



City Info

A NEWSLETTER FOR LONGVIEW CITIZENS

Snapshots

Snapshots from Longview's
City Info Weekly Online
January/February/March 2011

Nominations sought for
Robert A. Long Historic
Preservation Award 2

Police Chief Alex Perez
announces retirement
effective July 1 3

City directs Traffic Camera
Enforcement Notices of
Infractions to be dismissee ... 4

Contract for water treatment
plant construction awarded
to Prospect Construction Inc.
of Puyallup 5

Stimulus funding enables
Longview to accomplish
more with less 6

Longview Library Offers
eBooks and eAudiobooks 7

Longview City Council sets
aside \$25,000 for
neighborhood grants 7



Thank you for following us this past year in our City Info Weekly. We hope we are providing information that is timely and useful for you.

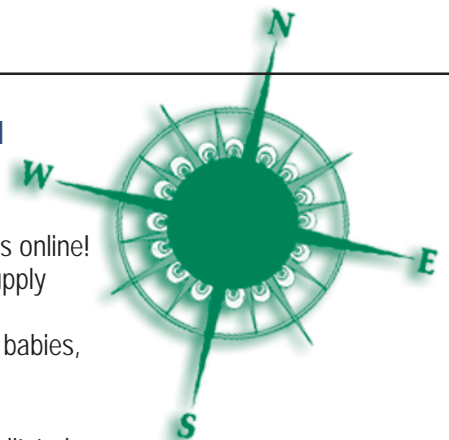
We are presenting this quarterly “recap” version of our online newsletter to give you a quick snapshot of what is happening in the City of Longview, including current projects and special events. This quarterly publication will be available again on July 15, September 15, and December 15. Please feel free to print the newsletter, or simply email it to friends, family or colleagues.

If you have anything you would like to see included in our City Info Weekly publication, please call 360.442.5022 and let us know about it. And don't forget to follow us on Facebook, Twitter, YouTube, and Flickr!

Bob Gregory, City Manager

Ongoing City programs and services online:

- ◆ Register for Parks and Recreation classes online!
- ◆ Follow the progress of the City's water supply project
- ◆ Explore all of the wonderful programs for babies, children, youth and teens at the Library
- ◆ View the City's 2011-2012 budget
- ◆ Check out community events at www.cowlitztoday.com



Arbor Day Tree Planting

At the March 24 City Council meeting, a proclamation will be issued to recognize Arbor Day and Longview's 27th year as Tree City USA by the National Arbor Day Foundation. Longview Parks will celebrate Arbor Day and Tree City USA by planting an Oak Tree on April 13 at 10 a.m. near the Sacajawea Statue in the Hemlock Plaza area of Lake Sacajawea Park (Nichols Boulevard).

The Parks Division invites residents to the planting of the tree in recognition of the value that trees bring our community. Trees reduce erosion, clean the air, produce oxygen, protect water, and provide habitat for wildlife. Our city is beautified by trees as they increase property values and enhance the economic vitality of business areas.

More information: For more information about Arbor Day or Tree City USA please call Longview Parks at 442-5421. (3/30/11)

Recycling question of the week:

Where do I get one of those garbage or recycling stickers for my tubs?

If you did not receive new garbage and recycling stickers for your tubs, please call us at 442-5222 and let us know! We'll make sure you get one. These stickers help you determine what is and what is not recyclable. Help us reduce recycling contamination!

More information: For more information about Longview's recycling program, please call 442-5222. (3/30/11)



Office of Solid Waste & Recycling
442-5222 • mylongview.com



Nominations sought for Robert A. Long Historic Preservation Award

The City of Longview Historic Preservation Commission is seeking for nominations for the annual Robert A. Long, Historic Preservation Award. The Historic Preservation Commission would like to recognize community members that have contributed to the history and story of Longview and who have completed outstanding work in the field of historic preservation. Nominations should include a written summary of the accomplishments and contributions of the nominee to historic preservation in Longview. The award criteria are available online at www.mylongview.com, under the City Info Weekly green button. Please submit written nominations to Longview City Hall, Attention Historic Preservation, at PO Box 128, Longview, WA 98632.

The public is also invited to attend and present their nominations to the Historic Preservation Commission in person at the April 28 regular meeting starting at 5:30 p.m. upstairs in the Longview City Hall small conference room. (3/30/11)

The award will be presented to the recipient at the opening event for Historic Preservation Month on May 7 at the Longview Public Library starting at 1:00 p.m. Robert .A. Long and his wife Ella will be in attendance! (3/30/11)

Sign up now for adult softball leagues

Longview Recreation is now accepting registration for summer adult Longview-Kelso Slo-Pitch Softball leagues, with games played at Roy Morse Park. Divisions are formed by level of ability for men's and mixed (co-ed) teams. The men's 20 game schedule starts May 3, and the mixed division plays 14 games beginning June 1 on weekday evenings. The cost is only \$547 for mixed teams and \$715 for men's teams, averaging less than \$3 per player each game. Don't miss this great opportunity to improve your health in a recreational, family-friendly environment. Register now on a first come basis online at www.mylongview.com/reconline, or by calling Longview Recreation at 442-5400. (3/9/11)

Longview Teen Council Update

This month, six Longview Teen Council members donated their time volunteering to prepare and serve lunch at Community House on Broadway. Providing community service is part of the 2011 goals that the group set for themselves. Teen Council members that provided volunteer service at the Community House include:

- ◆ President Caitlin Grant representing junior leaders
- ◆ Cameron Church from Mt Solo Middle School
- ◆ Anastasia Fischer representing Monticello Middle School
- ◆ Bekah Keilwitz from Cascade Middle School
- ◆ Jessica Sanchez , RA Long High School representative
- ◆ Katie Church, a family member of a teen currently on the council, recently joined Longview Teen Council

The Longview Teen Council is a voice for Longview youth to the City Council and staff. There are currently seven representatives from Longview schools and community organizations, and they hold monthly meetings to discuss issues that face teens in Longview.

Teen Council members provide an update on issues that affect teenagers at the first City Council meeting of the month. Their City Council liaison is Councilmember Dennis Weber, and staff advisor is Recreation Specialist Barbie Morrison.

More information: To contact the Longview Teen Council, please call 442-5406. (3/30/11)

Police Chief Alex Perez announces retirement effective July 1

Effective July 1, Police Chief Alex Perez will be retiring from the Longview Police Department. Perez has served admirably as the Chief of Police since 2004.

"I am deeply grateful for the leadership Alex has provided to the Longview Police Department and the significant progress he and the department have made in improving public safety and community policing in Longview," stated City Manager Bob Gregory. "The community partnerships and the respect and admiration Alex has developed with our community stakeholders will be part of the tremendous legacy he leaves with us."

Perez has been a strong advocate of diversity, and his work ethic, commitment to community policing, and development of police department policies, practices, and a long-term policing plan have resulted in significant progress towards Longview City Council goals to enhance public safety and emergency response.

Because the police chief position is integral to the City's safety, economic vitality, and quality of place, the City is dedicated to ensuring that the community has a committed, highly skilled police professional with strong administrative and leadership abilities who can continue to challenge and motivate the police department to deliver quality police services that the community expects.

The City will conduct a very comprehensive recruiting process that includes seeking input on the desired qualifications, characteristics, and qualities for the next police chief from the City organization, Council, and the community to ensure the incumbent will be successful. The City is also strongly encouraging current Longview Police Department staff who meet the City's police chief qualifications to apply.

Perez's law enforcement career began in 1975 with the Inglewood Police Department as a patrol officer. Between 1977 and 1983, he worked patrol and as a hostage negotiator with both the Redondo Beach and Tukwila Police Departments. Perez has also served as a narcotics investigator, a field-training officer, patrol officer, and as a member of the Crime Impact Team for the King County Police Department from 1983 to 1987. Perez also served in the Inglewood, California Police Department's before he took the Longview Police Chief position. In Inglewood, he served in the Criminal Investigations Division as a Lieutenant where he oversaw the Detective Bureau's Juvenile Investigation, Burglary, Fraud, ID Theft, Auto Theft and Crime Analysis sections.

Perez exemplifies community activism and support through a variety of local and national organizations. His outreach efforts include the following:

- ◆ Member of International Association of Chiefs of Police
- ◆ Member of Washington Association of Sheriffs and Police Chiefs Association
- ◆ Member of Police Executive Research Forum (PERF), and University of Redlands Whitehead Leadership Society
- ◆ Pathways 2020 Cowlitz County Board of Directors
- ◆ Youth & Family Link Board of Directors
- ◆ Cowlitz Association of Sheriff and Police Chiefs (CASPC)
- ◆ Chairman, Lower Columbia College Admin. Justice Advisory Committee
- ◆ Washington State Criminal Justice Training Commission- Peace Officer De-certification Panel
- ◆ Fight Crime Invest in Kids, Organization Member
- ◆ Peace Health -St. John's Hospital Planning Board
- ◆ Vice Chair, Cowlitz County Housing First Coalition
- ◆ Youth Council Board Member, Southwest Washington Workforce Development Council
- ◆ Past community board member, LCC Head Start

Public Hearing for 2011 Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) scheduled for March 24

A public hearing is scheduled for March 24 at 7 p.m. in the Longview Council Chambers to receive public comment about projects submitted for CDBG funding. The City hopes to hear particularly from low and moderate-income persons regarding proposed projects. The hearing helps ensure broad-based community support for projects and helps the City narrow its selection from projects presented.

Only public services and planning activities will be funded in 2011. The Longview City Council allocated 2011 Pre-Award Main Entitlement Funding for the Highlands Trail, Phase 3 in 2010.

The community is asked to speak in support of selecting one or more of the projects below:

Help Warehouse

Mentoring Low-Income Children in the Highlands Neighborhood

Increased Employment Opportunities for People with Disabilities

Veteran's Service Center Plan

Project Design Proposals are available for review at Longview City Hall in the Community Development Department. CDBG is funded through the Federal Department of Housing and Urban Development.

More information: For further information, contact Julie Hourcle' at 442.5081. E-mail: julie.hourcle@mylongview.com Visit our CDBG website at <http://www.mylongview.com/communitydev/cdbg.html>. (3/16/11)

Perez's wife, Janet, is also very active in the community and currently serves as the president of the Emergency Support Shelter and is a board member on the Ethnic Support Council. The community will sorely miss the contributions both have made. (3/23/11)

City directs Traffic Camera Enforcement Notices of Infractions to be dismissed

As a result of a computer coding error, the City of Longview has directed American Traffic Systems (ATS) to dismiss multiple notices of infraction issued under the City's road safety camera enforcement program. Each of the violations in question was properly reviewed and processed by Longview city personnel. The coding error in question occurred during the printing process performed by ATS.

Inadvertently, the wrong city of occurrence was listed on notices of infractions mailed to violators. As part of the normal review and quality check process performed by ATS, it was discovered that an improper computer code caused the city of occurrence to be listed as **Lynnwood** when the traffic violation occurred in **Longview**. As a result, 303 notices of infraction issued from February 14 through March 8, 2011 will be dismissed.

The dismissed notices of infraction include violations from both red light and school zone speed camera locations.

Refunds will be issued to any individuals who have already paid their citations. Individuals whose citations list the incorrect city of occurrence will receive a notice via mail that their citations have been dismissed.

The coding error has now been identified and corrected. ATS and the City of Longview have resumed processing violations and ATS will continue to monitor violation processing to ensure that future violations are printed properly.

The City of Longview will not be charged any operational fees for the time period associated with this processing error. Questions may be directed to:

Kate Coulson | Manager of Communications and Outreach
American Traffic Solutions, Inc.
7681 E. Gray Road | Scottsdale, AZ 85260
T 480 596 4644 | F 480 607 0901 | C 602 653 9951 | Toll-free 866 790 4111
kate.coulson@atsol.com

(3/16/11)

Recycling question of the week:

I found a "tag" on my recycling container. What does that mean?

If you find a tag on your recycling container, you have received one of the following:

Brown Education Notice – This notice is a courtesy that alerts you to a potential problem with your recycling that can be easily fixed. The recyclables found in your recycling container are in good condition, but a minor problem was observed, such as materials found inside a plastic bag. No re-inspection is necessary when you receive a brown Education Notice.

Red Violation Notice – If a significant amount of contaminated material is discovered in your recycling container, such as household garbage, a Violation Notice may be issued to let you know about the problem. An inspection will be done again, ranging anywhere from one week to two months later. Your recycling container may be removed after a third violation notice has been issued. (3/9/11)

Keep up with Longview's Planning Commission

The Planning Commission regularly meets at 7 p.m. on the first Wednesday of the month in the Longview Council Chambers. Would you like to know what they are discussing? Approximately one week before the meeting, go to www.mylongview.com and click on the agenda button. Once in the agenda section, click on the agenda/minutes button, then choose Planning Commission in the Meeting Body drop-down menu.

More information: Contact the Community Development Department at 442-5093, or use this quick link: <http://74.85.36.10/calendar/search.aspx#current>, then select Planning Commission under the Meeting Body drop-down menu. (3/9/11)

Longview City Council Annual Retreat on March 4 & 5

The City Council will meet the evening of March 4 and all day March 5 in their annual retreat session to discuss results gleaned from a recent citizens summit and to formulate an action plan for 2011 based upon their 2007-2012 Council Initiatives.

More information: Contact the Executive Office at 442-5004, or view the current [Council Initiatives](#) online. (3/2/11)

Recycling question of the week:

What color are my recycling and garbage containers?

Brown containers are for recycling. Green is for garbage. Place your containers out for collection no later than 6 a.m. on the morning of your regular pickup day, OR place them out the night before. Once emptied, please remove your containers from the curb or alley. This will help ensure that you do not become the victim of illegal dumping. (3/9/11)

More information: For more information about Longview's recycling program, please call us at 442-5222.

Longview Recreation receives award of merit

Longview Recreation has received an Award of Merit from the United States Specialty Sports Association (USSSA). On Saturday, February 12, the USSSA of Washington State recognized the City of Longview Parks & Recreation for "Outstanding Development of their Washington State United States Slo-Pitch Softball Association Programs."

Attending the ceremony to accept the award was Jennifer Wills, league & tournament director, and Steve Plampin, area director from Longview-Kelso Slo-Pitch Softball for Adults at Roy Morse Park. The award was presented by Regional Director Don Goldsby and State Director Richard Calvo who stated, "Your participation and commitment has helped promote the slo-pitch softball game throughout the state."

Parks & Recreation has been associated with USSSA Slo-Pitch softball since 2005. Recreation Manager Dick Mueller reports Longview Recreation recently hosted a state tournament, and has seen the program grow from 47 local teams to over 90 teams, a 91% increase in five years. Tournaments bring in over 100 teams each year with 50% from outside our area patronizing local lodging and restaurants.

"These softball programs provide important health benefits and increase economic development through tourism," said Mueller.

More information: Information about spring or summer adult softball leagues or tournaments can be found online at www.mylongview.com/parks_rec, or by calling Longview Recreation at 442-5400. (2/16/11)

Contract for water treatment plant construction awarded to Prospect Construction Inc. of Puyallup

Eight bids were received for constructing the water treatment plant at the Mint Farm Industrial Park. Prospect Construction Inc. of Puyallup received the award with an 18.8 million contract. Construction should begin around May 15 and finish by the end of September 2012. Council approved the contract at its February 10 Council meeting.

More information: View the [agenda item and background information](#), Item #13. (2/16/11)

Sign Up for a Community Garden Plot

Garden spaces will soon be available at the 32nd Avenue garden site. Each space is 20' x 40', with a limited number of smaller spaces of 10' x 40' available. Water is supplied but gardeners must prepare and rototill the soil. Returning gardeners have until March 11 to retain the same space as last year. New gardener registration begins March 15. The cost is \$49.50 for in-city residents, or \$54.50 for out-of-city residents. The smaller plots are only \$27.50 in-city and \$32.50 for out-of-city residents. Registration is accepted at Longview Recreation, 2920 Douglas Street, or you may call 442-5400 to sign up by phone.

(2/23/11)

Rent Now for Spring & Summer

Buildings and outdoor park facility rental dates are going quickly for special events such as weddings, receptions, parties, business meetings, and family gatherings. The McClelland Center and Woman's Club Building is available to rent. The City's rates are very competitive with lots of amenities at no additional cost. Choose from hourly rates, daily rates, large rooms, small rooms, close parking, chairs, tables, sound system, kitchen amenities, air conditioning, and much more! Lake Sacajawea Park has areas to rent for your wedding or reception. Plan your special family or business event now by calling Longview Recreation at 442-5400 or online at www.mylongview.com. (2/23/11)

City of Longview begins warning period for school zone traffic safety pilot program

The City of Longview's traffic safety cameras will begin taking photos of speeders in designated school zones beginning February 1, 2011. Cameras will capture both still images and video of the speeding violations. During the initial 30-day warning period, a warning notice will be issued to a vehicle's registered owner. There will be no fine for this warning notice. At the completion of the warning period, citations will be issued. School zone traffic safety cameras are located at:

- Columbia Valley Gardens School (2600 block of 30th Avenue)
- Mint Valley Elementary School (2700 block of 38th Avenue)

For the school zones with photo enforcement, the warning period will give drivers an opportunity to become familiar with the camera system. Cameras will operate only during school zone hours, and will not operate after school hours or on week-ends, holidays, and summer vacation.

"We encourage motorists to come to slow down, especially in school zones," said Police Captain Jim Duscha. "In a study by SAFE KIDS, a national non-profit organization, over 65% of all vehicles travel at least 10 mph over the posted school speed zone. Hit at 40 mph, a child has only a 20% chance of surviving.

"This program is one of our many public safety programs. Our goal with this one is to deter speeders and prevent collisions and injuries resulting from these violations. Nothing would make us happier than to see them decline to the point that the cameras are no longer deemed necessary at some point in the future."

Each violation reviewed and approved by the Longview Police Department prior to being issued. For more information on the City of Longview's Traffic Safety Camera Program Pilot Program, visit www.mylongview.com. (2/23/11)

Stimulus funding enables Longview to accomplish more with less

Effective and responsible financial management of the City continues to be a top goal of the Longview City Council. Receiving over \$4.5 million in federal economic stimulus funding has helped the City to achieve that goal.

"We are extremely delighted to have received over \$4.5 million in funds so far," stated City Manager Bob Gregory. "The competitive process to get this money is fierce. Our City staff has been very diligent in searching out and applying for funding wherever and whenever possible. Not all application attempts have been as successful as we would have hoped, however. We applied for several grants for our water supply project, for example, but, unfortunately, were not successful. The magnitude of this project in particular keeps us constantly on the lookout for funding opportunities."

In 2009 and 2010, the City of Longview received economic stimulus funding for a variety of projects and programs. To date, the following projects have been initiated, and in some cases completed, with this funding:

- ◆ Replaced sections of concrete street on 50th Avenue and on Oak Street with \$749,000 from the Federal Highway Administration, Surface Transportation Program.
- ◆ Constructed S. Weber Avenue and associated utility lines in the Mint Farm Industrial Park with \$1.44 million from the Economic Development Administration.
- ◆ Hired three additional police officers in conjunction with the City's Crime Reduction Plan with \$664,000 through the Community Oriented Policing - Hiring Recovery Program.
- ◆ Implemented elements of a school safety plan with \$190,000 through the Secure Our Schools Program that includes purchase of radio and video equipment.
- ◆ Upgraded police technology with e-ticket and video equipment for \$101,659 with an Edward Byrne Memorial Justice Assistance Grant.
- ◆ Funded a portion of the school resource officer program for \$23,000 through another Edward Byrne Memorial Justice Assistance Grant.
- ◆ Replaced incandescent traffic signal bulbs with LEDs through a \$165,400 Energy Efficiency and Conservation Block Grant.
- ◆ Replaced the bus garage roof, installed a GPS-based vehicle tracking system in all buses, and purchased a 35-foot hybrid coach, a hybrid supervisor vehicle, and three new paratransit mini-buses with a \$1.13 million Federal Transit Administration grant.

Much of the stimulus money was distributed through existing federal grant programs and some required submitting competitive grant applications. Our largest grant applications were for our water supply project and our sewer diversion project, but those applications were not successful because the projects were not considered "shovel ready" to begin construction at the time of grant awards.

Although City staff continues to look for other funding opportunities, all of our partnering federal agencies have indicated that stimulus funding is no longer available – that the stimulus program will have run its course after completion of the grants already awarded. (1/26/11)

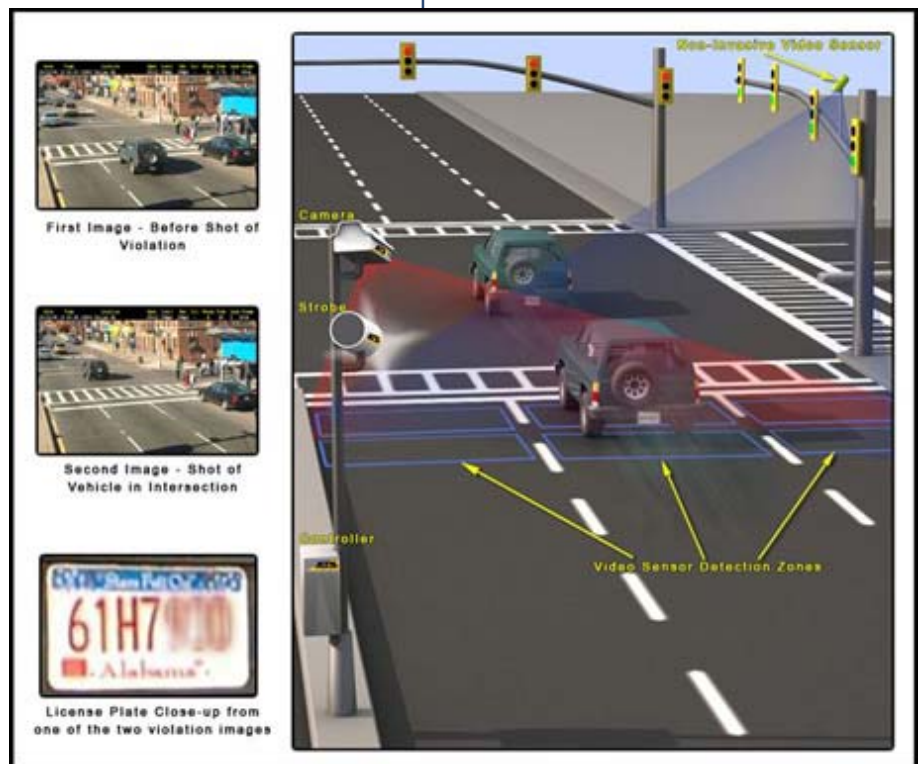
Traffic Camera Q&A:

How do the traffic safety cameras work?

The traffic safety camera system activates when motion is detected just prior to the stop bar AFTER the traffic signal has turned red. The cameras capture two images of an alleged violation, taken from the rear of the vehicle.

- The first image shows the vehicle at the white stop bar and the illuminated red light.
- The second image shows the violator in the middle of the intersection with the red light illuminated.
- The license plate image is a close-up from one of the images captured.
- Data, including the time, date, and duration of the yellow and red lights, also is recorded.
- Cameras also record a 12-second digital video of the violation, including six seconds prior to and six seconds after running the red light.

Read more about traffic safety cameras on the City's website at www.mylongview.com. (1/26/11)



Longview Teen Council

The Longview Teen Council was formed a year ago to be a voice for Longview youth to the Longview City Council and City staff. There are up to eleven representatives from Longview schools and community organizations that "govern" themselves with a Longview Recreation staff member as their advisor. Monthly meetings are held to discuss issues that face teens in Longview. The Teen Council members provide an update to Longview City Council once a month.

The Teen Council recently set their 2011 goals that include community service, charity fundraising, team building activities, increasing membership, and establishing a teen council email address. Their 2010 accomplishments included creation of bylaws, developing identifiable shirts, getting people involved, volunteering, community service, and week-long leadership training.

Teen Council members include President Caitlin Grant (Junior Leaders), Vice President Rainee Emmons (Three Rivers Christian School), Cameron Church (Mt Solo School), Anastasia Fischer (Monticello School), Bekah Keilwitz (Cascade School), Jessica Sanchez (RA Long High) and Chelsea Stevens (Youth & Family Link). Their staff advisor is Barbie Morrison, recreation specialist, and the City Council liaison is Councilmember Dennis Weber.

Currently there are openings for teen representatives from Mark Morris High School and home schooled students.

More information: If you wish to be involved in the Longview Teen Council, please call Barbie Morrison at 442-5406. (1/12/11)



City of Longview begins warning period for traffic safety pilot program

The City of Longview's traffic safety cameras will begin taking photos of red-light runners at designated intersections beginning January 1, 2011. Cameras will capture both still images and video of red-light running violations. During an initial 30-day warning period, a warning notice will be issued to a vehicle's registered owner. There will be no fine for this warning notice. At the completion of the warning period, citations will be issued.

Traffic safety cameras are located at the following intersections:

- ◆ Eastbound and westbound on Ocean Beach Highway at 15th Avenue
- ◆ Eastbound and westbound on Ocean Beach Highway at NW Nichols Boulevard
- ◆ All intersection approaches on Ocean Beach Highway and 38th Avenue

"We encourage motorists to come to a complete stop for red lights at all intersections.

For the intersections with photo enforcement, the warning period will give drivers an opportunity to become familiar with the camera system," said Police Captain Jim Duscha. "This program is one of our many public safety programs. Our goal with this one is to deter red-light runners and prevent collisions and injuries resulting from these violations. Nothing would make us happier than to see them decline to the point that the cameras are no longer deemed necessary at some point in the future."

Cameras will operate 24-hours a day and capture images of every vehicle running a red-light at the intersection. Warning signs are installed to alert drivers to the intersections monitored by safety cameras. The program is administered by American Traffic Solutions, Inc. (ATS), with each violation reviewed and approved by the Longview Police Department prior to being issued.

Intersection safety technology is just one way the City of Longview is attempting to make its streets safer for everyone.

More information: For more information on the City of Longview's Traffic Safety Camera Program, visit www.mylongview.com. A new 30-second public service announcement can also be viewed on Youtube at <http://www.youtube.com/user/mylongview98632>. (1/5/11)

Longview Library Offers eBooks and eAudiobooks

The Longview Public Library is now able to offer eBooks and eAudiobooks available to download from the library's website. Library cardholders can check out and download digital media anytime, anywhere, by visiting <http://www.longviewlibrary.org>. Once there, just click on the link to the Washington Anytime Library.

Users may browse for titles, check out with a valid library card, and download to PC, Mac®, and many mobile devices. To get started, users will need to install free software: OverDrive® Media Console™ for e-audiobooks, and Adobe® Digital Editions for ebooks. Titles can be enjoyed immediately or transferred to a variety of devices, including iPod®, Sony® Reader™, and many others. To see a list of supported devices go to the library's website and click on the Washington Anytime Library link. Some audio titles can also be burned to CD to listen to on-the-go. Titles will automatically expire at the end of the lending period. There are no late fees! You can have up to five items checked out at a time. While you can't renew items that you have out, you can always check them out again if they are available. You can place up to five items on hold at any time.

Funding for this new service, powered by OverDrive, comes from a generous donation from the Longview Library Foundation and from federal Library Service and Technology Act (LSTA) dollars granted through the Washington State Library. (1/5/11)

Your Marketplace now takes utility bill payments!

Your Marketplace now offers City of Longview utility customers the opportunity to pay their utility bill at their store. In addition to PUD bills, Your Marketplace located at 849 Commerce Avenue also accepts payments on behalf the City of Longview. Why not pay Your Marketplace a visit and take advantage of this easy and convenient one-stop service? (1/5/11)

Longview City Council sets aside \$25,000 for neighborhood grants

The Longview City Council has approved the funding of the neighborhood park grant program for the 14th year. This program will provide resident groups with matching funds for neighborhood improvement projects. The deadline for submitting an application is Feb. 1, 2011.

The City is committed to promoting and sustaining an environment that is responsive to resident involvement. The intent of the grant program is to encourage neighborhoods and organizations to get involved and work together towards a common goal. Service groups, neighborhood groups, athletic organizations, and business organizations can apply for all or a portion of the available \$25,000 to match with their own funds and/or in-kind services and materials. The Parks and Recreation Advisory Board will review the applications received and make recommendations to the City Council about which project(s) should be funded.

The Council feels it can increase the amount of improvements made to local parks by supporting this grant program through the funding of 50% of the work as a shared effort. Examples of qualifying projects include: land acquisition; purchase of new playground equipment, picnic shelters, benches and landscape materials; construction of sports courts such as tennis and basketball; development of hiking and biking paths; and, athletic field development.

The application for funds is handled through the Parks and Recreation Department. Interested parties may obtain application forms from the Recreation office at 2920 Douglas St., or online at www.mylongview.com. For additional information, please contact Parks and Recreation Director Rich Bemm at 442.5400. (1/5/11)

Got a question? Just Ask Longview!

The City of Longview makes it easy for you to contact us with your requests, questions, and concerns. ASK Longview is a new tracking system that will allow you to contact us 24 hours a day, seven days a week. The system features simple pull-down menus and is a breeze to use.

To make a request or leave a comment or question, just click the blue "ASK Longview" button on our home page at www.mylongview.com.

ASK Longview will greatly improve the way the City handles your requests by:

- ◆ Creating a unique case number for each request so that you can easily track its status at any time
- ◆ Automatically informing you about the status of your request and notifying you when the request has been completed



@ www.mylongview.com

Your 2010 Longview City Council

Longview City Council invites you to share information or ask questions about the City's goals by contacting them via email by logging onto the City Council web page at www.mylongview.com/government/CityCouncil.htm, or by using one of the email addresses listed below. You may also call a Council member at home; their phone numbers are listed in the local phone books.



Kurt Anagnostou

Position #1, council member since January 2000
Current term expires: 12/31/11
kurt.anagnostou@mylongview.com



Chuck Wallace

Position #2, council member since January 2008
Current term expires: 12/31/11
chuck.wallace@mylongview.com



Ken Botero

Position #3, council member since January 2008
Current term expires: 12/31/11
ken.botero@mylongview.com



Don Jensen

Position #4, council member since January 2000
Current term expires: 12/31/11
don.jensen@mylongview.com



Mary Jane Melink

Position #5, council member since January 2006
Current term expires: 12/31/13
maryjane.melink@mylongview.com



Chet Makinster

Position #6, council member since January 2010
Current term expires: 12/31/13
chet.makinster@mylongview.com



Dennis Weber

Position #7, council member since December 2000
Current term expires: 12/31/13
dennis.weber@mylongview.com