

July Newsletter



July in Review: Celebrations, Milestones and Shared Progress

July was a refreshing month filled with celebrations and shared growth. The month started with the 250th celebration of American Independence, welcomed the return of the Philippine Consulate General to the region, and marked several important milestones across our community.

This edition highlights City updates, community achievements, inspiring nonprofit initiatives, and my journey through the people, projects, and events that made this month memorable.

Read on to explore each story in detail and stay informed about local opportunities and upcoming events.

Thank you for being an active part of our community.

HIGHLIGHTS OF THE MONTH

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Shoreline RFA Measure to November Ballot

City Council Invites Public Input Before Final Decision.
- 03

PROS Plan

Building a parks and recreation vision for all.
- 04

Commendable Work of Heartfulness

Helping communities learn about healthy routines.
- 05

Downtown Subarea Plan

The plan in progress...



With WA Senators John Lovick and Javier Valdez.



Philippine Consulate Services Now in Seattle

Restoring consular services and strengthening connections for the Filipino community.



Soles for Souls is Serving Two great purposes

Supporting children's healthcare through mobility and surgical care.



Congresswoman Suzan DelBene Marks Launch of \$741,000 Backup Generator in Bothell

Ensuring reliable City services during emergencies and power outages.

Celebrating 250 Years of America, Bringing Communities Together



Photo credits: City of Bothell

America’s 250th year of independence was made even more special by the people who came together to celebrate it.

Families, children, and neighbors filled the day with joy through a cheerful City parade, a community breakfast, and patriotic pride. Seeing young children wave the flag with excitement was a touching reminder of the freedom, hope, and unity that continue to bring us together. These are the moments that make our community feel like home. I always cherish these moments of togetherness and look forward to celebrate our independence day every year with the same energy and togetherness!

Bothell City Council Moves Shoreline RFA Measure to November Ballot

The City Council approved placing a measure on the November ballot asking voters whether Bothell should join the Shoreline Fire Department Regional Fire Authority.

If approved by voters, the transition will move forward, strengthening regional partnerships and supporting reliable, coordinated emergency response for our community.



Photo credits: City of Bothell

The City on the PROS Plan, Funding Discussions in Progress

➤ *Investing in Parks, People and Our Shared Future* ➤

The City's long-term Parks, Recreation and Open Space (PROS) Plan is now reflecting the ideas and priorities shared through our 2026 community survey. Thanks to everyone who contributed their voice and vision for Bothell's parks and open spaces.

This plan will help guide how we preserve natural spaces, expand recreation opportunities, and build healthier, more connected neighborhoods for years to come.

Up next is the important step of funding discussions to move the plan forward.



Photo credits: City of Bothell

Backup Generator Strengthens Emergency Response in City Operations

➤ *Reliable Power, Ready When It Matters.* ➤

Bothell has taken another step toward strengthening its emergency preparedness with the installation of a new backup generator at the City's Operations Center.

Congresswoman Suzan DelBene secured \$741,000 in federal funding to make the project possible. The generator will provide reliable backup power, helping maintain critical City operations during severe weather and widespread outages.



Photo credits: Personal collection



Downtown Subarea Plan: Progress in Motion



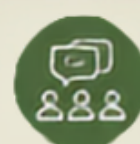
Photo credits: City of Bothell

A Walking Tour to Shape Downtown Bothell's Future

We had a Downtown Bothell walking tour with City staff to review the progress of the Downtown Subarea Plan.

The plan focuses on shaping the future of Downtown Bothell, with discussions around public spaces, housing, transportation and support for local businesses.

It was encouraging to see the progress and the work underway to create a more vibrant downtown for everyone.



**YOUR VOICE
HELPS SHAPE
OUR DOWNTOWN**

Community feedback continues to play an important role in shaping the plan.

We encourage you to share your ideas and help build a Downtown Bothell that reflects our community's vision.



Share Your Ideas

imaginebothell@bothellwa.gov



Philippine Consulate General Expands Access to Services in the Pacific Northwest

The Philippine Consulate General resumed consular services in Seattle in July 2026, restoring a diplomatic presence in the region after more than three decades. I joined diplomats, elected officials and community leaders at the soft opening reception marking the return of consular services for Filipinos across Washington, Oregon, Idaho, Montana and Alaska.

At the reception, Ambassador **Henry S. Bensurto Jr.** was formally introduced as Philippines' new Consul General. In his remarks, Ambassador Bensurto highlighted the Consulate's commitment to delivering responsive services and strengthening engagement with Filipino communities throughout the Pacific Northwest. The consular services are live now, offering civil registration and notarial services on the official website. I encourage you to visit the site.

The reception also brought together State Senators **Javier Valdez** and **John Lovick**, Mexican Consul **Víctor Hugo López Ortega**, President **TC Lawrence** and partner organizations, highlighting the importance of regional collaboration and community engagement.

I am pleased to see this important step forward for our Filipino community and excited to see how we can strengthen the unity in diversity.

Always happy to hear from communities; please reach out to me regarding any help needed in our community.



Photo credits: personal collection

Soles for Souls is Serving Two great purposes

At the Soles for Souls Charity musical Concert, brought together healthcare professionals, community leaders and supporters to advance the two purposes/mission of providing mobility support to children with foot deformities and expanding surgical access to children with congenital differences, particularly for underserved communities. This is a globally recognized initiative. And I was honored to attend the events and to learn about the organization's growing efforts.

With Gratitude

Heartfelt appreciation to the event host Dr. Lalita Turaga, the organizers, volunteers, and sponsors for their contributions in this initiative.

Fostering Healthier Communities in Seattle



Photo credits: personal collection

Building healthier communities begins with creating spaces that support both physical and mental well-being. Introducing Heartfulness, which has been helping communities develop healthier lifestyles for over 30 years.

I joined the Heartfulness community session and learned about its mission which is to make meditation and wellness practices accessible to people of all ages and backgrounds through free meditation sessions, yoga training and much more.

The panelists at the session include: Ray Roberts, M.Ed. , Arundhati Baitmangalkar, and Arvind Ravindran, shared great insights.

I believe *health is wealth*, and encourage organizations who are committed to serve communities in meaningful ways. I look forward to connecting with more organizations interested in serving communities to explore how I can support their efforts. Please feel free to reach out to me.



UPCOMING EVENTS - AUGUST 2026



Full calendar: www.bothellwa.gov/Calendar.aspx

Disclaimer: This newsletter is shared in a personal capacity to provide updates on public service work and to stay connected with the community. The views expressed are my own and do not necessarily represent the official positions of the City of Bothell or the Bothell City Council.