

TOWN OF HUNTS POINT

Hunts Point Town Hall
3000 Hunts Point Road
Bellevue, WA 98004

Phone: 425-455-1834
Fax: 425-454-4586
Email: lynnep@ci.hunts-point.wa.us

Hunts Point Resident

PRESORTED
STANDARD
U.S. POSTAGE
PAID
MEDINA, WA
PERMIT #32

WE'RE ON THE WEB
WWW.CI.HUNTS-POINT.WA.US



SR520 Update

As you know, the gas tax was upheld in the November election. This gas tax has funded \$500 million towards the new SR520 Bridge. The Draft Environment Impact Statement (DEIS) will be released this Spring. The \$500 million will take the project through design, working drawings, and the bid process. At that time (2 years), another funding measure needs to be approved by voters to build the bridge. The bridge replacement project is now officially underway. For more information, visit www.wsdot.wa.gov/Projects/SR520Bridge.

U.S. Mail Box

We will be mounting a U.S. Post Office Box for outgoing mail near the traffic circle in the next month or two. We encourage our residents to use this box to prevent your outgoing mail from being stolen.

Kids Activity Group

Heather Smith, a resident and new mom on Hunts Point Lane is forming a Mom's Group for young kids activities. If you have young ones and want to join the group, please email Heather Smith at hhooper@fhcrc.org.

Hunts Point Road Update

The landscaping on Hunts Point road should be completed shortly after you receive this letter. We have had trouble with construction vehicles parking on the new grass. These areas will be graded, and reseeded in the Spring. We will rope off the new grass sections so the grass has a chance to grow. Once the grass is established, these areas can be used for overflow parking.

The LID final assessment and billing will be sent out this Spring. Residents in the LID will have the option to pay off the assessment, or pay it off over ten years. Thanks to everyone for their patience during this project. It seems that all residents are pleased with the new Hunts Point Road.

Overlake Service League (OSL)

OSL will host its annual fund raising luncheon on March 30, 2006 at the Meydenbauer Center with registration beginning at 11:30 am, and lunch at noon. Guests are encouraged to donate \$125 to OSL, which includes the cost of the lunch and speaker program. The goal is to raise 20% more than last year. Table Captains, including Mayor Fred McConkey, will be soliciting attendance at this event. To register for the lunch, please call the OSL office at (425) 451-1175. To learn more about OSL and all of its family support activities, please visit www.OverlakeServiceLeague.org.

January 12, 2006 Volume 1, Issue 1



Town of Hunts Point Newsletter

Town Security and Hunts Point Circle Closure Proposal

The Planning Commission will be holding a public hearing at Town Hall on Wednesday, January 18, 2006, at 7:00 pm to hear comments from residents regarding a proposal to temporarily close off the southern access of Hunts Point Circle, for a 90 day test period. The proposed Cul de Sac plan is illustrated below.





Message From Your Mayor.....

Dear Residents,

Greetings and Happy New Year. The Town has an exciting list of objectives for 2006, as we are always looking to improve and protect this wonderful community. The world is changing around us, but we try to keep Hunts Point very much the same.

Our number one objective is increasing Town security. I may be a bit hypersensitive after having my new home on Fairweather Place burglarized for \$30,000; then my former house on Hunts Point Lane was burglarized two weeks later. This was a home invasion with the family asleep and two small children downstairs. You don't know how bad this feels until it happens to you.

Burglars are targeting Hunts Point and other upscale neighborhoods because we have nice things and we are easy to rob. We are over confident and naïve with our false sense of security in these neighborhoods. Most burglaries happen to homes without the alarm set, from unlocked doors and windows, from unlocked cars parked outside, and from unlocked mailboxes. It is everyone's personal responsibility to get smart and protect themselves. The burglary trend, largely from Meth Addicts, is not likely to decrease anytime soon. We just need to wake up and protect ourselves. The Town will also do it's best to protect it's residents.

On a more positive note, everything is going quite well in the Town, and we welcome several new residents to the neighborhood.

Sincerely,

Fred McConkey

Fred McConkey
Mayor

Hunts Point Circle Closure Proposal

Several homes near the freeway in Hunts Point were burglarized last year. At the Council and Planning Commissions' Annual Retreat last October, increasing security for the Town was ranked as our number one priority.

Some of the positive arguments for closing Hunts Point Circle:

1. Eliminates a quick get away route for burglars to the freeway from Hunts Point Circle, Hunts Point Place and Fairweather Place. They can be in Seattle in 5 minutes.
2. Focuses the entrance/exit to Hunts Point for better police and security camera monitoring.
3. Forces all vehicles to travel past a police car that can be parked on the gravel strip between Town Hall lawn at Hunts Point Road, just north of the traffic circle. This creates the image of a gated community, without the gate.
4. Creates a complete landscape and wall buffer from the freeway and on-ramp for Hunts Point Circle residents, prior to the expansion of SR520.
5. Eliminates traffic cheaters racing around Hunts Point Circle to get in the Carpool Lane/Hunts Point Lane freeway on-ramp.
6. Creates a quiet dead end Cul de Sac that may encourage beautification, remodels, and more new homes on Hunts Point Circle.
7. Can integrate into a plan for a private sound wall along the freeway to act as a buffer before the freeway is expanded.
8. May reduce burglaries in Hunts Point.

Arguments against closing Hunts Point Circle:

1. Forces all incoming and outgoing vehicles onto Hunts Point Road, and creates more traffic at the stop sign.
2. Provides only one exit from Hunts Point. Police and Fire have preliminarily approved the concept, but fire truck access will take slightly longer to drive around to the new dead end of Hunts Point Circle.
3. Approximately 40 homes will have a slightly longer commute in driving to and from their homes.
4. Represents a change, and some people just do not like change.

The Planning Commission encourages residents to attend the Public Hearing on Wednesday, January 18, 2006 at 7:00 pm. Written comments can be sent to Town Hall at jackm@ci.hunts-point.wa.us or by fax to (425) 454-4586. We would like to hear from all residents if you are for or against the proposal, or if you are indifferent.

The proposal is "To Close Hunts Point Circle with temporary concrete block barriers for a test period of 90 days". After that, another public hearing will be held to hear comments to see if a permanent wall and landscape barrier should be installed, or if Hunts Point Circle should be opened up again.

Hunts Point Circle Closure Proposal (cont'd)

At the retreat, the Council, Planning Commission, and Staff brainstormed on objectives to improve Hunts Point. The Town's 2006 Objectives are as follows:

Objective #1—Greatly increase security as a result of recent burglaries.

- a. Hire a security consultant to make recommendations to the Town. (hired Dec. 2005)
- b. Upgrade security cameras to detect license plate numbers at night. (completed Nov. 2005)
- c. Close off Hunts Point Circle entrance/exit at the traffic circle. (Public Hearing Jan. 18, 2006, 7pm)
- d. Park a Medina Police car at the entrance and other locations in the Town. (began Dec. 2005)
- e. Negotiate with Medina Police Department for increased patrols through Hunts Point. (new police contract - Jan. 2006)
- f. Offer rewards leading to arrests. (in process Sept. 2005, no arrests yet from fall 2005 robberies)
- g. Create a worker/vendor identification card system with background checks for landscapers and construction workers. Require a Town business license for vendors to better regulate who really works in The Town. (under evaluation)
- h. Hire a private security guard, in a marked car to patrol Hunts Point. (under evaluation)
- i. Implement other recommendations from the Security Consultant. (March 2006)

Objective #2 — Implement an Emergency Preparedness Plan and begin purchasing supplies and equipment for the Town.

Objective #3— Create a Town Tree Bank to plant more trees in the Town right of ways, and near the freeway for a sound barrier.

This is to be funded from trees removed, or replaced during new home construction; and from Tree Mitigation requirements.

Objective #4 — Upgrade and replace the Tennis Courts in 2006.

Objective #5— Continue Annual Milfoil Treatment by the Town, and encourage cooperative, privately funded milfoil reduction measures in the coves.

Objective #6— Participate in the Design Committee for the SR520 sound wall, landscaping and the Lid/Park at 84th Ave. over the new freeway.

Objective #7—Pursue privately funded sound walls/fences along SR520.

Objective #8—Address speeding on our streets, and take corrective actions.

- increase police patrols and tickets
- install speed monitors to see your speed on a digital sign.

Objective #9—Create Welcome Baskets and an Information Package for new residents in Hunts Point. (created by Overlake Service League volunteers)

Objective #10—Complete, publish, and distribute the Town of Hunts Point 50th Anniversary Book.

Special thanks to The Council and Planning Commission for creating and implementing these objectives for 2006.