

# Auburn

MAGAZINE

WINTER 2020

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Its Past

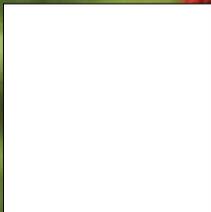
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## Did you know?

All cats and dogs residing in the city limits of Auburn require a pet license.

# Every day pets are lost.

Licensing your pet provides yet another layer of protection in the event that they go missing.

License your pet today!  
[auburnvalleyhs.org](http://auburnvalleyhs.org)



4910 A St SE  
(253) 249-7849  
[auburnvalleyhs.org](http://auburnvalleyhs.org)

CITY OF  
**AUBURN**  
WASHINGTON  
[auburnwa.gov/pets](http://auburnwa.gov/pets)

### AVOID THE FINE!

Failure to license your pet per Auburn City Code 6.04.010 will result in a fine of \$50

# HAPPY BIRTHDAY

*Beethoven*

## Auburn Symphony Orchestra

Sunday, Feb. 16 | 2:30 pm  
Auburn Performing Arts Center

Sam Almaguer, Clarinet  
Wesley Schulz, Conductor

[auburnsymphony.org](http://auburnsymphony.org)  
253-887-7777

# Auburn MAGAZINE

WINTER 2020

*Auburn Magazine is a quarterly publication produced by the City of Auburn*

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Are you ready for winter driving? See what the Public Works Department does to keep our city safe for travel, page 19

## City of Auburn DIRECTORY

### Address

Unless otherwise noted, departments are located at City Hall, 25 W Main Street

### CITY OFFICES

#### City Attorney

253-931-3030

#### City Clerk

253-931-3039

#### Community Development

1 E Main St, 2nd floor  
253-931-3090

#### Emergency Management

1 E Main St, 3rd floor  
253-876-1925

#### Engineering Services

1 E Main St, 2nd floor  
253-931-3010

#### Finance

1 E Main St, 2nd floor  
253-931-3033

#### Human Resources/ Risk Management

253-931-3040

#### Innovation & Technology

1 E Main St, 3rd floor  
253-804-5078

#### Maintenance & Operations

1305 C St SW  
253-931-3048

### Mayor's Office

(Mayor, City Council and Administration)  
253-931-3041

### Parks, Arts & Recreation

910 9th St SE  
253-931-3043

### Police

340 E Main St, Suite 201  
253-931-3080

Call 911 in case of emergency

Non-emergency:  
253-288-2121

### Public Works

1 E Main St, 2nd floor  
253-931-3090

### Records Clerk

253-931-3007

### Solid Waste/Recycling Customer Service

1 E Main St, 2nd floor  
253-931-3047

### Utilities (Billing)

1 E Main St, 2nd floor  
253-931-3038

### OTHER NUMBERS

#### Auburn Golf Course

29630 Green River Rd SE  
253-833-2350  
[auburngolf.org](http://auburngolf.org)

#### Auburn Municipal Airport

(Dick Scobee Field)  
400 23rd St NE  
253-333-6821

### King County District Court—South Division

340 E Main St  
800-325-6165 ext. 59200

### Mountain View Cemetery

2020 Mountain View Drive  
253-931-3028  
[mtviewcemeteryauburn.com](http://mtviewcemeteryauburn.com)

### Senior Activity Center

808 9th St SE  
253-931-3016

### Valley Regional Fire Authority

1101 D St NE (Headquarters)  
253-288-5800

Call 911 in case of emergency

[vrfa.org](http://vrfa.org)

### White River Valley Museum

918 H St SE  
253-288-7433  
[wrvmuseum.org](http://wrvmuseum.org)

### HOTLINES

#### Code Compliance

253-931-3020 opt. 4

#### Graffiti Hotline

253-931-3048 opt. 7

#### Pothole Patrol

253-931-3048 opt. 1

#### Spills and Water Pollution

253-931-3048 opt. 8

## Auburn Mayor & City Council



Nancy Backus  
Mayor  
[nbackus@auburnwa.gov](mailto:nbackus@auburnwa.gov)  
253-931-3041



Claude DaCorsi  
Deputy Mayor  
[cdacorsi@auburnwa.gov](mailto:cdacorsi@auburnwa.gov)



Bob Baggett  
Councilmember  
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Larry Brown  
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James Jeyaraj  
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Robyn Mulenga  
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Chris Stearns  
Councilmember  
[cstearns@auburnwa.gov](mailto:cstearns@auburnwa.gov)



Yolanda  
Trout-Manuel  
Councilmember  
[ytrout@auburnwa.gov](mailto:ytrout@auburnwa.gov)

### Official City Council MEETING SCHEDULE

**City Council Meetings** are held on the 1st and 3rd Monday of each month at 7:00pm

**Council Study Sessions** are held on the 2nd and 4th Monday each month at 5:30pm.

Meetings are held at Auburn City Hall located at 25 W Main Street and open to the public or can be viewed live at [auburnwa.gov/gatv](http://auburnwa.gov/gatv).

# FROM THE MAYOR

*Happy New Year, Auburn!*

Another holiday season has drawn to an end and we find ourselves, once again, at the starting gates of a fresh new year.

2020 marks a significant time for our city and nation as a whole. Beginning in March, the United States Census Bureau will mail notifications to millions of homes beginning the process of the 2020 Census count. Unlike in years past, this census will be completed online – not only a sign of how significantly our world has changed toward digital in the past decade, but also a significant challenge in terms of ensuring that all of our residents continue to have a voice at the table.

Each resident in our community that is counted during the census brings around \$1,500 in to our community. In total, \$675 billion in federal funds will be given to local, state and tribal governments each year based on census data. Ensuring that we provide an accurate account of how many people live in Auburn is critical not only to help fund important programs for neighborhood improvements, transportation projects, education and public health, it helps our city to make planning decisions around community services and determines the distribution of Congressional seats in our state.

I cannot think of any greater way to make such a significant impact on our community in under five minutes. I hope you will join me in the coming months in encouraging your friends and family to participate. As we all acquaint ourselves with this new process, lend your help to those without internet service or to those who aren't as technologically familiar as yourself. Make a point of asking colleagues and neighbors if they have completed their survey.

Auburn is a historically undercounted city, with just over 75% of residents participating in the last census. Crews are working to canvas neighborhoods that are considered harder to reach, including areas with large immigrant populations and non-native speakers, but it will take us all, working together as a community with a common purpose, to ensure we are all counted.



**Nancy Backus**  
**Mayor of Auburn**  
nbackus@auburnwa.gov  
253-931-3041

United States  
**Census**  
**2020**

## *Thank you*

As we welcome three new councilmembers to City Hall, we wish a fond farewell and offer our sincere gratitude for the many years of public service given by our retiring councilmembers.



Councilmember  
John Holman  
2012-2019



Councilmember  
Largo Wales  
2012-2019

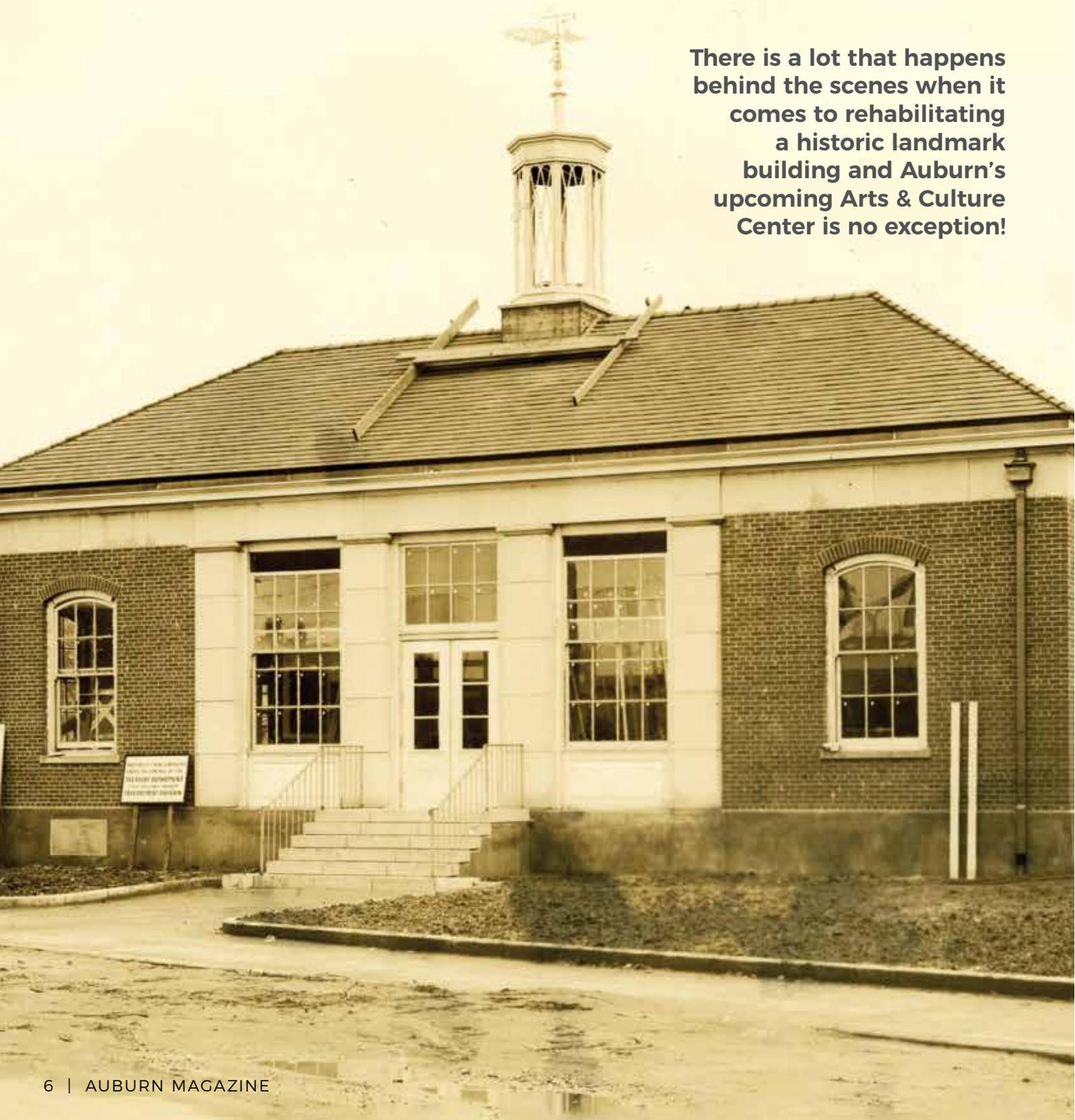


Deputy Mayor  
Bill Peloza  
2004-2019

# HISTORIC POST OFFICE UNCOVERS ITS PAST

and finds new life in transformation to  
**Arts & Culture Center**

There is a lot that happens behind the scenes when it comes to rehabilitating a historic landmark building and Auburn's upcoming Arts & Culture Center is no exception!



The historic Auburn Post Office was built in 1937 as a WPA project and is now a local landmark building listed on the National Register of Historic Places. Working to bring the building back to life for this new cultural space has been a labor of love.

From grant applications to historical research and Landmarks Commission proposals, Auburn's Parks, Arts & Recreation staff have been hard at work to make this dream a reality.

In 1964, King County Department of Public Health purchased the building from the U.S. Postal Service and extensively remodeled the interior for use as a health clinic, carving the once stately space into small exam rooms, hallways and records storage. In 2016, the City of Auburn

purchased the beautiful historic building that had been left vacant for years. Complying with the Secretary of the Interior's Standards for the Treatment of Historic Properties, the City has worked with the King County Landmarks Commission to receive approval and best practice recommendations for any proposed work to the exterior.

Interior demolition to remove changes made in the 1960s have led to some wonderful discoveries. Beautiful hardwood and terrazzo flooring were uncovered below layers of old carpet and laminate, original wood plank ceilings were discovered above the dilapidated drop-ceiling tiles, and the handsome marble wainscoting that lined the perimeter of the lobby remains mostly intact. The uniqueness of these original features are important to the building's history and character, and play an important role in the City's vision and Johnston Architect's designs for interior renovations. Arts staff have researched original building plans, similar structures built across the country, and historic accounts of the space in order to honor the past of the building while redefining it as a central hub for arts and culture in the community.

After years of hard work, interior designs are being fine-tuned and plans for construction are slated for the spring of 2020. Since 2015, City staff have applied for countless grants and explored funding sources for this major project, and has received a generous \$888,000 to date from these efforts. 4Culture, the arts and cultural funding agency for King County, has generously provided multiple grants from programs including: Building for Culture; Preservation Special Projects; Arts Facilities; Landmarks Capital; and Building for Equity Arts Facilities grants. MultiCare has also generously supported the project through its Community Partnership Fund. Additionally, direct appropriation of funds from the State of Washington Department of Commerce were awarded thanks to efforts by Representative Pat Sullivan, who championed the application. It is with immense thanks to these funders, and the unwavering support of the City of Auburn, that this vision for Auburn's Arts & Culture Center is coming to life!

It is amazing what can be accomplished with hard work and the support of the community. Deep gratitude is offered to all of the supporters and staff who have helped get the project to this point. Once Auburn's community can come together in this space to share, create and celebrate arts and culture, then the work will truly be complete. Until then, work continues toward that vision on the horizon of a historical Auburn treasure thriving as a place for arts and cultural vibrancy in Downtown Auburn!

## The WPA

The Works Progress Administration (WPA) was an

ambitious employment and infrastructure program created by President Roosevelt in 1935, during the bleakest years of the Great Depression. Over its eight years of existence, the WPA put roughly 8.5 million Americans to work. Perhaps best known for its public works projects, the WPA also sponsored projects in the arts – the agency employed tens of thousands of actors, musicians, writers and other artists.



BEFORE



AFTER



COVERED



DISCOVERED



DARK



NATURAL LIGHT



# Auburn City Council approves purchase of the Auburn Ave. Theater

## Popular and active theater will remain in the heart of Auburn's downtown

Built in 1926, the Auburn Avenue Theater was originally a bus depot, and has also been used as a movie theater and dinner theater. Since 2007, the City of Auburn's Parks, Arts and Recreation Department has managed and operated the Auburn Avenue Theater under a lease agreement with JB Douglas.

During that period, minor improvements have been made to the Theater building and programs have expanded to include full-scale community theater productions. These stage productions provide artistic opportunities for youth, teens and adults. In 2018, the City presented or produced a total of 68 performances at the 250-seat Auburn Ave. Theater, selling a total of 13,000 tickets. Performances included touring groups from across the northwest including music, dance, comedy, tribute shows, the AveKids series, and full-scale theater productions. The theater is also used for private rentals.

The Auburn City Council has reviewed options for the theater several times over the last few years that included considerations such as purchasing the theater, extending the lease or seeking another downtown site. At the Auburn City Council meeting on October 21, the Auburn City Council voted to authorize the purchase of the Auburn Ave Theater from

owner JB Douglas. The purchase, a total of \$650,000, is the appraised value of the property (\$570,000) plus one of the two years remaining on the lease, which was set to expire in 2021. The property acquisition will be completed by the end of December 2019.

"This acquisition ensures that youth and adults be able to both participate in live theater as well as enjoy community shows that spur activity in our downtown core," noted Auburn Parks, Arts & Recreation Director Daryl Faber. "In addition, staff will now be able to apply for grants to assist with Theater improvements, grants that were not possible without actually owning the building."

"The City of Auburn received \$500,000 in the 2020 State of Washington capital budget for improvements to the Arts & Culture building next door to the theater thanks to Representative Pat Sullivan's office," remarked Mayor Nancy Backus. "We can now work on seeking similar funding for the theater."

The acquisition will preserve arts and culture in downtown Auburn and will continue to contribute to downtown vitality and livability. The theater is an economic tool in bringing people from across the region to Auburn. Audience demographics show that 31% of the theater audience comes from Auburn, while 23% travel between 1-10 miles to get to Auburn, and the remaining 46% come from over 11 miles away.





### **The Douglas family legacy**

Formerly known as the Auburn Avenue Dinner Theater, the Douglas family spent many years and a great deal of money keeping the history and legacy of the Theater alive in downtown Auburn. One of the people that spent countless hours at the theater was Jillian Douglas, wife of JB Douglas. Although she had her own music career and the backing to tour in Nashville, she turned down a major record deal to stay in Auburn and be at the Theater. As a tribute to his wife, the purchase agreement includes naming the interior theater space the Jillian Douglas Auditorium. JB Douglas will pay for two interior plaques to be installed as patrons enter the theater from either side of the lobby.



### **The 2020 BRAVO Performing Arts season continues**

The City's annual BRAVO Performing Arts season continues at the Auburn Avenue Theater in 2020 with an incredible lineup of music, comedy, tribute shows, the AveKids series, and full-scale theater productions. Season spotlight performances include the urban "Stomp" style music and dance of Vocal Trash and the folk rock harmonies of the PaperDolls Band. Experience live musical theater with the Auburn Community Players productions of Matilda The Musical in March, and Big The Musical in June. Marvel at the charming youth productions of Disney's Aladdin Jr. in the spring and Disney's Frozen Jr. this summer. Take in a tribute to Rush with Anthem, enjoy the vocals of Cherry Cherry during the Neil Diamond Tribute, or croon over Patsy Cline music with Amanda Bacon. Bring the kids to catch adorable renditions of the classics like Little Red or fun magic and mayhem with Jeff Evans. With over 70 performances over the course of the year, there is exceptional entertainment to suit every taste at the Auburn Ave. Theater.



### **Interested in receiving up-to-date information, special deals and announcements about upcoming performances and other events?**

Sign up for the Auburn Arts & Events e-newsletter at [auburnwa.gov/arts](http://auburnwa.gov/arts) or become a Facebook fan of Auburn Arts and Events. You can also call 253-931-3043 on Monday-Friday, 6 AM to 9 PM or Saturday 8 AM to 4 PM.

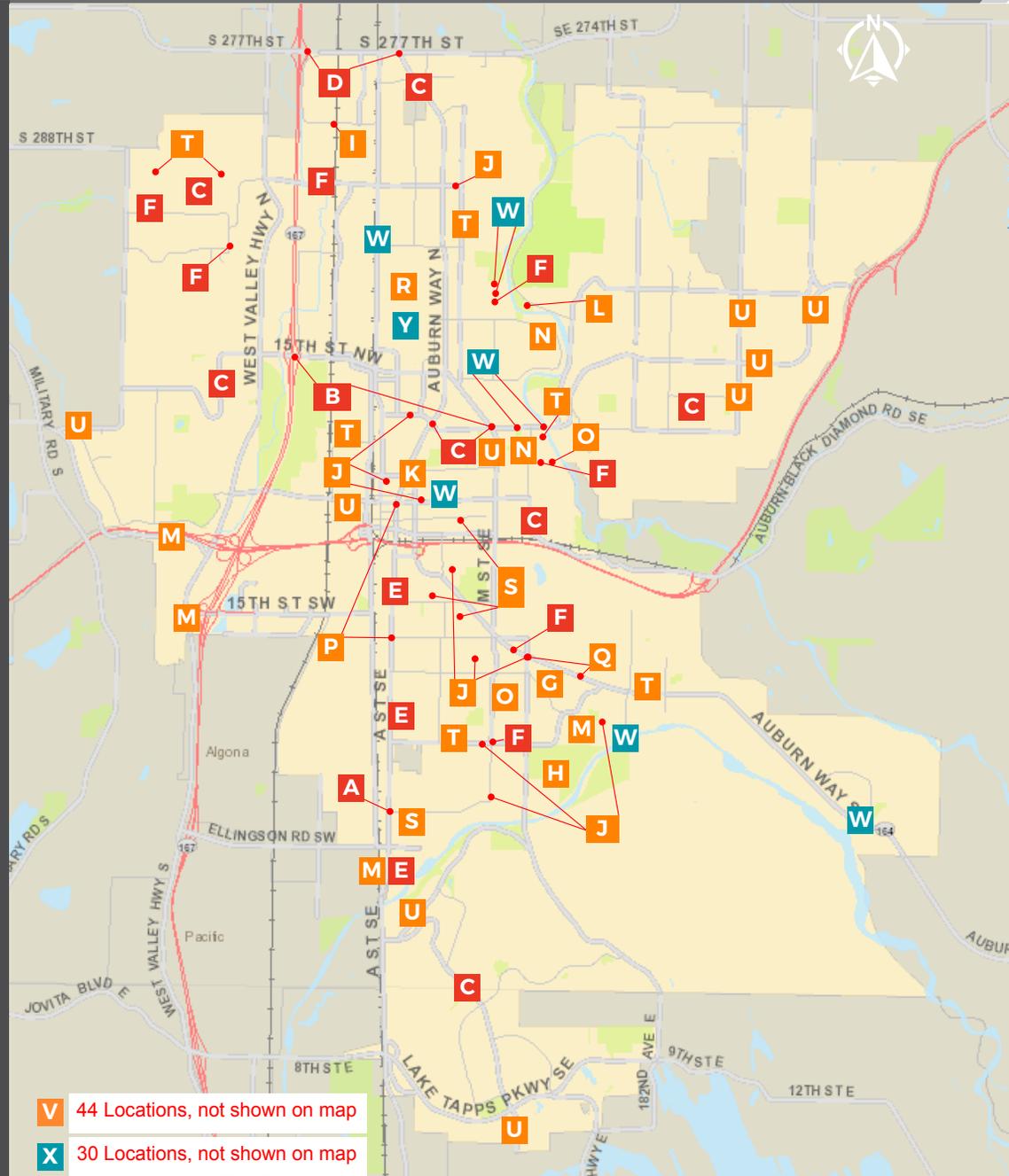


# Feature Capital Project

## Yearly Construction Wrap Up

The Public Works Department's Engineering Services Team was busy again in 2019 improving and maintaining City infrastructure with dozens of construction projects active across the city.

In addition to continuing construction on six significant projects from previous years, the team also requested bids for 19 significant projects during the year. The 25 total combined projects amounts to nearly \$26 million in capital construction costs! By funding source, the \$26 million is comprised of roughly \$8.4 million in grant funding, \$8.5 million in City street and mitigation fees funding, \$5 million in City water utility funding, \$1.5 million in City sanitary sewer utility funding, \$2.2 million in City storm drainage utility funding, \$250k in airport funding, and \$100k in City facilities funding. This significant investment is helping to reduce congestion and improve the safety of your roadways for pedestrians, cyclists, and motorists and is also helping alleviate flooding issues and improving the City's water and sewer facilities.



Auburn Map: Letters shown on map correspond to the project list in the table

## By the numbers, improvements include:

- Preservation or reconstruction of nearly 30 lanes miles of new pavement
- Replacing over 4,400 linear feet of new water main
- Replacing nearly 7,600 linear feet of new storm drain pipe
- Replacing over 3,450 linear feet of new sanitary sewer pipe
- Installing one new full traffic signal system
- Installing various other traffic signal improvements, including flashing yellow arrow signals and additional signal heads
- Installing two rectangular rapid flashing beacon (RRFB) pedestrian crossings
- Installing over 6,200 linear feet of new or replacement sidewalks and upgrading numerous curb ramps to meet Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) requirements

### Projects that began construction in previous years, but continued construction into 2019

	Begin Date	End Date	Total Costs
<b>A CP1502 37th St. SE and A St. SE Traffic Signal</b> The project improved safety at the intersection of A St. SE and 37th St. SE by installing a new traffic signal.	Nov-17	Jun-19	\$780,000
<b>B CP1521 15th St NE/NW Preservation Project</b> The project rehabilitated and preserved the existing pavement in the 15th St. NE/NW and Harvey Rd. SE corridor between SR-167 and 8th St. NE and upgraded pedestrian facilities to meet ADA standards.	Jun-18	Sep-19	\$2,910,000
<b>C CP1725 2018 Citywide Pavement Patching and Overlay Project</b> - The project completed pavement preservation for arterial, collector and local streets by completing pavement patching or grind and overlay treatments at seven different locations throughout the city.	Jul-18	Nov-19	\$2,500,000
<b>D CP1718 S 277th St Preservation</b> - The project rehabilitated and preserved the existing pavement on S 277th St. between SR-167 and Auburn Way North and upgraded pedestrian facilities to meet ADA standards.	Aug-18	Aug-19	\$985,000
<b>E CP1707 A St SE Corridor Signal Safety &amp; Operations Improvements</b> - The project completed traffic signal safety improvements along A St. SE from 3rd St. SE to the East Valley Hwy. access road.	Sep-18	Mar-19	\$383,000
<b>F CP1825 2018 Re-channelization of Multiple Sites</b> - The project re-channelized multiple locations throughout the city to improve traffic safety operations.	Oct-18	Jun-19	\$116,000

### Projects that began construction in 2019

	Begin Date	End Date	Total Costs
<b>G CP1709 Reservoir 1 Seismic Control Valve</b> - The project installed a seismic control valve at the City's largest water reservoir, Reservoir 1, to improve safety operations at the site.	Dec-19	Aug-19	\$541,000
<b>H MS1814 Game Farm Park Building Demolition</b> - The project demolished an existing building at Game Farm Park to make way for future improvements at the site.	Jan-19	Mar-19	\$100,000
<b>I CP1824 44th St NW and Interurban Trail RRFB</b> - The project constructed a rectangular rapid flashing beacon (RRFB) at the crossing of the Interurban Trail and 44th St. NW.	Jan-19	Feb-19	\$31,000
<b>J CP1815 2019 2018 Citywide ADA and Sidewalk Improvements</b> - The project repaired damaged sidewalk and installed or replaced curb ramps at various locations throughout the city.	Apr-19	Nov-19	\$538,000
<b>K CP1804 Auburn Way North Sidewalks</b> - The project is constructing missing sections of sidewalk, constructing ADA improvements, constructing a rectangular rapid flashing beacon (RRFB) on Auburn Ave. just south of 5th St. NE, and installing LED lighting along Auburn Way North.	Apr-19	4th Q 2019	\$485,000
<b>L CP1802 Green River Pump Station Emergency Power</b> - The project is providing backup power using the existing engine generator at Well #5B, constructing a generator building, installing a fuel tank to supply fuel to the engine generator, modifying existing electrical systems to accommodate the new generator and installing stormwater management facilities for new and existing storm runoff.	May-19	1st Q 2020	\$1,154,000
<b>M CP1829 2019 Arterial Patch and Overlay</b> - The project is grinding and overlaying 1.75 lane-miles of major arterial roadways and patching pavement on 0.62 miles of arterial roadways, installing traffic signal detection equipment and upgrading three curb ramps to meet ADA requirements.	Jun-19	4th Q 2019	\$1,009,000
<b>N CP1719 Sewer Pump Station Telemetry</b> - The project is adding telemetry and SCADA capabilities to the 22nd St. NE and R St. NE sewer pump stations.	Jun-19	4th Q 2019	\$411,000
<b>O CP1726 2019 Local Streets Pavement Reconstruction</b> - The project is reconstructing selected streets that are in very poor condition, as well as improving utilities, and rebuilding curb ramps to meet ADA standards.	Jul-19	2nd Q 2020	\$3,720,000

(CONTINUED ON PAGE 12)

<b>P CP1819 A St SE Preservation</b> - The project is rehabilitating and preserving the existing pavement on A St. SE between East Main S. and 17th St. SE by grinding and overlaying the pavement and performing pavement patching. The project will restore 4.77 lane miles of pavement and upgrade pedestrian signal infrastructure, including approximately 42 curb ramps to meet ADA standard. Utility work includes upgrading storm drainage and sanitary sewer manholes and catch basin frames and grates to current city standards and replacing approximately 1,000 feet of water main.	Jul-19	1st Q 2020	\$2,662,000
<b>Q CP1705 Auburn Way S Sidewalk Improvements</b> - The project consists of constructing a sidewalk on the north side of Auburn Way S from approximately 17th Str. SE to Muckleshoot Plaza, completing the sidewalk gap that currently exists through this stretch of the Auburn Way S corridor.	Aug-19	4th Q 2019	\$760,000
<b>R MS1821 Airport Tree Removal</b> - The project cut and trimmed trees and shrubs that were considered obstructions to the airport runway.	Aug-19	Aug-19	\$33,000
<b>S CP1805 2019 Sewer Repair and Replacement</b> - The project is reconstructing approximately 3,450 linear feet of 8-inch diameter sanitary sewer pipe at four different project sites utilizing the ultraviolet (UV)-cured cured-in-place pipe (CIPP) method.	Aug-19	4th Q 2019	\$930,000
<b>T CP1823 2018 Storm Repair and Replacement</b> - The project is replacing aging storm infrastructure and addressing surface water runoff concerns. Improvements include the installation of 12 new catch basins, three new overflow risers, approximately 730 ft. of new storm drain, one new stormwater treatment structure, nine stormwater treatment structure retrofits, and one infiltration gallery.	Aug-19	2nd Q 2020	\$796,000
<b>U CP1930 2019 Arterial Crack Seal</b> - The project applied crack seal to various arterial and collector streets throughout the city to prolong the existing pavement.	Sep-19	Oct-19	\$91,000
<b>V CP1913 Sewer Ring and Cover Replacement</b> - The project is replacing 44 failing sewer manhole rings and covers at various locations throughout the city with new material conforming to current standards.	Sep-19	4th Q 2019	\$147,000

### Projects that advertised for bids in 2019, but construction won't take place until 2020

	Begin Date	End Date	Total Costs
<b>W CP1807 Water Meter Vaults and Lids</b> - The project will replace eight large water meter vaults and one large water meter lid at various locations.	Feb-20	3rd Quarter 2020	\$1,154,000
<b>X CP1917 Deduct Meters</b> - The project is part of a phased approach to replace the 184 remaining deduct meters in the city. This project will replace 30 of the meters, including required piping and restoration.	Feb-20	3rd Quarter 2020	\$478,000
<b>Y CP1516 Auburn Municipal Airport Runway Enhancements</b> - The project will improve aircraft safety and accommodate the current and forecasted fleet of multi-engineer piston aircraft for both takeoff and accelerated-stop distances by providing additional runway length.	Apr-20	3rd Quarter 2020	\$3,316,000

## What other projects can we expect to see begin construction in 2020? Some of the significant upcoming construction projects include:

**CP1416 F St SE Non-Motorized Improvements Project** – The project will reconstruct F St. SE from 4th St. SE to Auburn Way S, including new sidewalks, curbs and gutters, bike improvements, street lighting, streetscape improvements, and sections of water, storm drainage, and sanitary sewer improvements.

**CP1903 Auburn Way N Preservation Phase 2** – The project will grind and overlay Auburn Way N from 8th St. NE to 22nd St. NE, including upgrading curb ramps to meet ADA requirements.

**CP1904 Auburn Way N Preservation Phase 3** – The project will grind and overlay Auburn Way N from 4th St. SE to 8th St. NE, including upgrading curb ramps to meet ADA requirements.

**CP1926 2020 Arterial Preservation Project** – This project will grind and overlay 15th St. NW from West Valley Highway to SR-167, including street lighting and water line improvements.

**CP1929 Lea Hill AC Main Replacement Project** – This project will replace approximately 5,700 linear feet of existing asbestos cement (AC) water main with new ductile iron water mains.

### For more information

For more information about any of these projects, please contact Ryan Vondrak P.E., Capital & Construction Engineering Manager at 253-931-3086 or via email at [rvondrak@auburnwa.gov](mailto:rvondrak@auburnwa.gov).



White River Valley Museum is open Wednesday through Sunday 12-4 PM and the first Thursday of each month 6-8 PM

**ADMISSION**

Admission is \$2 for children 18 and under and seniors 60 and over, \$5 for adults, kids 2 and under admitted for free.

Museum members are always admitted for free. First Thursdays and third Sundays are free for everyone!

*Fun for adults too!*



# Explore the History Kids Clubhouse at White River Valley Museum

**The Clubhouse is Open Through June 14th**

Is winter giving your kids cabin fever? Get them out of the your house and into the Clubhouse! This new exhibit at the White River Valley Museum is perfect for kids ages 4-12.

**What all can you do in the Clubhouse?**

- Join the little ones under a quilt fort to listen to stories and oral histories on audio wands or pick out a book to read aloud.
- Pull up a seat, put on some gloves, and use clues to identify real artifacts.
- Learn about Native American culture by using a drop spindle to turn goat's wool into yarn.
- Grab a seat on a giant braided rug and try historic settler and Native American games and even take one home.
- Try on some historic clothing and strike a pose!

It takes most families between 30 minutes and an hour to complete all of the activities in the Clubhouse. Families can extend their trip by visiting the Museum's permanent exhibits which include LOTS of hands on fun for kids like: a settler's cabin to explore, a schoolhouse to play in, mystery boxes and smell games, special play tents just for the little ones , and a caboose the whole family can climb aboard.

**Even MORE Fun during Auburn School District winter break!**

**February 19-24, 12-4pm each day**

Stop by the Museum during winter break to visit the Clubhouse and enjoy pop-up story times, crafts, scavenger hunts, and Museum fun.

Visit the Museum's website, [wrvmuseum.org](http://wrvmuseum.org) for a full listing of upcoming events or follow them on Facebook (@wrvmuseum) to always be in the know.

**White River Valley Museum**  
 918 H St SE  
 Auburn, WA 98002  
 253-288-7433  
[wrvmuseum.org](http://wrvmuseum.org)



# PARKING IN AUBURN

We've all been there. You're in the car with your wife, husband or bestie cruising the streets looking for a parking spot. They say you can park there. You say, umm, no. If we park there, the mailperson won't deliver the mail and if we block the fire hydrant we could get a ticket for blocking access during an emergency.

It is always a good idea to refresh our knowledge about parking.

We become comfortable and confident drivers and sometimes forget the particulars we learned in driver's education as well as the specific parking rules within our City.

## Large vehicles and trailers

Parking large trucks (16,000 pounds or more) within the right-of-way is not allowed except at certain locations with a valid City truck parking permit. These locations have signs indicating "Commercial Parking by Permit Only." For more information, visit [auburnwa.gov/trucks](http://auburnwa.gov/trucks).

## Need assistance?

Many residents inquire about what to do if they think a vehicle is not parked according to City code or in an unsafe manor. If the vehicle is on a public street, Parking Enforcement is a great place to start. They can be reached via the non-emergency dispatch line at 253-288-2121.

## Time restrictions

Except recreational vehicles and parking areas with specific posted time limits, the maximum time limit that any vehicle is allowed to park in the street is 72 consecutive hours. This is to accommodate people who choose not to drive their vehicle on a daily basis, and helps encourage non-motorized and transit trips. In addition, it is unlawful to chain park, which is when a vehicle is moved and re-parked within one block of the original parking space to avoid the parking time limit. Recreational vehicles or unattached trailers cannot be located in the public right of way on any residential street for more than 24 hours.

## Parking prohibited



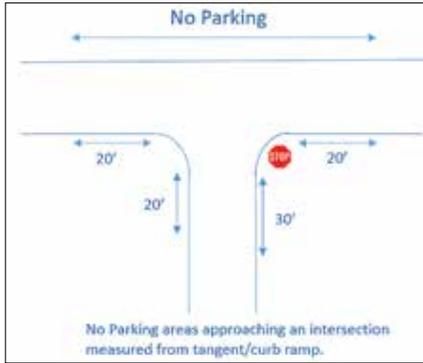
Parking is always prohibited adjacent to this sign or adjacent to a curb painted yellow.



Parking is also always prohibited in between these signs.

**The absence of “no parking” signs or painted curbs does not mean it is ok to park. Auburn City Code (ACC) 10.36 explains restrictions, regulations and penalties when it comes to parking in the City of Auburn.**

It is important to provide adequate visibility at intersections to allow drivers and pedestrians to see and be seen, and to provide adequate space for large vehicles to turn. To help with this, parking is prohibited close to intersections. These restrictions apply to all intersections including those with stoplights, stop signs, yield signs, ones that are uncontrolled, and roundabouts.



To provide adequate visibility and avoid conflicts with parked cars, parking is prohibited in front of any driveway or within five feet of the edge of the wing of the driveway.



To allow for pedestrian safety, parking is prohibited on a sidewalk, pedestrian path, or landscape strip except for a few specific locations where parking within a landscape strip is allowed by code when certain criteria is met.



To provide visibility for pedestrians in crosswalks, parking is not permitted on a crosswalk or within 20 feet of a crosswalk, whether the crosswalk is marked or unmarked (all intersections are legal crosswalks regardless of whether or not they are painted unless specifically signed otherwise.)



To provide safety for bicyclists and motorists, parking is prohibited within a marked bicycle lane, within a travel lane, or on any bridge, overpass, underpass, trestle, or approaches to these structures.

For public safety and visibility, parking is prohibited within 30 feet of a railroad crossing.



To provide access to emergency services, parking is prohibited in front of, or within, 15 feet of a fire hydrant and in front of, or within, a fire or emergency service access, an area signed for other safety purposes, or within a designated fire lane.



To ensure access for the Post Office to deliver your mail, parking is prohibited in front of mailboxes at all times and within 15 feet of mailboxes between the hours of 8 AM and 6:30 PM, Monday through Saturday.



*It should also be noted that, except in an emergency, the maintenance or repair of vehicles on a public street is prohibited.*



# Our roads, our lifeblood.

The City of Auburn has over 245 miles of paved streets that connect us with our family, friends, businesses, schools and jobs. Our city streets are the lifeblood of our community and must be preserved and maintained to allow the City of Auburn to continue to grow and thrive. Managed by the City's Public Works Department, the City's pavement preservation programs are responsible for the preservation and replacement of roadways throughout the city.

The City manages pavement infrastructure through two separate programs, the Arterial and Collector Streets Preservation Program and the Local Streets Preservation Program. Streets are classified by the volumes of traffic they carry and their intended uses and generally fall into one of three categories:

## Arterial Streets

Major streets intended to support a large amount of traffic traveling to neighboring cities, highways and across our own city.

## Collector Streets

Streets intended to support low to moderate amounts of traffic travelling between Local and Arterial streets.

## Local Streets

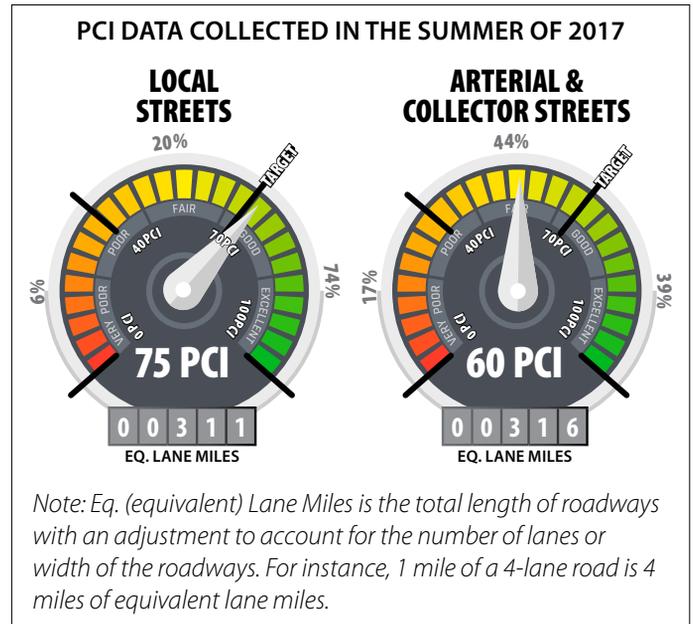
Minor streets intended to connect neighborhood traffic with local residences and businesses.

The condition of the City's roads is measured and tracked over time by a rating called the pavement condition index, or PCI. PCI is a numerical rating on a 0-100 scale, with 100 being brand new pavement and 0 being completely failed pavement. PCI is based on the amount of visible cracking, rutting, potholes and roughness of a roadway.

The City's goal is to maintain the entire street network at an average PCI of 70 or greater. Roadways with PCI from 100 to 70 are generally considered to be in good condition and can be maintained with minor preservation work such as crack sealing, minor patching and thin overlays. Roadways with PCI from 70 to 40 PCI are considered to be in fair condition and require more expensive preservation activities such as extensive patching and thick overlays. Generally, once the PCI of a roadway has dropped below 40, a very costly (up to five times the cost) full rebuild of the pavement section is needed. These streets have fallen into such disrepair that preservation treatments are no longer an option and City maintenance and operations teams must constantly fill potholes to keep the roads as safe and passable as possible until funding is discovered to reconstruct them. The most cost-effective way to realize the longest pavement life possible of a roadway is to keep its pavement at 70 PCI or above. This can be achieved by designing pavement sections with enough strength to stand up to the type of traffic they carry, providing adequate roadway drainage, and by completing regular pavement preservation activities.

PCI data was most recently collected in the summer of 2019 but at the time of publication was not available to be included in this article. The "speedometer" like figures shown here summarize the PCI data collected in the summer of 2017.

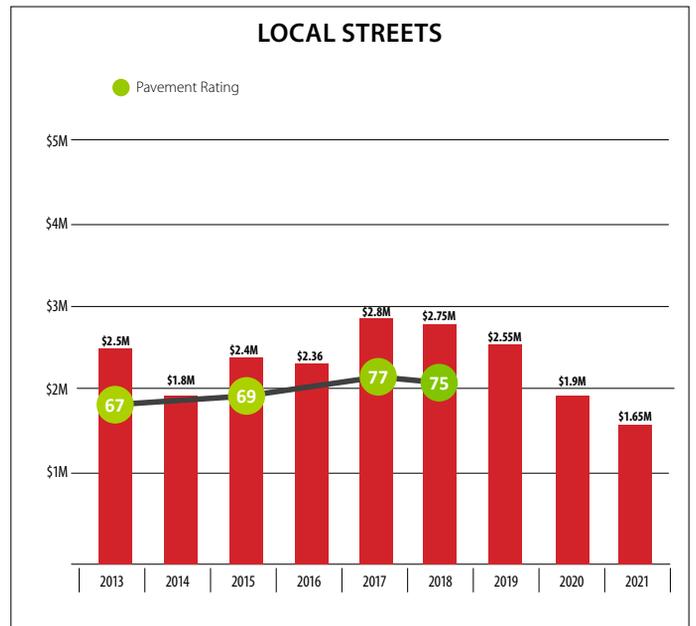
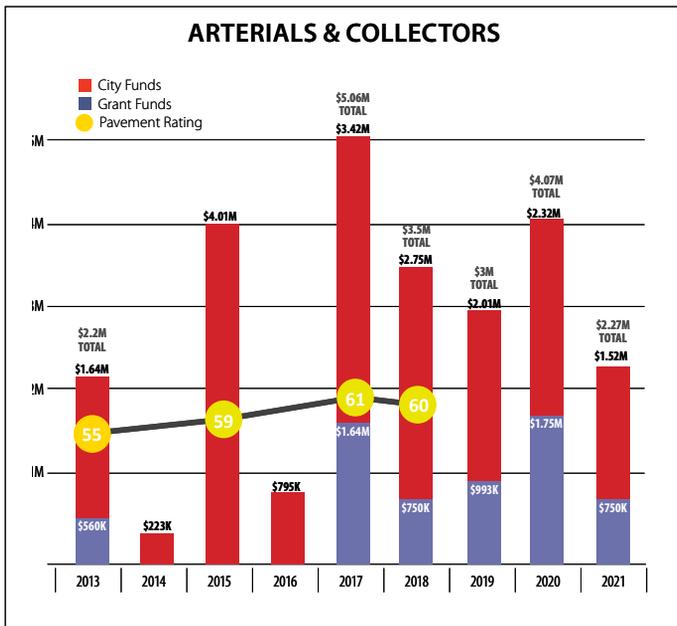
The PCI speedometers show that local streets have an average PCI of 75, well above the 70 PCI target, while the arterial and collector streets have an average PCI of 60, well below the 70 PCI target. But the overall PCI averages don't tell the entire story. Along the outside of the speedometers there are percentages that show how many of the roads are in poor, fair, and good condition. For instance, 6% of local streets are in poor condition, 20% are in fair condition and 74% are in good condition. This means that even though the overall average PCI for local roads has met the target, there are still several miles of local streets that require a full rebuild and even more that will



be approaching a full-build soon if they are not treated with patching or an overlay. The issue is even worse for arterial and collector roads of which 17% are in poor condition and 44% are in fair condition. In other words, over 50% of arterial and collector streets (nearly 80 miles) are in need of a full rebuild or treatment to prevent the need for a full rebuild in the near future. The question we face is how to fund the reconstruction of roadways that require full rebuild while also funding the preservation activities that are needed to keep more roads from deteriorating to the point where they must also be replaced.

## Funding Matters

When discussing how to fund roadway improvements, street classification is important because the available sources of funding are different based on the classification. State and federal grant programs can typically only be utilized for arterial roads. Another source of funds for these types of roads is the City's Arterial and Collector Preservation Program, which has been funded since 2008 by a 1% tax on City and non-City utility bills. (continued on page 18)



Since 2013, funding for arterial and collector street preservation averaged about \$2.8 million per year, with about \$700k per year from state and federal grants, and \$2.1 million per year from the 1% utility tax. At this funding level, the overall pavement condition index (PCI) has increased from 55 in 2013 to 60 in 2018. Computer simulations to model future pavement conditions and maintenance activities predict that arterial and collector streets would require annual funding of \$7 million per year for the City to reach and sustain the 70 PCI target over a 10-year period.

In 2004, the citizens of Auburn voted to establish a funding program for local streets called the Save Our Streets (SOS) program. The original SOS funding measure allowed the City's property tax levy to generate revenue solely used to fund the preservation and reconstruction of local streets. At the end of 2012, the practice of funding the SOS Program from property taxes ended. In 2013, the city council allocated the sales tax from construction projects within the city to be dedicated to the SOS Program. Since 2013, funding for the local streets preservation program has averaged about \$2.3 million due to the significant amount of construction activity within the Auburn during this period. At this funding level, the overall PCI has increased from 67 in 2013 to 75 in 2018. For 2019 and 2020, the funding approach was once again modified to fund the local streets preservation program with real estate excise tax, or REET, in place of the sales tax from construction. Unfortunately, REET funds are a limited source of revenue and funding of the local street preservation program at \$1.65 million per year is not sustainable from this source.

## What's Next?

So how should the City fund the preservation and reconstruction of our streets? The answer to this question became more difficult with the passage of Initiative 976. Like many other cities, the City of Auburn has a Transportation Benefit District (TBD) that allows us to establish funding mechanisms for arterial and collector streets. One of these mechanisms is local car tab fees that could be established (with limitations) by the City Council or by a public vote. However, I-976 negates this option as it restricts car tab fees from being set and collected by TBDs. Another TBD funding mechanism is the establishment of up to a 0.2% sales tax, with a citizen vote. This sales tax could generate significant funds for preservation and reconstruction of arterial and collector streets. The City Council has been cautious amidst the additional taxes and fees implemented with the Sound Transit 3 initiative in 2016, and unlike many other Cities, has not yet enacted any of the TBD funding mechanisms. In early 2020, discussions and preparations will begin for the City's 2021-2022 biennial budget during which street preservation and other funding programs will require careful consideration.

## City response to I-976

As of November 27, I-976 has been halted while the case for a permanent injunction is heard by the Supreme Court. If upheld, I-976 will impose limits on motor vehicle excise taxes and fees.

A yes vote supported the initiative to do the following:

- Limit annual license fees for vehicles weighing under 10,000 pounds at \$30 except voter-approved charges;
- Base vehicle taxes on the Kelley Blue Book value rather than 85% of the manufacturer's base suggested retail price; and
- Repeal authorization for certain regional transit authorities, such as Sound Transit, to impose motor vehicle excise taxes.

The City of Auburn's Transportation Benefit District has not enacted a car tab fee at this time. So, while the City of Auburn's transportation budget is not directly affected by I-976, there may be indirect effects that are yet to be determined.

The City of Auburn's transportation funding comes in part from grants, some of which are funded by the motor vehicle excise tax. The funds available for these grants may become more competitive than they already are, with less funds available for a growing need in all jurisdictions around the state.

City of Auburn staff are looking for alternative options to fund the needed local transportation improvements that may no longer be funded by grants based on motor vehicle excise taxes and fees.

# Public Works: Are you ready?

We all remember Snowmageddon  
in February 2019!

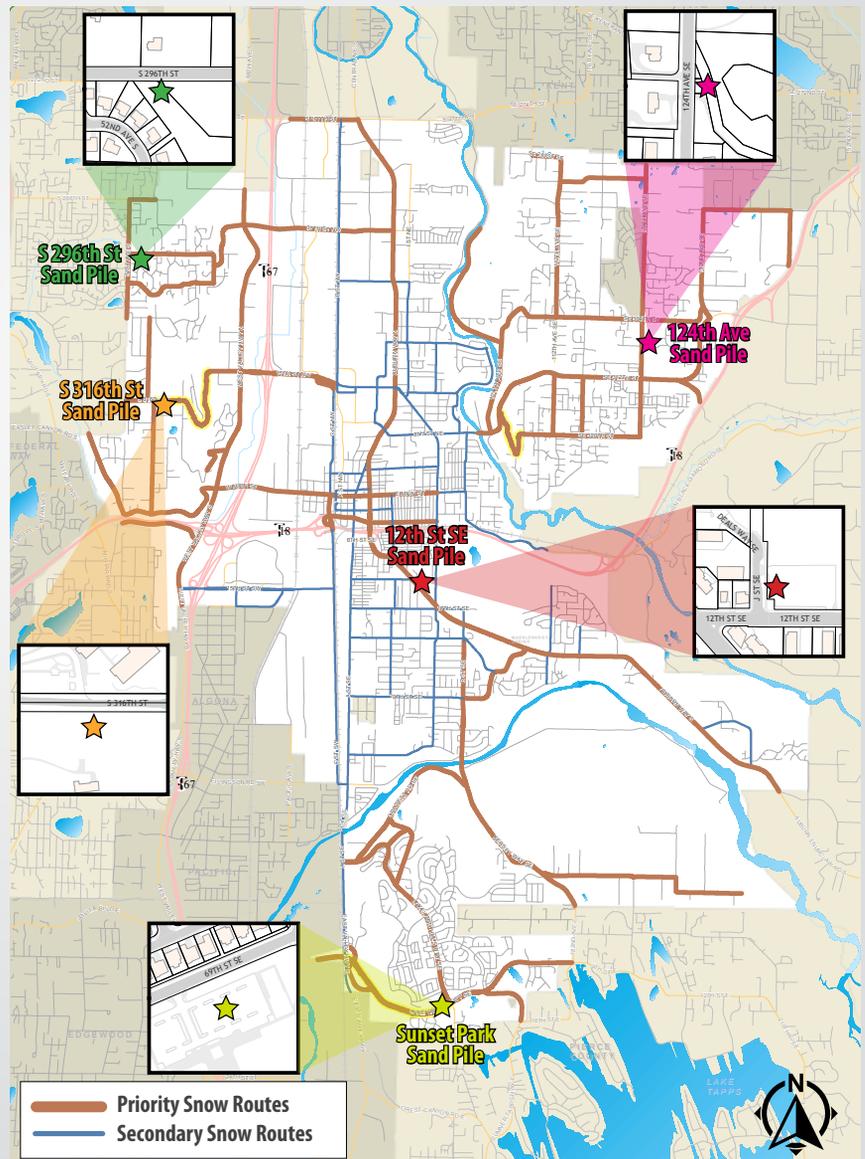
Whether it's constructing and maintaining our roads, sidewalks and bridges, or keeping the drinking water safe and the sewage flushing, the Public Works Department's job is to maintain the highest level of service for the programs that you rely on every day. Our mission is to make sure that you never have to think about what we do, because everything works the way it is supposed to.

As the first snow begins to fall, we watch with amazement as the large flakes peacefully blanket our yards. But once the fun wears off and we have to go to work or just to the store, reality sets in very quickly. Navigating the roads can become a challenge for all of us in these conditions, but luckily, your City of Auburn Maintenance and Operations (M&O) staff have already been hard at work for several days preparing equipment and material to be ready for these conditions. When a winter storm is predicted to hit our community, M&O staff goes into overdrive, working around the clock to keep our City functioning. Rather than waiting for bad weather to arrive, crews kick into actions days in advance, pretreating many of our roadways with sand or a de-icing agent to help slow ice from forming on the roads.

As the storm arrives, staff begin to plow and treat the streets according to priority. Most important are major routes throughout the city, allowing for emergency vehicles to move through the city to help those in need of assistance. Once these routes are cleared, the staff will move on to secondary routes, though many times during a typical 2-4 day snow event the weather changes to rain and melts the snow before we can complete the secondary routes.

You will see maintenance crews all over the City during a major storm event, as they are clear and treat roadways for all of us to travel. This means that crews may be working 24-hour shifts to keep Auburn moving, which means you may hear plow trucks in or near your neighborhood during the night.

We would enjoy nothing more than to clear and treat every street in the city, including all the residential streets, but the reality is that we don't have enough staff or equipment to be able to accomplish a task that large. In order to serve the greatest number of residents as quickly as possible, we've developed a plan to maximize our efficiency with the City of Auburn Snow and Ice Routes Map. This map shows at a glance what our priority and secondary routes are and where we will be focusing our resources. Once these routes are completely cleared and treated, we will then begin clearing the neighborhood collector streets (these are the roads that connect your neighborhood to the primary or secondary routes on the map) and only when these are completely cleared and treated will we move to the remainder of the neighborhood streets.



# It's a bird, it's a plane, it's a really big crane

## Big boom in downtown housing options changes the face of Main Street

In the last few months, you may have noticed an addition to our city skyline as a large crane has moved into downtown for the construction of a new mid-rise, mixed-use commercial structure. Located at 1st and Division streets, Auburn Town Center will soon bring 226 market-rate apartment units into the core of downtown, as well as nearly 2,000 square feet of ground-level commercial space.

Since a highly visible project such as this is bound to stir up conversation and generate questions, we wanted to take the opportunity to share more about this project and to give a bit of background on the decades-long vision for an enriched downtown that it is helping bring to fruition.

Prior to the redevelopment of this site, the casual observer may have considered this property to be underutilized for a site located in the heart of the downtown core. Historically, it was home to a variety of automotive businesses, as well as a single family residence, but that all changed in the early 2000s with the writing and adoption of the Downtown Plan, a strategic document that was developed thanks to the coordinated efforts of City staff, the Downtown Association, the Chamber of Commerce, members of the downtown community, and other governmental partner agencies.

The document was designed to serve as the guiding force for change in the look, feel and use of our downtown. It is an integrated vision for the heart of our city and is centered on a plan to strengthen the downtown image, community and economy by building on existing assets, facilitate catalyst projects in key locations, and construct high quality infrastructure.

Adopted in May 2001, the plan focuses on a strategy of solidifying investments in the core, then building outward. This allows investments to build upon one another in an effort to reap the maximum possible benefit from each other. Multiple underutilized properties and poorly maintained buildings create a downtown that lacks connectivity and can feel dark and isolated. The goal of the plan was the continued revitalization of downtown Auburn through a comprehensive approach in order to create a bustling environment that feels active, vibrant and safe—one that draws residents and visitors alike to it.

The preliminary ground work for redevelopment was laid back in 2011 with the Downtown Promenade Project, a project made possible with \$3 million in federal grant funding that



was used by the City to invest in the necessary infrastructure improvements that would appeal to future land developers and create the environment ripe for growth such as this.

The scope of the Promenade Project included many features that cannot be seen, such as the construction of new sewer lines, water mains, storm drainage improvements including a storm detention facility, and the undergrounding of the power facilities. Absent the public investment in these utility upgrades, redevelopment of several downtown city blocks would have been cost prohibitive to the private sector.

With this critical infrastructure already in place, land developers were able to focus their efforts and investment on the structures themselves.

Above ground, the project added visual appeal to the area with new improvements including refreshed lighting, trees, landscaping, sidewalks and curbside streets, as well as an arched "gateway" celebrating the entrance to Downtown, just to name a few.

That significant public investment nearly a decade ago is now reaching the next stage of fulfillment as we watch I-beams lifted into place for the new Auburn Town Center. The site will be the

second location that developers Teutsch Partners LLC and Pillar Properties have ventured in our downtown, following the opening of Merrill Gardens Senior Living in 2017, and will mark the completion of their plan for an intergenerational project that connects people of all ages in the heart of Auburn.

According to Jeff Tate, Director of Community Development, Teutsch Partners is a developer known for class-A, high quality development projects typically found in cities such as Seattle, Tacoma and Bellevue. Founded in 1987, they are a privately-owned commercial real estate development and investment company focused on the Pacific Northwest and are known for creating strong, positive working relationships with the communities in which they build. Likewise, Pillar Properties is a family-owned business with deep roots in the Puget Sound region and is known for the progressive apartment buildings that enrich the communities in which they develop.

The official kickoff of construction began on February 7 with a groundbreaking ceremony attended by City officials and staff. Once complete this apartment complex will significantly add to the housing stock available in Auburn, another major goal and objective identified in the Downtown Plan. It is also important to consider the secondary social profit that will be realized once this project is complete and the building is occupied. Auburn Town Center will provide additional



housing options to many who commute to the Seattle and Tacoma areas, given its close proximity to the transit station. This in turn will create higher demand for increased retail, restaurant and nightlife options for those residents who return home to Auburn after the work day is done.

The complex will offer a wide range of residential layouts ranging in size from a 485-square-foot studio apartment, a 620-square-foot alcove one bedroom unit, up to their two bedroom two bath apartments coming in at 1,170 square feet. There will also be several two-story, townhome style, “live-work” units available with ground floor access to Division Street. The intent of these units is to provide ground floor commercial space, with a living unit above—an ideal arrangement for an attorney, accountant or even an artist gallery. The building will also include amenities such as a rooftop terrace with views of Mount Rainier complete with barbecue grills, lounge-style seating, a fire pit, TVs and a club room. It will also include a mid-building outdoor courtyard with private patios, fire pit and water feature, as well as a gaming space, library, and business center for use by their residents and invited guests.

As the project evolves, you will see construction materials and design features that connect to the style of the existing streetscape. Built into the infrastructure will be a basalt column water feature, planting beds for landscaping and street trees, canopies, artistic metal screens, additional ground level seating options, and streetlights to enhance the pedestrian experience. The structure itself, and use of materials, will create a visibly appealing backdrop that increases connectivity to the rest of downtown. This will also include the addition of a doggy daycare with large picture windows that are sure to capture the interest of those passing by.

Given the building’s proximity to major amenities and services including City Hall, Auburn Medical Center, the transit center, restaurants, and businesses, one question we are frequently asked is how will the parking for this structure be addressed. Development Services Manager Jason Krum states, “The building itself will include a two-story parking facility that provides the capacity necessary to meet the needs of the building’s proposed uses, both residential and commercial,” meaning that parking for the building’s tenants, and some retail customers, will be contained within the structure, ensuring that street parking can remain open for other users.

Our new neighbors are already showing their intent to be good stewards of the identity and spirit of our community, says Tate. “The development team has designed and are building buildings here that have never been built elsewhere. They are taking an active role in helping to define what products or services are missing in downtown and being intentional about who they recruit to occupy the retail space. There has been a genuine and heartfelt sentiment expressed that they intend to create a building that becomes a community asset that helps define our downtown, not just a profit generator.” Given the scope of the project, and hearing concerns expressed by local businesses who feared they may be negatively impacted during construction, the developer agreed to advertise on their behalf. You will now see signs posted around the construction site promoting those businesses, notifying all who pass by the construction site that despite any temporary parking impacts, our local businesses are open and ready to serve you.



## For more information

To follow the progress of this project and learn more about the revitalization of downtown, visit our website: [auburnwa.gov/DUC](http://auburnwa.gov/DUC) under the heading Current Projects

# CODE COMPLIANCE CORNER

For more information, or to access all Auburn city codes and ordinances, please visit [auburnwa.gov/citycode](http://auburnwa.gov/citycode).



## Let it snow! Snow Removal from Sidewalks

**Now is the perfect time to stock up on your cold weather gear, get that snow shovel you've been meaning to buy and be ready BEFORE the storms hit.**

Here at the City of Auburn we believe it's important to increase the awareness of the various city codes and ordinances that set the minimum standards for our community and help keep the city running smoothly. Your code enforcement team is also committed to take the necessary steps to enforce those codes when properties fall below those minimum standards. With this in mind, it is important to be aware that there are additional responsibilities when it comes to those sidewalks.

Auburn City Code 12.12.232 speaks to the maintenance responsibility when it comes the presence of debris, moss, leaves, ice or snow on the sidewalks adjacent to your property. Countless residents, visitors and pets rely on our sidewalks as a primary means for getting from point A to point B. Whether heading next door to visit with a neighbor or travelling across town for groceries or medical appointments, poorly maintained sidewalks can create a slip or trip hazard for any user. Those same conditions can also become an insurmountable obstacle for individuals with mobility issues. If your sidewalks are in need of routine maintenance we ask you to please be a good neighbor. Inspect those sidewalks and ensure they are safe and user-friendly for all who visit or call Auburn home.



**Did you know? Per Auburn City Code 12.40 it is your responsibility to remove all ice and snow from the sidewalks abutting your property within 24 hours of a snow event?**

### City of Auburn Code Enforcement

From January 1 to December 18, 2019, Code Enforcement has worked tirelessly with landlords, homeowners, property management companies and businesses throughout the community and gained compliance on 1,053 cases. An additional 128 cases remain open and active.

For more information or to access to all Auburn city codes and ordinances, please visit our website: [auburnwa.gov/citycode](http://auburnwa.gov/citycode)  
If you have questions, concerns or would like to report a potential City of Auburn code violation:

- [auburnwa.gov/reporting](http://auburnwa.gov/reporting)
- [codeenforcement@auburnwa.gov](mailto:codeenforcement@auburnwa.gov)
- 253-931-3020, option 4
- Report via SeeClickFix, available in the app store



## Your Full-Service Auburn App

Report concerns like  
potholes & graffiti.

Learn more about the city, sign up  
for email updates, or even check our  
traffic cameras.

**SeeClickFix**  
Auburn, Washington



## Connecting Innovation and Community through Styrofoam Recycling

In the early 1940s, the Dow Chemical Company was on the search for a material that could replicate rubber, but what they happened upon instead was a way to make a lightweight, water-resistant and bouant product that, by the second World War, was proving a valuable invention for life vests and flotation devices for the army.

Fast forward 80 years and Styrofoam has become a main stay in our everyday world. From packing materials to insulation, it plays a major role in our lives. But it has created its own challenges too. The inexpensive, durable material that has proved such a benefit to retailers and consumers offers an even greater challenge when the product has finished its work. From 2002 to 2015, more than 316 million metric tons (and for nearly weightless product, that's quite a lot) were produced globally and nearly half found their way straight into the garbage. Were it banana leaves, there would not be much cause for concern, but for a product that is estimated to take between 5,000-10,000 years to biodegrade, that's a quite a problem.



### Making an Impact Locally

Until recently, if a company or resident in Auburn wanted to recycle their Styrofoam products, the closest option was through StyroRecycle in Kent. But that all changed in 2017 when Safeway/Albertsons decided to take their environmental stewardship to a new level.

With a cental distribution center in Auburn that serves all stores througout Washington and Alaska, the company found that the volume of materials coming from their hub was beginning to overwhelm the capabilities of StyroRecycle. The solution? Take matters into their own hands.

In 2017, Safeway/Albertsons became one of only two companies in Washington to own and operate a Styrofoam Densifying Machine.

The process of recycling Styrofoam is pretty innovating while at the same time reduces space and promotes reuse. The Styrofoam Densifying Machine first crushes and then heats the Styrofoam through three different oven-like devices. Once heated into a semi-liquid state, it is formed into what is known as an "ingot". Safeway/Albertsons can reduce 80 cubic feet of Styrofoam down into a 2-cubic foot ingot. These ingots are

then used by various manufactures to make composite items such as picture frames.

Today, Safeway/Alberton's diverts 45,000 lbs. of Styrofoam out of Washington landfills annually. Due to the nature of Styrofoam being quite bulky and yet light, this weight can be misleading. In volume, this is the equivalent of diverting 60 truckloads that are each the size of a Safeway/Alberton's semi-trailer (53 feet long) filled with Styrofoam each year.

Earlier this year, the City of Auburn partnered with Safeway/Albertsons to provide two collection events for the Auburn public, collecting over 4,500 cubic feet of Styrofoam (approximately one 53 foot long semi-trailer). Safeway/Albertsons will again provide two events in January 2020 to help Auburn residents responsibly recycle their Styrofoam for FREE on Saturday, January 4 & Sunday, January 12.

Safeway/Albertsons has found that the local communities are very excited to participate in all recycling programs and events that are facilitated through other stores and Distribution Centers.

The participation from the public in their shopping bag recycling programs, Styrofoam collection events, etc. has always been very positive and they are grateful for the opportunity to provide an outlet for these items.



Styrofoam densifier machine



A styrofoam ingnot



Pallet of styrofoam ignots

# 46,510 TONS DIVERTED FROM WASHINGTON LANDFILLS

## Products Recycled Locally by Safeway/Albertsons (annual tonnage/weights)

- Baled cardboard – 72,000,000 lbs. (36,000 tons)
- Meat and Grease scraps/refuse from the Butcher and Deli departments – 4,500,000 lbs. (2250 tons)
- Plastic film wrap – 2,900,000 (1,450 tons)
- Organic materials (aged produce/rinds/skins from fresh cut fruits & vegetables – 38,000,000 (1,900 tons)
- Bread to Feed Program – (bakery stale product that was not able to be donated to a Food Bank, was sent to an Animal Food Manufacturer)- 760,000 lbs. (380 tons)
- Styrofoam- 45,000 lbs. (22.5 tons)

## Safeway/Albertsons Auburn Recycle Center

- 35,000 square foot facility at the Auburn Distribution Center campus that is solely dedicated to recycling.
- 30 full time employees
- Recycle Center is open 24 hours per day/7 days per week.
- 40,000 trailers offloaded each year with some type of recycling material
- 4,200 Shipping containers offloaded each year from our Anchorage, AK Distribution Center that sends recyclable material back to Auburn that there is no existing outlet for in the State of Alaska.

REDUCED GREENHOUSE GAS EMISSION  
MILLIONS OF POUNDS OF FOOD DONATED  
FEWER TRUCKS ON THE ROAD

## RECYCLE YOUR STYROFOAM IN JANUARY!

**January 4**  
**10:00am-5:00pm**  
**Safeway**  
**101 Auburn Way S**

**January 12**  
**10:00am-5:00pm**  
**Albertsons**  
**4101 A Street SE**



## Christmas Tree Collection Event JANUARY 6-10, 2020

Residential and multifamily customers who live within the city limits of Auburn can compost their Christmas tree and wreath at no additional charge.

Business customers who have compostables services can place their cut up tree in their compostables cart for collection.

Visit [auburnwa.gov/solidwasteevents](http://auburnwa.gov/solidwasteevents) for more details and set-out guidelines. Decorated or flocked trees can not be composted.





## Inside Auburn's Comprehensive Plan Community Vision and Value Statement

### **Character—the City of Auburn makes a bold move to fight vandalism...with pillows!**

In each edition of the Auburn Magazine, we take the opportunity to highlight the work being done that supports the seven vision and value statements adopted by the City Council as a part of the Comprehensive Plan. The Comprehensive Plan sets a vision for our City as a policy document that helps to guide the City's evolution and growth. The seven values are: Character, Wellness, Economy, Celebration, Environment, Sustainability, and Service. In this edition, we want to share with you an exciting project that is coming to life near Les Gove Park—a project made possible thanks to your Community Development Department and Code Enforcement Officer Chris Barack, which serves as a great example of the creative ways we as a City are working together to fight the negative effects of vandalism such as graffiti, while promoting a sense of *character*.

In the previous edition of the Auburn Magazine, we shared a glimpse into Officer Barack's hope and vision for the city in the battle against graffiti and the negative impact it can have. The article was entitled, "*That's a Wrap*," and showcased the efforts to enhance

the look and feel of our community by bringing art to several of the utility boxes that are frequently tagged with graffiti. You can view all the images that adorn the utility boxes by visiting [auburnwa.gov/arts](http://auburnwa.gov/arts) then clicking on Public Art Programs, Utility Box Wraps. It was during this process that Chris had a bold dream to one day tackle a much larger project—to locate a high traffic area, with a high profile canvas that routinely attracts graffiti, and turn it into a beautiful work of art that the community would be proud of. Thanks to Officer Barack's leadership and can-do attitude, that dream is already becoming a reality.

If you haven't had the opportunity to drive through Les Gove lately, we encourage you to travel the F St SE corridor and under the Highway 18 overpass. There we think you will find a pleasant surprise. What once felt like a neglected space due to the frequent and persistent acts of vandalism that left the community marred by graffiti, will soon be an inviting gateway that connects art, people, and place. A feature we can all admire and take pride in. If you have never been the victim of graffiti, you may not realize the negative impact it can have, and the ripple effect that happens to the greater community. A landscape that instills a sense of community blight is certainly not the image we want to portray, but this project provides

the opportunity to turn something negative and destructive into something meaningful and quite beautiful.

As F St SE is a primary roadway that leads countless residents and visitors into and out of the Les Gove neighborhood, we felt this would be a desirable location for a project such as this. The investment will not only enhance the character of the neighborhood for all those who call Les Gove their home, but also for the masses that are attracted to this part of town throughout the year. From the out-of-town guests and families who enjoy all the amenities offered at the Auburn Community & Event Center and White River Valley Museum to the seniors who frequent our Senior Activity Center, this is a heavily traveled stretch of roadway. We felt strongly about the importance of reclaiming this space and changing the user's experience.

In a collaborative effort with the City's Arts Division, a call for artists was issued seeking a muralist who could transform the gray concrete walls of this massive underpass into a colorful and impactful work of art that would serve as a graffiti deterrent. Thirty-one artists applied to the call and a jury comprised of Arts Commissioners, Community Development and Parks, Arts and Recreation staff narrowed the field to four artists. The Arts Commission made the



final recommendation, selecting artist Nick Goettling to tackle the project of this magnitude. Goettling has a lot of experience creating public art pieces for both private clients and other local government municipalities. He is an artist known to tell stories through the use of art—art that challenges viewers to consider what role they may play in the story. He was particularly intrigued by the opportunity to bring his artwork to the City of Auburn. As an artist, he views the recent addition of *Crow With Fries* in Les Gove Park as an indication that this is a community open to pushing the limits of what is possible and willing to add newer and more modern pieces to their public art collection. His chance to do something a little more “out there.”

Goettling presented two initial concepts for the underpass, *Sweet Auburn* which featured a more historical look and feel and *Pillow Fight* featuring a bold, vibrant and whimsical theme. The selected concept was *Pillow Fight*. You may ask yourself, why a pillow fight? What was the inspiration for this piece? Goettling states, “As a committee, we work together to identify who our primary audience will be for the design, as well as our goals for maintenance and graffiti prevention. We also work to identify the aspects of my previous murals that resonate with our vision for this project.”

With those goals and objectives in mind, Goettling spent a day exploring the surrounding neighborhoods on foot and by car to get a sense of the character, community, and to better understand the visual impact this mural will ultimately have on the neighborhood. As a public space evolves, the stories we tell about it and the future we imagine for it changes too. The selection committee was inspired by *Pillow Fight*. They noted that the artwork was alive with action, inviting, and was quickly understood by both vehicular traffic and pedestrians. They also thought the bright spots created by the flashlights were interesting additions and the scale was perfect for the space.

Goettling started painting the mural in October and notes, “I always try to design my murals to enhance each specific space as I believe that murals are most exciting and engaging when they activate the entire architecture of a space. Each day as I am out here painting, I literally see hundreds of kids walk past this location. The F Street corridor is a place where the youth spend important time connecting, roughhousing, and socializing while they take a walk and break away from the ever-present phone screens. I used the idea of playful interpersonal connection, along with the opportunities presented by this specific space which incorporates both walls and the ‘ceiling’ in an unexpected and exciting way. This brings dynamic motion to the underpass and a novel use of two-dimensional art to activate a three-dimensional space. I hope to make the art come alive with so much action and detail it creates the feeling of actually being IN the environment, with enough detail that you will want to stop and enjoy it when traveling on foot, but will also have an impact on those traveling by car. The theme is fun, light, and reflects on the connections young people make when they engage with each other in a world that makes social isolation so easy. It’s an honor to have the opportunity to create a new work for the city of Auburn that will enrich the space for years.”

*Thank you Nick Goettling for sharing your time and talent with our community.*

**To learn more about all that is happening in the City of Auburn Parks, Arts and Recreation please visit us at: [auburnwa.gov/city\\_hall/parks\\_arts\\_recreation](http://auburnwa.gov/city_hall/parks_arts_recreation)**

# Valley Regional Fire Authority Public Information & Education Officer Kimberly Terhune Awarded 2019 Fire Educator of the Year



“Kimberly is consistently bringing the highest level of professionalism and dedication to her job. She is a highly respected member of the fire educator community and is always willing to help wherever needed.”

- Deputy Chief Dave Larberg

Valley Regional Fire Authority Public Information & Education Officer Kimberly Terhune received the Fire Educator of the Year award at the annual Washington Fire Prevention Institute Awards Banquet in Lake Chelan in October. The Washington Public Fire Educators (WPFE), a division of the Washington Fire Chiefs, gives this award out each year to a Washington fire educator that has shown outstanding dedication, leadership, and service in fire and life safety education to the citizens in their community.

Kimberly began her career with the legacy Auburn Fire Department in June of 1991. Over the past 28 years, she has been a leader in bringing lifesaving programs to the Algona, Auburn and Pacific communities as well as King County and the state of Washington. Notable accomplishments include starting a juvenile firesetter program for children and a fall prevention program for older adults. If you grew up in Auburn and remember firefighters coming to classrooms or currently have kids in the Auburn School District who talk about firefighter visits, Kimberly had a hand in making those visits happen. She was instrumental in bringing the NFPA 1035 Fire and Life Safety Educator I certification to Washington. She served as both an instructor and evaluator for this nationally recognized certification program. Because of these efforts,

the Washington Survey and Rating Bureau (WSRB) gave superlative marks for the department during their periodic rating process. In 2012 and 2017, the VRFA received the highest score for public education ever given to any fire department in Washington. Kimberly also spent several years as an instructor at Bates Technical College where she taught fire and life safety education to firefighter recruit classes.

“I was fortunate to walk into an education program that was already well established and successful when I began my career with the VRFA 10 years ago. Kimberly has a positive attitude and is always willing to share her wealth of knowledge with her peers. We are all better fire and life safety educators because of her leadership,” says VRFA Public Information & Education Officer Kelly Hawks.

The Valley Regional Fire Authority congratulates Kimberly on this well-deserved award and looks forward to her continued success and leadership in fire and life safety education.



## AUBURN SENIOR ACTIVITY CENTER

### EXTENDED TRAVEL WITH COLLETTE VACATIONS

# American Music Cities

OCTOBER 17-24, 2020

#### HIGHLIGHTS INCLUDE:

Nashville | Memphis | New Orleans  
Grand Ole Opry | Country Music Hall of Fame  
Graceland | RCA Studio B | Mardi Gras World  
New Orleans French Quarter

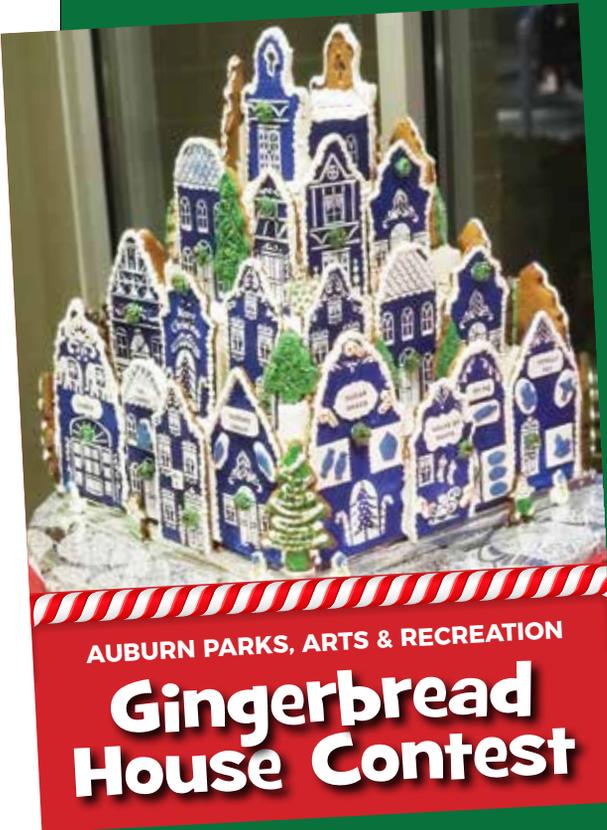
#### RATES:

\$3,099 Double Rate Per Person  
\$3,999 Single Rate  
Deposit of \$500 per person due upon registration  
Travel Insurance: \$299

Travel  
Presentation  
January 16, 2020  
10am

AUBURN SENIOR ACTIVITY CENTER | 253-931-3016





If you visited the Auburn Community & Event Center during the holiday season, you saw some amazing edible artwork in the lobby. These beautiful creations were part of the 2nd annual Gingerbread House Contest organized by Auburn Parks, Arts & Recreation. Entries were divided into two categories, adult and kids, and were open to voting by the public through December 16. Competition was fierce, but ultimately, two winners prevailed.

*Congratulations Laura and Charlotte!*

**WINNER - ADULT CATEGORY**

**WINNER - KIDS CATEGORY**



"Gingerbread Cottage"  
by Laura Eastman



"Winter Wonderland"  
by Charlotte Stark

**AUBURN PARKS, ARTS & RECREATION**  
**Gingerbread House Contest**

# Advertise in Auburn Magazine

The four-color, glossy format makes for an attractive environment for your ad—and it makes people hold onto the magazine longer. You will reach Auburn and surrounding community residents who shop locally.

Your advertising contributes to our community by supporting multiple programs and services that Auburn provides its citizens. There are over 4,000 active businesses in Auburn. Make yours stand out by advertising in the Auburn Magazine.



Printed and mailed directly to 50,000 Auburn and regional households four times a year.

Additional copies distributed throughout the community at the library, hotels, medical offices, etc.



**TO ADVERTISE** Contact Katie Higgins  
206-284-8285 | [katie@philipspublishing.com](mailto:katie@philipspublishing.com)



## TED TALKS IDEAS WORTH SPREADING

### Let's Give Them Something to Talk About

TED (Technology Entertainment and Design) Talks are short, inspiring and entertaining lectures available online from some of the world's most exciting and renowned thought leaders. TED believes passionately in the power of ideas to change attitudes, lives and, ultimately, the world. These talks cover wide-ranging topics, and there is truly something for everyone.

Join the Senior Center and the Auburn Library for a thought-provoking, diverse series with carefully selected charismatic speakers on video.

Talks will be held at the library on the 2nd Friday and the Senior Center on the 4th Friday of each month at 1pm. All talks are free.

January 10	King County Library, Auburn 1102 Auburn Wy S	Happiness
January 24	Auburn Senior Activity Center 809 9th St SE	Vulnerability
February 14	King County Library, Auburn 1102 Auburn Wy S	Love
February 28	Auburn Senior Activity Center 809 9th St SE	Aging
March 13	King County Library, Auburn 1102 Auburn Wy S	Leadership
March 27	Auburn Senior Activity Center 809 9th St SE	Stress

### Holiday Christmas Tree Collection Event January 6 through January 10

Residents who are serviced by Waste Management or Republic Services and live within the city limits of Auburn can recycle their Christmas tree and wreath (artificial not accepted) for no additional cost. For event details and guidelines visit [auburnwa.gov/solidwasteevents](http://auburnwa.gov/solidwasteevents) or call 253-931-3038.

### Holiday Styrofoam Collection Event 10 AM | January 12 Albertsons 4010 A Street SE

Clear out the Styrofoam sitting around from the holidays and recycle it for FREE during this collection event. Details at [auburnwa.gov/solidwasteevents](http://auburnwa.gov/solidwasteevents).

### Comedy at the Ave 7:30 PM | January 17 Auburn Avenue Theater 10 Auburn Avenue

Comedy Night at the Ave will keep you laughing all night long as three comedians work to twist your funny bone. Ages 18 and over only. \$18/15 at [auburnwa.gov/arts](http://auburnwa.gov/arts) or by calling 253-931-3043.

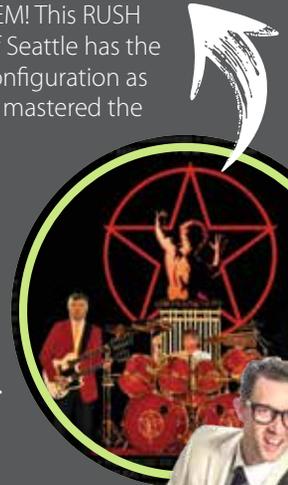
### Anthem – Rush Tribute 7:30 PM | January 18 Auburn Avenue Theater 10 Auburn Avenue

If you love RUSH, then get ready to rock with ANTHEM! This RUSH tribute band out of Seattle has the same power trio configuration as RUSH. Anthem has mastered the authentic sound and style of the iconic group. You will NOT be disappointed! Tickets: \$22, Student/Senior \$19 at [auburnwa.gov/arts](http://auburnwa.gov/arts) or by calling 253-931-3043.

### Martin Luther King Jr. Day January 20 Government Offices Closed

### AveKids: Little Red 2 PM | January 25 Auburn Avenue Theater 10 Auburn Avenue

Little Red loves exploring and meeting new friends – she loves to roller blade, run, jump, and meet new people. But Red plays in areas that aren't always safe, and of the two friends she makes, one has furry ears and a tail, and the other likes to hunt. How do you make a friend? How do you stay safe? Little Red's Granny saves the day (and the wolf) with smart thinking, silliness, and the sharing of a giant birthday cake! Tickets \$10 at [auburnwa.gov/arts](http://auburnwa.gov/arts) or by calling 253-931-3043.



# events | upcoming events | upcoming

## Buddy, Ritchie & The Bopper

7:30 PM | February 1  
Auburn Avenue Theater  
10 Auburn Avenue

This tribute pays respect to three entertainers who were taken from us way too early in their young musical careers, Buddy Holly, Ritchie Valens and J.P. "The Big Bopper" Richardson. Backed by five professional musicians, this show will keep your toes tapping and make you want to dance in the aisles to songs like That'll be the Day, Peggy Sue, La Bamba, Chantilly Lace and so much more! Tickets \$24, Student/Senior \$21 at [auburnwa.gov/arts](http://auburnwa.gov/arts) or by calling 253-931-3043.



## Ted Vigil - Tribute to John Denver

7:30 PM | February 8  
Auburn Performing Arts Center

Ted Vigil is a singer, songwriter and John Denver tribute artist extraordinaire. He has wowed crowds, sells out theaters nationwide and has played twice for John Denver's own "Windstar Foundation" in Aspen, CO. Joining him on stage are a group of professional musicians and the very talented singer Amanda Bacon. Join us as Ted performs many of John Denver's greatest hits.

Tickets: \$25, Student/Senior \$22 at [auburnwa.gov/arts](http://auburnwa.gov/arts) or by calling 253-931-3043.

## AveKids: The Magic of Jeff Evans

2 PM | February 15  
Auburn Avenue Theater  
10 Auburn Avenue

Jeff Evans is Seattle's Funniest Magician! His magic has been called, "clean enough for kids, yet sophisticated enough for adults." See for yourself why he has won over a dozen awards from his peers in magic. A full-time pro since 1998, Jeff has honed his magic to perfection in over 275 shows a year. Enter a state of suspended disbelief and delight in magical wonder! Tickets \$10 at [auburnwa.gov/arts](http://auburnwa.gov/arts) or by calling 253-931-3043.



## Presidents Day

February 17  
Government Offices Closed

## Auburn Community Players: Matilda the Musical

2 PM | March 8, 14 15, 21 & 22  
7 PM | March 6, 7, 13, 14, 20 & 21  
Auburn Avenue Theater  
10 Auburn Avenue

Matilda is a little girl with astonishing wit, intelligence, and psychokinetic powers. She is unloved by her cruel parents, but impresses her schoolteacher, the loveable Miss Honey. As Miss Honey begins to recognize and appreciate Matilda's extraordinary personality, they must contend with the school's mean headmistress, Miss Trunchbull. The headmistress hates children and loves thinking up new punishments for those who don't abide by her rules. But Matilda has courage and cleverness in equal amounts, and could just be the school pupils' saving grace!

Pre-Sale Tickets: \$17, Student/Senior \$14 at [auburnwa.gov/arts](http://auburnwa.gov/arts) or by calling 253-931-3043. Tickets at the door are \$22/\$19.

## Daddy Daughter Princess Ball

3:30-5:30 PM | March 14 | Girls ages 3-6  
7-9 PM | March 14 | Girls ages 7-13  
Auburn Community & Event Center

An event to create special memories with your little girl. Grandpas, uncles, and big brothers are welcome. Includes light refreshments and dancing with music provided by a disc jockey. Plus other fun activities! Each couple gets a memory photo and girls leave with a party favor. \$38/\$48 per couple \$12/\$15 each additional daughter. Register by calling 253-931-3043.



Auburn Avenue Theater  
10 Auburn Avenue

Auburn City Hall  
25 W Main Street

Auburn Community & Event Center  
910 9th Street SE

Les Gove Park  
910 9th St SE

Auburn Performing Arts Center  
702 4th St NE

# Petpalooza

May 16

10am-5pm

Game Farm Park

3030 R St SE



- 150+ Vendors
- Adoptions
- Live Entertainment
- Children's Activities
- Agility Area
- Petting Zoo
- Mud Bay's Northwest Pet Contest
- & tons more!

**3K/5K  
DOG TROT**

9:30am  
\$18 per person  
by April 17  
T-Shirt included

[auburnwa.gov/petpalooza](http://auburnwa.gov/petpalooza)  
253-931-3043  
#petpalooza2020  
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