

SAMMAMISH NEWSLETTER

The official publication of the City of Sammamish



Photo Courtesy of Sammamish Resident, Vikram Singh

Happy Birthday, Sammamish!

On August 31, Sammamish turned 22 years old. With all that our community offers, it's easy to forget that we are still a young bedroom community. We are proud of the community programs we've developed and offered this summer. The record-breaking heat we endured does bring urgency to developing a progressive approach on climate change that will help preserve our beautiful natural tree canopy surroundings and wildlife.

As a community, we all play a collective role in keeping Sammamish green and mitigating the effects of climate change for future generations to come. As the City continues to adopt practices to reduce waste and to be more climate sensitive, here are a few things residents can do to make a small-to-big impact on our carbon footprint:

- Explore your options with PSE's Green Power Program
- Consider low-flow toilets, and energy-efficient appliances and light bulbs
- Look for a survey this fall – in partnership with the League of Women Voters, we are asking residents about their climate change priorities

Please keep reading for an explanation of the Ebright Creek Project restoring the fish crossing across East Lake Sammamish Parkway, an update on development regulations, and a description of the legislative changes affecting policing in our community and all of Washington state.

As always, keep sharing your thoughts and suggestions. - Mayor Karen Moran



Eastlake Little League has had an inspiring season to the Little League World Series. Next month, we will have a full profile of the team and their winning season.

Great Job Eastlake!

photo courtesy of Eastlake Little League



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Explaining the Ebright Creek Fish Passage Project

The City of Sammamish's Stormwater team has been diligently working on the goals of the Six-Year Stormwater Capital Improvement Plan, which was adopted by City Council in 2017. One important goal from the plan is the Ebright Creek Fish Passage Project.

The goal of this project is to restore the Ebright Creek crossing at East Lake Sammamish Parkway to allow fish, especially the native Lake Sammamish Kokanee salmon, to swim upstream. To achieve this, the project will remove the existing culvert pipes and replace them with a fully fish passable box culvert which will improve stream habitat and fish passage to support the Kokanee salmon and other fish species. Additional activities that support installing the new culvert include utility relocations, such as electric, gas, water, and sewer.

We sat down with Stephanie Sullivan, a Senior Engineer in the City's Stormwater team, to understand more:

How long have you been working on this project?

We kicked off the design phase of the project in the winter of 2019, and started construction in July. Excavation for the box culvert will begin with the road closure on August 16, 2021. The construction of the box culvert will take a minimum of three weeks, and requires closing a small area on East Lake Sammamish Parkway. The closure is approximately 2,000 feet south of Louis Thompson Road. Detours around the construction area will be clearly marked for drivers. Local access will be maintained, but no traffic will be allowed through the work zone. Bicyclists and pedestrians will be able to use the East Lake Sammamish Regional Trail to detour around the closure.

Why are you doing the construction and the road closure now?

We only have this small window of opportunity – we want to have the box culvert ready on time for the Kokanee salmon spawning season, which goes

from October to February. Ebright Creek is a primary spawning tributary for this regionally and culturally significant native species of fish. Adult Kokanees inhabit Lake Sammamish and then return to their native streams or shorelines to spawn.

What does this project mean to you and to the City of Sammamish?

It has been incredibly rewarding to work on a project that will benefit the native Lake Sammamish Kokanee salmon. The project is the culmination of a concerted effort by stakeholders in the community, the City, King County, the Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife, and the Lake Sammamish Kokanee Work Group. I would also like to acknowledge and thank King County Flood Control District and the Brian Abbott Fish Barrier Removal Board for their grants supporting the design and construction of this project.



Removing fish from the stream before diverting the creek for installation of the new culvert.

Girls Scout Troop Creates Mural at Sammamish Commons

“There aren’t many 7th graders out there who can say that they have presented proposals to three City agencies and painted a huge mural. They’ve been rockstars throughout the process – willing to step out of their comfort zones, learn, trust, be patient, and work hard,” says Melanie Smith, Troop Leader. View a fun and inspiring time-lapse video at www.youtube.com/c/Sammamish/videos.

Sammamish has a new mural greeting visitors at Sammamish Commons. This mural started as a Bronze Award project for the girls in Troop 45370. The Bronze Award is the highest award that a Girl Scout can achieve in 4th and 5th grade. The mural plans were presented for approval to the Arts Commission, the Parks Commission and the City Council in early 2020 by the 11 girls in the Troop. They were all 5th graders at the time. COVID paused the plans (and they found another socially distanced project to complete their Bronze Award), but the girls, now going into 7th grade, were very happy to be able to complete the mural this summer.

The girls worked together to choose the design. When asked about the phrase “You Do You”, most of the girls talked about the importance of being themselves and being proud of who they are as individuals.

This mural and message is a great representation of the talent and value youth of Sammamish share with the community every day.

Special Acknowledgments

The Troop and leaders would like to thank the Arts Commission and Parks Commission for their help in this endeavor. The Arts Commission offered to finance the project and confirmed that a plaque would be installed so that the girls would receive credit for their art.

The City would like to thank the Troop and leaders for their commitment to seeing this project through. Special thanks also to the girls from Troop 44098 (8th and 9th graders) who helped with some of the painting. Both troops are in Sammamish (Inglewood MS, Renaissance MS, Eastlake HS).



Earthquake Home Hazard Hunt

PROVIDED BY FEMA

In preparation for ShakeOut Day next month, we encourage residents to identify potential dangers in your home by conducting an earthquake hazard hunt. Follow this guide to mitigate and decrease your risk of damage and/or injury from an earthquake. Get ready to ShakeOut here: www.shakeout.org.

Prepare
in a
Year



Home Hazard Hunt





Identify potential home hazards - things that could fall or move in an earthquake and cause injuries. Make a list and start fixing hazards.

That bowling ball collection mounted above your bed? Let's find it a new home.

Objects on open shelves and tabletops

Collectibles, pottery objects, and lamps can become deadly projectiles. Use either hook and loop fasteners on the table and object, or non-damaging adhesives such as earthquake putty, clear quake gel, or microcrystalline wax to secure breakables in place. Move heavy items and breakables to lower shelves.

Kitchen

Unsecured cabinet doors fly open during earthquakes, allowing glassware and dishes to crash to the floor. Many types of latches are available to prevent this: child-proof latches, hook and eye latches, or positive catch latches designed for boats. Gas appliances should have flexible connectors to reduce the risk of fire. Secure refrigerators and other major appliances to walls using earthquake appliance straps.

Electronics

Televisions, stereos, computers and microwaves and other electronics are heavy and costly to replace. They can be secured with flexible nylon straps and buckles for easy removal and relocation.

Hanging objects

Mirrors, framed pictures, and other objects should be hung from closed hooks so that they can't bounce off the walls. Pictures and mirrors can also be secured at their corners with earthquake putty. Only soft art such as tapestries should be placed over beds or sofas.



Earthquake Home Hazard Hunt

PROVIDED BY FEMA

"A natural disaster can happen at any time. Knowing what you can do and how to respond with constructive and protective actions, can make yourself, your family, and your home safer."

Andrew Stevens
Emergency Manager for City of Sammamish

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Furniture

Secure the tops of all top-heavy furniture, such as bookcases and file cabinets, to a wall. Be sure to anchor to the stud, and not just to the drywall. Flexible fasteners such as nylon straps allow tall objects to sway without falling over, reducing the strain on the studs. Loose shelving can also be secured by applying earthquake putty on each corner bracket.

In the garage or utility room

Items stored in garages and utility rooms can fall, causing injuries, damage, and hazardous spills or leaks. They can also block access to vehicles and exits. Move flammable or hazardous materials to lower shelves or the floor.

Water heater

Unsecured water heaters often fall over, rupturing rigid water and gas connections. If your water heater does not have two straps around it that are screwed into the studs or masonry of the wall, then it is not properly braced. This illustration shows one method of bracing a water heater. Bracing kits are available that make this process simple. Have a plumber install flexible (corrugated) copper water connectors, if not already done.

TO PREPARE FOR AN EARTHQUAKE

DO A HAZARD HUNT FOR THINGS THAT MIGHT FALL

 1. Latch all cabinet doors.

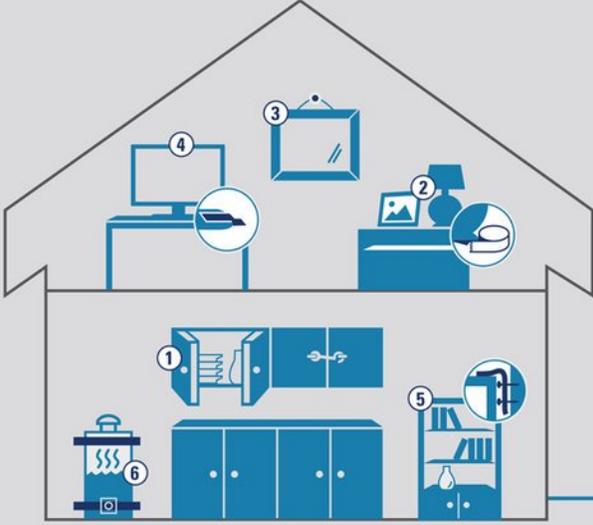
 2. Secure potential flying hazards.

 3. Adhere hanging items to wall.

 4. Secure electronics in place.

 5. Anchor furniture.

 6. Strap appliances to wall.



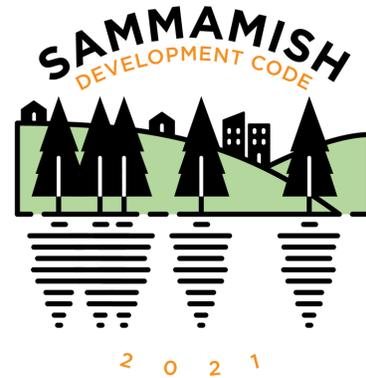
Family Earthquake Drill

It's important to know where you should go for protection when your house starts to shake. By planning and practicing what to do before an earthquake occurs, you can condition yourself and your family to react correctly and spontaneously when the first jolt or shaking is felt.

- Safe spots: The best places to be are under heavy pieces of furniture, such as a desk or sturdy table; under supported archways; and against inside walls
- Danger spots: Stay away from windows, hanging objects, mirrors, fireplaces, and tall, unsecured furniture

Development Regulation Updates

The Department of Community Development's (DCD) mission is to guide growth and change consistent with Sammamish's community vision as outlined in the Comprehensive Plan.



DCD staff are now in the process of updating development regulations for residential zoning, with the goal of creating a unified and streamlined Unified Development Code.

The current development regulations within the Sammamish Municipal Code (SMC) were first adopted when the City incorporated in 1999. Since adoption, there have been many independent changes made to different sections of the code. This piecemeal approach has resulted in development regulations that are at times hard to interpret, outdated, and inconsistent. While the code remained static, the building industry changed, resulting in a community that was concerned by larger homes being built on smaller lots, or with approval of projects that were not consistent with the expectations or desires of the City's residents.

It is due time to update the City's development regulations to ensure building outcomes reflect the community's desired character. These updates also provide an opportunity to consolidate the various code chapters that constitute the City's development rules into a Unified Development Code.

Benefits of having a Unified Development Code

The code is easier to administer and interpret for both the City staff and the public. The code updates will address topics such as the design of residential subdivisions, protection of natural and environmental features, construction monitoring, code enforcement, and residential street standards.

Through consultation with the Planning Commission and the City Council, DCD staff have identified eight topic areas that will be addressed in the Phase Two development regulations update:



Process to address public concern related to development outcomes started in 2018

This process began during Phase I of the project, when the City Council adopted Interim Development Regulations and directed staff to begin the legislative review process to consider permanent updates to the City's development regulations. We are currently in Phase II of the project, which has been accompanied by a robust public engagement process that included a review of the code topics with a stakeholder advisory group over five meetings, an online survey, two update meetings with the City Council, nine meetings with the Planning Commission, and a Public Hearing held on July 15, 2021.

Work sessions and public hearings with the City Council are planned for the Fall and Winter of 2021

This will lead the City to the third and final Phase III of the Development Regulations Update.

Washington State Legislative Changes to Policing

State Legislature has enacted a series of bills in an effort to reform law enforcement. Sammamish Police Chief, Dan Pingrey hosted a virtual Town Hall last month to help address residents' questions. View full video at www.youtube.com/c/Sammamish/videos.

The new bills are listed below and full details can be found at www.app.leg.wa.gov/billsummary by searching the bill number.

House Bill 1054: Establishing requirements for tactics and equipment used by peace officers.

House Bill 1320: Concerning permissible uses of force by law enforcement and correctional officers.

House Bill 1267: Concerning investigation of potential criminal conduct arising from police use of force, including custodial injuries, and other officer-involved incidents.

House Bill 1089: Concerning compliance audits of requirements relating to peace officers and law enforcement agencies.

House Bill 1223: Enacting the uniform electronic recordation of custodial interrogations act.

House Bill 5051: Concerning state oversight and accountability of peace officers and corrections officers.

House Bill 1140: Concerning juvenile access to attorneys when contacted by law enforcement.

House Bill 1088: Concerning potential impeachment disclosures.

Senate Bill 5066: Concerning a peace officer's duty to intervene.

Senate Bill 5476: Responding to the State v. Blake decision by addressing justice system responses and behavioral health prevention, treatment, and related services.

Senate Bill 5259: Concerning law enforcement data collection.

Senate Bill 5055: Concerning law enforcement personnel collective bargaining.

Law Enforcement Torch Run for Special Olympics Came Through Sammamish

Thank you to all of the spectators who came out to cheer and encourage the runners as they carried the torch from Sammamish City Hall to South Sammamish Park and Ride.





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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

**Sammamish Plateau Water
and Sewer**
(425) 392-6256

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

Community Van
communityvan@sammamish.us

City Notices

Have an issue or concern?
Use the *My Sammamish* app
on your smartphone.

Have an emergency?
Dial 911

Receive Email and Text Alerts
To subscribe to the City of
Sammamish email and text
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