

**City of Kenmore
City Council Meeting
Regular Meeting Minutes
Monday, April 22, 2024**

These minutes are created to capture Council action. This is not a verbatim transcript.
Meeting video and audio is available on the City YouTube channel.

PRESENT:

Councilmembers: Mayor Nigel Herbig
Deputy Mayor Melanie O’Cain
Councilmember Joe Marshall
Councilmember Debra Srebnik
Councilmember Valerie Sasson
Councilmember Jon Culver
Councilmember Nathan Loutsis

Staff: City Manager Rob Karlinsey
Deputy City Manager Stephanie Lucash
City Attorney Dawn Reitan
City Clerk Anastasiya Warhol
Deputy City Clerk Michelle Kang
Assistant to the City Manager Garrett Oppenheim
Kenmore Police Chief Brandon Moen

Speaking Guests: Christian Kang, Proclamation Recipient
Jennifer Anderson LaRue, Proclamation Recipient
Rebecca Robertson, King County Chief Presiding Judge
Karama H. Hawkins, King County District Judge
Raul Martinez, King County District Judge
Sarah Robertson, Prosecutor
Jeff MacNichols, Public Defender
Brook Buettner, Regional Crisis Response Agency
Sarah Lopez, Crisis Connections

Public Comments Speaking Guests:
Patrick O’Brien, Kenmore Resident
Corina Pfeil, Kenmore Resident
Janet Hays, Kenmore Resident

CALL REGULAR MEETING TO ORDER

Mayor Herbig called the regular meeting to order at 7:00 PM.

LAND ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

Mayor Herbig read the Land Acknowledgement Honoring First Peoples.

FLAG SALUTE

Mayor Herbig led the Council in the flag salute.

AGENDA APPROVAL

The agenda was approved as presented.

PROCLAMATIONS

- A. The Kenmore City Council proclaimed May 2024 as Affordable Housing Month.
[Affordable Housing Month - May 2024](#)
- B. The Kenmore City Council proclaimed May 2024 as Asian American, Native Hawaiian, and Pacific Islander Heritage Month. This proclamation was accepted by Christian Kang from Cultivate, LLC.
[Asian American, Native Hawaiian, and Pacific Islander Heritage Month - May 2024](#)
- C. The Kenmore City Council proclaimed May 2024 as Pedestrian and Bicycle Safety Month. This proclamation was accepted by Kenmore resident Jennifer Anderson LaRue.
[Pedestrian and Bicycle Safety Month - May 2024](#)

WHERE'S THE FUN?

City Manager Rob Karlinsey shared a Kenmore Love Note from this past weekend: Thoughtful Citizens' Earth Day trash clean up.

Deputy City Manager Stephanie Lucash highlighted the new Kenmore business, Seatown Treats, which had its grand opening this past Saturday. Located at 6830 NE Bothell Way Suite A, Seatown Sweets offers cakes, cupcakes, and other desserts.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

The City Council took comments from the public.

Timestamped link here: <https://www.youtube.com/live/YXR6YR-uCQ0?si=NPd3GHJG0YICfUgk&t=933>

CONSENT AGENDA

- A. Cancel the City Council Regular Meeting of Monday, May 27, 2024 (Tuesday, May 28, 2024), in recognition of Memorial Day.

- B. Approve the City Council Special and Regular Meeting Minutes from April 8, 2024.
[City Council Special and Regular Meeting Minutes from April 8, 2024 \(Uploaded 4/18\)](#)
- C. Authorize the City manager to enter into a maintenance agreement with Sound Transit.
[Agenda Bill - Sound Transit Maintenance Agreement](#)
- D. Accept \$1,500,000 of Sound Transit System Access Program funding for the NE 181st Sidewalk Project and authorize the City manager to execute the appropriate agreements with Sound Transit.
[Agenda Bill - Sound Transit System Access Program Funding](#)

MOTION: Councilmember Srebnik moved to approve the consent agenda items A-D outlined above. Councilmember Loutsis seconded the motion.

VOTE: Consent Agenda was approved by UNANIMOUS CONSENT.

STUDY SESSION AGENDA

- A. King County District Court, presented by Chief Presiding Judge Rebecca Robertson, Judge Karama H. Hawkins, and Judge Raul Martinez
[Presentation - King County District Court \(Uploaded 4/16\)](#)
[King County District Court Annual Report 2023 \(Uploaded 4/22\)](#)

Deputy City Manager Stephanie Lucash opened the annual public safety study session and Assistant to the City Manager Garrett Oppenheim introduced all parties present. The presentation from the King County District Court covered how the court is set up, its mission, and how it operates. The judges explained the division of power among the branches of government at the federal, state, and county levels, pointing out the judiciary's independence. The presentation also talked about the court's geographical divisions, specifically focusing on Kenmore and Shoreline. The judges handle a range of cases, from criminal and civil infractions to small claims, protection orders, and name changes. The court's mission is to provide a fair and accessible way to resolve civil and criminal cases.

The presentation also went over how the court uses its time and resources, noting that most of the time was spent on criminal cases, which could take years to resolve. It detailed additional services like judge-supervised probation, interpreter services, and passport applications. The court aimed to stop criminal behavior through punishment and rehabilitation, funded by the King County General Fund, city contracts, and specific levies. The caseload stats showed changes over five years, with COVID-19 having a big impact. The judges mentioned the jump in cases after the City implemented the Kenmore

Automated Photo Enforcement (KAPE) program. The presentation also highlighted the work of the Shoreline-Kenmore Community Court (open in January 2023), focusing on community service and rehab, and mentioned their community engagements. The judges were pleased to announce that Kenmore residents have already graduated from the community court program. The judges also emphasized the engaging, collaborative, and productive relationship they have with the City of Kenmore.

B. Prosecutorial Services Update, presented by Prosecutor Sarah Roberts

[Presentation - Prosecutorial Services Update](#)

Prosecutor Sarah Roberts gave an update on prosecutorial services in Kenmore. She explained that the prosecution team handles all misdemeanor and gross misdemeanor crimes within the City's jurisdiction, advising law enforcement and staying updated on legal changes. The process of prosecuting a crime involves reviewing police reports, gathering evidence, interviewing witnesses, and representing the city in court. The Prosecutor also focuses on restorative justice, addressing underlying issues like mental health and substance abuse. Virtual hearings have improved access to justice, while in-person hearings are still required for certain cases. For domestic violence cases, there are mandatory arrests and no contact orders, with support provided by a Domestic Violence Victim Advocate. The presentation reiterated alternative courts, like Mental Health Court and Veterans Court, and also mentioned the Kenmore Community Court which non-violent offenders with resources for rehabilitation.

C. Public Defender Services Update, presented by Public Defender Jeff MacNichols

[Presentation - Public Defender Services Update](#)

Public Defender Jeff MacNichols gave an update on public defender services in Kenmore. The law firm has been operating since 1992 and serves multiple areas in King County. The team, with significant public defense experience, was crucial in establishing various Community and Wellness Courts. Post-COVID, court operations have returned to normal with some virtual options. Case resolutions include trials, plea bargains, and several diversion programs like Mental Health Court and Veterans Court. They handle various cases, including driving offenses, domestic violence, property crimes, and assaults. Beyond legal representation, they connect clients to essential services like mental health treatment, housing, and medical care. Like the previous two presentations, Mr. MacNichols's presentation emphasized the positive impact of Community Court and thanked the Council for supporting forward-thinking initiatives and support for programs such as the electronic home monitoring program.

D. Regional Crisis Response (RCR) Agency, presented by RCR Executive Director Brooke Buettner

[Presentation - Regional Crisis Response Agency \(Uploaded 4/16\)](#)

The presentation by the Regional Crisis Response Agency, led by Executive Director Brook Buettner, focused on their work with mental health professional crisis responders. RCR is funded by five cities (Bothell, Kirkland, Shoreline, Lake Forest Park, and Kenmore) and currently employs 10 full-time crisis responders. They provide behavioral health first response services to address mental health crises in the community. Early program outcomes show significant positive impacts, including a 67% reduction in adult jail bookings, a 60% decrease in crisis service events, a 4% reduction in emergency department admissions, and a 14% increase in behavioral health enrollment. The agency's efforts aim to improve mental health support and reduce the burden on other emergency services. For the future, Brook mentioned that the agency is working with NORCOM to use the dispatching process to route people to RCR services as needed.

- E. Connections Health Solutions, presented by Connections Health Solutions Vice President of Implementation Sarah Lopez
[Presentation - Connections Health Solutions](#)

Sarah Lopez from Connections Health Solutions discussed the plan to open the crisis care facility located at 11419 NE 122nd Way in Kirkland in July 2024. The plan is to open the 24/7 center and focus on serving adults. The facility has two entrances: a front door for walk-ins and a back door for law enforcement, first responders, and co-responders. Their clinical programs focus on providing immediate and accessible mental health care. Key priorities include ensuring timely and effective treatment for those in crisis, supporting law enforcement, and integrating services with other first responders to improve community health outcomes.

- F. 2023 Kenmore Police Services Report, presented by Kenmore Police Chief Brandon Moen
[2023 Kenmore Police Services Report \(Uploaded 4/15\)](#)
[Presentation \(Uploaded 4/15\)](#)

The Kenmore Police Chief Brandon Moen presented the 2023 Police Services Report. The department consists of 1 police chief, 12 patrol officers (with 2 current vacancies), and 1 detective, providing 24/7 coverage. Kenmore has one of the lowest numbers of officers per 1,000 residents in King County and the state. In 2023, Kenmore was ranked the 7th safest city in Washington. The police handled 3,394 calls for service, 156 online reports, 6,618 on-views, and investigated various incidents including 39 death investigations, 117 trespass complaints, and 53 burglaries. They also engaged in many community projects and launched a body-worn camera program. Additionally, there was a significant increase in motor vehicle thefts and a decrease in crimes against persons and property. The department's efforts included a successful gun buyback program and a focus on community engagement and safety initiatives.

The Council thanked the public safety panelists for their exceptional service to our community and for supporting the safety, justice, and health of our residents.

STAFF REPORTS

City Manager Karlinsey reminded the Council of the upcoming retreat scheduled for April 26 and 27.

COUNCILMEMBER REPORTS & COMMENTS

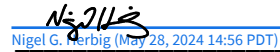
ADJOURNMENT

Mayor Herbig adjourned the meeting at approximately 10:34 PM.



Anastasiya Warhol (May 22, 2024 18:56 PDT)

Anastasiya Warhol, City Clerk



Nigel G. Herbig (May 28, 2024 14:56 PDT)

Nigel Herbig, Mayor

Minutes April 22

Final Audit Report

2024-05-28

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