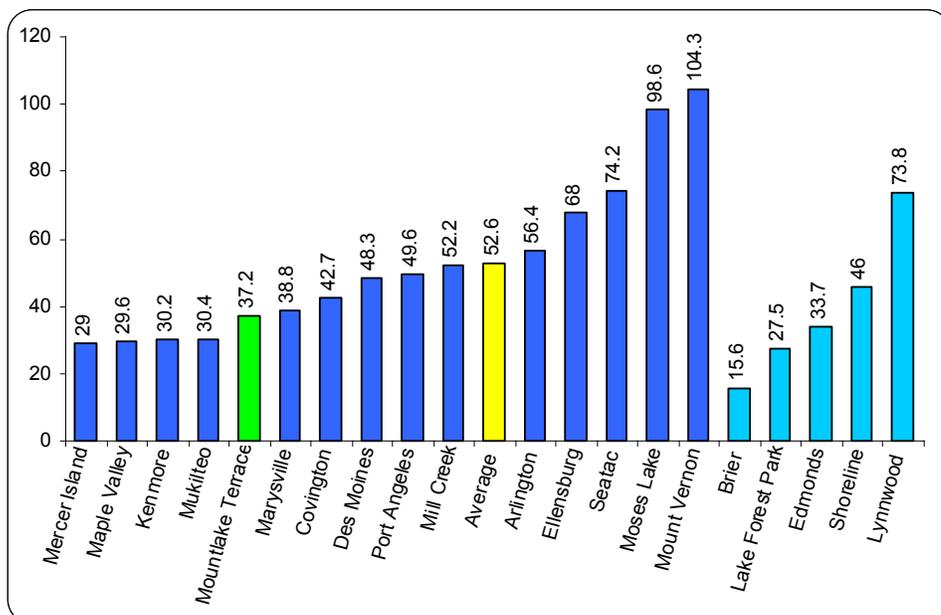
Measuring Mountlake Terrace is the first report produced by our City that compares our government to 14 other local governments similar to Mountlake Terrace in location and population as well as our five surrounding communities — Brier, Edmonds, Lake Forest Park, Lynnwood, and Shoreline. Published in January, 2007, the purpose of the report is to educate the City Council, staff and citizens about Mountlake Terrace by providing a better perspective of our city services and to guide the City Council and management with decisions that relate to the City’s future. For more information on this report, please visit the City’s website at: www.cityofmlt.com and click on city services/finances.

What Does The Report Show?

Commissioned Police Officers per 1,000 Citizens



Total Crimes per 1,000 Citizens



Public Safety

Our community has proven to be one of the safest cities in our region. Mountlake Terrace has 1.5 commissioned officers per 1,000 residents. The result of this investment is that the number of total crimes per 1,000 residents is well below average reflecting an efficient use of money and resources in our police department.

Our public safety program consists not only of activities such as patrol, traffic enforcement, investigations, code enforcement, animal control, jail and court, but also innovative and special service programs such as:

- High School Resource Officer
- Canine (K-9) Officer
- SWAT
- Bicycle Patrol
- Electronic Home Monitoring
- Domestic Violence
- Public Safety community meetings
- National Night Out
- Police Citizen’s Academy
- www.CrimeWeb.net

In addition, the Police Department currently is evaluating other innovative programs to ensure the public safety of our community including:

- Red Light Photo Enforcement
- Amnesty period for outstanding traffic fines
- Jail diversion options
- Public Safety Youth Classes
- Teen/Youth Court.

The result of these continued investments is that Mountlake Terrace has less crime than most of the 19 cities surveyed in the report, demonstrating that our investment in public safety really pays off.

Finances

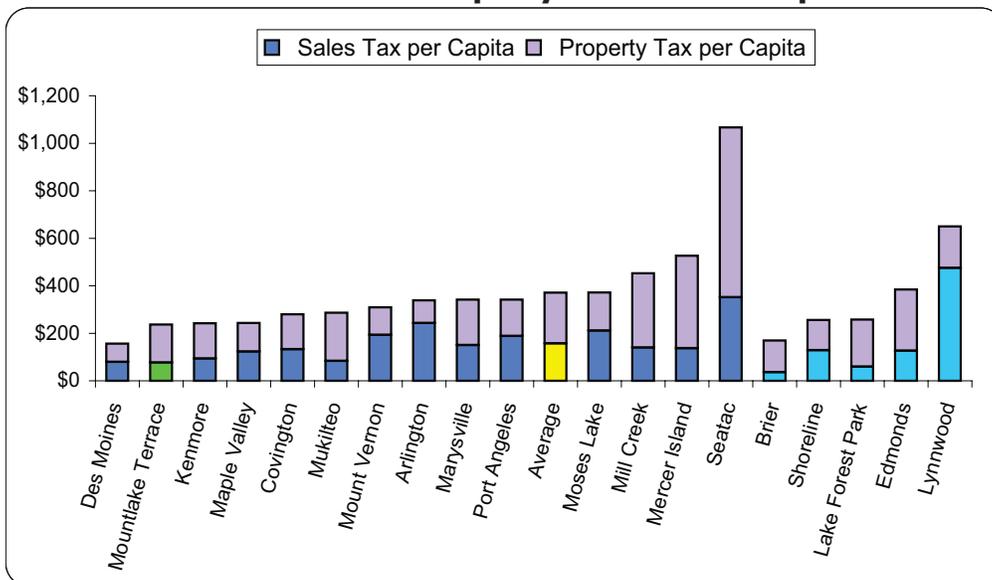
The City’s current financial condition is very strong. Mountlake Terrace is a full service city that employs our own police and recreation departments and owns and operates several utility enterprises. These functions generally consume a large portion of city resources. Because of prudent fiscal management, Mountlake Terrace is able to provide quality service, spending below the average of comparable cities.

Despite collecting below average sales and property tax, the City has created a strong financial base, with a balanced and sustainable budget. While spending less than average, we deliver services such as street improvements, park improvements and public safety that results in a healthy quality of life for our residents and businesses.

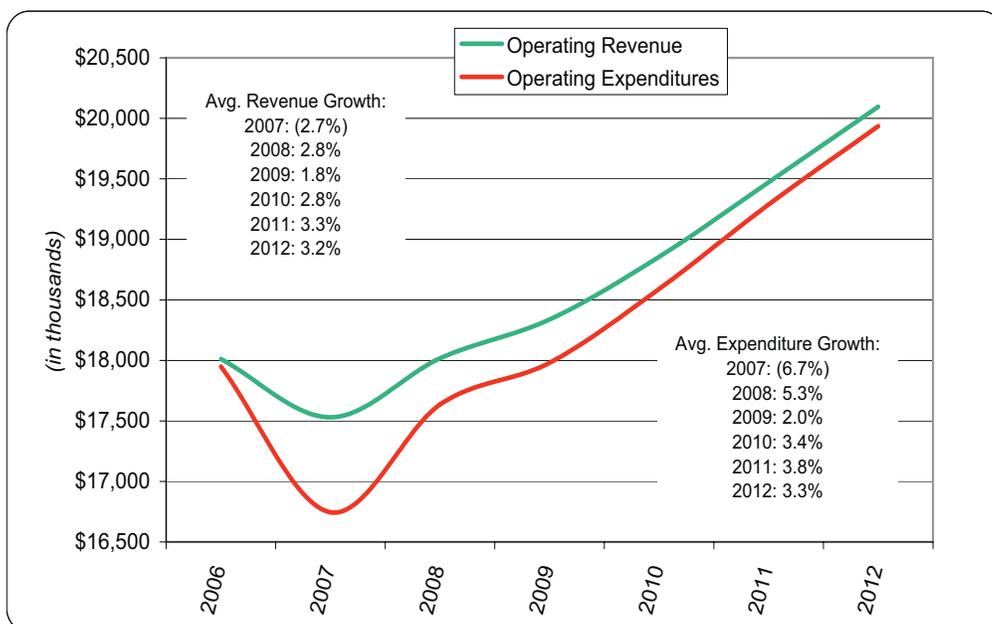
Our reserves include the necessary financial resources to accommodate unexpected and unanticipated events that affect City operations. A solid 6-year capital improvement plan, totaling over \$40 million, is in place to invest in our streets, sidewalks, parks, and water, sewer and storm water utilities.

Measuring Mountlake Terrace establishes that through strong leadership and a commitment to prudent fiscal management, the community receives a positive return on investment for its tax dollars making Mountlake Terrace a City where people enjoy effective service delivery and genuine quality of life.

Combined Sales Tax and Property Tax Revenues per Resident



General Government Funds



Council Corner



By Councilmember Douglas Wittinger

How do you want to be engaged as a citizen by your City? Do you want communication that is a two-way street? Is the City effective in reaching you and also in making sure you are heard? Facilitating good communication is important

to all of us. We post meetings and events on our website, advertise in various newsletters and newspapers and even mail flyers to people within 300 feet of proposed land use changes. We try our hardest to **tell** you all that we can. But do we, in turn, hear you?

The City Council adopted goals and a work plan in early 2006. Goal #4 states “Develop and implement more effective communication and outreach with the community”. Some examples of past outreach include a town hall meeting at the high school during the Brightwater issue (over 400 people attended). During the fireworks debate, the City mailed a

special flyer seeking input from residents (over 1,100 responses were received). Examples of current outreach include the extensive utilization of our much improved city Website. They also included open houses that sought input as we developed our town center plan. During the review of revisions to our parking and nuisance ordinances, the City included brochures about this subject along with the water bills.

In the above examples, numerous methods were employed to convey information and messages with differing results. But in the end, all we did was use a different format to **tell** you something. We did not learn if any are a preferred or even an effective method to hear your voice. What do you think? **Tell us** if our outreach efforts are working for you.

I would like to hear from those of you reading this article. Specifically, do you feel that your voice is being heard by the City? How can we do a better job of hearing you? What method of outreach do you prefer or respond to best?

I have heard great ideas from many of the residents in our city. I want to hear those ideas on an ongoing basis. How do we get them from you? Please send me an email with your thought to thecouncilman@msn.com or to cityhall@ci.mt.wa.us. Please write “Council Corner” in the subject line of your email. Thanks!

Council Highlights

April

- Reviewed Revenue Alternatives Report
- Public Hearing and Adopted Ordinance for Forest Crest Zoning Map Amendment
- Adopted Resolution Supporting RTID and Sound Transit Integrated Roads & Transit Plan
- Approved Allocation of Additional Tourism Promotion Funds
- Approved Agreement with Department of Agriculture for Waterfowl Management Program
- Awarded Professional Services Agreement for Town Center Planned Action Ordinance and Transportation Plan
- Adopted Ordinance to Renew Gambling Moratorium in Town Center
- Adopted Resolution in Support of a Four-Year Polytechnic University in Snohomish County
- Updated on Lake Ballinger Watershed Strategy

May

- Joint Discussion with South District Court Judges
- Updated on 1st Quarter Crime Statistics and Code Enforcement
- Reviewed and Adopted Budget Amendments Ordinance
- Public Hearing and Adopted Ordinance to Amend Zoning Code for Residential Development Regulations
- Reviewed Nuisance and Zoning Code Amendments
- Approved Board and Commission Member Appointments
- Adopted Resolution Supporting Employee Wellness Program
- Public Hearing and Adopted Ordinance to Renew Wireless Telecommunications Facilities Moratorium in Downtown
- Updated on Development Services Process
- Briefed on 2007 First Quarter Financial Report

Get Connected To Your City and Stay Informed

The City of Mountlake Terrace is pleased to announce the launch of its newly redesigned website that includes many upgrades and enhancements. The site incorporates new technologies making it more powerful and user friendly. With the addition of updated content, downloadable forms, brochures, documents, maps, and readily available contact information, we hope the website will be a time-saver for the Mountlake Terrace community. Please log onto www.cityofmlt.com to start using the new site and watch for upcoming advancements.

One new and innovative tool of the redesigned website is webcasting and archiving capability for our City Council and Planning Commission meetings. The Granicus Media Management System is specifically designed for cities and counties to provide public information through the Internet. Granicus offers live and on-demand streaming of audio media content over the Internet to enhance public meeting communications. This program extends a convenient and reliable resource for the public to stay informed. Community members will be able to access the meeting information they want, when they want it. The public can find webcasts, minutes, agendas, and back up information all cross-linked and searchable by keyword. "Jump to" points direct listeners to audio clips of specific agenda items so topics of interest can be easily followed in a minimal amount of time.

Other ways to stay connected include "Coffee with the City", which is an opportunity to hear about what's going on in the City, provide input about City services and events, and ask questions. The next one is scheduled for Tuesday, June 12 at 6:00pm at the Recreation Pavilion. The website also includes an online form to request the City Manager to speak to your group or organization as well as a wide range of city happenings including: weekly updates about what is occurring in the City, events, general city news, press releases, city newsletters, and opportunities to get involved.

There are a wide variety of opportunities for residents to participate in civic and community affairs, including volunteer boards and commissions that serve in an advisory

capacity to the City Council as well as community organizations such as Tour de Terrace, Friends of the Arts, Friends of the Library, Garden Club, Seniors Group, and Crime Watch.

Another innovative tool available for citizens to stay connected is CrimeWeb, which is an email-based clearinghouse of public safety related information between law enforcement agencies and the communities they serve. To start receiving timely community information and public safety alerts to your email, simply register at www.CrimeWeb.net, which can be accessed through our website. You may select the type of alerts that you wish to receive, including Missing Children and Adults, Community Information, School Information, and more. You can also receive alerts from any other police agency in the country that subscribes to CrimeWeb, and anyone around the country can get Mountlake Terrace alerts.

Our new website also provides for opportunities for online transactions, specifically to pay utility bills and register for recreation programs. We also offer an opportunity to sign up through the City's website for an electronic notification service via e-mail. When you register, you can choose specific notification categories such as: general city news, city events, economic development, land use, project updates, public safety, recreation; and volunteer opportunities. People can alter their choices or unsubscribe just by logging back in.

We are also partnering with Edmonds Community College to provide information about City services on Channel 21. Look for our message board and City Council State of the City Address in the near future. In 2008, we will start working with Edmonds Community College to broadcast City Council meetings on Channel 21.

The City is rising to meet new requirements of the digital age with a more user-friendly website to keep citizens engaged and informed through technology enhancements. These projects and initiatives are examples of our commitment to the rapidly evolving information needs of our community.

Parks, Recreation and Open Space Planning to Begin

This year, the City will begin an in-depth analysis of its Recreation and Parks Department programs, facilities and services. The Parks, Recreation and Open Space Plan will take a look at where we've been, where we are, and where we need to go in order to meet current demands and plan for the future. Public involvement will be a vital element in the development of the Plan. Meeting dates and information regarding the Recreation, Parks, and Open Space Plan will be posted on the City's website and appearing in future *City Happenings* newsletters. For more information, contact Don Sarcletti, Recreation and Parks Director, at (425) 640-3104.

City Directory

Mountlake Terrace City Hall

23204 58th Avenue West
 Mountlake Terrace, WA 98043
 Hours: Mon-Fri, 8:00am-5:00pm
 Phone (425) 776-1161
 Fax (425) 778-6421
 Website: <http://www.cityofmlt.com>
 Email: cityhall@ci.mlt.wa.us

Mountlake Terrace City Council

Angela Amundson	772-6553
Michelle Angrick	280-1363
Michelle Robles	776-5794
Jerry Smith	774-7335
Laura Sonmore	231-9176
Douglas Wittinger	778-3376
John Zambrano	744-0174

Mountlake Terrace City Manager

John Caulfield	744-6205
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Other Useful Phone Numbers

Animal Control	670-8260
Building Permits	744-6267
Business Licenses	744-6211
Code Compliance	670-8260
Emergency	911
Engineering	744-6273
Fire Business	551-5100
Information	776-1161
Library	776-8722
23300 58th Avenue W.	
Pet Licenses	744-6210
Planning	744-6266
Police Business	670-8260
Public Works	670-8264
Recreation Pavilion	776-9173
5303 228th Street SW	
Street Lights Out	670-8264
Traffic Ticket Info	744-6211
Utility Billing	744-6214
Utility Billing Fax	775-0420
Email: utilitybilling@ci.mlt.wa.us	

Council Meetings

The City Council holds its regular meetings on the first and third Mondays of each month at 7:00 pm at City Hall. If the meeting date falls on a National holiday, the Council meeting will take place the following day.

Upcoming Public Hearings

Essential Public Facilities Permit

June 18, 7pm

The City Council will consider an Essential Public Facilities permit for Community Transit to expand its Park-and-Ride facilities at 236th and I-5. Community Transit plans to build a four-story garage and new transit shelters on the lower part of the lot (next to the freeway) that will more than double the existing commuter parking spaces. Construction of the \$12 million project is slated to begin in late 2007 or early 2008.

Nuisance & Zoning Code Amendments

July 2, 7pm

Amendments to the Nuisance Code and Zoning Code for driveways and parking spaces in residential neighborhoods will be considered by the City Council. The amendments recognize that parking spaces and driveways must generally be paved but existing maintained gravel driveways would be allowed to remain until a major improvement (such as an addition or major remodel) is made to the property or the driveway is no longer being maintained. Recreational vehicles (RVs) parked in the front yard must be on a paved surface but would not longer be limited to a maximum length of 24 feet, provided that the RV does not extend into the public right of way or obstruct visibility for drivers.

You may testify in person at City Hall, 23204 58th Avenue W., or send written testimony to the City Clerk which must be received by 5pm on the day of the public hearing. For more information about these actions, call the Planning Department at (425) 744-6266.

City Happenings

is an official publication of the City of Mountlake Terrace

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