



# NEWSLETTER

The official publication of the City of Sammamish

**SAMMAMISH CELEBRATES  
25TH ANNIVERSARY**

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**FOURTH ON THE PLATEAU**

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**BIG PICTURE PLANNING  
FOR CAPITAL PROJECTS**

*Photo courtesy of Naveen Aggarwal,  
Sammamish 25th Anniversary photo contest finalist.*

**June 2024**

# Sammamish City Council



**Kali Clark**  
Mayor



**Karen Howe**  
Deputy Mayor



**Roisin O'Farrell**  
Councilmember



**Amy Lam**  
Councilmember



**Kent Treen**  
Councilmember



**Pamela Stuart**  
Councilmember



**Sid Gupta**  
Councilmember

## Council Meetings

Regular council meetings are held on the first Tuesday and third Tuesday of each month at 6:30 pm, with a study session on the second Tuesday at 6:30 pm. For more information, go to [sammamish.us/citycouncil](http://sammamish.us/citycouncil).

To contact the Sammamish City Council, email [citycouncil@sammamish.us](mailto:citycouncil@sammamish.us).

## Coffee with Council

Join us for a cup of coffee and conversation. Coffee with Council happens the first Saturday of every month with rotating councilmember attendance. Meet them at 9:30 am at Metropolitan Market in Sammamish. The councilmembers may be in the outdoor seating area depending on the weather conditions. Otherwise, you will find them in the upstairs seating area near the café. We hope to see you there!

# coffee w/council



**First Saturday of Every Month**  
**9:30am**  
**Metropolitan Market**

# Sustainable Sammamish

## Water Conservation at Home

### **Did you know that water is an essential component of sustainability?**

Many ecosystems, including rivers, lakes, and wetlands depend on sufficient clean water to support habitats and climate resilience. Water conservation is also closely linked to energy efficiency. Reducing water consumption lowers the energy demand associated with water supply and treatment processes, contributing to overall energy savings and reducing carbon emissions.

### **Do your part! The summer season is the perfect time to reassess water usage at home and make a conscious effort to reduce your environmental footprint.**

Water is a precious resource, especially during the summer months when demand is high. By implementing these water conservation practices at home, you can make a positive impact on the environment and your wallet!



### **Outdoor Water Use**

**Fix leaks promptly** – Even a small leak can waste a surprising amount of water over time. Check faucets, pipes, toilets, and irrigation systems regularly for leaks and repair them promptly.

**Optimize outdoor watering** – Water your lawn and garden during the early morning or late evening to maximize absorption. Consider using a smart irrigation system for targeted watering and adjust sprinklers to avoid watering sidewalks and driveways.

**Landscape wisely** – Utilize low impact development strategies like rain gardens and bioswales that can help channel and filter stormwater runoff. Choose drought-resistant plants and native species for landscaping, as they require less water to thrive.

**Rainwater management** – Consider installing a rain barrel to collect rainwater from your roof. This harvested water can be used to water plants, wash outdoor surfaces, and other non-potable situations, reducing the need for tap water.



### **Indoor Water Use**

**Upgrade fixtures** – Consider replacing old showerheads, toilets, and faucets with more efficient fixtures that are Energy Star labeled. These products use less water without sacrificing performance, saving water and money on utility bills.

**Appliance efficiency** – Waiting to run dishwasher and laundry loads until full can save hundreds of gallons a month. Utilize eco-friendly settings if available to minimize water use per cycle.

**Take shorter showers** – Reducing your shower time by just a few minutes can save gallons of water per day. By minimizing shower duration, individuals can reduce the environmental footprint associated with water distribution and treatment.

# Water Safety Tips

One of the best ways to cool off on a hot summer day is a dip in the water. If swimming in a lake or river is on your summer schedule, please be safe. Read on for tips on keeping you and your family safe during water-related activities.

- Swim only in designated areas posted by the City.
- Follow lifeguards' instructions. Don't distract them or ever fake drowning.
- Learn to swim.
- Non-swimmers should wear life jackets.
- Brush up on safety skills such as CPR and first aid.
- Steer clear of alcohol and drugs during water activities.
- Be extra cautious on rivers. Rivers can look deceptively nonhazardous sometimes, but the water can run fast and contain hidden rocks and logs, making them very dangerous and unpredictable. Always wear a life jacket around rivers.
- Wash your hands before eating, especially if they've been in contact with sand. Bacteria that cause illness can survive longer in sand than in water. This puts children at risk if they put contaminated sand in their mouths.

**To check the status of the beaches at Sammamish Landing, Pine Lake, or Beaver Lake, and to sign up for updates, go to [kingcounty.gov](http://kingcounty.gov) and search for "Lake Swimming Beach Bacteria and Temperature."**

Be safe, stay healthy, and have fun making memories!



## Lifeguard & Lifejacket Programs

Beginning June 15 and through August 25, the City of Sammamish lifeguarding program will resume at Pine Lake Park. Come down to have some fun in the water at this lifeguarded beach! Lifeguards will be on-duty from 12 pm-7 pm each day. The lifejacket program will also resume at Beaver Lake Park where a variety of lifejacket sizes can be borrowed for free. Get ready for some safe summer fun!





# Fourth on the Plateau

Join the City of Sammamish for some red, white, and blue family fun on the 4th of July! Enjoy food trucks, kids activities, outdoor yard games, live music, and giveaways. This event is free and open to the public starting at 5 pm, with fireworks starting at 10 pm. Limited lawn seating is available in the Upper Commons (801 228th Ave SE) and an abundance of grass seating is available in the Lower Commons (550 222nd Pl SE). For more information, please follow the Parks and Recreation Facebook page or see the City of Sammamish website.

## Fireworks Possession and Discharge are Prohibited in Sammamish

### Don't get a fine.

Fireworks possession and discharge are both prohibited in the City of Sammamish. First violation of fireworks discharge is punishable with a fine of \$1,000. The fine for the second violation is \$5,000. (Sammamish Municipal Code 8.10)

### Don't be a fire starter.

Summer often brings high temperatures and dry grounds. It takes just one small spark to start a fire that can easily get out of control with the dry grass, trees, and roofs all around us.

### Do a laser and light show.

Please consider a safe and fun way to celebrate Independence Day that doesn't endanger lives, homes, and nature. Projecting a laser and light show is a great alternative. Or join the community at Fourth on the Plateau!

## Stay Cool & Be Safe in Hot Weather

The mild climate in our region makes people more sensitive to heat, causing a spike in reported serious health problems including heart attacks, strokes, and kidney failure. There are plenty of places in Sammamish where community members can keep cool during hot summer weather. If you need a cooling center, you can visit any of these locations below:

- Sammamish City Hall (801 228th Ave SE, Sammamish, 98075) 8:30 am - 5 pm (M-F)
- Sammamish YMCA (831 228th Ave SE, Sammamish, 98075) 5 am - 9 pm (M, T, Th, F), 5 am - 9 pm (Wed), 7 am - 7 pm (Sat), 8 am - 6 pm (Sun)
- Sammamish Library (825 228th Ave SE, Sammamish, 98075) 1pm - 8 pm (W), 10 am - 5 pm (Th-F)

### Here are a few tips to help you beat the heat:

- Never leave people or pets in a closed car on a warm day.
- If air conditioning is not available in your home, go to a cooling center.
- Take cool showers or baths.
- Wear loose, lightweight, light-colored clothing.
- Use your oven less to help reduce the temperature in your home.
- If you're outside, find shade. Wear a hat wide enough to protect your face.
- Drink plenty of fluids to stay hydrated.
- Avoid high-energy activities or working outdoors during the midday heat, if possible.
- Check on family members, older adults, and neighbors.
- Watch for heat cramps, heat exhaustion, and heat stroke.

Please be safe and enjoy your summer!

# Happy 25th Anniversary, Sammamish!

*Celebrate Your City's Jubilee this Summer*

Twenty-five years ago, the community celebrated the official incorporation of Sammamish as a city. The celebration took place at East Sammamish Park (formerly Bill Reams East Sammamish Park) and at the time, Sammamish was home to 28,400 people. Today, over 65,000 people live in Sammamish, and like the rest of the region, the city continues to grow and change. However, what made Sammamish special enough to bring the community together 25 years ago remains: natural beauty, a stunning mountain backdrop, and people who care deeply about the place they call home.

The City of Sammamish is located on indigenous land of Coast Salish peoples who have reserved treaty rights to this land, specifically the Snoqualmie Indian Tribe (sduk<sup>w</sup>albix<sup>w</sup>). In fact, Sammamish is Snoqualmie in origin. According to members of the Snoqualmie Tribe, the name is a corruption of two words: "Sqawx," the Snoqualmie name for Lake Sammamish, and "abs," a suffix which refers to people of a certain area.

For a time, a portion of Sammamish was known as the town of "Monohan" after Martin Monohon who settled on the plateau in 1877. A sawmill became the anchor for the thriving town until 1925 when nearly the entire town burned down in a fire that was caused by a carelessly flipped cigarette butt that landed in a pile of sawdust. Other communities in Inglewood and around Weber Point that would eventually become Sammamish began to grow around the turn of the twentieth century, as well.

During the early and middle decades of the twentieth century, Sammamish was home to no fewer than four resorts. Typically the resorts consisted of quiet cabins and a lake that provided plenty of aquatic activities, and all of them had a dance floor that was sure to please. In their heyday they were a welcome retreat both for locals and visitors. There were also dairy farms, chicken farms, and even a small mink farm in Sammamish for a few years. The first modern development in Sammamish, Sunny Hills, was built on the southern end of the Sammamish Plateau in the early 1960s. By 1984, the plateau's population passed 10,000, and that would triple in the next 15 years.

Prior to incorporation, what is now the City of Sammamish was part of unincorporated King County. There was an attempt to annex to Issaquah which failed, followed by an incorporation referendum that also failed. Born out of a desire to gain more local control of this beautiful community, the vote to incorporate finally passed in 1998 and Sammamish was incorporated in August 1999.



## Milestones

- 1999 – Incorporation**
- 2006 – Completion of City Hall**
- 2010 – 244th Avenue Improvements (NE 8th to SE 8th)**
- 2011 – Opening of Evans Creek Preserve**
- 2013 – Opening of Sammamish Landing Park**
- 2016 – Completion of Community & Aquatic Center**
- 2016 – Opening of Big Rock Park**
- 2020 – SE 4th Street Improvements (218th SE to 228th SE)**
- 2021 – Issaquah-Fall City Road Improvements**
- 2022 – Diversity, Equity, Inclusion, and Belonging Resolution**
- 2023 – Climate Action Plan Adopted**



The initial City Council realized that growth was outstripping the needed infrastructure, so a moratorium on new subdivisions was passed to give the city some time to catch up. The moratorium stayed in place for seven years, and after it was removed growth continued at a more manageable rate.



After Sammamish incorporated, the road to infrastructure improvements began. In 2001, 228th Avenue was widened. City Hall was completed in 2006. In 2008, the Town Center Plan was adopted, and in 2010 the Sammamish library opened its doors. Between 2009 and 2016, there were six annexations: Rosemont, Camden Park/244th Avenue North Area, Aldarra-Montaine Ravenhill, Mystic Lake, and Klahanie.

Today, Sammamish's 24.03 square miles are home to a diverse, growing, and relatively affluent and educated population. Since 2020, Sammamish has been consistently named one of the best small cities in the U.S. by Wallethub, based on the criteria of affordability, economic health, education and health, quality of life, and safety.

We look forward to the next 25 years and beyond. Sammamish has it all: residents who take pride in their community, committed and enthusiastic volunteers, dedicated city staff, high quality public safety services, excellent schools, thriving arts and culture, the picturesque beauty of Lake Sammamish, the majestic Cascades, and a plethora of parks. Working together, we can ensure Sammamish will continue to build on its strengths for decades to come.

**For more information, visit [sammamish.us/SilverJubilee](http://sammamish.us/SilverJubilee).**



After City Hall, 2007

## Jubilee Events



### 25th Anniversary Reception July 16, 2024

The reception starts at 5:30 pm at City Hall and will feature a display of the 25th Anniversary Photo Contest winners. The reception will be followed by the city council meeting which starts at 6:30 pm.

**CALLING ALL FORMER COUNCILMEMBERS & COMMUNITY LEADERS!** You are invited to be recognized at the reception. Please send an email to [communications@sammamish.us](mailto:communications@sammamish.us) if you plan to attend.

### Silver Jubilee Event August 16, 2024

Don't miss out! Celebrate with your community from 5 pm to 9 pm at the Sammamish Commons. The event features the Sammamish Symphony, Ian Ayers Band, Sway Band, photo booth, Jubilee sponsors booths, yard games, food trucks and an ice cream truck, and a chance to see the photo contest winners and time capsule video.

## Thank you to our Jubilee Sponsors!

STCA/Innovation Partners

Puget Sound Energy (PSE)

Republic Services

CrossPath Counseling

PORTH Personalized Orthodontics

BECU

Cascade Water Alliance

Central Washington University

# Citywide Capital Project Planning Underway

Adoption of the City's Capital Improvement Program, commonly referred to as the CIP, is taking a new approach this year. The CIP is a six-year lookahead for major projects that will improve Sammamish's streets, parks, facilities, and stormwater systems. As part of this year's CIP adoption, similar plans for city facilities and technology will be integrated, creating one consolidated plan.

The City's Transportation Improvement Plan (TIP) and the Stormwater Improvement Plan (SWIP) were presented to City Council and the community in May and June. The TIP and the SWIP will be combined with other capital plans – Parks, Recreation, & Open Space (PROS) Plan, Facilities, Fleet, and Information Technology – to form the Citywide CIP later in 2024.

"By combining all plans, the City can better understand the entirety of our capital responsibilities and strengthen our fiscal sustainability to plan for our collective capital needs," explains Audrie Starsy, Public Works Director. "For the community, one consolidated plan provides comprehensive information in a single document instead of multiple ones."

Efforts are underway to present the 2025-2030 CIP to the City Council as part of the 2025-2026 Biennial Budget adoption process. The CIP identifies funding and timing for priority projects over a six-year horizon. Potential projects are identified through community requests, staff identification, long-range plans, and asset (e.g., crosswalks, parks, stormwater pipes) management monitoring.

Community involvement is a vital part of developing the CIP. Residents and businesses often give input at City Council and commission meetings when long-range plans, such as the Transportation and Stormwater Master Plans are being updated. Additionally, neighbors near a proposed project participate in open house events to give input during the planning, design, and sometimes, construction phases.

"We value feedback because we are committed to meeting the desired needs of the community," adds Starsy. Visit the City of Sammamish website to stay informed and be engaged with the CIP and Biennial Budget adoption process.

**For more information, visit [sammamish.us/CIP](https://sammamish.us/CIP)**



*Inglewood Middle School Athletic Field Improvement Project*



# Transportation Improvements Slated for Summer Construction

## Louis Thompson Road Tightline Project

More than one-half mile of Louis Thompson Hill Road will be improved with an upgraded stormwater conveyance (also referred to as a tightline), culvert, and ditch systems to alleviate flooding, erosion, and landslide issues. Additionally, a sidewalk and bike lane will be added on the north side to connect adjacent neighborhoods with Lake Sammamish.

**TRAFFIC ALERT:** Louis Thompson Hill Road will be limited to one lane, one direction for significant periods of time to complete this project. [sammamish.us/LouisThompsonTightline](http://sammamish.us/LouisThompsonTightline)

## 2024 Pavement Overlays

Eight roadway areas throughout Sammamish are slated for pavement overlay this summer which involves removal of the top layer of existing pavement, pavement repairs, a new layer of hot-mix-asphalt pavement, and new pavement markings. Residents in impacted areas will be notified when on-street parking is prohibited. Specific locations are posted on the project webpage. [sammamish.us/2024PavementOverlays](http://sammamish.us/2024PavementOverlays)

## 2024 ADA Barrier Removal

As part of the City's Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) Barrier Removal project, 228th Avenue SE will see sidewalk repairs between SE 8th Street and SE 32nd Street, curb ramp removal at the SE 13th Street intersection and curb ramp replacement at the SE 27th Street intersection. These retrofits and repairs will improve accessibility for people with disabilities. [sammamish.us/2024ADAProjects](http://sammamish.us/2024ADAProjects)

## SE 24th Street Sidewalk Project

SE 24th Street between 251st Avenue SE and The Lodge at Beaver Lake will be sporting a new sidewalk with curb and gutter and a new bike lane on the south side of the street. Stormwater upgrades and low impact development features will also be installed. Efforts to finalize the sidewalk design are underway with construction anticipated in late summer. [sammamish.us/SE24thSidewalk](http://sammamish.us/SE24thSidewalk)

**Want to stay informed about road projects in Sammamish? Sign up for Cone Zone!**  
[www.sammamish.us/conezone](http://www.sammamish.us/conezone)



*The stormwater conveyance on Louis Thompson Hill Road will be upgraded as part of the Tightline Project.*

## Do You Live Near a Stormwater Pond?

The City maintains vegetation for over 300 stormwater ponds. While you may have not noticed them before, you probably live by one or drive by them every day! A stormwater pond is not an aesthetic feature placed in the middle of a housing development; it is a stormwater facility that is performing a very important function.

### What are stormwater ponds?

Stormwater ponds capture, control and filter runoff from hard surfaces like roofs, roads, and parking lots before it enters our local streams and lakes. Stormwater ponds help reduce erosion by slowing the flow of water, and filter pollutants to improve water quality.

Maintenance of a stormwater pond is a vital element in ensuring a pond functions properly. City stormwater inspectors and maintenance staff work tirelessly to prevent flooding through annual inspections and regular maintenance.

One element of pond maintenance is vegetation control (mowing). Mowing happens once each year, in the driest months of the year. Typically mowing starts in mid-May and ends by early September.

### When will mowing happen in my neighborhood?

With hundreds of ponds to mow in a short time frame, City staff and the mowing contractor work very hard to move through the City in the most effective way. The City is organized into five zones and the contractor mows zones (1-5) from north to south. The mowing zone map and approximate time frames for each zone is available at [sammamish.us/pondmowing](http://sammamish.us/pondmowing).

# Inglewood Middle School Athletic Field Improvement Groundbreaking and Construction!

## Timeline

- **Feasibility Study:** April 2021 – February 2022 (Complete)
- **Feasibility Approved as Complete by City Council:** Feb 15, 2022 (Complete)
- **Design, Construction Documents, and Permitting:** Summer 2022 - Spring 2023 (Complete)
- **Bidding and Award:** Summer / Fall 2023 (Complete)
- **Construction:** Spring 2024 - Summer 2024
- **Field Opening:** Fall 2024

We're pleased to announce that construction has started at Inglewood Middle School, marking a significant milestone for our community. On April 3, 2024, representatives from the Lake Washington School District, Inglewood Middle School, City Council, Parks and Recreation Commission, and City staff gathered for a groundbreaking event at the school.

During the event, speeches were delivered by Karen Howe, Deputy Mayor, Scott MacColl, City Manager, Dan Irvine, Principal of Inglewood Middle School, and Brian Buck, Executive Director of Support Services for Lake Washington School District. They highlighted the 20-year partnership between the Lake Washington School District and the City of Sammamish, emphasizing the collaborative efforts to enhance community access to District-owned fields, extend community hours of use, and implement necessary improvements for the benefit of both the school and the wider community.

The project focuses on eight acres on the west side of the school property, converting underutilized track and natural turf fields into a facility with synthetic turf multi-purpose fields and lights, a new restroom, perimeter fencing and netting, spectator furnishings, stormwater improvements, landscaping, and irrigation.

The City of Sammamish recognizes the demand for athletic fields surpasses current availability as noted in the 2020 Athletic Field Study. To address this shortage, enhancements at Inglewood Middle School aim to add over 2,500 hours of community field use annually. This project will also be impactful to residents who face mobility and accessibility challenges as it will provide accessible synthetic turf fields, a gender-neutral restroom, wheelchair-friendly dugouts, and accessible parking.

## Stay Informed!

To stay current on where we are in the process, please visit the project website at [sammamish.us/inglewood](https://sammamish.us/inglewood).



*Photo courtesy of Lake Washington School District*

# Summer ACTIVITIES & EVENTS

## KidsFirst!

Performances are geared towards toddlers to elementary-age children. All events are free and open to the public. Performances take place Tuesdays at 1:00 PM.

**July 9:** The Bubbleman

**July 16:** Reptile Isle- Hands on Adventure

**July 23:** Pollinator panel painting craft

**July 30:** King County Library System- Story & Activity

**August 6:** TBD

**August 13:** TBD

**August 20:** The Zaniac comedy show

**1:00pm - 2:00pm**

**Sammamish Commons Plaza, (801 228 Ave SE, Sammamish)**

## Shakespeare in the Park

Seattle Shakespeare Company presents classical plays performed outdoors. Grab your picnic blanket or low-back chair and come enjoy the show.

**Two Gentlemen of Verona**

**Friday, July 12, 2024**

**7:00pm**

**Klahanie Park, (25000 SE Klahanie Blvd, Issaquah, WA 98029)**

## Concerts in the Park

These summer concerts are our longest running special event series. The weekly outdoor concerts happen Thursday in July and August. This event is free and open to the public. Bring your own dinner or purchase dinner onsite from a food truck vendor.

**July 11:** Heels to Hardwood

**July 18:** Laurel Canyon Legacy

**July 25:** Aaron Crawford

**August 1:** Victims of Love- Eagles Tribute Band

**August 8:** Eden

**6:30pm - 8:00pm**

**Pine Lake Park, (2401 228th Ave SE, Sammamish)**



**Scan QR Code for more information on upcoming events!**

## Sammamish Farmers Market Offers a Bounty of Local Goods



At the market, visitors can explore a variety of vendors offering the freshest seasonal fruits and vegetables sourced from local farmers, as well as local artisans showcasing their crafts, youth vendors exhibiting their handmade items, and local businesses promoting their services.

Exciting news! This year, the number of vendors eager to participate in the Farmer's Market has doubled. That means alongside your beloved vendors from previous years, you'll discover a host of new vendors offering their goods

Additionally, there's an array of food trucks serving up various dinner options to satisfy appetites. This year, attendees can also enjoy weekly entertainment featuring local talent. It's an evening for the whole family to shop, dine, and enjoy outstanding performances while showing support for the community! The 2024 Sammamish Farmers Market runs Wednesdays May 15 through September 25 (except for July 3) from 4 pm – 8 pm at the Commons, nestled between City Hall and the Library. See you there!

# How to Get Information & Get Involved

## Sammamish City Council Meetings

Regular city council meetings are held on the first Tuesday and third Tuesday of each month at 6:30 pm, with a study session on the second Tuesday at 6:30 pm. For agendas, minutes, and meeting videos, go to [sammamish.us/citycouncil](http://sammamish.us/citycouncil). To contact the Sammamish City Council, email [citycouncil@sammamish.us](mailto:citycouncil@sammamish.us).

## Sammamish Planning Commission

Sammamish Planning Commission meetings are held on the first and third Thursdays of each month at 6:30 pm. For agendas, minutes, and meeting videos, go to [sammamish.us/planningcommission](http://sammamish.us/planningcommission). To contact the Sammamish Planning Commission, email [planningcommission@sammamish.us](mailto:planningcommission@sammamish.us).

## Additional Public Meeting Information

Stay informed on city government with CivicWeb Portal. See a schedule of meetings, get meeting agendas, and view past meetings at [sammamishwa.civicweb.net](http://sammamishwa.civicweb.net)

## Receive Email and Text Alerts

To subscribe to the City of Sammamish email updates and text alerts go to [sammamish.us/subscribe](http://sammamish.us/subscribe).

## City Newsletter

Suggestions or concerns? Contact [communications@sammamish.us](mailto:communications@sammamish.us)

## Follow City of Sammamish on Social Media



Scan the QR code or visit us at [www.sammamish.us](http://www.sammamish.us)

# RESOURCES FOR SAMMAMISH RESIDENTS

Police/Fire Emergency 911

Police Non-Emergency (206) 296-3311

Eastside Fire & Rescue (425) 313-3200

King County Sheriff (206) 263-9133

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](mailto:communityvan@sammamish.us)

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# The Cone Zone!

Scheduled Road Work Projects to Know About



# Subscribe to Cone Zone

Do you want to know about projects around Sammamish that impact traffic? By subscribing to Cone Zone, you'll receive alerts about upcoming projects once a week during construction periods. Summer is a busy time for road projects in particular, and 2024 is no different.

**Stay informed so you can plan how to get around Sammamish: [sammamish.us/conezone](http://sammamish.us/conezone)**

Please also remember to slow down when approaching road projects for the safety of workers. Thank you!