

NEWS RELEASE

November 7, 2017

**MASON COUNTY COMMISSIONERS' OFFICE
411 N 5TH ST, BLDG 1, SHELTON, WA 98584**

**TO: KMAS, KRXV, SHELTON-MASON COUNTY JOURNAL, THE OLYMPIAN,
SHELTON CHAMBER OF COMMERCE, NORTH MASON CHAMBER OF
COMMERCE, CITY OF SHELTON, ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT COUNCIL,
THE SUN**

RE: Mason County Volunteer Boards

Looking for a way to give back to your community? Here is a list of volunteer advisory boards that need your help:

Housing Authority

Mason County Housing Authority was organized in 1972 and oversees the management of several low-income Mason County properties including the Goldsborough Cove and Fairmont Cove apartments, Pine Gardens, and the Kneeland Park Apartments. The Housing Authority is an independent municipal corporation with a dedicated volunteer board and no paid staff. This board is passionate about providing low-income housing to our community and if you have a willingness to invest your time and energy, this Board is for you. The Housing Authority typically meets monthly in Shelton.

Lewis-Mason-Thurston Area Agency on Aging (LMTAAA)

Lewis-Mason-Thurston Area Agency on Aging is a local governmental agency that provides home and community services for seniors and adults with disabilities to help them remain living in their own homes. The advisory council makes recommendations to the governing board and staff. It is critical that Mason County is represented on this council so our seniors and adults with disabilities receive their fair share of services. This advisory council typically meets monthly in Olympia.

Mason County Historic Preservation Commission

The major responsibility of the Historic Preservation Commission is to identify and actively encourage the conservation of the Mason County's historic resources by initiating and maintaining a register of historic places and reviewing proposed changes to register properties. They also work to raise community awareness of Mason County's history and historic resources and serve as Mason County's primary resource in matters of history, historic planning, and preservation. This is a great way to help preserve our history and meetings are held the 2nd Thursday of the month, 2 p.m., in Shelton.

Mason County Lodging Tax Advisory Committee (LTAC)

The LTAC is responsible for the distribution of up to \$300,000 of lodging tax annually. The members are appointed by the Board of Mason County Commissioners and includes representatives of businesses (i.e. motels, campgrounds, VRBO, Airbnb) that are required to collect lodging tax (generators) and members who are persons involved in activities (i.e. festivals, visitor information centers) that are authorized to be funded by lodging tax revenue (spenders). The committee reviews requests for lodging tax funding and makes recommendations to the Commissioners regarding the use of lodging tax moneys. This is done in an effort to increase tourism and bring people to our County to stay in our lodging establishments. The committee generally meets four to six times a year during regular business hours in Shelton.

Noxious Weed Control Board

The Noxious Weed Control Board has the mission of working to protect the citizens, natural resources (including lakes, shellfish and timber), livestock and agricultural resources of Mason County from the degrading effects of noxious weed invasions. The Board works to identify priority weed issues and develops a strategy to control noxious weeds with the cooperation of residents and agencies in the county. This Board meets a few times a year in Shelton.

Planning Advisory Commission Vacancy (PAC)

If you want to influence Mason County's long-term direction and vision for our growth, the Planning Advisory Commission is for you. The PAC is a seven member, hardworking, citizen board appointed to advise the Board of Commissioners on policy related to amendments to the Comprehensive Plan, Shoreline Master Program, and land use regulations. This commission takes an investment of your time and energy and meets on the 3rd Monday at 6 p.m. in Shelton and may also have additional evening meetings.

Solid Waste Advisory Committee. (SWAC)

Where does all that garbage go? The Solid Waste Advisory Committee reviews and makes recommendations to the Commissioners regarding solid waste and special waste management in Mason County, including disposal rates, disposal options, waste reduction, recycling, household hazardous waste, and composting programs. If you have a personal or professional interest in waste management, you can help develop comprehensive plans for our community. The SWAC typically meets once a month at 10 a.m. on Wednesdays in our Public Works building.

Transportation Improvement Program Citizen Advisory Panel (TIP-CAP)

Mason County has one of the best road systems in our state and the mission of TIP-CAP is to represent citizen transportation interests throughout Mason County for all modes of travel during the development of the 6-Year Transportation Improvement Program (TIP). The TIP-CAP will review and analyze Mason County's transportation needs and make recommendations to the Board of Mason County Commissioners. This Board meets the 2nd Wednesday of the month at 5:30 p.m. in our Public Works building.

Civil Service Commission

The Civil Service Commission is charged with the recruitment, testing, hiring, and promotion of all sheriff's office employees under Chapter 41.14 RCW. The Board of County Commissioners appoints citizens of the county to serve on the Civil Service Commission. The terms are for six years without compensation and you cannot hold any salaried public office or engage in county employment, other than the commission duties, during their term. Only two commissioners can be of the same political party. This group meets at 5 p.m. the 3rd Thursday of the month in Shelton.


Timberland Regional Library Board (TRL)

The TRL Board of Trustees is a five-county rural library district (Grays Harbor, Lewis, Mason, Pacific and Thurston). The Board is made up of seven members, one from the five counties included in the district and two at-large members. This is an unpaid position although travel and board related expenses are reimbursable. The TRL Board of Trustees attends monthly meetings and scheduled events. Board meetings are generally scheduled on the fourth Wednesday of each month at 7:00 p.m. There are usually six meetings a year held in Olympia and six meetings held in other areas of the district.

For more information on any of the above boards, please visit our website - <http://www.co.mason.wa.us/ac/index.php> or contact Mason County at 360-427-9670.

If you are interested in serving on one of these boards we highly encourage you to attend a meeting so you know it's the right board for you.

BOARD OF MASON COUNTY COMMISSIONERS


Kevin Shutt
Chair


Terri Drexler
Commissioner


Randy Neatherlin
Commissioner