

PLANNING MEMORANDUM

To: Mayor Muri and Members of the Town Council
From: Paul Loveless, Town Administrator
Date: December 8, 2023
Subject: Updates

Administration:

Upcoming Meetings:

Council Meeting- January 2, 2024, 6:00 PM. (Hybrid) at Town Hall, 1717 Lafayette Street, Steilacoom, Washington, 98388. Zoom invite: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/86336337820>
Planning Commission – December 11, 2023, 6:00 PM. at Town Hall, 1717 Lafayette Street, Steilacoom, Washington, 98388.
Civil Service Commission – January 4, 2024, at 2:00 PM. at the Steilacoom Public Safety Facility, 601 Main Street, Steilacoom, Washington 98388.
Preservation and Review Board – December 13, 2023, at 6:00 PM. at Town Hall, 1717 Lafayette Street, Steilacoom, Washington, 98388.
Parks and Environment Advisory Committee – December 18, 2023, 6:00 PM. at Town Hall, 1717 Lafayette Street, Steilacoom, Washington, 98388.
Public Safety Advisory Committee – January 17, 2024, at 6:00 PM. at the Public Safety Facility, 601 Main Street, Steilacoom, Washington 98388.

Steilacoom Christmas Sing and Play Along:

Steilacoom Christmas Sing and Play Along, Sunday, 10 December 2023, 6 PM to 7:30 PM, Steilacoom Town Hall, 1717 Lafayette St., Steilacoom, WA.

Enjoy an evening of beautiful Christmas music produced by our own community! A free event for musicians, singers, and listeners of all ages. No prior rehearsals necessary. Bring musical instruments, music stands, and enthusiasm. All ability levels are welcome. Music and song sheets provided. Bring an appetizer or dessert to share. Non-alcoholic drinks will be provided. Non-perishable food and monetary donations will be collected for our local food pantry. Santa arrives at 6:30 PM!

Questions? Nancy Henderson, nehenders@comcast.net

Community Development:

Parks, Trails, and Active Transportation Webmap:

The Town has created a webmap for public use to view the network of parks, trails, sidewalks, and bike lanes in Steilacoom. Additional information available on the map includes historic buildings, historic monuments, and points of interest such as public restrooms and schools. Use the link below to view the webmap and a document containing instructions for using the webmap and an explanation of available features.

[Town Maps | Steilacoom, WA - Official Website \(townofsteilacoom.org\)](https://www.townofsteilacoom.org)

Custom maps may be created and exported using the webmap. A printable PDF of the parks, trails, and active transportation facilities town-wide is available on the Town's official website.

Critical Area Permit:

The Town of Steilacoom received an application for a critical area permit from the owners of the property at 522 1st Street on November 28, 2023. The applicant is requesting a critical area permit to remove 4 fir trees from a geologically hazardous/steep slope area. The applicant submitted a geotechnical consultation letter and mitigation plan to the Town with the permit application. The public is invited to comment on the

application through December 13, 2023. Following the public comment period, the Town Administrator will issue a decision and a 10-day appeal period will follow the decision. Further information is available on the Town's official website at Public Notices - Development Applications | Steilacoom, WA - Official Website (townofsteilacoom.org).

Public comments on development applications can be sent to the Town Planner at tanner.fuller@ci.steilacoom.wa.us

Community Services:

Senior Activities:

Humana will be hosting a weekly Puzzle Club every Tuesday at the Community Center. They will also be hosting a weekly Bingo Session every Friday. Both activities will start after lunch. Come ready to have a blast!

Puzzle Club:

Join us every Tuesday for Puzzles and Games at the Community Center for FREE. Humana will be hosting this event for Seniors immediately following Lunch Bunch. Come ready to have a blast!

Senior Bingo:

Join us for a FREE session of Bingo every Friday at the Community Center. Humana will host this Bingo session for Seniors following Lunch Bunch every Friday.

Ice Cream Social:

Humana will be hosting a Senior Ice Cream Social at the Community Center, on the Last Wednesday of every month. This FREE event begins right after lunch so bring your sweet tooth. There will be a different variety of ice creams and toppings. Come ready to chat, laugh and eat some tasty desserts.

Public Safety:

Over the past week, 93 Public Safety incidents occurred in town, which included the following:

Emergency and patrol incidents

- 12 medical aid responses
- 29 suspicious circumstance/security checks
- 6 responses for persons in crisis/welfare checks
- 26 traffic stops
- 2 death investigations, no suspicious circumstances observed
- 1 response for nuisance-related incidents (excessive noise/parties/unruly juveniles/narcotics use/fireworks/etc.)
- 1 registered sex offender address verification
- 1 response for parking/abandoned vehicle enforcement

Crimes against persons

- 2 incidents of domestic violence/disturbance/protection order violation

Crimes against property

- 3 incidents of vehicle prowling
- 1 incident of vandalism

Significant information:

Over the past weeks, public safety has responded to multiple death investigations. Nothing suspicious to report and no perceivable trends among the incidents. However, considering our proximity to the holidays,

these incidents are a reminder to check in on loved ones, and for anyone who may find themselves struggling, 9-8-8 is available to reach mental health support.

For the past several weeks, public safety has been working with our partners in the University Place Police Department to address persistent issues of overnight parking just north of the paper mill. The involved area is in unincorporated Pierce County and the City of University Place contracts for police services from the Pierce County Sheriff's Office, who are the only officers authorized to enforce local codes in that area. Public Safety is grateful for our ongoing partnership with the University Place Police Department.

Many thanks to the response of our public works department in addressing the fallen tree along Steilacoom Boulevard over the weekend. Their partnership with us is essential in maintaining daily operations through town, at any time and any place.

This week, Chief Yabe graduated from the 288th session of the FBI National Academy.

Affected Hyundai vehicles may now receive a software update from the manufacturer. More information can be found here: <https://www.hyundaiantitheft.com/>. Eligible vehicle owners may also obtain a no-cost steering wheel lock from Steilacoom Public Safety. For additional information, please visit: <https://tinyurl.com/43ssxs3>. Tips to safeguard against vehicle theft can be found here: <https://tinyurl.com/dfzv8cee>.

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

- Online crime reporting
- Emergency and community notification
- Missing persons and databases
- Anonymous reporting of suspicious activity
- Reporting of persistent traffic concerns
- 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
- Unwanted prescription medication disposal

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

Public Works:

Streets and Storm:

Crew Emphasis:

The crew continued erosion control inspections on active construction sites; blew sidewalks and swept streets; cleaned catch basins and other storm facilities impacted by the torrential rains this last week which caused minor, localized issues; responded to a fallen tree blocking the road last weekend and finished cleaning up the right of way this week; and performed other maintenance activities.

Rainier Street Preservation Project:

WSDOT required changes to the modified change order. Those changes are in the process of being made. Once completed, they will be forwarded to WSDOT Headquarters for concurrence prior to execution.

Sunnyside Beach Parking Lot:

The contract was suspended due to adverse weather conditions precluding being able to complete painting and sealing. These steps will be completed when the weather allows.

Sunnyside Beach Seawall:

The beach nourishment portion of the project as required by the Army Corps of Engineers is awaiting final design by the coastal erosion engineers. The Department of Fish and Wildlife approved the beach nourishment but under different conditions. The Council approved a supplemental scope of work at their December 5, 2023, meeting for the design of the beach nourishment portion of this project.

Tribal Cultural Center and Museum:

The project is out to bid with the bid opening scheduled for January 10, 2024.

Old Military Road Pavement Preservation Project:

The project is currently out to bid. An addendum changing the estimated quantity of material for pavement patching was issued December 8, 2023, and posted to the Builders Exchange. Bids will be opened on December 14, 2023.

Electrical:

Crew Emphasis:

The crew responded to and repaired two separate primary power outages, one at Cincinnati/Stevens and one in the alley off Balch Street; repaired a one-half power service in the 300 block of Puyallup Street; installed low voltage wire for the new curtain assembly in Town Hall; assisted the Water crew with the inspection at Well #4; and performed other maintenance activities.

Water/Sewer:

Crew Emphasis:

The crew assisted the Electric crew respond to multiple power outages; attended a preconstruction meeting with a builder related to 907 5th Street for constructing an ADU; worked with a contractor to diagnose the issues with Well #4; cleaned wet wells at sewer lift stations; inspected a replacement water line in the 2300 block of C street; performed hydrant maintenance; and performed other maintenance activities.

Parks, Buildings and Grounds:

Crew Emphasis:

The crew blew and removed leaves at various facilities; set up the Christmas tree at the Community Center; assisted with rigging and wiring at Town Hall for the curtain installation; patched and cleaned roofs at both the Public Safety Building and the Community Center; emptied garbage cans; picked up litter; cleaned restrooms; and performed other maintenance activities.

Other:

Elves and Bells Around Town:

Santa and his elves and reindeer will be touring Steilacoom on Friday, December 15th starting at 4:30 PM. Santa's flight path may be found in this month's Around Town newsletter or at the Town's official website. Santa's only stop will be at Saltar's Point Elementary School estimated at 7:00 PM.

Holiday Store at Steilacoom Museum

The annual holiday store at the Steilacoom Historical Museum opens Saturday, November 18 and will run weekends until December 10. Saturday hours will be 10:00 to 4:00 and Sunday hours will be noon until 4:00.

The store will feature Christmas items such as advent calendars, ornaments, decorations and many gift items. There will be fine gifts, family gifts and fun gifts for all ages. The 2024 Steilacoom Calendars will be sold,

and other Steilacoom related items which are unique to the Museum. Many items are made in the United States and we also have women owned companies represented, as well as Fair Trade items.

Toys, quality wooden non-toxic toys, beautiful journals, scarves and hand-woven throws, books and puzzles will help you check off your shopping lists.

A long tradition for a great shopping experience, just remember that the store closes early in December, so plan ahead. The Steilacoom Holiday Store is more than you expect!

The Steilacoom Historical Museum is located at 1801 Rainier St, Steilacoom, WA 98388

Christmas Trees:

Scout Troop 71 will be selling Christmas trees on the multi-purpose court located in downtown Steilacoom. Monday through Friday from 4 PM to 7 PM; Saturday and Sunday from 10 AM to 7 PM starting November 20th. Please consider supporting the Troop this holiday season.

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.

Steilacoom Community Church Compassion Closet:

Shop at the Steilacoom Community Church Compassion Closet.

Saturdays 9:30 AM - 11:30 AM. All clothing is clean and in good shape. Some items are brand new. All sizes. All items are free of charge.

I-5 - Mounts Rd. to Steilacoom- DuPont Rd. Corridor Improvements:

Beginning in late summer 2023, contractor crews working for the Washington State Department of Transportation will begin construction on Interstate 5 in DuPont near Joint Base Lewis-McChord. This is the third in a series of projects that widens I-5 to add HOV lanes between DuPont and Lakewood.

Improvements coming to DuPont and JBLM:

In addition to extending the I-5 HOV lanes, construction crews will make improvements that enhance mobility and safety in DuPont and near the JBLM DuPont Gate at exit 119, including:

A new bridge spanning I-5 and the railroad. The new bridge will feature a partial Diverging Diamond Interchange and a shared-use path for pedestrians and bicyclists between JBLM and DuPont.

Direct access between JBLM and both directions of I-5.

A new roundabout connecting Steilacoom-DuPont Road and the new overpass.

The project will also add a new signal at the intersection of the southbound I-5 off-ramp at Mounts Road (exit 116) and improve the I-5 vertical clearance over Pendleton Avenue.

What you can expect:

Construction will begin in summer 2023 and is expected to be complete in 2026. The project consists of multiple stages that involve overnight and weekend ramp closures, lane shifts onto temporary pavement, potential speed limit reductions, and bicycle and pedestrian detours. Crews will contain dust and debris to the construction site and will minimize noise as much as practical. Clear signage will indicate required detours throughout the project.

Additional Information:

Online open house:

<https://engage.wsdot.wa.gov/i-5-mounts-to-steilacoom-dupont-rd/>

WSDOT Blog:

<https://wsdotblog.blogspot.com/2023/09/i-5-hov-dupont-jblm.html>

YouTube:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=IIDRY3j6DNI&t=1s>

The WSDOT Facebook page post linking the blog and online open house:

<https://www.facebook.com/WSDOT/>

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