



Mayor Greg Wheeler



## *Mayor's 2022 Initiatives*

### **Housing and Commercial Development Improvements**

#### *Review Codes, Zoning, and Processes*

- Continue to increase efficiencies in housing and commercial development
- Support the construction of 1,705 residential units and approx. 150,000 sq. ft of new commercial space
- Continue to develop and utilize technology for process improvements by improving permit portal
- Continue with updates to City Council on building permit statistics
- Continue with infill development toolkit to add affordable housing stock, with this year's code updates focusing on cottage housing
- Update the City's regulations to stay current with state regulations related to housing
- Update the City's multifamily housing tax exemption (MFTE) program to focus the incentive on affordable housing
- Continuous code update to support revitalization of Eastside Village Center (formerly Harrison hospital site)
- Continue work on strategies for residents displaced by new developments
- Launch the major update to the City's comprehensive plan to guide growth for the next 20 years

### **Proactive Code Enforcement**

- Continue proactive code enforcement to further address issues in the City and work on strategies to assist tenants living in substandard housing units

### **Affordable Housing Assistance**

- Continue funding to Bremerton Rental Assistance program in partnership with Bremerton Housing Authority to provide eviction assistance that helps working low-income residents and seniors
- Continue additional \$100,000 of assistance to City's weatherization and minor home repair program in partnership with Kitsap Community Resources to reduce utility costs, improve living and health conditions for vulnerable citizens while enhancing the City's housing stock and stabilizing rent for low-income tenants





## Kitsap Lake Cleanup Plan

- Continue near-shore vegetation management to enhance long-term water quality
- Continue algae control measures and monitoring of water quality
- Design 4 stormwater treatment discharge facilities, and install stormwater treatment at Kitsap Lake Park as part of the park's redevelopment project

## Internet and Broadband

- Continue coordination with Kitsap Public Utility District to look for ways to expand broadband infrastructure and service across Bremerton
- Continue efforts to identify service gaps to begin expanding broadband, internet and cable options and infrastructure in the City

## Park Upgrades

- Begin construction and improvements to Kitsap Lake Park
- Begin design of Pendergast Regional Park soccer field improvements and secure construction funding
- Begin architectural, engineering and permitting for LuLu Haddon Park improvements
- Begin updates to Lions Park sports courts and accessibility improvements
- Begin implementation of master plan for improvements to Gold Mountain Cascade Golf Course
- Work with YMCA on increasing public access to City-owned Jarstad pool

## Arts and Culture

- Move forward on 2-4 art wraps for utility cabinets, continue City poet laureate program, select and install additional artist wall panels for Washington Avenue Outdoor Gallery, and continue support of obtaining a "creative district" designation for Bremerton through the state of Washington
- Continue to pursue funding and seek construction bids for Quincy Square on 4th Street
- Continue remaining 2022 Arts Initiatives

## Police Support and Crime Reduction

- Hire five new officers and continue full staffing of police force, including community policing such as bicycle patrols
- Complete purchases of police body cameras for all officers
- Upgrade video security cameras
- Continue implementation of Intelligence Led Policing initiative
- Continue looking for ways to enhance Safe Place program
- Explore remote technology for starting new Block Watch opportunities in neighborhoods
- Continue and expand the Navigator Program, which provides crisis intervention and connects those with mental health and addictions with services and treatment resources



## Fire

- Hire budgeted new staffing to increase efficiencies and improve emergency response
- Complete fire department long range strategic plan, which will assess emergency support and needs for next 20 years in community
- Complete second full year of implementation of mobile unit to better respond to opioid and mental health incidents in partnership with Peninsula Community Health Services

## Nuisance Property Abatement

- Continue court-appointed receiver program (RCW 7.60) and abatement program (RCW 35.80) to clean up nuisance property

## Streets and Sidewalks Program

*Continue full implementation of streets and sidewalks program:*

- Construct 2,000 feet of sidewalks and install 20 ADA curb ramps
- Complete second year of three-year plan to improve Belfair Valley Road
- Continue implementation of 5-year program to eliminate trip hazards on City sidewalks
- Complete overlay of 6th Street (Warren Ave to Pacific Ave) and begin design of the final phase of 6th Street (Naval Ave to Warren Ave)
- Begin construction of East 11th St and Perry Ave project
- Complete downtown bike lane improvements (Complete Streets)
- Complete design of Naval Avenue project from 1st to 15th Streets
- Begin installation of crosswalk beacons and other improvements at eight sites in City to improve pedestrian safety
- Begin design and pursue funding to construct Warren Avenue Bridge pedestrian improvements
- Begin construction of Washington Ave and 11th Street improvements
- Complete Bremerton commuter transportation and traffic study in partnership with U.S. Navy
- Begin the West Kitsap Way planning study (from SR 3 to Bremerton city limits)
- Begin citywide wayfinding plan

## Medical Care Access

- Partner to develop urgent/prompt care in Bremerton and explore new health care opportunities

## Mental Health

- Continue support for Pendleton Place permanent supportive housing development
- Continue and expand City's Navigator program
- Continue support for Stand By Me coordinated healthcare and services program for homeless and at-risk individuals
- Continue mobile healthcare clinic partnership with Peninsula Community Health Services to better respond to opioid and mental health incidents



## Diversity/Human Resources

- Continue the City's workforce diversity and inclusion efforts to meet the City's vision of a workforce that reflects our diverse community. This includes:
  - Providing continued training for all City employees on workforce diversity and inclusion.
  - Expanding our recruiting outreach by advertising positions with professional and minority service organizations.
  - Removal of the candidate's name, address, and college attended to avoid unintentional implicit bias in the candidate screening process. This allows the hiring manager to screen applicants based solely on qualifications and avoids ruling out applications due to implicit bias that might unintentionally occur.
- Continue implementation of the City's new NeoGov Onboarding system for new hires. This system will:
  - Eliminate the need for "wet" signatures and printing of excess paper.
  - Allow creation of digital files, saving time, money, and is more environmentally friendly.
  - Speed up onboarding process and allow employees online access to their personnel files.
- Review and update the supervisor's handbook and HR policies.

## Parking

- Continue expanding safety improvements for downtown, including increasing budget for security guards to monitor City parking garages and downtown streets, upgrading street lighting and adding additional security cameras
- Continue improving parking enforcement and tools, including expanded use of LPR technology
- Continue updating and improving parking signage throughout the City
- Continue improving access to multi-modal transit options and Smart Commuter program
- Improve bike access in downtown core and throughout the City
- Continue to improve and adopt technology for online parking tools and apps for residents

## Transportation

- Continue support of Bremerton fast ferries and local foot ferry service
- Analyze multi-modal transit options (ferry, buses, park and ride, van and carpool, bike lanes, pedestrian walkways, taxi, rideshare, etc.) and identify gaps to improve mobility in the City
- Implement Sunday service and continue making transit improvements across the City



## Business Opportunity and Economic Growth

- Continuous code update to support revitalization of Eastside Village Center (formerly Harrison hospital site)
- Evaluate Wheaton Way/SR 303 Corridor study recommendations for residential and commercial revitalization of the area. Secure funding for new traffic signals that improve traffic flow on corridor and for pedestrian safety improvements.
- Continue working with Port of Bremerton to analyze economic benefits for expansion of Bremerton Airport
- Continue working with partners on transportation improvements for Gorst corridor
- Provide funding to support local businesses, including small business assistance, help for downtown businesses, and entrepreneurship program
- Increase business and occupation (B&O) tax exemption for businesses from \$240,000 to \$1 million

## Legislative Efforts

- Pursue and secure funding for solutions to reduce homelessness
- Seek and secure funding to increase affordable housing solutions
- Seek and secure funding for fix to Gorst corridor
- Pursue and seek funding for Warren Avenue Bridge safety improvements
- Seek and secure funding for development of Quincy Square on 4th Street
- Pursue and secure funding for upgrades to downtown Bremerton Library
- Seek and secure funding for Kiwanis Park playground
- Secure funding for Washington State Ferry system workforce challenges and new vessels
- Support funding for electrifying ferry fleet, including Kitsap Transit all-electric foot ferry for Bremerton-Port Orchard
- Support funding for WestSound Tech construction of a new career and technical education facility
- Support Peninsula Community Health Services dental capacity funding

## Efficiencies and Improvements

- Continue improving and monitoring efficiencies in all departments through new processes and technologies
- Continue investment in corporate technology in all aspects of City government
- Begin implementation of new asset management program using data to inform decisions on City equipment and maintenance
- Continue implementation of monthly water/sewer/stormwater billing for residents
- Implement utility rate freeze for 2022