



City Council Spotlight—Shannon Reynolds

Climate Resilience: A Community Approach

As our city and our region experience growth and change, climate resilience has become an increasingly important and timely consideration. Regional weather patterns are undergoing deviations from historical norms, leading to more frequent and consequential drought and an escalation in the amount of unseasonably hot and cold days.

The Western North America heat wave of 2021 was the deadliest and most economically disruptive weather-related event in Washington State history. According to Department of Health data, at least 112 casualties were recorded, including 21 in Pierce County. Severe temperature extremes described as “once in a millennium” melted infrastructure and savaged crops, resulting in at least \$9.4 billion in direct economic losses in the Pacific Northwest region of Oregon and Washington per the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration. Weather events are especially hazardous to the health of the elderly, infants and small children, and those with certain health conditions. Poor and marginalized persons are often affected to a disproportionate degree. Notably, the Seattle metro area has the lowest availability of home air conditioning on a per capita basis of all major US cities.

Here is what Fircrest is doing to encourage climate resilience and respond and adapt to weather extremes.

Effective climate resilience demands a multipronged strategy, composed of natural mitigations and anthropogenic (human-

created) interventions. First, natural resources are leveraged to make the most of what the environment has to offer. In Fircrest, trees—and especially old-growth trees—are producing clean oxygen, sequestering carbon dioxide, providing shade and shelter, and furnishing habitat and sustenance for keystone species such as honeybees. The Fircrest Municipal Code includes a tree policy with the purpose of protecting existing trees and requiring the planting of new trees.

In concert with the natural environment, technology and infrastructure enhance climate resilience. The City opted to include solar energy panels in the recent construction of the pool and community center complex, as well as building the center to LEED Silver certification standards. LEED-credentialed buildings are recognized for improved energy efficiency, reduced carbon emissions, and sustainability.

Further green policies under consideration include installation of electric vehicle charging stations and future electrification of the City fleet.

A final aspect of the City’s approach is preparedness. Measures include emergency management readiness: City Council members attend FEMA training including education on natural disaster and weather emergency response. Additionally, the City periodically reviews and updates its cybersecurity plan to ensure continuity of operations in the event of a system disruption.

Public Works—Back to School Safety!

With the start of a new school year underway, Fircrest Public Works wants to remind motorists the importance of safety around school buses and school zones. There are two schools in the City located on Alameda Ave that many Fircrest locals attend.

The transition from summer schedules to morning and afternoon drop-offs and pickups puts motorists and pedestrians at increased risk. Anytime is a good time to improve your traffic safety practices. Here are some helpful tips to create a safer environment around schools and buses.

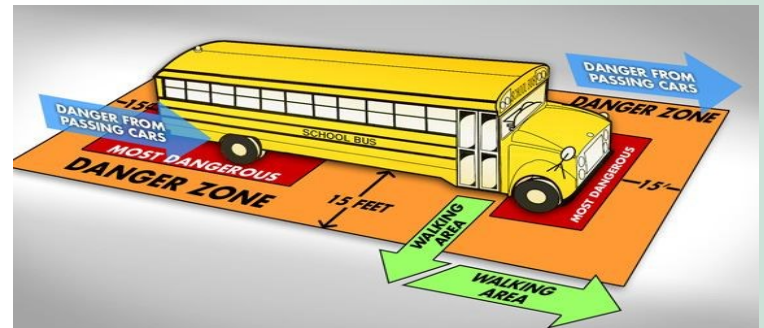
Tips for motorists:

- SLOW DOWN! Red means stop whether you’re at an intersection or near a bus stop.
- Do not drive distracted.
- Be aware of your surroundings. Take note of areas with reduced or limited visibility.
- Keep your distance from buses. The area 15 feet around a school bus is where children are in the most danger.

Tips to share with children:

- Learn and practice the safety rules for walking and bicycling.
- Always use caution when stepping into the roadway. Just because pedestrians have the right-of-way, doesn’t mean that motorists are aware of your presence.
- Follow all school bus driver instructions while entering or exiting a bus.

Tyler Bemis, Public Works Director



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Planning & Building

Is the Solicitor at your Door Licensed?

Any individual who sells goods or services door-to-door or from a temporary location in Fircrest is required to have a city-issued Solicitors/ Merchant License in addition to a Fircrest business license endorsement. Before issuance, the applicant must be approved by staff and the Police Chief.

Solicitors may sell goods such as tree work, driveway sealing, high-speed internet and cable service, free estimates for home improvements, or home security alarm systems.

Soliciting is regulated by Chapter 5.08 of the Fircrest Municipal Code. Soliciting without a license is a criminal offense and violators of Chapter 5.08 may be charged with a misdemeanor.

Solicitors who receive a license are instructed to have the license on them at all times while going door-to-door. Residents who want to report a person or company soliciting without a permit, or who view suspicious activities should call 911 for a response from the Police Department. The City of Fircrest website maintains a list of approved door-to-door merchants. Here is the link: <https://www.cityoffircrest.net/services/business-licensing/active-transient-merchant-list/>

Who is exempt?

Solicitors who offer only the following goods or services do not need a license to solicit in Fircrest: bona fide candidates and campaign workers, newspaper vendors, and nonprofit organizations.

What rules must solicitors follow in Fircrest?

Solicitors must have a city-issued license, and they must show it to you if you ask to see it. A solicitor is not allowed to knock or ring the bell where a "No Soliciting" sign is posted. Solicitors may knock on your door only between the hours of 9:00 am and 7:00 pm. A solicitor must leave your property when asked to do so.

What should residents do when a solicitor knocks on their door?

You aren't required to open your door. If you do, ask to see their Fircrest Merchant License. Never let a solicitor into your home. Remember, solicitors, are strangers. Use the same caution that you would use with any other stranger at your door.

Special Thank You Edition 2022

The Fircrest Police Department would like to thank the following people and businesses for their generous donation of time, talents and treasures. All their efforts make our City a safer and more enjoyable place to live.

Adam Nichols	Classic Coffee	Gary and Sheryl Mims	Judy Schmidtke
Adee Celis	Classy Chassis	Greg Bergstrom	Kapowsin Air Sports
Ahnalyse Glenn-Leufroy	Corey Moore	Harbor Greens	Kerry & Joann Holmgren
Aimee & Matt Brown	Costless Pharmacy	Hemley's Septic Service	Kevin Gollinger (Police Officer)
Alyssa Cheesman	Crime Stoppers	Home Depot	Kevin & Annette Hansen
Alyssa Johnson	Crystal Judson Foundation	Hunter George (Council Member)	Killian Larson (Police Officer)
American Medical Response	Curtis Senior High School ROTC	Isiah Glenn-Leufroy	Larry Lowery
Anchor Church	Dana Cheesman	Jackson Byrd	Lauren Berg
Army Career Center	David Viafore (Council Member)	Jacob Johnson	Liberty Towing
Battle Field Addiction	Defy Tacoma	Jadon & Selayna Rudolph	Lisa O'Day
Bliss Small Batch Creamery	Derek Stansbury	Jalayah Glenn-Leufroy	Lorrie Solara
Bob Deal	Dick & Sandi Trask	Jasiah Glenn-Leufroy	Luke Glenn-Leufroy
Bodhi Johnson	Dominic Byrd	Jeff Johnson (Police Officer)	Lynn Elliott
Bonnie Viafore	Don & Donna Perry	Jeffrey Johnson	Mackenzie Sellas
Boss Mama's Kitchen	Eduardo Garcia (Police Officer)	Jeffrey Meek	Magic in the PNW
Brett Wittner (Mayor)	Entertainment Masters	Jeffrey Ries (Chaplain)	Marcus Johnson
Bryce Wakefield	Espresso Yourself	Jim Andrews (Council Member)	Martin Chick
Buffalo Soldiers of Seattle 10th	Fairweather Lodge #82	Jim Marzano	Michaele & Lonny Arneson
CAV D Troop	Fiat-Dodge-Nissan of Tacoma	Joe Barrentine (Mayor Pro Tempore)	Natalie Olivarez
Caleb Johnson	Fircrest Golf Club	Joe Darminio	New Tacoma Cemetery
Carnival Time	Fircrest Kiwanis	John Cheesman (Police Chief)	Nikki Bufford (Council Member)
Cascade Regional Blood Mobile	Fircrest Parks & Recreation	John Roberts (Police Detective)	Odyssey 1
Chick-Fil-A	Foundation	John Truong	P.J., Stella, and Sam Pedroni
Chris Roberts (Police Officer)	Fircrest Public Works	John Villamor (Police Sgt.)	PAVE
Chuck Bayha	Fircrest Towing		Pierce County Department of
Citizens Climate Lobby	Frank, Carol, & Amy Blair		Emergency Management

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Special Thank You Edition 2022—Police Continued

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Pierce County Department of Emergency Management	Sammy's Pizza	Stella Johnson	Washington State Department of Labor & Industries
Pierce County Human Services	Sarah & David Rockefeller	Sunset Bible Church	Washington State Department of Transportation
Pierce County Sheriff's Department	Selena Byrd	Systems for Public Safety	Washington State Liquor and Cannabis Board
Pierce County K-9 Unit	Shannon Reynolds (Council Member)	Tacoma Fire Department	Washington State Patrol
Point Defiance Pirates	Sherry Maenhout	Tacoma Rainiers	Westside Disposal
Redeemer Church	Shogun	TAPCO Credit Union	Yolanda Brooks
Rhonda Edenholtz	Skateworld	The Floatation Device	Youth for Christ
Richard Trask Photography	Smith Brothers	Union 17 Quartet	Zach Howard
Round Table Pizza	South Sound 911	UP Auto Service	Zachary Smalls
Safe Streets	Spring Lake Café	Victor Celis (Police Sgt.)	
	Starbucks (Center Street)	Washington State Boat Safety	

Fircrest Parks and Recreation Upcoming Events

The Parks & Recreation Department is entering our first fall in the new Roy H. Murphy Community Center. The recreation staff has planned a full schedule of events and programs for the whole community. We encourage you to check out our Parks & Recreation web page for up-to-date information. <https://www.cityoffircrest.net/government/parks-and-recreation/>

Program Highlights:

Tot Story Time takes place on Tuesdays at 10:30 am just prior to the new and improved Toddler Gym. Thank you to the Fircrest Kiwanis Club for generously donating \$500 towards the purchase of new toddler toys.



Senior Mornings Program: Thanks to a generous donation from the Edwards Family Foundation we are offering our Senior Mornings program in the

Community Center Gathering Room from 8:30-10:30 am Mondays, Wednesdays, and Fridays. Come gather with your fellow 65+ community members to enjoy locally sourced freshly brewed coffee, doughnuts and the daily newspaper. We hope to see you soon!

Explore Sports After School: Our after-school offerings include our Explore Sports After School Program. This program is led by our in-house recreation staff and will offer youth ages 7-14 the opportunity to learn and play sports like ping pong, pickleball, dodgeball, capture the flag, and kickball.

Events:

- The Haunted Trails** is scheduled for October 20th from 6:30—8:30 pm.



- Scarecrows of Fircrest** display contest begins on October 1. Scarecrows will be on display throughout town starting mid-October through October 31.



- FIRfest** The Parks and Recreation Department's second annual FIRfest event will take place on Saturday, November 5th. This event is in cooperation with the Tacoma Tree Foundation, Pierce County Parks and the Pierce Conservation District and will feature educational booths and free trees to those who sign up. During this event, we will be planting a ceremonial tree in honor of Washington State Arbor Day as we work towards the goal of earning Tree City USA recognition.



City Hall 253-564-8901 | Municipal Court 253-564-8922 | Public Works 253-564-8900 | Pool 253-327-1213
Community Center 253-564-8177 | Non-Emergency Police 253-565-1198 | 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

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Special Thank You Edition 2022

We are so thankful for our amazing Parks & Rec Event Volunteers! They showed up in a BIG WAY to bring all the Fircrest FUN to our community! It takes a lot of dedicated volunteers to pull together so many FUN events AND we have a FANTASTIC Team of volunteers to make it happen! Please join me in thanking our 2022 Volunteers!!!

Alex Moss	Espresso Yourself	Julie Roberts	Pierce Conservation District
Alison Mayer	Evergreen Home Loans	Karen Gower	Pierce County Parks
Amber and Fiona Kropelnicki	Fircrest Children's Dentistry	Karlen Stonefeld	Rachel Bracali
Amy Rider	Fircrest Golf Club	Katie Allen	Renee Lacy
Andy Ayton	Fircrest Jewelers	Ken Schmidtke	Richard and Sandi Trask
Annabelle Dickson	Fircrest Parks & Recreation	Kiwanis Club of Fircrest	Rick and Sue Little
Anne Jones	Foundation	Laney Alexander	Riley Doerge
Anthony and Christina Chelf	Fircrest Presbyterian Church	Leslie and Mark Fleming	Rowen and London Hollensbe
Bass Pro Shops	Fircrest Towing	Life Christian Academy Cheer	Scott Clemons
Becky Scott	Floor Guys	Life Christian Academy Drum	Selayna Rudolf
Belinda Paterno	Foss Key Club	Line	Senator T'wina Nobles
Berkshire Hathaway Home Services	Gary and Shirla Mims	Lindsay Smith	Shannen and Trinity Clothier
Bliss Creamery	Glenn Johnson	Lowell Wyse	Shirley Schultz
Bonnie Viafore	Gretchen Cooper	Luke Viafore	Silas High School Jr Marine
Brendan Kellogg	Griot's Garage	Lynn Brehm	Corps ROTC Color Guard
Brooke Dawson	Gwen O'Brien	Lynne Dickson	Staley Bufford
Bryce Kalland	Harborstone Credit Union	Magic in the PNW	Star and Justin Roffe
Carla Santelli	Heather Smith	Mark Hendrickson	Sterino Farms
Celeste Ayton	Innovative Fitness	Maren & Jerry Dunlap	Sue and Steve Schoettler
Cheryl Burlingame	Jadon Rudolph	Martin Christoffel	Tacoma Rainiers
Chick-fil-A	Jackie Seyler	Mary Ellen Atkinson	Tanya Sisk
Choppers Holistic Pet Food	Jake Sawaya	Mary Ruth Pape	Taylor Jones
Chuck Bayha	James Moore	Megan and Kris Ryan	The Crest Home
Classy Chassis	Janeice Dunlap	Melissa Scheer	The Curious Bear
Clover Park Kiwanis	Janelle and Ell McDonald	Michael and Fai Schoettler	Tim Atkinson
Colleen Corcoran	Jason, Sophie, Lauren and Jakob	Mimi's Tea	Tom, Valerie and Eliza Chontoflasky
Commencement Bank	Stonefeld	Mosaic Real Estate	University Place Refuse & Recycling
Cooper Fielding	Jennifer Arnold	Mud Bay	UP Best Pet Grooming
Corie Slaker	Jesse Restuccio	Mykel Sadewasser	Veliz Financial Management
Courtney Johnson	Jessica Colito	Narianna Silva	WeDIG Fircrest Community
Cutters Point Coffee	Jessica Stone	Nikki Bufford	Garden
Deanna Nuttbrock-Allen	Jill, Charlie, Zach and Annie Jordan	Noelle Craft	Wendy Biggerstaff
Don Grover	JoAnn Holmgren	Nurture Therapy Services	Wet Nose, Dry Paws
Donna O'Connor	Joe Sowa	NW Carriers	Whalley Law
Dorothy Cottrill	Joe Veliz	Optimum Physical Therapy	Yolanda Brooks
Eamon Barry-Ware	John and Carisa Lewis	Pam and Fred Fay	
Elisabeth Albers	John and Tricia Sullivan	Paper Luxe	
Emilie Ayton	Judy Duneheuw Todd	Patti Betzendorfer	
Ernie Oliver	Julie Carnahan	Pediatrics NW	
		Phil O'Brien	

Civil Service Commissioner Vacancy

Interested in contributing your time and experience as a member of the Fircrest Civil Service Commission?

The Fircrest City Manager is looking to fill one position on the Civil Service Commission.

The Civil Service Commission is created to oversee the selection, appointment, and employment processes of police in the City. The Civil Service Commission consists of three members and is appointed by the City Manager to serve 6-year terms. The Civil Service Commission meets on the first Monday of the month at 4 pm at City Hall. Please see City website for more information.

Join us! City Council Meetings are held the 2nd & 4th Tuesday's of the month at 7:00 pm, Council Study Sessions are the 3rd Monday of the month at 6:00 pm, & Planning Commission Meetings are the 1st Tuesday of the month at 6:00 pm.