

LACEYLife

Shaping Our Community Together

FALL | 2011

LIGHTING OF THE CHRISTMAS TREES

Thursday, December 1,
6:00-6:30 p.m.,
Huntamer Park in
Woodland Square

POLAR BEAR PLUNGE

Sunday, January 1,
12:00 noon,
Long Lake Park

UPCOMING COUNCIL MEETINGS

Thursday, December
1st & 15th, 7 p.m.
Lacey City Hall Council
Chambers

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CITY OF LACEY 2012 BUDGET PROPOSAL

Lacey's proposed 2012 budget maintains customary fiscal austerity while continuing to provide high-quality municipal services to residents, businesses, and visitors. Currently under public and City Council review, adoption of a final document is scheduled for mid-December.

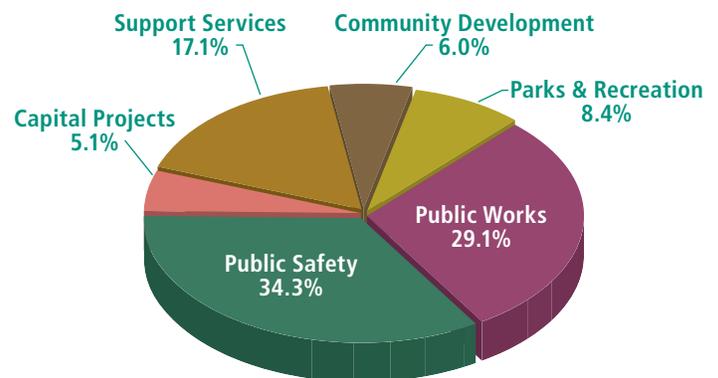
The 2012 proposal, at \$110.4 million, is approximately 22 percent lower than 2011 expenditures. This is due primarily to a number of one-time capital projects taking place this year, including major investments in the city's transportation system and community facilities, as well as purchase of approximately 400 acres of new park land. The General Fund portion of the proposal, which accounts for a majority of city services not related to municipal utilities, totals \$31.6 million.

Major projects proposed for 2012 include repaving the entire length of Ruddell Road between Pacific Avenue and the Yelm Highway; completion of the Carpenter Road Widening Project; initiation of a Smart Corridors Improvement Program; preliminary design of Interstate 5's interchanges with Martin

Way and Marvin Road; design of the College Street and 22nd Avenue roundabout; design of a regional reclaimed water infiltration facility; improvements to numerous city well and lift station facilities; expansion of the Lacey Senior Center; preliminary design of the Lacey Depot Museum; and trailhead construction at Woodland Creek Community Park.

The budget document is available for review at www.ci.lacey.wa.us/budget, and at Lacey City Hall and the Lacey Library. If you'd like to comment, contact Lacey Finance Director Troy Woo at 360-491-3212 (TDD 800-833-6388); twoo@ci.lacey.wa.us; or Lacey City Hall, 420 College St., Lacey, 98503.

2011 General Fund: \$31.6 Million



BUDGET CALENDAR

The following budget meetings will begin at 7 p.m. in the Council Chambers at Lacey City Hall:

Thursday, November 17, 2011: *First public hearing*

Thursday, December 1, 2011: *Second public hearing*

Thursday, December 15, 2011: *Budget adopted by City Council*



The Lacey School, ca. 1901. Lacey Museum Collection.

A LOOK BACK

Spanning nearly 160 years, Lacey has one of the longest histories of public education in Washington State. Our first schoolhouse (the third in Thurston County) was constructed in 1853, near today's Pioneer Cemetery. A small log structure with rough-hewn benches, it served a handful of pioneer children at a time when the entire Washington Territory contained less than 4,000 settlers. By 1892, following a succession of temporary locations, a permanent

site was acquired near the present-day intersection of Pacific Avenue and Carpenter Road. Over the years, a number of ever-larger structures were erected, and by 1928 the Lacey School housed 300 students and boasted an auditorium with seating for 750 — making the building a center of community life. The school district has never stopped growing, with North Thurston Public Schools providing award-winning educational services to more than 13,700 students today.

DON'T TOP TREES

Topping trees is not only unsightly, it's almost always self-defeating. Why? The practice can reduce a tree's food-making ability, and most species will respond by sprouting numerous, fast-growing branches that often reach heights exceeding the branches that were removed. Topping also makes trees more susceptible to disease.

A good rule of thumb is that no more than 30 percent of a tree's foliage should be removed during pruning. A properly pruned tree is like a good haircut — the result is hardly noticeable at first glance.

Homeowner associations, businesses, and landscaping contractors should take note that it is against the law to top any tree within the city, or to improperly prune trees growing within the public right-of-way. For more information, or to receive a free publication about proper tree pruning and care, please contact Lacey Community Development at planning@ci.lacey.wa.us or (360) 491-5642.

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Selective pruning, on the other hand, can open up views and solar access, keep utility lines clear, and improve a tree's resistance to strong

COMING EVENTS

Lighting of the Christmas Trees

Thursday, December 1, 2011, 6:00 to 6:30 p.m., Huntamer Park in Woodland Square. Join us in the annual "Lighting of the Christmas Trees." It's an old-fashioned ceremony involving caroling, hot cocoa, and a special appearance from Santa and his helpers aboard the Santa Mobile. **For information, visit www.ci.lacey.wa.us, or call (360) 491-0857.**

South Sound Community Orchestra Holiday Concert

Tuesday, December 6, 2011, 7:00 - 8:00 p.m., Lacey Community Center. Bring the family and enjoy this free concert performed by the South Sound Community Orchestra — sure to get you into the holiday spirit! **For more information, browse to www.ci.lacey.wa.us or call (360) 491-0857.**

Polar Bear Plunge

Sunday, January 1, 2012, 12:00 noon (plunge at 1:00 p.m.) All ages welcome. Join fellow enthusiasts (or stay warm and dry on shore and cheer on the swimmers) in this invigorating ritual of starting the New Year! Enjoy campfires, music, and hot cocoa or coffee. **Visit www.ci.lacey.wa.us or call (360) 491-0857 to learn more.**



Keeping Storm Drains Clear

It's the time of year when falling leaves and other debris periodically obstruct stormwater drains. You can help prevent large puddles and minor flooding by keeping an eye on grates near your home and business—clearing blockage with a rake is frequently all that's needed to alleviate problems (you should only clear a grate when it's safe to do so).

To report a major blockage or flooding, call the Lacey Public Works Maintenance Facility at (360) 491-5644, or (360) 704-2740 after-hours.

Lacey Utility Assistance Fund

Qualified low-income families needing help paying their municipal utility bill may be eligible under the Lacey Utility Assistance Fund, a program offered in partnership with the Community Action Council (CAC). Visit www.ci.lacey.wa.us/utility-fund, or call the CAC at (360) 438-1100, to learn more.

Supporting the fund is easy by making a one-time donation at the web address above.

DISASTER PREPAREDNESS

Do you know what to do to prepare your home and workplace for a major earthquake or other natural disaster? What about a flu pandemic or terrorism event? It could take three or more days for help to reach you after a major disaster, and you may need to evacuate your home with just minutes notice. Are you prepared?



While it's human nature to put-off preparation tasks, breaking them down and completing just one task at a time will make it easy — and it's a great activity with family or friends. At a minimum, you should complete each of the following items:

PUT TOGETHER portable “grab-and-go” disaster kits for your home, car, and workplace.

For simple tips on building a kit, visit the city's website at www.ci.lacey.wa.us/disaster-preparedness. The local chapter of the Red Cross sells a variety of pre-assembled kits at www.rainier-redcross.org.

STORE at least a 3-day supply of non-perishable food and water (one gallon per person per day for drinking and sanitation) in a cool, dark, and accessible place. The Red Cross and many outdoor recreation retailers sell food and water packets with a 5-year shelf life.

SECURE bookcases, entertainment centers, water heaters, and large appliances to the wall to prevent them from tipping over during an earthquake. Most home improvement stores have simple kits just for this purpose.

TEACH each capable member of your household how to turn off gas, water, and electric utilities at the meter. Consider having an automatic gas shut off device professionally installed.

PUT BATTERY-OPERATED smoke/carbon monoxide detectors, and ABC-type fire extinguishers, on each floor of your home and in the garage.

IF YOU HAVE CHILDREN in your home, hold earthquake and fire drills every six months.

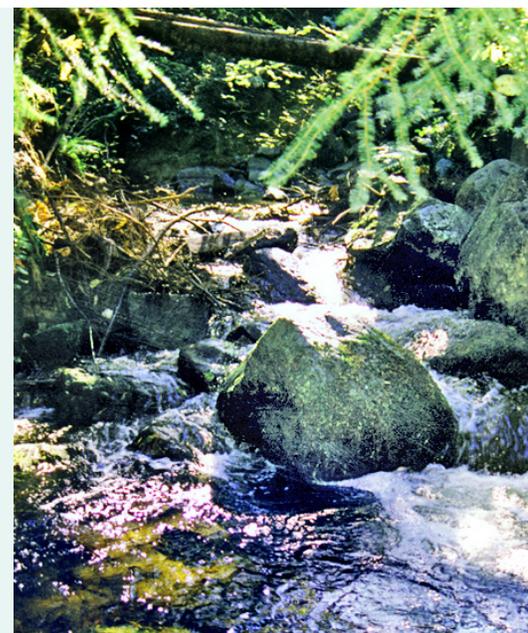
DESIGNATE two locations — one just outside of your home and the other outside of your neighborhood — for household members to meet in the event you need to evacuate.

ENROLL each capable member of your household in a first aid/CPR class. Call Lacey Parks and Recreation at (360) 491-0857, or visit the local chapter of the Red Cross at www.rainier-redcross.org, for help finding a class.

If you have a relative, neighbor, or friend that can't get prepared on their own, volunteer to spend a few hours to assist them.

SALMON HABITAT RESTORATION

Improving habitat along Woodland Creek through the center of Lacey is a top priority — and nearly 90 percent of the creek's corridor within the city is now protected. Recent projects have included fish weirs, habitat restoration, and major property purchases to preserve pristine tracts of land along the creek.



WE CARE! CITIZEN REQUEST FORM

We want your feedback in order to do a good job for our community. If you have any suggestions or comments on how we can better serve or inform you, let us know. _____

Name _____

Address _____

Drop-off or mail to: 420 College Street S.E., Lacey, WA 98503. The **We Care!** request card is now available online. You may submit a **Citizen Request Form** online through our website and your request will be reviewed by staff on the next regular business day.

The City of Lacey has a policy of non-discrimination based on disability for providing equal access to its services and programs. If you need to receive this newsletter in alternative format, please contact the City Clerk at (360) 491-3214; TDD Relay 1-800-833-6388.

- LACEY CITY HALL**
420 College Street S.E., Lacey, 98503
- CITY COUNCIL** **360.491.3214**
Tom Nelson, Mayor
Virgil Clarkson, Deputy Mayor
Jeff Gadman, Jason Hearn, Ron Lawson,
Cynthia Pratt, Andy Ryder
- CITY MANAGER** **360.491.3214**
Scott Spence
- COMMUNITY DEV.** **360.491.5642**
Rick Walk, Director
- COMMUNITY SERVICES AND PUBLIC AFFAIRS** **360.491.3214**
- FINANCE** **360.491.3212**
Troy Woo, Director
- PARKS AND RECREATION** **360.491.0857**
Lori Flemm, Director
- POLICE DEPARTMENT** **360.459.4333**
Dusty Pierpoint, Chief
- EMERGENCY** **911**
- CRIME STOPPERS** **360.493.2222**
- PUBLIC WORKS** **360.491.5600**
Scott Egger, Director
- COMMUNITY CENTER** **360.412.3191**
- LACEY MUSEUM** **360.438.0209**
- SENIOR CENTER** **360.407.3967**
- ANIMAL SERVICES** **360.352.2510**
Susanne Beauregard, Director
- LACEY FIRE DISTRICT 3** **360.491.2410**
- LACEY LIBRARY** **360.491.3860**
- INTERCITY TRANSIT** **360.786.8585**
Michael Harbour, General Manager
- LACEY JOBLINE** **360.491.3213**



REMEMBER THE FOOD BANK

The Thurston County Food Bank relies on community support to keep up with growing local demand. Your food or monetary donation, or a few hours of volunteer assistance at the facility, will make a real difference. Baby food and

formula, peanut butter, and fresh fruits and vegetables that store well in a refrigerator are always needed. To learn more, browse to www.thurstoncountyfoodbank.org, or call (360) 352-8597.

BE A PART OF SOMETHING GREAT. VOLUNTEER!

Would you like to help make Lacey an even better place to live, work and play? The city offers an array of terrific volunteer opportunities for individuals and groups of all sizes. Last year alone, our

outstanding residents contributed nearly 30,000 hours of volunteer service to the community. Interested? Visit www.ci.lacey.wa.us/volunteer, or call (360) 491-3214, and learn more.

Lacey City Council meets at 7:00 p.m. on the 2nd and 4th Thursdays of each month, except in November and December, when it meets on the 1st and 3rd Thursdays of the month.

www.ci.lacey.wa.us