

## Message from the City Manager

by Robert S. Stowe, City Manager

Recently, I submitted to the Council the second version of the City's strategic financial plan entitled, "The Roadmap: Setting the Course." This document contains a comprehensive examination of practical, prudent, and realistic courses of action available to sustain City services, which are valued by our citizens, and also provides for significant capital investments back into the community.

"The Roadmap" is meant to facilitate discussion and decisions that will have a lasting and positive influence on those who live and work in - or visit - Bothell.

Despite the financial challenges that lie ahead for Bothell's government, it is an exciting time and place to be in our City. The enthusiasm around redevelopment in the City's downtown core, the capital investment opportunities, and the desire to continually improve upon the way services are provided to our community are just a few aspects that make our situation unique and positive.

The City is positioned to meet the

challenges head-on and with foresight. Each of the recommended options contained in "The Roadmap," if implemented, will create financial stability by improving the alignment of

revenues and expenditures. Each option also includes a commitment to continuously examine expenses, seek appropriate reductions through greater efficiencies, find innovative ways to improve service and reduce costs, and, at the same time, carefully examine and cultivate new sources of revenue. Discussions by Council on "The Roadmap" are tentatively scheduled to resume in January following the seating of newly-elected Council Members.

I am excited about the opportunities we have to enhance Bothell as the premier place to live, work and raise a family and encourage you to read "The Roadmap: Setting the Course," which is available on the homepage of the City's website at [www.ci.bothell.wa.us](http://www.ci.bothell.wa.us).



City Manager  
Robert Stowe

## Identity Theft Forum

Sat., October 1  
2 - 4 p.m.

Northshore Senior Center  
10201 E. Riverside Dr., Bothell

The City of Bothell will be hosting a free public forum entitled, "How to

Protect Yourself from Identity Theft." This forum will include a panel of subject matter experts including representatives from the King County Sheriff's Office, Federal Trade Commission, State Attorney General's Office, and City of Bothell Police. Everyone is invited to attend.

## BuyBOTHELL – It Just Makes Cents!

The City of Bothell and the Greater Bothell Chamber of Commerce have been working together to develop the "BuyBOTHELL Program," geared towards encouraging Bothell residents and visitors to do their shopping for goods and services at Bothell businesses. Encouraging retail dollars to be spent locally supports the economic vitality of our community, increases sales of local business, and maximizes sales tax revenue for the City of Bothell. Residents will be better served by the convenience of shopping locally and by the services provided by the increased sales tax revenue.

### Why BuyBOTHELL?

1. Put your taxes to good use. Purchasing in Bothell increases the City's tax base, which results in affordable public services for residents and business owners.

2. Invest in your community. Many Bothell businesses are owned by people who live in Bothell, are less likely to leave, and are more invested in our community's future.

3. Save time. Both residents and businesses save time by using the diverse services and shops in Bothell.

4. Embrace what makes Bothell unique. The unique character of Bothell is what brought us here and will keep us here.

5. Create more local jobs. Thousands of Bothell residents are employed locally.



*It just makes cents!*

6. Help out the environment. Shopping locally uses less gas, contributing less to congestion, pollution, sprawl, and habitat loss.

7. Indirectly support local non-profits. Bothell businesses provide much greater support for our local non-profits than businesses from other communities.

8. Get better customer service. Local businesses often take more time to get to know their customers.

9. Buy what you want. A healthy small business district is the best way to ensure innovation and low prices over the long-term.

10. Encourage investment and business retention in Bothell. Entrepreneurs and skilled workers are more likely to invest and settle in communities that preserve their one-of-a-kind businesses and distinctive character.

Support your community – BuyBOTHELL!

### Merchants & Service Providers:

Please contact the Greater Bothell Chamber of Commerce at 425.485.4353 for information on how you can become a member and sponsor of the BuyBOTHELL Program.

## Always Seeking Knowledge? ASK Bylines: What can parents do to help their children feel and stay safe?

**Q. How can I keep my children safe if I am a working parent and they get home first?**

**A.** Children can feel safe and secure when home alone. Make sure they do these things to ensure their safety:

- Never answer the telephone.
- Keep all the doors locked with deadbolts on.
- Stay quiet and away from windows when someone comes to the door.
- Never open the door for anyone who knocks, even if they say it's an emergency and they need to use the phone.
- Demonstrate through role-playing and make a signal for children to know when the parent is calling. Leave a list of your work numbers and all emergency contacts.



Officer Djenom Benjamin, School Resource Officer, City of Bothell Police Department

**Q. If a situation escalates or is out of the ordinary, (i.e., there's a strange vehicle in the driveway when my child gets home), what type of contingencies or backup plan should we have in place?**

**A.** Your child should have a neighbor or someone go to who lives close by as a secondary location to go to after school (especially if they get home before you do.) Teach your child a secret password that they do not share with anyone. If anyone comes to them and says they're there to pick up your child, they will need to know the password or the child will not go with them. Practice this through role-play. You should also talk to your child about emergencies and the proper time to call 911.

**Q. What rules should we have about using the stove when they are home alone? Are there other hazards at home that we should discuss and have rules around?**

**A.** Children should not use the oven or stove when their parents are not home. Make sure your child has food that can be prepared without cooking when you are not available to supervise them. This also applies to using irons, candles, lighters and anything that produces heat.

**Q. What should I do if my child comes home and says someone is picking on them?**

**A.** Bullying is a serious concern that should not be dealt with lightly. Make sure the school is advised of the problem (children often will not tell anyone what is happening until the situation escalates). Children need to know that telling someone will make the bullying stop. This is an important step in making your children feel safe. Teach them to tell bullies "No" and then to go tell an adult. Point out that keeping bullying a secret will make things worse. Your children trust you to keep them safe and secure.

**Q. My child wants an airsoft gun. What should I know when considering this?**

**A.** Many parents are buying their children airsoft guns, which propel pellets by forced air. These guns are exact replicas of real firearms and should only be used in the presence of adults. Treat these weapons as you would a real firearm. If you are going to buy one of these weapons, make sure they are locked up and that your child does not bring them to school or display them in public.