

SAMMAMISH NEWSLETTER

The official publication of the City of Sammamish



Photo Courtesy of Celia Wu

Sammmamish's Winter Weather Look Back

Last month, Sammamish experienced a lot of winter weather all at once – snow, ice, flooding, and cold temperatures. We love hearing the stories of neighbors helping neighbors getting vehicles unstuck, delivering groceries, shoveling driveways, and making trips to doctor appointments. It's times like these that we see the real giving spirit of our community.

Thank You

Please join us in also saying a big THANK YOU to everyone who worked to help our city recover from the weeks of adverse weather. They are, often unmentioned, essential workers who keep our community running strong all year long by maintaining our streets, parks, and waterways, and many other tasks that most of us don't even think of because they are doing their job, and doing it well. While many of us dealt with the snow at our own homes, these workers are out keeping our streets as clear as possible so they are able to be traveled by emergency crews and other essential workers who have to work during inclement weather.

Keep Reading and Be Prepared

Inside the pages of this newsletter, you'll find answers to some of the most frequently asked questions during a snow and ice event. There were also significant landslides in neighboring communities after the snow and heavy rain last month. Become familiar with the warning signs of a landslide.



IN THIS ISSUE

- 2 Pavement Management And Sammamish's 2022 Overlay Project
- 3 Artificial Light Pollution Impacts Lake Sammamish Salmon
- 4 Understanding Landslides Warning Signs
- 5 What Happens During a Snow Event?
- 6 Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion in Sammamish
- 6 Community Van
- 7 Congratulations to Elvin Irihamye, Rhodes Scholar from Sammamish
- 7 Youth Mental Health Services for Sammamish Students
- 8 City Contact Info

Pavement Management And Sammamish's 2022 Overlay Project

Public Works presented to City Council in January 2022 the results of the City's pavement condition assessment. Here are key points on the assessment and 2022 overlay project.

Pavement Assessment

The City's vendor, Transmap, drove every public road in Sammamish – approximately 210 centerline miles or 427 lane miles. Since 2016, the City has added approximately 3.2 lane miles.

The average Pavement Condition Index (PCI) is 85.6 of 100, which means our average street is in "Good" condition per the ASTM, formerly American Society of Testing and Materials. This category is the highest of the seven classes rating from "Good" to "Failed". This also represents approximately a one-point increase in our overall network rating since the last time it was rated in 2016.

2022 Overlay Project

The City's overlay program seeks to resurface our roads with a new pavement layer as a maintenance technique to rehabilitate the driving surface prior to the roadway reaching the "Failed" category. This typically involves removing part of the existing top pavement layer and putting two

new inches of Hot Mix Asphalt (HMA) on top of the old road. Additionally, we may completely remove and rebuild small portions of the road and patch them back prior to placing the new pavement layer.

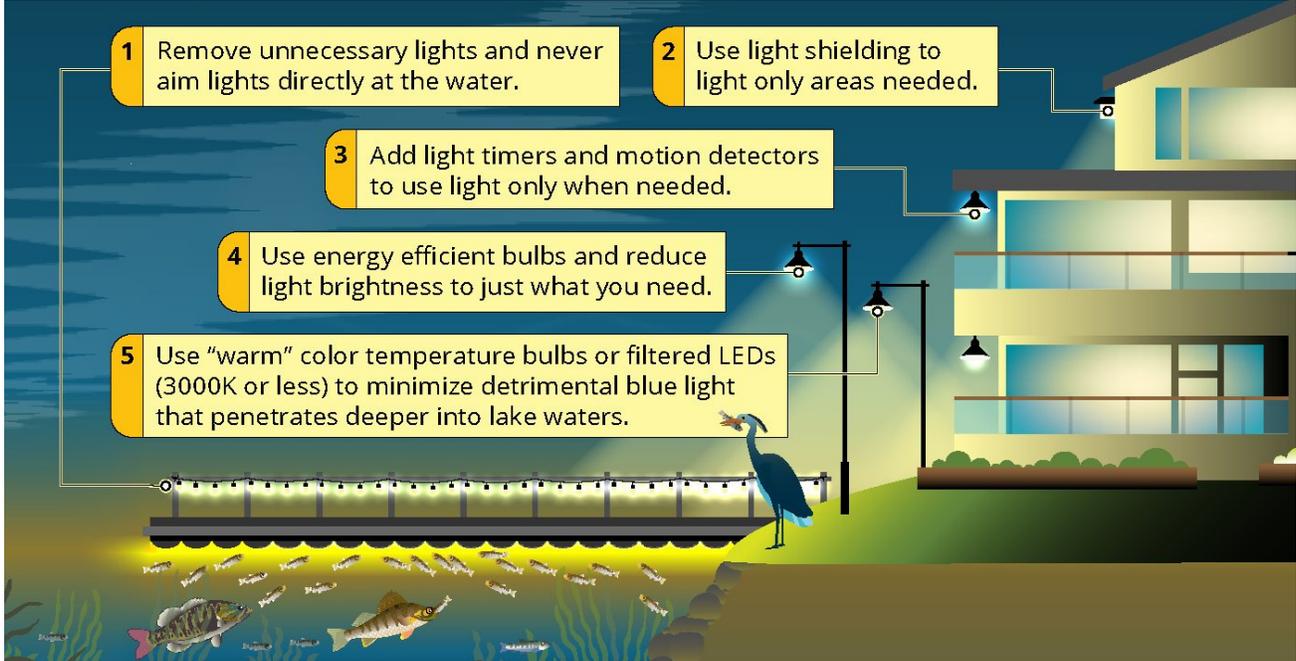
The City has received \$1.52 million through a federal grant from the National Highway Performance Program to overlay 228th Ave between SE 8th St and NE 8th St. This grant funding will cover 100% of the costs associated with the design and overlay construction.

In a separate contract, the City will overlay 244th, 246th, and 247th between Issaquah Fall City Road (IFCR) and Klahanie Boulevard; and Klahanie Drive between IFCR and 252 Avenue SE. In addition to the overlay, this project will upgrade all curb ramps to meet federal ADA requirements. The City's Geotechnical Engineering consultant, HWA, cored these streets at the end of October and is assisting our design consultant, Blueline, on the necessary overlay cross-sections. Both this project and the 228th Ave overlay are expected to be under construction this summer.



Artificial Light Pollution Impacts Lake Sammamish Salmon

Top 5 Actions You Can Take to Help Salmon



Help Our Lake Sammamish Salmon Survive

Provided by King County Department of Natural Resources and Parks

Chinook, kokanee, and other native salmon are facing many challenges in Lake Sammamish. Reducing nighttime lights and skyglow near Lake Sammamish can help salmon survive. Juvenile salmon are attracted to artificial nighttime light, leaving them vulnerable to predator fish and birds in the lake. Reducing unnecessary light also helps wildfire, reduces energy waste, and saves money.

Check out the International Dark Sky Association at www.darksky.org/lighting to learn more about better outdoor lighting alternatives.



Understanding Landslide Warning Signs

In January, neighboring communities experienced significant landslides after weeks of snow and rain caused soft ground movement. Washington State Department of Natural Resources has provided this information for residents to understand landslides better.

As our population expands into hilly and mountainous rural forests and agricultural lands, the need for mapping and understanding landslides and landslide hazards becomes increasingly urgent. Coupled with climatic change prediction for more frequent and intense storm events, mapping and understanding geologic hazards can greatly reduce impacts to infrastructure, loss of life, and property.

Landslides are complex, often moving in numerous different ways, from small shallow slumps and rock topples to deep-seated landslides. Understanding how and why these landslides move help geologists develop mitigation techniques and determine future hazards for roads, houses, infrastructure, and human life.

Warning Signs of a Potential Landslide

- A hillside that has increased spring and (or) seep activity, or newly saturated ground
- New or developing cracks or bulges in the ground
- Sagging or taut utility lines; leaning telephone poles, deformed fences, or tilting of trees on a hillside
- Sticking windows or doors; new and (or) growing cracks in walls, ceilings, or foundations
- Broken or leaking utilities, such as water, septic, or sewer lines
- Separation of structures from their foundation; movement of soil away from foundations
- Movement of the ground

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

Where do landslides occur?

Landslides can occur on gentle to steep slopes but they are most common on steep slopes.

When do landslides occur?

Landslides occur when the strength of material on a slope becomes less than the force of gravity acting on the material.

Common landslide triggers include:

- Rainfall—Prolonged or intense rainfall and rain-on-snow events can saturate soils and trigger landslides
- Earthquakes—Intense shaking during earthquakes can cause the ground to fail
- Water-level changes—Rapid lowering of water levels can trigger landslides, especially along dams, coastlines, reservoirs, and rivers
- Human activities—Vegetation removal, mining, loading on a slope, excavation at the base of a slope, and leakage from pipes can all trigger landslides
- Geology—Easily weathered rock types and sandy or clay-rich soils are especially susceptible to landslides



What Happens During a Snow Event?

The City of Sammamish receives a lot of questions about City procedures before, during, and after snow events. We've compiled many of them below with the answers from our Streets and Stormwater Division experts. Remember to visit the City's Weather Events page for the most recent updates on a snow event: connect.sammamish.us/weather-events.

How does the city prepare for snow and ice events and what happens when the snow hits?

- Long before the snow arrives, the City prepares by making sure our equipment is in good working order, we have our materials (sand, salt, and liquid de-icer) stocked, and we have an updated communication plan
- City of Sammamish has a snow and ice removal priority system in place to clear our 250 lane miles of public roads and over 730 cul-de-sacs
- Once a snow or ice event has been forecasted and the likelihood of snow is high, the crews apply a layer of anti-icer to all priority roads
- After the snow starts to fall/accumulate, snowplows may operate 24 hours a day until the end of the event, or several days after depending on the severity of the event

How do you decide which streets to prioritize?

- For any snow or ice event, our number one goal is to keep designated priority routes in good winter driving condition
- Priority routes are lifelines, major thoroughfares, and arterial roadways and streets

Why doesn't the city de-ice and plow all the streets – specifically secondary and residential streets?

- The City has 250 lane miles to cover and limited resources, including snowplows (we have twelve), storage capacity for de-icer and salt to treat surfaces, and maintenance personnel
- Our priorities must focus on ensuring accessibility for lifelines, main arterials and thoroughfares, main connector streets, and major hills and curves
- We do not plow or deice private roads or driveways

What kind of equipment does Sammamish have to deal with snow and ice?

- Sammamish has 12 snowplows to cover 250 lane miles of roads and over 730 cul-de-sacs
- All plow trucks carry either a sander or a liquid deicer tank. Our inventory of sanders and deicers include a total of 12 sanders ranging from 3 to 10-yard capacities and 6 truck-mounted deicing tanks ranging from 300 to 500-gallon capacities
- The Maintenance and Operations Center (MOC) has capacity for 250 yards of road salt and 35,000 gallons of deicer. Just prior to a snow event, we begin the process of ordering more supplies (deicer & road salt) to replenish our stock. There can be a three-day lead time for both products as well as a priority system with the State and Counties having first priority

What do you use for de-icing?

We use a liquid deicer called CCB, it's made of calcium chloride (salt), molasses, water, and a corrosion inhibitor called boost, which is a proprietary ingredient.

Why doesn't the City use sand?

Under our NPDES Phase II Municipal Stormwater Permit, the city is required to start the removal of all sand used within the roadway within 24 hours after the road is clear of snow and ice. Due to this restriction, we only use sand in certain instances, locations or if our supply of road salt is interrupted due to delivery or supplier issues.

For a complete list of questions and answers regarding snow and ice events along with a snow plow map, go to www.sammamish.us and search "Snow Event FAQ"

Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion in Sammamish

In honor of Black History Month, we invite all residents to visit the City's Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion page at connect.sammamish.us/equity-diversity-inclusion. You'll discover the different ways we recognize the contributions and needs of our diverse community.

Developing policies that place equity and inclusion at the forefront takes time, resources, a commitment to learn, and a dedication to be inclusive. The City of Sammamish is committed to developing a plan that instills equity, diversity and inclusion as essential parts of policy making and the delivery of City services.

What will you find on the City's Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion page?

- Proclamations reaffirming the City's principles and values of diversity, equity, and inclusion, along with proclamations recognizing designated day, week, and month long cultural observations

- Details on how to report a bias-related incident
- Resources and publications to aid with civil rights protection
- News feed of topics related to diversity, equity, and inclusion

Defining Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion

Diversity

Each person has layers of diversity that make his/her/their perspective unique. Diversity is a variety of human differences and similarities among people, such as: age, belief system, class/caste, culture, disability, education, ethnicity, gender, gender identity, generation, geography, job role and function, language, marital status, mental health, nationality, native or indigenous origins, parental status, personality type, race, religion, sexual orientation, thinking style, work experience and work style.

Equity

Regardless of one's identity, equity is when all people have just treatment, access to opportunities necessary to satisfy their essential needs, advance their well-being and achieve their full potential while identifying and eliminating barriers that have prevented the full participation of some groups.

Inclusion

This is an active state of being valued, respected and supported. Inclusion focuses on the needs of every individual and ensures the right conditions are in place for each person to achieve his or her full potential. An inclusive environment ensures equitable access to resources and opportunities for all. It also enables individuals and groups to feel safe, respected, engaged, motivated, and valued for who they are and for their contributions toward organizational and societal goals.

Book a ride with Community Van today!



- 01** Scan this QR code
OR go to <https://bit.ly/3Dld76F>
OR call (425) 295-0646
- 02** Fill out the information required to book a ride
- 03** Your Community Transportation Coordinator will be in touch!

Community Van trips are booked in advance for up to 11 passengers, to destinations up to 2 hours away! All for the same price as a bus fare.

Resident Profile: Congratulations to Elvin Irihamye, Rhodes Scholar Winner



Each year, on the Saturday preceding the Thanksgiving holiday, a new United States Rhodes Scholar class is selected. This year's class of 32 students from the United States were selected from 826 candidates endorsed by 247 different colleges. We are proud to have one of Sammamish's own residents selected to be part of this elite class of students.

Elvin Irihamye resides in Sammamish and is a senior at Indiana University majoring in Neuroscience. Elvin has a strong passion and focus on progressing health initiatives in neurosurgery.

As a son of immigrants from Rwanda, Elvin understands the importance of global health awareness.

In addition to his studies, Elvin also co-founded and is president of a charitable corporation using industry and academic partnerships to bring Black, Latinx and Native American talent into the workforce. He is also active with Create Circles, an organization which connects college students with older adults through virtual visits.

Elvin is especially appreciative of the positive influences he has had in his life, including his parents and his teachers in high school at The Gatton Academy, a residential STEM school for talented high school juniors and seniors on the Western Kentucky University campus in Bowling Green, Kentucky. During his interview for the Rhodes Scholar selection, Elvin says that he went into the interview wanting to present his most authentic self. And, the selection committee saw obvious success and great potential in Elvin.

What's next for Elvin?

Elvin will join the other scholars and begin their studies at the University of Oxford this October, joining additional scholarship recipients from more than 60 other countries. Elvin is well on his way to creating health innovations across the globe and using technology to make health care more equitable. Sammamish is proud of you, Elvin.

Youth Mental Health Services for Sammamish Students

Are you noticing school anxiety or low motivation in your child or teen?

CrossPath Counseling offers free, same week assessment and referral services to help you connect with a specialist provider in the area.



For more information, email
cpc@crosspathcounseling.com.





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2022 SAMMAMISH CITY COUNCIL



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Jim Hominiuk
IT Director

Jeff Elekes
Public Works Director

David Pyle
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Director

Anjali Myer
Parks, Recreation and Facilities
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City Resources

Police Non-Emergency
(206) 296-3311

Eastside Fire & Rescue
(425) 313-3200

King County Sheriff
(206) 263-9133

WA State COVID Call Center
1 (800) 525-0127

King County Animal Control
(206) 296-7387

Garbage - Republic Services
(425) 646-2400

Sammamish Permit Center
(425) 295-0531

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(425) 392-6256

**NE Sammamish Water and
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(425) 868-1144

Community Van
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City Notices

Have an issue or concern?
Use the *My Sammamish* app
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Have an emergency?
Dial 911

Receive Email and Text Alerts
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