



# Woodway Whisper



## Summer Newsletter

### Mayor's Message

#### It's Time for You to Decide!

After eight neighborhood meetings and lots of discussion between residents and Town officials, the August 18 primary election will decide the outcome of whether the Town's finances are stabilized and whether Rosary Heights will become a Town property. See page two of this newsletter for details on each of these issues.

Woodway doesn't have many primary elections but the Council made a deliberate decision to bring both financial issues to the voters at the same time and early to make sure that these important decisions were as transparent and clear as possible.

National media continue to report about America's shrinking civic interest - low voter turnout, apathy, and

so on. This has not been the case in Woodway. We have always been active with high voter percentages. Let's not break our pattern.

Please watch your mail for the voters' pamphlet and mail-in ballot which is scheduled to arrive in your mailboxes around July 29. Completed ballots must be postmarked no later than August 18.

Each of us have a stake in this community decision. It's your decision, your government, your community. Please vote!

### FREE Document Shredding Event

**Saturday, August 15, 2009**  
**9 a.m. to Noon**

Edmonds-Woodway High School  
7600 212th Street S.W.  
Edmonds  
South Parking Lot

Edmonds and Woodway residents are invited to bring up to five boxes (12 inches wide by 15 inches deep and 10 inches high) containing paper documents to be destroyed in a truck-mounted shredder.

Documents are not required to be in boxes, but need to be limited to the amount of paper five boxes would hold. (Please note the limit is 5!)

For more details, please see the town bulletin boards or call Town Hall.

### Save the Date

The 2009 Woodway  
Town Fair will be  
on August 22, 2009

from  
11 am to 3 pm.

### We Need Your Help

Reminder! The new sales and use tax is destination based. If you purchase an item and have it delivered to your home or have services performed at your home, such as landscaping and remodeling, please double check that the business is using the correct tax code for Woodway - 3118.

Our two zip codes are shared with other cities, so it is easy for companies to accidentally distribute local sales and use taxes to those other cities instead of Woodway. Your diligence can help ensure that Woodway receives its tax dollars!

## Proposition 1 - EMS & General Operations Levy

The Town's largest source of revenue – property tax – generates approximately \$684,000 annually. Of this amount, \$221,000 is generated by the Emergency Medical Services (EMS) levy, which expires at the end of 2009. State law, enacted following the passage of Initiative 747, limits the growth of the Town's property tax revenue to 1%– approximately \$6,800 annually.

The Town's largest single expense is its fire services contract with the City of Edmonds. This contract is \$361,000 per year and has increased by over 5% annually or \$18,000. This contract, along with inflationary increases in the Town's other expenses, has resulted in an average growth rate in Town expenditures

of approximately 3% per year.

Annually, the deficit between the growth in Town expenditures and Town revenues grows exponentially. Beginning next year, the Town's expenses will exceed its revenues, and the Town's reserves will be depleted within six years.

This levy will replace the Town's expiring EMS levy and raise revenue sufficient to maintain existing Town services. The increase in property tax will depend on a home's assessed value. The levy will increase the property tax on a home with a 2009 assessed value of \$1M by approximately \$500 per year.

## Proposition 2 - Bond Measure to Purchase Rosary Heights

Rosary Heights, a 23-acre estate (including 8 acres of tidelands) located along Woodway Park Road, has been owned by the Adrian Dominican Sisters for over 50 years. The Town has had discussions with the Sisters about the future of the property and the Town's desire to see the property preserved. In January, the Sisters decided to sell the property. During a series of neighborhood meetings, the community discussed the possible purchase of Rosary Heights. The property was assessed in 2009 for \$8.7M, The Town Council negotiated a purchase option for \$5.9M, with the purchase contingent on voter approval.

The proposed uses of the property include a Community

Center, Park, Town Hall, and an Environmental Education Center. This 30-year bond measure would fund the purchase plus establish a \$250,000 maintenance fund. The maintenance fund would be supplemented by the proceeds from the sale of the current Town Hall, grants and donations. Operating costs would be supported by rental revenue from functions held onsite.

This bond measure will result in an increase in property tax based upon a home's assessed value. The bond is estimated to increase the property tax on a home with a 2009 assessed value of \$1M by \$540 a year.

## Saturdays in the Woodway Reserve

We are finally ready to "show off" the trails and our new covered pavilion in the central part of the Reserve. You are invited to bring your families (no pets) and come for a stroll, a picnic, or to simply sit and enjoy the quiet. The entrance to the Reserve is off of Ivy Lane/240th Street S.W. The Reserve will be open from 8:00 a.m. until 6:00 p.m on the following Saturdays: July 25, August 1, and August 8.

## The 2009 Woodway Town Fair

Mark your calendars for Saturday, August 22 for this year's town fair! As in years past, there will be lots of great food, music, activities for the kids, and the chance to see old friends. Dust off your berry pie recipes for the pie contest and win a fabulous prize, as well as title of Town Baker. ***New this year:*** we will be hosting a book swap. Bring your gently used books to exchange; we will have a kids' table and an adults' table. Come celebrate this great community we all call home. You don't want to miss the fun!



**WE NEED YOU!** We are looking for volunteers of all ages to help with the fair. Students, if you need service hours, this is a fun way to get them. We also need adults to supervise some of the activities. If you are interested in being part of this great community celebration, please contact Town Hall by Friday, August 14.

### Town Council Corner

**General Government:** Adopted Resolution No. 09-335, adopting an identity theft prevention program pursuant to the Fair and Accurate Credit Transaction Act of 2003. Appointed Tom Whitson to fulfill the remainder of the Bob Schillberg's term. Adopted Ordinance No. 09-504, Submission of a Levy Lid Lift to Voters to Support Emergency Medical Services and Existing Town Operations and submitting it to the voters on August 18, 2009. Adopted Ordinance 09-505, submission of a bond issue to the voters for the purchase of Rosary Heights plus establish a \$250,000 maintenance fund for a total amount of \$6.15 million.

**Public Works & Lands:** Adopted Ordinance 09-502, amending Chapter 16.12 Tree Preservation.

**Land Use & Planning:** Approved the proposed Pt. Wells Urban Center Design Guidelines and Standards, which were included in the Town's official testimony to the Snohomish County Planning Commission on April 28. Approved Ordinance No. 09-503, amending WMC 16.10, Environmentally Critical Areas. Approved Ordinance 09-506, amending WMC related to Critical Areas.

**Public Safety:** Presented a plaque of thanks to Officer Tim Dreyer in recognition of his 20 years of service as a police officer.

### Breast Cancer 3 - Day

We are happy to announce that the 2009 Breast Cancer 3-Day Walk will be passing through the Town of Woodway on Friday September 11, 2009. The walkers will head north on Timberlane Road, turn west on 238<sup>th</sup> Street S.W., and then head north on Woodway Park Road. You can show your support for the walkers by displaying a sign or decorations or coming out to cheer them on. For more information about public cheering stations along the route and the Opening and Closing Ceremonies, go to [www.The3Day.org](http://www.The3Day.org) and visit the Spectator Info page (under the Get Involved menu).

### New Planning Commissioner Wanted

If you are interested in land use and planning issues and would like to apply to become a Planning Commissioner, please contact Town Hall for an application form. All applications need to be received by July 24, 2009.

### Planning Commission Update

The Planning Commission has completed its update to the Environmentally Critical Areas Ordinance (Section 16.10 of the Woodway Municipal Code). The full text is available on our website: [www.townofwoodway.com](http://www.townofwoodway.com). Go to "Codes and Ordinances" and then "Recent Ordinances" on the left side.

Chairman Tom Whitson has been appointed to the Town Council. Thanks for all of your hard work, Tom! We will miss you.



## T o w n o f W o o d w a y

23920 113th Place West  
Woodway, WA 98020

### T o w n I n f o r m a t i o n

#### T o w n H a l l D i r e c t o r y :

Class	Code City
County	Snohomish
Population	1180
Business Hours	9:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.
Town Hall Phone	206.542.4443
Town Hall Fax	206.546.9453
Town Hall Email	townhall@townofwoodway.com
Website	www.townofwoodway.com
Public Works Dept Phone	206.542.0183
Public Works Dept Email	publicworks@townofwoodway.com
Police Dept Email	police@townofwoodway.com
Permit Email	permits@townofwoodway.com
Mayor	Carla A. Nichols
Council Meets	1st & 3rd Mondays, 7:00 p.m.
Planning Commission Chair	
Planning Commission meets	First Wed. of the month, 7:00 p.m.

#### T o w n H a l l S t a f f :

Town Administrator	Eric A. Faison
Clerk Treasurer	Joyce Bielefeld
Deputy Clerk/Permit Technician	Heidi K. S. Napolitano
Public Works Director	Terrance R. Bryant, Jr.
Public Works Crew	Bryan Thomas, Mike Sears, Jacob Matthews
Town Attorney	Wayne Tanaka
Plan Checker/Bldg Official	Tom Phillips
Building Inspector	Scott Dorrance
Police Chief	Doug Hansen
Fire Marshall	John Westfall
Town Planner	Bill Trimm
Town Arborist	Elizabeth Walker
FIRE DEPARTMENT Edmonds	425.775.4545
POLICE-Town Hall (non-emergency)	206.542.4443
<b>EMERGENCY</b>	<b>911</b>

#### T o w n C o u n c i l M e m b e r s :

Bill Anderson, Elizabeth Mitchell, Mike Quinn, Kent Saltonstall, Tom Whitson

#### L o c a t i o n s o f t h e T o w n B u l l e t i n B o a r d s :

Town Hall Front Porch	Timberlane at 239 <sup>th</sup>
Woodway Park Road at Algonquin	114 <sup>th</sup> West at 239 <sup>th</sup>
Chinook Road at 217 <sup>th</sup>	Willowick Road, north side
Bella Coola west of Makah	