

# City Views @ Sammamish

ISSUE 36

CITY OF SAMMAMISH NEWSLETTER

JUNE 2005

## Commons construction commences

### Groundbreaking scheduled for June 6

After years as a bipolar suburb defined by the QFC and Safeway shopping centers, Sammamish, thanks to the impending creation of the Sammamish Commons, is about to find its center.

The 30-acre civic and park complex, at the intersection of 228th Avenue and S.E. Eighth Street, will break ground at 4 p.m. on June 6 and proceed immediately to full construction. With Bayley Construction of Mercer Island handling the building duties, the new city center is expected to open up next summer.

“Both the council and the com-

See **COMMONS**, page 2



Residents of all ages enjoy the music at “Summer Nights in the Park.”

## “Summer Nights in the Park” back for 5th season of fun

Break out your picnic blankets and folding chairs; summertime in Sammamish is on its way!

And that means music, Shakespeare, and your favorite spot on the grassy expanse of Pine Lake Park.

The fifth annual “summer nights” entertainment series begins

July 7 with the Motown sounds of Emerald City Throwdown. The Thursday night concerts are sponsored by the city and Green With Envy, a landscaping company. The series will run through August 25, when it wraps up in high style with the Sammamish Symphony.

See **SUMMER**, page 3

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# Happy trails

With the announcement last month that King County has all of the permits necessary to start constructing the Interim East Lake Sammamish Trail, the arduous and seemingly endless process towards completing this last link in a very long trail network appears to be on the home stretch. If things go according to plan, the trail will open near the end of this year or early next year.



Mayor  
Don Gerend

Now begins the process of constructing the Interim Trail while addressing the community's many issues of concern. The Final Trail, a paved facility, is still in the planning stage.

The city and the county are working

closely together to make this construction period as painless as possible. The Interim Trail involves laying down a gravel trail bed and associated fencing along over 7 miles of former railbed. For the Interim Trail, there is minimal additional construction, but there are a lot of details regarding accommodations and impacts to neighboring properties.

We are looking at several issues: trail access for residents, parking along the East Lake Sammamish Parkway, security, and the location of Sanicans, litter barrels, and trail signage. A community informational meeting now being scheduled will be another opportunity for neighborhood and city-wide input into the process. It will also let residents hear what the county and city are contemplating.

For Sammamish, this trail represents only the tip of the iceberg in a Sammamish twenty-year vision for trails. Last year the Council adopted the Trails, Bikeways and Paths Plan as part of the Parks Comprehensive Plan. The development of the trails plan by a subcommittee of the Parks

and Recreation Commission, with much input from the public and much support by city staff, resulted in an inventory of existing trails plus a visionary map of how the trail system might look in twenty years.

The complete plan, with maps, can be seen on the city website (go to [www.ci.sammamish.wa.us](http://www.ci.sammamish.wa.us) and click on Departments, then Parks and Recreation, then Parks Projects, and scroll down to Trails, Bikeways and Paths Master Plan). If you go to "Maps" you will see current facilities and the 2025 Vision maps.

I suggest you add the city website to your "favorites", so that you can quickly track happenings in the city and answer questions that might arise about events, projects, ordinances or locations in Sammamish.

Happy trails, be they on the net or on the ground.

## COMMONS - cont. from page 1

community have provided a tremendous amount of input on this project," City Manager Ben Yazici said. "I think it's going to be something to be proud of for many generations to come."

Intended as a community gathering place, the \$15.7 million project will feature a new City Hall and police building, a civic plaza and amphitheater, a youth sports complex, and a network of trails, play areas and picnic facilities.

By owning its own City Hall building, the city will no longer have to pay a monthly lease of about \$20,000 for its current quarters in the Sammamish Highlands shopping center.

"It's a win-win proposition," City Council member Michele Petitti said. "The community gets a wonderful new gathering place and it saves our residents money in the long run. It's going to be great."



Looking at plans for the Commons during a 2003 open house.

# Trail construction to begin this summer



*Before long, the trail will continue into Sammamish.*

If things go according to plan, King County expects to begin construction of the Sammamish link of the East Lake Sammamish Trail in late July. Weather permitting, the new link will be open for use in January.

The Redmond and Issaquah sections of the 12-mile trail have already been built. The 7-mile Sammamish segment, however, has been bogged down in court battles between the county and a number of trailside residents.

That fight came to an end in recent weeks when a hearing examiner reinstated a city permit, and opponents of the county plan decided to withdraw from litigation.

“We know there are some difficult feelings between the county and some of our residents,” City Manager Ben Yazici said. “But we’re committed to working with both groups to make sure the residents’ concerns are addressed and impacts are minimized.”

## **SUMMER - cont. from pg. 1**

“These community events have become a big success,” Councilmember Nancy Whitten said. “I’m sure we’ll have big crowds again this year.”

“The Wooden O Theatre” will present Shakespeare on Saturdays, starting its two-play series on July 16 with Macbeth. Both the music and the Bard will begin at 6:30 p.m., with picnickers welcome at 5 p.m. Residents can bring their own sustenance, or rely on the food stalls operated by local community groups at the park.



*R. Joseph Scott leads the Sammamish Symphony*

### **Summer Nights Schedule**

#### **Concerts:**

- July 7 Emerald City Throwdown (Motown)
- July 14 Yoka Enzeze (African Rhythms)
- July 21 Beat Nervosa (80’s Rock)
- July 28 Alex Duncan (Reggae)
- Aug. 4 Deluxe Reverbs (Classic Rock)
- Aug. 11 Randy Oxford Band (Bluesy Rock)
- Aug. 18 Route 66 (Big Band Swing)
- Aug. 25 Sammamish Symphony

#### **Shakespeare with the Wooden O Theatre:**

- July 16 Macbeth
- July 23 Twelfth Night

## Roundabout ceremony

To celebrate their joint funding of a successful project, city and state officials snipped a ceremonial ribbon in front of the new roundabout at Issaquah-Pine lake Road and S.E. 32nd Way last month.



*City Engineer Steve Hartwig, Councilmember Kathleen Huckabay, Deputy Mayor Michele Petitti, Mayor Don Gerend, Public Works Director Delora Kerber, and Stevan Gorcester of the state's Transportation Improvement Board.*

The new intersection, next to Sunny Hills Elementary, has been in use since December but only recently received the finishing touches.

The state's Transportation Improvement Board contributed more than \$800,000 to the project. The total construction cost for the roundabout and related road improvements was about \$1.6 million.

## Budget in Brief



Directly to your right, you will find the 2005/2006 "Budget in Brief," an eight-page document highlighting the most important elements of the current biennial budget.

We've folded this important information into the newsletter so that all our residents can easily grasp the city's financial priorities and track their tax dollars.

We hope this summary of the city budget is both illuminating and valuable.

## Fireworks over Lake Sammamish?



Following the City Council's decision May 3 to ban fireworks in Sammamish, serious talks are underway with Issaquah to mount a joint 4th of July celebration at Lake Sammamish State Park.

"That's an exciting possibility," Councilmember Lee Felling said. "We just need to make sure we can afford it as an ongoing event."

Councilmember Kathleen Huckabay echoed those sentiments.

"As a lifelong fan of fireworks displays, I'm excited about creating a celebration for our community; our challenge is finding the resources to do so," Huckabay said.

If the cities reach an agreement, Independence Day fireworks could be lighting up Lake Sammamish as early as next year. Administrative Services Director Mike Sauerwein says the joint venture might include kids races, pie-eating contests and many other events in addition to a spectacular fireworks display.

"Our initial feeling is that we should have an old-fashioned 4th of July celebration," Sauerwein said. "Something people of all ages from both communities could enjoy."

The city's fireworks ban becomes effective in 2006. Both Issaquah and Redmond already ban fireworks.

# CITY OF SAMMAMISH 2005/2006 'Budget in Brief'



## City Council's Vision Statement

*The vision of Sammamish is a community of families. A blend of small-town atmosphere with a suburban character, the City also enjoys a unique core of urban life-styles and conveniences. It is characterized by quality neighborhoods, vibrant natural features, and outstanding recreational opportunities. A variety of community gathering places provide numerous civic, cultural, and educational opportunities. Residents are actively involved in the decisions that shape the community and ensure a special sense of place.*

# 2005/2006 Budget Message



City Manager Ben Yazici

To the Honorable Citizens of Sammamish:

I am pleased to submit an overview of the budget for the biennial period of 2005/2006. I look forward to continuing the dramatic progress we've made in the five years since incorporation. Prior to incorporation, capital investments in parks, roads, trails and other infrastructure needs averaged only \$1 million per year. Since incorporation we have averaged \$11 million per year. Massive improvements to 228th Avenue, the city's main arterial, no doubt constitutes our greatest achievement, but we have also made great progress on parks, trails, and other aspects of the infrastructure deficit we inherited at incorporation.

Progress will continue over the next biennium with the proposed investment of \$47 million on much needed infrastructure. But the city won't be able to maintain this level of capital investment forever. Adjustments will need to be made to the timing and scope of proposed projects, and the revenue streams we use to finance those projects. Up until now, the city has invested an unprecedented amount of operational revenue by transferring it to capital needs. But as those completed projects require maintenance, there will be less operational money available to fund further projects. This shift of money to maintenance, along with a revenue stream that depends almost exclusively on property tax, will negatively impact our ability to meet the aggressive pace of capital improvements to which we've grown accustomed.

Despite the shift of operational funds to capital projects, the city's level of service to residents far exceeds levels available before incorporation. Parks and roads are better maintained; the summer concert series and events continue to draw people and gives us a great sense of community; we continue to make progress in engaging the youth of the community, and there is a sense of involvement by citizens through participation in groups like the Arts Commission and the Special Study Area Task Force.

The City achieved a huge milestone in its short history by passing the City's first comprehensive plan. Based on community need, the comprehensive plan will be amended from time to time. The Planning Commission, will continue to work at putting together recommended development code with the goal of lifting the building moratorium.

Thanks to local governance, tax money that used to go elsewhere is staying in Sammamish for the benefit of our residents. Thanks to sound financial practices, and priorities based on community need, the city is in a fiscally enviable position. Ongoing projects include:

- Neighborhood Traffic Projects
- Trails and Pathways
- 244th Ave. Project
- Issaquah-Pine Lake Rd. Extension
- SE 24th Sidewalk
- Ebright Creek
- EHS Sports Field
- Sammamish Commons

The priorities of this budget have shifted slightly from those of the last budget. Although motorized transportation remains important, the City Council directed staff to place greater emphasis on trails, bikeways, pathways, sidewalks and parks. A larger budget for social services, and funding for the Arts Commission are two other features of the new budget. Taken together, all of these priorities are expected to maintain and improve the quality of life our citizens enjoy.

If you have any questions on the budget, please feel free to contact me, or Lyman Howard, the City's Finance Director.

Respectfully,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Ben Yazici". The signature is fluid and cursive, written in a professional style.

Ben Yazici, City Manager

# 2005 Goals & Objectives

## CITY MANAGER

- Improve community communications; continue upgrading the level of service between staff and the community
- Maintain regional influence and presence; focus on continued good relationships with Redmond, Issaquah, King County, Suburban Cities Association, Association of Washington Cities, Puget Sound Council of Governments, etc.
- Evaluate and plan for any legislative impacts to our city
- Advise and communicate with the City Council on policy issues
- Continually review and implement capital improvements planning and funding
- Complete Sammamish Commons/City Hall project
- Attract and retain qualified employees; encourage staff development

## ADMINISTRATIVE SERVICES

- Maintain and upgrade human resources and risk management services
- Manage public safety and criminal justice contracts
- Manage and update Emergency Management Plan
- Manage General Fund facilities
- Manage the City's records and documents management systems and processes
- Improve customer service at the front counter
- Provide management and policy assistance to the City Manager

## PARKS & RECREATION

- Complete E. Sammamish Park irrigation improvements
- Develop Sammamish Commons Park
- Construct Ebright Creek Park Project
- Develop Eastlake High School joint facility
- Complete management plan for Beaver Lake Preserve
- Implement Trails, Bikeways, and Paths Master Plan

## PUBLIC WORKS

- Construct 244th Avenue improvements
- Construct Pine Lake Access Road
- Construct SE 24th Street sidewalk project
- Complete Thompson Drainage Basin Plan
- Complete Pine Lake Water Quality Study
- Complete intersection improvement projects
- Perform East Lake Sammamish Parkway LID study
- Continue street overlay program
- Complete NE 8th Street sidewalk
- Complete Parks/Streets Maintenance Facility project

## POLICE SERVICES

- Expand youth outreach programs
- Maintain and enhance community police services

## FIRE SERVICES

- Support Eastside Fire & Rescue organization
- Provide fire and life safety services
- Complete Fire Service study

## COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT

- Develop Critical Areas update
- Assess, evaluate and manage annexation issues
- Participate in regional growth management and planning
- Increase proficiency in land use permits and application process
- Manage and improve e-permitting process
- Develop Subarea Plan for the Town Center
- Provide technical support to lake management districts

## FINANCIAL SERVICES

- Develop and publish a simple & effective budget
- Evaluate revenue enhancement and expenditure reduction options
- Provide ongoing financial review and monitoring
- Enhance and refine the 20-year financial model
- Evaluate and refine reserve policy
- Coordinate implementation of performance measures



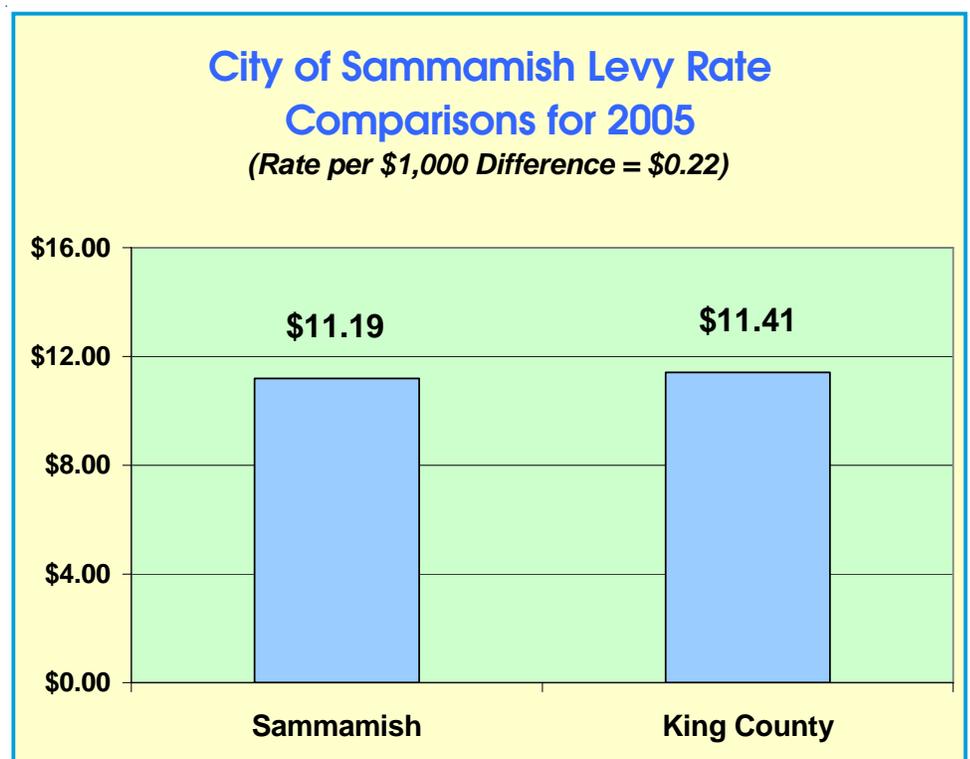
North Sammamish residential neighborhood

REVENUES BY SOURCE (ALL FUNDS)	2003 Actual	2004 Budget	2005 Budget	2006 Budget	2005/2006 %
Taxes	\$21,326,756.09	\$22,010,500	\$22,900,520	\$23,705,540	74.15%
Licenses & Permits	\$1,863,097.35	\$1,724,250	\$1,464,380	\$1,424,360	4.60%
Intergovernmental	\$4,692,310.07	\$3,031,020	\$1,562,390	\$1,563,940	4.97%
Charges for Goods & Services	\$5,128,351.10	\$4,325,350	\$4,289,090	\$4,266,880	13.61%
Fines & Forfeitures	\$55,357.92	\$44,200	\$46,000	\$47,800	0.15%
Investment Income	\$1,002,708.48	\$745,500	\$775,300	\$806,200	2.52%
<b>TOTAL REVENUE</b>	<b>\$34,068,581.01</b>	<b>\$31,880,820</b>	<b>\$31,037,680</b>	<b>\$31,814,720</b>	<b>100.00%</b>
Loans, Other	\$460,245.29	\$621,690	\$32,900	\$34,210	
Interfund Transfers In	\$10,638,136.26	\$12,879,337	\$8,995,387	\$13,944,822	
Beginning Fund Balance	\$38,300,199.29	\$48,078,443	\$44,218,717	\$20,446,781	
<b>Adjusted Income</b>	<b>\$83,467,161.85</b>	<b>\$93,460,290</b>	<b>\$84,284,684</b>	<b>\$66,240,533</b>	
<b>Expenditure by Category</b>					
General Administrative/Governance/Debt	\$3,854,558.81	\$4,945,199	\$7,042,997	\$7,140,007	14.88%
Police Services	\$3,029,078.55	\$3,388,690	\$3,656,745	\$3,781,590	7.81%
Fire Services	\$4,291,906.83	\$4,955,500	\$5,524,979	\$4,767,273	10.80%
Public Works & Street Maintenance	\$2,003,615.35	\$2,171,360	\$2,374,280	\$3,556,230	6.22%
Community Development, Planning & Inspection	\$1,904,183.46	\$2,203,720	\$2,325,705	\$2,185,670	4.73%
Parks & Recreation	\$958,418.91	\$1,398,457	\$1,448,832	\$1,696,682	3.30%
Surface Water Management	\$1,210,932.14	\$1,332,514	\$1,416,004	\$1,522,634	3.08%
<b>Total Operating Expenditures</b>	<b>\$17,252,694.05</b>	<b>\$20,395,440</b>	<b>\$23,789,542</b>	<b>\$24,650,086</b>	<b>50.83%</b>
General Gov. Capital Improvement Projects	\$348,321.86	\$1,538,000	\$11,878,974	\$741,000	13.24%
Parks Capital Improvement Projects	\$498,010.00	\$2,375,000	\$11,621,000	\$7,760,000	20.34%
Transportation Capital Improvement Projects	\$5,453,226.14	\$11,384,334	\$6,408,000	\$4,860,000	11.83%
Surface Water Capital Improvement Projects	\$1,226,328.98	\$669,462	\$1,145,000	\$2,435,000	3.76%
<b>Total Capital Project Expenditures</b>	<b>\$7,525,886.98</b>	<b>\$15,966,796</b>	<b>\$31,052,974</b>	<b>\$15,796,000</b>	<b>49.17%</b>
<b>TOTAL EXPENDITURES</b>	<b>\$24,778,581.03</b>	<b>\$36,362,236</b>	<b>\$54,842,516</b>	<b>\$40,446,086</b>	<b>100.00%</b>
Interfund Transfers Out	\$10,610,136.26	\$12,879,337	\$8,995,387	\$13,944,822	
Ending Fund Balance	\$48,078,444.56	\$44,218,717	\$20,446,781	<b>\$11,849,625</b>	
<b>Adjusted Expenses</b>	<b>\$83,467,161.85</b>	<b>\$93,460,290</b>	<b>\$84,284,684</b>	<b>\$66,240,533</b>	

## Taxes Lower; Services Higher

Property taxes are 2% higher in unincorporated King County than in Sammamish. For a \$400,000 home, that equals \$88.00. At the same time, Sammamish residents have seen their services increased due to the Council's direction to keep city government "lean." This has been accomplished by contracting with other agencies for services such as fire and police protection. City staff has also been kept to a minimum.

Our many accomplishments include road improvements, sidewalk construction, street light installation, parks improvements, new park development, and the completion of the City's first comprehensive plan.



## Sammamish Property Tax Levy Rate History

Jurisdiction	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005
EMS	0.27299	0.24624	0.25000	0.24143	0.23717	0.23182
Library	0.08651	0.07467	0.52581	0.54568	0.53653	0.53255
Fire District	1.42540	0.09839	0.08892	0.08388	0.07966	0.07225
State/Consolidated	5.20814	4.88749	4.62851	4.50523	4.44226	4.32501
School	4.54390	4.17581	3.62525	3.74745	3.48980	3.41665
City	2.22168	3.03561	2.60514	2.59910	2.61319	2.61000

## Property Tax

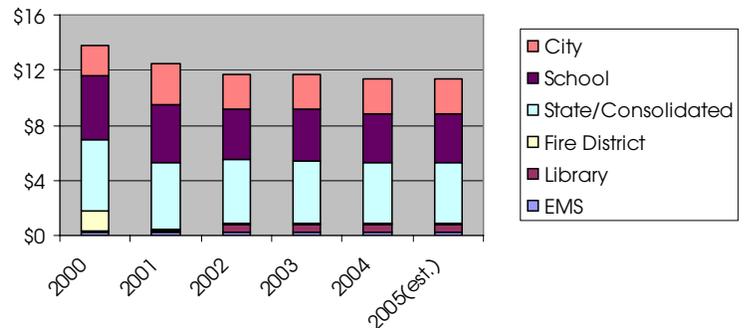
Property tax is the City's primary source of funding for general City services. In 2005 the City expects to receive \$16,070,000 in property tax revenue. All real and personal property—except where exempt by law—is assessed by the King County Assessor at 100% of the property's fair market value. Assessed values are adjusted each year based on market value changes. Although property taxes represent the City's largest source of revenue at 70% of General Fund revenue, the portion of the City's property tax



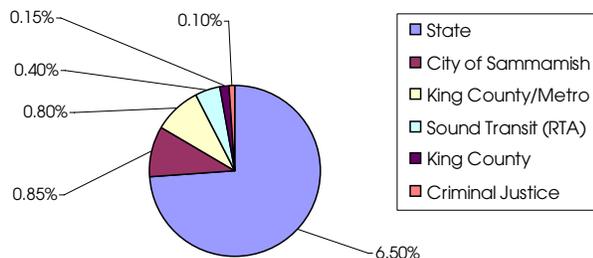
## Sales Tax

Sales tax is a major source of revenue for the City of Sammamish. In 2005, the City expects to receive \$1,820,000 in sales tax revenue. Sales tax is levied on the sale of consumer goods—except for most food products and services. In Sammamish, construction related activity is the largest generator of sales taxes. Approximately 45% of sales tax is related to

## City of Sammamish Property Tax Rate History



## Sales Tax in Sammamish



## Jurisdiction

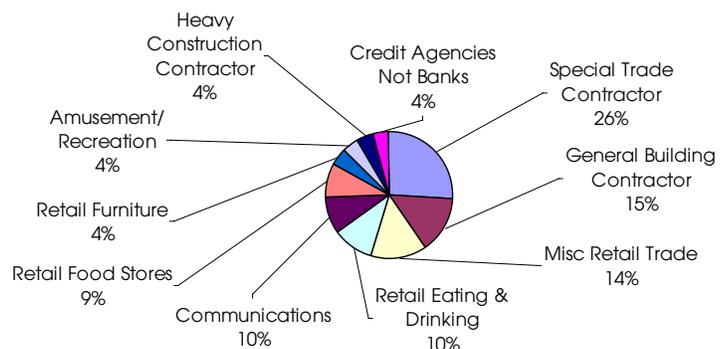
## Percentage

State of Washington	6.50%
City of Sammamish	0.85%
King County/Metro	0.80%
Sound Transit (RTA)	0.40%
King County	0.15%
Criminal Justice	0.10%

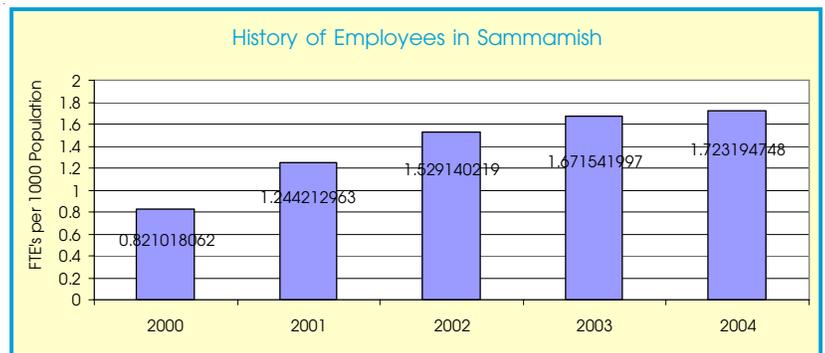
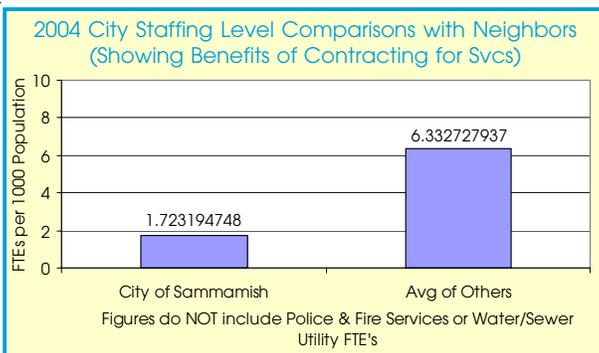
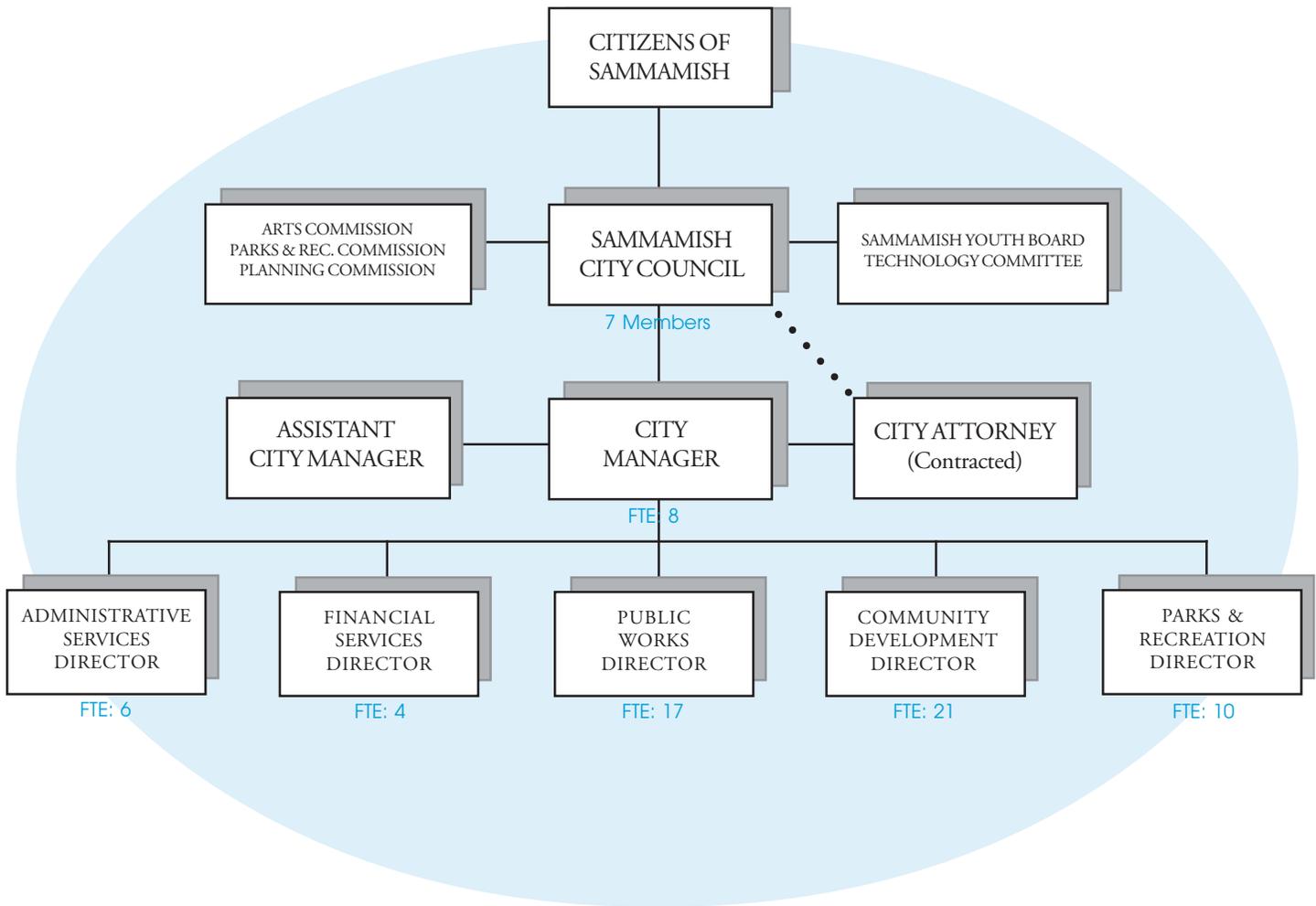
## Distribution

The sales tax within the City of Sammamish is 8.8%, of which 1% is returned to the City (less .15% that goes to King County). The remainder is distributed to the State and other public agencies. Food and beverages sold by restaurants, taverns, and bars are taxed at a rate of 9.3%. The additional .5% is earmarked for the Baseball Stadium Fund to fund the debt service on a

## 2004 Sammamish Sales Tax - Top 10 Industry



# CITY OF SAMMAMISH ORGANIZATION CHART



## City Council's Top Priorities for 2005 Budget

1. Complete City Hall and Maintenance Facility projects.
2. Maintain long-term financial stability through reviewing revenue options & reprioritizing capital projects.
3. Improve Parks, Transportation & Storm drainage.
4. Review and revise the long-term capital improvement planning and funding.
5. Continually improve the level of service between City staff and the community.
6. Maintain City's regional presence.
7. Eliminate moratorium and evaluate growth metering.
8. Evaluate annexation issues.
9. Encourage staff development.
10. Review water and sewer service issues.
11. Evaluate and plan for state legislative impacts on our city.
12. Review and evaluate provision of Fire Services.



One of the many stunning views from the Sammamish Plateau.

## Demographics (From 2000 Census Data):

Male/Female .....	50.4%/49.6%
Median Age .....	35.3 years
% under 18 .....	33.4%
Households .....	11,131
Owner Occupied Housing Units .....	90.1%
Median Value of Unit .....	\$362,900
Educational Attainment:	
B.A. or Higher .....	61.4%
H.S. or Higher .....	98.3%
Median Household Income .....	\$101,592
Per Capita Income .....	\$42,971
Families in Poverty .....	1.6%

## ABOUT SAMMAMISH

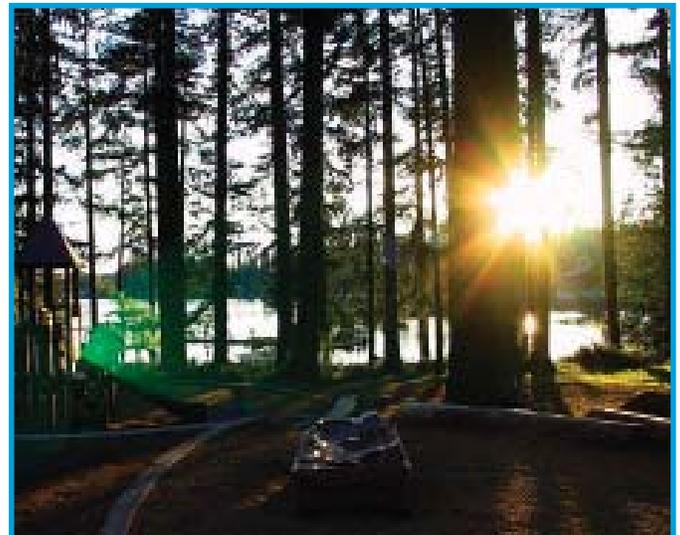
The City of Sammamish was incorporated on August 31, 1999, with 63.22% voter approval, and operates as a Non-Charter Optional Code City with a Council–Manager form of government. Optional Code City status increases the City’s operating authority by extending to it the powers of all four city classifications that exist in Washington law. The Council is comprised of seven members, elected at large by the citizens of Sammamish. They are part-time officials who exercise the legislative powers of the City and determine matters of policy.

The Mayor is a council member selected by the Council to chair meetings, authenticate documents and serves as the City’s ceremonial head. The Council is supported by several advisory boards and commissions. The Council appoints a full-time City Manager who is the head of the executive branch and serves as the professional administrator of the organization, coordinating day-to-day activities. The City provides a full range of municipal services including:

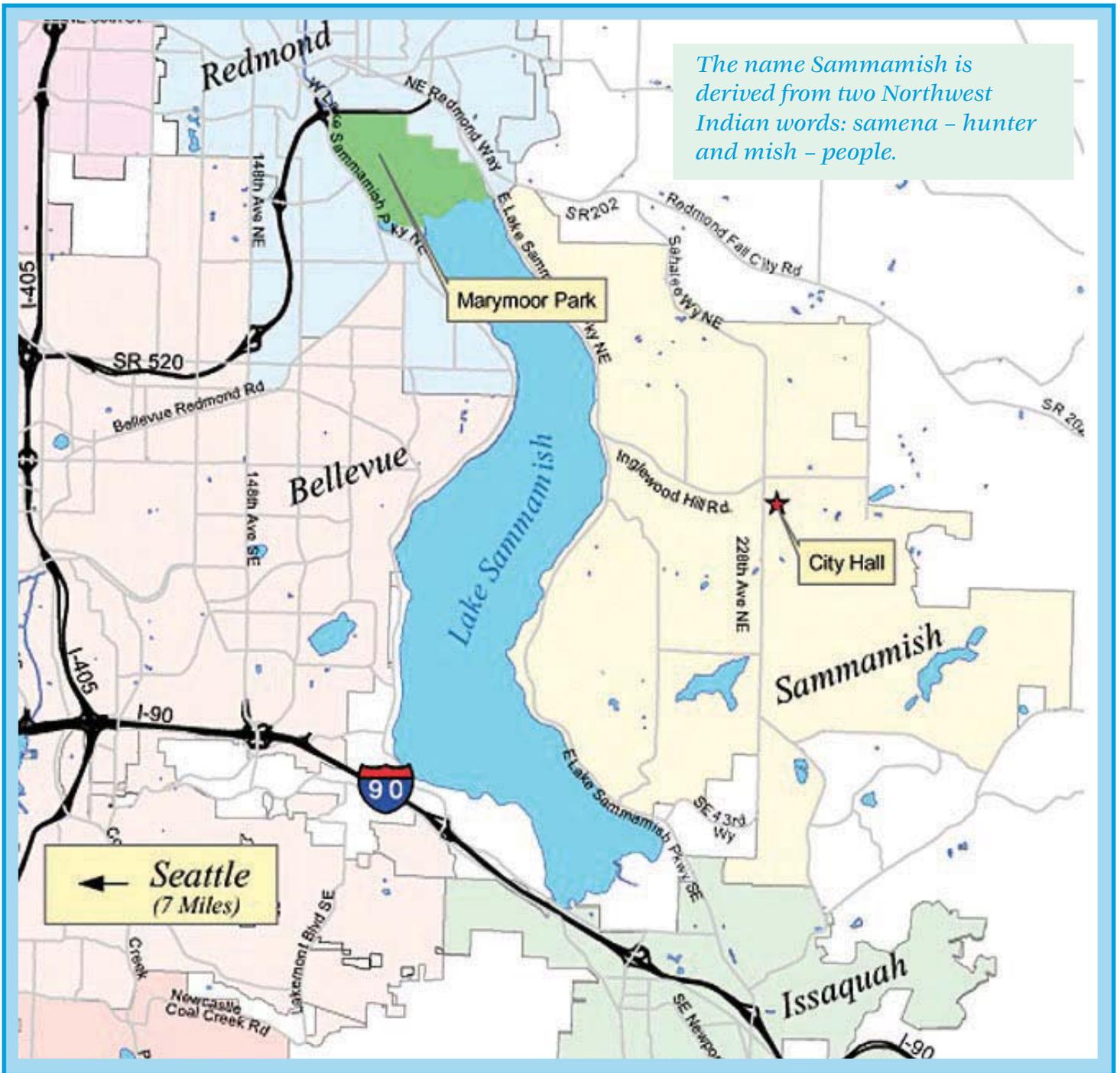
- Police Protection (*contracted from the King County Sheriff*)
- Fire Protection (*contracted from Eastside Fire & City of Redmond*)
- Parks and Recreation
- Public Works
- Community Development
- General Administrative Services

## Sammamish at a Glance

Population ( <i>State OFM April 11, 2004 Report</i> ).....	36,560
Elevation ( <i>average</i> ).....	310 feet
Land Area.....	13,783 Acres
Developed Parkland.....	125 Acres
Average Temperature.....	52.9 degrees
Average Annual Precipitation.....	42 inches
Miles of City Streets.....	160
Residential Housing Units ( <i>2004 State OFM</i> ).....	12,947
City Retail Sales Tax.....	8.8 or 9.3% ( <i>Food &amp; Beverage</i> )
Fire Department Rating Class ( <i>10-1 Range, 1 is Best</i> ).....	4
City Employees ( <i>Full-Time</i> ).....	63
Gen. Obligation Bond Rating.....	Standard & Poors, AA-
Assessed Valuation (2005).....	\$6,444,349,492



Newly remodeled Pine Lake Park



The name Sammamish is derived from two Northwest Indian words: samena - hunter and mish - people.



- Ben Yazici ..... City Manager
- Pete Butkus ..... Assistant City Manager
- Delora Kerber ..... Director of Public Works
- Kamuron Guroi ..... Director of Community Development
- Jeff Watling ..... Director of Parks and Recreation
- Lyman Howard ..... Director of Financial Services
- Mike Sauerwein ..... Director of Administrative Services
- Tim Larson ..... Communications Manager
- Bruce Disend ..... City Attorney
- Melonie Anderson ..... City Clerk
- John Murphy ..... Fire Chief
- Richard Baranzini ..... Police Chief

City Council from left to right: Mayor Don Gerend, Deputy Mayor Michele Petitti, Lee Felling, Kathleen Huckabay, Jack Barry, Nancy Whitten, Mark Cross

# Help the city design the Parkway

Improvements to the East Lake Sammamish Parkway (from Inglewood Hill Road north to 187th Avenue N.E.) will not go forward until the thoughts and concerns of residents are thoroughly taken into account.

To that end, the city will hold a two-day design charette at Sammamish Hills Lutheran Church, 22818 S.E. Eighth St., on June 22 from 4-9:30 p.m., and June 23 from 4-7 p.m. Residents are invited to attend and contribute their concerns, suggestions and design ideas.

The parkway project will focus on reducing congestion and improving safety for drivers, cyclists and pedestrians along the length of the 2.5-mile project. Currently, the two-lane road is plagued by long, rush-hour backups and the absence of a turn lane between the north and south lanes.

"I'm excited that this high-priority project is starting up," Councilmember Jack Barry said. "With the help of residents, we're going to create an excellent solution."

If you are unable to attend the charette, please pass



*Among other things, the new design will help drivers join traffic more safely from sideroads and residential driveways.*

on your comments to Project Manager Jeff Brauns at 425-836-7923 or [ELSP@ci.sammamish.wa.us](mailto:ELSP@ci.sammamish.wa.us). Additional information on the project, plus a comment form, are also available on the East Lake Sammamish Parkway web page at [www.ci.sammamish.wa.us/ELSP](http://www.ci.sammamish.wa.us/ELSP).

## Critical areas code update picks up speed

Public input on the critical areas code update accelerated last month with an open house on Tuesday, May 24. The brisk pace of public involvement will continue over the next several weeks with the Citizen Advisory Committee (CAC) holding meetings on June 8, June 29 and July 20.

The public is welcome to attend the meetings, which will be held at Beaver Lake Lodge from 6-8 p.m.

Like other cities, Sammamish is required by state law to update its critical areas code, employing the "best available science" to fashion appropriate changes. The updated code will regulate development in

and around critical areas, which include, among other things, wetlands, streams, associated buffers and geologically hazardous areas.

Although the update is mandated

by the state, the city is entitled to come up with its own conclusions regarding necessary changes.

To make sure the public has a strong role in the process, the city appointed 18 Sammamish residents to the CAC.

"With the residents' help, we want to strike a proper balance," Councilmember Mark Cross said. "We need to protect both the health of our environment, and the interests of those who want to develop property."

For more information on the code update process, please go to the city's website at [www.ci.sammamish.wa.us](http://www.ci.sammamish.wa.us). You may also contact Darci Donovan at 425-836-7938.



*A tranquil wetland scene along S.E. 24th Street*

## Is your permit expiring?

When a state mandate required cities to adopt International Codes last year, the expiration rules for construction permits changed in Sammamish.

The bottom line: Permits issued before July 1, 2004, are valid only until July 1, 2005.

There are two solutions: The first is to schedule a final inspection on your project before July 1, this year. Or, you can extend the construction permit for one additional year by paying a fee equal to one-half the original fee. Keep in mind that permits can be extended only one time.

If you have questions about your permit, please call City Hall and talk to Ginny Uno at 425-836-7922.

## Growth phasing *Council hearing set for June 7*

With a development moratorium due to expire later this year, the City Council wants to hear from residents and developers alike on what they think is the best way to handle new land use applications.

The public hearing will open during the City Council's regular meeting on June 7. The hearing will likely be continued to a subsequent meeting as well.

The city's Planning Commission has been wrestling with the issue for months. At press time, the commission had not yet made a recommendation to the City Council. Their most recent deliberations, however, had focused on a "phasing" ordinance which would require larger developments to build out over several years.

## Two new faces join city staff

Kamuron Gurol is the city's new Director of Community Development. Gurol, who started April 25, came to the city from the Washington State Department of Transportation Urban Planning Office. In previous roles, he has served as Director of Community Development for Kitsap County, Manager of the Snohomish County Planning Division, and Senior Planner with King County. Gurol replaces Bob Horne, who left the city in April.

Kathy Curry is another newcomer to the staff. The veteran wetland biologist came to the city from The Watershed Company, an environmental consulting firm.

As a Professional Wetland Scientist, Curry has provided environmental analysis services to Woodinville, Renton, Monroe, Mercer Island and numerous other cities. Curry is the first wetland biologist on the city staff. In the past, the city has contracted for such services.



*Kamuron Gurol*  
*Community Development Director*



*Kathy Curry*  
*Wetland Biologist*

## Tree planting tradition begins along 228th Ave.

With both Arbor Day and Earth Day lurking nearby on the calendar, the city selected April 23 as tree planting day along 228th Avenue. The April event brought a small army of residents, city officials and city staff to a barren slope just north of S.E. Fourth Street. After a hard Saturday morning of planting, the slope now fea-

tures a small forest of native northwest plantings.

In addition to helping out with the work, city staffers supplied hot drinks, snacks and encouragement to the community-minded volunteers who spent part of their weekend beautifying the city's signature boulevard. The city hopes to make the planting effort an annual event.



Mayor Don Gerend helps out along 228th Avenue.



A father and daughter dig in and do their part.

## CITY HALL CALENDAR

### JUNE

#### Thursday, 2 Jun 2005

- Planning Commission Meeting, 7 pm - 9 pm  
*Sammamish Plateau Water & Sewer District*

#### Monday, 6 Jun 2005

- Community Development Committee Meeting, 5 pm - 6 pm  
*Sammamish City Hall*

#### Tuesday, 7 Jun 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, 8 Jun 2005

- Critical Areas Advisory Committee Meeting, 6 pm - 8 pm  
*Beaver Lake Lodge*

#### Tuesday, 14 Jun 2005

- City Council Study Session, 6:30 pm - 10 pm  
*Sammamish Plateau Water & Sewer District*

#### Thursday, 16 Jun 2005

- Planning Commission Meeting, 7 pm - 9 pm  
*Sammamish Plateau Water & Sewer District*

#### Monday, 20 Jun 2005

- Arts Commission Meeting, 7 pm - 8:30 pm  
*Sammamish City Hall*

#### Tuesday, 21 Jun 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*

#### Wednesday, 22 Jun 2005

- East Lake Sammamish Pkwy Design Charrette, 4 pm - 9:30 pm  
*Sammamish Hills Lutheran Church*

#### Thursday, 23 Jun 2005

- East Lake Sammamish Pkwy Design Charrette, 4 pm - 7 pm  
*Sammamish Hills Lutheran Church*
- Beaver Lake Preserve Management Plan Public Workshop, 7 pm - 9 pm  
*Beaver Lake Lodge, 25201 SE 24th St, Sammamish, WA 98075*

#### Monday, 27 Jun 2005

- Parks and Recreation Commission Meeting, 6:30 pm - 9 pm  
*Sammamish Plateau Water & Sewer District*

#### Tuesday, 28 Jun 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*

#### Wednesday, 29 Jun 2005

- Critical Areas Advisory Committee Meeting, 6 pm - 8 pm  
*Beaver Lake Lodge*

### JULY

#### Thursday, 7 Jul 2005

- Planning Commission Meeting, 7 pm - 9 pm  
*Sammamish Plateau Water & Sewer District*

#### Monday, 11 Jul 2005

- Neighborhood Connections Meeting, 6:30 pm - 8 pm  
*Sahalee Fire Station #82*

#### Tuesday, 19 Jul 2005

- Finance Committee Meeting, 11:30 am - 12:30 pm  
*Sammamish City Hall*

#### Wednesday, 20 Jul 2005

- Critical Areas Advisory Committee Meeting, 6 pm - 8 pm  
*Beaver Lake Lodge*

#### Thursday, 21 Jul 2005

- Planning Commission Meeting, 7 pm - 9 pm  
*Sammamish Plateau Water & Sewer District*

**BEAVER LAKE PRESERVE  
MANAGEMENT PLAN WORKSHOP**  
*Thursday, 23 June 2005  
7 - 9 p.m.*

*Beaver Lake Lodge  
25201 SE 24th St., Sammamish*

The public is invited to view and comment on a draft management plan put together by J. A. Brennan Associates with input from an advisory committee. The process through which this plan was derived will be discussed.

*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.*

SAMMAMISH CITY COUNCIL



Don Gerend  
Mayor



Michele Petitti  
Deputy Mayor



Jack Barry  
Councilmember



Mark Cross  
Councilmember



Lee Felling  
Councilmember



Kathleen Huckabay  
Councilmember



Nancy Whitten  
Councilmember

# Heads up!



From the time City Hall opens on Tuesday, June 14, until 1:30 p.m. that afternoon, only a skeleton staff will be on duty.

To help the city provide even better customer

services in the future, the Department of Community Development will be holding a staff retreat on that day.

Thanks for your patience and understanding.

### City of Sammamish Offices

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

[www.ci.sammamish.wa.us](http://www.ci.sammamish.wa.us)

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- Michele Petitti, Deputy Mayor  
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- Jack Barry, Councilmember  
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- Mark Cross, Councilmember  
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- Lee Felling, Councilmember  
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- Kathleen Huckabay, Councilmember  
khuckabay@ci.sammamish.wa.us
- Nancy Whitten, Councilmember  
nwhitten@ci.sammamish.wa.us

- Ben Yazici ..... City Manager
- Pete Butkus ..... Assistant City Manager
- Delora Kerber ..... Public Works Director
- Kamuron Gurol ... 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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