



City Views @ Sammamish

ISSUE 69

CITY OF SAMMAMISH NEWSLETTER

MARCH 2008

Town Center progress

Planning Commission suggests changes

After months of study, the Planning Commission handed off their recommendations for the Town Center Plan to the City Council on Feb. 19. The most significant change proposed by the commission was to locate commercial and retail space on the west side of 228th Avenue. In the original plan, there was commercial and retail space on both sides of the city's main arterial.

"The Planning Commission believes that the consolidation of commercial space will improve our chances of success," Director of Community Development Kamuron Gurol said. "They also thought it would make it

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Hartman Photography, Sammamish, WA

Residents look up at the fireworks above Sammamish Commons during the city's first Fourth on the Plateau celebration in 2007.

Sponsors sign up for Fourth on the Plateau

Varied sponsorship levels available

With the well-chronicled success of last year's inaugural Fourth on the Plateau celebration still firmly in everyone's memory, the city's bid to add new sponsors for the 2008 edition is going well.

"Last year's event was so much fun and drew so many people, I think we're going to end up with a great list of sponsors this year," Dawn Sanders said. "It's a great community event to be associated with."

Sanders, who is heading up the city's sponsorship signup effort, says over 12,000 people watched the fireworks, listened to the music, and ate the food during last year's event at Sammamish Commons.

"We have different levels of sponsorship," Sanders said. "Big or small, you get to be part of the largest

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Lee Fellingge
Mayor

It's not too often we get the chance to do something that will change the face of our city for decades to come. In Sammamish, we now have that chance. It's the plan for the Town Center.

The Planning Commission, after much hard work, has provided a recommendation to your City Council. The Council, after careful deliberation, will make a decision, probably by late spring. If you have not yet provided input, now is the time!

The Town Center will be the heart of our city. It's a 240-acre area bounded on the north by Main Street, on the south by Southeast Eighth Street, on the east by 233rd Avenue, and on the west by 222nd Street. It includes the 30-acre Sammamish Commons site, home to our new City Hall and a planned new library.

The Town Center will be a bal-

ance of civic and community amenities, retail and office opportunities, and various residential choices. It will be a gathering place that is walkable, feels open, and incorporates the natural beauty of our area. It is likely to become a large part of the "is" in "Sammamish is..."

There are some important questions that need to be answered:

- How many additional residential units should there be?
- How much commercial, both retail and offices, should there be?
- Should commercial and mixed use be concentrated on one or both sides of 228th?
- How can we use Town Center as a model of environmental sustainability?
- How do we create more affordable housing, and how much should we create?
- Can Town Center help us reduce car trips and therefore

reduce congestion?

- Do developers or taxpayers pay for most of the needed roads and open space?
- Can we use added development in Town Center to protect sensitive areas elsewhere in the city?

The Planning Commission recommends answers to some of these questions. Do you agree with them?

I encourage you to learn more about the Town Center by going to the City website (there is a ton of information), reading our two local newspapers and the City newsletter, or dropping in on a City Council discussion. This is a Town Center that will form the future heart of your city.

What an exciting opportunity we all have to help create it!

TOWN CENTER, cont. from pg. 1

easier for people to park once and then walk to their various destinations within the Town Center, and better implement a pedestrian-friendly environment."

Other Planning Commission recommendations included:

- Retention of the original 1,300 to 2,000 range of new residential units.
- A modest increase in the amount of retail and office space up to 450,000 square feet.
- The use of low-impact development techniques and an integrated stormwater system.

Planning Commission Chairman Bob Keller passed on the recommendations at the council's regular meeting

on Feb. 19. The council praised Keller and his colleagues on the commission for bringing in thoughtful recommendations on a tight schedule.

The Town Center planning area covers about 240 acres, most of it just north of City Hall in the geographical center of town. The City Council's adopted vision for the proposed Town Center calls for, among other things:

- A central gathering place
- Bikeways and pedestrian trails
- Public and private open spaces
- A range of commercial, recreational, cultural, educational and personal services
- A variety of housing types
- Preservation of the natural setting

Now that the City Council has

the Planning Commission recommendations in hand, it will consider and review the plan with the goal of adopting a final plan in June.

But that's not the end of the Planning Commission's work. After the council approves the final plan, the commission will start working on the details – zoning, design standards, development regulations, etc.

"Creating a new Town Center that the community will be happy with takes a lot of work," Gurol said. "We really appreciate all the input from residents, landowners and stakeholders along the way."

For more information on the Town Center, go to the city website (www.ci.sammamish.wa.us) and click on Town Center.

SPONSORS, cont. from pg. 1

city event ever.”

Although it’s difficult to predict, as many as 20,000 people are expected to attend the second edition of the Independence Day celebration.

“People who have worked at City Hall for years say last year’s Fourth on the Plateau event drew more positive response than anything the city has ever done,” Sanders said. “The letters, emails and phone calls we received after the big day were overwhelmingly positive.

“Based on that great word of mouth, we think 20,000 is a reasonable number to shoot for this year, especially if we get a beautiful day like we did last July.”

For more information on sponsorships, contact Sanders (425-295-0556, dsanders@ci.sammamish.wa.us) or go to www.ci.sammamish.wa.us/4thJuly.aspx?page=sponsor.

City of Sammamish

FOURTH ON THE PLATEAU

Would you like to sponsor the biggest community event in Sammamish history? Show the community you care during the 2nd annual Fourth on the Plateau!

Varied sponsorship levels to meet your needs.

For more information contact Dawn Sanders at 425-295-0556 or dsanders@ci.sammamish.wa.us

Enjoy Red, White, & Blue Family Fun!

Shop location selected

During its regular meeting on Feb. 19, the City Council selected a five-acre piece of property along 244th Avenue Northeast as the preferred location for the city’s new operations and maintenance shop.

The facility will serve as home base for city vehicles, equipment, and resources used to maintain city streets, parks and other infrastructure. It will also house the city’s sign-making operation.

The proposed site is located at 1801 244th Ave. N.E. Currently, the city’s maintenance and operations resources are split between two locations, one near Beaver Lake Park and the other just north of Discovery Elementary School on 228th Avenue N.E.



An abandoned doublewide trailer sits on the Noelke property.

Shoreline review set for March 20

The city's Shoreline Master Program Update process will continue this month when the Planning Commission takes a look at the latest information. The commission's review is scheduled for March 20, 6:30 p.m., at City Hall. The meeting is open to the public.

The update, a three- to four-year process required by state law, will produce what amounts to both a comprehensive plan and a regulatory document for the city's shorelines.

This public meeting comes on the heels of a shoreline open house attended by around 60 people at City Hall on Jan. 24.

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



Councilmember Don Gerend talks with resident Bob Brady at the city's Shoreline Master Program Open House.

Get organized....er.....organized!

Parks and Rec offers courses to help residents and business people put things in order and gain greater control over their lives

Is your whole life turning into a junk drawer? Is disorganization stealing your time and weakening your will to live?

Surprise – the Sammamish Parks and Rec Department may be able to help! Thanks to a partnership with “Simply Placed,” a business run by Certified Professional Organizer Debbie Rosemont, the city is offering courses to get you back on track.

“With schedules getting busier, the need to become more organized becomes more and more important,” the city’s Joanna Puthoff said. “Debbie does a great job helping people become more efficient in both the workplace and at home.”

For those in business, there is a GO (Getting Organized) System Seminar being offered. This one-session

course (3 hours) will help you improve your focus, organization and productivity. The upcoming seminars are scheduled for March 18, April 24 and June 10, all from 9 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.

“Debbie is also offering a series of seminars that will focus on bringing control and balance to your home,” Puthoff said.

The classes will each focus on a different topic. Three upcoming seminars focus on filing (March 24, 7-8:30 p.m.), spring cleaning (March 29, 12:30-2 p.m.), and meal planning (April 21, 7-8 p.m.).

For more information on the “Simply Placed” offerings, call Debbie Rosemont at 206-579-5743 or visit her website at www.itssimplyplaced.com.

Home businesses help community

Nobody knows how many home businesses exist in Sammamish, but one thing is clear: They're good for the community.

"People working in their homes don't have to commute," Code Enforcement Officer Joan Burlingame said. "They help with traffic and they help with the environment."

Home businesses also serve the community by keeping extra sets of eyes in the neighborhoods.

"You don't want your neighborhood to turn into a ghost town during the day," Burlingame said. "People who work at home keep an eye on things, help with latchkey kids, and generally keep things safer."

For these and other reasons, the city is very supportive of home businesses. Computer coding, real estate, medical transcription, and writing are just a few examples of the kind of work people do out of their homes.

There are limitations, of course. You can't put an oil refinery on your property, or run a skeet shooting business in your front yard.

Here are some of the rules:

- The business can't take up more than 20 percent of your home's square footage.



- You can't have more than one employee who doesn't live in the house.
- Customers who visit the home must have an appointment.
- Sales must be via mail, internet, or phone, and delivery must be made offsite.
- Business signs can't be placed on fences or in the front yard. They are limited to 6 square feet in size and must be placed on the side of the house.
- There can't be a lot of indications outside the house that it contains a business.
- A business license is required.

To get a business license, and obtain comprehensive information on how to start a home business, go to <http://www.dol.wa.gov/business/>.

Erosion and sediment control training

Two-day, city-hosted class is open to the public

Construction on sites one acre or larger now require a Department of Ecology Stormwater Permit. To provide contractors, municipal inspectors and members of the public with stormwater permit compliance training, the city of Sammamish is hosting a two-day class on April 2 and 3, beginning both days at 9 a.m. The classes will be held at Sammamish City Hall, 801 228th

Ave. S.E.

Topics to be discussed include:

- Erosion control planning
- Best management practices for source control, conveyance and treatment
- Infiltration and vegetative filtration methods
- Spill prevention planning
- Stormwater monitoring

- Administrative record keeping

Members of the public interested in the class can register online at www.eco-3.com or by fax at 253-931-8101. For more information, call 253-931-8100 or send an email to phil@eco-3.com.

The cost of the class for members of the public is \$400. Discounts are available for groups of five or more individuals.

Project updates:

More information available online at:

www.ci.sammamish.wa.us and

www.sammplat.wa.org



244th Avenue: This project will improve 244th Avenue between Southeast Eighth Street and Northeast Eighth Street by creating a two-lane, tree-lined street with a median and/or center turn lane, as needed. The street will include a 630-foot-long bridge structure that will close an existing gap in the corridor. Construction, with an estimated cost of \$13 million, will begin as early as spring 2008. Project manager Jed Ireland can be reached at jireland@ci.sammamish.wa.us or 425-295-0563.

East Lake Sammamish Parkway Northeast: At their January 8 meeting, the City Council authorized final design for the initial segment

from Inglewood Hill Road to NE 26th Street (approximately the 2600 block). First steps in the final design include obtaining geotechnical field data, utility coordination, and supplementary surveying. A public open house will be held this summer to review the design plans. The cost, including construction, right-of-way acquisition, environmental analysis and preliminary design work, is estimated at \$17 million. Construction is anticipated in 2009. Key features of this project include widening the roadway to three lanes to add either a center turn lane or landscaped median, bike lanes, and a sidewalk on only the east side. Stormwater treatment facilities will also be added. The remaining

two segments will be designed and constructed in future years. Project manager Jeff Brauns can be reached at jbrauns@ci.sammamish.wa.us or 425-295-0561.

212th Avenue Southeast Sidewalk:

This project will construct sidewalk along the west side of 212th Ave SE in the vicinity of Ebright Creek Park and close the existing gaps between the park and the Crossings at Pine Lake subdivision to the south and the future Chestnut Lane subdivision to the north. Construction is scheduled for late 2008 or 2009. Project manager Jeff Brauns can be reached at jbrauns@ci.sammamish.wa.us or 425-295-0561.

South Pine Lake Route Project:

Necessary utility work continues, in advance of the city project, which will make improvements between 212th Avenue Southeast and 224th Avenue Southeast, along Southeast 32nd Street, 216th Avenue Southeast, Southeast 28th Street, 222nd Place Southeast, and Southeast 30th Street. Design is nearly complete, and the Wetland Mitigation Plan has been tentatively approved by the Army Corps of Engineers and the Department of Ecology. The plan calls for the purchase of mitigation bank credits from an existing wetland project in order to offset the small amount of wetland impacted by the road widening. Construction is expected to begin in spring 2008. Project manager Jed Ireland can be reached at jireland@ci.sammamish.wa.us or 425-295-0563.



East Lake Sammamish Parkway Northeast as it looks today.

SAMMI Awards 2008

Created to recognize residents who make “unselfish contributions” to the community and “inspire others” to improve the quality of life in Sammamish, the SAMMI Awards will be handed out Saturday, March 8, at 7 p.m., at Skyline High School, 1122 228th Ave. S.E.

The 7th Annual SAMMI Awards celebration will once again honor residents who have made contributions in nine categories: Arts, Business, Courage, Learning

Promotion, Teen Spirit, Trevor Price Award, Unsung Hero, Youth Advocate and Spirit of Sammamish.

“The city has enjoyed being one of the sponsors of this great event,” City Manager Ben Yazici said. “It’s a tradition that helps build a vital sense of community in Sammamish.”

More information on the SAMMI Awards is available by going to the SAMMI website: www.sammiawards.org.

The nominees are listed below:

Arts: Nancy Ziebart, Shelly Brack, Jim Henderson, Shelly Vollstedt

Business: Jana Williams, Kathleen Collum, Deborah Sogge, Dellann Elliott, Laurel & Skyler Zoppi, Jill Porter & Helen Glenn

Courage: Bowlby family, Rapada family

Learning Promotion: William Monahan, Kristian Brekke, Marianna Richardson, Mike Harkins, Don Braman, Lisa Sorenson

Teen Spirit: Zoya Hyder, Alex Wotherspoon, Lauren Hawkins, Christian McOmber, Chauncey Trask, Mykelle Morrison

Trevor Price Award: Merrick Kruml, Lucas Thrun, Hannah Anderson, Leah Poor, Serena Ahuja, Megan Nazarino

Unsung Hero: Cheryl Lewis, Erin Earles, John Hardt, Dee & Todd Hoeke

Youth Advocate: Curtis Betzler, Teresa Bretl, Todd Pladson, Brent Campbell, Kelly Morgan

Spirit of Sammamish: Kristin Pitt, Lori Horton, Laura Walker, Linda Hines

CITY HALL CALENDAR

March

Tuesday, Mar. 4

City Council Meeting, 6:30 p.m.

Thursday, Mar. 20

Planning Commission Mtg, 6 p.m.

Tuesday, Apr. 15

City Council Meeting, 6:30 p.m.

Thursday, Mar. 6

Planning Commission Mtg, 6:30 p.m.

Wednesday, Mar. 26

Parks and Rec Commission Special Meeting, 6:30 p.m.

Wednesday, Apr. 16

Samm. Youth Board Mtg, 6 p.m.

Tuesday, Mar. 11

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

April

Thursday, Apr. 17

Planning Comm. Mtg, 6 p.m.

Wednesday, Mar. 12

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

Tuesday, Apr. 1

City Council Meeting, 6:30 p.m.

Monday, Apr. 21

City Council Study Session, 6:30 p.m.
Arts Commission Mtg, 7 p.m.

Monday, Mar. 17

City Council Study Session, 6:30 p.m.
Arts Commission Mtg, 7 p.m.

Thursday, Apr. 3

Planning Comm. Mtg, 6:30 p.m.

Saturday, Apr. 26

Opening Day of Fishing Season
6 a.m.-8 p.m.

Tuesday, Mar. 18

City Council Meeting, 6:30 p.m.

Tuesday, Apr. 8

City Council Study Session, 6:30 p.m.
Location TBA

Wednesday, Mar. 19

Sammamish Youth Board Mtg, 6 p.m.

Wednesday, Apr. 9

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

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



Lee Felling
Mayor



Don Gerend
Deputy Mayor



Jack Barry
Councilmember



Mark Cross
Councilmember



Kathleen Huckabay
Councilmember



Michele Petitti
Councilmember



Nancy Whitten
Councilmember

Free Seminars on Disaster Preparedness

If you would like to be better prepared for earthquakes, devastating snow storms or other disasters, two free seminars are being offered to provide you with vital information.

Sponsored by Sammamish Citizen Corps, the city of Sammamish, and Eastside Fire & Rescue, the seminars will be held on March 10 and 17, 7-9:30 p.m., at Pine Lake Covenant Church, 1715 228th Ave. S.E.

Seminar topics include the emergency plans of the city, schools, and Eastside Fire & Rescue. Business preparedness, earthquake hazards, basic

first aid, and animal safety are some of the other focal points.

One of the most valuable elements of the seminar is instruction on how to build a disaster kit. The experts say that these kits are invaluable during an emergency because it make take days for help to arrive in the event of a major disaster.

If residents sign up for the seminars via email (disastersarewready@gmail.com), they may win a free, four-person disaster kit.

For a complete description of the free seminar sessions, please go to www.sammamishcitizencorps.org.

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Pete Butkus	Deputy City Manager
Lyman Howard	Finance Dir/Ass't City Mgr
Kamuron Guroi	Com Dev Dir/Ass't City Mgr
John Cunningham	Public Works Director
Jessi Richardson	Parks & Rec Director
Mike Sauerwein	Admin Services Director
Melonie Anderson	City Clerk
Brad Thompson	Police Chief
Bruce Disend	City Attorney
Tim Larson	Communications Manager



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