



“Central Park” Project

To further its goal of making Sammamish a better place to live, work and play, the City Council has decided to combine two of its budget items into one package. Known as “The Central Park Project,” the package is designed to meet community needs for:

- Identifying a central focal point for the city, and developing a gathering place for multiple uses.
- Developing one of the several properties that have been acquired for public parks.
- Providing space for a much-needed City Hall facility.

With these goals in mind, the Council purchased a 10-acre site in 1999 following incorporation. The land is located in the vicinity of the SE 8th Street and 228th Avenue intersection, across from Skyline High School.

Through many discussions at the Parks & Recreation Commission, Planning Advisory Board and Council meetings, it became apparent the site was not large enough to meet all of the City’s needs.

In 2001, the Council decided to purchase an additional 20 acres that is adjacent to the original 10 acres. We now own a wonderful 30-acre site right in the heart of Sammamish that can meet the City Council’s goal to provide a focal point for the city.

The lack of park facilities is one of our city’s biggest deficiencies. Purchasing park lands, improving existing parks and developing new parks is a Council priorities. The city hall site provides a fantastic opportunity to build a wonderful, centrally located park for our community.

Building a city hall/community meeting space makes financial sense for the City. We are currently occupying leased space for the City Hall, and are paying approximately \$230,000 per year for this space plus rental for a double-wide trailer. The space is inadequate and limits staff ability to provide better customer service to our community. At the same time, we not getting potential sales tax revenues that would be generated had the space been occupied by a commercial tenant instead of the City of Sammamish. The money we pay for the lease can be used to offset the bond payments and add a bit more to that fund to build our own civic center.



The 30-acre site is centrally located in the heart of Sammamish.

We then own our facility rather than just renting.

“What is wonderful about this Central Park/City Hall project is that we have this great opportunity to build a civic place for our community. We have the financial means to be able to do this. Such an idea would have been impossible to even think about prior to our incorporation,” said Mayor Romero.

In order to make the Central Park concept become a reality, the City Council has already:

- Purchased 30 acres of land, part of a total 270 acres acquired since incorporation.
- Budgeted \$2 million for park development.
- Budgeted \$7 million for a City Hall/Community Center facility.

There are many steps remaining before this project becomes a reality. The most important is the community involvement process to identify and prioritize options for the site.

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MAYOR'S MESSAGE - STATE OF THE CITY



At this start of a new year, we thought it might be nice to tell you about what happened last year and let you know what you can expect from your City government this year.

The space given to the mayor's message cannot do justice to describing the incredible efforts of our City staff and members of our various citizen groups who do so much for our City. To them, I tip my hat. Moreover, my fellow Council members deserve our heartfelt thanks for their tireless efforts in making our City a better place to live. So, without further adieu, here is the 2001 Year in Review and a Look into 2002.

When Sammamish incorporated and began the business of managing itself, the City Council listened to its citizens and established many goals to provide direction to staff during 2001-2002.

The Council and staff worked together to improve levels of municipal services while keeping the taxes lower for our community. Today, we pay lower taxes and receive significantly better government services compared to unincorporated King County residents.

Not only do we have resources to implement the capital improvement needs of our community in a systematic and persistent way, we also have healthy ending fund balances for the future needs of our city. I am proud to report to you that we are much better off today than we were prior to incorporation.

Looking back at 2001, I am pleased with the progress that has been made toward fully implementing our goals. We have completed Phase 1B of the 228th Street project, a \$10 million dollar, mile-long improvement project accomplished in record time. The enhancement to traffic flow, as well as visual aesthetics, has been tremendous. Partial funding for this project was from a \$10 million low-interest Public Works Trust Fund loan and a \$1.5 million grant from the State Department of Transportation Corridor Congestion Relief program. Remaining funds will be used on Phase 1C.

The City worked with the Issaquah and Lake Washington School Districts on their highest priority school walking routes. To provide a safer environment for our community's children, the school sidewalk construction projects focused on completing approximately 4000 lineal feet of additional curb, gutter and separated sidewalks with landscaping. We hope you are enjoying the new sidewalks that are being constructed in our community, especially by our schools.

The City's first Stormwater Management Comprehensive Plan was developed and adopted, which will help the City manage stormwater. The plan identifies new and higher standards for stormwater quality and quantity control to better protect our natural streams and lakes from degradation. It also identifies capital improvements to better control flooding problems in the city.

We have provided better response to citizen requests and concerns. We have addressed items such as neighborhood traffic calming; parking restrictions in the certain residential areas; street and sidewalk repairs; and numerous installations of signage, crosswalks, and streetlights as requested by citizens and neighborhood associations.

Significant land banking was accomplished in 2001. Through grants, acquisition and donations, over 250 acres have been banked for future parks and open space. This newly acquired land includes the 212th/Ebright Creek property (12 acres), Beaver Lake Preserve (57 acres), Central Park property (20 acres), Lake Sammamish water-front donation (4 acres), in addition to the year 2000 purchase of the Galley Farm property (170 acres).

New play areas were installed at Pine Lake Park and NE Sammamish Park. Each play area pro-

vides opportunities for age-appropriate play for residents of our community. Look for continued improvements to our three existing parks this coming year!

This past summer, the City hosted a successful series of events at Pine Lake Park. Three concerts and two Shakespeare performances were well attended, with food provided by local vendors and the Sammamish Kiwanis. A new tradition of summer events was born!

Code enforcement has been substantially improved and streamlined with the addition of the code enforcement officer.

Staff has provided extensive support to the Planning Advisory Board, attending over 70 meetings of the PAB and sub-committees. Draft goals and policies for Land Use /Open Space/ Conservation areas and for Transportation have been completed by the PAB.

The City completed a land use and capacity analysis. The original capacity analysis has been extensively refined by staff and the latest product is a highly accurate "picture" of the potential land capacity analysis for our GMA planning endeavors.

Public Safety issues have been addressed. By entering into an agreement with Eastside Fire and Rescue, the City improved its fire services as well as acquiring three fire stations within the city limits and 13 fire/medic vehicles. The City's contract with the King County Sheriff has enabled it to enhance direct service to the schools and provide for increased pedestrian and roadway safety.

The City's books are in order. The City completed a successful 2000 Year Audit. The audit staff was impressed with our organization, accomplishments and controls. Upon completion of its 2001-2002 biennial budget, the City received WFOA Distinguished Budget Award. We also implemented a successful investment program for the City funds, which returned \$1.3 million in revenue. We subscribed to these principles of investing for the City: legality, safety, liquidity and yield...in that order.

I am honored and privileged to serve as your Mayor. I am proud to be a member of the visionary and dedicated City Council. We are much better off today than we were last year. I am confident we can continue the trend of every new year being better than the previous. The Council and the City staff are determined to deliver this promise to you. Thank you for the opportunity to serve you.

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On January 15 of this year, an article appeared in the *Eastside Journal* in which the Klahanie Homeowner's Association Board had issued a statement that annexation to the City of Issaquah "...appears to no longer be an option." Klahanie desires to annex sooner than later as it feels it is not getting the services it paid for in terms of roads and public safety services from King County. The City of Sammamish has discussed annexation with representatives from the Klahanie Homeowners Association on several occasions over the past 18 months. It appears now that further exploration of the potential for annexation will be taking place.

We are very pleased with the decision of the Klahanie Board of Directors to join the City of Sammamish. We are already working with the Board and the City of Issaquah to make this annexation a reality as soon as possible.

In order for an unincorporated area such as Klahanie to annex to a "code" city such as Sammamish, two factors must be in place:

- The area must be in a designated Urban Growth Area (UGA) under the State Growth Management Act (GMA);
- The area must be in a defined "Potential Annexation Area" (PAA), as required in the GMA County Wide Planning Policies for King County.

Klahanie meets both of these criteria. However, the Klahanie area is within the PAA of the City of Issaquah, not Sammamish. Why is that? The answer is timing. The City of Issaquah defined and adopted this PAA in 1995 during the update of its Comprehensive Plan under the Growth Management Act. The City of Sammamish did not incorporate until Aug 31, 1999. Consequently, Klahanie could not annex to Sammamish UNLESS the PAA was redesignated as that of the City of Sammamish.



Can Klahanie annex to Sammamish with this legal constraint? Yes, but it requires coordination and cooperation between the cities of Sammamish and the City of Issaquah.

Again, the issue is timing. PAA's are adopted as elements of a comprehensive plan and under the state law, comprehensive land use plans may only be amended once in a calendar year. Issaquah, like all cities planning under GMA, has many issue areas needing to be addressed in comprehensive plan amendments. To do this efficiently, it consolidates the amendments into a single adoption process, as the law requires. Sammamish, facing the same realities, must also consolidate its comprehensive plan amendments processes into one adoption process. Usually, this process takes up to a year to complete.

How does this get started? Do the Cities amend their PAA's before annexation, during annexation or after? Ideally, the voice of the residents affected by the annexation need to be heard by both cities. A PAA amendment can be initiated by the filing of a notice of intent to annex to a preferred city. Filing the notice does not legally encumber a city to amend a PAA, but the notice can be measured as a willingness to at least be considered for annexation. If the cities do agree to amend their PAA's, an annexation may be considered.

That is just the process to amend a PAA. What about the annexation itself? In Washington State, there are three common annexation processes:

1. Election Method by Resolution
2. Election Method by Petition of Property Owners (by a "10% petition")
3. Petition Method by Petition of Property Owners (by a "60% petition")

By far, method #3 is the commonly used method. In terms of costs, it is usually the lowest. In terms of timing, it could also be the slowest (anywhere from 6-18 months). It is community-driven and requires property owners to sign two petitions.



Method #2 is the next most commonly used. It is also community driven, but only requires one petition and a community vote (of the affected property owners) by official ballot. In terms of cost, the most significant cost to the city residents would be the election itself. As for time, it usually takes about 10 months.

Method #1 is the least used method. It is initiated by the City's legislative branch (City Council) and puts the decision of annexation up to a vote of the property owners within the annexation area. In terms of costs, overall, it is similar to method #2 and takes about 6 - 10 months. Details on these annexation methods may be obtained from the City of Sammamish.

East Lake Sammamish Trail News



City's Acquisition Creates Beaver Lake Natural Area Preserve

The City of Sammamish has completed the acquisition of 57.6 acres that connect the Conservancy's Hazel Wolf Wetlands Preserve (116 acres) and 1,600 feet of protected shoreline on Beaver Lake. Funding for the acquisition was provided through grants from the State (Washington Wildlife and Recreation Program) and King County (Conservation Futures Fund), along with a generous donation from the ownership group.

Senator Dino Rossi was a tremendous help to the city in obtaining the much needed state grant funds for this acquisition. Senator Rossi has been an excellent advocate for the City of Sammamish and the residents in his district.

The acquisition protects highly diverse wetlands, a riparian corridor and forested uplands. The protected area also includes several very large western red cedars and Douglas fir approaching old growth stature. Species of federal concern inhabit this land, including the olive-sided flycatcher, the willow flycatcher, and the northern red-legged frog. State candidate species include the pileated woodpecker and the western toad, which was common on the site until a few years ago. Bald eagle, listed as threatened on both the state and federal lists, are frequently observed flying and perching on the new preserve. Soft-surface trails linked to the Hazel Wolf trails, and interpretive areas will provide recreational opportunities for residents on this natural park land.

"Our city needs park land, and while we grow, we also need to protect important ecological functions," said Sammamish Mayor Troy Romero. "It was a pleasure to collaborate with Cascade Land Conservancy to protect our water quality and to provide a treasure for the children of Sammamish."

The owners' willingness to donate a portion of the property's value made the acquisition possible. "The generous contribution by the ownership group allows this park to be a long-term legacy for this community," said Sammamish City Manager Ben Yazici. Rod McNae, who represented the owners, commented, "The owners are proud to contribute to this neighborhood-initiated conservation effort."

One of the major Sammamish issues in the news—the King County Trail Proposal—was once thought to be a two to five year issue for the City of Sammamish. After three years of discussions, various agencies permit reviews and several private land ownership court cases with King County, the interim and final trail will continue to be a City of Sammamish issue for the rest of 2002. Given that the proposal creates an ongoing issue, here is the "latest news."

What Has Happened Lately? On January 30, the City of Sammamish conducted a public hearing limited to the issue of streams, wetlands and buffers portion of King County's trail proposal to use the former rail bed as a gravel trail. The hearing attracted 225 attendees, 45 speakers and over 60 comments or letters, in addition to 109 comment letters on the application in October-November 2001. The interim trail proposal includes 2.39 miles through streams, wetland and associated buffers out of the total 7.3 miles located within the City of Sammamish.

What Happens Next? There will be a City of Sammamish land use decision in late February 2002 on the wetland and streams aspects, followed by a shoreline substantial development permit based on a recommendation by the King County Department of Development & Environmental Services. If the wetlands and streams decision is appealed, the appeal hearing will be conducted by a City of Sammamish Hearing Examiner. While City is issuing its permit approvals, King County will seek approvals for six other permits from other agencies and address a challenge to the SEPA document used for the proposal.

What Reviews Will the City Provide? The City of Sammamish is required to provide three types of approvals. First, a public agency utility exception for use of sensitive areas is required. Second, a shoreline substantial development permit is required. Finally, right of way permits for several street crossings will be issued. The first of the three approvals is set for late February 2002.

How Does the City's Findings Differ From King County's Proposal? The City and County agree on most of the proposal and mitigations. However, there are few basic differences in how each agency reads the same code as well as some differences in the wetland codes. City staff recommends about four acres of planting for wetlands and streams buffers while King County offers about 0.25 acres. Also, the City identified five streams for salmon friendly crossing improvements now, while King County thinks only two stream crossings require minor attention at this stage. Finally, there is a code difference in the definition of regulated wetland size affecting ten small wetland locations. The City has used a more restrictive minimum wetland size (1,000 SF vs. 2,500 SF) since 1999.

What is the Current City of Sammamish Policy Toward the Trail? The current policy is unchanged. In spring 1999, the City Council adopted a resolution that encourages a final trail, rather than an interim proposal with out all issues resolved. The City of Sammamish supports a trail in use sooner than later.

If there are questions about East Lake Sammamish Trail proposal, contact Matt Mathes, Special Project Manager at 425-836-7910.

Pine Lake Park Restoration

Pine Lake Park has long been a jewel of the Sammamish Plateau. It is an important and cherished asset to the community. But some of the facilities in this wonderful park have become a little “threadbare,” and are in need of attention. In addition, some long-time management practices, such as allowing lakeside parking and importing material to fill in the beach area, are no longer considered acceptable. Some changes must be made to the park in order to comply with current stewardship standards.

Last year the City Council decided that this should be the first of the city’s parks to undergo the master planning process, the first step in moving toward making park improvements. One of the Parks and Recreation Department’s goals in creating the master plan is to improve the recreational potential of the park while enhancing its current character and beauty. In undertaking the process, it was felt that the best way to begin was to create a community dialogue about the park and about how to best balance the needs of passive and active recreation in the park.

The city held a series of public workshops, beginning in January, at Discovery Elementary School. These workshops were intended to provide the community with opportunities to ask questions, voice concerns and share their visions for the park.



Two recent workshops provided the public with an opportunity to shape the future of Pine Lake Park.

City staff, along with the consultant architect for this project, Bob Droll, coordinated the workshops. In true Northwest spirit, approximately 70 residents ignored the cold and rain to attend and participate in the evening workshops. The consultant designed the workshops to maximize opportunities for public input. Participants mingled with staff, Parks Commission and Council-members for one-on-one discussions. At the second meeting, attendees broke up into groups to draw up their suggested revisions to proposed alternatives, with a member of each group presenting the result to the entire assembly at the end. Many used the available comment sheets at each workshop to share their feelings about the park and views about how the park restoration should proceed.

“From the thoughtful and specific suggestions made by the participants, it was clear that these Pine Lake park users know every nook and cranny of this unique park, from the quiet trails amongst towering century-old Douglas firs to the humorous horizontal sitting tree along the shoreline. The final plan will be heavily flavored with ingredients of community desires,” said Councilmember Don Gerend, one of the workshop attendees.

Combining this feedback with the many other considerations and constraints one would expect to see in a city park project, the consultant and staff has worked through a series of refinements. The Parks Department expects to have the results of this process ready to present to the Council sometime this spring. The improvements will be phased in as the capital budget allows. We hope to begin the first phase sometime this year. Stay tuned!

Sammamish Youth Board

This holiday season the Sammamish Youth Board sponsored a Holiday Giving Tree to benefit the Eastside Baby Corner in Issaquah. The collection began on December 1 at the Holiday Celebration event held in Sammamish Highlands Shopping Center.

Here local families, Kiwanis members, and Eastside Fire & Rescue crew members gathered together to decorate gingerbread houses with Sammamish Youth Board members and listen to holiday songs played by the Eastlake Bell Ringers. Thanks to the support of the Sammamish community, over 150 brand-new to nearly new clothes, toys, shoes, and books were delivered to local families to enjoy over the holiday season.

Representatives from the Sammamish Youth Board partnered with Kirkland Youth Council and Redmond Youth Partnership members to participate in a quarterly meeting with Lake Washington Superintendent Karen Bates. Students were given the opportunity to represent their student body and discuss a wide variety of concerns expressed by fellow classmates.

Students asked questions pertaining to the celebration of religious holidays in schools, inquired about the process for selection of a new superintendent, and led a discussion on schools’ response to the September 11 attacks.

The end of the school year is right around the corner and SYB members are beginning to recruit for the 2002-3 school year term. The Board hopes to reach out to fellow classmates with a genuine passion for tackling teen issues on the Plateau and a grand desire to give back to the community. Members of the SYB hope to personally present the opportunity to students in leadership classes, Honor Society, and debate team.

Applications will be available at City Hall and in Sammamish junior high and high schools in early May.

New Direct Commuter Service

On February 4, King County Metro Transit began a new bus route offering fast, direct service between the City of Sammamish and downtown Seattle with four buses running during both the morning and afternoon peak hour commutes. City Council, City staff and Metro representatives, who have worked together to make this new transit service a reality, were on hand for opening day ceremonies.



In conjunction with the new bus service, a bus shelter (pictured above) has been installed on the west side of 228th Avenue at SE 8th Street, across the street from Sammamish Hills Lutheran Church. Metro leased park and ride stalls at the Sammamish Hills Lutheran Church for use by riders of this new bus service.

The new Route 216 travels from NE 36th Street and Sahalee Way to 4th Avenue and Union Street in Seattle four times each weekday morning. The four evening trips will begin at 2nd Avenue and Union Street in Seattle for the return trip to Sammamish.

Buses on this new route travel along Sahalee Way, 228th Avenue SE, SE 43rd Way, East Lake Sammamish Parkway, SE 56th Street, and enter and exit Interstate 90 at State Route 900 in Issaquah.

Passengers are picked up at several stops in Sammamish and north Issaquah. Along I-90, Route 216 is an express—stopping at only the Mercer Island park-and-ride lot, where there is an opportunity to transfer to buses bound for the City of Bellevue.

The one-way fare for Route 216 is \$2.00. Detailed timetables and a route map are available on the Metro Online Web. A link to Metro's web site is available on the City's web site.

The week of January 28, Metro's online [Trip Planner](#) began including information about the new Metro Route 216 to allow passengers to personalize bus trips specific to their home and work addresses.

228th Avenue Update

Completion of Phase 1B

The second phase of the 228th Avenue SE improvement project (Phase 1B, from SE 20th to SE 8th) is substantially completed with finishing touches now being performed by the contractor. The City thanks the citizens of Sammamish for their cooperation, support and patience during construction of this major project. While the Public Works Department did achieve its goal of completing this project an entire year faster than typical for a project of this size and complexity, this accelerated schedule also resulted in unavoidable traffic delays as numerous construction crews had to work simultaneously.

Major improvements accomplished as part of this project include: two travel lanes in each direction separated by a 12-foot wide landscaped median strip; curb and sidewalks separated by a landscape strip; a wide, Class I multi-use trail on the east side; decorative street and pedestrian level lighting; water and sewer facilities in cooperation with the Sammamish Plateau Water and Sewer District; storm drainage treatment facilities; underground electrical and communication lines and traffic signals with "U"-turn capability at various intersections.

City staff is currently working on changes to the lighting design to reduce glare. Options being field tested include replacing the existing 150 watt bulbs with 70 watt bulbs on the low-level pedestrian lights, or removing every other low-level light. Initial analysis indicates either of these options could be implemented and the results would provide adequate lighting while reducing glare. A final decision on changes to the 228th street lighting is expected soon.



228th Avenue prior to improvements.

Planning Phase 1C

Design is well underway for the third phase of the 228th Avenue project (Phase 1C from SE 8th to NE 12th), which will be constructed in two phases over the next two years. This year's stage includes the installation of various utilities and retaining walls, which will reduce traffic delays during next year's major road construction phase.



228th Avenue following improvements.

With no potential detour route and the need to build walls before the road can be widened, alternatives for moving traffic during construction of Phase 1C are even more limited than the previous phase. It is anticipated the phasing of construction on 1C will allow the major roadway work to be entirely constructed during the School Districts' 2003 summer vacation break.

This year's work is expected to include items such as: installing new water and sewer facilities, relocating private utilities, converting to underground power and communications service lines, and installing new drainage. In August 2002, construction will have to be shut down or curtailed during the Sahalee professional golf tournament. Since August provides some of the limited prime weather conditions for certain road construction activities, this was another reason for staging the construction.

228th 1C improvements will include intersection signalization, illumination, undergrounding of private utilities (power, phone, cable), pedestrian facilities, bicycle facilities, four travel lanes, landscaped medians and strips, and storm drainage enhancements. Sanitary and/or water improvements to be funded by the Sammamish Plateau Water and Sewer District (SPWSD) are also anticipated.

At the entrance to Eastlake High School, final design is anticipated to include two left turn lanes for southbound traffic on 228th to turn onto the NE 4th Street entrance to Eastlake High School. During the heavy influx of students to the high school in the morning, there are significant traffic backups created on 228th Avenue as the number of drivers wishing to turn left exceeds the capacity of the existing single left-turn lane. Since NE 4th Street is currently a private rather than public street, the City is working with the Lake Washington School District to install this dual left-turn lane design.

Sammamish Gets Its First Roundabout

Sammamish drivers and visitors are now experiencing the City's first roundabout. The location is Inglewood Hill Road and 216th Avenue NE, a site with one of the worst traffic accident records in the entire City. The roundabout was chosen over the more traditional signalized intersections to significantly reduce traffic accidents, cut vehicle delays by one-half, reduce noise, provide a more attractive street setting, and reduce costs over the long run when considering maintenance and repair.

After the City Council decided against roundabouts on 228th, it wanted an alternate site to try this old and accepted traffic control approach, long used in Europe. Public acceptance has been slow to come, although residents in the immediate area, for the most part, have been highly supportive and accepting.

An extensive public participation process was conducted, and Council listened to public testimony at a public hearing before deciding unanimously to proceed. The City's website has information that will enable motorists to learn some special driving techniques for roundabouts, which are easily mastered. A brochure is also available at City Hall or by request.



The roundabout at 216th and Inglewood Hill Road.

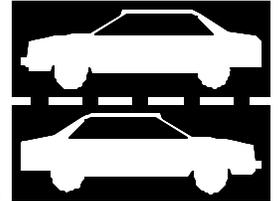
Thanks to residents and drivers for their patience during the longer-than-hoped-for construction period. Urban road construction with movement of utilities, is always difficult at best. Add to that the weather delays for paving, and the contract finished about a month later than envisioned. We hope the product was worth waiting for. The Photo shows the project on January 31, nearing completion. Bon motoring!

Issaquah-Pine Lake Road Project Begins Design

The Sammamish Public Works Department has hired the design firm of HDR to assist the City with the design of improvements to Issaquah-Pine Lake Road from SE 231st Lane (the corner of the Pine Lake Shopping Center) to just past SE 32nd Street.

This \$1,020,000 project, which received \$815,600 of grant funding from the State Transportation Improvement Board through a state-wide competitive program, will provide turn lanes, intersection improvements, sidewalks, street lighting, landscaping and surface water management and water quality improvements along this important City arterial.

Improving pedestrian and traffic safety mandated this project be a high priority, as it is a major walkway connection to Sunny Hills Elementary School, and Pine Lake Middle School. In addition, the intersection of Issaquah-Pine Lake Road and SE 32nd Street has significant accident and operational problems.



The Public Works Department hopes to accomplish an accelerated design schedule which will allow construction of this project to take place this summer. One of the more interesting design issues will be to evaluate implementing either a traffic signal or a roundabout at the SE 32nd/Issaquah-Pine Lake Road intersection. The City also plans to discuss with the Issaquah School District the possibility of providing a traffic signal at the intersection of SE 231st Lane/Issaquah-Pine Lake Road, at the entrance to Pine Lake Middle School.

Community meetings will be held this spring to provide detailed information and to gather public input on this project; in addition to newspaper notices, flyers and posters at City Hall, notices of the meetings will be posted on the City's web page, www.ci.sammamish.wa.us.

East Sammamish Corridor Study

The Public Works Department anticipates beginning a study this spring to determine potential impacts, benefits and feasibility of completing north-south street connections in the eastern portion of the City between NE 8th Street and SE 32nd Street/SE Duthie Hill Road.

Although this corridor has been titled in the City's Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) as "244th Avenue," no specific, potential alignments or alternatives have been, or will be, identified until a thorough study and an extensive public involvement process are completed. The study will also evaluate the "Trossachs Boulevard Extension," another project in the City's TIP, as a potential north-south street connector.

These potential projects are envisioned as two-lane (one lane in each direction), tree-lined City street improvements, not high speed major arterials. Early planning work by the City indicated that even providing this minor amount of improved north-south connectivity in the eastern portion of the City could provide significant community circulation benefits for bikes, pedestrians, cars and emergency vehicle access. Currently this portion of the City has a significant population but no north-south connecting streets.

Notices will be placed on the City's web page, posted at City Hall and put in local newspapers in advance of public meetings on the study. The public will have many more opportunities to participate in this study process and to comment on any alternatives the study identifies as being feasible as those alternatives move forward through more specific project and environmental evaluations. Ultimately, the Sammamish City Council will decide which, if any, of the identified north-south connectors are to be constructed.

Comprehensive Plan Meetings

In April, 2002, the City of Sammamish Planning Advisory Board will be hosting a number of community meetings to present various comprehensive planning proposals and to get feedback from the community. These sessions will be critical in the ongoing work of preparing a comprehensive plan, which will have an impact on every Sammamish resident for the next 20 years. We would like to say right up front that the sessions will be unproductive if YOU aren't there. Please keep an eye out for meeting advertisements in March and early April and plan to grab a few neighbors and attend one of these meetings.

The PAB's work to date on the Land Use, Transportation and Environment/Open Space elements of the comprehensive plan will be the focus of the meetings. While the format is not yet finalized, we expect that city residents will first hear a short presentation to describe various land use alternatives and transportation issues. After the presentation, residents will be invited to visit various kiosks around the room to get specific information and have discussions with PAB members on what interests you most. Again, the meetings will be geared around feedback so you will have a chance to submit your comments and ideas verbally or in writing to PAB members.

After the meetings, the PAB will compile the feedback and complete the drafting of these three elements of the comprehensive plan. The PAB is also planning a formal community survey and another community meeting during the summer months so this isn't the last time you'll be asked for input on the comprehensive plan. Thanks in advance for participating in one of these important planning meetings.



Transportation Element of Comp Plan

The Transportation Element of the Comprehensive Plan involves all modes of mobility—cars, trucks, pedestrians, bicyclists, transit, car/van pools and transit—addressed from a comprehensive approach. This means starting from written policies, goals and objectives aimed at achieving the City's vision, proceeding through an inventory and analysis of existing facilities and deficiencies, and establishing measurable standards for design and operations (level-of-service) of all transportation systems. The end result is a specific and financially feasible program for implementing the plan.



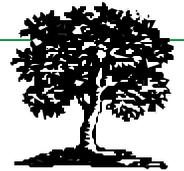
The PAB and its subcommittees hold frequent meetings.

Transportation is the only element of the Comprehensive Plan tied by State law to the implementation of land use through a regulation termed "concurrency." Simply put, concurrency requires that new development cannot be approved unless it can be established that transportation improvements identified as needed to serve that growth will be implemented. The "need" for transportation facilities is determined by specific levels-of-service

standards (such as the degree of congestion at intersections), which will also be established in development of the Transportation Element.

Level-of-service and concurrency interact with land use plans in a very complex way and will be two of the more interesting items for the Planning Advisory Board to consider in regard to the Transportation Plan. For further information on the transportation plan process, please contact Lee Haro, Transportation Manager, email: lharo@ci.sammamish.wa.us.

"Central Park" (continued from page 1)



The Council Council is interested in publicly-developed options for placement of the several potential uses. The City is currently seeking the services of a consultant that has extensive experience in creating and implementing successful public involvement processes for this type of project. The consultant must have:

- Experience in designing and building similar civic campus projects
- Experience in development of park site plans and landscape architecture
- Successful public involvement processes for similar projects
- Expertise in addressing environmental issues

Based on the consultant's work, preliminary concepts and public input, the City Council will likely select an option and proceed. Until Council makes that decision, there is no firm cost estimate for what will ultimately be designed and constructed. Deputy Mayor Ken Kilroy stated, "We really need all interested parties in the City to assist in the concept design process. It is very important that the entire community is considered when we make our decision." Citizens will be advised of public meetings/opportunity for input via notices on the City web page and by notification to the various homeowners associations in the City.

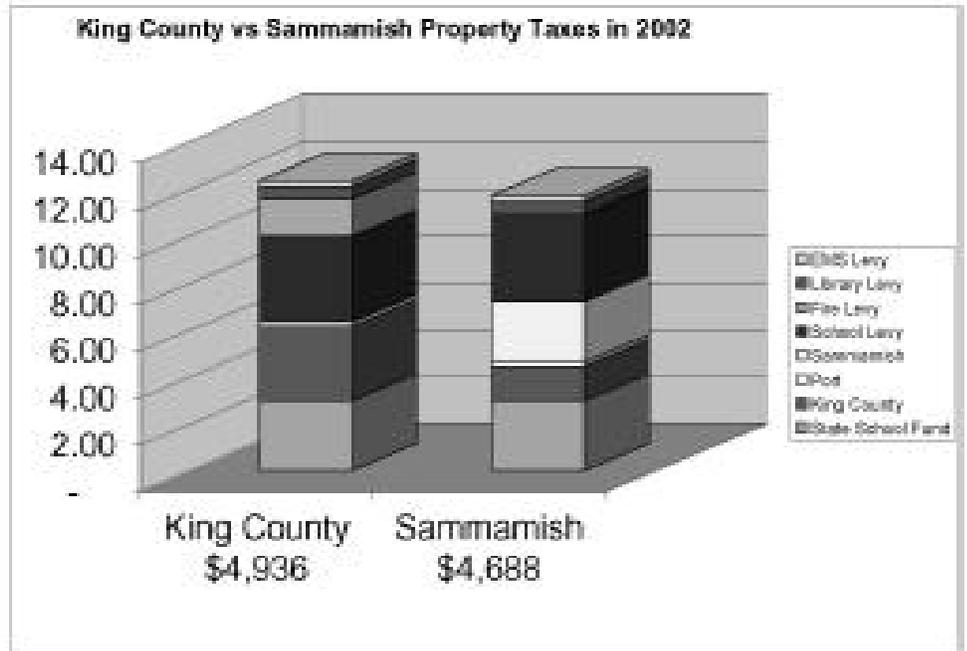
TAXES LOWER, SERVICES HIGHER

The City of Sammamish prides itself on making the most use of its citizens' tax dollars. We strive to work efficiently, smartly, and in a coordinated manner.

The aggregate property taxes paid by citizens of Sammamish have declined for the third straight year. The total property taxes on a \$400,000 home went from \$5,012 per year in 2001 to \$4,688 in 2002. This is a decline of \$324 or 6.46%. The portion of taxes collected by the City of Sammamish accounts for only \$2.60 of the \$11.72 collected per \$1,000 of assessed value. This is 22% of the property taxes collected in Sammamish through the King County Assessor.

Residents in unincorporated King County just outside City of Sammamish are paying property taxes of \$12.34 per thousand. For a \$400,000 home this equates to \$4,936. This is \$248 or 6% higher than the residents of Sammamish.

Property taxes are the City's largest source of general fund revenue. The City's General Fund is \$20.7 million. Over 64% of the operating revenue (\$13.24 million) comes from property taxes.



The City is providing a higher level of service than that experienced under the County. We are providing better police and fire service, improving the infrastructure, including roads (as evidenced by 228th Avenue NE), sidewalks (as evidenced by the sidewalk programs near our schools), parks (as evidenced by a variety

of improvements), and surface water management. At the same time, citizens have more opportunities to work closely with and have access to their elected and appointed representatives on the City Council, Parks & Recreation Commission, and Planning Advisory Board.

You're Going to Love E-Gov!

The City of Sammamish is advancing with a forward-thinking plan to enable its citizens, and those doing business with Sammamish, to transact business via the Internet.

The City is entering into an "E-Gov" (electronic government) Alliance with the cities of Bellevue, Bothell, Brien, Issaquah, Kenmore, Kirkland, Mercer Island and Woodinville.



The plan entails maintaining an electronic portal for all citizens of these entities, allowing a common look and feel. The citizens and others will be able to search for information, apply for necessary permits and licenses, register for parks classes, reserve facilities, etc.

This alliance will allow the City to receive the benefits of all Alliance functions, projects, programs and partnerships, including:

- training
- information sharing events
- private sector partnership agreements
- projects/programs with other entities including the state, county, libraries, and other cities.

These benefits will accrue to the participant cities utilizing economies of scale, and jointly shared costs the cities otherwise couldn't afford it acting individually.

Sammamish E-Gov services will integrate and evolve in steps using the current web site as a foundation. It is likely the City will roll-out the permit information, permit applications, and finally evolve into a transaction-based site. Several of the Cities have started this work though the web-site www.mybuildingpermit.com.

At this site you will find links to most building code references, tips, inspection check sheets, and other references. These cities plan to have inspection requests, permits applications and permit status available on-line. Sammamish will be building on this work. It is likely the next stage will involve parks programs and registrations.

Watch for further information at our web-site www.ci.sammamish.wa.us and future newsletters.

New Fire Trucks at City Stations

The City of Sammamish received three new fire trucks including one with an elevated water stream device. They are currently in operation and located at Station 81 (2030 212th Avenue SE), Station 82 (1851 228th Avenue NE) and Station 83 (3425 Issaquah Pine Lake Road). The fire engines meet the latest federal safety standards and will replace the current Seagrave model fire trucks. The new engines are red and white, following the traditional fire engine colors.

The fire trucks were purchased as part of a \$5.9 million dollar voter-approved bond in 1998. The bond issue was promoted by King County Fire District 10 in 1989 and two of the fire engines were a part of the asset transfer agreement from the Fire District to the City of Sammamish when the City incorporated.

The bond project also included the purchase of three additional fire engines (for a total of six fire engines) that will be placed in other department fire stations, two 3000-gallon water tenders, one heavy rescue truck and the purchase of two pieces of property on which to build fire stations. One of these properties will be acquired in the City of Sammamish for use by the City.



The bond also included the remodeling of the Headquarters Station and Station 81, building a training facility/fire station in Preston, three commercial washing machines to clean the firefighter's protective clothing and laptop computers for the fire engines.

Fires services to Sammamish are provided by contract with Eastside Fire & Rescue, an interlocal consortium of the Cities of Sammamish, Issaquah, North Bend and Fire Districts 10 and 38.



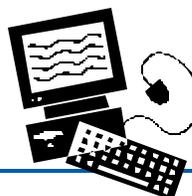
Sergeant Bonnie Soule is the Operations Sergeant for the Sammamish Police Department. Bonnie joined the King County Sheriff's Office in April 1980, and was promoted to Sergeant in 1998. She was a K-9 Officer for the Sheriff's Office for 7 years.

Bonnie earned an Associated of Arts Degree in Criminal Justice from Shoreline College. Before joining the Sammamish Police Department in March 2001, Sgt. Soule served for two years as the Chief of Police of the City of Carnation, WA. Bonnie loves horses and dogs. She is married to a King County Sheriff's Detective; they have two sons.

www.ci.sammamish.wa.us

This is just some of the information you can obtain on the City's website:

- Capital Improvement Projects Status
- City Councilmembers Contact Info.
- City News and Special Events
- City Ordinances and Resolutions
- City Staff and email addresses
- Community Links
- Council Meeting Agendas
- Council Meeting Minutes
- Department Information
- Developer Activity
- Employment Opportunities
- Map of City Limits
- Planning Advisory Board Activities
- Public Records Request
- Public Meeting Notices
- Snow Route Map
- Traffic Updates
- Zoning Map



Neighborhood Connections

Newly elected Home Owner Association presidents or representatives are invited to join the "Neighborhood Connections" Program. Meetings are held quarterly at City Hall from 6:30 to 8:00 pm. Over 72 representatives have signed up to participate and regularly receive mailings (usually by e-mail) from City Departments and Sammamish Police to disseminate among their neighborhood associations.

The January 14 meeting included a presentation by Planning Manager David Sawyer on Planning, Land Use, Development and the future of Sammamish. Sergeant Bonnie Soule provided information on Sammamish Police services and activities. The next meeting is scheduled for April 8, with a presentation from Jeff Watling, Parks and Recreation Manager.

For more information about Neighborhood Connections, contact: Laura Shaughnessy, Administrative Assistant, at 425-836-7916 or send an email to lshaughnessy@ci.sammamish.wa.us.

Why are the City's Police Cars Often Seen in Klahanie?

Sammamish Police are frequently the nearest available police agency capable of taking a priority from Klahanie. When Klahanie residents call 911 for law enforcement services, the call is prioritized and dispatched to the King County Sheriff. However, for the 4-month period ending December 31, 2001, county dispatch records show that over one-third of the police responses in the Klahanie area have been handled by Sammamish Police.

Sammamish City Manager Ben Yazici remarked: "We are happy to provide critical police services to our neighbors in Klahanie and will do so as long as we have the resources. However, in the face of City work load issues and budget constraints this may be a service that becomes less available to Klahanie residents."

CITY HALL CALENDAR

MARCH

- March 5 - TUE, 7:30 pm**
Council Regular Meeting
- March 7 - THU, 7:00 pm**
Planning Advisory Board
- March 13 - WED, 7:00 pm**
PAB/Public Involvement Subcomm.
- March 14 - THU, 7:00 pm**
PAB/Land Use Subcommittee
- March 18 - MON, 6:30 pm**
Parks & Recreation Commission
- March 19 - TUE, 7:30 pm**
City Council Regular Meeting
- March 21 - THU, 7:00 pm**
Planning Advisory Board
- March 26 - TUE, 6:00 pm**
Sammamish Youth Board
- March 26 - TUE, 7:30 pm**
City Council Study Session
- March 27 - WED, 7:00 pm**
PAB/Transportation Subcommittee

APRIL

- April 2 - TUE, 7:30 pm**
City Council Regular Meeting
- April 4 - THU, 7:00 pm**
Planning Advisory Board
- April 8 - MON, 6:30 pm**
Neighborhood Connections
- April 15 - MON, 7:30 pm**
Parks & Recreation Commission
- April 16 - TUE, 7:30 pm**
City Council Regular Meeting
- April 23 - TUE, 6:00 pm**
Sammamish Youth Board
- April 23 - TUE, 7:30 pm**
City Council Study Session

MAY

- May 2 - THU, 7:00 pm**
Planning Advisory Board
- May 7 - TUE, 7:30 pm**
City Council Regular Meeting
- May 20 - MON, 6:30 pm**
Parks & Recreation Commission
- May 21 - TUE, 6:30 pm**
City Council Regular Meeting
- May 28 - TUE, 6:00 pm**
Sammamish Youth Board
- May 28 - TUE, 7:30 pm**
City Council Study Session

JUNE

- June 4 - TUE, 7:30 pm**
City Council Regular Meeting
- June 6 - THU, 7:30 pm**
Planning Advisory Board
- June 17 - MON, 6:30 pm**
Park & Recreation Commission
- June 18 - TUE, 7:30 pm**
City Council Regular Meeting
- June 25 - TUE, 7:30 pm**
City Council Study Session



CITY EXPANDS WASTE REDUCTION & RECYCLING

The City of Sammamish will be expanding its services to adjacent areas, including the Klahanie Community. With funding from a State of Washington grant and additional financial assistance from King County, the City is expanding its services for its two waste reduction and recycling events in 2002.

The first Special Collection Event is scheduled for March 16, 2002, from 9:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. at Eastlake High School. Last fall's Compost Bin Distribution Event was very successful. Based on the popularity of Compost Bins, another sales event is planned in conjunction with this spring's Collection Event.

Our second Special Collection Event will be held in the Fall of 2002. The focus of this event is to address the situation common to many businesses, that of a lack of space to keep or store recyclable materials. Klahanie-area business firms are encouraged to participate.

Watch for upcoming announcements. If you have questions, please contact Laura Shaughnessy, Administrative Assistant, at 425-836-7916 or email at lshaughnessy@ci.sammamish.wa.us.

FREQUENTLY CALLED CITY HALL NUMBERS

General Reception & Information.....	898-0660
City Council Members	
• Jack Barry.....	837-0060
• Don Gerend.....	392-7531
• Ron Haworth.....	391-8321
• Kathy Huckabay.....	392-4690
• Ken Kilroy.....	836-9352
• Michelle Petitti.....	392-9028
• Troy Romero.....	450-5000
Administrative Services.....	836-7916
City Clerk.....	836-7904
City Manager.....	836-7902
Community Development.....	836-7919
Financial Services.....	836-7917
Inspection Request.....	898-0660
<i>(do not leave voice message)</i>	
Parks & Recreation.....	836-7907
Personnel.....	836-7916
Police Dispatch.....	206-296-3311
<i>(if storefront is closed)</i>	
Police Storefront.....	836-5674
Public Works.....	836-7925

OTHER LOCAL (425) NUMBERS:

Electrical Permits.....	990-1400
Garbage Collection.....	814-9240
NE Water & Sewer.....	868-1144
Plateau Water & Sewer.....	392-6256
Puget Sound Energy.....	455-5120
Sammamish Library.....	836-8793

SAMMAMISH CITY COUNCIL MEMBERS



Jack Barry
Councilmember



Don Gerend
Councilmember



Ken Kilroy
Deputy Mayor



Ron Haworth
Councilmember



Kathleen Huckabay
Councilmember



Michele Petitti
Councilmember



Troy Romero
Mayor

Council Meeting HIGHLIGHTS

OCTOBER

Council held a joint Study Session with the Issaquah School District. Topics discussed were possible joint ventures between the School District and the City's Park and Recreation Department, a location for the bus parking facility on the plateau and surplus school district properties.

The Council agreed to join ARCH (A Regional Coalition of Housing). This regional group of eastside cities is a cooperative effort dedicated to increasing affordable housing in East King County.

Approval was given by Council to purchase a 20-acre parcel adjacent to property the City already owns. This parcel will be used for future park development.

NOVEMBER

Seven council positions were elected in the November general election. The new Councilmembers are:

- Kathleen Huckabay, Position 1
- Michele Petitti, Position 2
- Troy Romero, Position 3
- Ron Haworth, Position 4
- Don Gerend, Position 5
- Kenneth Kilroy, Position 6
- Jack Barry, Position 7

Councilmembers Huckabay, Romero, Gerend and Barry will serve four-year terms; Councilmembers Petitti, Haworth and Kilroy will serve two-year terms.

Council passed an ordinance creating the Beaver Lake Management District No.1. The purpose of the district is to monitor the lake water quality, continuing education, quarterly newsletters and other projects.

DECEMBER

Council passed the 2002 Budget and set the tax levy rate for the coming year.

Seven Human Services Grants were awarded to local service providers. This is the first time the Council has awarded these grants.

With the help of Conservations Futures and Senator Dino Rossi, the City acquired the 57-acre Beaver Lake Reserve. This property will be used as a passive park.

JANUARY

Councilmembers and staff attended a three-day retreat to develop goals and plans for 2002.

An interlocal agreement was approved that will provide funding for three solid waste recycling events for 2002. These events will have an expanded coverage area, including some unincorporated areas of King County.

The City Council is now accepting applications to fill openings on the Sammamish Parks and Recreation Commission.

The Parks and Recreation Commission provides guidance and input in meeting the parks and recreational needs of the City. As an advisory group to the City Council and staff, the commission focuses on matters related to planning, acquisition, development and operation of park facilities and recreation services within Sammamish. All commissioners serve a three year term.

If you are interested in applying, please submit a letter of interest, resume, and a completed Parks Commission questionnaire to the City Clerk, at Sammamish City Hall, 486 228th Avenue NE, Sammamish 98074. The questionnaire can be downloaded on the City of Sammamish website, www.ci.sammamish.wa.us, or picked up at City Hall.



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Sammamish, WA 98074

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