Public Works Project Updates
-Mark R. Dorsey, Public Works Director

Project Updates:
As is the case this time every year, the City’s Public Works Department is extremely busy completing and closing-out 2014 project work, laying the groundwork for the recently budgeted and approved 2015 activities, preparing and decorating for the City’s annual Chimes and Lights Festival (see below), and continuing to address day-to-day routine city maintenance activities. With many of the Public Works Department improvement projects and activities slated for 2014 now complete, here is a quick status summary of remaining projects and activities:

Demolition of Structure at 312 Alder Lane:
In association with the future Tremont Street Widening Project and in compliance with both the EPA and the Puget Sound Clean Air Agency, the vacant residential structure located at 321 Alder Lane has now been successfully demolished and the property cleaned up and stabilized. A demolition timeframe for the previous Wet Apple Publishing building has not been determined.

Bay Street Pedestrian Pathway (Segment #4) – Bike & Pedestrian Bridge:
The final design and permitting phase for the Bay Street Pedestrian Pathway (Segment #4) Bike and Pedestrian Bridge, funded through a State grant award, is successfully moving forward towards an anticipated summer 2015 construction timeframe. Staff has been meeting with the consulting team and State Agencies to finalize design and permitting details for this multi-modal pedestrian bridge crossing Blackjack Creek between Etta Turner Park and Bay Ford.

City Parks 2014:
The McCormick Village Park - Phase I Improvements have been successfully completed and the ribbon cutting ceremony held on August 11, 2014. City Staff continues to pursue grant funding opportunities for the anticipated Phase 2 improvements. The park is currently open daily. The City also anticipates in the very

Top 10 Response
-Police Chief Geoffrey Marti

I received several inquires about the recent news articles printed showing the City of Port Orchard on the Top 10 most dangerous cities in Washington State and would like to take some time to address concerns.

The statistics used for the articles are based off the FBI statistics reports for the year 2012. In 2012, we took in 834 reports of Property Crimes and a total of 69 Violent Crimes. These statistics are created from reports taken by our police officers.

The Port Orchard Police Department has fostered a very proactive approach to law enforcement. We encourage citizens to report crimes that occur. When we take reports from citizens, we adhere to a strict policy of documenting all those reports whether founded or not. These reports then become part of the statistical numbers provided to the FBI on a yearly basis.

We are committed to providing citizens with easy accessibility to the investigative resources of the Port Orchard Police Department. Due to the fact we encourage reporting and are diligent in properly documenting it, we tend to have property crime numbers that may appear higher than other jurisdictions.

We do recognize that being a victim of crime is not a situation anyone wants to be in. We think about this and how we can better serve our community everyday
that we put on the police service uniform. I encourage our police officers to identify crime patterns and come up with effective ways to deal with them.

The Port Orchard Police Department implements Problem Oriented Policing (POP) projects all over the community. By using proactive ideas and approaches, we are able to make positive changes in areas previously identified as at risk.

We offer education and support to citizens groups on crime prevention subjects. We have a crime prevention officer that is available for education talks and assistance with setting up Port Orchard neighborhood watch groups.

Our patrol officers are diligently patrolling the neighborhoods and businesses 24 hours a day. They are looking for anything that appears out of the ordinary and following up on any suspicious activities. Officers get daily information and updates on suspicious vehicles and/or wanted criminals. They use this information to actively look for suspects/suspicious activities throughout their shift.

Port Orchard Police Department uses the latest computer programs to help identify trafficking in stolen property and locate the criminals responsible for the thefts. We actively work with other law enforcement agencies to stop criminals who maybe working in several jurisdictions before they are able to strike again. With our citizens’ diligence, our police officers proactive initiative and the court systems actions, we are reducing crime. In 2014, our violent crimes are down 20% and our property crimes are down 10% from the 2012 statistics.

Over the past several years, our police department has taken on several criminal related challenges successfully. Our officers are truly involved in the community, working with our citizens and businesses to improve the quality of life and safety, while also proactively working with stakeholders to resolve repeat crimes and complaints that can bog down a department. The issue of being safe is a shared responsibility, between the citizens and the police. I can guarantee your police officers work hard every day to protect you, your property, and wellbeing.

**Contracting Services Processes**

- Nick Bond, Development Director

The City of Port Orchard is frequently required to look outside of City Hall to procure specialized services from consultants. The Department of Community Development and the Public Works Department often require outside technical assistance in the fields of architecture and engineering and for services in fields near future the completion of sports field lighting improvements at Van Zee Park. Parking lot improvements for the Van Zee Park entry off Poplar were completed earlier in the summer.

**Water System Leak Detection 2014:**

As a function of the City’s Water Use Efficiency Program, the annual Water System Leak Detection work was completed in September of 2014, with the Final Report for both the City Downtown and the McCormick Woods Water System(s) having been received from the Consultant. Public Works staff has commenced with making the needed repairs to the water system as recommended in report.

**16th Annual Festival of Chimes and Lights:**

The 16th Annual Festival of Chimes and Lights happened on December 6, 2014, and it was a huge success. It is estimated that between 5,000-6,000 people attended this free event. The Chimes & Light committee thanks the Public Works crew for their efforts in decorating the City with lights, and they also thank the numerous sponsors and volunteers for their efforts.

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such as environmental science, planning, or economic development. Contracts for Architectural and Engineering services are regulated under 39.80 RCW and include requirements for a Qualifications Based Selection (QBS) process. Environmental science, planning, economic development, and other similar consultant selections are categorized as personal services and have no statutory requirements for a consultant selection process, but cities are encouraged to follow general guidelines for selection which include considerations for qualification and price.

QBS is a competitive process for the procurement of services in which consultants submit statements of qualification to an agency, in our case to the City of Port Orchard. These statements do not include a discussion on the cost of services. The city evaluates the qualifications of the consultants to determine which firm is the most qualified to perform the required service. Once the most qualified firm has been selected, the city then negotiates with that firm for the price of services. If the city can’t reach an agreement on price with the most qualified firm, then it may negotiate with the next most qualified firm and so on until it has reached an agreement on the price for services.

There are a couple of ways that the city can go about procuring architectural and engineering services in a QBS process. For large complex projects, the city may want to publish an announcement that it is seeking qualified consultants for a specific project. For smaller projects, it may want to use a professional services roster, which is updated annually to identify qualified consultants. Port Orchard utilizes both processes depending on the project. Firms seeking to get listed on the City’s professional services roster may do so at any time and are notified of this opportunity annually in accordance with RCW 39.80.030. The City advertises the opportunity to get listed on the City’s professional services roster once a year, but companies wishing to be added to the roster may do so at any time by visiting http://mrscrosters.org/.

Very often, the most qualified consultant is located outside of the City limits. Questions are often raised asking why the City didn’t hire a local company to perform the architectural and engineering services work. Often, when the City looks to its professional services roster for a specific qualification, it finds that there are no local companies on the professional services roster from which it can solicit proposals. In addition, the QBS requirements mean that the City can’t negotiate with a local firm if it is not the most qualified for the work. Our local firms must compete with firms throughout the state and sometimes even with out-of-state and international firms on the basis of professional qualifications.

This same question comes up during large architectural and engineering projects for which the City publishes an announcement for a specific project. Bigger projects attract interest from big firms and once again, the City is required to follow a QBS process. The City is only able to hire for architectural and engineering services locally when that firm has been determined to be the most qualified for the work.

The Municipal Research organization produces a publication title contracting for services. This manual contains guidelines to assist local government agencies in contracting for services. The manual may be viewed at http://www.mrsc.org/publications/cfgs13.pdf.

Preventing Crime During the Holidays
-Port Orchard Police Department

The Holiday Season is in full swing and the Port Orchard Police Department would like to remind people...
that they can take steps to help prevent property crimes of opportunity. The following are a few good tips that will help you have a happier holiday.

- Install a **locking mailbox** at your home and retrieve your mail early in the day, before criminals have a chance to steal it.

- Get a **PO box** during heavy mailing times and use that address for packages, sensitive documents, or payments.

- Instead of putting outbound packages in your mailbox, **drop them directly at the post office**. Even the blue USPS boxes are commonly emptied by thieves at night.

- Have the package **delivered to a trusted relative, friend or neighbor** that you know will be home.

- Tell relatives to **AVOID sending cash**! It’s too easy to steal and impossible to trace.

- If you must send a physical payment through the mail, use **high security checks**.

- Use shipping services that offer tracking so that you can **track your packages progress**.

- **Insure the items** that you ship and **require a signature** at the other end.

- If you generally aren’t at home when packages are delivered, have them **shipped to your work** so that they don’t sit on your porch for hours.

- If you don’t have a choice, **provide instructions** about where deliveries should be left, in a less visible location.

**Some Additional Holiday Package Safety Tips to Remember:**

**Lock your car!**

I know this is obvious, but it’s one of those reminders I’ve just got to include. Don’t leave windows cracked open either, because even a sliver of space provides just enough leeway to get in the car.

**Empty the inside of your car of valuables**

Don’t leave anything of value inside your car. It only takes a minute to have a “bad guy” break the window, snatch your possessions and be long gone.

**Don’t leave packages in the car or trunk**

Avoid returning to your car and placing purchases in the trunk while you resume shopping. Believe it or not, the “bad guys” could be watching for such action. When you leave the vehicle to continue shopping, they will break into your car and snatch your purchases.

The Port Orchard Police Department takes property crimes seriously and we have several ways to report property crimes. If you need to report a theft that has already occurred and you do not know who the suspect is, you can do an online report by going to the cityofportorchard.us or kitsap911.org. If you need to report a crime in progress, dial 911.