



Memorandum

DATE: October 9, 2023

TO: Shoreline City Council
Lake Forest Park Mayor and City Council
Kenmore City Council

FROM: Bristol S. Ellington, Shoreline City Manager

RE: Joint Dinner Meeting of the Shoreline, Lake Forest Park, and Kenmore City Councils

CC: Phillip Hill, City Administrator, City of Lake Forest Park
Rob Karlinsey, City Manager, City of Kenmore,
Stephanie Lucash, Deputy City Manager, City of Kenmore
John Norris, Assistant City Manager, City of Shoreline
Jim Hammond, Intergovernmental Relations Manager, City of Shoreline

On October 9, 2023, the City Councils of Shoreline, Lake Forest Park, and Kenmore will meet to discuss topics of mutual interest. The City Managers/Administrators identified the following four items for the agenda:

1. Round-Robin City Update
2. North King County Aquatics Center Study Update
3. RCR/Connections Accomplishments
4. Early look at State Legislative priorities

This memorandum provides a brief synopsis of each topic and some discussion points to facilitate the conversation. As always, the questions and discussion points are simply suggestions to stimulate conversation amongst councilmembers.

North King County Aquatics Center Study Update

The City of Kenmore entered into a consultant services agreement with Keith M. Comes, Principal Architect with Ballard King Associates on May 23, 2023, to perform the following services:

- Task 1: Gap Analysis & Market Analysis: Deliverables to include a Gap Analysis Report, and a Market Analysis Report.

- Task 2: Public Engagement: Deliverables to include a Communication & Outreach Schedule, Outreach graphics, informational text, & survey, and a Summary report of Public Engagement findings.
- Task 3: Site Identification & Assessment: Deliverables to include list of considered sites, and Site Comparison Analysis & Findings.
- Task 4: Concept Program & Plan: Deliverables to include Aquatic Programming Menu Options, Aquatic Center Building Program(s) for each sub-region, and Conceptual Site Plan and Floor Plan Diagrams for each preferred site.
- Task 5: Cost Analysis & Funding Strategy: Deliverables to include Concept level Probable Cost of Construction Estimates (including estimated soft costs), Operational Performance Indicator Analysis, and Funding Strategy Options.
- Task 6: Final Report: Deliverables to include the Final report document, and City Council Presentations.

The final report is due November 30, 2023.

Discussion Points

- How can we best support this project to ensure a successful outcome?
- What are councilmembers hearing about this initiative? Any encouraging feedback? Red flags?
- How critical is the final selection of the preferred site in determining city interest in participating in a regional aquatic facility?

RCR/Connections Accomplishments

In the realm of behavioral health, Kenmore, Lake Forest Park, and Shoreline, along with partner cities Bothell and Kirkland, have been leaders in not only King County, but also in Washington State. RCR will allow the cities of north King County to build an effective system of co-response and extend behavioral health support beyond those residents who are able and willing to call 988. Having someone to talk to is a critical first step in behavioral health care.

Beyond RCR, individuals in crisis also need somewhere to go. Again, north King County cities have led the way, working together with King County to effectively recruit Connections Health Solutions, a national leader, to expand to Washington State and locate a crisis care center in Kirkland. Connections is committed to not only tackling the acute stage of a person in crisis, but also working with them to ensure that they have an effective, ongoing system of support. Their services will be available not only to first responders, but also to any community member who chooses to walk in.

Together, RCR and Connections will enable our communities to tackle behavioral health challenges with behavioral health tools, allowing our public safety resources, such as police, fire, and hospitals, to devote their resources more effectively to our communities' needs. To that end, staff have begun looking ahead to the upcoming legislative session in Olympia to promote additional funding and support for models like our RCR program in our first response system.

Discussion Points

- This kind of resource is new to communities in our region. Do you think residents in your community understand and appreciate this positive change?
- RCR and Connections should also produce a strong positive impact in the work of our hospitals and first responders. What are you hearing from them?
- Is there more information you think our communities need?

State Legislative Priorities

Each of our cities are planning to adopt legislative priorities for the 2024 State Legislative Session in the next month or so. Given that this is a mid-biennial short session, budget-related initiatives are likely to be both smaller and fewer. However, early assessments from the Association of Washington Cities suggest that a number of key issues will be addressed during the 60-day session.

The AWC agenda features several issue areas, including:

- Law enforcement officer recruitment and retention.
- Infrastructure investment, ranging from state and local transportation (especially preservation and maintenance), as well as other local infrastructure, including investments under the Climate Commitment Act for carbon reduction and climate resiliency.
- Behavioral health, particularly greater access to treatment resources, with a focus on growing the workforce to make this happen.
- Lifting the 1% property tax cap.

In addition to the AWC's top priorities, staff expect other issues of importance to our communities to emerge, including:

- Transit oriented development, and the question of mandated densities.
- Producer responsibility for packaging.
- Affordable housing, including a possible third quarter percent REET.
- Ongoing adjustments to legislation adopted in the wake of the *Blake* decision, including additional funding for cities.
- Additional funding and support for models like the RCR program in the first response system.
- The cities of Kenmore and Lake Forest Park are interested in expanding traffic photo enforcement authority to bus lanes.

Discussion Points

- What are some of the top priorities for each city?
- Are there opportunities to support each other on our respective legislative priorities?