

# LACEY Life

*Shaping our Community Together*

*Lacey in a winter wonderland!*

## UPCOMING EVENTS

### PLEASE NOTE:

Event status may change due to COVID-19 guidance at the time of event. Please check our website or Facebook page for updates.

To see the complete list of events and get registration details, visit [ci.lacey.wa.us/Events](https://ci.lacey.wa.us/Events) or scan:



### Feb 9 History Talks! Lavender Farm on Chamber's Prairie

Wednesday, February 9, 6:30 p.m.  
Online via Zoom

### Mar 8 History Talks! Incarceration without Trial

Tuesday, March 8, 6:30 p.m.  
Online via Zoom

### Mar 12 Hybrid Cultural Celebration

Live Event: Saturday, March 12  
10 a.m. – 6 p.m.  
Saint Martin's University  
Online Event: March 12 – April 11

## BIG SHOUT OUT

to all our staff who worked hard during the snow and ice event to keep our roads as safe as possible!



**THANK YOU!**

## 2022 LACEY CITY COUNCIL

Mayor Andy Ryder  
Deputy Mayor Malcolm Miller  
Councilmember Lenny Greenstein  
Councilmember Michael Steadman  
Councilmember Carolyn Cox  
Councilmember Ed Kunkel  
Councilmember Robin Vazquez

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## LACEY CONTINUES WORK ON HOMELESS-RESPONSE PROGRAMS AND INITIATIVES

The City recognizes homelessness is an on-going crisis and one of the most daunting challenges of our times. Although Lacey provides direct social services (more below), local city governments generally are not equipped to address the root causes of homelessness and resulting consequences. For this reason, the City supports and collaborates with our community partners that focus on providing social services to people who are experiencing homelessness and resources to prevent homelessness.

The four main ways the City engages in initiatives and programs in the community to help disrupt the root causes of homelessness, maintain or increase affordable housing, and prevent or reduce homelessness are:

- **Providing Direct Social Service Outreach & Clean-up Response**
- **Participating in Coordinated Efforts with Regional and Community Partners**
- **Supporting the Work of Nonprofits and Other Governmental Entities with Funding**
- **Advocating for More Comprehensive Solutions to Homelessness at the State and Federal Level**

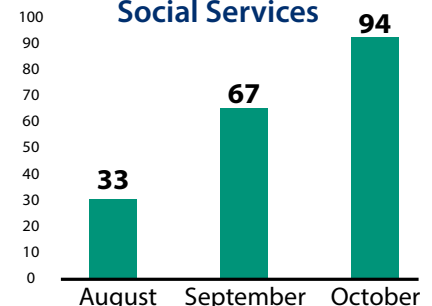
### Direct Social Service Outreach & Clean-up Response

The City's **Community Resource Unit (CRU)** and **Mobile Outreach Team (MOT)** have helped some of our most vulnerable community members connect with needed social services to reduce, mitigate, and prevent homelessness. These programs made a phenomenal, positive impact in our community in 2021 and will continue their good work in 2022.



The **Rapid Response Team (RRT)** cleans up garbage and debris in public spaces, such as streets, sidewalks, and rights-of-way in Lacey. Having the RRT available to perform this work allows the CRU and the MOT to focus their attention on providing social services and helping people who are experiencing homelessness connect to available resources.

### 2021 MOT Referrals to Social Services



The Lacey City Council created the **Community Workgroup on Homelessness** to evaluate the current approaches reducing and preventing homelessness and gauge the community's understanding and support for potential strategies moving forward. Following an 18-month process, the Workgroup will provide recommendations to the Lacey City Council to consider to help address homelessness in Lacey. It is anticipated this will take place in early 2022.

### Coordinated Efforts with Regional and Community Partners

The City strives to work with our regional and community partners on many topics, including those related to homelessness. In 2021, the cities of Lacey, Olympia, Tumwater, and Yelm, and Thurston County created the Regional Housing Council (RHC) to collaborative on solutions to the regional housing crisis. The RHC leverages resources and partnerships that promote equitable access to safe and affordable housing in Thurston County. The RHC considers issues specifically related to funding a regional response to homelessness and affordable housing.



CDBG funds helped fund the recent upgrade and expansion of the Hub—a single location for our region's 32,000 Veterans to get support for behavioral health, housing, employment, education, financial support, and more.

Lacey receives Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) funding every three years. Over the last three funding cycles for Lacey (2014, 2017, and 2020), the City provided over \$1.1 million for homeless and affordable housing efforts, including: \$750,000 for social services, nearly \$500,000 for Veteran services, and over \$370,000 for youth services — including homeless youth services. Some recipients of Lacey's CDBG funds include Habitat for Humanity; Thurston County Food Bank, Lacey site; Homes First; and the Lacey Veterans Services Hub (Hub).

**Continued on back.**

LACEYLIFE NEWSLETTER



CITY OF **LACEY**



CITY WORK CONTINUES ON HOMELESS-RESPONSE PROGRAMS AND INITIATIVES – CONTINUED FROM FRONT

Funding Support of Nonprofits and Other Governmental Entities

Over the past few years, the City provided an average of over \$750,000 and the 2022 Budget includes over \$1.2 million — about 2% of the City's total general fund — to support a broad range of local social services. In addition to City social services (MOT and others), funding helps support local non-profits that work to prevent, mitigate, and/or support people experiencing homelessness, behavioral health issues, food or financial insecurities, etc. Some of the non-profits include Family Support Center, Thurston County Food Bank, Habitat for Humanity, Senior Services for South Sound, and others.



The City provided \$100,000 to Interfaith Works to help with the construction and operations of a new Sprung structure, located at 3444 Martin Way, to be used as a shelter with hygiene facilities.

Advocating for More Comprehensive Solutions to Homelessness at the State and Federal Level

The City continues to request state and federal leadership in providing cities and communities strategies and tools to address the homeless crisis.

Learn More

To learn more about the City's homeless-response efforts, visit [ci.lacey.wa.us/HomelessResponse](https://ci.lacey.wa.us/HomelessResponse) or scan the QR code on the right.



Provide Feedback



Although we've made significant progress, our work is far from over. As we continue navigating this complex situation, we welcome and invite community input to ensure we move forward, together. To provide feedback, visit [ci.lacey.wa.us/WeCare](https://ci.lacey.wa.us/WeCare), or scan the QR code on the right.

LACEY NEIGHBORHOOD GRANT PROGRAM NOW ACCEPTING 2022 APPLICATIONS



Now through April 1, 2022, the City is accepting 2022 Lacey Neighborhood Grant Program applications. The matching-grant program awards up to \$2,500 for projects that foster community pride, beautify the city, and expand community-member involvement.

Neighborhood Associations in the city limits and recognized by the City of Lacey can submit applications in these categories: Compassion, Safe Neighborhoods, Board Education & Organization Development, Environmental Sustainability, and Neighborhood Beautification.

In 2021, Lacey Neighborhood Associations accomplished some great work, helping make Lacey an even better place to live! Some completed projects include:

- Monument Sign Installation or Repair
- Neighborhood Emergency Preparedness Costs
- Community Park or Common Area Landscape Improvements
- Storm Pond Maintenance
- Sprinkler System Repairs

To get more information or download an application, visit [ci.lacey.wa.us/HOA](https://ci.lacey.wa.us/HOA) or scan the QR code. You can also contact Jenny Bauersfeld, Community Relations Specialist, at [JBauersf@ci.lacey.wa.us](mailto:JBauersf@ci.lacey.wa.us) or (360) 438-2621.



Cul-de-sac Improvement Project:



SAVE THE DATE! LACEY CULTURAL CELEBRATION: LIVE SATURDAY, MARCH 12; ONLINE MARCH 12-APRIL 11



Lacey's Cultural Celebration, presented by TwinStar Credit Union, will be a hybrid event this year! Join us live on Saturday, March 12 from 10 a.m. – 6 p.m. at Saint Martin's University. You can also enjoy the event online from March 12 - April 11. Experience the sights, sounds, and heritage of cultures from all around the world with dance, music, and more! The online platform allows you to take part from anywhere — using your phone, computer, or other mobile device.

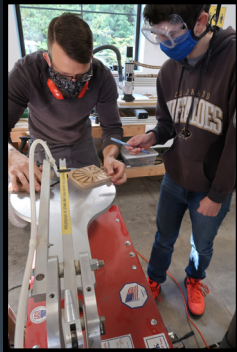
For more information, scan the QR code or visit [ci.lacey.wa.us/CulturalCelebration](https://ci.lacey.wa.us/CulturalCelebration).



LACEY MAKERSPACE: A PLACE TO LEARN, CREATE, AND INNOVATE!

What's a MakerSpace?

It's a specialized workshop for business owners, students, and community members to learn explore, collaborate, innovate,



and get hands-on experience with high-tech equipment they might not otherwise have access to.

The Lacey MakerSpace (LMS) regularly offers a variety of classes to help users learn new skills and gain proficiency on equipment and tools. Some of the equipment currently available at the LMS includes: 3-D printer, CNC plasma cutter, woodworking and welding equipment, laser engraver/cutter, and much more. Last fall, the LMS received a \$1M grant from the U.S. Department of Commerce's Economic Development Administration. Thanks to these funds, the LMS will be purchasing more state-of-the-art fabrication and prototyping equipment.

To learn more about classes and how to access the LMS, visit [LaceyMakerSpace.org](https://LaceyMakerSpace.org) or scan the QR code.



SPECIAL THANKS FOR ANOTHER SUCCESSFUL CHRISTMAS TREE ROUND UP!



The heart for #GivingBack was beating loudly as **Boy Scout Troops 222 and 9207** worked tirelessly, all day, collecting Christmas trees throughout the City. But, they couldn't have done it alone. **Asplundh Tree Expert Co.** donated chippers, trucks, and more importantly, a group of hard-working, energetic staff to chip the trees. **LeMay Pacific Disposal** also graciously donated six large bins for the trees and the **Thurston County Waste and Recovery Center** recycled the trees, free.

What a great example of a #CompassionateCommunity project! It fits perfectly with this year's campaign: The Spirit of Giving Back.

