



LAKE STEVENS STATE OF THE CITY

**We are a thriving
community that promotes
a vibrant economy,
preserves natural beauty,
and supports an
exceptional quality of life
for all.**

"One community around the lake."

LAKE STEVENS COMMUNITY NEWS

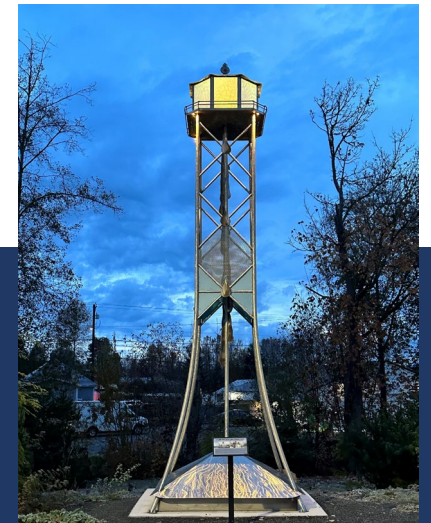
The Year of Ribbon Cuttings



After six years of hard work, WSDOT officially opened the State Route 9 and 204 roundabouts.



The Lake Stevens Community Food Bank opened the doors to their new building in June and have been thriving ever since.



Have you noticed the water tower sculpture at North Cove Park? This art piece was created by local artist, Joe Powers.



Have you rolled by the North Cove Skate Park? The stunning artwork was created by the Lake Stevens High School Design Club.

Sunset Beach Park reopened after a complete reconstruction this fall. This pocket park is the perfect place to soak in the amazing view of the lake.



The home of festivals and events, Mill Spur, had its first season this summer. We look forward to all the memories it will hold in the future.

WHAT WE DO



The city of Lake Stevens is home to **41,260 people** and shares the same name of the lake it surrounds and is nestled between the beautiful Cascade Range and Puget Sound.

- Police
- Administration
- Finance
- Information & Technology
- Planning & Permitting
- Economic Development
- Parks and Recreation
- Public Facilities/Some Utilities
- Transportation



How we are funded

Residents,
businesses,
and **visitors**
are all essential
to fund city
services.



PROPERTY

The city's 2024 property tax rate is \$0.72 per \$1,000 of assessed property value. The city is limited to a 1% property tax increase per year.



UTILITY

The city collects utility taxes for electric, phone and gas (capped at 6%) and water and garbage (6% no cap). The city does not collect tax on sewer.



SALES

The city retains a little over one cent per \$1 of the 9.3% sales tax collected in Lake Stevens. (The state retains 6.5%, leaving 2.8% for city and county collections.)



TOTAL PROPERTY TAX BREAKDOWN

City of Lake Stevens Property Tax – 2024

| Taxing Jurisdiction (00406 & 00408) | Amount (Per \$1,000 AV) | Percent of Total |
|---|-------------------------|------------------|
| Lake Stevens School District | \$2.99 | 37% |
| State School Levy | \$2.23 | 27% |
| Snohomish Regional Fire & Rescue | \$1.40 | 17% |
| City of Lake Stevens | \$0.72 | 9% |
| Snohomish County | \$0.48 | 6% |
| Sno-Isle Library | \$0.31 | 4% |
| Total Incorporated Lake Stevens Levy | \$8.13 | |



CITY FINANCIAL HEALTH

What Contributes to the City's Financial Health?

- Balanced annual budgets
- Strong General Fund Reserve
- Strong financial performance every year
- Ability to meet all financial obligations on time
- Prudent budget management

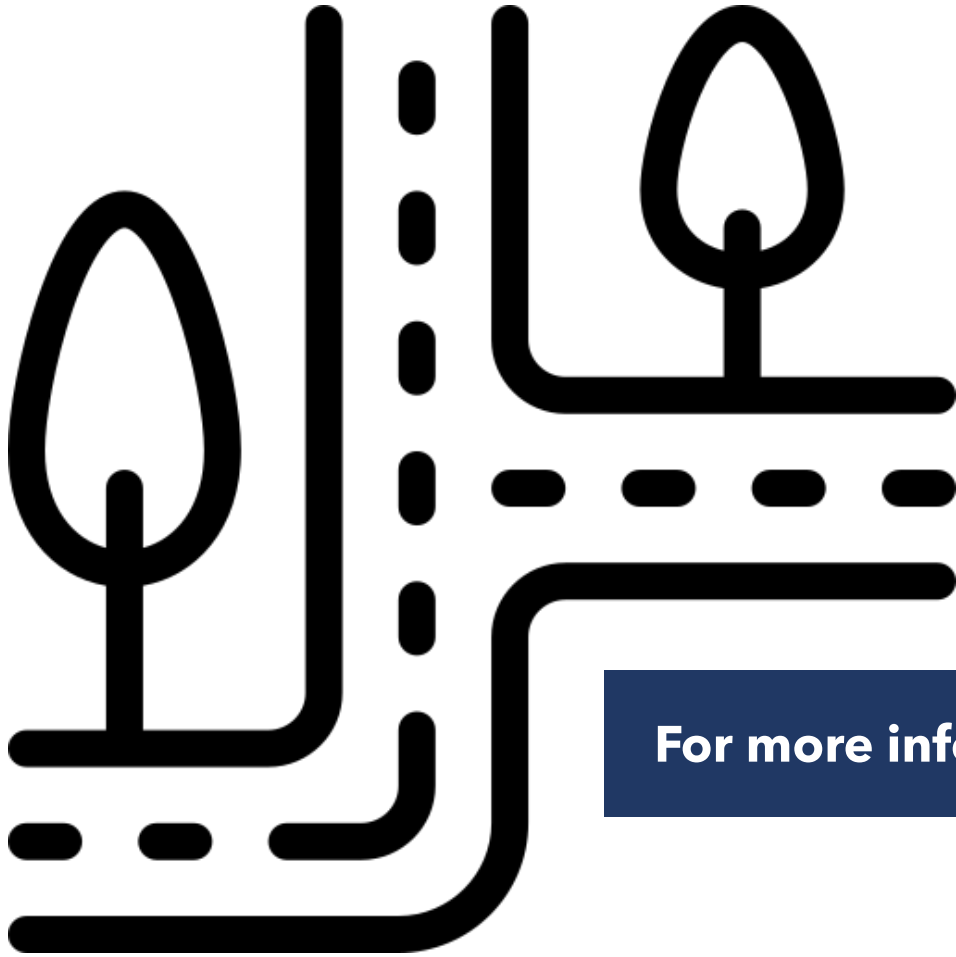
The City Receives 2nd Highest Bond Rating

Continuing to strive for better financial health has led to the city's increased bond rating from Aa2 to Aa1, the 2nd highest Moody's bond rating. Seven cities in the state have this rating, and only five have the highest rating of Aaa.

The Aa1 reflects their view of Lake Stevens' strong and robust financial and economic profile.



TRANSPORTATION BENEFIT PROGRAM (TBP)



Transportation Benefit Program, formally known as Transportation Benefit District (TBD), made significant progress in 2023. The city hired a Senior Civil Engineer to oversee the program. Currently, there are multiple projects in the design phase with the goal of construction starting summer 2024.

Through the TBP, the city will provide safe walkway and sidewalk connections to schools, street maintenance for high-volume roads, and traffic congestion relief.

For more information on TBP projects, visit www.lakestevenswa.gov



2023 Accomplishments

POLICE

The City of Lake Stevens was recognized as one of the safest cities in Washington according to SafeWise

Transitioned to new body-worn camera vendor to provide better services and reduce case management time

Awarded grant funding for officer wellness, coaching, and mental health support

Conducted Citizen Academy, a 9-week course providing LSPD operations insight

PUBLIC WORKS

Received WA Association of School Administrators Community Leadership Award and VUEWorks Implementation of the Year Award

Rolled out VUEWorks including CitizenVue in May and completed over 1,000 work orders in 2023

Constructed 35 Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) compliant curb ramps in the city with other ADA improvements

Completed ten capital projects with 13 more in design or ready for construction



2023 Accomplishments



COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT

Leading the City Hall campus and other facilities projects

Completed updates to Shoreline Master Program, Climate Sustainability Plan, and Housing Action Plan

Updated and enhanced eight internal and external process improvements

Fully staffed by hiring and internal promotions

PARKS AND RECREATION

Successful first year as an independent department including new and existing staff

Updated Park Ordinance, Park Rules, and Shelter Reservations Policy

Created an inventory of facilities and developed an annual maintenance list for parks

Completed the Sunset Beach Park reconstruction



2023 Accomplishments

HUMAN RESOURCES

Updated and rolled out the Accident Prevention Plan for all city employees

Improved the efficiency and employee experience of onboarding and electronic forms, through HR software

Hired 35 new employees and promoted five internally

Began new mental health program for employees including monthly mental health counselor office visits

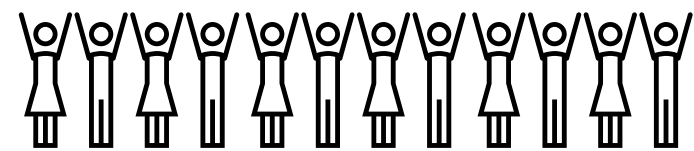
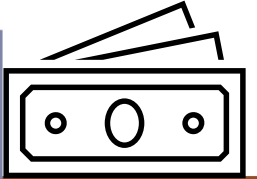
FINANCE

Received clean Financial and Federal audits

2024 Annual Budget adoption

Graduated multiple staff through Green and Black Belt LEAN trainings

Established FAQ sheets for payroll, accounts payable, and travel



2023 Accomplishments

CITY ADMINISTRATION

Hosted successful Legislative Reception in August

Received clean Joint Legislative Audit and Review Committee (JLARC) report. 1,750+ staff hours spent on requests.

Updated the Public Records Act policy, fee schedule, and council procedures

Processed over 1,700 public records requests

INFORMATION & TECHNOLOGY

Expanded the security camera program

Improved service request turnaround through HelpDesk

Recovery and updating data storage system

Creation of Geographic Information System (GIS) city and project maps

2024 Priorities

The goal of 2024 is to complete the following capital projects:

- Main Street Reconstruction
- 91st Street Sidewalks
- 131st Avenue NE Sewer Extension
- 79th Avenue & 8th Street SE Intersection



Main Street Reconstruction Design

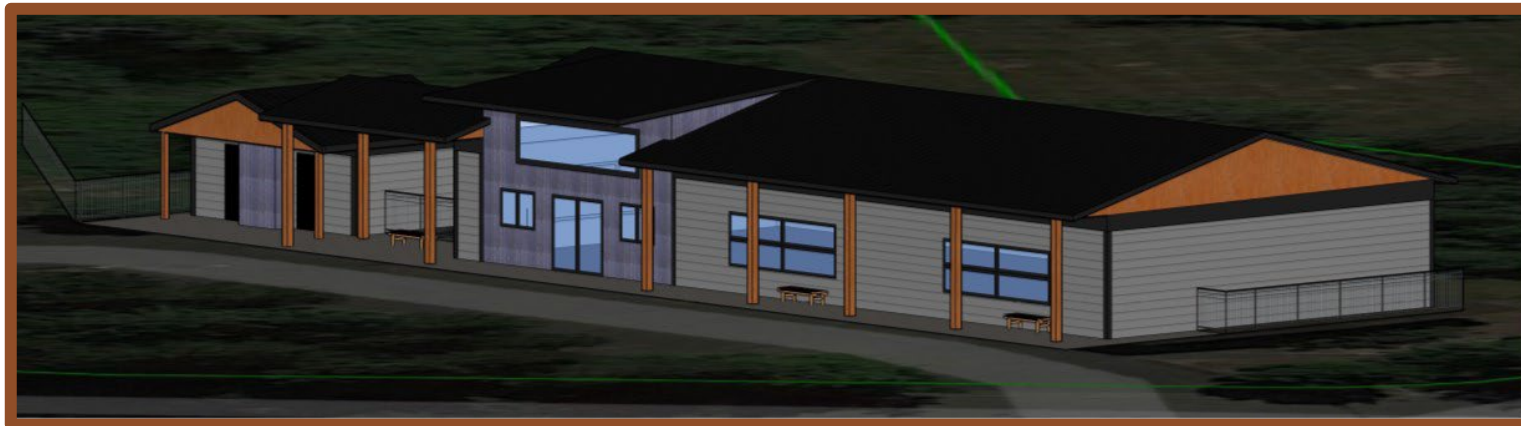


2024 Priorities



Powerline Trail Design

2024 park improvements include Frontier Heights Park and 20th Street Powerline Trail. The Cedarwood Community Center project will be moving forward with design and engineering in 2024.



Cedarwood Community Center Design



2024 Priorities

Continue the revitalization of 91st Ave NE by finalizing a road profile to enhance the Lake Stevens Center District.

The vision is to be a pedestrian-oriented “Main Street” and support mixed-use buildings (commercial and residential).

Continue the design of infrastructure improvements leading to the installation of new infrastructure along 131st St NE.

Finalize the downtown Main Street revitalization, while continuing to focus on marketing 20th St SE.

Lake Stevens Center District





"One community around the lake."



QUESTIONS?

MORE INFORMATION: www.lakestevenswa.gov