

SAMMAMISH

ISSUE 85

CITY NEWSLETTER

JULY 2009

Police chief looks at crime patterns

MOST CATEGORIES TRENDING DOWNWARD

When he started as the city's new police chief on June 1, Nate Elledge described Sammamish as a safe city with a low crime rate. Now that he's been on the job for a month, he points to the 2008 data report to make his case.

"There's very little violent crime in Sammamish," Elledge said. "Property crimes such as vandalism and theft generate most of the crime stats in our city."

And the trends in those categories are headed in the right direction.

"We had 125 residential burglary cases in in 2007," Elledge said. "That dropped to 88 in 2008."

"In larceny cases involving more than \$250, we had 243 cases in 2007. That dropped to 167 in 2008."

Elledge credits good police work and increased community awareness for the downward trend.

"I've been very impressed with our detectives and officers," he said.

See CHIEF, Page 3



The view from City Hall Plaza on July 4, 2008.

Another "Fourth on the Plateau!"

This will be the city's third "Fourth," but the novelty isn't wearing off for the volunteers and sponsors who make Independence Day the biggest event on the city's annual calendar.

"We've had very good response once again," said Dawn Sanders, the city's volunteer coordinator and one of the event organizers. "The volunteers and sponsors are really making this a community production."

The "Fourth on the Plateau" will

kick off at 6 p.m. with music, food, and entertainment for the whole family scattered throughout the 30 acres of Sammamish Commons.

Due to construction of the new library on the south side of City Hall Plaza, the event's center of gravity will shift a bit toward the "Lower Commons" this year.

"There won't be quite as much

See FOURTH, pg. 5

MAYOR'S MESSAGE

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SHORELINE PLAN

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PARKWAY PROJECTS

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Vision 2040 and Transportation 2040 Affect Sammamish

The Puget Sound Regional Council (PSRC) is the planning organization for land use and transportation for the four counties of central Puget Sound (Snohomish, King, Pierce and Kitsap).



*Don Gerend
Mayor*

Last year PSRC extended the region's land use planning horizon to the year 2040 with a new long-range plan called Vision 2040.

Sammamish Councilmember Nancy Whitten was an active participant in this process as a member of the PSRC Growth Management Policy Board. Also, Councilmember Michele Petitti represented Sammamish and the rest of the suburban cities of King County on the PSRC Executive Board that approved the Vision 2040 land use plan.

The Vision 2040 plan sets long-term land use policies for the four counties that focus on containing the expected growth largely within the existing urban areas. The current population of nearly 3.7 million is expected to increase by some 1.3 million by the year 2040.

Arriving at growth targets for individual cities to plan for, consistent with the Vision 2040 land use plan, is done collaboratively through the Growth Management Planning Council on which Councilmember Mark Cross

represents Sammamish.

Planning for this population growth (and over 1 million new jobs) entails close coordination between land use policies and transportation policies. So, PSRC is now developing a regional transportation plan, Transportation 2040, to guide expansion, operations and maintenance of transit and road facilities for the next thirty years, as well as addressing the sources of revenue necessary to fulfill the Plan.

Councilmember Kathy Huckabay is Vice Chair of the Regional Transit Commission that provides oversight of Metro Transit here in King County, and I am the Chair of the Transportation 2040 Working Group, a subcommittee of the PSRC Transportation Policy Board which is working with PSRC staff to develop the Transportation 2040 Plan.

“Your Sammamish City Councilmembers and staff have taken very active roles in this planning process, and encourage you to do the same.”

Currently, the Draft Environmental Impact Statement (DEIS) for Transportation 2040 is in a public comment period (through July 13), and I encourage you to go to the PSRC website, psrc.org, to view the DEIS and provide PSRC or me with your thoughts of the alternatives being studied.

This Plan has wide ranging impacts on how we keep the region's people and freight moving, while also responding to environmental concerns and incorporating fast changing technologies

and economic realities.

The State Legislature and the Federal Government are taking proactive roles in reducing greenhouse gas emissions, and the focus is on vehicle technology (more miles per gallon), fuels (lower emission fuels, including electricity) and vehicle miles traveled (locate housing close to jobs, enhance transit and commute trip reduction programs).

As transportation technology changes, revenue sources for funding transportation will also have to change. Decreased gas tax revenues, for example, might be replaced by increased use of tolling, along with other revenue sources such as a vehicle-miles-traveled tax, development impact fees or a carbon tax on fuels.

With Sammamish being on the outer rim of the central Puget Sound metropolitan area, we have some of the longest commutes to work, so future land use and transportation planning has huge impacts on our citizens. For this reason your Sammamish City Councilmembers and staff have taken very active roles in this planning process, and encourage you to do the same.

At the July 7th City Council meeting, PSRC Project Manager Mike Cummings will be giving a presentation on the Transportation 2040 DEIS. I encourage you to attend the 6:30 p.m. Council meeting or catch it on the city's cable TV channel (rebroadcast several times per day for the subsequent two weeks) to learn more about this important issue.



CHIEF, *cont. from pg. 1*

“They’ve done some sophisticated investigations and put a number of bad guys out of business.

“I know they’ve also spread the word to residents that it’s important to keep garage doors closed and take other appropriate precautions.”

Since incorporation in 1999, the city has contracted with the King County Sheriff’s Office for its police services. Currently, the city has budgeted for the following 22 positions:

- 1 Police Chief
- 1 Administrative Sergeant
- 2 Patrol Sergeants
- 2 Detectives
- 2 School Resource Officers
- 1 Motorcycle Officer
- 1 Traffic/DUI Officer
- 12 Patrol Officers

In 2008, the average response time on “Priority X - Critical Dispatch” calls was 3.67 minutes. That category covers shootings, stabbings and in-progress crimes such as robberies or burglaries that may lead to a confrontations be-

tween a suspect and a victim.

In the city’s 2008 community survey, 335 residents chosen at random responded to the following question: “Do you think the police presence in the city is (1) not enough, (2) just about right, (3) too high?”

The second choice was the most popular, with 70.4 percent saying the



Sammamish Police Chief Nate Elledge.

police presence was “just about right.”

In the same survey, 383 residents responded to this question: “How safe do you feel walking alone in your neigh-

borhood after dark?” Over 91 percent said they felt “safe or very safe.”

City Manager Ben Yazici says the city has been well served by the contract approach, noting that it’s less expensive to use an existing provider than to stand up your own police force.

“In addition to the 22 officers on our force, we also have access to the Sheriff’s marine unit, SWAT team, major crimes unit and other resources that would be prohibitively expensive for us to start from scratch,” Yazici said. “I’m delighted that most residents seem pleased with our police services.”

Although he’s still settling in, Chief Elledge says he’s already spent some time mixing with members of the community.

“I shook some hands the other day outside Safeway when I took a Jamba Juice break,” he said. “I’m also going to the Kiwanis, the Chamber of Commerce, and other places where I can meet people and listen.

“That’s how you learn about a community and figure out what people’s real concerns are.”

Revised shoreline plan coming up for public review

After taking public input and holding two very well-attended meetings on June 2 and 16, the City Council provided staff with direction on major elements of the Shoreline Master Program (SMP) update. Additional direction will be provided at the July 7 City Council meeting.

The resulting revisions, on shoreline setbacks, vegetation enhancement areas, impervious surface allowances, docks and other related issues, will be available for public review when a City Council Draft SMP document is issued

in late July or early August.

The SMP update, a state-mandated revision of shoreline regulations, will then be discussed at the continuation of a public hearing on Sept. 1. The City Council hopes to adopt the final SMP document in late September and send it to the state Department of Ecology for review and approval.

“We hope ecology will approve our SMP update,” Director of Community Development Kamuron Gurol said. “The Sammamish Home Owners group and others have invested a

remarkable amount of their personal time and intellectual energy in this process.

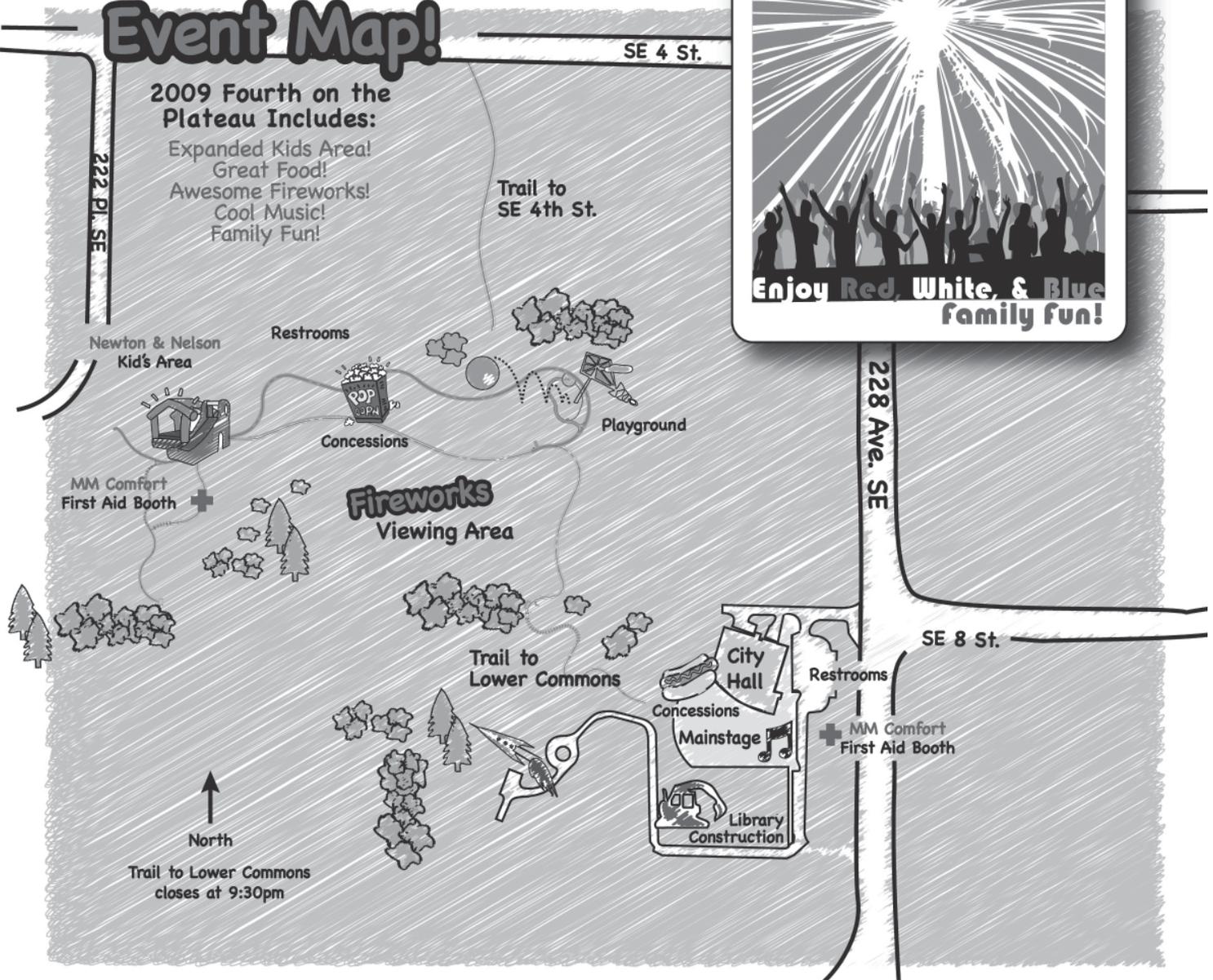
“We’ve also heard from Futurewise, Save Lake Sammamish and other voices for the environment, so we have a full spectrum of perspectives to balance and reconcile.”

For more information on the SMP update, go to www.ci.sammamish.wa.us/SMP.aspx, or contact Project Manager Maren Van Nostrand at mvannostrand@ci.sammamish.wa.us or 425-295-0538.

Event Map!

2009 Fourth on the Plateau Includes:

- Expanded Kids Area!
- Great Food!
- Awesome Fireworks!
- Cool Music!
- Family Fun!



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Sammamish Reporter

SAMMI
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SAMMAMISH
REVIEW

FOURTH, cont. from pg. 1

room in the plaza, so we're encouraging families to put their blankets down at the northwest end of the Commons," said the city's Sara Ninteman.

As it happens, that's also where an expanded "Kids Zone" play area, sponsored by Mark W. Nelson Orthodontics and Rhonda Newton Family Dentistry, is located.

The July 4th celebrations in 2007 and 2008 both drew huge crowds to the Commons. Informal estimates pegged the attendance at over 10,000 for each of the previous two events.

"If the weather is good again, we're expecting another big turnout," said Sanders. "It feels like Sammamish has really embraced this opportunity to gather, share a common experience, and feel a terrific sense of community."

Residents are encouraged to enter the Commons from the north, off Southeast Fourth Street. That will also be the best exit since the trail up to City Hall Plaza will be closed after the fireworks for safety reasons. (Please refer to the event map on the opposing page.)

As they listen to music, talk to their neighbors, and enjoy the entertainment, residents will also have an expanded list of menu choices at the food booths: pizza, hamburgers, hot dogs, barbecue, Thai food, vegetarian fare, cotton candy, kettle corn, elephant ears, smoothies, snow cones and ice cream.

"It's not exactly the health department food pyramid, but it's a special occasion," Sanders said. "And, of course, you can always bring your own food and have a picnic."

For more information on the big event, please go to the city website at www.ci.sammamish.wa.us and click on the "Fourth on the Plateau" icon in the upper right hand corner of the home page.

City Hall and Sammamish Commons Park **FOURTH ON THE PLATEAU**



Two early arrivals at the lower Commons settle in for an evening of entertainment.

No left turns onto or off of 228th Avenue, please!

To help with traffic flow before, during and after the July 4th celebration at Sammamish Commons, no left turns will be allowed onto or off of 228th Avenue between NE Main St. and SE 20th St. from 6 p.m. to midnight. Northbound drivers can turn left or make a u-turn when they reach NE 4th St. Southbound drivers can turn left or make a u-turn when they reach SE 24th St. NOTE: S.E. Fourth St. will be closed to vehicular traffic after the fireworks to allow residents to exit the Commons. It will reopen around midnight.

Parking Locations:

Pine Lake Park
Sammamish Hills Lutheran Church
Mary Queen of Peace Church
Sammamish Highlands Shopping Ctr.
Eastlake High School
Pine Lake Covenant Church
Discovery Elementary
Pine Lake Middle School
City Hall (A limited amount of handicapped and vendor parking only.)

NOTE: Unlike last year, there will be **NO parking in the Skyline High School parking lot due to construction.**

"Four or More on the Fourth": The Mary Queen Of Peace Church parking lot will be reserved for vehicles carrying four or more people. Please note that this lot does not open until 5:30 p.m.

A very busy summer along the Parkway

Four significant construction projects will intermittently slow traffic along the East Lake Sammamish Parkway this summer. As noted on the map below, Redmond, Sammamish and Issaquah will all be making improvements to

the busy corridor along the eastern shore of Lake Sammamish.

The reconfiguration of the intersection at the bottom of Inglewood Hill Road is Sammamish's contribution to the busy schedule. The map below was created by the city of Issaquah.

City of Sammamish:

Project will reconfigure the intersection at Inglewood Hill Rd and make road improvements along East Lake Sammamish Pkwy NE to NE 18 Pl.

- **Start:** April
- **Finish (tentative):** October
- **Potential Lane Closures:** Anytime from 7 a.m. - 4 p.m. weekdays and anytime after 9 a.m. on Saturdays.
- **Roadway Closure:** A multi-day full closure of the intersection is anticipated in late July/early August. The closure will be posted 10 days in advance.

City of Redmond:

Project will make road improvements along East Lake Sammamish Pkwy NE from 187th Ave NE to NE 65th St.

- **Start:** July
- **Finish (tentative):** October
- **Potential Lane Closures:** Anytime from 9 a.m. - 3 p.m. weekdays. Additional closures may be necessary outside of these typical hours.

City of Issaquah:

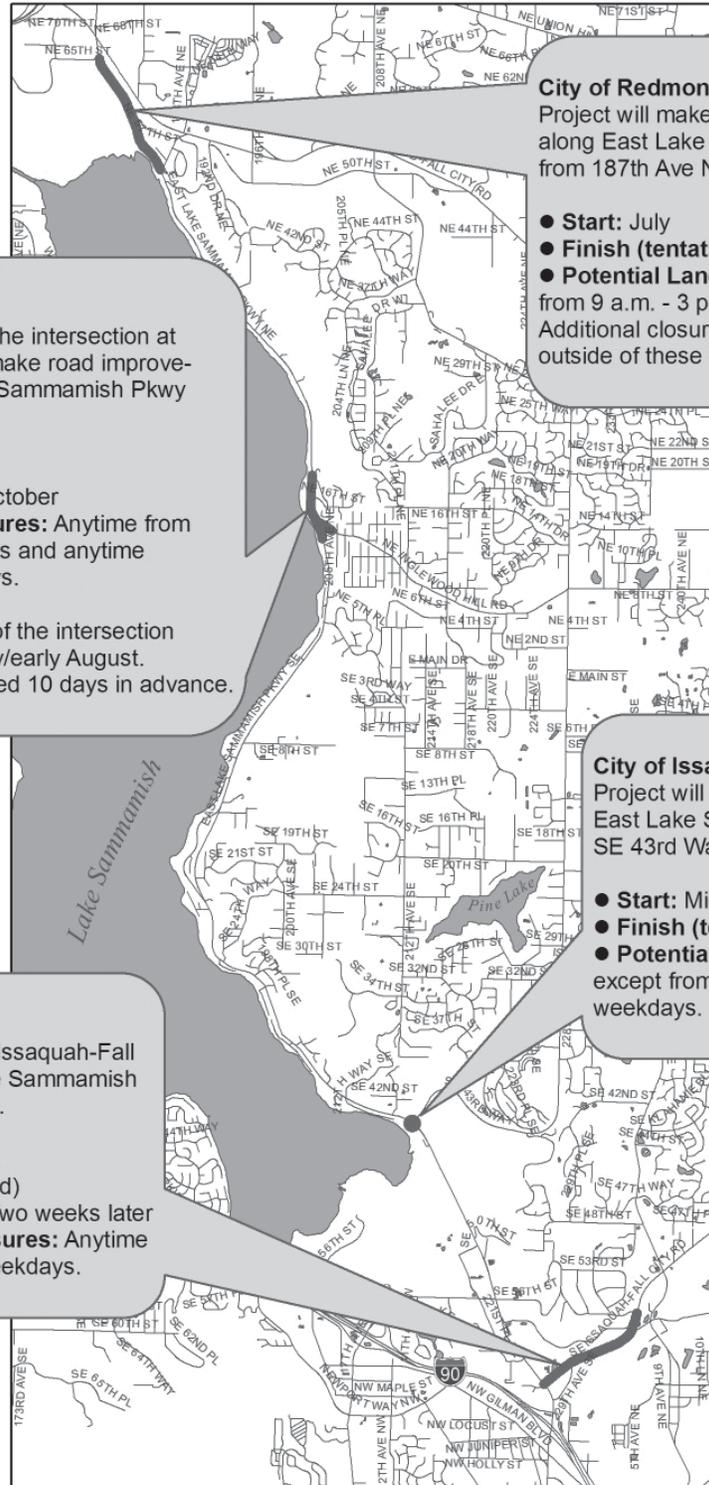
Project will construct a roundabout at East Lake Sammamish Pkwy SE and SE 43rd Way.

- **Start:** Mid-June
- **Finish (tentative):** Late September
- **Potential Lane Closures:** Anytime except from 6 - 9 a.m. and 3 - 6 p.m. weekdays.

City of Issaquah:

Project will repave SE Issaquah-Fall City Rd from East Lake Sammamish Pkwy SE to SE 58th St.

- **Start:** July or August (timing to be announced)
- **Finish (tentative):** Two weeks later
- **Potential Lane Closures:** Anytime from 9 p.m. - 5 a.m. weekdays.



Open house for waterfront park

Public meeting #3 for the Sammamish Landing Master Plan will be held on Wednesday, July 15, 6:30-8:30 p.m., at Sammamish City Hall, 801 228th Ave. S.E.

Sammamish Landing is a proposed waterfront park along a strip of Lake Sammamish shoreline. The park has not been funded, but this meeting will present a "Preferred Master Plan" for the proposed facility.

Between 6:30 and 7 p.m., residents can look at materials and mingle with staff. At 7 p.m., a more formal presentation will begin. For more information, contact Anjali Myer at 425-295-0581 or amyet@ci.sammamish.wa.us.

Summer entertainment is here!

Pine Lake Park

July 9 - Route 66 (Big Band)

July 16 - Hettle Street Blues (Blues)

July 19 - Taming of the Shrew/Wooden O

July 23 - Jimmy Free's Friends (Reggae)

July 26 - Tragedy of King Richard III/Wooden O

July 30 - Soul Purpose (Funk/Soul)

Aug. 6 - Black Velvet (Classic Rock)

Aug. 13 - City Knightz (Classic Rock)

(Concerts at 6:30 p.m./Shakespeare at 7 p.m.)

Beaver Lake Park

Kids First Noontime Performances

July 28 - The Bubble Man/Gary Golightly

Aug. 18 - Zambini Brothers Puppet Show

CITY CALENDAR

JULY

Wednesday, July 1

Farmers Market, 4-8 p.m., City Hall

Thursday, July 2

Planning Commission Meeting, 6-9 p.m.

Friday, July 3

City offices closed

Saturday, July 4

Fourth on the Plateau, 6-11 p.m.

Sammamish Commons

Tuesday, July 7

City Council Meeting, 6:30-10 p.m.

Wednesday, July 8

Farmers Market, 4-8 p.m., City Hall

Parks and Rec Comm. Mtg, 6:30-9:30 p.m.

Thursday, July 9

Planning Commission Meeting, 6-9 p.m.

Summer Concert at Pine Lake, 6:30-8 p.m.

Tuesday, July 14

City Council Study Session, 6:30-10 p.m.

Wednesday, July 15

Farmers Market, 4-8 p.m., City Hall

Thursday, July 16

Planning Commission Meeting, 6-9 p.m.

Summer Concert at Pine Lake, 6:30-8 p.m.

Saturday, July 18

Wooden O Shakespeare Performance

Pine Lake Park, 7-8:45 p.m.

Monday, July 20

City Council Study Session, 6:30-10 p.m.

Arts Commission Meeting, 6:30-10 p.m.

Tuesday, July 21

City Council Meeting, 6:30-10 p.m.

Wednesday, July 22

Farmers Market, 4-8 p.m., City Hall

Thursday, July 23

Summer Concert at Pine Lake, 6:30-8 p.m.

Saturday, July 25

Wooden O Shakespeare Performance

Pine Lake Park, 7-8:45 p.m.

Tuesday, July 28

Kids First Noontime Performance, 12-1 p.m.

Beaver Lake Park Meadow (behind Lodge)

Wednesday, July 29

Farmers Market, 4-8 p.m., City Hall

Thursday, July 30

Summer Concert at Pine Lake, 6:30-8 p.m.

AUGUST

Tuesday, Aug. 4

National Night Out, Kids Performance, 12-4 p.m.

Wednesday, Aug. 5

Farmers Market, 4-8 p.m., City Hall

Thursday, Aug. 6

Summer Concert at Pine Lake, 6:30-8 p.m.

Wednesday, Aug. 12

Farmers Market, 4-8 p.m., City Hall

Parks and Rec Comm. Mtg, 6:30-9:30 p.m.

Thursday, Aug. 13

Summer Concert at Pine Lake, 6:30-8 p.m.

Monday, Aug. 17

Arts Commission Meeting, 6:30-10 p.m.

Tuesday, Aug. 18

Kids First Noontime Performance, 12-1 p.m.

Beaver Lake Park Meadow (behind Lodge)

Wednesday, Aug. 19

Farmers Market, 4-8 p.m., City Hall

Thursday, Aug. 20

Summer Concert at Pine Lake, 6:30-8 p.m.

Wednesday, Aug. 26

Farmers Market, 4-8 p.m., City Hall

Thursday, Aug. 27

Summer Concert at Pine Lake, 6:30-8 p.m.

Saturday, Aug. 29

City's Tenth Birthday, 10 a.m.-10 p.m.

City Hall

PLEASE NOTE:

All meetings at City Hall, unless otherwise noted. Times, dates and locations are subject to change. Please consult the city website for the most current information.



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Mayor*



*Jack Barry
Deputy Mayor*



*Mark Cross
Councilmember*



*Lee Felling
Councilmember*



*Kathleen Huckabay
Councilmember*



*Michele Petitti
Councilmember*



*Nancy Whitten
Councilmember*

What is your favorite Sammamish neighborhood?

1. Timberline Ridge
2. Summer Ridge
3. Autumn Wind
4. Heritage Hills
5. Trossachs
6. Rock Meadow Farm
7. The Laurels
8. Shannonwood
9. Timbercrest
10. Beaver Lake Estates

**Kids Parade
August 29th at 10 a.m.**

The Kids Parade will go up 228th Avenue from Mary Queen of Peace Church to City Hall. The "Future of Sammamish" is the theme, so kids can dress up as doctors, firefighters, accountants, or whatever they think they'll grow up to be. For more information, go to www.ci.sammamish.wa.us and click just below the big "10."

**Go to www.ci.sammamish.wa.us to participate in this month's survey:
"What is your favorite Sammamish summertime activity?"**

CITY OF SAMMAMISH OFFICES

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Pete Butkus	Deputy City Manager
Kamuron Gurol	ComDevDir/AsstCityMgr
Lyman Howard	FinanceDir/AsstCityMgr
John Cunningham	Public Works Director
Jessi Richardson	Parks & Rec Director
Mike Sauerwein	AdminServices Director
Melonie Anderson	City Clerk
Nathan Elledge	Police Chief
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