Where do your local tax dollars go?

The City of Lakewood strives to deliver the highest level of service possible within its capabilities. On occasion, we hear some of our citizens indicate a desire for increased levels of service in such diverse areas as street sweeping, police patrols, or code enforcement. Many citizens feel they are paying high taxes and, understandably, want a commensurate level of service. What may not be well understood is the actual percentage of local taxes earmarked for running the City. Many citizens are surprised when they learn that only 13 percent of all sales tax collected in Lakewood is allocated to city government.

Cities also have the primary responsibility to cultivate economic development and this requires everything from investing in roads, sewers, sidewalks, and parks to recruiting and retaining businesses. Despite these investments, the State ends up as the major beneficiary of economic development as measured by sales tax revenue. Lakewood receives an even smaller percentage of your property tax bill – 9 cents for every tax dollar you pay. The “dollar bill” charts on the right identify where many of your taxes end up.

The “pie chart” (left) reveals the various sources of the City’s general funds. For some context, the “other” category (29 percent) consists mostly of grants for infrastructure improvements (roads, parks, etc.) and is generally earmarked for specific capital improvements.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Source</th>
<th>Percentage</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Fees &amp; Fines</td>
<td>10.1%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Gambling Tax</td>
<td>6.2%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Utility Tax</td>
<td>13.6%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Property Tax</td>
<td>14.9%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sales Tax</td>
<td>26.1%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Other</td>
<td>29.1%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

The public is encouraged to attend. Please visit pages 6-7 to see photos of 4-2’s fallen warriors.
City Council Highlights

The Lakewood City Council meets every Monday, except on federal holidays when meetings are generally postponed a day, and on fifth Mondays of the month. Your City Council took action on a variety of issues over the last two months. The Council wants to hear from you. Please email your thoughts to council@cityoflakewood.us or leave a message at 589-2489.

APRIL

• Appointed Bradford MacGowan and Darrell Nelson to serve on the Landmarks and Heritage Advisory Board through December 2, 2010.
• Authorized a lease agreement with Panasonic Finance Solutions for police laptops.
• Extended the city manager’s contract after a positive evaluation of his performance.
• Approved the final plat map for the Rivendale subdivision to subdivide a 4.74-acre parcel located at the 8800-8900 block of 104th Street SW into 20 single-family lots.
• Amended the fee schedule to establish a collection fee for checks returned for non-sufficient funds.
• Approved interim zoning controls upon eating and drinking establishments within certain zoning districts for six months.

MAY

• Approved a roadway design configuration for improvements on Pacific Highway South from Bridgeport Way to Gravely Lake Drive (3 lanes from 5).
• Authorized a $134,219 agreement with KPG for construction engineering services on Pacific Highway South from 108th Street SW to State Route 512.
• Awarded a $2,231,879 contract to R.W. Scott Construction Company, for construction improvements on Pacific Highway South from 108th Street SW to State Route 512.
• Authorized continuation of a $138,000 agreement with Stewart Beall MacNichols and Harmell, Inc., P.S. for public defender services through December 31, 2010.
• Adopted the Draft FY 2008 and Amendments to the FY 2004 and FY 2005 Consolidated Plans and the proposed use of Community Development Block Grant and HOME Investment Partnership Act funds.
• Awarded a $573,960 contract with SECO, LLC to remove, replace, and retrofit 124 obsolete stormwater drywells throughout Lakewood.
• Appointed JJ (Ui K.) Kim, Linn Larsen and Cheri Loiland to serve on the Redevelopment Advisory Board through May 23, 2011.

Continued from cover

Despite the seemingly modest pay-off in sales tax, economic development remains the best tool for Lakewood to improve its tax base. Improving the conditions for business development along Pacific Highway and other strategically critical areas is central to Lakewood’s long-term health. As regional interest in Lakewood continues to grow, business opportunities will expand and the City will be better situated to deliver more services to citizens. We are still far behind neighboring cities in terms of property and sales tax collection on a per capita basis, but we are working hard to close the gap.
Building Trust In Government, One “Class” At A Time

In early June, we watched the fifth class of “Lakewood University” graduate, receiving both a diploma and an official T-shirt in recognition of the two evenings the class spent learning about their city government. This year’s class brings the total to about 175 graduates over the last three years.

One “student” citizen wrote me a very nice thank-you letter, stating that “you and your staff made me feel like I was important, being a Lakewood property owner and taxpayer.” Helga Miller’s words are very much appreciated, and she is very right in recognizing that all Lakewood citizens are stakeholders in this government. We do best when we share information about its structure, challenges, and opportunities in making Lakewood the best place it can be.

The purpose of the Lakewood University program is to provide a basic overview to our citizens about Lakewood city government, and its “partner” governmental entities – Lakewood Fire District, Lakewood Water District, Clover Park School District, and Pierce County. The introductory class, “Local Government 101”, includes a structural outline of the relationship between the City and these other public entities, since we’re all in the business of providing services to Lakewood customers and citizens. The “class schedule” includes sessions on Public Works (both Transportation and Stormwater), Human Services, Parks & Recreation, Community Development, and the Municipal Court. The session on budget offers a summary of where tax dollars come from and where they’re spent; and the class on economic development provides a preview of up-and-coming projects around the City and the tremendous potential of Lakewood’s economy. The police department presents its goals and challenges, and a review of our neighborhood policing program, which is evolving into “Community-based Governmental Services,” reminding citizens of the importance of getting involved in solving community problems.

Lakewood University also provides a great opportunity for managers and senior staff members to reflect on the important work they do, present to interested “student” citizens, and answer questions. I’m very impressed with the enthusiasm the staff has brought to the program, helping us meet our overall goal to provide meaningful information to our citizen stakeholders and to build understanding and trust in government.

Continued from page 2

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Continued from page 2

thanked by many for your generosity in taking the time in a most personal way to say that you cared, that they mattered to you, and that you appreciated them. When the call went out you all answered, as you so often do. We not only gave to the soldiers, we also gave to their families. It was our arms around their family members.

Mrs. Mackie, the mother I mentioned, also said, “Thank you for giving these soldiers such a warm welcome with needed items. It will certainly help ease their return to their ‘home’ away from home.”
The Lakewood Arts Commission featured an art exhibition at the recent International Festival held at the Sharon McGavick Student Learning Center at Clover Park Technical College. In front of the exhibit, Lakewood resident, Sachiko Roden, shares a smile with Lakewood Mayor Doug Richardson.

The Northwest Korean Culture Foundation recently sponsored an Art Exhibition as part of their ongoing 2008 Friendship Festival. The Art Exhibition was held at the Sharon McGavick Student Learning Center at Clover Park Technical College. Pictured above is Kyong Suk An (L) of the Lakewood Arts Commission and visiting artist Go Ok Ja of Seoul, Korea with her award winning “Spring Comes” painting.

Lakewood artist Nicholas Nyland proudly displays his papier-mâché creation titled “Mother” as part of the Lakewood Arts Commission exhibit at Lakewold Gardens annual Mayfest event.

Ed Chaffee holds the “Winds and Leaves” maquette at Lakewold Gardens. He is joined by Lakewood artist Pat Graham, Carbonado’s “Funky Gardener” Pat Eitner, and other local artists Marjorie Mankin, Pamela Roebuck, Mary Griffith and Arts Commission chairperson Phil Raschke.
spotlight on development...

"Oak Grove" development proceeding

The vacant land surrounding the intersection of Steilacoom Blvd. SW and Lakewood Dr. SW is part of the old Flett Dairy, which also contains a considerable band of wetlands and protected Garry Oak trees. Passers-by are about to see some changes on the largest remaining undeveloped portion of this land, at the northeast corner of the intersection.

About nine acres of this fifteen-acre tract will be developed as contemporary apartments, with the remaining six acres dedicated to preservation of the oak trees located there. The majority of the trees within the site (over 350 trees) will be preserved with the development, including a heritage oak tree. The wetlands further to the north and open space located to the east of the project site are owned by Clover Park Technical College and are used for environmental study.

The boundary of the development will jog around the trees to better preserve the grove patterns. This preservation ensures the land will retain its unique character and beauty for generations to come. It will very likely enhance the long term value of the development as well. In a worst-case scenario, the site could have been developed as a commercial strip under the old Pierce County zoning.

Long used for illegal dumping, the site was temporarily fenced in the past year to deter homeless encampments and off-road vehicles. The property has historic distinction as well, being the former site of the Byrd School which was the first school north of the Columbia River, dating back to the mid-1800s. The new development is expected to include a street name honoring the school, which burned down in 1885, and was replaced by a larger school in Lakeview.

Drywell Replacement Project

Work has begun on replacing approximately 120 obsolete stormwater drywells throughout the City. Construction includes removing and replacing older-style drywells with a newer two-stage system, which removes more pollutants from stormwater runoff before it enters groundwater under the city. The City awarded a contract to SECO, LLC, of Olympia for approximately $574,000 to complete this work.
photos of the fallen...
photos of the fallen...
Message from the Executive Director, Eric Renz

It was an exciting year to work with Lakewood's Promise (LP). The community as a whole and the service providers partnered with the schools and each other to get more of Lakewood involved in the success of our young people.

In February, 2007, the City of Lakewood and Clover Park Schools joined their energy to host the Lakewood Summit: Our Families, Our Community, Our Future. With a keynote by Dr. Rebera Foston and contributions by local leaders and youth musicians, it was an inspiring day. The summit focused on gang issues and early education, with study sessions and a resource fair of family and youth resources in Lakewood.

In November, Dr. Bill Cosby presented a Community Call-Out, meeting with children and families at the Milgard Family HOPE Center and Community Leaders at the Milgard Student Center at Clover Park Technical College. Hundreds of children, parents and service providers heard Dr Cosby's call to move from victims to victors through self-responsibility and family collaboration. Lakewood's Promise followed up on 207 response cards asking for and offering help with family and youth resources.

LP, working with the Community Collaboration, continues learning and focused service in a coordinated, effective fashion. Lakewood was recognized by America's Promise for the third time as one of America's 100 Best Communities for Young People for all of its ongoing community efforts to support our youth.

What Is Lakewood's Promise

Lakewood's Promise (LP) works for better outcomes for the youth of Lakewood. The movement started in 1997 after America's Promise was formed.

LP is a mobilizer, a connector, and a systems-builder - not a program provider. We currently have over 120 partners, including Institutions of Promise, Schools of Promise, Faith Community Partners and community/service organizations. There are over 275 individuals representing numerous agencies affiliated with the Lakewood Promise movement by supporting and/or delivering the five promises or attending monthly collaboration meetings. Thousands of people who live and work in Lakewood serve youth through our partners. LP puts them all in focus and on the map and serves as the network that connects them all.

Executive Board for 2007
(term expired members not serving in 2008)

Mike Block, vice president, Columbia Bank
Cameron Boyd, student, Lakes High School
Alice Bush, general services director, City of Lakewood
Al Cohen, superintendent, Clover Park School District
David Flentge, CEO, Community Health Care
Andrea Gernon, co-chair, Lakewood Community Collaboration
Carole Jacobs, director, Clover Park School District
Michele Johnson, chancellor, Pierce College
Ria Johnson, student, Youth Representative
Joseph Lehman, parish administrator, St. Francis Cabrini Catholic Church
Doris McEwen Harris, superintendent (term expired), Clover Park School District
Helen Myrick, executive director (term expired), Greater Pierce County Community Network
Carol Owens, coordinator, Governor's Council on Drug Abuse
Neel Parikh, CEO, Pierce County Library System
Tony Robinson, vice president, Clover Park Technical College
Debbi Saint, regional manager, Franciscan Health Systems
Larry Saunders, Chief (term expired), Lakewood Police Department
Claudia Thomas, mayor/councilmember, City of Lakewood
Dick Towell, CEO (term expired), Greater Lakes Mental Healthcare
Fred Willis, treasurer (term expired), Clover Park Foundation

The Mission of Lakewood's Promise

The mission of the Lakewood’s Promise Executive Board is to build partnerships that will provide the youth of Lakewood with opportunities to access these five promises:

Caring Adults
Safe Places
Healthy Start
Effective Education
Opportunities to Help Others
2007 Budget
- $56,000 including personnel and operations

Development of Lakewood’s Promise:
- Recruited new business and community partners to help sustain the movement
- Additional youth, faith community and health representatives on the Executive Board

Community Success in 2007
- Lakewood recognized a THIRD time as one of the 100 Best Communities for Youth by America’s Promise
- Held a very successful Lakewood’s Community Summit in February
- Youth involvement in Lakewood’s first Habitat for Humanity home
- Bill Cosby Call Out gathered Lakewood youth, families and providers for a rally

From the Lakewood’s Promise Community Report Card
- 4th graders improved their reading achievement by 25% from 2000 to 2005
- At all grades, tested students surpassed the state’s reading targets in 2005
- Graduation rate: improved from 63% in 2003 to 71% in 2007
- Extended Graduation rate: improved from 59% in 2003 to 79% in 2007
- School Expulsion Rate: improved from 47 in 2004-2005 to 6 in 2006-2007

Resource Partners
- City of Lakewood, Clover Park School District, Pierce College, Clover Park Technical College
- Businesses, including Puget Sound Energy, St. Joseph – Franciscan Health Care, Columbia State Bank, Harbortone Credit Union, Mountain View Funeral Home, Rainier Pacific Bank, Northwest Commercial Bank
- Greater Tacoma Community Foundation, Greater Pierce County Community Network
- Lakewood First Lions Club, Clover Park Rotary, Rotary Club of Lakewood, Lakewood Knights Lions Club, Clover Park Kiwanis Club and many individuals
- 100% of the Lakewood’s Promise Executive Board made financial contributions

The Plan
- The 2007 focus was Promise 4, an EFFECTIVE EDUCATION leading to marketable skills, addressed in collaboration with Clover Park Schools, all of our partners and the people of Lakewood

Further Information
- Eric Renz, director, 253-302-1698 or visit www.lakewoodspromise.org
Lakewood Steps Up to Support the Troops

Lakewood Wal-Mart presents a $5000 check to the “Dragoon Raider Soldier and Family Fund” for 4-2 Stryker Brigade Combat Team (SBCT) care packages. Dozens of citizens and businesses stepped up to the challenge of preparing 2000 care packages for unaccompanied Soldiers of the 4-2 SBCT. Councilmember Helen McGovern provided leadership on behalf of the City to bring it all together (see page 2 article). (L-R: Councilmember Helen McGovern, store manager Ernest Nieto, brigade representative Stacey Lehr, and Wal-Mart employee/Army veteran Albaaqee Imani.)

Shelbie Davis and Mary Spaulding from Olympia’s Girl Scout Troop 41085 delivered $250 worth of movie tickets to City Hall for Soldier care packages.

Mayor Doug Richardson served as MC for the “Army Community Covenant Signing” in Lakewood on May 2nd. Other community leaders, ranging from local mayors to Lieutenant Governor Brad Owen and Congressman Adam Smith participated in the covenant signing with Fort Lewis commander Lt. Gen. Charles Jacoby and other active, reserve, and National Guard leaders.

Councilmember Claudia Thomas was recognized by the Boys and Girls Club of South Puget Sound for her exceptional leadership in working with and advocating for youth. Stan Naccarato presents the 2008 Community Service Award at the Tacoma Dome Exhibition Center on June 17th.

* lower two photos provided by Ed Kane, Freelance Graphics
human services and public safety...

Human Services
“needs assessment”
- take the survey!

Annually, the City of Lakewood provides funding for human services programs that benefit Lakewood residents. In 2008, the City is supporting after-school programs, child immunizations, a kid’s bookmobile, mentoring programs, primary medical care for low income residents, and basic emergency services, among others.

The Human Services Funding Advisory Board (HSFAB) of Lakewood residents, is conducting the human services needs assessment. The Board advises the City Council on human service priorities and recommend programs for funding. We want to know what you think about human service needs in Lakewood. What are the human services needs of you, your family, or friend? What services do you think the City should support?

Please take a few minutes and answer a brief web-based survey to give us your input. The information you provide is valuable to the City and may shape future human services programs funded. To thank you for participating, and if you provide your email address, you will be entered into a random drawing for a gift certificate. You are not required to provide an email address. Email addresses provided will be used solely for notifying the winner and will not be shared for commercial purposes. Visit www.cityoflakewood.us to take the survey or call 253-589-2489.

National Night Out 2008

Lakewood will be participating in the 25th annual National Night Out Against Crime (NNO) event on the afternoon/evening of Tuesday, August 5. NNO is designed to heighten crime prevention awareness, generate support for and participation in crime prevention, strengthen neighborhood and police/community partnerships, and send a message to criminals letting them know neighborhoods are organized and fighting back against crime.

This year’s theme is “Keeping Kids Safe,” and will focus on positive activities which will increase success in school and life for youth, and decrease their risk of becoming the victim or perpetrator of a crime.

Lakewood Police and Fire, along with City leadership and special guests will visit events registered with the police. Events can be anything which brings neighbors together – such as an ice cream social, potluck, cook-out, games, contests, or parades.

To register your event, or for more information, contact Sgt. John Unfred at 830-5000.

- Annoyed at that booming car radio next to you? You can report traffic-related noise violators through the Traffic Hotline at 253-830-5072.

- Why are police officers used during road construction and why do I see them at movie theaters? Police officers have arrest authority and are trained to intervene and resolve public safety problems. On road projects, they have the authority to stop motorists, issue citations, prevent accidents, and so forth. The contractor is required to pay for the officers’ time. Occasionally, private businesses such as bars and movie theaters will hire off-duty police officers to intervene with gang activity, prevent fights, and maintain public order.

- When citizens see an unattended and injured animal, they should call 911 so animal control officers can assess the situation and take appropriate action. If you are an owner of a licensed cat or dog, please consider micro-chipping your pet (a cost of about $15). This chip gives our officers the ability to rapidly identify owners during emergency situations.

- Doing a garage sale this summer? Don’t forget to get a permit from the City and please don’t forget to take your signs down when you are done. A neglected garage sale sign soon becomes litter that someone else must pick up.

In early June, about 15 volunteers showed up in the drizzle for Lakewood’s participation in the county-wide Safe Streets Paint Over Graffiti event. Community Service Officers Dawn McGinnis and Melissa Wagner helped organize the event, which was entirely planned by Lakewood Police, but coincided with the Safe Streets event. Most of the volunteers were high school students who spent about three hours painting out several areas of graffiti on the back of businesses in the Lakeview area.

LAKEWOOD
connections
july/august 2008
## ADVISORY BOARDS & COMMITTEE MEETING SCHEDULE

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>BOARD/COMMITTEE</th>
<th>MEETING DAYS OF EACH MONTH</th>
<th>TIME</th>
<th>LOCATION AND/OR CONFERENCE ROOM</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Citizens’ Transportation Advisory Committee</td>
<td>4th Tuesday (or more frequently)</td>
<td>4:30 p.m.</td>
<td>First Floor – 1E</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Civil Service Commission</td>
<td>1st Thursday</td>
<td>4:00 p.m.</td>
<td>Third Floor – 3A</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) Citizens Advisory Board</td>
<td>Only meets as needed</td>
<td></td>
<td>Monitor our weekly meeting schedule or call for specific meeting dates</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Human Services Funding Advisory Board</td>
<td>Only meets as needed</td>
<td></td>
<td>Monitor our weekly meeting schedule or call for specific meeting dates</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lakewood Arts Commission</td>
<td>1st Monday</td>
<td>4:30 p.m.</td>
<td>Third Floor – 3A</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lakewood Community Collaboration</td>
<td>2nd Wednesday (No July or August meetings)</td>
<td>9:30 a.m.</td>
<td>City Hall Council Chambers</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lakewood Sister Cities Association</td>
<td>3rd Thursday</td>
<td>5:30 p.m.</td>
<td>First Floor – 1E</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Landmarks &amp; Heritage Advisory Board</td>
<td>4th Thursday</td>
<td>6:00 p.m.</td>
<td>Third Floor – 3A</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lodging Tax Advisory Committee</td>
<td>Only meets as needed</td>
<td></td>
<td>Monitor our weekly meeting schedule or call for specific meeting dates</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Parks &amp; Recreation Advisory Board</td>
<td>4th Tuesday</td>
<td>5:30 p.m.</td>
<td>First Floor – 1D (next to chambers)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Planning Advisory Board</td>
<td>1st and 3rd Wednesdays (or more frequently)</td>
<td>6:30 p.m.</td>
<td>City Hall Council Chambers</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Public Safety Advisory Committee</td>
<td>1st Wednesday</td>
<td>5:15 p.m.</td>
<td>Police Station 5504 112th St. SW, Lakewood, WA</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Redevelopment Advisory Board</td>
<td>2nd Tuesday</td>
<td>7:00 a.m.</td>
<td>First Floor – 1E</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Youth Council</td>
<td>1st and 3rd Mondays</td>
<td>6:00 p.m.</td>
<td>1st – City Hall Third Floor – 3A 3rd – Clover Park School District Student Services Center 10903 Gravelly Lake Dr. SW</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

## CITY OF LAKEWOOD

- Municipal Court: 512-2258
- Noise Complaints: 798-4721
- Parks & Recreation: 589-2489
- Potholes: 983-7795
- Police Department – Main Desk: 830-5000
- Non-emergency only: 798-4721
- Drug Tip Hotline: 830-5049
- Sex Offender Info: 830-5095
- Public Works Department: 983-7795
- Senior Activity Center: 798-4090
- Street Light Outages: 983-7795
- Traffic Complaints: 830-5072
- Traffic Incidents: 512-2258
- Vehicle Licensing: 588-7786
- Zoning: 512-2261

### OTHER PHONE NUMBERS

- **In an Emergency, call 911 for Police, Fire and Paramedics.**
  - Burn Ban: 1-800-595-4341
  - Cable TV (Comcast): 1-877-824-2288
  - Clover Park School District: 583-5000
  - Domestic Violence Helpline: 798-4166 or 1-800-764-2420
  - Earthquake/Floods: 798-7470
  - Electric Companies – Lakeview Light: 584-6060
  - Puget Sound Energy: 1-888-225-5773
  - Gas Leaks: 1-888-225-5773
  - Humane Society: 383-2733
  - Lakewood Chamber: 582-9400

- Lakeview Light: 584-6060
- Qwest Communications: 1-800-244-1111
- Safe Streets: 584-0211
- Pierce County Sewer: 565-3440
- Qwest Communications: 1-800-244-1111
- Safe Streets: 584-0211
- Utilities: 383-2733
- Tillicum Library: 588-1014

Every effort has been made to ensure the accuracy of this information, however please confirm events with sponsors. Occasionally, City board and committee meetings are cancelled or rescheduled. Please call City Hall to verify. Additional meeting information is located on the City's website.