



NEWSLETTER

The official publication of the City of Sammamish

**CAPITAL IMPROVEMENTS
INVESTMENTS**

**BE PREPARED FOR
EMERGENCIES**

**SUSTAINABLE
SAMMAMISH - GREEN
TRANSPORTATION**

October 2024

Photo credit: Mushtaque Silat

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 p.m., with a study session on the second Tuesday at 6:30 p.m. For more information, go to sammamish.us/citycouncil.

To contact the Sammamish City Council, email 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 a.m. 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
9:30 a.m.
Metropolitan Market

Are you ready for it?

Use these checklists to create emergency kits, go bags

With winter weather approaching, make sure your home and vehicles are stocked with supplies you might need. Make sure you are prepared for your animals needs as well.



Home Checklist

The primary concerns for the home are loss of heat, power, telephone or internet service, and a shortage or supplies if a storm continues for more than a day. To prepare, you should have and review:

- Flashlight and extra batteries
- Battery-powered NOAA Weather Radio or portable radio
- Extra food (that does not require cooking or refrigeration), water
- First-aid supplies, refills complete on any prescription medication
- Fire extinguisher, smoke alarm with working batteries
- Extra pet food and warm shelter for pets
- Extra diapers, formula, and baby food
- A working carbon monoxide detector
- Review safety information when using a heat source such as a fireplace, space heater, or wood stove to prevent a fire.



Farm/Urban Farm Checklist

- Shelter belts, properly laid out and oriented, are better protection for livestock than confining shelters, such as sheds.
- Extra food
- Water



Vehicle Checklist

If you need to drive in snow or cold conditions, take it slow. Black ice can be difficult to see. If the temperature is near freezing, drive like you are on ice. Before leaving the house, make sure all fluid levels are full and ensure that all lights, heater, and windshield wipers are in proper condition. Keep your gas tank near full to avoid ice in the tank and fuel lines. For electric vehicles, park indoors or in a covered space and cover at home chargers with a magnetic EV charging inlet connector cover or a bag.

To fully winterize your vehicle, carry a Winter Storm Survival Kit that includes the following:

- Cell phone charger
- Blankets/sleeping bags
- Flashlight with extra batteries
- First-aid kit
- High-calorie, non-perishable food
- Extra clothing
- Sack of sand or cat litter for traction
- Shovel
- Windshield scraper and brush
- Tow rope
- Battery booster cables
- Water

It's planting season

The fall season is the perfect time to plant native plants. By planting in the fall, we can take advantage of the winter and spring rains to help plants establish before the next dry season arrives.

At planting events hosted by the city in 2023, approximately 872 volunteer hours were spent helping plant over 600 plants in various parks. If you are interested in joining a planting event, please sign up and register by scanning the QR code or visiting our volunteer website at: sammamish.galaxydigital.com/need

Volunteers under 14 years of age must have an adult present at the event. A valid Volunteer Agreement is required for all volunteers. Events will happen rain or shine. Dress for the weather and outdoor work.



Shop Local

The Shop Local Sammamish Marketplace is an online platform for discovering and supporting local businesses in Sammamish, WA. Launched by the Sammamish Chamber of Commerce, this initiative brings together a diverse range of businesses offering dining, retail, services, and entertainment. Whether you're a resident or a visitor, the marketplace makes it easy to find exclusive deals and exciting offers from your favorite local spots.

The Shop Local Sammamish Marketplace addresses the need for a centralized platform where local businesses and residents can connect. In today's digital age, an online presence is crucial for business success. This initiative supports local businesses and simplifies the discovery process for residents.

Benefits for Businesses and Residents

For Businesses:

- Increased Visibility:** Superior SEO ensures businesses are easily found online.
- Cost-Effective Marketing:** Reach a wider audience with minimal costs.
- Exclusive Offers:** Attract new customers with special deals and vouchers.
- Community Support:** Enhance credibility as part of the Sammamish Chamber.

For Residents:

- Convenience:** Discover local businesses from home.
- Exclusive Deals:** Access special offers exclusive to users.
- Support Local:** Contribute to the local economy by shopping locally.
- Trusted Platform:** Shop confidently, knowing businesses are vetted by the Chamber.

Economic Impact

Shop Local Sammamish Marketplace boosts the local economy by increasing sales for businesses, encouraging local spending, and building community.

To learn more visit: shoplocalsammamish.com





National Night Out brings community, law enforcement together

Every year for National Night Out, law enforcement officers mingle with the community at block parties designed to help residents meet the people behind the badge.

This is a national event designed to promote police-community partnerships. The best way to build a safer community is to know your neighbors and your surroundings. National Night Out is designed to break the isolation between communities and law enforcement.

"It's wonderful to see our National Night Out event grow and thrive year after year," Sammamish Police Chief Steven Lysaght said. "This gathering is more than just an event; it's a celebration of the unity and safety that defines Sammamish. It reflects our deep commitment to fostering strong, trusting relationships between law enforcement and the community, bringing everyone together to strengthen our bonds and reinforce our shared sense of security."

This year, Sammamish had nearly 20 gatherings. Mayor Kali Clark, Deputy Mayor Karen Howe and Councilmembers Amy Lam and Pam Stuart accompanied law enforcement officers to some of the block parties. Sammamish's City Manager and other City staff also dropped by to get to know the community.

"We are here trying to build bridges between our community and law enforcement agencies," Mayor Clark said.

For more information about Sammamish Police and its programs and resources, visit the website: sammamish.us/government/police/.

Thanks for celebrating with us!

On Aug. 16, the City hosted its final Silver Jubilee event. This event featured live music, food trucks, a beer and wine garden and a video featuring interviews from members of our community.

A big thank you to our Jubilee sponsors as well: Innovation Realty partners, BECU, Cascade Water Alliance, CrossPath Counseling and Consultation, CWU, Porth Personalized Orthodontics, Puget Sound Energy and Republic Services. Thank you to the Chamber of Commerce and Rotary for organizing a beer and wine garden.

To view more photos and videos from this event, please visit the webpage: sammamish.us/our-community/celebrate-sammamish-25th-anniversary/





Switch Your Trips WA

This year, Sammamish is participating in **Switch Your Trips WA**, a month-long promotion held every October that encourages Washingtonian residents, workers, and students to choose sustainable trip options for a healthier Washington. To be entered into the prize drawing, you must log at least 10 sustainable trips between Oct. 1 and Oct. 31 by Nov. 7.



Sustainable Sammamish – Green Your Ride

Did you know that emissions from transportation make up 14% of total emissions in the City of Sammamish? The majority of these come from passenger vehicles.

Fall is a great time to re-assess how you and your loved ones get around. Reducing single occupancy vehicle trips not only benefits the planet, it also reduces traffic congestion. Although Sammamish has bus service, there are other ways to reduce your emissions and improve mobility efficiency in the City:

Simple and Effective:

- **Carpool.** Consider sharing your ride with a neighbor. Connect with friends and family who may be going the same direction or destination for a one-time event or make it a routine with trips to school, work, or extracurriculars.
- **Walk.** If weather and time allows, try walking as a replacement for short trips in the car. Trails provide critical links in Sammamish's transportation network. They can connect you to parks, schools, and other key destinations while creating opportunities for an active lifestyle.
- **Bike.** For local trips, you can also consider making your journey via bicycle. The City has intermittent bicycle and pedestrian infrastructure. Mapping tools like Google Maps can provide routes that optimize the usage of bike lanes.

Curious About Public Transportation? There are more choices than you think. Visit sammamish.us/our-community/getting-around/ to learn more about transit options available to residents.

What's the Deal With Electric Vehicles? Sammamish has one of the highest electric and hybrid registration rates in the state. If you've already gone electric, public charging stations are located throughout the City afd.energy.gov/fuels/electricity-locations. If you are thinking about making the change to an EV or Hybrid, rebates are available at ev.pse.com/incentives.



Free Counseling Assessment Services for the Sammamish Community

Are you seeking support through struggles with school, work, or family? CrossPath Counseling and the City of Sammamish have teamed up to provide services exclusively for you.

If you live, work, or go to school within Sammamish, you may schedule a free, 30 minute, confidential assessment with a counselor. The counselor will evaluate your needs, then connect you with services or another counseling group in the community, whichever is the best fit for you. Please contact CrossPath to schedule a no-cost, 30-minute confidential assessment for you or your family – we are here to help!

To contact Crosspath, go to crosspathcounseling.com and select the “Contact” tab or call (425) 369-1111.

City Hall closed for Indigenous Peoples’ Day

For the first time in the City’s history, City Hall will be observing Indigenous Peoples’ Day Oct. 14. Indigenous Peoples’ Day is a holiday in the United States that celebrates and honors Indigenous American peoples and commemorates their histories and cultures. The Sammamish Plateau has a long history of being home to Indigenous populations.

All public City facilities will be closed for observance.

A graphic for a Halloween event. It features a black silhouette of a jack-o'-lantern with triangular eyes and a jagged mouth. The background is orange with stylized flames and falling leaves. The text is centered within the jack-o'-lantern shape.

SPOOKTACULAR

Oct. 26

6 - 8:30 p.m.

YMCA

831 228th Ave SE, Sammamish, WA 98075

Maintain your drain

Is there a storm drain near your property? Help maintain it! City crews work to keep storm drains clear, but with over 12,000 drains in the City of Sammamish, we could use your help! With your assistance, we can keep streets safe and clear and can reduce property damage caused by seasonal flooding.

The City's Adopt a Drain program has over 140 volunteers that clean over 245 drains. The adopters have removed over 240 pounds of debris in 2024! If you are interested in adopting a drain you can check out the program here: wa.adopt-a-drain.org/

What can you do to help?

- **Check** storm drain grates frequently to make sure they are free of leaves and debris.
- **Adopt-a-Drain** in your neighborhood and keep it clear of leaves, trash, and other debris to reduce water pollution and help prevent localized flooding.
- **Rake** leaves away from storm drains near your house or business. (Do not rake or blow leaves from your property into the street. Our street sweeper cannot pick up large piles of leaves. It is also a violation of Sammamish Municipal Code and could result in warnings or even a fine.)
- **Dispose** of leaves in your yard waste container or compost bin.

With the rainy season right around the corner it is especially important to maintain your drain before it arrives.



Rake it or leave it

Fall is here and most of us have begun the task of leaf removal from our lawns. Here are some quick solutions for how to dispose of your yard full of leaves:

- **Rake it!** Follow the guidelines of your community for composting and curb-side pick-up with your compost provider. Never rake them into or near storm drains, ditches, creeks or the river. Decaying leaves use up the water's oxygen, harming stream inhabitants.
- **Leave it!** Mulch leaves by running over them with your lawn mower at the next cutting. Leaves and grass clippings are the best fertilizer for your lawn.
- **Or rake it and leave it!** Spread leaves over empty garden beds as a natural cover for winter and rake the rest into a compost pile for a nutrient-rich fertilizer to use on your garden next spring.





Public Works Project Updates

Louis Thompson Tightline Project

The City hosted a virtual open house to provide information to the public about this project Aug. 7. A groundbreaking ceremony marking the start of construction was held at Ebright Park Aug. 29.

The project will replace the existing ditch system with a new stormwater system that includes treatment and detention structures. These new systems will protect against erosion and pollutants while supporting the habitat of Zackuse Creek and nearby critical areas.

The project will also add sidewalks and a bike lane along with a widened shoulder between the project limits of 210th Place Southeast and the intersection at East Lake Sammamish Parkway Northeast, which will receive signal upgrades.

Summer 2024 Public Works update

The Public Works Department was busy this summer working on multiple projects to improve mobility and roads.

Roadwork included patching, cracksealing, and resurfacing numerous streets throughout Sammamish. The City also re-stripped pavement markers, symbols and other markings on the roadway to make sure these are easily visible to drivers. The City also replaced damaged guardrails throughout Sammamish, many of which were on East Lake Sammamish Parkway.

In addition to roadwork, Public Works repaired stormwater systems, sidewalk panels, and replaced signs. Non-compliant curb ramps and damaged sidewalk panels were replaced along 228th Avenue Southeast between Southeast 32nd Street and Southeast 8th Street this summer. As part of our Sidewalk Program, a new sidewalk was built along Southeast 24th Street and the Lodge at Beaver Lake.

Finally, traffic signals and lights were repainted on Southeast 30th Street along the South Sammamish Park & Ride and the intersection with 228th Avenue Southeast.



City uses community engagement to gauge residents' capital priorities

The City Council is embarking on its review of the 2025-2026 Biennial Budget this fall, which will establish the City's projected revenues and expenditures for the next two years for both city operations and capital projects.

The City is revamping the way it budgets in 2025-2026 to enhance transparency and accountability, with a particular focus on the capital budget. To inform this new approach to capital planning, the City concentrated its public outreach on understanding the community's priorities for infrastructure investments.

Community members were invited to participate in an activity where they prioritized how to invest tax dollars in infrastructure. Using fictional "Sammy Bucks," participants allocated funds to key areas such as transportation, parks, government facilities, environmental sustainability, and technology.

Nearly 400 community members participated in the activity, which was offered both online and in person at Farmers Market events during the summer. **The results highlighted the top three investment priorities: parks and recreation, transportation, and environmental sustainability.** In addition, the City received written feedback through the online survey and social media, all of which will be considered as the budget moves toward adoption.

Council is currently reviewing the proposed budget and is expected to adopt a final budget by the end of November. The community is encouraged to attend Council meetings and share feedback on the budget throughout this process. Please visit [Sammamish.us/news/events](https://sammamish.us/news/events) for a list of upcoming Council meetings.



The Council will review and discuss the budget at every meeting in September, October, and November.

Public hearings are scheduled for Nov. 5 and Nov. 12 and tentative adoption will take place on Nov. 19.

To learn more:
sammamish.us/government/finance/budget-documents/

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. To contact the Sammamish City Council, email 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. To contact the Sammamish Planning Commission, email 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

Receive Email and Text Alerts

To subscribe to the City of Sammamish email updates and text alerts go to sammamish.us/subscribe.

City Newsletter

Suggestions or concerns? Contact communications@sammamish.us

Follow City of Sammamish on Social Media



Scan the QR code or visit us at 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



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Be prepared for winter weather

In the Pacific Northwest, you never know if you might get an early snow storm. We do our best to plow major roadways and prepare roads for ice. However, residents should learn more about the city's response and possibly be ready to stay at home in inclement weather.

Be prepared and learn about our plow routes and how we respond to winter weather by visiting our website: **Sammamish.us/our-community/emergency-management/winter/**