



City Views @ Sammamish

ISSUE 26

CITY OF SAMMAMISH NEWSLETTER

AUGUST 2004

Families flock to Pine Lake Park reopening!

Ice cream goes fast at ribbon cutting

Hundreds gathered July 28 to celebrate the grand reopening of Pine Lake Park. The crowd of celebrants consumed 324 ice cream cups and two mega-coolers of orange drink in just under one hour.

Children enjoyed the colorfully painted, newly installed recreational facilities, including a full basketball court and a pair of colorful climbing walls.

Mayor Huckabay gave a short speech to officially open the park to the community.

“This park was completed under budget. We budgeted \$1.2 million and it cost \$1.1 million,” the mayor said. “I think you will agree that the park keeps the essence of what the old park was, while adding a great deal of functionality.

“Who do we have to thank for

this park? Obviously, the city manager who listened to the council, and was willing to work with the community to bring together a strong consensus for what this park should look like, and our parks commission, which was so significant and played such a big role in helping us bring this park to you.”

During the design process, two groups with different views on what the park should become came together. One group wanted to preserve the natural environment of the park. The other group simply desired more recreational facilities and ball fields.

The public process appeared to work well, producing a park renovation plan that most observers have hailed as a “win-win.” While preserving the park’s old character, the expanded sports field and other features are now being enjoyed.

“This park is now a much better neighbor to the lake, and we are



City staff distributed 324 ice cream cups as residents took a close look at a renovated Pine Lake Park

better environmental stewards,” Parks and Recreation Director Jeff Watling said.

City officials say the restoration of Pine Lake Park sets a high standard for future projects in terms of

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The community turned out in force



*Mayor
Kathleen Huckabay*

On July 28th, the council delivered on the first stage of its promise to deliver more park services – and did so under budget. While the celebration drew hundreds of people to the newly renovated Pine Lake Park, we had celebrated the success of the public process that shaped the look and feel of the park much earlier.

This park is a product of two groups, who had sharply divergent views on what it should be. But they came together to create a park that successfully mixes active and passive recreation – while preserving the essence of the original park.

That process is now at work at

Ebright Creek Park, located on 212th Avenue. Here the balance is even more challenging. The park has significant environmental constraints, including Ebright Creek, home to a unique species of Kokanee salmon. Our Parks Committee will review two concepts and discuss competing park values (Historical house vs. no historical house, save all trees vs. more active recreation) at their Sept. 7 meeting. These concepts may be presented to the City Council later in the month, at a public meeting tentatively scheduled for Sept. 30.

At that meeting, residents will be invited to comment and make additional suggestions. Your feedback will be used to make refinements. We can then create a preferred park concept that will be presented at a final public meeting. When that's complete and all environmental issues are in order, we can plan the construction schedule.

As Pine Lake Park reopens and Ebright Creek Park finds its shape, we are also kicking off our Special Study Area Task Force. The objective will be to convene a larger citizens' committee to work with them, the staff and our consultants to recommend a plan for the central city area. Once that plan is presented to the council, in late January or early February, it will be presented to the general public.

The 18 members and two alternates on the task force were carefully balanced between those who live or own property in the area, and those who do not. Please see our web site for short biographies of the members, and a schedule of meetings. All of the meetings are open to the public, so feel free to drop in.

National Night Out

Neighborhoods Take a "Night" Out of Crime

Residents in several local neighborhoods came together for conversation, ice cream and barbecue as part of the 21st Annual National Night Out activities held on August 3.

According to the National Night Out website, www.nationaltownwatch.org, NNO is designed to heighten awareness of crime and drug prevention, generate support for local anticrime programs, strengthen neighborhood spirit and police-community partnerships, and send a message to criminals letting them know that communities are organized and fighting back.

Participating neighborhoods this year included The Crest, Audobon Park, Tlingit, Loree Estates, Vintage I and Summer Ridge.

The Crest neighborhood's barbecue,

hosted by Jan Bromberg, was attended by over fifty residents. Also in attendance were Sammamish Police Sergeant Bill



Police Chief Dick Baranzini interacts with young Sammamish residents during a National Night Out barbecue

Bonar, Master Officer Mark Konoske, Officer Alana Hall, and Chief Dick Baranzini.

Baranzini said everyone seemed to have a good time, and emphasized the importance of neighbors helping each other fight crime.

"Good neighborhood relationships are what keep crime out of Sammamish," he commented.

Baranzini also noted that grants are available to help neighborhoods host National Night Out events.

For Bromberg, hosting an NNO event was a logical progression.

"It's really part of my job as president of the Citizen Corps Council," Bromberg said. The Citizen Corps is the volunteer branch of the Department of Homeland Security.

Crafting the 2005-2006 City Budget



As the city continues the complicated work of crafting a budget for the 2005-2006 biennium, the public will have numerous opportunities to observe and participate in the process.

Between now and December, the council will wrestle with budget issues at the following public meetings.

September 14, 6:30 pm

City Council Study Session.

September 28, 6:30 pm

Preliminary Budget Review.

September 29, 7 pm

Town hall meeting on budget.

November 16, 6:30 pm

Public hearing and first reading on 2005-2006 budget and 2005 property tax levy.

December 7, 6:30 pm

Second reading on 2005-06 budget and 2005 property tax levy. The budget is scheduled for approval on this date.

Based on current plans, all of these public meetings will be held in the City Council chambers at the Sammamish Plateau Water and Sewer District, 1510 228th Ave. SE.

“Obviously, choosing how to spend tax dollars is one of the most important

decisions a community has to make,” Director of Finance Lyman Howard said. “We certainly hope these public budget meetings will be well attended by our residents.”

Although Sammamish has maintained an excellent bond rating based on its solid financial footing, there are challenges ahead.

“We inherited a huge infrastructure deficit from King County when we incorporated in 1999,” Howard said. “But as we play catch up, building the roads, parks, sidewalks and other things we need, we need to be careful.

“The community needs to feel comfortable with the rate of investment it chooses to pursue.”

City Code Amendments

The Planning Commission has been busy this summer working on a number of potential amendments to the Sammamish Municipal Code and Comprehensive Plan.

New development regulations on residential growth management, public agency utility yards, and trails in sensitive areas are currently being worked on. In addition, comprehensive plan amendments may be considered this year that affect Parks, Recreation and Open Space, the Trails, Bikeways and Paths Plan, and other transportation elements.

Except for public agency utility yard regulations, which the Planning Commission has been working on for the past few months, most of the amendments are in early stages of development.

During the commission’s last meeting on July 22, 2004, the commission discussed approaches used by different communities around the country to manage residential development, including metering methods.

The July 22 meeting concluded with a commission open house on the “trails in

sensitive areas” code project. During that session, citizens asked questions about public involvement, the inclusion of the best available science in the process, and other key issues.

The work will continue through the summer and fall. Implementing ordinances for these amendments are likely to be written this fall with adoption expected at the end of the year or by early in 2005.

If you have questions regarding proposed Sammamish Municipal Code amendments you may contact the Community Development Department, Planning Division.

For questions on potential changes to the transportation element of the Comprehensive Plan, you may contact the Public Works Department.

For questions on proposed changes to the Parks, Recreation and Open Space element of the Comprehensive Plan, you may contact the Parks and Recreation Department.

All of the departments mentioned above can be reached by calling City Hall at 898-0660.

Human Services Grants Offered

Among many other budget items, the City Council is considering how much to spend on human services grants in 2005 and 2006. This year, the city budgeted \$60,500 for the grants.

Recognizing that even in affluent cities like Sammamish, there are still those in need, the Council has discussed the possibility of significantly increasing the budget for human services grants.

These grants are available to any non-profit group or agency that provides direct services to city residents. The grants are limited to \$10,000 per agency, per year. The deadline for applications is currently set for August 31, 2004, although that deadline that could be extended if the council chooses to do so.

Interested parties may download an application at www.ci.sammamish.wa.us, or request forms in person at City Hall, 486 228th Ave. NE.

For further information please contact City Clerk Melonie Anderson at (425) 836-7904 or manderson@ci.sammamish.wa.us.

Issaquah–Pine Lake Roundabout Work Accelerates

Construction on the Issaquah-Pine Lake roundabout project is fully underway. MidMountain Construction has removed asphalt from the old roadway in

the new road is potentially one to two weeks behind schedule. Substantial completion of the project is expected by the end of October.



Cars follow temporary lanes around construction site

several locations to allow for rebuilding of the new grade. Stormwater facilities are being installed in those locations. In addition, the excavation for the stormwater detention pond has begun and will continue over the next several weeks.

The original intent was to have the new roadway operational, with curbs and gutters and an asphalt base waiting for final pavement, by the time school starts in September. Delays in work by Qwest to relocate fiber optics have modified this schedule somewhat. Operational use of

the construction zone have proven to be more than just a convenience. As it turns out, construction may have been impossible without them. The topography of the area will require excavation seven feet below grade near the intersection of 32nd and Issaquah-Pine Lake Road. That would have forced vehicles to travel through the construction site on dirt, which, City Engineer Steve Hartwig explained, is not acceptable.

“Conner Homes was very cooperative, working with us on the easement to

Public Works and the city’s construction management firm, Harris & Associates, pursued the relocation issues with Qwest from several directions. As a result, Qwest assigned 3 crews to perform wire and fiber-optic splicing. At press time they were busy taking some of the old cables out of service.

The temporary lanes built last month to detour traffic around

build the temporary road, as long as we restore it once we’re done.”

Landscaping will incorporate some familiar features, as well as some notable innovations. Lighting will be the same decorative, antique-type style that can be found on the most recent section of 228th. The only difference is that part way down the poles there will be a lower light that hangs over the sidewalk for pedes-



Puget Sound Energy busily relocates power poles through the project limits.

trian lighting.

The center island landscaping will feature a hybrid “Sammamish” rhododendron, developed by Sammamish resident Bob George and registered internationally in 1999.

In addition, the city will use a water-thrifty irrigation system in which gel-packs are dropped into a tube. The packs slowly release water for up to 90 days, watering the plant at the root ball through buried tubes.

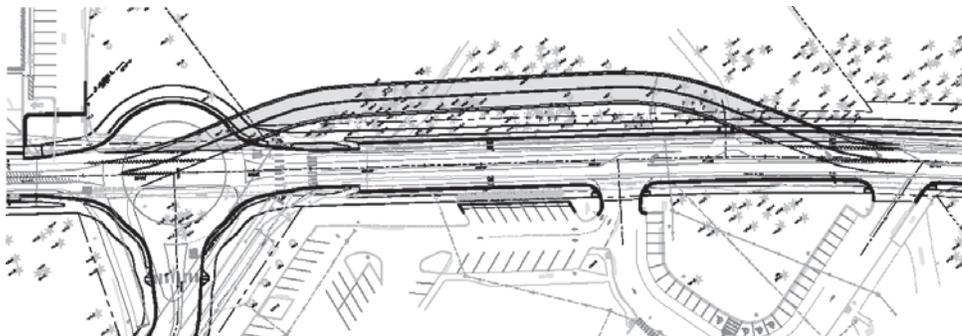


Diagram of future roundabout showing position of temporary lanes

Meet Your Special Study Area Task Force

At its regular meeting on July 20, 2004, City Council appointed an 18-member task force to oversee the process of crafting a vision for the “heart of Sammamish.”

Nearly 40 citizens expressed an interest in serving on the task force. Mayor Kathleen Huckabay said that council members selected task force members through a process which began with a review of the submitted resumes and cover letters. Huckabay then prepared a working list from those choices.

After some further evaluation of the applicants’ qualifications in executive session, each council member nominated several candidates.



The council responded in voice vote to approve each nominee. Here then are the appointed task force members:

- ◆ Robert Abbott – CEO of several biotech companies over the past 20 years.

- ◆ Stanley Bump – Retired U.S. Navy admiral; worked for Issaquah-based North American Energy Services; special study area resident.

- ◆ Anne Burke – Realtor; past program director for the Washington State Barr Association; active in the Sammamish Chamber of Commerce and Rotary club.

- ◆ Bill Gasperetti, Jr. – Cascade Bank vice president.

- ◆ Jeff Hankin – Managing principal of Sparling, an electrical engineering and telecommunications ser-

vices corporation.

- ◆ Michael Immel – Owner of Issaquah-based Minuteman Press.

- ◆ Petra Johnson – Independent consulting economist.

- ◆ James Jordan – Lawyer focused on commercial litigation; former teacher.

- ◆ Ping Ching-Liu – Family owns land in study area; communications, public relations, and advertising experience.

- ◆ David Misakian – Lives near the study area. Has 12 years experience in the software industry, and serves as a volunteer firefighter.

- ◆ Mary O’Brien – Owns land in the study area. Owner and director of Sammamish-based Arbor Schools.

- ◆ Mary Pigott – Owns Frog Pond Farm; executive director of the Satterberg Foundation.

- ◆ Dawn Sanders – Chair of the 2005 Sammi Awards Committee; office manager.

- ◆ Robert Sorenson – Owns land in the study area; as an architect he deals with land-use and development issues.

- ◆ Brandon Stock – Owns land in the study area; legislative aide for King County Council.

- ◆ Erica Tiliacos – Textile stylist for Symphony Fabrics; has studied local wetlands.

- ◆ Gail Twelves – Owns marketing and advertising company; member of the Puget Sound Regional Council Growth Management

Policy Board.

- ◆ Bob White – Former executive director of Sound Transit; Beaver Lake Management District board member.

- ◆ John Hansen (alternate) – Owns land in the study area; an architect with 25 years experience in architecture and planning.

- ◆ David Wilson (alternate) – A scientist specializing in water quality issues, and an active soccer coach.

The task force’s first order of business is to appoint a larger group of about 60 to 100 citizens who will attend three community forums to express their ideas about use of the special study area. Any member of the public is also invited to attend these forums. The process for appointing the larger group, though still unclear, will begin in September.

After the fall meetings, it is anticipated that the task force will make recommendations and convey their vision for the special study area to council by January.

Ice Cream – continued from page 1

public involvement in the planning process.

“We know that we have a big deficit in the parks area,” City Manager Ben Yazici said. “Our goal is to start developing those parks. The next project lined up right now is Ebright Creek Park. We are also working with the Issaquah and Lake Washington school districts to develop some ball fields.

“It has been a priority of the city council to make Pine Lake Park more usable,” Yazici said. “I am so excited to see all these children and families enjoying it.”

2005 Sammi Awards Program Announced



The 2005 Sammi Awards will be held at Skyline High School on February 12 at 7 pm. There are several exciting changes for the 2005 program.

This year's Sammi Awards will be produced by teens from right here in Sammamish. If you know of a teenager who might be interested in helping to produce or perform in the Sammi Awards, please have them contact Dawn Sanders at 425-868-3484 or send an email to sammiawards@verizon.net.

Because of the increased volume of nominations, the number of nominees in each category will be restricted to five. Nominations should be no more than two pages in length and attached to the nomination form. Please be sure to carefully include all pertinent information. If there are more than 5 nominees in a category, the Sammi Award committee will select the top 5 nominees to be considered for the 2005 awards.

Here are the categories for 2005:

Arts: A person who enriches the arts in our community.

Business: An owner or manager of a Sammamish enterprise who donates energy, time and/or resources for community causes.

Courage: Someone who overcomes great obstacles to live life to the fullest and inspires others to meet challenges.

Learning Promotion: A person whose enriching and inspiring contributions create enthusiasm for learning.

Unsung Hero: A person who goes beyond expectations in an inspirational and positive manner.

Youth Advocate: A person who inspires and supports Sammamish youth, advocating for their interests in the com-

munity.

Trevor Price Children's Award: A Sammamish youth 13 years old or younger whose initiative and caring sets an example for his or her peers.

Teen Challenge Award: Sammamish Teenager who shows a passion for helping others, for giving service to the community, and for being a shining example, inspiring his or her peers and younger generations to follow suit

Spirit of Sammamish: A person who embodies the highest level of commitment to the community.

The nominations will be open from September 1 through December 31, 2004. You can get a nomination form by e-mailing sammiawards@verizon.net, or by going to www.sammiawards.org. You can also request one by mail at Sammi Awards, 704 228th Ave NE, PMB 291, Sammamish WA 98074.

The planning committee will hold its kick off meeting on September 9, 7 pm, at the Sammamish Library. Those interested in being a part of this year's Sammi Awards are invited to attend that meeting, or contact the planning committee for more information.

228th Phase 1C-2 Ribbon Cut

City council and staff members gathered at the future city hall site on a sweltering July 28 afternoon to mark formal completion of the 228th Avenue construction project.

Phase 1C-2 was the last of a five-year, three-phase project which increased traffic capacity and improved safety along the 228th corridor. In all, the project extended from Issaquah-Pine Lake Road to NE 12th, just north of the Sammamish library.

Mayor Kathy Huckabay spoke briefly before cutting the ribbon.

"The city invested over \$32 million into this project; however, we were able to obtain a \$10 mil-

lion low cost loan from the Public Works Trust Fund to help fund this expenditure. The 228th Avenue Project endorses the city's goal of being a family-friendly, kid-safe community by improving safety and mobility for bikes and pedestrians along the city's principle arterial."



Mayor Kathy Huckabay wields ceremonial scissors while (left to right) councilmembers Michele Petitti, Lee Felling and Jack Barry hold the ribbon; city staff members look on.

Citizens Express Views About City Website

From mid-July to August 12, 2004, sixty-nine people completed a survey on the city website, www.ci.sammamish.wa.us. The purposes were to determine the most popular current features of the website, and to prioritize goals for future upgrades.

1. How often do you use the City of Sammamish website?

- Occasionally 39.13 %
- Never before today 23.19 %
- Once a month 17.39 %
- Once a week 15.94 %
- Daily 4.35 %

2. Which current features do you consider of greatest value?

- Calendar of events 81.16%
- Construction projects 75.36 %
- News releases 65.22 %
- Community links 59.42 %

Staff contacts 47.83 %

3. Which prospective features are the most interesting to you?

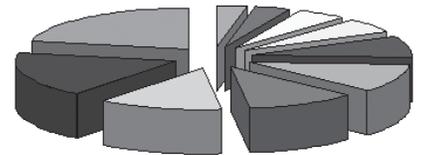
- Local construction projects with photos and timelines 63.77 %
- Maps on various themes including trails, zoning, parks 56.52 %
- Search function 39.13 %
- Traffic information for common travel trouble spots 36.23 %
- Order permits and other city services 31.88 %

In addition to the multiple choice questions, an open-ended question allowed respondents to write down detailed thoughts about the website.

“Most of the suggestions were very insightful, and a few have already been implemented,” Webmaster Andy Stringer

said.

If you have not yet participated, there is still time. The survey will be available until the end of August. Visit www.ci.sammamish.wa.us, and click the blue “Survey” tab at the top of the page. A popup window will launch, allowing you to answer the questions.



Thanks to Rob Monster, CEO of Global Market Insite E-Business Solutions, and his team who implemented this survey as a community service at no charge to the city.

CITY HALL CALENDAR

AUGUST

Monday, August 2

- Parks, Open Space & Natural Resources Committee, 10 am
Sammamish Library

Thursday, August 5

- Summer Nights Concert, 6:30 pm
Pine Lake Park

Thursday, August 12

- Summer Nights Concert, 6:30 pm
Pine Lake Park

Friday, August 13

- Summer Nights Movie, 7 pm
Skyline High School

Tuesday, August 17

- Public Works Committee, 5 pm
Sammamish City Hall

Wednesday, August 18

- Arts Commission Meeting, 7 pm
Pine Lake Covenant Church

Thursday, August 19

- Summer Nights Concert, 6:30 pm
Pine Lake Park

Monday, August 23

- Parks & Recreation Commission, 6:30 pm
Sammamish Plateau Water & Sewer Dist.

Tuesday, August 24

- Public Safety Committee, 6 pm
Sammamish City Hall
- Inglewood Sub Basin Planning Meeting, 7 pm
Beaver Lake Lodge

Thursday, August 26

- Summer Nights Concert, 6:30 pm
Pine Lake Park
- Planning Commission, 7 pm
Sammamish Plateau Water & Sewer Dist.

SEPTEMBER

Thursday, September 2

- Summer Nights Concert, 6:30 pm
Pine Lake Park
- Planning Commission, 7 pm
Sammamish Plateau Water & Sewer Dist.

Monday, September 6

- Labor Day Holiday - City offices closed

Tuesday, September 7

- Parks, Open Space & Natural Resources Committee, 10 am
Sammamish Library
- City Council, 6:30 pm
Sammamish Plateau Water & Sewer Dist.

Wednesday, September 8

- Community Development Committee, 6 pm
Sammamish City Hall

Tuesday, September 14

- City Council Study Session, 6:30 pm
Sammamish Plateau Water & Sewer Dist.

Wednesday, September 15

- Arts Commission, 7 pm
Pine Lake Covenant Church
- Community Forum on Special Study Area, 7 pm
Skyline High School

Thursday, September 16

- Planning Commission, 7 pm
Sammamish Plateau Water & Sewer Dist.

Tuesday, September 21

- Public Works Committee, 4 pm
Location TBA

City Council, 6:30 pm

- *Sammamish Plateau Water & Sewer Dist.*

Wednesday, September 22

- Public Safety Committee, 6 pm
Sammamish City Hall

Monday, September 27

- Parks & Recreation Commission, 6:30 pm
Sammamish Plateau Water & Sewer Dist.

Tuesday, September 28

- City Council Study Session, 6:30 pm
Sammamish Plateau Water & Sewer Dist.
- Finance Committee, 11:30 am
Sammamish City Hall

Wednesday, September 29

- Public Meeting: 2005/06 Budget Review, 7 pm
Sammamish Plateau Water & Sewer Dist.

Thursday, September 30

- Ebright Creek Park Workshop, 7 pm
Discovery Elementary School

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

The Sammamish Plateau Water & Sewer District is located at 1510 228th Avenue SE.

NOTE: No council meetings scheduled in August

SAMMAMISH CITY COUNCIL HIGHLIGHTS



*Kathleen Huckabay
Mayor*



*Don Gerend
Deputy Mayor*



*Jack Barry
Councilmember*



*Mark Cross
Councilmember*



*Lee Felling
Councilmember*



*Michele Petitti
Councilmember*



*Nancy Whitten
Councilmember*

Arts Commission Openings

City Council is seeking to fill two positions on the Arts Commission. One position will fill out the remainder of a two-year term ending December 31, 2004. The other position will complete a four-year term ending December 2006.

Candidates with grant writing and fund raising experience would be

especially valuable to the commission. The Arts Commission meets at 7 pm on the third Wednesday of each month at Pine Lake Covenant Church.

Please submit application and letter of interest to City Clerk Melonie Anderson at (425) 836-7904 or manderson@ci.sammamish.wa.us.

City of Sammamish Offices

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Michele Petitti, Councilmember
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Nancy Whitten, Councilmember
nwhitten@ci.sammamish.wa.us

Ben Yazici City Manager
Pete Butkus Assistant City Manager
Delora Kerber Public Works Director
Susan Cezar Community Dev Director
Lyman Howard ... Financial Svcs Director
Jeff Watling Parks & Rec. Director
Mike Sauerwein Admin Svcs Director
Tim Larson Communications Manager
Bruce Disend City Attorney
Melonie Anderson City Clerk
Richard Baranzini Police Chief
John Murphy Fire Chief

Public Meeting

**FOR INGLEWOOD SUBBASIN PLAN
DISCUSSION WILL INVOLVE THE
RECENTLY COMPLETED DRAFT FOR
THE PLAN**

**TUESDAY, AUGUST 24TH AT THE
BEAVER LAKE LODGE
7-9 PM**

REFRESHMENTS WILL BE SERVED

Open House

**PINE LAKE TRANSIT ACCESS
ROAD**

**(FORMERLY ISSAQUAH-PINE LAKE
ROAD EXTENSION PROJECT)**

**REVIEW CURRENT DESIGN PLANS
AND HAVE QUESTIONS ANSWERED**

PINE LAKE MIDDLE SCHOOL

**THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 9TH
6-8PM**



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Sammamish, WA 98074

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