

GROWTH & GROWTH MANAGEMENT

One of the most frequently asked questions the City receives is, "If we have a development moratorium in place, why is so much development going on?" The City adopted a development moratorium in 1999 to give itself the opportunity to develop comprehensive plan and development regulations. The development moratorium provided for certain exemptions, such as single family residences on property already subdivided, churches, medical centers and recreational facilities. It did not allow a landowner to subdivide property into building lots or multifamily development. Nonetheless, residents have noted developments being constructed. Why? The short answer is that complete applications were filed with the County prior to the adoption of the City's moratorium. The vesting of these projects does not allow the City or County to stop them.

A fundamental aspect of Washington State land use law is that when a complete development application is submitted, it vests under the rules in affect AT THE TIME the application is submitted. In other words, the rules in effect when the application was submitted apply, not any new rules, such as a moratorium, that might be subsequently adopted. Mayor Romero expressed the City Council's frustration with the process saying, "Though the City is required by State law to approved vested projects, King County is doing a poor job in managing these developments."

Washington State has one of the most liberal vesting laws in the country. The rules were tightened in 1995 when the state legislature passed ESHB 1724 requiring local governments planning under the Growth Management Act (GMA) to define "elements of a complete application." If an application contained all the necessary elements to make it complete, it was vested. Many of the applications the City is currently processing (as transferred from King County) were vested by the County in 1997 or even 1996, prior to the City's incorporation in August of 1999. Consequently, these projects are entitled to be processed under the County regulations in effect when the application was submitted.

Why Manage Growth?

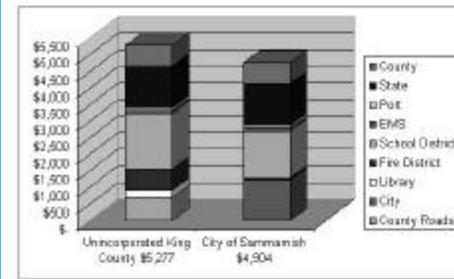
Long before the State passed the Growth Management Act (GMA) in 1990, there was general acknowledgement by elected officials and planning professionals that uncoordinated and unplanned growth posed a threat to the health, safety and high quality of life enjoyed by the residents of our state.

The first state-wide response to unplanned growth came with the adoption of the Shoreline Management Act of 1971 (SMA) and the adoption of the State Environmental Policy Act in 1974 (SEPA). For a time, SMA was the only mandated state planning law that applied to all counties in the State. There was only one small chink in this "planner's armor" –the SMA only applied to a relatively small area of property. Most people don't own or live on shoreline property, so most weren't affected by it or even cared about it. Consequently, growth in the form of suburban sprawl continued its advance, far beyond the cities, out into the rural areas.

Although many communities—particularly in King County—had adopted comprehensive

Services and Taxes

The last newsletter article discussed the financial savings in property taxes for the Citizens of Sammamish when compared to what they would have paid if they had failed to incorporate. City residents pay property taxes at a total rate of 12.26 per \$1,000 in assessed valuation of their property. County residents just outside the city limits pay property taxes at a rate of \$13.19 per \$1,000 in assessed valuation. This is a 7% tax savings. For a \$400,000 home this equates to an annual savings of \$372.



At the same time, the City of Sammamish provides a higher level of service by efficiently putting those tax dollars to work in our community. We are providing better police and fire service levels, improving the infrastructure needs of our community including roads, sidewalks, parks, and surface water management. Concurrently, citizens have more ability to influence the delivery of services through attendance at meetings, workshops, and through the Parks and Planning Boards.

The City of Sammamish also contrasts favorably when compared to the delivery of city services with our neighboring cities. City staff prides itself on working smartly and efficiently. They strive to provide great value for



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figures just released this month support the conclusion that the vast majority of people in Sammamish choose to live here because it is a great place to raise a family.



Just look at the statistics. 35.5% of our population is 19 years or younger in age. No other mid to large size city in the greater Puget Sound area boasts such a high percentage of children. 80% of our citizens live in married-couple families, with almost half of those families having children under the age of 18 years.

Equally as impressive are the statistics showing the roots people have sunk into our community. Over 90% of all housing units are owner-occupied. Less than 1% of our housing units are for seasonal, recreational or occasional use. In other words, almost 100% of us live here full-time and over 90% of us own our own homes. That is an amazing statistic, and one that shows that we are committed to living here.

I share these statistics with you to remind each of us that there is a lot of good in our city and community. At times when you are stuck in traffic you can develop a sour attitude about this community. Step back though, and think about all the good this city has to offer. We have a beautiful city, with essentially no crime, great schools, wonderful churches, lots of trees, great neighbors, super parks (with several more on the way!!!) and the list goes on and on. While we still have lots of work to do (especially on roads), let's not forget that we have much to be thankful for as citizens of Sammamish. This truly is a great place to live! Thanks to each of you for making it that way! Together, we can make this an even greater place to live, to learn and to grow.

H. Troy Romero

Human Services grants. In an effort to address needs in the community, the City Council has budgeted money for this purpose. The grants will be used to provide services that will enhance the livability of the City.

The grants will be awarded on a yearly basis. They will be made to those groups providing a direct and unique service to city residents. A committee comprised of Councilmembers Jack Barry, Kathleen Huckabay and City Manager Ben Yazici will oversee the process.

Any group or organization interested in applying for a grant in 2002 should contact City Hall for an application form. Applications are due by September 14 2001. Grants are limited to \$10,000. Any group interested in applying for a grant of less than \$1,000, should submit a letter of intent that includes specific information regarding the project.

For further information contact Melonie Anderson, City Clerk at (425) 836-7904.

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NEIGHBORHOOD CONNECTIONS

The third Neighborhood Connections meeting was held April 9 at City Hall, with over 19 Homeowners Associations represented. Ray Gilmore, Director of Community Development, presented the City's goals and objectives on land use planning and community development. Discussion followed the presentation with several neighborhoods requesting that the City remind citizens about the City Fireworks Ordinance. A representative from the Sammamish Plateau Water and Sewer District also recommended that neighborhoods contact the water district regarding common area watering conservation and restrictions.



City Manager Ben Yazici shares information at a recent Neighborhood Connections meeting.

Officer Travis De Vries, representing the Sammamish Police Department, shared information on current police activities. The Police Department has implemented a program to notify neighborhoods of illegal activity, such as the recent trend in lawn furniture theft. An information bulletin will be mailed to Homeowners Associations presidents or representatives participating in the Neighborhood Connections program for dissemination to their neighborhoods. These notices will contain recommendations on what citizens can do to ensure safety in their neighborhoods and the community.

Representatives from several unincorporated neighborhoods, adjacent to the City of Sammamish, requested inclusion in the Neighborhood Connections program. The City invites and encourages these neighborhoods, as well as all City neighborhoods to participate in this program. Meetings

TABLE 1

On April 23, Mid-Mountain Construction began work on the second phase of improving safety and traffic flow on 228th Avenue – the City’s most heavily traveled roadway. Current daily traffic volumes on 228th Avenue exceed 20,000 vehicles per day. By the year 2012, this volume is expected to exceed 35,000 vehicles per day.

This \$8.1 million project is the first major Capital Improvement Project to be managed by the City of Sammamish and will widen 228th Avenue from SE 24th Street to SE 8th Street. At the June 6 Council meeting, Councilmember Ron



228th Avenue prior to construction

Haworth reported, “The project is moving along extremely well. It is 25% complete and the first asphalt is expected to be laid the beginning of June.” Thanks to a very aggressive contract schedule, work on this project should be substantially completed by about mid-October of this year.

Major improvements to be accomplished during this project construction include: two travel lanes in each direction separated by a 12-foot wide landscaped median strip, curb and sidewalks separated by a landscape strip, a wide multi-use pathway on the east side of the project, decorative street lighting with pedestrian scale lighting, storm drainage treatment facilities, underground electrical facilities, and traffic signals with “U”-turn capability at SE 20th, SE 16th, SE 10th and SE 8th Streets. Also, in cooperation with the Sammamish Plateau Water and Sewer District, new sewer lines and upgraded water lines are being installed.

Funding for this work is provided from the following sources: a low interest loan from the Wash-

As construction work on the second phase of the 228th Corridor Improvement project begins, the County’s \$5.5 million first phase (from Issaquah-Pine Lake Road to SE 24th) is winding to completion and design work on the \$8.1 million third phase (from SE 8th Street to NE 8th Street) is just beginning.

Phase one work, begun prior to the City of Sammamish’s incorporation, has been managed by King County and is currently scheduled to be complete in July of this year.

The third phase of this improvement project will be managed by the City of Sammamish. When



Digitally-enhanced image showing 228th Avenue upon project completion.

completed, this section of roadway will look very similar to the second phase described above: two travel lanes in each direction, landscaped center median, a landscaped strip separating the curb and sidewalk on both sides of the street, underground utilities, water and sewer system upgrades, street lighting and traffic signal improvements. Construction of this improvement should begin in the Spring of 2002 and be completed in the Fall of 2002.

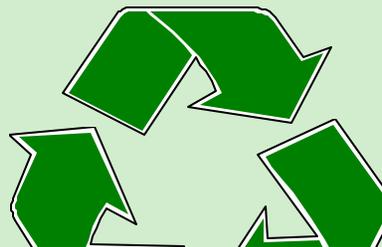


228th Avenue during construction.

CONGRATULATIONS CITY RECYCLERS

We are a community that is reducing, reusing and recycling! Mayor Romero wishes to extend the City’s appreciation to the 581 households that participated in the Spring Special Recycling Collection Event on March 17. Over 50 tons of materials were collected including:

- 100 gallons of anti-freeze,
- 605 gallons of used motor oil
- 4,190 household batteries
- 64,000 lbs. of scrap wood & cardboard



The next recycling event is scheduled for two weekends in July to collect hazardous waste. The King County “Wastemobile” will be in the City of Sammamish at Eastlake High School-400 228th Avenue NE on July 6-8 and July 13-15. Hazardous waste items such as automotive products, pesticides, oil based paints, toxic cleaning products, glues, aerosols and fluorescent light bulbs may be brought to this site for proper disposal. The Local Hazardous Waste Management Program of King County funds this event. For disposal information call the Hazards Line at 206-296-4692.

The City, in cooperation with Olympic Environmental Resources, is currently preparing for the Fall 2001 Special Recycling Event scheduled for Saturday, September 29. At this event, citizens are encouraged to bring scrap metal and appliances including refrigerators and freezers. Back yard composting bins will also be available for purchase.

These sub-committees each meet once a month and will be drafting the actual goals and policies related to its topic. The goals will be general statements expressing a desired result consistent with the community's vision such as maintain rural character or develop a grid street system. The policies are specific statements that guide decision makers in achieving a goal's desired result. Each subcommittee will draft its goals and present them to the full PAB for review before developing its policies which in turn will be presented to the PAB for review. This process insures the coordination of the various goals and policies.

The PAB also created a Public Involvement Subcommittee, the purpose of which is to maximize the awareness and involvement of the public in the planning process. This subcommittee also meets once a month. Here's an update on each of the Sub-Committees and information on how you can be involved.

Land Use: To begin the process of drafting land use goals and policies, the Land Use Subcommittee has developed a series of workshops

ible Zoning, Special Use Districts, and Transfer Development Rights. These workshops are presented to inform the community of these concepts and solicit feedback. The subcommittee will then begin drafting the land use goals at its July 19 meeting and the land use policies on September 20. The PAB is scheduled to consider the land use goals on August 2 and the policies on October 4.

Transportation: The Transportation Subcommittee has begun its drafting of transportation related goals and policies. It started this process with a roundtable discussion on May 24 that included the general public and several transportation professionals who reside in the community. Incorporating the issues and concerns raised at this meeting, along with public input received at other meetings, the subcommittee has started drafting the Plan's transportation goals and policies. The PAB is scheduled to consider the transportation goals on September 6 and the transportation policies on November 1.

Public Involvement: The Public Involvement Subcommittee visited over two dozen local com-

leagues, garden club, etc., the subcommittee has passed out information brochures and answered questions about the Plan's progress and how the public can be involved. The subcommittee is also working with local newspapers on a series of articles to be published over the summer on the City's planning process and its progress. All of this information is now available on the City website at where the public can also send comments directly to the PAB.

The meeting schedule for the PAB and each of the subcommittees is:

- *Planning Advisory Board*
First Thursday of each month at 7:00 pm
- *Land Use Subcommittee*
Third Thursday of each month at 7:30 pm
- *Public Involvement Subcommittee*
Fourth Tuesday of each month at 7:00 pm
- *Transportation Subcommittee*
Fourth Thursday of each month at 7:00 pm

Each meeting is held at City Hall and begins and ends with an opportunity for the public to voice any concerns and/or questions.

Land Use *(Continued)*

Sprawl continued its advance in Washington State, but a number of states "saw the light" early and passed some remarkable legislation mandating that all growth be directed into "growth areas" or urban areas. For example, Oregon and Florida adopted such sweeping legislation back in 1970 and 1980, respectively. After two decades of unparalleled growth in the state, many elected officials in Olympia were hearing from their constituents. "Do something!" became a familiar phrase.

In 1989, a small group of county and city planners assembled at their annual meeting in Crescent Bar and, with a bit of help from some folks from Florida and Olympia, mapped out a growth strategy. Growth management was now being talked about and taken seriously. The group passed this proposal on to their respective legislative links and within the next growing season, the first crop of GMA was harvested. It was a major piece of legislation that changed the direction in how growth would be managed in Washington State. GMA was unique because

Growth and Capacity

A significant aspect of the GMA is its basis in "population/capacity." Counties and cities that had experienced 10% or more population growth over the previous ten year period were required to adopt plans and development regulations that met the minimum requirements of GMA. And—here was the twist—the growth plans must be based upon the local government's ability to provide services for the projected population.

Population has always been a planning tool; however, up to this point it was primarily used by the larger cities, which had more sophisticated planning programs. GMA was a departure from the status-quo planning process wherein local agencies adopted a plan based upon what the perceived land use and development patterns "should" be.

The projected population is based upon the growth projected by the Washington State Department of Financial Management for each county planning under the GMA. The projected population is then allocated to the cities and urban growth areas within the Counties based upon:

- services) for the population allocated to the city or UGA;
- That the population planned for represents an "urban rather than rural density¹."

Growth Management Is Now Up to Us

Currently, the City of Sammamish is operating under a modified version of the King County Comprehensive Plan and Development Regulations. The City is developing its own GMA Comprehensive Plan and Development Regulations and has scheduled an adoption date of December 2002. Crucial to its successful completion and implementation is public involvement. The residents of our City need to be involved with growth management planning up front, and not just when the development application is submitted to the local government for approval. Public involvement is a sound way to assure that local needs and concerns are addressed by City officials in the development and adoption of the City's Growth Management Plan. We encourage all residents to actively participate in the development of the City of Sammamish's first Comprehensive Plan by attending meetings and reading and commenting



- August 2 Show Brazil (latin music)
- August 9 Boogie Brown Band (reggae music)
- August 16 Mach One Jazz Orchestra (swing music)
- August 23 Dance Factory (70s & 80s dance music)



SHAKESPEARE IN THE PARK - on Saturdays
presented by Wooden O Theatre Shakespeare Productions

- July 21 The Tempest
- Aug. 4 As You Like It



Property owners' concerns regarding safety and privacy must be balanced with recreational needs.

On April 6 and 7, 2001, the City of Sammamish invited the community to participate in workshops to provide input on the design and Master Plan of the East Lake Sammamish Trail. Nationally recognized trail expert, Dan Burden, facilitated the two day workshop. His knowledge and understanding of the sensitive and dynamic issues along this trail corridor brought a solid, non-biased perspective to this emotional issue.

Following the two days of in-depth discussions and hours of active participation by those in attendance, agreement was reached on a number of design considerations. Many of the participants commented that the workshops were very open, informative, and were an excellent forum for citizens to discuss the complexities of this trail project.

The following is a summarized list of workshop activities and findings. The collection of all the data, comments, reports and feedback generated during the two days is at City Hall.

- ◆ 111 participants attended the Friday afternoon session, and 137 participants attended the Saturday session. A very high percentage (approximately 85%) of those who attended were Sammamish residents living along Lake Sammamish. Clearly, these are the people who will be most impacted by the future development of the trail.
- ◆ Yes, there will be a trail. Through a visioning exercise that took place on Friday and other discussions throughout the two days, there was consensus agreement by work-

- ◆ Most of the lakefront owners in attendance felt that their concerns in regards to this regional rails-to-trails project have yet to be heard or fully acknowledged by King County.
- ◆ Representatives from King County staff attended both days to observe the workshop and listen to the discussion.
- ◆ Many critical issues and values came to light that must be addressed during the Master Plan process. Most of the issues are complex and will take cooperation and creative thinking to develop long-term solutions.

Some critical issues expressed at the workshop are:

- Interim Trail Use
- Safety of driveway crossings on the trail
- Access to water, public wants to be near water but waterway is mostly privately owned
- City and County to provide access points
- Respect for lakeside owners
- Police Responsibility
- Access for wildlife
- Environment/protect and preserve streams
- Don't bisect property
- No restrooms near homes
- No parking lots near homes
- Build a trail, not a sidewalk
- Accessibility for emergency vehicles and ADA
- Final result is preserved over years, City to be steward, design to accommodate 20 years

- Honesty and trust with agencies
- Cost
- Enhance parkway for high speed bikeway
- Privacy on lake—will there be trees that block views, maintain view shed
- Buffer between trail and houses
- Preserve rail corridors for future possibility
- Build it without destroying rail bed
- Landscaping, beautification
- True width
- Not on side of East Lake Sammamish Parkway

On Saturday, participants were divided into ten sub-groups to discuss design issues, Master Plan alternatives, and other options for trail location. Many design ideas and Master Plan concerns came out of these ten groups. If you are interested in obtaining a copy of the group summaries, please contact City Hall.

Following the workshop, City staff provided workshop materials and responses to King County to incorporate into their Master Plan process. Discussion of the workshop findings focused on concerns brought up in the two days that need to be addressed during the Master Plan.



Groups of citizens meet in small groups to explore options for addressing the concerns voiced by property owners and trail advocates.



The City of Sammamish wants to make sure that those who are most impacted by this project are heard. The City will continue to encourage the County to address and mitigate the local issues and concerns for this regional trail project.

Councilmember Jack Barry stated, "The cooperative and inclusive effort of the Sammamish City Council is clearly illustrated in this East Lake Sammamish Trail design workshop. The high turn out of interested citizens is a mandate to the City of Sammamish Council and staff to listen carefully and

- ◆ Be an active co-sponsor or partner in the Master Plan process with King County. The fact is both agencies want the trail.
- ◆ Ensure that the local benefit of this project is not impacted or lost in the desire to meet the regional benefit of this important trail project. The City's responsibility is to represent and protect the interests of Sammamish citizens in the Master Planning of the regional trail link through their community.
- ◆ King County has a regional perspective, the City of Sammamish has a local perspective. Both are vital and must be combined to create a successful project and a vibrant East Lake Sammamish Trail. The development and design of the Trail should benefit both local and regional users.
- ◆ Ensure that due process is taken in working with trail users and property owners. Recognize the fact that there are significant impacts in the development of this rails-to-trails project that must be mitigated.



Mayor Troy Romero and the City Council invite interested citizens to participate in a

Family Summit Follow-Up



**Tuesday, July 10
5-7 p.m. at City Hall**

Independence Day Holiday
City Hall Closed

July 5 - THU, 7:00 pm
Planning Advisory Board

July 9 - MON, 6:30 pm
Neighborhood Connections Mtg.

July 10 - TUE, 5:00-7:00 pm
Family Summit Follow-up

July 11 - WED, 7:30 pm
City Council Special Meeting

July 16 - MON, 6:30 pm
Parks & Recreation Commission

July 18 - WED
NO CITY COUNCIL MEETING

July 19 - THU, 7:30 pm
PAB Land Use Subcommittee

July 24 - TUE, 7:00 pm
PAB Public Involvement Subcom.

July 25 - WED
NO COUNCIL STUDY SESSION

July 26 - THU, 7:00 pm
PAB Transportation Subcommittee

City Council Regular Meeting

August 2 - THU, 7:00 pm
Planning Advisory Board

August 8 - WED, 7:30 pm
Council Study Session

August 15 - WED
NO CITY COUNCIL MEETING

August 16 - THU, 7:30 pm
PAB Land Use Subcommittee

August 20 - MON, 6:30 pm
Parks & Recreation Commission

August 22 - WED, 7:30 pm
City Council Study Session

August 23 - THU, 7:00 pm
PAB Transportation Subcommittee

August 28 - TUE, 7:00 pm
PAB Public Involvement Subcom.

Labor Day Holiday
City Hall Closed

September 5 - WED, 7:30 pm
City Council Regular Meeting

September 6 - THU, 7:00 pm
Planning Advisory Board

September 12 - WED, 7:30 pm
City Council Study Session

September 17 - MON, 6:30 pm
Parks & Recreation Commission

September 19 - WED, 7:30 pm
City Council Regular Meeting

September 20 - THU, 7:30 pm
PAB Land Use Subcommittee

September 25 - TUE, 7:00 pm
PAB Public Involvement Subcom.

September 26 - WED, 7:30 pm
City Council Study Session

September 27 - THU, 7:00 pm
PAB Transportation Subcommittee

City Council Regular Meeting

October 4 - THU, 7:00 pm
Planning Advisory Board

October 8 - MON, 6:30 pm
Neighborhood Connections Mtg.

October 10 - WED, 7:30 pm
City Council Study Session

October 15 - MON, 6:30 pm
Parks & Recreation Commission

October 17 - WED, 7:30 pm
City Council Regular Meeting

October 18 - THU, 7:30 pm
PAB Land Use Subcommittee

October 23 - TUE, 7:00 pm
PAB Public Involvement Subcom.

October 24 - WED, 7:30 pm
City Council Study Session

October 25 - THU, 7:00 pm
PAB Transportation Subcom.

Services (continued)

tax dollars received and ultimately spent. The City currently has 44 authorized positions. Several measurements or points of comparison with our neighbor Cities highlight the following. As the graph on this page shows, the number of city staff providing services in Sammamish is far below that of our neighboring cities. In Sammamish, the City provides staff support at a level of 1.20 individuals per 1,000 citizens. Kirkland, as the next lowest city, is over 2 times higher. Issaquah is almost 10 times higher at a ratio of 11.5 city staff for each 1000 citizens.

Looking at another point of comparison, we have 1.9 city staff for each square mile of service area. The city of Issaquah provides 10.9 staff per square mile city service area. Redmond and Kirkland are the highest comparison cities at 12.6 and 11.8 staff respectively per square mile. These statistics do not compare levels of service provided by the individual cities. Older, more established cities directly provide services the City of Sammamish does not. Sammamish contracts with King County for police services and Eastside Fire and Rescue for fire services. The staffing levels of Kirkland, Redmond, and Issaquah have been adjusted to provide more comparable figures. Other functions provided by other cities may include water and sewer utilities and related billing functions, fully developed senior citizen and human service programs and other services.

While not directly comparable, these statistics are in-



You can now watch Council meetings on community television. Videotapes of the meetings are broadcast every other Tuesday at 4:00 a.m. on Cable Channel 77. Upcoming viewing dates and times are:

Meeting Date	Viewing Date	Viewing Time
July 11	July 17	4:00-6:00 a.m.
July 18	July 31	4:00-6:00 a.m.
Aug. 1	Aug. 14	4:00-6:00 a.m.
Aug. 15	Aug. 28	4:00-6:00 a.m.

Lirected staff to create a Sammamish Skate Park. The need for providing positive recreational opportunities in our parks for youth and teens is of high importance. Two critical steps in the planning process are identifying the location of the skate park, and involving the teens in its design.

One of the design and site criteria the City has identified is the creation of multiple recreation opportunities in the same area as the skate court. A basketball court, an art wall, a climbing wall, and a general seating area are examples of other activities that could be included in the plan.

By combining the skate park with these other features, the City could create an outdoor teen activity center, a positive place where youth and teens can hang out in a safe and visible environment.

As part of this planning process, the City conducted a series of public design workshops at Eastlake High School. The intent was to give local youth and teens the opportunity to design their own skate park. At the first meeting on

the night, each team reported on its design. Councilmember Phil Dyer, who attended the workshop, described the turnout as “huge, with all schools being represented. It was a tremendous success.”

Many great ideas were produced! The design consultant then took all seven designs to incorporate into concept designs.

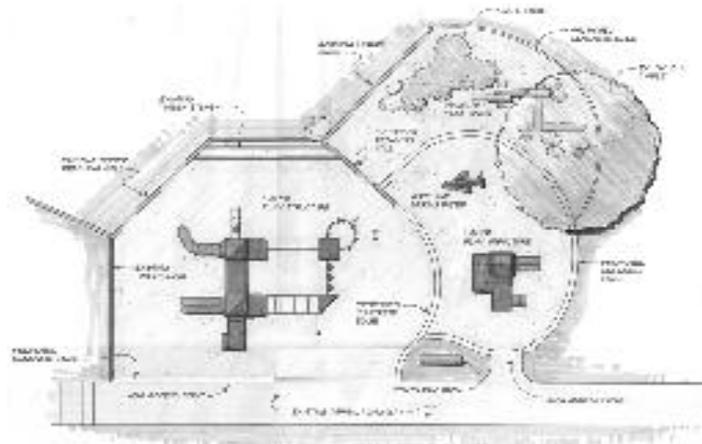


or changes. These brainstorming sessions produced additional ideas and concepts from the group! The goal of the third workshop was to produce a final concept design as well as location alternatives to present to the City Council.

Over 80 youth and teens have participated in the workshops. They have done a terrific job! Once the skate park design and location are finalized, the permit and construction process will begin.

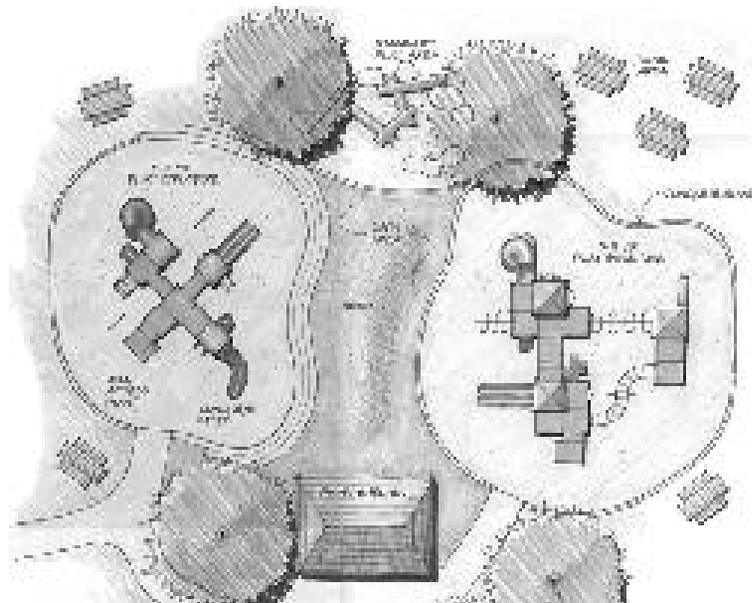
City of Sammamish youth are taking an active part in planning the skate park project.

PLAYGROUND PROJECTS UNDERWAY



Play Area Restoration at NE Sammamish Park. This project includes the replacement of the existing wood structure, expanding the play area to the west to include a small 2-5 yr old structure and spring toy, and the creation of a natural play area in a currently unused area. Schedule for completion is August 2001.

age groups from toddler to older youth. Pine Lake Park is currently our most centrally located and our most heavily used park (over 50% of residents go there at least once a year according to the survey), so is an ideal location to put a larger, centrally located, destination play area. The project is scheduled for completion in August 2001.





Aerial photo shows intersection of 216th Avenue NE at Inglewood Hill Road. Photos to the right show intersection before proposed roundabout, and after installing roundabout (digitally-enhanced).



Intersection Improvements at 216th Avenue NE at Inglewood Hill Road

Design has begun on improving this currently dangerous and congested key intersection in the City of Sammamish. Principal alternatives considered include a signalized intersection (with stop lights in all directions) and a single-lane roundabout. On the 228th Avenue SE project, much larger two-lane roundabout would have been required. Therefore, City Council opted for conventional signalized intersections, but directed City staff to look for another opportunity to consider the application of the roundabout concept. At its June 6 meeting, the Sammamish City Council approved installation of a single lane roundabout at the intersection of 216th Avenue NE and Inglewood Hill Road.

Our public works staff held three productive meetings with local residents helping to crystallize the difficult right-of-way issues facing the City. The residences are located close to the intersection and, in some cases, reduce the options for handling turn lanes, planter strips, for landscaping, and sidewalk locations. Considering the significant reduction in noise, traffic delays, and potential for major accidents, and the improved appearance, the local residents voted unanimously for a single-lane roundabout, with design geometry recognizing and attempting to minimize property impacts.

A public workshop for all interested persons was conducted at Margaret Mead Elementary School on June 5. On June 6, the results were presented to the City Council's Public Works Committee. The Committee unanimously recommended that Council approve the roundabout design. The City Council approved moving forward with the roundabout concept.

Councilmember Don Gerend noted, "with a very high percentage of residents under age 18, we must make a commitment to traffic safety in our community. That means safer streets, more sidewalks and trails, traffic calming programs, education and enforcement. This roundabout is one small step in the right direction."

The photos above show the intersection as it now exists, and include one that has been digitally enhanced to show what this roundabout will look like. The current schedule calls for construction of this improvement to occur in October-November of this year. Everyone will benefit from this intersection operating more safely and efficiently as the City continues to grow and experience increasing traffic loads.

Issaquah-Pine Lake Road at SE 32nd Street Project

Last year the City obtained a \$815,600 competitive grant from the State Transportation Improvement Board (TIB) for the design and construction of improvements on Issaquah-Pine Lake Road between SE 37th Street and 231st Lane. The TIB funds comprise 80% of the total project cost estimate of \$1,019,500, with the matching funds from the City's Transportation Capital Improvement Program providing the remaining \$203,900.

Access to Sunny Hills Elementary School is poorly served by this roadway, as it currently lacks sidewalks or even adequate shoulders for pedestrians. The intersection of Issaquah-Pine Lake Road with SE 32nd Street is a non-signalized

The project schedule calls for design to take place this year with construction next summer. The public will be invited to workshops/open houses in the summer and fall and is encouraged to participate in the design process. Meeting notices will be provided in the newspapers and on the City's web site, www.ci.sammamish.wa.us.

Typical City street design standards call for curbs, gutters, landscape strips, bike lanes and sidewalks. There will also be evaluation and determination as to whether a traffic signal or a roundabout (shown in the computer enhanced photo on this page) offers the better solution for the traffic flows at the intersection at the SE 32nd Street intersection.

32nd Avenue before proposed roundabout and after completion of project (digitally-enhanced).





Jack Barry
Councilmember



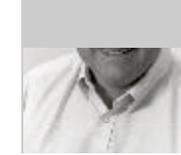
Phil Dyer
Councilmember



Don Gerend
Councilmember



Ken Kilroy
Deputy Mayor



Ron Haworth
Councilmember



Kathleen Huckabay
Councilmember



Troy Romero
Mayor

Council Meeting Highlights

APRIL

■ Contract awarded to Mid Mountain Construction for the transportation improvement project on 228th Avenue SE (Phase 1B). Improvements include widening 228th Avenue SE from SE 24th Street to SE 8th. Construction started April 23; scheduled completion date is October 15, 2001.

■ Contract awarded to Gray & Osborne to study design alternatives for intersection improvements at 216th and Inglewood Hill Road. Proposed designs were presented at a public meeting on June 5 and approved by Council on June 6.

■ Approval given for staff to hire a Code Enforcement Officer. Duties will include responding to citizen and staff requests for investigation of code violations. This position remains open.

■ Approved contract for design of a skate park to be located within the city limits. Three design workshops were held at Eastlake High School. Once a design has been approved, a contract for construction will be awarded.

■ Signed interlocal agreement with the County to provide surface overlay to the following streets in the year 2001:

- Issaquah-Beaver Lake Road from 251st Ave SE to SE Duthie Hill Road.
- 220th Place NE from 221st Avenue NE to NE 23rd Street.
- NE 17th Street from 211th Way NE to 209th Place NE.
- NE 18th Place from 211th Way NE to 209th Place NE.
- 209th Place NE from NE 17th Street to South End.
- 210th Court NE from NE 18th Place to West End.
- East Lake Sammamish Shore Lane (Waverly Shores).

■ Approved plan to design sidewalks in the area of Samantha Smith and Margaret Mead Elementary Schools. These projects were listed as a priority for the Lake Washington School District.

MAY

■ Approved the Stormwater Comprehensive Plan along with Developer System Charges, and an increase in the Stormwater rate. The entire plan is on the City website.

■ Accepted as complete the 2000 Sidewalk Improvement Project, which included new sidewalks in the vicinity of Margaret Mead and Sunny Hill Elementary Schools.

■ Authorized public meetings to

gather input on the feasibility of building a new city hall.

■ Approved a resolution of intent to form the Beaver Lake Management District. The district boundaries were redrawn after the first presentation of this resolution to Council. The boundary excluded certain areas not in the drainage basin. Scheduled public hearing for June 20.

■ Approved a resolution establishing a process for awarding Social and Human Services Grants.

■ Adopted the Neighborhood Improvement Program.

JUNE

■ Approved contract for new Assistant City Manager, Pete A. Butkus who started work on June 25, 2001.

■ Decided to install the City's first roundabout as part of the intersection improvements at 216th Avenue NE and Inglewood Hill Road. Area residents directly impacted by the installation of the roundabout were in agreement that this would be the best alternative for controlling the intersection.

ZIP CODE REMINDER

Last July, the City of Sammamish was assigned two new zip codes by the United States Postal Service. Residents who formerly used an Issaquah zip code, should now be using 98075. Those who were using the Redmond zip code should have switched to the other new 98074 Sammamish zip code.

Returned mail, due to an incorrect zip code, is becoming more and more frequent. Please remember to use the zip code assigned by the United States Postal Service on all your mail. If you have any questions regarding your correct zip code, please contact the Redmond Post Office.



486 - 228th Avenue NE
Sammamish, WA 98074

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