

City Happenings

JUNE 2009

Sound Transit Breaks Ground on Freeway Station



On May 14, Sound Transit held a groundbreaking ceremony to celebrate the start of construction of the long awaited Mountlake Terrace Freeway Station. The project consists of new bus ramps and a freeway station in the median of Interstate 5. The station will be located just north of 236th Street and will connect to Community Transit's newly expanded Mountlake Terrace Transit Center with a pedestrian bridge. By providing bus riders a convenient crossing over Interstate 5, the Freeway Station will be a key new connection to express bus service for those traveling between Snohomish and King Counties. Buses will start using the Freeway Station in summer 2011 when the project is completed.

The Mountlake Terrace Freeway Station will not only speed the journeys of thousands of commuters when it opens, it will be a key facility when Link light rail service begins in Snohomish County. Mountlake Terrace will be the first light rail stop in Snohomish County and the Freeway Station will connect Link to Sound Transit, Community Transit, and King County Metro bus routes.



The City of Mountlake Terrace received a VISION 2040 Award for its Housing Choices Program at a reception held in Seattle on April 30. From the left: Councilmember Rick Ryan, Mayor Pro Tem Laura Sonmore, Community and Economic Development Director Shane Hope, Mayor Jerry Smith, Senior Planner Edith Duttlinger, and Councilmember Kyoko Matsumoto Wright. Photo by William Wright.

City Receives Prestigious VISION 2040 Award

A VISION 2040 Award was presented to Mountlake Terrace for its outstanding Housing Choices Program at a special regional awards ceremony held this spring at Seattle City Hall.

"Mountlake Terrace is doing the very thing that more cities should be doing," said Sally Clark, Chair of the Award Selection Committee and a Seattle City Council member. "The program they have adopted provides a wide variety of housing choices for people—not only large lots, but small residential lots and options for townhomes, mixed use, cottage housing, and flats. People are looking for choices."

Each year, a handful of VISION 2040 awards are given by Puget Sound Regional Council (PSRC), the regional agency that

includes all cities and counties in the King-Snohomish-Pierce-Kitsap region. The awards are intended to recognize innovations in managing growth and quality of life.

Mountlake Terrace's "Housing Choices Program" reflects the codes and standards adopted by the City Council in 2008 to encourage more housing choices, walkability, and community livability. New choices include cottage housing, accessory dwellings, multifamily development with design standards, townhomes, condominiums and mixed uses in commercial areas, and detached homes on smaller lots.

For information on how and where the new housing choices can be used, please contact the Community and Economic Development Department at (425) 744-6280.



Mayor
Jerry Smith
(425) 774-7335



Mayor Pro Tem
Laura Sonmore
(425) 231-9176



Councilmember
Michelle Angrick
(425) 280-1363



Councilmember
Kyoko Matsumoto
Wright
(425) 776-6846



Councilmember
Michelle Robles
(425) 308-0127



Councilmember
Rick Ryan
(425) 771-7068



Councilmember
John Zambrano
(425) 744-0174

Summer Construction Update

52nd/53rd Avenues W Water Main Construction

Already underway, this project includes installation of about 8,000 feet of water main, new hydrants and new water services. The construction extends from 212th to 230th and follows a route in 52nd between 212th and 226th; then through Terrace Creek Park to the Recreation Pavilion; then south along 53rd to 230th; then east to 52nd. The north half of the project is being completed first so that the 52nd Avenue West Reconstruction Project, from 212th to 220th, can proceed this summer. Construction will be complete in August.

52nd Avenue W Reconstruction Project (212th to 220th Street)

This project provides for milling the street surface, replacing failed pavement, and paving an asphalt concrete overlay. Other improvements include constructing sidewalk ramps, replacing deteriorated curb and sidewalk, making storm and sewer repairs, installing new traffic signs, and restriping the street to add bicycle lanes. The project is funded, in part, by the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act, the so called "economic stimulus package". Construction will begin in July.

2009 Chip Seal Program

Residential streets totaling 2.5 miles in two areas will be chip sealed in this year's pavement preservation program. One area is bounded by 222nd, 228th, 44th and 48th. The other area is east of Cedar Way and south of 228th adjacent to Cedar Plaza. Construction will take place in July and August.

244th Street SW Overlay

This is a joint jurisdiction project with the City of Shoreline to repave 244th Street from the east approach of 56th to Ballinger Way. The first phase included making storm system repair and constructing new sidewalk ramps and was completed in May. In the second phase, the existing pavement will be milled, failed pavement replaced, and an asphalt concrete overlay paved. This work is scheduled to begin in July.

230th Street SW Reconstruction Project

The reconstruction will include two travel lanes, two 5' wide bike lanes, 5' wide sidewalks on both sides, and an intermittent 8' wide parking lane along the street. The improvements include sidewalk ramps, drainage improvements, a revised vertical street profile (between 61st Avenue and the I-5 bridge) to improve sight distance, pavement markings, and street trees. Lastly, a water main will be replaced

under the roadway in accordance with the city's comprehensive water system plan. Construction is scheduled to begin this summer.

214th & 44th Traffic Signal

The new signal will enhance safety and increase capacity of 44th Avenue West and 214th Street SW. The project includes interconnecting the new signal with the existing signals at 212th Street SW and 217th Street SW so all three will operate in coordination. Other improvements at the intersection include new sidewalk ramps, uniform street lighting, and consolidation of the two driveways into a single driveway on the west approach to the signal. Construction is scheduled to begin late summer.

223rd & 42nd Sidewalk

The project will provide a new sidewalk on south 223rd Street SW and on west 42nd Place W between the traffic signal at 44th Avenue W and the walkway to Cedar Way Elementary School. These improvements will also eliminate a missing link in the sidewalk network and create a continuous pedestrian access throughout the neighborhood. Construction is scheduled to begin in later half of summer.

Low Interest Loans Available for Housing Rehabilitation

Homeowners may be eligible for home improvement loans and assistance from the Housing Rehabilitation Loan Program, offered by the Housing Authority of Snohomish County. This program helps address health and safety issues, energy conservation work and general home improvements.

Funded through Snohomish County's CDBG and HOME programs, the agency assists homeowners identify the work needed, complete bid specifications, monitor construction and complete paperwork. The types of work allowed include health and safety items such as roofs, foundations, dry rot, electrical, plumbing, heating, septic systems, and handicap accessibility.

Requirements to qualify for the program include: owning a home in Snohomish County, outside of Everett city limits; having 20% or more equity in your home after rehabilitation (the loan must be secured by the property to be rehabilitated); household income below 80% of area median; having a reasonable credit history; using the loan primarily to correct health and safety items; and meeting program guidelines.

For more information, please contact the Housing Authority of Snohomish County at (425) 290-8499 x555 or x551.

Council Highlights

MAY

- First Quarter 2009 Crime Statistics Report
- Adopted Ordinance to Continue Moratorium on Conditional Uses in Single Household Zoning Districts
- Approved Hearing Examiner Contract
- Presentation by Snohomish County Sheriff John Lovick
- Reviewed Recreation, Parks and Open Space Master Plan
- Reviewed Recreation and Parks Advisory Committee Workplan
- 2040 Transportation Presentation by Puget Sound Regional Council
- Presented with the Certificate of Achievement for Excellence in Financial Reporting Award
- Presentation of 2009 State of the City Address
- Reviewed 2008 Budget Carryovers and 2009 Budget Amendments
- Updated on Recreation Pavilion Recommendations by Civic Facilities Advisory Task Force
- Reviewed Water System Comprehensive Plan

APRIL

- Updated on Sign Code
- Discussed HASCO Request to Operate Tall Fir Apartments
- Presentation by Snohomish County Councilmember Dave Gossett
- Presentations from Sound Transit, Community Transit and Stevens Hospital
- Reviewed Options for Domestic Partner Insurance Benefits
- Reviewed Pavement Marking Options for 52nd Ave Reconstruction, 212th to 220th
- Awarded Contract for 244th Street Sidewalk Ramp Project
- Approved Interlocal Agreement with Department of Agriculture for Waterfowl Management Program
- Reviewed Restoration of EMS Levy
- Updated on Alderwood Water and Sewer District Agreement for Wholesale Water Contract
- Briefed on U.S. Dept. of Justice ARRA Grant
- Updated on Water System Comprehensive Plan
- Approved Agreement with City of Everett for Lead and Copper Monitoring Program
- Reviewed Hearing Examiner Contract
- 4th Quarter 2008 Financial Report and Performance Measures



Summer Events Shine in Mountlake Terrace

TOUR DE TERRACE

July 24-26

Evergreen Playfield: 22205 56th Avenue W

Tour de Terrace, a Seafair-sanctioned, three-day community festival, is the biggest event of the year. Planned and orchestrated by volunteers, Tour de Terrace kicks off on Friday night, July 24, with a parade down 56th Avenue with the Seattle Motorcycle Drill Team, Seafair Pirates and the Lake City Vigilantes leading the way to Evergreen Playfield. Come enjoy the beer garden and bandstand with live entertainment, a carnival, street fair, food and vendor booths. The fun continues Saturday morning. Get up early for the pancake breakfast and classic car show. Saturday evening closes with a spectacular fire dancing troupe. A variety of musical entertainment is featured throughout the weekend – admission is free! More fun and festivities follow on Sunday with additional entertainment, street fair, and carnival rides. It's a great time for the entire family.

NATIONAL NIGHT OUT

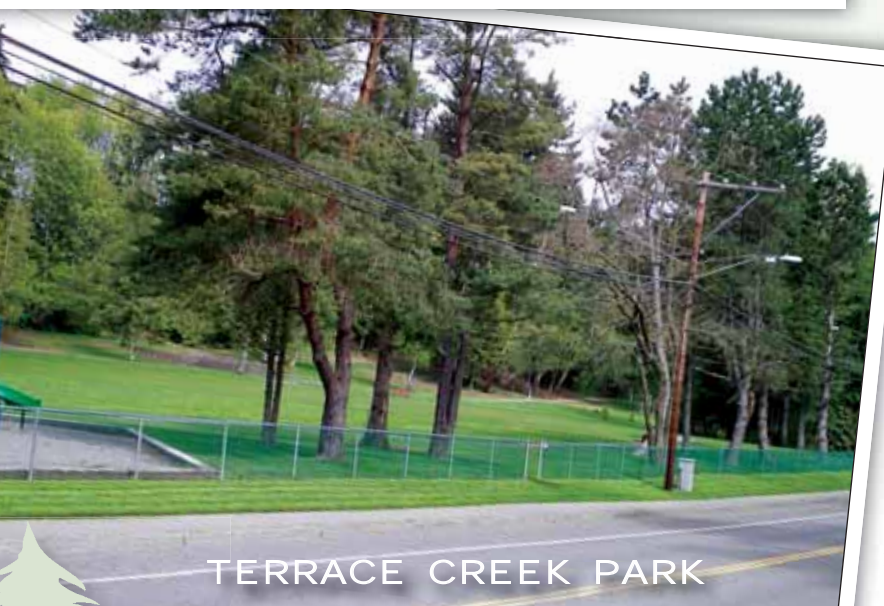
August 4, 6pm

Evergreen Playfield: 22205 56th Avenue W

Come on out the first Tuesday night in August and see Evergreen Playfield come alive with the National Night Out Against Crime celebration. See why this event has grown each year in popularity! Enjoy musical and dance exhibitions, safety demonstrations and opportunities to meet our community, from city officials and neighbors, to local business owners and non-profit organizations. Free hot dogs, snow cones and other snacks. Kids love to jump in the bouncy houses and get free balloons. This event is organized by the Community Policing Advisory Board and the Police Department. Come join us and be a part of our community celebration! Please note that this event has moved from the Civic Center to Evergreen Playfield.



LAKE BALLINGER BEACH AREA



TERRACE CREEK PARK

Shifts in Resources Uplift City's Image

Cleaner Parks and Properties Make Notable Difference

Improvements in public safety, parks maintenance, and code enforcement have resulted in a better image for Mountlake Terrace. Last summer, *Seattle Magazine* rated Mountlake Terrace 2nd of 110 of Best Neighborhoods in the Seattle region for its affordability, low crime rate, abundant parks, short commute times, and high student test scores. This achievement is an outcome of the City Council's commitment to make Mountlake Terrace a more safe and appealing community. It also aligns with the Council's vision for a more vibrant and livable city for residents and visitors alike.

In 2006, City Council adopted a set of goals and allocated resources to provide continued funding for essential services such as police, fire, EMS, jail, court, street maintenance, recreation and parks. They also enhanced public safety by reinstating programs including SWAT/Felony Search Warrant Team, police bicycle patrols and adding a second code enforcement officer. This strategy was implemented to ensure the community's safety, appearance and living environment were protected for the future.

The Council also provided additional resources for parks maintenance to make our parks more visually appealing and also to encourage increased attendance and positive uses. This action continues to pay big dividends to the community, as there is less vandalism and litter. Community organizations such as HomeStreet Bank have also partnered with the city to provide funding for popular new playground equipment at Forest Crest Playfield and Veterans Memorial Park. A number of Eagle Scouts and the Mountlake Terrace Garden Club have provided assistance on many park projects as well as volunteers from other service organizations. An Off Leash Dog Park recently opened as yet another amenity our community can enjoy. Another focus of the Council was to improve right-of-way maintenance through the combined efforts of the Parks and Public Works Departments and better maintenance of city facilities, particularly at the Civic Center.

In the past few years, the Council strengthened its nuisance and parking codes as part of the Code Enforcement Program, leading to attractive and safer neighborhoods. Nuisance conditions negatively affect the health and quality of life of residents and neighborhoods. They can also decrease your property values and invite crime. Nuisance conditions frequently involve junk or inoperable vehicles, debris or trash, and broken or discarded items. The Code Enforcement Division has strived for voluntary compliance from landowners, resulting in the elimination of hundreds of nuisance conditions. "Getting these nuisance conditions cleaned up and encouraging residents to take pride in their homes has improved the overall image of the city," said Police Chief Greg Wilson.

Who to Call?



- For Animal Control: (425) 670-8260
- For Code Enforcement: (425) 744-6254
- For Parks: (425) 776-1811
- For Pet Licenses: (425) 744-6211
- For Public Works: (425) 670-8264
- For Recycling/Transfer Station: (425) 388-3425

Crime Statistics Continue Downward Trend

In 2008, the City of Mountlake Terrace saw a 16% decrease in total crime. In the first quarter of 2009, this downward trend continued. The Police Department's visible presence in the community and active enforcement efforts have led to a 24% decline in total crime in the first quarter compared to the same period in 2008.

Crimes against persons are down 23% and property crime is down 24%. Auto theft saw a 63% decrease, indicating that the Snohomish County Task Force along with targeted enforcement has made a big impact in Mountlake Terrace. Felony and misdemeanor arrests are up as a result of increased enforcement, however adult bookings are down due to cost-saving alternatives to jail such as Electronic Home Monitoring.

The Code Enforcement Program strongly encourages voluntary compliance to alleviate the negative effects of nuisance properties on the community. The city plans to continue its strong focus in Code Compliance, issuing criminal citations for property owners who fail to voluntarily comply to remedy code violations and impact the quality of life for their neighbors.



COMMUNITY CLEANUP

Thank you to all of the enthusiastic volunteers who participated in the Community Cleanup Day and Barbecue on May 16. Citizen efforts resulted in transplanting City Hall landscaping to Forest Crest Park. Thank you to the Mountlake Terrace Garden Club, who joined us to replant the city's flower beds for summer color. We look forward to enjoying the fruits of their labor for many years to come.

Tips for "Going Green"

Be Healthy and Easy on the Environment

Walk, ride your bike, or take a bus to some places, rather than drive your car. Every car trip you avoid keeps pollution out of the air. Every trip you make by walking or biking keeps you more fit and trim.

Reduce TV energy use. If you are buying a new television, compare types and brands to select the model that is most energy-efficient for your needs. At home, limit the amount

of time your TV is on. Televisions use a lot of energy and not all programs are worth it.

Wash your car at a carwash site that treats the wastewater. (Residue from automobiles can contaminate streams.) If you must wash your car at home, it is usually better to do so on a vegetated surface, where water can be absorbed, rather than on a paved surface that drains into the community's storm-water system.

How to Find the Temporary City Hall

Move anticipated in the next few weeks

When will City Hall services move to the Redstone Building located at 6100 219th Street SW? The answer is soon. Construction began in April to make a portion of the second floor of the Redstone fit the needs of city hall services. A Council Chambers is also being built there, so watch Channel 21 and our website for announcements about the move and when City Council and Planning Commission meetings will relocate. At press time, the move will likely take place in the next few weeks.

To find the Redstone Building, you may enter from westbound 220th Street or from 64th Avenue and 219th Street (see map). Police, fire, public works and recreation services will continue to operate from their present facilities.

The move to a temporary City Hall has been discussed for a long time due to a number of safety hazards in the building. It became a necessity following the ceiling collapse in the Council Chambers last July. The Council had serious concerns about the safety of visitors



to City Hall as well as the employees who work there and provided direction to move to a temporary City Hall. Over the next few months, they evaluated several sites to see which ones could accommodate City Hall services and then they negotiated a five-year lease agreement with the owners of the Redstone.

The current City Hall, approaching 50 years old, will be demolished following

an asbestos abatement process to remove any additional hazardous material. A new Civic Campus featuring amenities to benefit the entire community was recommended by the Citizen Advisory Task Force and City Council but construction plans are not yet determined, pending voter approval at some time in the future. A postcard mailing from the city will inform you about the date of our upcoming move. Stay tuned!



Ballinger Lake Golf Course

Perfectly situated on the north-end of Lake Ballinger in Mountlake Terrace, Ballinger Lake Golf Course is a regulation length 9-hole golf course. The scenic, well-manicured course has narrow fairways and smooth putting greens. Completely remodeled in 2000, several ponds were included to enhance drainage, making the course drier and more challenging. Our reasonable rates provide a great value for today's golfer and the perfect venue for your next golf event.

Overlooking the scenic golf course, creeks and Lake Ballinger, the Lakeview Room is warm and inviting, a perfect setting for special events. The light oak interiors, hardwood floors and plentiful natural light will compliment any special occasion. Ballinger Lake Golf Course offers non-profit rates. Event planners may choose one of our preferred caterers or facilitate their own catering.

Hardy Golf, LLC is a family owned local golf management company. The owners, Tyrone Hardy, a Class "A" PGA Golf Professional and Carol Hardy, a former Accountant for Housing Hope, enjoy providing an inviting facility for great golf in a comfortable, friendly setting. Hardy Golf, LLC strives to bring back the "Mom and Pop" aspect to today's golf, accenting good customer service and friendly, open rapport with management.

Thank you to our customers. We look forward to welcoming newcomers very soon.

- Hardy Golf, LLC

Comp Plan Applications Due June 30

Applications for 2009 Comprehensive Plan amendments are due by June 30, 4:30 pm, to City Hall. The Comprehensive Plan is a broad-based twenty-year plan that guides the City's livability. It includes a land use map that is the basis for zoning districts. Any decision to amend the Plan is generally made in December of each year.

Application forms are available online at www.cityofmlt.com under "How Do I Get a Permit," then click on "Planning." A fee is due when the application is submitted.

Applications for Comprehensive Plan amendments will be studied over the next several months. Public hearings on the proposals are tentatively set for November 9 and December 3.

To see the current Comprehensive Plan, check online at www.cityofmlt.com under "City Services;" then click on "Long Range Planning," followed by clicking on "Plans and Publications." Hard copies may be viewed at City Hall and the Mountlake Terrace Library. Individuals may also purchase their own copies from City Hall.

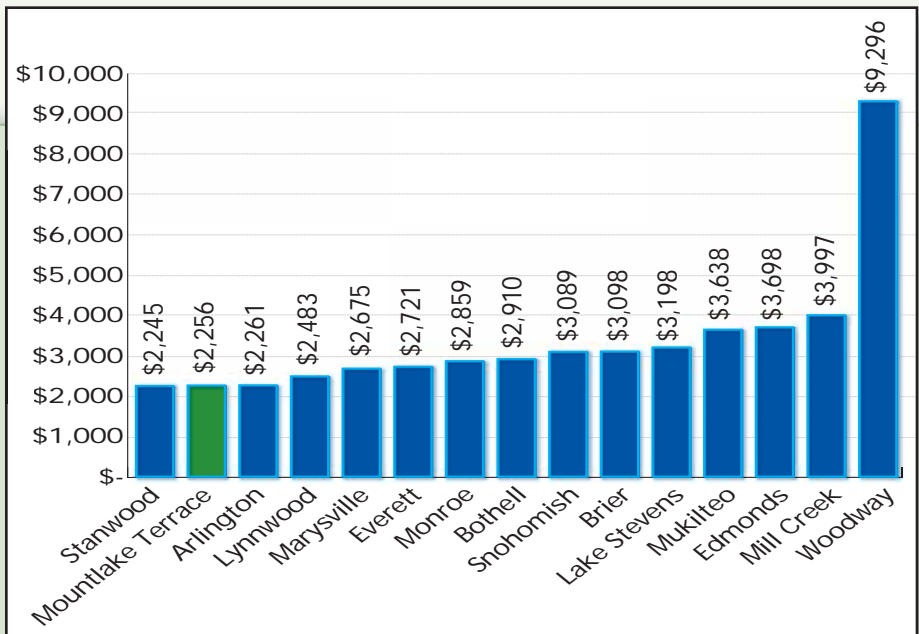
For more information about applying for a Comprehensive Plan amendment or to confirm public hearing dates, please call the Community and Economic Development Department at (425) 744-6280.



The Off Leash Dog Park had its official ribbon cutting ceremony on Saturday, May 2. Pictured here are members from the Recreation and Parks Advisory Commission, the City Council and MLT D.O.G. (and their four-legged friends). For more information about the dog park, contact the Parks Department at (425) 776-1811 or visit www.cityofmlt.com and/or www.mltdog.org.

How Your Property Taxes Are Used

The overall property tax levy rate is \$1.62 per \$1,000 of assessed property value in Mountlake Terrace for 2009. For the average homeowner in the city, this totals about \$462 per year. This does not include levies for the school district, Sno-Isle Library District, Snohomish County, Stevens Hospital or the state. When all the taxing jurisdictions are included, the total levy rate was \$7.91 per \$1,000 of assessed value in 2009. This graphic shows that Mountlake Terrace residents have lower property taxes than almost every other jurisdiction in Snohomish County.



Many people are under the impression that the city receives all of the property taxes that you pay. In fact, the city receives just under 21% of your property taxes. Those funds pay almost half of our total public safety

costs. The rest of your property taxes go to Edmonds School District (40%), State School Fund (24%), Snohomish County (9%), Sno-Isle Library District (4%) and Stevens Hospital (2%).

PLEASE RECYCLE THIS NEWSLETTER. PRINTED WITH SOY BASED INKS.

CityDirectory

ANIMAL CONTROL
(425) 670-8260

BUILDING PERMITS
(425) 744-6267

BUSINESS LICENSES
(425) 744-6211

CITY INFORMATION
(425) 776-1161

CITY MANAGER
(425) 744-6205

CODE ENFORCEMENT
(425) 744-6254

ENGINEERING
(425) 744-6273

FIRE BUSINESS LINE
(425) 551-1200

LIBRARY
(425) 776-8722

PASSPORTS
(425) 744-6211

PET LICENSES
(425) 744-6211

PLANNING
(425) 744-6266

POLICE BUSINESS
(425) 670-8260

PUBLIC WORKS
(425) 670-8264

PAVILION & POOL
(425) 776-9173

RECYCLING & TRANSFER STATION
(425) 388-3425

STREET LIGHTS OUT
(425) 670-8264

TRAFFIC TICKET/VIOLATIONS BUREAU
(425) 744-6228

UTILITY BILLING
(425) 744-6214 (425) 775-0420 fax

**CALL 911
FOR FIRE, MEDICAL AND
POLICE EMERGENCIES**

cityhall@ci.mlt.wa.us
codeenforcement@ci.mlt.wa.us
mltpd@ci.mlt.wa.us
utilitybilling@ci.mlt.wa.us
violations@ci.mlt.wa.us

On the Way to a Green Fleet



Since April, six new fuel-efficient hybrid vehicles have been placed into service. The new vehicles include three Toyota Priuses, one Chevy Malibu and three Ford Escapes. The Chevy Malibu sedan and the Ford Escapes are assigned to the Police Department command personnel, detectives and as a back up to patrol especially during periods of inclement weather.

The Toyota Prius vehicles are used primarily for Community Development and Public Works tasks including building and project site inspections. These vehicle purchases are consistent with the city's Sustainability Strategy and Green Fleet objectives. As vehicles become

due for replacement, each vehicle is being evaluated according to the following criteria: 1) Is it the minimum size vehicle to do the job? 2) Does it use an alternative fuel or is it a hybrid vehicle and meet the city's needs? and 3) Is the purchase of a hybrid or alternative fuel vehicle cost effective over its service life considering initial costs, operations costs and surplus value?

The city has established a goal of reducing petroleum-based fuel consumption by 2.5% per year from 2007 figures. In addition to the purchase of hybrid and smaller vehicles, the city began using B20 Bio Diesel for the fleet of heavy-duty trucks and instituted a no idling policy.

Reminder: Fireworks Not Permitted

The Fourth of July is a time for celebration and reflection of our nation's freedom and independence. The City of Mountlake Terrace would like to take this opportunity to remind citizens and guests to our city that all personal use fireworks are banned. It is unlawful for any person to sell,

possess, use, transfer, discharge, and ignite or "explode any fireworks" within the City of Mountlake Terrace.

Please celebrate your Independence Day safely. For more information about fireworks laws, please contact the Police Department at (425) 670-8260.

MeetingSchedule

City Council Meetings

First and third Mondays at 7 p.m. at the Library*

Arts Advisory Commission

Third Tuesday of each month at 7 p.m. at Library

Community Policing Advisory Board

Last Tuesday of each month at 6:30 p.m. at the Police Station

Library Board

Third Wednesday of each month at 5:30 p.m. at the Library

Planning Commission

Second and fourth Mondays at 7 p.m. at the Library*

Recreation and Park Advisory Commission

Second Tuesday of each month at 7 p.m. at the Pavilion

*Watch for move to temporary City Hall

*Coffee with
the City*



WEDNESDAY
JULY 8, 6 pm

THURSDAY
AUGUST 6, 8 am

WEDNESDAY
SEPTEMBER 9, 6 pm

Recreation Pavilion Jungle Room
5303 228th Street SW
(425) 776-9173