



City Still Hoping For Trail Settlement

Although City Manager Ben Yazici's offer of mediation on the East Lake Sammamish Trail has not been accepted by King County, Yazici says he will continue to pursue alternatives to litigation.

"In a time of scarce resources, it makes no sense for the county or the city to spend money on lawyers," Yazici said. "Let's try to find a win-win solution."

Currently, county attorneys are in the midst of an extended appeal of the city's environmental requirements for the trail.

Although Sammamish approved a trail permit in April 2002, the county is arguing that the city's proposed protection measures for streams and wetlands along the trail path are excessive.

County attorneys will make that case before a hearing examiner on Feb. 24. A county claim that Sammamish doesn't have environmental jurisdiction over the trail has already been rejected by the hearing examiner.

"We're open to county suggestions on how to get this settled," Yazici said. "I think we could find some resolution if the city, county and trailside homeowners gathered around a table."

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Trail Background

The county's proposed 11-mile recreational trail along the eastern shore of Lake Sammamish stretches from Redmond to Issaquah. Seven miles of the trail fall inside Sammamish city limits.

The railbed path would route hikers and bikers past approximately 350 homes, the vast majority of them in Sammamish. While the majority of city residents are in favor of a trail, many of those living near the proposed trail are unhappy with the county's specific plan.

Some residents, including those who've filed lawsuits against the county, feel the railbed path is unsafe and overly intrusive in some areas.



City Manager Ben Yazici

Initially, the county plans to build an interim trail—a gravel surface appropriate for hikers and mountain bikes. Eventually, if funding becomes available, a paved version of the trail will be built.

Construction Delays

Although the King County Council approved the interim trail more than two years ago, the project has been plagued by delays. The county's appeal of the city's environmental requirements is just the latest in a long series of holdups.

"Unfortunately, some have suggested the city is to blame" Yazici said. "But our council knows most Sammamish residents want a trail. The city would be foolish to fight its own residents.

"Sammamish simply wants a cooperative approach from the county—and a trail that is safe for residents and the environment alike.

"Whether it's through mediation by an impartial third party, or some other settlement process, we need to make this trail a reality—sooner rather than later."

CITY'S FINANCES SPARKLE

Budget Set for 2003/2004

The City Council's Dec. 3 approval of the 2003/2004 biennial budget leaves city finances in rock-solid shape, Finance Director Lyman Howard said.

"Given the state of the economy and the loss of tax revenue due to state initiatives, the Council passed a conservative budget," Lyman said.

The budget assumes no growth in sales tax revenue and takes the effects of the initiatives into account.

In 2002, Sammamish received \$2.3 million in sales tax equalization revenue from the State. In the aftermath of Initiative 695, that has been reduced to \$700,000 in 2003 and eliminated completely in 2004.

Due to Initiative 776, the city will also lose an additional \$600,000 in state-distributed tax revenue. That money was earmarked for street maintenance.

Even though economic times are lean, the budget continues the council's focus on roads, parks and other infrastructure investments, Howard said. Highlights of the budget include:

- ◆ Holding property taxes in check. The rate per thousand is \$2.601 compared to \$2.605 in 2002.
- ◆ Continuing high levels of capital spending for roads and parks development. In the two-year budgetary total of \$97 million, approximately 40% is earmarked for relief of the city's infrastructure shortcomings. Parks and Transportation Capital Improvements Expenditures average \$20 million in both years of this budget.
- ◆ Keeping expenses low by contracting for many municipal services when appropriate. The city will continue to contract with Eastside Fire for Fire and Emergency Medical Services and the King County Sheriff for Law Enforcement Services.
- ◆ Maintaining a strong ending fund balance to ensure a continuation of the city's high fiscal rating of AA- from Standard and Poors. The city projects a healthy ending fund balance of \$16.5 Million in 2003 and \$9.7 million in 2004.



As the city launches its second 2-year budget cycle with \$40 million earmarked for capital improvements – the value of incorporation has never been more clear.

We're building roads and sidewalks, developing parks, and shaping the future character of the city with the help of dedicated citizen volunteers on our boards and commissions.

Before Sammamish residents took the reins of government into their own hands in 1999, capital expenditures on the plateau averaged an almost invisible \$1 million per year.

But now, with our property taxes spent here instead of elsewhere in King County, Sammamish is in the midst of an exciting transformation.

And it's being done without raising tax rates. The levy rate on property has dropped two years in a row, with the 2003 rate coming in at \$2.60 per \$1,000 of assessed valuation.

There's no question about it. Self-governance, fueled by citizen energy and guided by fiscal responsibility, has been a roaring success in Sammamish.

The investments made in our city over the next two-year budget cycle, of course, will only add to a long list of civic accomplishments already in place.

During the past two years, Sammamish has, among other things:

- ◆ Invested more than \$20 million to improve its transportation system.
- ◆ Widened two miles of 228th Avenue.
- ◆ Built 6,630 linear feet of sidewalk.
- ◆ Maintained a moratorium on new development.
- ◆ Purchased 217 acres for future park development.
- ◆ Used grant money to obtain the 57-acre Beaver Lake Preserve.
- ◆ Accepted the donation of 1,600 feet of waterfront along Lake Sammamish.
- ◆ Taken possession of Beaver Lake Park.
- ◆ Brought the number of police officers to 21 (compared to 7 before incorporation).
- ◆ Improved its fire service rating from Classification 5 to Classification 4, lowering insurance rates for many local businesses and some residents.
- ◆ Approved a basic concept for Sammamish Commons, a civic campus and park complex along 228th Avenue.
- ◆ Received a AA- bond rating, the highest ever received by a new city in Washington.

As a young city playing catch-up, it will take some time for Sammamish to fully evolve into the community residents have envisioned. But in some cases, the voters will have the opportunity to accelerate the process as they see fit.

The city's park commission, for example, is planning to recommend a park bond issue for the Council's consideration. If the bond goes on the ballot, Sammamish residents themselves will be in control of how fast the park deficit is erased.

It's especially gratifying to report that all of this progress has been produced by a very lean city government that relies substantially on outside contractors for municipal services.

We have only 1.5 employees per thousand population. That compares to around 10 employees per thousand for most other Puget Sound cities.

City Manager Ben Yazici and the excellent staff he's assembled deserve our thanks for their efficient delivery of services to the community.

Although government budget crises are much in the news these days, our city's financial picture is developing nicely.

Sammamish will invest a total of \$40 million in capital expenditures during 2003 and 2004. The ending balance at the end of this biennial budget is penciled in at a robust \$9 million.

And it's all happening without raising taxes!

With the city's park, storm drainage and overall comprehensive plan at, or near, completion, the framework for the city's future evolution is largely in place.

We on the council look forward to your continuing guidance on the best way to invest your tax dollars in Sammamish – and our common vision for the future.

As I take my turn in the mayor's chair over the next year, I'm proud to be a part of this exciting community. I look forward to serving you and making 2003 a great year!

CITY OF SAMMAMISH

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- Pete Butkus..... Administrative Svcs. Director/ACM*
- John Cunningham..... Public Works Director/ACM*
- Ray Gilmore..... Community Development Director
- Lyman Howard..... Financial Services Director
- Jeff Watling..... Parks & Recreation Manager
- Bruce Disend..... City Attorney
- Melonie Anderson..... City Clerk
- Richard Baranzini..... Police Chief

* Assistant City Manager



Audit Results Shine

The State Auditors Office recently completed its Annual Audit of the 2002 Financial Reports. The Audit found that the city's books are in order and that they are fairly presented. For the third year in its short history, the city had no audit findings.

City's Comp Plan Near Completion

After almost 2½ years of public meetings and 3000 hours of cumulative time from all members, the Planning Advisory Board is nearing the end of its adventure in comprehensive planning. Set to be submitted to the City Council in early February, the “plan” represents the embodiment of citizens’ dedication and community participation.

As required under the Growth Management Act, the Comprehensive Plan is the blueprint for managing and controlling growth over the next twenty years. The plan has eight “elements,” or subject areas. These elements consist of:

Growth Management:

The state Growth Management Act and how it relates to mandated local plans and the public participation process.

Land Use:

Policies and maps which direct the location, intensity and density of land uses within the city and its potential annexation areas (PAA).

Environment & Conservation:

Policies and maps which address the protection and preservation of critical areas such as wetlands, steep slopes and slide hazard areas.

Transportation:

Provides policy on recommended transportation plans including new or improved roads and alternative forms of transportation.

Housing:

Policies which provide a range of housing for the community.

Utilities, Public Services/Capital Facilities:

Policies which address the siting and location of utilities and a program for funding public services.

Essential Public Services:

Polices which provide for the siting of state mandated essential public facilities and a process for siting these facilities.



The view from the Sammamish Commons site is one of the city's best.

Sammamish Commons – More Than a Park

... a gathering place for families
 ... a place to interact and do business with your city government

Parks, Recreation & Open Space:

Goals and policies which support and provide for public parks and recreation facilities in the city.

The City Council’s tentative Comprehensive Plan public meeting schedule is:

- FEB. 11** Planning Advisory Board’s presentation of the Comprehensive Plan to the City Council
- FEB. 18** Council Hearing on Comprehensive Plan
- MARCH 18** Continue Council Hearing on Comprehensive Plan
- MARCH 25** Council Study Session
- APRIL 1** First reading on adoption ordinance for Comprehensive Plan
- MAY 6** Second reading and adoption of ordinance adopting Comprehensive Plan

Meeting times and location for the public hearings will be announced a minimum two weeks prior to the meeting date.

The proposed Sammamish Commons is coming closer to reality. Following community meetings to gauge support and garner suggestions for land-use features and concepts, the City Council has carefully considered the options and made some choices.

The Councilmembers have directed that the future 10-acre park and city office complex on the west side of 228th Avenue SE, just south of SE 8th Street, meet the following standards:

- ◆ Preserve the view shed as much as possible
- ◆ Design and construct a Civic Plaza for community use
- ◆ Design and construct a modest City Hall and Police Station
- ◆ Preserve/maintain land at the site for a future building, such as a Community Center
- ◆ Contain a green space between the major development and 228th Avenue
- ◆ Include a beginning-to mid-level skate park for youth designed with an emphasis on safety and security

Still to be done – more park concept refinement on the remainder of the property, a 20-acre segment accessed from SE 4th Street. The goal is to have the Civic Plaza and City Hall open for use in late 2004.

**COMP PLAN
PUBLIC HEARINGS**

Tuesdays, Feb. 18 & March 18
 Sammamish Plateau Water & Sewer Dist.
 (1510 - 228th Avenue NE - Sammamish)

Copies of the Plan are available for public review at City Hall and the Library and are also available for purchase at City Hall.

PLANNING COMMISSION CANDIDATES SOUGHT

The City Council will be seeking candidates for the city’s first Planning Commission in the near future.

Details on how to apply for these important positions will be announced shortly. Please check the city’s website www.ci.sammamish.wa.us and future city newsletters for updated information.

Parks Due for a Big Summer Boost

Residents will see a strong surge in park development this summer as the city breaks ground on an important new park and provides a vital facelift for an old favorite. Ebright Creek Park is the newcomer. Pine Lake Park, a traditional gathering place, will be the beneficiary of some carefully planned enhancements.

This emphasis on parks reflects the community's clearly-expressed desire for better recreational facilities in Sammamish.

EBRIGHT CREEK PARK: This new park facility will be built on a 12-acre parcel on the west side of 212th Avenue, across from SE 13th Place. It will be the first new neighborhood park on the Plateau in decades. Fortunately, it should be worth the wait.

Not only is this a beautiful piece of property, it's located in a portion of the city particularly lacking in public gathering spaces.

The property's physical features – a creek at one end and a wetland at the other – provide opportunities for some unique park amenities. These include a board-walk over the wetland, a creek side viewing platform, and an on-site, native-plant garden to grow habitat-enhancing plantings.

In addition, a combination baseball/soccer field, children's play structures and a basketball court will offer more typical neighborhood park recreation choices. A series of trails and picnic sites, a children's play maze, a restroom building and a parking lot round out the park's planned features.

With such a range of activity offerings, this park should quickly become a neighborhood favorite.

Note: No trees will be cut down near the creek. Among the trees slated for removal, three are approximately 140 feet from the creek. All other are at least 150 feet away.



The Pavilion is one of several items slated for improvement at Beaver Lake Park.

PINE LAKE PARK: This long-time favorite is scheduled to receive a much-needed refurbishment this summer. The park has been a gathering place for so long, it's likely become habit to overlook its many shortcomings.

These include a tired-looking restroom building, a poorly draining sports field and, most concerning, a hazardous parking layout. After driving the length of the park, visitors position their cars just a few feet away from the lake. Many cars are parked on top of tree roots, leaking automotive fluids into the ground. This configuration makes the park unsafe for pedestrians – and unsafe for the lake.

The new layout will pull parking back to where the tennis courts currently sit, leaving the rest of the park almost vehicle-free. The one exception will be an access drive for the existing boat launch.

Other improvements include an expanded baseball/soccer field with updated drainage, cosmetic updates to the restroom, an added bank of swings by the new play area, a new loop trail and the addition of a sewer connection. Currently, the restrooms use a septic system.

These improvements, in addition to expanding recreational use, will make the park a safer and more environmentally responsible place to play.

Construction is slated to start in mid-to late August, keeping the park open for use through most of the spring and summer season. This summer's series of music and theatrical events at the park shouldn't be affected.

City Now Owns Beaver Lake Park

The transfer of Beaver Lake Park from King County to the city of Sammamish is officially complete. The 83-acre park, a jewel that provides a mix of recreational opportunities, passed into City hands on Jan. 2.

Although the park has been dearly loved, it has suffered from poor maintenance over the past few years. The city plans to change that. Along with a number of minor touch-ups, some of the larger scheduled maintenance improvements include the following:

- **Landscape improvements throughout the park:**

Areas of focus include the Lodge/Pavilion, the ball field complex and surrounding areas. Pruning, removal of non-native material, and replanting landscape beds will provide a safer and more welcoming environment in these areas of the park.

- **Baseball field improvements:**

Turf renovation of the outfields and a rehab of the infields will provide much improved and safer playing surfaces. Improved management and maintenance will keep these fields operating at a higher level of service.

- **Lighting Improvements to the Parking Lot and Lodge:**

Enhanced lighting will allow for safer access to the Lodge during scheduled evening activities.

- **Tree hazard Identification and Removal:**

As part of our Tree Program, an arborist will identify trees throughout the park that pose a danger to park users. Dead and hazardous trees will be removed.

The City Council, Park Commission and city staff are all very excited to have this beautiful facility in the city park system. It will provide a safe and well-maintained recreational environment for all of our residents. Please feel free to contact Parks and Recreation staff with any comments or concerns regarding Beaver Lake Park. Enjoy your newest city park!

There's Light at the End of 228th

The city's ambitious improvements to 228th Avenue are well on their way to completion.

By November, the four lanes, median strips and sidewalks already in place in the southern sections of 228th will reach all the way to Northeast 12th Street, to the north of the Safeway shopping center.

Currently, this third phase of the project is focused on earthwork, retaining walls and the installation of underground utilities.

The major paving work is expected to be done this summer, when most of the school buses will be in hibernation. Lighting, landscaping and other final touches are scheduled to wrap up in November.

Drivers should see especially improved traffic flow in the vicinity of Eastlake High School. At completion, southbound drivers on 228th will be able to use two left-hand turn lanes into the high school.



Sammamish drivers weave their way through the current construction zone on 228th Avenue NE.



When completed, this section of 228th will provide additional capacity and ease congestion along this heavily traveled route.

You Can Help With Waste Reduction

If you would like to reduce the amount of waste going to landfills, and properly dispose of your old motor oil and lead-acid batteries, the city of Sammamish would like to help. As it did last year, the city will once again sponsor the Recycling, Waste Reduction and Hazardous Waste Collection programs in 2003.

Sammamish is planning several collections this year, with the first event scheduled for mid-March. Although details are not yet available, residents will be notified in

advance with a mailed information flier. Specifics will also be posted on the city's website.

In 2002, nearly 1,600 Sammamish residents participated and the programs collected nearly 300,000 pounds of recyclable material. The continuing program is made possible by grants from the state Department of Ecology, the King County Solid Waste Division and Seattle-King County Public Health.

The city contracts with a regional firm, Olympic Environmental Resources, for the actual collection and proper re-use and recycling of the items accepted at events.



City's Fire Rating Improves

Some Insurance Rates Will Drop

Most commercial building owners – and some homeowners – will see modest drops in their fire protection insurance premiums this year.

The savings will flow from the city's improved fire protection classification – from Class 5 to Class 4. The new fire rating goes into effect April 1, 2003.

"It's just another benefit of incorporation," Councilmember Ron Haworth said.

As Haworth, a former fire chief, explains it, the improved rating was attained because the geographical area being measured was strictly within city limits.

Previously, what is now the city of Sammamish was lumped in with a much larger measurement area, including many rural areas with sparse fire services, Haworth said.

Sammamish Fire Chief John Murphy said the new Class 4 rating is a nice symbol of the city's improving fire service picture as part of Eastside Fire and Rescue.

"I think we're going in the right direction," Murphy said.

The new classification was supplied by the Washington Surveying & Rating Bureau (WSRB), a private non-profit funded by insurance companies and anointed by the state to provide fire ratings.

The WSRB's Patrick Conroy says homeowners will see a difference in their rates only if their insurance carrier responds to a one-classification change. Some require a bigger rating change before they will adjust their premiums.

Curious residents should call their individual insurance carriers, Conroy said.

Commercial buildings protected by the city's "standard hydrant distribution and water supply" will all see a drop in their insurance premiums, Conroy said.

But he cautions that the savings will only apply to the fire portion of a building's insurance policy. Conroy estimates commercial building owners and homeowners who will benefit from the rating change may see around a ten percent drop in their fire premiums.



IDENTITY THEFT

Don't be a Victim!

Nationally, theft of identification and the use of a person's name and credit are growing problems. Sammamish is a part of this national trend and your Sammamish Police want to help keep you from becoming a victim.

Identity theft can be devastating to your pocket book, your credit rating and your sense of personal security. Beyond the financial issues, the time and effort needed to notify your creditors and to work with your credit card companies and financial institutions can be substantial; you may end up with no credit cards for a time and you may be liable for some financial damages to others.

Don't become a victim. Learn how to prevent identity theft. Help others in your family and neighborhood from becoming victims.

Join the Sammamish Police for a community workshop on:

Wednesday, Feb. 12

7:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m.

Skyline H.S. Theatre

(just off the Commons)

1122 228th Avenue SE

In addition to the featured identity theft program, an update on the King County Amber Alert response for abducted children will be provided.

For more information, go to the City of Sammamish website:

www.ci.sammamish.wa.us

City Retains Advocate for Domestic Violence Victims

As a part of the total community public safety package, Sammamish Police requested that a victim's advocate for domestic violence cases be a part of the services offered in the 2003-04 budget.

The City Council agreed to provide funding for a part-time advocate for Sammamish citizens in need.

When a victim of domestic violence needs help dealing with medical, family support, court or related issues, Sammamish Police will contact the advocate.

In 2002, Sammamish Police responded to 266 incidents that involved domestic violence. This was an increase over the previous year.

Sammamish also retains a part-time detective who specializes in domestic violence issues. This person is shared with nearby King County areas to provide a regional service resource.

In addition to helping victims, the contracted advocate will work closely with the detective and uniformed officers to reduce our community's incidence of domestic violence.

If you would like more information on domestic violence prevention or how to deal with it if it is occurring, please contact the Sammamish Police. You may visit the police station located at 482 - 228th Avenue NE (next to City Hall) Monday through Friday, 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m., or you can call 836-5674.

You may also contact the Eastside Domestic Violence Program's 24-hour Crisis Line at 800-827-8840.

If you see or hear someone in immediate danger, please call 911.



CITY HALL CALENDAR

FEBRUARY

Monday, February 10

- Parks & Recreation Commission, 6:30pm

Tuesday, February 11

- Council Study Session, 7:30pm
(Samm. Plateau Water & Sewer, 1510 - 228th Ave. SE)

Wednesday, February 12

- Identity Theft Community Workshop, 7:00pm
(Skyline High School Theatre, 1122 - 228th Ave. NE)

Tuesday, March 4

- Public Works Committee, 5:30pm

Monday, February 17

PRESIDENTS DAY - City Offices Closed

Tuesday, February 18

- Community Development Committee, 5:30pm
- City Council Regular Meeting, 7:30pm
PUBLIC HEARING ON COMP PLAN
(Samm. Plateau Water & Sewer, 1510 - 228th Ave. SE)

Tuesday, February 25

- Sammamish Youth Board, 6:00pm
(Sammamish Library, 825 - 228th Avenue NE)
- City Council Study Session, 7:30pm
(Samm. Plateau Water & Sewer, 1510 - 228th Ave. SE)

MARCH

Tuesday, March 4

- Public Works Committee, 5:30pm
- Finance Committee, 6:00pm
- City Council Regular Meeting, 7:30pm
(Samm. Plateau Water & Sewer, 1510 - 228th Ave. SE)

Monday, March 17

- Park & Recreation Commission, 6:30pm

Tuesday, March 18

- Community Development Committee, 5:30pm
- City Council Regular Meeting, 7:30pm
PUBLIC HEARING ON COMP PLAN
(Samm. Plateau Water & Sewer, 1510 - 228th Ave. SE)

Tuesday, March 25

- Sammamish Youth Board, 6:30pm
(Sammamish Library, 825 - 228th Avenue NE)
- Council Study Session, 7:30pm
(Samm. Plateau Water & Sewer, 1510 - 228th Ave. SE)

For up-to-date
information on
public meetings,
log onto the
city's website.

www.ci.sammamish.wa.us



APRIL

Tuesday, April 1

- Public Works Committee, 5:30pm
- Finance Committee, 6:00pm
- City Council Regular Meeting, 7:30pm
(Samm. Plateau Water & Sewer, 1510 - 228th Ave. SE)

Thursday, September 5

- Planning Advisory Board, 7:00pm

Monday, April 7

- Neighborhood Connections, 6:00pm
(Fire Station #82)

Tuesday, April 15

- Community Development Committee, 5:30pm
- City Council Regular Meeting, 7:30pm
(Samm. Plateau Water & Sewer, 1510 - 228th Ave. SE)

Monday, April 21

- Park & Recreation Commission, 6:30pm
- Sammamish Youth Board, 6:00pm
(Sammamish Library, 825 - 228th Avenue NE)
- City Council Study Session, 7:30pm
(Samm. Plateau Water & Sewer, 1510 - 228th Ave. SE)

NOTE:

Locations for meetings not held at City Hall are indicated in italics below the meeting time.

City Now Processes Passports



In its continuing effort to better serve residents, the city recently started to serve as a U.S. Passport Office. Since starting this service on November 1, 2003, the city has processed over 100 passports. Residents can begin the passport process by going to the front counter at City Hall during normal business hours. Other services available at City Hall include:

Building Permits: Information and forms for building permits are available at the City Hall Kiosk or by requesting information from the Permit Center at City Hall.

Tree Cutting Permits: Any coniferous tree with a trunk diameter in excess of 8 inches, or a deciduous tree with a circumference greater than 12 inches requires a clearing permit before it can be cut. Information on obtaining a permit is available at the Permit Center.

Sign Permits: It is illegal to post any signs in the city right-of way without first obtaining a permit from the Permit Center. Information regarding signs is also available on the City's website, www.ci.sammamish.wa.us.

Pet Licenses: King County Pet Licenses are available during normal business hours at the front counter at City Hall and on Thursdays from the King County Service Center.

Voters Registration: Applications to register to vote, change your residency or apply for absentee ballots are available upon request.

Notary Services: Notary Services are available during normal business hours at the front counter at City Hall.

City Maps: Various types of City maps are available from City Hall for a small fee. Inquire at the front counter.

King County Service Center: The King County Service Center is open on Thursdays from 11:00 am to 7:00 pm. There you may obtain marriage licenses, pet licenses, voters registration and concealed weapons renewal. You may pay your King County property taxes as well as obtain information on property

assessment and appeals. Information concerning recycling and metro schedules are available as well.

Concealed Weapons Permits: You may obtain a concealed weapons permit or renew your permit at the Sammamish Police Department. Permits are issued by appointment only on Wednesday and Thursdays between the hours of 9:00 am and 3:00 pm.

Community Bulletin Boards: There are two informational bulletin boards, one in front of City Hall and one by the Safeway store with information about meetings and land use actions. You may post a notice in the bulletin board by Starbucks if it is for a non-profit, community group function. Contact the Receptionist to have your notice posted.

City Logo Gifts: The city sells City of Sammamish T-Shirts and Coffee mugs. They make great gifts for newcomers to town or your out-of-town guests. Contact the front desk for pricing information, 425-868-0660.

THE SAMMAMISH CITY COUNCIL



Jack Barry
Councilmember



Don Gerend
Councilmember



Ken Kilroy
Mayor



Ron Haworth
Deputy Mayor



Kathleen Huckabay
Councilmember



Michele Petitti
Councilmember



Troy Romero
Councilmember

City Council Meeting Highlights

NOVEMBER

The City Council adopted the 2003 School Impact Fees schedule for the Issaquah School District. These fees are paid by developers to mitigate impact created on the schools by the building of new homes. The City collects the fees at the time the building permit is applied for, then forwards the funds to the school district.

The City entered into an interlocal agreement with Sound Transit to use the same design consultant they are using for the proposed Park & Ride to design improvements to the Issaquah Pine Lake Road. The proposed location of the Park & Ride is on Issaquah-Pine Lake Road; using the same consultant will save the city money and prevent duplication of work.

The Council authorized an interlocal agreement with King County to manage the water monitoring in Beaver Lake Management District #1. In addition to the water monitoring, quarterly informational newsletters will be issued.

Council approved hiring a project manager for the City Hall Sammamish Commons project. The project manager will be hired at the time construction begins, allowing the city to manage the project in a timely and cost-efficient manner.

DECEMBER

The City Council presented the Award of Excellence to the Eastlake Girls Soccer Team. The team won the State 4A Championship. It's the first time in the school's history the team has achieved such success.

After holding public hearings and soliciting public input, the City Council approved the biennial budget for 2003/2004. Complete copies of this budget will be available in March (Ordinance 2002-115).

The 2003 Tax Levy Rate was set at approximately \$2.60 per \$1,000 in assessed evaluation. This is not an increase from last year. King County sets the assessed evaluation rate for all properties in King County (Ordinance 2002-116).

Due to increased demand for staff office space at City Hall, the City Council will hold all meetings and study sessions at the Sammamish Plateau Water and Sewer District office at 1510 228th Avenue SE. This change was effective beginning January 2003 (Resolution 2002-131).

Beginning February 2003, the city of Sammamish will require any business operating within the city limits to obtain a business license. The fee will be nominal and the city is hoping to work

with the state so city and state business licenses can be purchased or renewed at the same time. For more information, please contact the City Clerk at 425-826-7904 (Ordinance 2002-118).

Council accepted the completion of 228th Avenue SE, Phase 1B, as completed. Improvements included the widening of the roadway to four lanes, the addition of a median and sidewalks, and the installation of decorative street lamps and landscaping.

JANUARY

At the first January meeting, the Council elected a new Mayor and Deputy Mayor for the year 2003. Kenneth Kilroy will serve as Mayor and Ron Haworth will serve as Deputy Mayor.

The Council considered an ordinance to place weight restrictions on vehicles traveling on 212th Way SE. The roadway is beginning to deteriorate in places. Enacting weight restrictions will help preserve the roadway until a study can be completed recommending repairs. The ordinance would prohibit vehicles with a gross weight of 30,000 pounds (15 tons) or more from traveling on SE 212th Way SE from the intersection with East Lake Sammamish Parkway SE to the intersection with SE 35th Way.



486 - 228th Avenue NE
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