

August 2020

SAMMAMISH NEWSLETTER

The official newsletter of the City of Sammamish



Neighbors & Friends:

After a two year break and numerous requests, the City is resuming the City Newsletter to keep our residents informed.

2020 came in with a punch with a snowstorm in January, followed by rain, flooding and landslides, in February. The year also began with the hiring of a new City Manager, Dave Rudat, who started right before the Covid-19 crisis changed the world. Priorities shifted quickly and keeping residents and staff safe became the highest priority.

With summer upon us, it is understandable residents, especially our kids, want to gather in our beautiful parks and lakes. I implore all residents to adhere to health professionals' directive and park notices. For those who are struggling during these tough times, the City has mental health, spousal abuse, food and shelter resources available to help - please look for a postcard from the City listing these resources.

The City has begun a comprehensive process to examine the impact of constant breaking development in the last several years on our City, its infrastructure and the environment. The process will take several months and will include an opportunity for the public to provide comments.

In the meantime, City Council has enacted a building moratorium to give the City breathing room while City staff works quickly and diligently to chart a new course for our city. This may include more development, but will ensure the right investment in infrastructure are made and that our environment is not eroded.

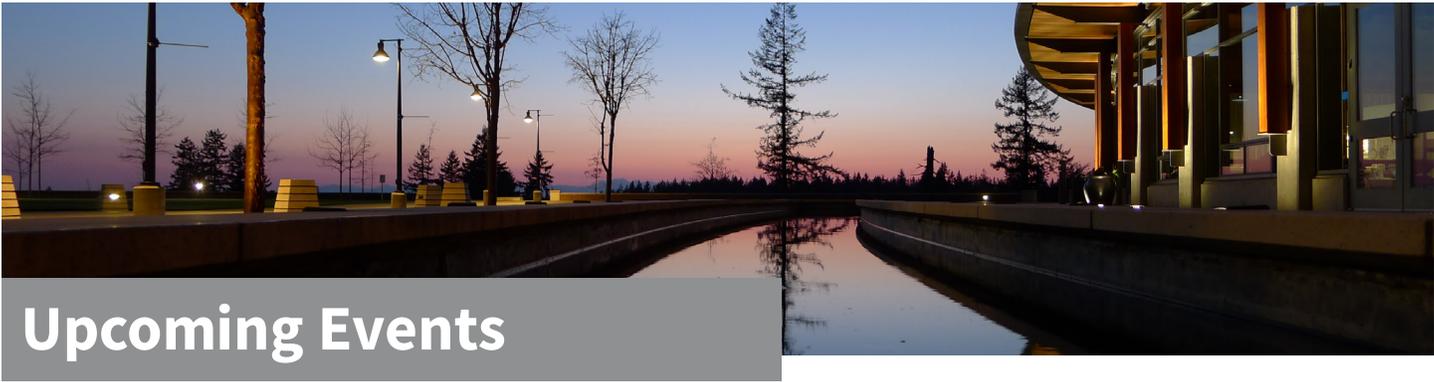
Please send me your thoughts and suggestions,

Mayor Karen Moran



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Upcoming Events



2020 Sand Sculpture at Sammamish Commons *Artist, Sue McGrew*

“The idea I wanted to depict was diversity, inclusion, and social justice. I know these are some very intense times for many people who are fighting for these things. My mother is an immigrant from Japan, and I grew up in a half-Asian household in Tacoma but I remember having friends of many different backgrounds at school. I wanted to portray the theme with the lightheartedness of children playing together. I like the concept of kids playing because with the innocence of childhood, we are colorblind to ethnicity and will gladly play with kids of all backgrounds. There are many games that are played by children around the world, like Ring Around the Rosie, and at the simplest level as children we are all the same - we laugh, we play, we love. Children represent our future, and I hope people see this message of hope during these tense times.”

Monday, September 7th 2020
Labor Day

All city offices closed. No construction will be allowed.

HUMAN SERVICES COMMISSION MEETINGS

- August 3rd - 6:30 pm
- August 12th - 6:30 pm
- August 26th - 6:30 pm
- September 9th - 6:30 pm

ARTS COMMISSION MEETINGS

- August 24th - 6:30pm
- September 28th - 6:30 pm

CITY COUNCIL MEETINGS

- Special Meeting: August 11th - 6:30 pm
- Special Meeting: August 18th - 6:30 pm
- Regular Meeting: September 1st - 6:30 pm
- Study Session: September 8th - 6:30 pm
- Regular Meeting: September 15th - 6:30 pm

PARKS & RECREATION COMMISSION MEETINGS

- August 5th - 6:30 pm
- September 2nd - 6:30 pm

PLANNING COMMISSION MEETINGS

- September 3rd - 6:30 pm
- September 17th - 6:30 pm

Please note: All City of Sammamish meetings will be held virtually until further notice. Please visit our website at www.sammamish.us/government for more information.



Current City Projects

Issaquah-Pine Lake Rd. Improvements Project

In May of 2018, the City of Sammamish began planning improvements to Issaquah-Pine Lake Road SE from SE 32nd Way to SE 44th Street. It is a critical corridor for existing and new developments, schools, and commercial areas. The project will aim to improve traffic flow and safety for all users.

SE 8th St. & 218th Ave Corridor Improvement Study

The City of Sammamish is studying the existing conditions and future needs for people walking, biking, driving, and living on the SE 8th St & 218th Ave corridors. Our community is growing and more people are traveling along the corridor. This study helps us set priorities and develop a practical plan and budget to design a future corridor that meets the needs of our community.

Issaquah Fall City Road

This project will widen Issaquah Fall City Road to four lanes between 242nd Ave SE and Klahanie Dr SE. The additional lanes, along with roundabouts at 242nd, 247th, and Klahanie Drive, will improve traffic flow and reduce commute times on this highly congested roadway. In addition to the widening, this project will also include bike lanes, sidewalks, landscaping, and a protected student crossing at Pacific Cascade Middle School.

The project is well under construction. The roadway has been widened on the south half between 242nd and 247th, and the contractor is currently working along the north half of the roadway. The bridge between 247th and Klahanie Drive is also currently under construction. The support columns have all been completed, with work focusing on the support beams. The end of August will signify the delivery of all the bridge girders and the main bridge structure will become more visible.

The road is still closed between 247th and Klahanie Drive and will remain closed through the end of December. The overall project is still on schedule to be completed in August of 2021.



Issaquah Fall City Road - Ground Level View



Issaquah Fall City Road - Aerial View



Parks and Rec

What's Open, What's Closed

On July 21st, the City Council adopted an ordinance requiring all park users to follow posted signage at City parks. The new park rule includes any and all signs communicating COVID-19 restrictions established by the Governor's phased reopening plan. As part of Phase 2 guidelines, outdoor recreation is restricted to five or fewer people outside a household.

Despite the Governor's physical distancing orders, park users are gathering in large groups well beyond the Governor's guidelines, which threatens the preservation of public health, safety, and general welfare of the community. Violation of posted signage in a City park may now include a fine up to \$500. For more information on which parks and amenities are currently open, visit <https://www.sammamish.us/parks-recreation-facilities/parks-trails>



Arts Commission Survey

The Sammamish Arts Commission has been requested by City Council to commission artwork representing civil liberties and racial/social justice. This project invites you to be part of the process by sharing your input and ideas on different concepts and avenues reflecting the topic.



This project will be led by the Arts Commission while seeking involvement from the public as much as possible. The Arts Commission will consider survey suggestions while developing a scope of work to be included in a Call for Proposals.

Please visit <https://connect.sammamish.us/social-justice-artwork-survey> to take the survey.

The survey will close on August 17th.

Announcing Small Business Support Grants

Small businesses that have been affected negatively by COVID-19 will now be eligible to receive grants ranging from \$1,000 to \$10,000. The City Council voted on July 7th to allocate \$250,370, which includes \$98,370 from King County, to help local small businesses respond to impacts from the pandemic, begin to reopen, and expand operations. Grants may be used for rent or mortgage payments on the business location, wages, personal protective equipment, and other operating costs and expenses.

Eligible applicants must hold an active Sammamish business license, have 15 or fewer full-time equivalent employees, and be able to demonstrate the negative impact on their business due to COVID-19. The applications will be available until Thursday, August 20, 2020 at www.sammamish.us/support-grants

Pet Licensing and Passports

The City of Sammamish is not currently providing passport acceptance or pet licensing services. The below information can help find other ways to access these services and stay up to date on changes.

Passport Acceptance Services:

Passport operations nationwide have been significantly reduced, with expedited passport processing being temporarily suspended and services limited to cases involving life-or-death emergencies. To find the most up-to-date information and locate facilities providing passport services please visit <https://travel.state.gov/passports>

Pet Licensing Services:

There are several options for purchasing or renewing a pet license:

- Online at <https://www.kingcounty.gov/depts/regional-animal-services/license-your-pet/purchase-renew-license.aspx>
- In-person at Petco (Sammamish Highlands) and QFC (Pine Lake)
- Pay by Phone at 1-206-296-PETS (\$2.00 fee applies)
- Pay by U.S. Mail (renewals only) using your renewal card.

ADA Transition Plan Comments

The Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) Transition Plan is the City's commitment to providing equal access to all of its public programs, services, facilities, and activities for citizens with disabilities. On July 21st, the City Council received an introduction to the draft Plan and learned about the City's strategy for fixing accessibility barriers that impede access to City buildings, parks, and pedestrian facilities in the public right-of-way.

To view the Draft ADA Transition Plan and submit your comments, please visit bit.ly/SammamishADA. Comments will be accepted until August 28, 2020. The draft Plan will then return to the City Council later this year for further review and adoption.

Staff Appointments



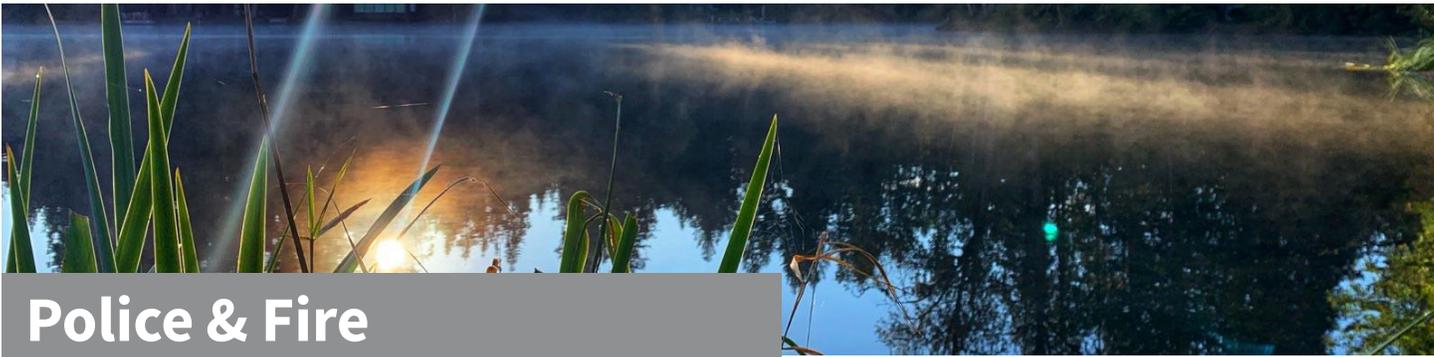
Lita Hachey
City Clerk



Anjali Myer
Parks, Recreation &
Facilities Director



Dave Rudat
City Manager



Police & Fire

Coffee with the Chief



Save the date! On August 25 from 11 am to 12 pm, join Sammamish PD Chief of Police Daniel Pingrey on Facebook Live. Watch for details on our website, e-news, or social media channels.

Emergency Management

The City of Sammamish is giving 5000 reusable, cloth masks to Lake Washington School District for distribution to students and families in Sammamish. Watch for more distribution events and opportunities to come!

Human Services

Spotlight: The Sammamish Human Services Commission

In 1999, the inaugural City Council formed a Human Services Council Committee and initiated a grant program for nonprofits serving residents. In 2016, the Committee created a Task Force to determine whether there was a need for a permanent Human Services Commission to tackle an increased workload. The Commission launched in early 2018 and has been very busy ever since.

Made up of seven Sammamish residents who applied and were selected by the Council because of their expertise in the field, the Commission not only looks at Sammamish’s emerging and existing human services needs, they also interact with peer commissions in Redmond, Issaquah, Kirkland, and Bellevue. The Commission’s work is led by the 2018 Human Services Needs Assessment, which identified gaps in available resources and resulted in five priority areas that now guide the Commission’s work: basic needs, cultural inclusion, domestic violence, mental wellness, and seniors.

The Commission is reviewing grant applications in preparation for the 2021-2022 budget.

Residents who want to get involved may attend Commission meetings and consider applying for any of the City’s commissions when applications open in the fall.

How can Sammamish residents access services if needed?

There are always going to be times in our lives when we need help. With COVID-19, the picture of who needs help is changing. When we talk about human services, it’s not just food banks. It’s mental wellness, domestic violence, seniors, connecting the community, and cultural inclusion. Residents can call 211 or visit the Health & Human Services page on our website. Watch for a postcard from the City in your mailbox listing available COVID resources.

Community Development

Town Center Update

On June 22, 2020, the City of Sammamish received revised plans and applications from STCA, LLC for Phase One of the Town Center:

Sammamish Town Center SW Quadrant proposes the creation of 348 multi-family residential units and 82,000 SF of commercial space located within a mixed-use development on 8.09 acres.

Sammamish Town Center Brownstone West proposes the subdivision of 4.9 acres into 10 single-family residential lots and 34 multi-family townhomes.

As background, Town Center is a high-profile project that has generated great public interest, involvement, and commentary. The Town Center developer, STCA, LLC has submitted four land use applications that are being reviewed concurrently. Town Center is a complex development proposal requiring the City to utilize specialized consultants to provide a thorough technical, environmental, and code review.

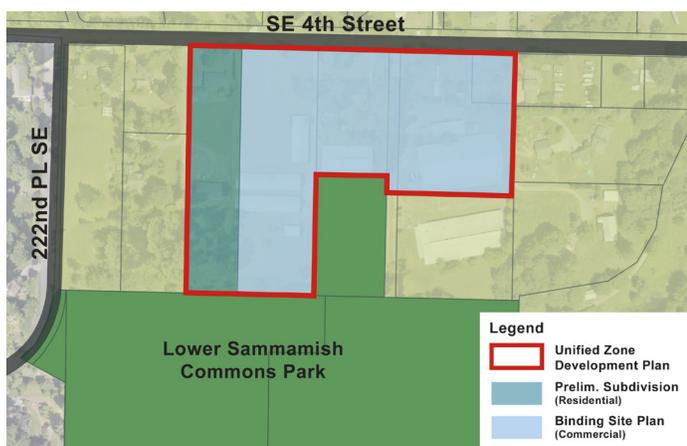
Upon completion of the City's final review, a Public Hearing will begin no less than 72 days after the issuance of Notice of Public Hearing, SEPA (State Environmental Protection Act) Threshold Determination, and Staff Recommendation.

A 21-day public comment period applies to both projects and to the revised application materials submitted by STCA. Comments will be accepted from July 20, 2020 through August 10, 2020 at 5:00 pm. Comments may be submitted for each application at:

- UZDP2019-00562 www.sammamish.us/uzdp2019-00562
- PSUB2019-00563 www.sammamish.us/psub2019-00563
- BSP2019-00564 www.sammamish.us/bsp2019-00564
- PSUB2019-00561 www.sammamish.us/psub2019-00561

For both projects, a decision by the Hearing Examiner is anticipated in Winter / Spring of 2021.

All documents can be viewed and downloaded at www.sammamish.us/towncenterprojects



Sammamish Town Center SW Quadrant
(UZDP2019-00562, BSP2019-00564, PSUB2019-00563)



Sammamish Town Center Brownstone West
(PSUB2019-00561)



801 228th Avenue SE
Sammamish, WA 98075

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2020 SAMMAMISH CITY COUNCIL



Karen Moran
Mayor



Christie Malchow
Deputy Mayor



Jason Ritchie
Councilmember



Kent Treen
Councilmember



Chris Ross
Councilmember



Ken Gamblin
Councilmember



Pam Stuart
Councilmember

City of Sammamish Offices

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City Staff

Dave Rudat	<i>City Manager</i>
Lita Hachey	<i>City Clerk</i>
Dan Pingrey	<i>Sammamish Police Chief</i>
Jeff Clark	<i>EF&R Fire Chief</i>
Aaron Antin	<i>Finance Director</i>
Anjali Myer	<i>Parks, Rec., & Facilities Director</i>
Jim Hominiuk	<i>IT Director</i>
David Pyle	<i>Community Development Director</i>
Cheryl Paston	<i>Acting Public Works Director</i>

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City Resources

Police Non-Emergency
206-296-3311

East Side Fire & Rescue
425-313-3200

King County Sheriff
206-263-9133

WA State Covid Call Center
1-800-525-0127

King County Animal Control
206-296-7387

Sammamish Plateau Water &
Sewer 425-392-6256

Garbage - Republic Services
425-646-2400

Sammamish Permit Center
425-295-0531

**Sign up for City of Sammamish email and text alert updates
at www.sammamish.us under "Join Our Mailing List."**

**For all emergencies please
dial 9-1-1**

A special thank you to Jason Osborn for the scenic photos seen on the cover page and on page 6.

Newsletter suggestions or concerns? Contact the Front Desk at (425) 295-0500

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