

Planning MEMORANDUM

To: Mayor Muri and Members of the Town Council
From: Paul Loveless, Town Administrator
Date: September 9, 2022
Subject: Updates

Administration:

Upcoming Meetings:

Council Meeting – September 20, 2022, at 6:00 PM. (Virtual only)

Zoom Invite: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/89027740186>

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

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

Civil Service Commission – October 6, 2022, at 2:00 PM. (Virtual only)

Zoom Invite: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/87902755678>

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/85732709024>

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

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

Electric Vehicle Show:

Twenty-six different EV Models including the Rivian R1T and Ford Lightning and a lot more will be at the 9th Annual National Drive Electric Steilacoom festival event, Saturday, Sept. 10 from 11 AM to 3 PM.

Pierce Transit will have their electric bus on display. Lots of Teslas, Leafs, Bolts, Volts, electric bikes, etc.

This is our big event, one of the largest electric vehicle events in the Pacific Northwest. Signing up early helps us attract vendors (which can attend for free). driveelectricweek.org/event?eventid=3319

Welcome to NDEW Steilacoom # 9. Event will be downtown Steilacoom (1717 Lafayette Street, Steilacoom, WA 98388), centered at the multi-purpose courts with parking spots for the Electric Vehicles.

We plan on setting up some Electric Vehicle themed vendor booths.

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:

Building Inspection and Code Compliance:

The Building Inspector/Code Compliance Officer focused on inspecting construction activity, discussed compliance issues and possible abatement actions with a home owner on Commercial Street, 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, 102 Public Safety incidents occurred in town, including the following:

Emergency and patrol incidents

- 7 medical aid responses
- 19 suspicious circumstance/security checks
- 4 responses for persons in crisis/welfare checks
- 34 traffic stops
- 5 responses for residential/commercial alarms
- 2 responses for animal-related incidents
- 2 motor vehicle collisions
- 1 report of sexual assault from weeks prior
- 1 arrest for DUI
- 3 responses for parking enforcement

Crimes against persons

- 2 incidents of domestic violence/disturbance

Crimes against property

- 1 incident of theft
- 1 incident of vehicle prowling

Significant information:

Our third month of the Steilacoom Summer Slowdown has concluded. Over 270 traffic stops were performed by your officers, and our area of emphasis was Chambers Creek Road and Lafayette Street. For September, in conjunction with school beginning, officers will shift emphasis to our school zones.

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>

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 lighting contractor is scheduled to commence work on September 12, 2022. The current schedule is:

Public Safety:	9/12 – 9/16
Community Center:	9/16 – 9/22
Town Hall:	9/22 – 9/29
Public Works:	9/29 -10/6

Additionally, we are exploring the potential to change out the electrical panels on the DSHS office building. The panels are failing and are already causing unscheduled power interruptions within the building.

Streets and Storm:

Crew Emphasis:

The crew concentrated on painting crosswalks and stop bars; performed inspections on the Worthington Street extension off Galloway Street; saw cut and prepared for asphalt patching throughout Town; continued right-of-way mowing; deployed barricades for the Electric Vehicle Show; and performed other maintenance activities.

Urban Forestry Management:

Staff received two applications for review under the Urban Forestry Management ordinance. One is for removal of a large coniferous tree in an undeveloped alley northeast of Nisqually and Main Street. The second is for topping or removal of two evergreen trees east of Chambers Creek Road near 88 Tatoosh Place. Staff along with an arborist will be reviewing these applications and the corresponding trees and processing the requests in accordance with the Urban Forestry Management provisions.

Electrical:

Crew Emphasis:

The crew removed a shrub/tree in the 800 block of 3rd Street in preparation for a transformer upgrade; discussed with the homeowner service options for a new home in the 1900 block of Rainier Street; repaired a street light pole in the 2500 block of Cincinnati Street damaged by a delivery truck driver; removed the School District banners from Rainier Street; and performed other maintenance activities.

Water/Sewer:

Crew Emphasis:

The crew continued fire hydrant maintenance; tested generators at lift and pump stations; inspected a sewer repair in the 700 block of Galloway Street; prepared for the upcoming water tank inspections with Gray and Osborne scheduled for September 21, 2022, replaced seals in pump #3 at the Sunnyside Pump Station; assisted the Street crew with asphalt patch preparation; attended the Sunnyside Pump Station upgrade preconstruction meeting; 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; removed the flags and flower baskets from the downtown area; 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 Behe, 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. Behe's presentation. Questions or comments on any library in the PCLS are welcome. Ms. Behe 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>.

October 2022 Scarecrow Contest:



The Steilacoom Garden Club is sponsoring their annual scarecrow contest during the month of October. This is a fun event for the community and we encourage folks to participate! There is no application form to fill out but we do need you to enter the contest simply by contacting Mary La Tourelle at lafannin@msn.com or 253-221-1409 to let her know the location of your scarecrow. Judging will take place

by October 15 with prizes awarded shortly thereafter. We will have a category for businesses/organizations and one for residences.

Thanks to “bump-out volunteers”:

Thanks to our great volunteers for maintaining the plantings in the bump-outs along Lafayette Street in downtown Steilacoom! These folks keep them weeded and pruned throughout the year. If you see them around town, give them a high-five. Volunteers are: Carol Dayton, Connie Kirkpatrick, Mary La Tourelle, Jane Light, Jan Lucas, Michael and Judy Peterson, Carol Saynisch, Kathy Stegman, and Dan and Barb Szekely. Good work everyone!

Confidential Document Shredding Event:

Pierce County will be hosting a free paper shredding event on October 1 at the West Pierce Fire & Rescue Station 21, 5000 Steilacoom Boulevard Southwest, Tacoma, Washington. Attendees can shred up to 3 shopping bags of sensitive documents. Additional information may be found on Pierce County’s website at <https://www.piercecountywa.gov/1536/Shred-Events>.

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