

Town Topics



City Council

Matthew Jolibois *Mayor*
 Shannon Reynolds
 Brett L. Wittner
 Blake L. Surina
 Hunter T. George *Mayor Pro Tempore*
 Denny Waltier
 Jason Medley

Councilmember Blake Surina



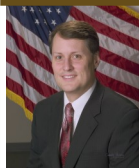
Blake Surina is the Executive Director of the Exercise Science Center, a health and fitness facility serving the citizens of Fircrest for over 30 years. Mr. Surina grew up in Tacoma graduating from Stadium High School, and continued his education at Western Washington University in Exercise Physiology and Secondary Education.

He continued his graduate studies in Cardiac Rehabilitation and Hospital Administration, while working as a licensed Respiratory Therapist allowed him to have a leading role in community health. Also a United States National Team Member and All-American Decathlete, Blake currently works as an adjunct faculty and guest lecturer at local colleges, coaching high school and collegiate athletics.

As a member of the Tacoma City PTA Health and Wellness Committee he worked to increase Physical Education requirements for children, improve the quality of food offered in Fircrest schools, and played an active role in combating childhood obesity.

Blake was the past President of the Fircrest Civic and Heritage Association, the Fircrest Economic Development Association, Fircrest Beautification Committee and a Senior Fellow of the American Leadership Forum. He is noted as an expert of Fircrest history and culture, and is passionate about identifying the elements that make Fircrest and its citizens unique and special.

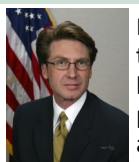
Councilmember Brett Wittner



I have been an attorney since 1997 focusing on the areas of bankruptcy, immigration, and estate planning. I have lived in Fircrest since 2006. I have three children ages 11, 8, and 5.

When not working and spending time with my family, I enjoy running marathons. I have completed 55 marathons so far, including the Boston Marathon twice.

Councilmember Matthew Jolibois



Matthew Jolibois is currently in his 15th year on the City Council. He is married to Mai and they have a five-year old daughter, Colette. He does public accounting work for business clients and has a degree in accounting and economics that he received from Gonzaga University in 1984.

Matthew was born and raised in Fircrest and has lived in Fircrest for most of his adult life.

Matthew enjoys golf and time with family and friends, with many trips to the Tot Lot as well as lengthy discussions with Blake Surina concerning Frederick Olmstead.

Councilmember Denny Waltier



Denny Waltier and his wife Jill have lived in the Fircrest area since 1967. Between soccer, baseball and swimming, they raised their three children here. Two of them, along with four of their six grandchildren, continue to do the same. Over the years, he has volunteered for many recreation activities centering on youth sports where he coached and was a strong advocate for the Fircrest Soccer Club during its early formative years.

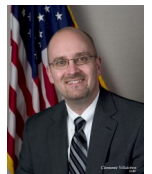
He retired from the Boeing Company in 2001 after 38 years. His career included 26 years in management where most of his assignments were in various Industrial Engineering organizations and manufacturing operations. He is starting his 7th year on the council. He serves on the council's investment committee and for the past two years has been the city's representative to the Pierce County Regional Council.

He believes his life experiences combined with the managerial skills obtained in the private sector give him the insight to help guide the affairs of our city. Our city has a staff of skilled and dedicated employees. We have good clean safe streets, well run parks and recreation programs, a solid police force and low cost quality services.

His main focus going forward is to maintain the city's strong financial position and is committed to preserve the quality of life we in Fircrest expect and enjoy.

Councilmember Hunter George

Hunter serves as chief communications and public affairs officer for Metro Parks Tacoma. His role involves managing media relations, community relations and intergovernmental relations for an independent agency providing parks, recreation and zoological services for the citizens of Tacoma and beyond.



Before joining the park district, Hunter served for 6 1/2 years as director of communications for Pierce County. His responsibilities included leading the county's community outreach plans as a member of the U.S. Open Operating Committee as well as during the formation of South Sound 911, a new emergency communications agency.

Hunter previously spent eight years as a news editor at The News Tribune in Tacoma, and he started his career as a reporter and editor with The Associated Press in Raleigh, N.C., Harrisburg, Penn., and Olympia, Wash.

He grew up in Raleigh and has a bachelor's degree in history from N.C. State University. Hunter and his wife Kathleen live in the Commons at Fircrest. He is a member of the PTA at Evergreen Primary and Curtis Junior High, as well as the Kiwanis Club of Fircrest. He was first elected to the Fircrest City Council in 2011, and he was re-elected in 2015.

Serving the community since 1925

Councilmember Jason Medley



I am one of two current council members who was born and raised in Fircrest. I moved away briefly to attend college in Montana. After receiving my degree in psychology, I moved back to the Tacoma area and married my wife, Chris.

After our first daughter was born, we moved back to Fircrest. I also have a son and a second daughter. My children are ages 20, 18 and 16. My oldest daughter attends college in New York City. My son will be off to college in Montana in the fall. My youngest daughter attends Bellarmine where she is a junior and my son a senior this year. I am employed by Thurston County and work in the Juvenile Court. My wife works for a local law firm.

In my spare time, I enjoy watching my children compete in their various sports. Both my daughters play soccer and my son is on a shooting team. I also enjoy visiting with friends and family.

I have been having a great time being on the City Council thus far. I love the work of trying to keep Fircrest a desirable and unique place to live. My door is always open to you for questions or concerns.

Upcoming Events



FEBRUARY 15th
Presidents' Day
Offices Closed

FEBRUARY 19th
Daddy Daughter
Dance
7:00pm-9:00pm



MARCH 19th
Fish and Fun
Fircrest Park



MARCH 26th
Easter Egg Hunt
10:00am Tot Lot

Pets and Animals

Please remember to be safe while running and walking after dark. Many people walk their dogs and coming up behind a dog walker while jogging, or even walking, can startle both the pet and the person.



Please be sure to alert the dog walker that you are approaching, as many dogs can think that something is wrong and may act out to protect their owner.

We all need to respect one another and share the space, especially in areas where there are no sidewalks.

Councilmember Shannon Reynolds



Shannon Reynolds won election to the Fircrest City Council in November of 2013 and is the youngest currently-serving lawmaker in Washington State.

She holds dual bachelor's degrees from Pacific Lutheran University in economics and biology, with a track in pre-professional health sciences. Shannon currently attends Seattle University's Albers School of Business & Economics, where she is pursuing a master's degree in business administration. She is a 2015 graduate from the Women's Campaign School at Yale University.

Shannon originally hails from Wahiawa, Hawaii and moved to Washington with her family after her father was stationed at Joint Base Lewis McCord. She attended Stadium High School and is a proud Tiger.

Her hobbies include swimming and baking, and spending time with her family and her significant other, Corbin, and their three cats and one dog.

Community Sponsorship Program

The City of Fircrest strongly relies on donations from both citizens and businesses to support activities throughout the year. These include Fish 'n Fun in March, the Easter Egg Hunt in April, summer's Fircrest Fun Days and Santa's annual sleigh ride over the Christmas holiday. Other examples are the fireworks show at Fun Days and the Movie in the Park.



Donations come in various forms: citizens and businesses volunteer time, contribute money and donate gifts and other items. The most visible example of community support may be the hanging flower baskets along Regents Boulevard during spring and summer. Each year the City of Fircrest conducts a fundraising campaign in the community to help offset the cost of the beautiful flower baskets.



Information about the 2016 Community Sponsorship Program and the form for donors are included with your utility bill and this newsletter. Thank you citizens and businesses of Fircrest for your continued support and contributions to the City. It is what makes Fircrest such a great place to live!

Who To Contact

City Hall 253-564-8901
Municipal Court 253-564-8922
Public Works 253-564-8900
Community Center 253-564-8177
Non-Emergency Police
253-565-1198

Other Agencies:

Westside Disposal 253-564-3212
Animal Care & Control
253-627-PETS
Humane Society 253-383-2733
Puget Sound Energy 888-225-5773
Tacoma Power 253-502-8600

www.cityoffircrest.net