



THE UPDATE

March 2019

Council Highlights

Elected officials have been working on the following:

December

- Updated laws on business licenses to meet new state law
- Adopted the Subarea plan for the Arlington portion of the Arlington-Marysville Manufacturing Industrial Center
- Appointed Gayle Roeber to the Airport Commission
- Updated City's fee resolution
- Adopted amendments to the 2018 budget
- Administered oath of office to new Fire Chief Dave Kraski
- Approved lodging tax grant fund distributions for 2019
- Approved design and installation for artistic benches on Arlington Valley Road
- Approved pay plan for non-represented employees

January

- Approved the appointment of Erin Keator as City Clerk
- Approved ordinance creating the position of Information Technology Director and approved the promotion of Bryan Terry to fill the position
- Reappointed Darrington Mayor Dan Rankin to be the regional representative to the Snohomish Health District Board
- Approved an agreement with Snohomish County Department of Emergency Management
- Approved an agreement with Snohomish Health District for funding in 2019
- Declared used materials and vehicles as surplus and authorized their disposal or sale
- Accepted a \$1.6 million grant from the Washington State Transportation Improvement Board for a roundabout at 204th Street NE and 77th Avenue NE
- Rescinded the 2019 utility rate increases

February

- Approved a sale agreement for city owned properties on Washington Avenue
- Approved a contract for design of the signal at Island Crossing
- Approved a contract for design of the resurfacing of Runway 11/29 at Arlington Municipal Airport
- Administered oath of office to new Firefighter / EMTs Aaron Boede, Zachary Hanson, and Paul Lizarraga
- Recognized Part-Time Firefighter Logan Harding for development of training academy for new part-paid employees
- Recognized Tiffany McAuslan for her years of service on the Parks, Arts, and Recreation Commission (PARC)
- Approved an agreement with the Snohomish Conservation District
- Awarded a construction contract for the installation of a standby generator at the Arlington Municipal Airport
- Accepted a grant from the Department of Natural Resources for wildland firefighting equipment
- Rejected all bids for the Innovation Center and Pocket Park Renovation Project

March

- Approved modification to the pay plan for non-represented employees
- Authorized the surplus and replacement of a staff vehicle for Administration
- Authorized replacement of a staff vehicle for Fire
- Approved an ordinance adding a revenue source for the public art fund
- Approved an ordinance amending the Parks, Arts, and Recreation Commission (PARC) responsibilities
- Approved an agreement with Snohomish County for funds to reconstruct the terraces at Terrace Park
- Approved an amendment to the agreement with City of Lake Stevens for our shared Public Defender grant

Message from the Mayor

Welcome to the March edition of the Arlington Update. Included in this edition are some important articles on our crime reduction efforts and some early successes from our Community Outreach Team and the Arlington Community Resource Center. Also included is a briefing on the new personnel joining the Arlington Fire Department, including three new firefighters that were hired two years early courtesy of a federal grant. A new partnership with North County Fire and EMS has provided the area with two new positions, a Deputy Chief – Medical Services Administrator and an Assistant Chief for Community Risk Reduction.



I want to draw your attention to an important piece about the planning we have undertaken to grow smart. This piece focuses on our efforts to provide training for our workforce and growing family wage jobs without having to leave Arlington. We will share two pieces about our emphasis on having a variety of housing available for our present and future residents and how infrastructure to support jobs and housing is planned for, designed, and constructed. An article on the Comprehensive Plan Amendment process inside shares how you can get involved in shaping our community.

Part of growing smart is planning the infrastructure so it can be constructed as we grow to handle that demand. We have included pieces on our upcoming Public Works projects for your perusal. And we give a brief update on the soon to be open Splash Pad at Haller Park.

The City of Arlington is working with a dozen community partners to gather information from you to understand and improve well-being in the Stillaguamish Valley. You can take the confidential survey online by visiting www.bit.ly/stillysurvey19. I hope you will take the time to complete the survey, which will help us better understand the needs and desires of the people of the Stillaguamish Valley.

Planning for the City's future cannot be done without citizen involvement. The City's advisory boards and commissions are instrumental in recommending policies and procedures to the Council. A number of these are currently seeking new members. More information and an application can be found on our website at www.arlingtonwa.gov/boards.

The Arlington Update only includes a small number of pieces on the important work we are doing here at the City of Arlington. I encourage you to sign up for our e-newsletter to receive weekly updates about City of Arlington efforts. Visit www.arlingtonwa.gov/enews to sign up.

Mayor Barb Tolbert

Mayor's Volunteer Award Presented to Judy Ness

On Tuesday, January 22, 2019, Judy Ness was presented with the Mayor's Volunteer Award. Judy has dedicated her last 13 years of volunteer service to service clubs, homeowners associations, and the City of Arlington. Judy currently volunteers with the Arlington Police Department, the Arlington Garden Club, the Barn Quilt Trail project, and the Gleneagle Homeowners Association. Congratulations, Judy, and thank you for your service!

To nominate a volunteer for the Mayor's Volunteer Award, visit our website at www.arlingtonwa.gov/volunteeraward



City Meetings

Check our website calendar for the latest information

- City Council Meeting 1st & 3rd Mondays at 7 p.m. Council Chambers 110 E Third St. 360-403-3441
- City Council Workshop 2nd & 4th Mondays at 7 p.m. Council Chambers 110 E Third St. 360-403-3441
- Airport Commission 2nd Tuesdays at 7 p.m. Airport Office 18204 59th Dr NE 360-403-3470
- Cemetery Board the 3rd Tuesday of the month at 2:30 p.m. at the Cemetery Office 360-403-3428
- Civil Service Commission 1st Wednesdays at 9 a.m. Butner Board Room 110 E Third St. 360-403-3439
- Library Board Meets quarterly at 5:30 p.m. Council Chambers 110 E Third St. 360-403-3441
- Parks Arts & Recreation Commission 4th Tuesdays at 6 p.m. Council Chambers 110 E Third St. 360-403-3448
- Planning Commission 1st and 3rd Tuesdays at 7 p.m Council Chambers 110 E Third St. 360-403-3435

Mayor's Office: 360-403-3441

Mayor: Barb Tolbert btolbert@arlingtonwa.gov

City Council Members:

- Jesica Stickles jesicas@arlingtonwa.gov
- Joshua Roundy joshjr@arlingtonwa.gov
- Debora Nelson deboran@arlingtonwa.gov
- Sue Weiss suew@arlingtonwa.gov
- Marilyn Oertle marilyno@arlingtonwa.gov
- Mike Hopson mikeh@arlingtonwa.gov
- Jan Schuette jans@arlingtonwa.gov

City Announces Utility Billing Changes Effective April 1

Effective April 1, the City will synchronize our billing dates for utilities to a single cycle per month. This is being done to address limitations with our financial system that makes a single billing cycle for our utilities more effective.

Cycle One Customers - Billing issued the 15th of each month

For those customers on Cycle One, the only change you will see to your billing statement is a new payment due date of the 20th of each month. The change will call for you to make two full payments for utilities by April 20th. This will cover the time period of February 1 through March 31. Customers on this cycle received letters explaining the change in their February 15 and March 15 billings.

Cycle Two Customers - Billing issued the 1st of each month

For those customers on Cycle Two, you will receive a "catch up" bill around March 15th to close out your utility usage from February 16 through February 28. This bill will only include the base rates for water, sewer and stormwater and will be due April 20, 2019. You will receive your first true monthly bill on or about April 1, 2019. This bill will account for your utility usage from March 1 through March 31, 2019 and will be due April 20, 2019.

During this transition to a single billing cycle, the City will be waiving late fees and shut offs for one month, until May 20, 2019. If you need to make payment arrangements with the City for your utility account, please contact the Utility Billing staff at 360-403-3421 or finance@arlingtonwa.gov.

Copies of the letters sent to all customers, with complete billing schedules for 2019, are available on our website at <http://www.arlingtonwa.gov/205/Utility-Billing>.

If you are a user of Xpress Bill Pay, you may need to update your due dates and payment limits to align with this change.

The Arlington Community Resource Center (ACRC) hosts budgeting classes two times a month that may offer tips to help you budget for this change. Contact ACRC at 360-386-7989 for more information, including dates and times.

If you have any questions or concerns about this change, please contact us at 360-403-3421 or finance@arlingtonwa.gov.

Police Department Update

Community Outreach Team Update

In partnership with the Snohomish County Sheriff's Office and the City of Marysville, the Arlington Police Department launched the Community Outreach Team in March 2018. The team is comprised of an Arlington Police Officer and a Snohomish County Social Worker. This program has made significant strides to reduce the negative impacts of the opioid epidemic in our community, with 711 contacts made, 82 substance abuse assessments completed, 35 receiving substance abuse treatment, 32 completing substance abuse detox, 27 have secured housing, and 19 are graduates of long-term treatment. Launched on March 29, 2018, the team now has statistics from May 2018 through January 2019.

ACRC year end stats

Another partner in our public safety efforts is the Arlington Community Resource Center (ACRC). Providing wrap around services, the staff specializes in Trauma Informed Care and serve people each day facing instability and crisis. They also help low-income families and individuals meet life's basic needs. Other services include assistance with mental health, domestic violence and substance abuse. They help individuals overcome language and cultural barriers. They can also help with education and employment needs. The ACRC team provided services, resources and referrals to 2,008 people, provided mental health services to 261 people, and secured stable housing for 158 people.

Crime Down in 2018

Chief Jonathan Ventura recently shared some incredible strides the department made in 2018 in reducing crime in Arlington. Specifically he noted that:

- Burglaries decreased 13%
- Robberies decreased 38%
- Malicious mischief decreased 16%
- Theft decreased 15%
- Shoplifting decreased 11%
- Vehicle theft decreased 40%
- DUIs decreased 3%
- Assaults decreased 19%

Chief Ventura also shared that proactive efforts by Arlington officers increased in 2018, with an increase of 40% in traffic stops and a 24% increase in self-initiated officer activity to keep Arlington safer.

The department processed 12% more pistol transfers over 2017, over 3,400 individual pieces of evidence and over 900 public records requests which took over 570 hours of staff time to process and respond.

Of concern, Chief Ventura noted that domestic violence cases were up 4% in 2018. Chief Ventura announced the launch of a new program in 2019 to address this issue. On January 2, 2019 the City hired Bridge Coordination Services to serve as the domestic violence coordinator, working as a liaison between victims of domestic violence, prosecution services and the Arlington Police Department.

Fire Department Staffing Update

The City of Arlington swore in three full time firefighter / EMTs at the Tuesday, February 19, 2019 City Council meeting. Thanks to a federal grant provided from the Assistance to Firefighters Grant (AFG) program, the City was able to hire for these three positions two years early. The new firefighters, Zachary Hanson, Aaron Boede, and Paul Lizarraga, began attending a 14-week fire training academy hosted by Snohomish County Fire and Rescue near Everett. They will train 40 hours a week learning skills to prepare for their first shift assignment at Arlington Fire.

In March, Arlington Fire and North County Fire & EMS announced a partnership to provide additional services to the residents and businesses in Arlington and North County Fire's service area. With the approval of the partnership agreement, the City of Arlington hired a Deputy Chief - Medical Services Administrator and North County Fire & EMS hired an Assistant Chief for Community Risk Reduction.

The Deputy Chief - Medical Services Administrator, supervising the day to day emergency medical services programs of both agencies, is filled by Chris Dickison. Chief Dickison is a 19+ year employee of the City of Arlington, serving as a paramedic since 2002.

The Assistant Chief for Community Risk Reduction, supervising community risk reduction, fire prevention and investigation activities for both agencies, is filled by Mike Makela, a designated fire marshal through the Center for Public Safety Excellence with more than 20 years of experience.

Tell Us About Your Well-Being, Enter to Win a Bistro Gift Card

Do you feel connected to the Stillaguamish Valley community? Do you have access to the prevention resources you need? Are you getting appropriate health screenings?

These are just a few questions that we would love to ask you.

The City of Arlington along with some key community healthcare partners want to lead the way in understanding and improving well-being in the Stillaguamish Valley. We're inviting the whole community to participate in creating a well-being "northstar" for the region by taking a confidential online survey located at www.bit.ly/stilysurvey19.

Your participation will help us better understand the needs and desires of the people who live in the Stillaguamish Valley (zip codes 98241 and 98223), so community partners can respond accordingly.

The project is funded and organized by Stilly Valley Health Connections and the Cascade Valley Health Foundation in collaboration with The Providence Institute for a Healthier Community.

You can take the confidential survey online by visiting www.bit.ly/stilysurvey19. You'll need 10-15 minutes to get through the questions, and it will be open through April 15th. The goal is to gather at least 500 community responses, but hopefully more. Participants who enter their email address and demographic information will be entered to win a \$100 gift card to our beloved Bistro San Martin restaurant in downtown Arlington! Please note that your information will not be made public.

The survey, which has been tailored specifically for the Stillaguamish Valley, is based on The Community Health and Well-being Monitor - a resource developed by Providence Institute for a Healthier Community and the residents of Snohomish County - to get a baseline picture of the total health and well-being of our community.

In this tailored survey, questions are specifically designed to reveal data about three areas: 1) community connectedness, 2) access to information and resources to support prevention and early detection, and 3) chronic disease support. The information gathered will also be analyzed alongside the results of the annual Snohomish County Health and Well-being Monitor to understand how the Stillaguamish Valley compares to the whole county.

We trust that the strong community connections in the Stilly Valley will make this the most successful survey yet. Please take the time to pass this along to your friends and neighbors.

Access the survey online here: www.bit.ly/stilysurvey19 before April 15th.

The Importance of Growing Family Wage Jobs in Arlington

Over the last several months the City has received communications from concerned residents about the pace of growth in Arlington. We want to take some time to share with you why this growth is essential to economic equity in our community. To explain the essential nature of this growth, we need to review some interesting statistics about the economic inequity faced by many of our residents and how Arlington addressed this significant problem.

In the months after the Oso Landslide, the City was not only dealing with the emotional aspects of this tragedy, we were also facing the financial impacts. In late 2014, Arlington was just emerging from the Great Recession and downtown Arlington had 24 vacant store fronts. At the same time of the slide, many of our households were facing financial hardship. In fact, a United Way study of poverty in Snohomish County identified that one in three households in Arlington were struggling to make ends meet. The region's high cost of living was affecting the ability of many to afford housing, transportation and child care, making it harder for our residents to get and keep a good job. And although the high concentration of aerospace and manufacturing industries has led to considerable wealth in Snohomish County, the region's high cost of living has kept many families at risk of falling into or never escaping poverty. After facing a natural disaster, the City realized that a concerted, strategic effort to address poverty and economic inequality in our community was essential to our continued viability.

In the months after the slide and the release of the United Way study on poverty, the City worked cooperatively with the Town of Darrington and Snohomish County, among other partners to develop the Stillaguamish Valley Economic Recovery Plan. The plan outlined essential elements to recover from the natural disaster of the Oso Landslide and make us more resilient to economic downturns, focusing on areas of employment, education and workforce training, affordable housing, while preserving the unique quality of life inherent to the Stillaguamish Valley.

The City's focus was on growing family wage jobs in Arlington to address the financial inequity faced by many of our residents. This effort was two-pronged, focusing on providing education and workforce training in our community and increasing the number of jobs available to our residents. These efforts have been strategic, planned, and cooperative. We began by capitalizing on the industries in Arlington, connecting these suppliers with new manufacturers, and Arlington's land bank. Growth at Paine Field and areas in Seattle have forced many companies to relocate to Arlington. These relocated companies have brought both short term and long term job opportunities to our residents. In fact, the City grew the number of jobs in town by 3,000 between 2014 and 2018. We continue to channel our energies on the development of the Arlington-Marysville Manufacturing Industrial Center (AMMIC), which is estimated to bring another 15,500 family wage jobs by 2040. Our downtown core has also benefitted from this growth, with just five vacant store fronts in late 2018.

Our focus on job creation led to the discovery that although we had an available workforce, they needed to be better educated and trained. The City took a cooperative approach to providing the educational opportunities, working with our existing industries to identify the education and training gaps, and working with Arlington Public Schools and Everett Community College to bridge those gaps with programs like the Aerospace Joint Apprenticeship Committee (AJAC) at Arlington High School, and Everett Community College's Advanced Manufacturing Training and Education Center (AMTEC) at Weston High School. These training programs partner with our local employers to provide real world experience and apprenticeships, leading to life-long career opportunities and family wage jobs.



Photo courtesy of Arlington Public Schools

Comprehensive Plan Update Process Underway – Get Involved

The Arlington Comprehensive Plan is a living document that expresses all of the community priorities and policies that guide the city's vision and what we want our city to become. Broad in scope, the Comprehensive Plan touches on issues ranging from what type of development should go where and road improvements to protection of our natural resources and critical areas and park space. And importantly, the Comprehensive Plan acts as our community vision over a long time period.

From time to time, the priorities that guide this vision change and our policies for how we plan to grow need to be changed as well. Arlington citizens, the City, or a local government agency with property within our city limits may propose amendments to the Comprehensive Plan at any time. Those amendment proposals may only be considered by the City at specific time periods through a process called docketing.

The docketing process is the process for receiving and evaluating the submitted proposals to amend the City's Comprehensive Plan, zoning map and development regulations. The intent of the Washington State Growth Management Act (GMA), a state law adopted in 1990, is to concentrate growth into cities and stop urban sprawl. GMA requires cities like Arlington to maintain procedures for residents interested in suggesting changes to their GMA-based comprehensive plans, zoning maps, and development regulations. The GMA limits cities to amend their comprehensive plans to once per year with a few exceptions. The City of Arlington has posted the docketing procedures outlined in the City's Municipal Code on our website at <http://www.arlingtonwa.gov/compplanamendments>.

While the City's Community and Economic Development Department accepts applications for these types of amendments year-round, staff can only review and evaluate them on an annual basis, during the small window allowed. In reviewing applications for amendments, the staff needs to consider the GMA and our own growth policies, not just public opinion. Once the applications are reviewed by City staff for compliance with the main requirements of the Growth Management Act and our own local policies, they are forwarded to the Planning Commission for their review. The Planning Commission forwards their recommendations to the City Council for final decisions.

The City Council makes the ultimate decision on all applications.

In 2019, the City received 11 applications for changes to the Comprehensive Plan. The requested changes are:

- Rezone of Property at 3209 180th Street NE (City property adjacent to York Park) from Public/Semi-Public zoning to Residential High Density
- Annexation of the Old Town Stormwater Wetland property
- Inclusion of the City's Complete Streets Policy in the Comprehensive Plan
- Inclusion of the Arlington-Marysville Manufacturing Industrial Center (AMMIC) Subarea Plan in the Comprehensive Plan
- Amendment to Arlington Municipal Code 20.44 to update Unit Lot Subdivision regulations
- Inclusion of the Arlington Public Schools Capital Facilities Plan in the Comprehensive Plan
- Inclusion of the Lakewood School District Capital Facilities Plan in the Comprehensive Plan
- Rezone of three privately owned properties at 7103, 7115, and 7127 172nd St NE to high density residential (RHD) from low-moderate density residential (RLMD)
- Rezone of a privately owned property at 606 E. Highland Drive to high density residential (RHD) from medium density residential (RMD)
- Rezone of a privately owned property at 6927 204th Street NE to General Commercial with a Mixed Use overlay from General Industrial
- Rezone of a privately owned property at 6810 211th Place NE to Neighborhood Commercial from low-moderate density residential (RLMD).

Information on each of these applications is available on our website at <http://www.arlingtonwa.gov/compplandocket>.

The public is invited and encouraged to participate in the entire process. Sign up to receive Planning Commission and City Council agendas to keep up to date on the processing and review of any applications and provide your input. Sign up is easy: go to www.arlingtonwa.gov and click on "Notify Me". Follow the easy instructions to sign up and click on the icon next to the item you would like to subscribe to.

Haller Park Splash Pad Nears Completion

Construction on the Haller Splash Pad is nearing completion. Concrete for the 3,300 square foot spray deck and seating has been poured. The next steps are to install the above ground spray equipment and color the concrete to match our river theme.

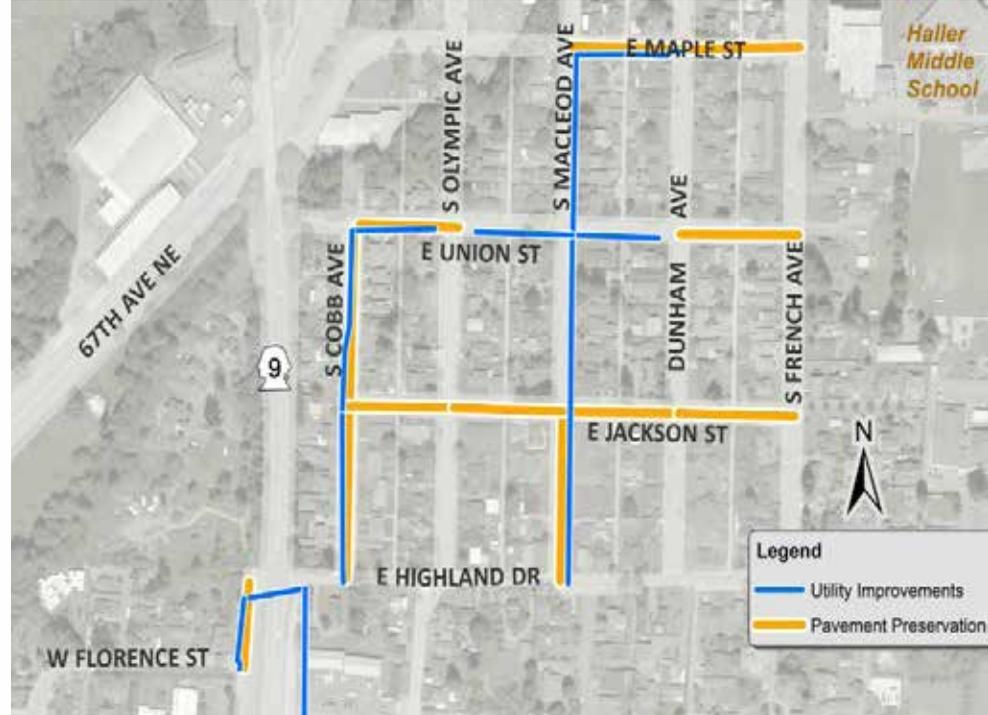
Staff is anticipating the completion of the construction in late March or early April. Crews will be working on final touches including irrigation installation, turf installation, signage, and new garbage cans. Testing of the equipment will need to be completed before the splash pad is fully operational and open to the public. Keep checking our website for updates and a formal announcement about a grand opening in late May: www.arlingtonwa.gov/splash.



2019 Public Works Construction Projects

2019 Utility and Pavement Preservation Project

In April bids will be opened for the 2019 utility and pavement preservation project. The City has changed how it approaches utility work, ensuring that the work is planned with our road improvements. This planning prevents tearing up newly repaved roads. Contractors will be installing almost ¾ of a mile of new water main under S. Cobb Avenue, E. Union Street, S. McLeod Avenue, E. Maple Street, and S. Hazel Street. To install the new water line under S. Hazel Street, contractors will be completing a horizontal bore under SR-9. Almost ¾ of a mile of new pavement will be installed, plus repairs and upgrades to curb, gutter and sidewalk on S. Hazel Street, S. Cobb Avenue, E. Jackson Street, E. Union Street, S. McLeod Street, and E. Maple Street once the water main installation is complete. The work is anticipated to be completed in early fall.



Design for widening of SR 531 and Roundabout at 77th Avenue NE and 204th Street NE Underway Soon

Washington State Department of Transportation (WSDOT) engineers will begin working on the design for the widening of SR 531 to four lanes from 43rd Avenue NE to 67th Avenue NE starting in July. The \$39 million project is completely funded through the 2015 Connecting Washington package and construction is expected to start in 2021.

Citizens and businesses will be asked to give the City input on the design of the new roundabout at the intersection of 77th Avenue NE and 204th Street NE this summer. The City received a \$1.6 million grant from the Washington State Transportation Improvement Board for the project to improve vehicle safety and mobility. Construction on the \$2.55 million project is anticipated to start in Spring 2020.

If you have questions about any of these upcoming projects, please contact James Kelly, Public Works Director, at jkelly@arlingtonwa.gov or Ryan Morrison, City Engineer, at rmorrison@arlingtonwa.gov.



BRING YOUR CAMERA FOR PICTURES WITH THE EASTER BUNNY! FIRE AND POLICE VISITS
 ADDITIONAL PRIZES FROM ARLINGTON ARTS COUNCIL
 REFRESHMENTS BY ARLINGTON UNITED CHURCH HELP FROM YOUTH DYNAMICS

City Phone Numbers

Airport	360-403-3470
Cemetery	360-403-3428
Community & Economic Dev.	360-403-3551
Finance Department	360-403-3421
Fire Business Line	360-403-3600
Human Resources	360-403-3443
Mayor's Office	360-403-3441
Police Business Line	360-403-3400
Public Works Utilities	360-403-3526
Recreation	360-403-3448
Street & Park Maintenance	360-403-3459
Utility Billing	360-403-3421

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 Questions? Email administration@arlingtonwa.gov. 360-403-3441