



Central
Houghton
Neighborhood
Association

VOLUME 01 | 04 | 2023

For Your Information

STAY IN THE LOOP WITH UPDATES AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

AT A GLANCE

- **Next Meeting May 9th 6:30-8:30 pm: Northwest University**
- Argue Health Sciences Center: 5600 111th Avenue NE, 2nd Floor, Rm 231
- **Featuring Kirkland Police Department**
- New CHNA Leaders to be voted on
- *Please come and bring your neighbors*



- The CHNAssociation sent out a survey this month to the ~500 people on our distribution list to gather feedback on what the community **is** and **is not** looking for in development and services at the Houghton Village property that the city recently purchased. The results of the approx. 200 people who responded were sent to City Council Members and relevant city staff this week.
- March 23rd we had our first back-in-person Neighborhood Association meeting at ICS (International Community School) 50 neighbors attended a thirty-minute social and meeting that focused on the city's purchase & development of the Houghton Village Property and an update on the City Council vote to NOT require King County's provider to do criminal background checks of residents at the La Quinta facility by a 5-2 vote.



- Residents have notified us about a few notable crime incidents in our immediate neighborhood since the fall: an armed robbery attempt with shots fired around 46th street, west of 108th, another home invasion and robbery attempt off of the Cross Kirkland Corridor (CKC) around 104th

and 58th, interrupted car theft west of 108th, an individual who attempted to rob Subway, then snatch a purse at Starbucks followed by a trespass at Northwest University, scammers at the gas station. We all need to be vigilant, look out for suspicious activity in our immediate areas and don't hesitate to call law enforcement and notify neighbors if something nefarious is happening or has recently happened. <https://www.kirklandwa.gov/Government/Departments/Police-Department/Community-Resources/Community-Crime-Mapping>

- Abandoned homeless encampment removal on South end of the Cross Kirkland Corridor: March-April. Neighbor **Dietmar Schimmel** found a very large, hidden and abandoned homeless encampment off of the trail. After the city was notified, various departments tried to determine who would remove the illegal dumping until it was determined that the property belonged to Paccar Corp. After neighbors continued to monitor the area and many city officials got involved, Paccar completely cleaned up the area and installed no-trespass signs. Please look for and report any illegal camping, abandoned shopping carts or dumping to the city immediately.



- Parks Funding Exploratory Committee (PFEC): We are lucky to have had neighbor **Susan Huether-Harris** serving on this committee for 8+ months. The City would like to put a tax on the ballot to fund a variety of additional park expenditures including most notably a community pool and recreation facility. The now city-owned Houghton Park and Ride on 70th is a strong contender should Kirkland residents vote in favor of funding this ballot measure. <https://www.kirklandwa.gov/Government/Departments/Parks-and-Community-Services/Parks-2023-Ballot-Measure>
- Have you been by Carillon Woods Park Recently? Neighbor **Jennifer Loy** has been working over the past few months with **Jodie Galvin** and her team at the City Parks Department to improve visibility, safety and general upkeep in the playground areas. If you see areas that need attention by the city, please reach out to them. *Is there a Houghton resident who is a parks steward to Phillis Needy or Watershed?*
- We appreciated **Kirkland PD** hosting a Coffee w/ a Cop event at Houghton Starbucks on March 28th.





- Neighbors **Lisa Hufford** founder of Simplicity Consulting and **Jenni Heuberger** of New Vue Plastic Surgery, Dermatology & Wellness were featured in the March issue of *Greet Kirkland Magazine*
- Neighbor **Brett Larkin** founder of Uplifted Yoga was featured in the January issue of *Kirkland Living Magazine*. *Make sure to let us know when Houghton neighbors are in the news!*
- **Neighborhood Matching Grant Program** provides Kirkland neighborhoods the opportunity to apply for city funds to improve the quality of life in neighborhoods. The CHNA used this program to help fund the 2023 Labor Day Picnic at Emerson School field and to support mailing an informational postcard to all addresses in our neighborhood. The 2023/2024 application is open. [Neighborhood Matching Grant Program – City of Kirkland \(kirklandwa.gov\)](https://www.kirklandwa.gov/Government/City-Managers-Office/NSP).
- **The Neighborhood Safety Program-** Allocates funds to implement safety related projects driven by neighborhood associations. Current Houghton applications include additional school zone signs and flashing beacons on eastbound NE 52nd street approaching 108th near the Emerson campus. The second proposed project requests constructing sidewalk improvements on the eastside of 111th Avenue south of NE 62nd to provide a continuous pedestrian facility to service the community school and ICS. We should find out in a month if our projects will be funded. <https://www.kirklandwa.gov/Government/City-Managers-Office/NSP>
- **Northwest University's** construction project at the chapel is moving forward. The community remains excited for aesthetic improvements, modernization of the building, and the additional space for students.
- **City Governance Training Academy - Kirkland Initiative starts May 1st** The City is establishing a training academy for residents who want to get *more involved* and want to learn more about City government. City staff are developing an 8-week academy (1 evening a week for 8 weeks) The City Council wants to get more residents involved and have them come in with a strong understanding of what the City does and how it works. <https://www.kirklandwa.gov/Government/City-Managers-Office/The-Kirkland-Initiative>

Apply for city boards and commissions : Thank you Houghton neighbors **John Tymczyszyn:** Planning Commission, **Amy Ambrosini**, Parks Board & **Susan Harris**, Senior Council. *What other Houghton neighbors are serving on boards or commissions with the city?*
<https://www.kirklandwa.gov/Government/Boards-and-Commissions>



You can reach the Central Houghton Neighborhood Association leadership by email or in person at centralhoughton@gmail.com We want you to keep us informed of what is going on in our neighborhood!

Thank you to **Larry Toetli**, President & Treasurer (retiring after 5 years of service), **Haris Husain**, Vice President (new Co-President), **Susan Harris**, Secretary (retiring) & **Lisa McConnel** Kirkland Alliance of Neighborhoods Representative

Instagram: @HoughtonLives Tag us in your posts #houghtonlives

Central Houghton Neighborhood Facebook Group: Post information relevant to our immediate neighborhood: cool things going on, incidents where a heads-up makes sense etc.

Nextdoor: Central Houghton

Houghton Neighborhood Association Website: www.houghtonlives.com

Green Kirkland Partnership: just completed some informational sessions in March. They are always looking for more volunteers who want to get involved in caring for our forested areas.

Our Kirkland: Use this website and application to log reports and service requests with the city.
<https://www.kirklandwa.gov/Government/Departments/Finance-and-Administration/Our-Kirkland>

Buy Nothing Houghton on Facebook: A great way to pay-it-forward or make a hyper-local ask. Offer up FREE stuff, ask for FREE stuff

