

Planning MEMORANDUM

To: Mayor Muri and Members of the Town Council
From: Paul Loveless, Town Administrator
Date: August 25, 2022
Subject: Updates

Administration:

Upcoming Meetings:

Council Meeting – September 6, 2022, at 6:00 PM. (Virtual only)

Zoom Invite: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/83465196864>

Planning Commission – September 12, 2022, at 6:00 PM. (Virtual only)

Zoom Invite: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/85422912776>

Civil Service Commission – September 1, 2022, at 2:00 PM. (Virtual only)

Zoom Invite: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/84317002931>

Preservation and Review Board – September 28, 2022, at 6:00 PM. (Virtual only)

Zoom Invite: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/86477094815>

Parks, Community Services, and Environment Advisory Committee – September 19, 2022, at 6:30 PM. (Virtual only) Zoom Invite: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/82834040473?>

Public Safety Advisory Committee – September 21, 2022, at 6:00 PM. (Virtual only)

Zoom Invite: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/81747319092>

Farmers' Market:

The Town of Steilacoom's 2022 Farmers' Market concludes Wednesday August 31, 2022. The Market runs from 3 PM to 7 PM along Lafayette Street between Pacific Street and Main Street and Wilkes Street between Lafayette Street and Commercial Street. Those streets will be closed from noon through 8 PM.

Summer Concerts:

The summer concert series concludes August 31, 2022, with Kalimba, the Spirit of Earth Wind and Fire. Concerts are held at Pioneer Park in downtown Steilacoom and start at 6:30 PM. The Steilacoom Community Center acts as the alternate location in case of adverse weather. No alcohol, marijuana, or fireworks are allowed in the park. If you bring an animal, it must be on a leash (not voice control) and well behaved in crowds.

Thank you to our Summer Concert sponsors Pacific Northwest Towns and Sound, LLC, and Waste Connections.

See Something – Say Something:

If you see something suspicious or if you have been a victim of a crime, please contact the Department of Public Safety. For in-process emergencies, call 911. For non-emergencies, please call either (253) 287-4455 or (800) 562-9800 or email crimetips@ci.steilacoom.wa.us

Community Development:

Land Use Applications:

Puyallup Street Partial Vacation:

The Town received a petition to vacate the eleven feet abutting 211 Puyallup Street. The street vacation process is required to have a public hearing, as opposed to a public meeting. (RCW 35.79.020, and SMC 12.08.070) There are strict procedural requirements and standards for the Council to consider in making its decision. The process is also considered quasi-judicial so the Mayor and Council should avoid contact or discussions (ex parte contact) on this matter outside of the public hearing. The Town Council set a public hearing for September 6, 2022, to hear the vacation request.

Building Inspection and Code Compliance:

The Building Inspector/Code Compliance Officer focused on inspecting construction activity, meeting with abutting neighbors concerning an alleyway access dispute, resolved several vehicle-related issues, and followed up on other outstanding code compliance issues.

Notice of Public Nuisance:

A Declaration of Public Nuisance and Order to Abate was sent to the owners/beneficiaries of and posted on the property at 2746 Cambridge Drive. The Notice provides the owners until September 23, 2022, to abate the identified nuisance or the Town may take the abatement action and lien the property accordingly.

Community Services:

Junior Explorers:

Come explore with us! This class will prepare children, 5 - 6 years old, for school success. We'll sing, dance and explore new things while learning letters, numbers, making new friends and so much more!

- Junior Explorers must be at least age 4 by Aug 31, 2020
- Hours: Monday - Thursday, 9:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m.
- Location: Steilacoom Community Center
- Cost: \$385/month
- For questions, email Ms. Melody at melody.davis@ci.steilacoom.wa.us.

A \$50, non-refundable, deposit is required to hold a space for the beginning of the 2022-2023 school year.

Little Explorers:

Little Explorers was created for 3- and 4-year-olds to have a first time preschool experience. Children will be introduced to a classroom environment, but still with lots of playtime that includes outside. They will learn how to share, cooperate and communicate while making new friends. We'll sing, dance, create and explore new things while being introduced to letters, numbers and so much more!

It's possible that your child makes a long time, even lifetime, friend. But many parents also find that they also develop friendship and support that lasts well beyond the preschool years.

- Little Explorers must be at least age 3 by Aug 31, 2022
- Hours: Tuesday, Thursday; 1:30 p.m. - 4:00 p.m.
- Location: Steilacoom Community Center
- Cost: \$165/month
- For questions, email Ms. Melody at melody.davis@ci.steilacoom.wa.us.

A \$50, non-refundable, deposit is required to hold a space for the beginning of the 2022-2023 school year.

There is still one space left in each class.

Public Safety:

Over the past week, 130 Public Safety incidents occurred in town, including the following:

Emergency and patrol incidents

- 11 medical aid responses
- 36 suspicious circumstance/security checks
- 3 responses for persons in crisis/welfare checks
- 51 traffic stops
- 5 responses for residential/commercial alarms
- 1 response for juvenile-related incidents
- 2 motor vehicle collisions
- 1 response for parking enforcement
- 1 arrest for a criminal warrant

Crimes against persons

- No significant incidents to report

Crimes against property

- 2 incidents of fraud/identity theft
- 1 incident of vandalism

Significant information:

Recently, a social media trend has highlighted specific model Hyundai and Kia vehicles as being susceptible to theft without the use of a key. While we have yet to experience a related incident in town, more information and ways to protect your vehicle, can be found here: <https://tinyurl.com/44x2w852>.

Increased patronage of Sunnyside Beach is welcome to see during the summer. However, please remember that parking is prohibited within marked bicycle lanes throughout town. Illegally parked vehicles may be subject to fines and impound.

With summer here, please find the following information regarding recreational fires within the Town of Steilacoom:

- For concerns regarding the safety of a fire, please call 911.
- For concerns about air quality related to a recreational fire, please call the Puget Sound Clean Air Agency at (800) 552-3565, or visit <https://pscleanair.gov/>
- For additional information, visit West Pierce Fire and Rescue at: <https://tinyurl.com/2md3h2j7>

Announcements:

Public Safety is hiring! Please visit our town website for information about how to apply to become our next public safety officer: <https://tinyurl.com/56bfbvf3>

This week, advance announcement of coming high temperatures was disseminated via SteilacoomAlert. SteilacoomAlert is a new emergency notification system for the Town of Steilacoom. At no cost, persons may opt-in to receive emergency and general notifications. Please visit our town website for more information.

Reminders:

In-progress emergencies can be reported directly to 911. To reach a police officer NOT during an emergency, please call either (253) 287-4455 or (800) 562-9800.

The lobby of Public Safety is open Tuesdays through Fridays, from 9:00 am until 12:00 pm. Staff remain available by phone and appointment from 1:00 pm until 5:00 pm.

Please visit our department website (<https://tinyurl.com/2bz3jzey>) for resources and assistance with:

- Online crime reporting
- Anonymous reporting of suspicious activity
- Reporting of persistent traffic concerns
- Unwanted prescription medication
- Concealed pistol licenses
- Mental health support for youth
- When to call 9-1-1
- Department of Licensing disability and medical designation
- South Sound 911 Emergency Health Profile (A cell phone is required to use this service)
- Injured or deceased wildlife

Public Works:

Building Energy Efficiency/Replacement Project:

The HVAC portion of the project is complete and the contractor is working on the punch list items. The lighting contractor will commence work once the components arrive which is projected to be sometime in September at this time.

Streets and Storm:

Crew Emphasis:

The crew swept streets, maintained the regional storm water detention facility near the Public Safety facility; side-mowed drainage swales throughout Town; mowed rights-of-way throughout Town; continued work on the Short Street drainage swale; and performed other maintenance activities.

Electrical:

Crew Emphasis:

The crew scheduled a planned power outage and installed an upgraded transformer and temporary power to a new home on Helen Bay Road; performed utility service disconnections/reconnections for nonpayment; met with a contractor to discuss power requirements for a new home on Nisqually Street; and performed other maintenance activities.

Water/Sewer:

Crew Emphasis:

The crew concentrated on sewer jetting problem sewer mains; researched as-built information for the proposed Martin Street project; assisted the Parks crew with the installation of an ice machine and a new drinking fountain at the Community Center; and performed other maintenance activities.

Parks, Buildings and Grounds:

Crew Emphasis:

The crew mowed, trimmed, and maintained various parks and facilities as the weather allowed; supported the Farmers' Market and Summer Concert series; adjusted irrigation systems as needed; installed a new ice machine and replacement drinking fountain at the Community Center; and performed other maintenance activities.

Sunnyside Beach Community Clean-up:

Join us Saturday, September 10, from 8 - 9:30 A.M.

Steilacoom Public Works will provide grabbers and bags, but it is suggested to bring gardening/work gloves if you have them. Please feel free to reach out to Liz Grasher with any questions at elizabeth.grasher@ci.steilacoom.wa.us. Sunnyside Beach Park address: 2509 Chambers Creek Road. See you then!

Other:

What's Happening with Your Libraries:

Wondering what the latest updates are on the future of Lakewood and Tillicum libraries? Or have questions on other branches?

The Friends of the Steilacoom Library's first Explorations Series program of the season looks at the challenges, processes, and updates on the future plans for the Lakewood and Tillicum libraries.

Connie Beth, Pierce County Library System's Deputy Director of Customer Service will present background information and the steps in the decision making for those branches. There will be a question-and-answer time after Ms. Beth's presentation. Questions or comments on any library in the PCLS are welcome. Ms.

Bethe was the guest speaker at the Friends of the Steilacoom Library's Annual Meeting in May and we are delighted she accepted our invitation to join us again.

Friday, September 9th, 2022, at 2 PM at the Steilacoom Community Center, 2301 Worthington Street, Steilacoom, Washington, 98388. For further information, contact FOSL Program Chair Lee Ann Ufford at jlaufford@msn.com.

Fort Steilacoom to present "The Many Wives of General August V. Kautz: Colonization in the Pacific Northwest, 1853-1895"

Fort Steilacoom Museum in Lakewood will host a talk 2 p.m. Saturday, Sept. 10, about the three wives of the man who supervised construction of the first official U.S. Army fort in Puget Sound. Four of these buildings still stand in Lakewood, some of the oldest surviving structures in Washington. Portland-based public historian Nicole Kindle will speak on the title of a paper she prepared for Portland State University, "The Many Wives of General August V. Kautz: Colonization in the Pacific Northwest, 1853-1895."

The talk will include information about the challenges of researching and writing the history of women who left few, if any, written records. Kautz met his first wife, Kitty, a member of the Nisqually Tribe, when he was serving in what is now Lakewood. The tribe today includes many dozen members who are descended from Augustus and Kitty. In 1865, Kautz married Charlotte Tod, who died three years later of typhoid fever. He married Fannie Markbreit from 1872 until his death in 1895.

Kindle first learned about Kautz when she was a graduate student with the PSU history department and working as a research assistant on a joint project through PSU and the National Park Service at Fort Vancouver, which had close ties to Fort Steilacoom to the north. She graduated with a Master's in history in 2019. She is currently an administrator at PSU.

Kautz was a lieutenant when he supervised the construction of the fort, the first official U.S. presence in Puget Sound, in 1857 and 1858. Four of those buildings survive today and form the museum in Lakewood located near the entrance to Western State Hospital and across the street from the city park that bears Fort Steilacoom's name. For more information about the all-volunteer museum, visit its website.

The Historic Fort Steilacoom Association acknowledges the complex history of the Fort and its role in the colonization of the area. The association is actively working to incorporate the diverse perspectives and experiences of all individuals and communities who interacted with the Fort.

To register to hear the talk online on Zoom, or to receive a recording of the talk, please sign up at <https://us06web.zoom.us/meeting/register/tZcocO6prTktG9cog6VAXobvxSNmUQClyn9T>.

Apple Squeeze:

Save the date. The Apple Squeeze is scheduled for October 2, 2022, in downtown Steilacoom.

Kayak Rentals:

KayakShare.com is a self-serve kayak rental available at Sunnyside Beach Park in Steilacoom in cooperation with the Town. You may reserve in advance or rent on the spot (when available) during daylight hours year-round by going to KayakShare.com. See KayakShare.com for details, make sure to wear a lifejacket, and have fun!

We Love Steilacoom Association – Steilacoom Food Bank:

The We Love Steilacoom Association operates a food pantry/bank located at the Steilacoom Community Church, 1603 Rainier Street, Steilacoom, Washington, 98388. You do not need to be a member of the Church to obtain assistance through the Food Pantry.

The Food Pantry has weekly distributions on Saturdays from 9:30 AM to 11:30 AM. Preregistration is not required. For an emergency food need or if you would like additional information, contact Paul Loveless at 253.581.1912.

Questions – Contact Paul Loveless at 253.581.1912 or paul.loveless@ci.steilacoom.wa.us