



Controlling Growth

Metering ordinance being considered

After three well-attended stakeholders’ meetings, the Planning Commission will be hard at work over the next few weeks on a “growth-metering” ordinance. The proposed measure, aimed at preventing a sudden surge of new residential growth when the city’s development moratorium is lifted, will be considered by the City Council after the Planning Commission makes its recommendation.

“We heard from developers, environmentalists, neighborhoods and everyday citizens,” City Manager Ben Yazici said. “We were happy to have so many stakeholders participate.”

One way of stretching growth
See GROWTH - pg. 3



Frequently flooded areas, like this land east of Discovery Elementary along SE 24th Street, are considered critical areas.

Critical Areas Ordinance

State law requires review

With the help of two community volunteer groups, the city is launching a review of its development regulations for critical areas. The review, mandated by State law, is required of all cities and counties. Critical areas, among other things, are comprised of wetlands, streams, buffers, frequently flooded areas, and some steep slopes.

Many rural property owners have objected to King County’s newly revised ordinance, which, among other

things, expands buffers and reduces the amount of useable land.

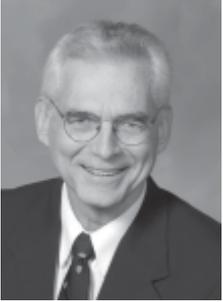
“King County’s Critical Areas Ordinance (CAO) review has generated a lot of controversy among rural property owners,” City Manager Ben Yazici said. “Fortunately, as a city, we won’t have to deal with those rural issues.”

Nevertheless, Yazici hopes the two volunteer groups will help ease the process.

See CAO - pg. 2

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Mayor
Don Gerend

Sammamish is growing at a rate of nearly 500 homes per year, almost all of which are in subdivisions vested by King County before we incorporated in 1999. There has

been a moratorium on new subdivisions these past six years, while the city has worked on improving parks and roads.

With continued development by private builders, and further capital projects planned by the City, there is ever increasing pressure being placed on our environment. Our lakes are threatened by such by-products of urbanization as increased phosphorus and coliform bacteria concentrations. Our streams receive higher volumes of storm water runoff which can result in erosion and loss of spawning grounds for Kokanee and other salmonids.

If we want to maintain healthy lakes and protect our streams and sensitive areas, we must change the paradigm of business as usual, as we squeeze more people into this beautiful city. The citizens around Beaver Lake have already led the way with a lake study and

a management district. The Pine Lake community also expressed concerns and the city has initiated a lake study for Pine lake as the first step towards protecting this liquid jewel. We have a program of basin studies underway; George Davis Creek study is completed and the Thompson Basin study is scheduled for next year.

Citizens are working with the city to initiate some creek restoration projects in the lower reaches of Ebright Creek, Zacusse Creek and other creeks flowing into Lake Sammamish, as well as a project on the shoreline of Lake Sammamish itself. Already projects have been recognized and added to the priority list of the regional Chinook salmon recovery program (go to **WRIAS** at www.ecy.wa.gov/programs/eap/wrias/).

The City Hall and Commons project just getting underway across from Skyline High School has incorporated many environmentally friendly features, such as wetland restoration, water-efficient landscaping, and water-perVIOUS materials in parking areas and the plaza. Other low impact development techniques are planned for the Sound Transit park and ride lot, other public buildings, and new road projects. The

goal is to minimize the offsite flow and maximize the natural treatment of storm water through such techniques as bio swales and infiltration. We are planning code changes to encourage this new way of doing business – Low Impact Development.

This year a Critical Areas Code update will be working its way through the public process (with a citizens advisory group), the Planning Commission and the Council, as we take a closer look at development regulations in areas near steep slopes, wetlands and streams.

While this proactive approach to environmental issues is underway, the city is also wrestling with the need to end the moratorium on new developments. The goal is to control the rate of growth while staying ahead of the curve on enhancements to our roads, pedestrian and bicycle facilities, and parks. We look forward to your input as these programs and actions shape the future of our community.

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“We’re going to draw on the common sense and expertise of our residents to make this review as fair and sensible as possible,” Yazici said. “We’re going to make sure everyone’s concerns are heard..”

As cities and counties conduct their reviews, they often receive criticism from all directions. Property owners frequently complain that the code revisions will restrict their right to develop land. Environmentalists, meanwhile, will often complain that the restrictions aren’t going far enough.

The city is currently recruiting volunteers for both its Citizens’ Advisory

Committee and its Technical Advisory Group. For more information on how to volunteer for these two groups, please go to page 4 of this newsletter.

The CAO reviews, aimed at protecting the basic health of the environment, are required by the state every seven years. Cities and counties must review the latest technical in-

formation (Best Available Science), before it revises its code.



East Lake Sammamish Parkway project

Residents invited to April 6th open house

The city is launching a project to construct improvements on East Lake Sammamish Parkway (ELSP) between NE Inglewood Hill Road and the northern city limits at 187th Avenue NE.

The completed project will improve safety, provide congestion relief with left-turn lanes, and increase bicycle and pedestrian access. The result will be smoother traffic flow, fewer accidents, and a more attractive roadway.

The planning process for this funded project is just beginning and your input is needed. Come to this meeting to learn more about the project goals and meet the project team.

For more information, contact Project Manager Jeff Brauns at 425-836-7923 or ELSP@ci.sammamish.wa.us.

ELSP Open House
Wednesday, April 6, 6:30-8:30 p.m.
Inglewood Junior High School Commons
24120 NE Eighth Street

244th Avenue improvements

Scoping meeting/Open House slated for April 7th

The city is starting a project to improve 244th Avenue from SE Eighth Street to NE Eighth Street. This project will improve access to and from the neighborhood for residents and emergency vehicles. Project plans include a tree-lined, two-lane roadway with bicycle lanes, left-turn lanes, and sidewalks.

The city is beginning an analysis of the environmental impacts of this project and would like to hear your input on the scope of the analysis. Your comments will be welcome on the project options being considered, environmental analysis, and the project timeline.

For more information, contact Project Manager Jed Ireland at 425-836-7909 or 244project@ci.sammamish.wa.us.

244th Avenue Scoping Meeting/Open House
Inglewood Junior High School Commons
24120 NE Eighth Street
Thursday, April 7
6:30-7 p.m. - Open House
7 p.m. - Project presentation
7:45-8:30 p.m. - Review exhibits with staff

GROWTH - cont. from pg. 1

out over a period of years is to allocate development applications using a point system. If a development is connected to water and sewer, for example, it would receive more points than a development with a septic system. Developments that enhance the community's connectivity — through sidewalks, paths or new street connections — would also earn more points. The point system would allow the city to give priority to high-scoring proposals, and limit the total number of yearly developments submitted.

The state's Growth Management Act (GMA) process has assigned Sammamish a residential growth target of 3,842 units by the year 2022. Many of those units are already ac-

counted for by approvals obtained through King County before the city incorporated in 1999. The latest figures indicate the city will have to approve 1,300 units by 2022 to meet its target. Although they might not be metered out evenly over the next 17 years, those figures translate into around 75 units per year.

The Planning Commission will sift through the large volume of public input and then hold a public hearing (no date set) on their proposed ordinance. The City Council will then hold a public hearing of its own. If the City Council decides to pass a growth-metering ordinance, passage could come as early as this summer. The current moratorium is scheduled to expire in August.

Signal lights for student safety

Responding to community and school requests, the city will have a full signal system installed at the intersection of Issaquah-Pine Lake Road and 231st Lane SE.

The goal: ensuring the safety of school children coming and going from Pine Lake Middle School.

The work, to be done by King County, will take place while school is out. It may begin as early as spring break in April, and then continue during summer vacation.

It's anticipated crossing guards will use the signals to help students cross Issaquah-Pine Lake Road safely.

Volunteers needed for two advisory groups on Critical Areas Code update

Like other counties and cities, Sammamish will be updating its Critical (Environmentally Sensitive) Areas Code provisions as required by state law. The updated ordinance will set standards and criteria for development in and around critical areas, which include, among other things, wetlands, streams, associated buffers, and frequently flooded and geologically hazardous areas.

To help in this effort, the city is recruiting residents to serve on two advisory groups:

Citizens' Advisory Committee. This 13-member committee will feature a representative cross-section of community residents. Property owners, environmentalists, neighborhood representatives and business people will all be represented on the committee. One City Council, Planning Commission, and Parks and Recreation Commission member will also serve on the committee. Technical credentials are NOT required to apply for this committee.

Technical Advisory Group: Applicants for this 3 to 5 member group will need credentials and expertise in wetlands biology, hydrology,



Critical areas include, among other things, streams, wetlands, buffers, and aquifer recharge areas.

geology, soil science, forestry, botany, fisheries, or related fields of environmental study. The volunteer members of this group will work with city staff and a project consultant, reviewing technical information (Best Available Science) and providing project guidance to the city.

It's anticipated the project schedule will require volunteer availability for meetings through the end of 2005. Interested residents should submit a resume, letter of interest and a completed questionnaire, making it clear which group they would like to join. The questionnaire can be found on the city website (www.ci.sammamish.wa.us).

Please submit materials to:
City Clerk Melonie Anderson,
City of Sammamish,
486 228th Ave. N.E.
Sammamish, WA 98074.

Applications may also be submitted via email to manderson@ci.sammamish.wa.us. For more information, please call 425-836-7904.

The deadline for applications is the close of business on April 7. Interviews with the City Council will be held April 12. The members of both groups will be selected by the City Council.

City officials take message to Olympia

After hearing loud and clear from a 5-member city delegation, state legislators are very much up to speed on issues affecting Sammamish residents.

The city team, comprised of Mayor Don Gerend, Deputy Mayor Michele Petitti, Councilmember Jack Barry, City Manager Ben Yazici and Communications Manager Tim Larson, briefed lawmakers on a variety of important topics, including tax revenue for cities, court services, and the funding of vital regional transportation projects.

“We had very good conversations,” City Manager Ben Yazici said of the February trip. “These efforts have been effective in the past, and we’re confident our message got through this time as well.”

In a series of breakfast, lunch and dinner meetings, along with visits to legislative offices, city officials met with, among others, Senator Bill Finkbeiner and State Representatives Glenn Anderson, Jay Rodne, Toby Nixon, and Larry Springer.



From left: Councilmember Jack Barry, Deputy Mayor Michele Petitti, State Representative Jay Rodne, City Manager Ben Yazici, State Representative Glenn Anderson, Mayor Don Gerend.

Memorial bench program ready to go!

A few years ago, the Planning Advisory Board was searching for ways to make Sammamish a special place with its own sense of identity. Board member Lee Fellingge suggested a memorial park bench program similar to the one he had seen in Sunriver, Oregon, which featured benches in memory of a lost friend or loved one.

Some time later, Fellingge was called by a friend whose family had experienced a tragic loss. Beaver Lake Park was a special place to them, and the idea of a memorial bench seemed very fitting.

After receiving positive feedback from parks committee and commission, Fellingge worked with Parks Director Jeff Watling to craft a plan that would serve not only the needs of this one family, but other families or groups in the community as well.

Parks Maintenance Manager Kevin Husemann coordinated installation of the first memorial bench in Beaver Lake Park, with intent to be able to

duplicate it as an ongoing program. This program is now ready to go.

“I am excited [that] we can now enhance the walkability of our city, and provide the opportunity for citizens to remember and honor a loved one while making a permanent contribution to our community,” Fellingge said. “This provides something special to help create a soul for our city.”

To participate, an individual or group contributes \$1,000 to the city. Location of the bench is agreed upon between city and donor. The bench type will be determined by the city to ensure a consistent look and allow for more efficient maintenance of the benches in the park and path system.

Interested residents should contact Kevin Husemann at 425-531-1275, or khusemann@ci.sammamish.wa.us.



Sammi winners walk the red carpet

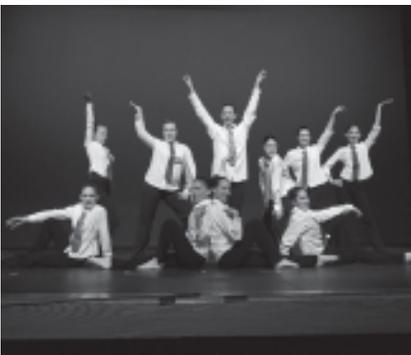
A standing room only crowd filled the Skyline High School auditorium March 5 for the 2005 Sammi Awards. This year's ceremony focused on the teens of Sammamish, who did a fantastic job in all aspects of the ceremony, from planning to performing. Congratulations to the 2005 Award Winners:

- Arts -- Connie Walsworth
- Business -- Kais Faddah
- Courage -- Elionel Martinez
- Learning Promotion -- Rick Johnson
- Spirit of Sammamish -- Mary Trask
- Teen Challenge -- Whitney Peterson
- Trevor Price Award -- Meg Krivanec
- Unsung Hero -- Cheri Gorder
- Youth Advocate -- Jaynee Cadrez

Interested in helping out with the 2006 Sammi's?

Come to an open house Tuesday, April 12, from 6:30-8:30 p.m., at the Knolls Apartments clubhouse, 22626 N.E. Inglewood Hill Road.

For more information, contact Dawn Sanders 425-868-3484, or visit the Sammi Awards website, www.sammiawards.org.



Photos © Scott H Bisch

Rain Barrels for sale

To encourage efficient water use, the City of Sammamish is again offering citizens a discount on a limited number of Raincatcher rain barrels.

Order forms can be picked up at City Hall, or downloaded from www.ci.sammamish.wa.us. To order a rain barrel, simply send a completed order form to with non-refundable payment of \$24 to Dynamex Inc., in Tukwila.

Dynamex will ship the rain barrel directly to your door. There is a limit of one rain barrel per household, and all rain barrels must be delivered to a Sammamish residential address.

The recycled, green plastic Raincatcher holds up to 55 gallons of water collected through a home's downspouts. A spigot allows the connection of a hose to fill watering cans.

For more information about the

City's rain barrel program, visit www.ci.sammamish.wa.us, or contact Laura Shaughnessy at 425-836-7916.



Rain barrel installed at local site

Public Hearing on Fireworks

Sammamish City Council will hold a public hearing to consider a ban on fireworks within the city limits:

April 5, 2005 at 6:30 pm

Sammamish Plateau Water & Sewer District

1510 228th Avenue SE

For further information contact:

Melonie Anderson

City Clerk

425-836-7904

manderson@ci.sammamish.wa.us



CITY HALL CALENDAR

APRIL

Monday, 4 Apr 2005

- Community Development Committee Meeting, 5 pm - 6 pm

Sammamish City Hall

- Neighborhood Connections, 6:30 pm - 8 pm

Sahalee Fire Station #82

Tuesday, 5 Apr 2005

- Parks, Trails, and Natural Resources Committee Meeting, 5 pm - 6 pm

Sammamish City Hall

- City Council Meeting, 6:30 pm - 10 pm

Sammamish Plateau Water & Sewer District

Wednesday, 6 Apr 2005

- East Lake Sammamish Pkwy Project Open House, 6:30 pm - 8:30 pm

Inglewood Junior High School

Thursday, 7 Apr 2005

- NE 244th Project EIS Scoping Meeting / Open House, 6:30 pm - 8:30 pm

Inglewood Junior High School

- Planning Commission Meeting, 7 pm - 10 pm

Sammamish Plateau Water & Sewer District

Tuesday, 12 Apr 2005

- Joint Meeting City Council and Planning Commission, 6:30 pm - 10 pm

Sammamish Plateau Water & Sewer District

Monday, 18 Apr 2005

- Arts Commission Meeting, 7 pm - 8:30 pm

Sammamish City Hall

Tuesday, 19 Apr 2005

- Finance Committee Meeting, 11:30 am - 12:30 pm

Sammamish City Hall

- Public Works Committee Meeting, 5 pm - 6 pm
- Sammamish Plateau Water & Sewer District*

- City Council Meeting, 6:30 pm - 10 pm

Sammamish Plateau Water & Sewer District

Thursday, 21 Apr 2005

- Planning Commission Meeting, 7 pm - 9 pm

Sammamish Plateau Water & Sewer District

Monday, 25 Apr 2005

- Parks and Recreation Commission Meeting, 6:30 pm - 9 pm

Sammamish Plateau Water & Sewer District

Tuesday, 26 Apr 2005

- Public Safety Committee Meeting, 5 pm - 6 pm

Sammamish Plateau Water & Sewer District

- City Council Study Session, 6:30 pm - 10 pm

Sammamish Plateau Water & Sewer District

Thursday, 28 Apr 2005

- Sammamish Youth Board Meeting, 6 pm - 7:30 pm

Sammamish Library

MAY

Monday, 2 May 2005

- Community Development Committee Meeting, 5 pm - 6 pm

Sammamish City Hall

Tuesday, 3 May 2005

- Parks, Trails, and Natural Resources Committee Meeting, 5 pm - 6 pm

Sammamish City Hall

- City Council Meeting, 6:30 pm - 10 pm

Sammamish Plateau Water & Sewer District

Thursday, 5 May 2005

- Planning Commission Meeting, 7 pm - 9 pm

Sammamish Plateau Water & Sewer District

Tuesday, 10 May 2005

- City Council Study Session, 6:30 pm - 10 pm

Sammamish Plateau Water & Sewer District

Monday, 16 May 2005

- Arts Commission Meeting, 7 pm - 8:30 pm

Sammamish City Hall

Tuesday, 17 May 2005

- Finance Committee Meeting, 11:30 am - 12:30 pm

Sammamish City Hall

- Public Works Committee Meeting, 5 pm - 6 pm

Sammamish Plateau Water & Sewer District

- City Council Meeting, 6:30 pm - 10 pm

Sammamish Plateau Water & Sewer District

Thursday, 19 May 2005

- Planning Commission Meeting, 7 pm - 9 pm

Sammamish Plateau Water & Sewer District

Monday, 23 May 2005

- Parks and Recreation Commission Meeting, 6:30 pm - 9 pm

Sammamish Plateau Water & Sewer District

Tuesday, 24 May 2005

- Public Safety Committee Meeting, 5 pm - 6 pm

Sammamish Plateau Water & Sewer District

- City Council Study Session, 6:30 pm - 10 pm

Sammamish Plateau Water & Sewer District

Thursday, 26 May 2005

- Sammamish Youth Board Meeting, 6 pm - 7:30 pm

Sammamish Library

NOTE: Times, dates and locations are subject to change. Please consult the city website for the most current information.

The Sammamish Plateau Water & Sewer District is located at 1510 228th Avenue NE.



*Don Gerend
Mayor*



*Michele Petitti
Deputy Mayor*



*Jack Barry
Councilmember*



*Mark Cross
Councilmember*



*Lee Fellingge
Councilmember*



*Kathleen Huckabay
Councilmember*



*Nancy Whitten
Councilmember*

Council Committees

Parks, Trails, and Natural Resources

Meets 1st Tuesday, 5 pm

Nancy Whitten, Chair
Michele Petitti
Kathleen Huckabay



Finance

Meets 3rd Tuesday, 11:30 am

Lee Fellingge, Chair
Jack Barry
Nancy Whitten



Community Development

Meets 1st Monday, 5 pm

Mark Cross, Chair
Michele Petitti
Kathleen Huckabay



Public Safety

Meets 4th Tuesday, 5 pm

Kathleen Huckabay, Chair
Mark Cross,
Lee Fellingge



Public Works

Meets 3rd Tuesday, 5 pm

Jack Barry, Chair
Mark Cross
Nancy Whitten



Legislative

Meets as needed

Michele Petitti, Chair
Don Gerend and a third
member depending on issue.



Human Services

Meets as needed

Michele Petitti, Lee Fellingge



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Phone: 425-898-0660 • Fax: 425-898-0669

www.ci.sammamish.wa.us

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Pete Butkus Assistant City Manager
Delora Kerber Public Works Director
Bob Horne Community Dev Director
Lyman Howard ... Financial Svcs Director
Jeff Watling Parks & Rec Director
Mike Sauerwein Admin Svcs Director
Steve Hartwig City Engineer
Bruce Disend City Attorney
Melonie Anderson City Clerk
Richard Baranzini Police Chief
John Murphy Fire Chief
Tim Larson Communications Manager



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