

MEMORANDUM

To: Mayor Muri and Members of the Town Council
From: Paul Loveless, Town Administrator
Date: September 10, 2021
Subject: Updates

Administration:

Upcoming Meetings:

Council Meeting – September 21, 2021, at 6:30 PM.

Zoom Invite: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/82250251858>

Planning Commission – October 11, 2021, at 6:30 PM.

Zoom Invite: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/81526348831>

Civil Service Commission – October 7, 2021, at 2:00 PM.

Zoom Invite: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/89865412121>

Preservation and Review Board – September 22, 2021, at 6:30 PM.

Zoom Invite: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/87049176642>

Parks and Community Services Advisory Board – September 20, 2021, at 6:30 PM.

Zoom Invite: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/81934947552>

Public Safety Advisory Board – September 15, 2021, at 2 PM. Public Safety training room.

(* Meetings are being conducted via Zoom. Additional information is on the applicable meeting's agenda.

Electric Vehicle Show:

You are cordially invited to the 8th annual National Drive Electric Steilacoom, the largest electric vehicle festival in the Pacific Northwest. Our 8th annual National Drive Electric Week (NDEW) Steilacoom is Saturday, 11 September, anytime between from 11 AM to 3 PM. The event will be in downtown Steilacoom (1717 Lafayette Street, Steilacoom, WA 98388), centered at the multi-purpose courts with parking spots for the Electric Vehicles.

The event is free; however, it would be helpful if you could preregister at <https://driveelectricweek.org/event?eventid=2658>

Any questions, please feel free to call or text NDEW-Steilacoom "City Captain" Dick Muri at 253-439-9797 or email at Dick@DickMuri.com

Facebook site is: www.facebook.com/groups/PierceCountyElectricVehicle/

Pierce County Rental and Utility Assistance Program:

Information on Pierce County's rental and utility assistance program may be found on the Town's official website at <https://townofsteilacoom.org/292/Covid-19-Information>.

Sunnyside Beach Community Clean-up:

Join us Saturday, September 18th from 8-10am.

Steilacoom Public Works will provide grabbers and bags, but it is suggested to bring gardening/work gloves if you have them. Sunnyside Beach Park address: 2509 Chambers Creek Road

Community Services:

Before and After School Care:

Registration is now open for the Town of Steilacoom's Before/After School Program for 2021-2022.

Club AM and PM is offering before and after school care for Kindergarten - 5th Grade school students every day with the exception of national holidays.

- Location: Cherrydale Elementary
- Pre-registration is required and payments can be made online, by phone, or by check.
- Multiple child discounts are available as well as Military and Free/Reduced Lunch qualified students.
- Discounts cannot be combined.
- Part-time and full-time rates now available!

Additional information and registration is available on the Town's official website at

<https://townofsteilacoom.org/156/Youth-Programs>.

Community Development:

Public Notices for Applications:

On a trial basis, we are posting public notices for development applications on the Town's official website at <https://townofsteilacoom.org/>. Current applications are:

1. The Steilacoom Historic Preservation and Review Board will hold a virtual public hearing on an addition to a non-contributing property at 107 Montgomery Street.
2. An application for preliminary plat of 14 single-family home lots at 1324 Union Avenue has been submitted to the Town of Steilacoom.

Code Compliance:

The Code Compliance Officer working in conjunction with the Department of Public Safety is focusing on junk vehicles, illegally parked/stored vehicles, boats stored on Town rights-of-way, fences, derelict structures, and issues between private property owners.

Public Safety:

Over the past week, 107 Public Safety incidents occurred in town, including the following:

Emergency and patrol incidents

- 7 medical aid responses
- 32 suspicious circumstance/security checks
- 13 responses for persons in crisis/welfare checks
- 21 traffic stops
- 2 motor vehicle collisions involving hit-and-run
- 2 responses for commercial/residential alarms
- 2 parking enforcement responses
- 1 response for nuisance complaints (noise, fireworks, etc.)
- 2 responses for incidents involving juveniles
- 1 animal-involved incident

Crimes against persons

- No significant incidents to report

Crimes against property

- 2 vehicle thefts (1 of which was located by GPS shortly after being reported)
- 1 incident of theft

A message from the Chief:

Trust and legitimacy are foundational to Public Safety operations. During one of our welfare checks this week, several passersby observed while 2 of our officers interacted with an individual suffering from mental health crisis. One of the passersby wrote me an email afterward and detailed their observations of our officers' successful efforts in de-escalating the individual-in-crisis and assisting them to treatment. The email also shared that a different passersby voiced their concern that the officers were going to shoot the individual and that the police could not be trusted. It is with incidents such as this mind, among several other considerations, that we are evaluating the addition of body cameras to our fleet of video technology and incorporating them into our in-car camera program that we have maintained for over 15 years. There does not exist any single manner to preserve or restore trust and legitimacy, but enhanced technology can be part of the overall solution. - Tom Yabe

Earlier this week, our officers assisted Lakewood Police in response to an active shooter at an apartment complex in southern Lakewood. These are the most serious types of incidents police can respond to. During the incident, the individual began firing at on scene police officers and civilians, and an officer fired back. PCFIT is investigating the incident. There is no indication that Steilacoom officers used deadly force.

Our officers will be wearing mourning bands in honor of Grant County Sheriff's Deputy Jon Melvin. Deputy Melvin passed away due to complications of COVID-19, and it's believed that he contracted COVID while in the performance of his duties.

Concealed Pistol License applications and renewals can be obtained through South Sound 911. Please visit our department website for further information.

Online crime reporting remains available. Please visit our department website for more information:
<https://townofsteilacoom.org/160/Public-Safety>.

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, please West Pierce Fire and Rescue at: <https://tinyurl.com/2md3h2j7>

The non-emergency dispatch telephone number has changed. To reach a police officer NOT during an emergency, please call either (253) 287-4455 or (800) 562-9800.

To anonymously report suspicious activity, please email the department at crimetips@ci.steilacoom.wa.us.

To report persistent traffic concerns, please submit the following information via email to the department at: traffic@ci.steilacoom.wa.us.

Location of concern.

Time of day when the concern occurs.

Description of the concerning behavior.

The lobby of Public Safety is now 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.

Public Works:

Streets and Storm:

Crew Emphasis:

The crew swept streets; mowed and trimmed open ditches and roadsides; inspected the roundabout work; inspected construction sites for installation or maintenance of erosion control measures; responded and removed a fallen tree on the corner of Euclid and Pierce Street; replaced center-line pavement markers on Lafayette Street and Chambers Creek Road; and performed other maintenance activities.

Pierce County is scheduled to be in Town today to perform the annual street-striping of arterials, minor arterials, and other designated streets.

Union Avenue Rainier Street Roundabout Project:

Steilacoom is constructing a five-legged roundabout at the intersection of Union Avenue and Rainier Street with Martin Street and the access to the Pierce County Ferry holding lanes. Learn more about the project at www.townofsteilacoom.org.

Starting Tuesday, Sept. 14, the contractor working for the Town of Steilacoom will begin work in the intersection of Union Avenue and Martin Street by Perkins Park.

While most of the work will be behind the existing sidewalk and in the park area, there will be some work taking place about 100 feet down Lane 1 (lane closest to the sidewalk). This portion of the work is scheduled for early mornings and toward the beginning of the week to minimize traffic impacts to ferry riders. Please be patient, travel with caution, and obey flaggers who will be assisting drivers entering the loading lanes.

Local access and services such as waste collections will be maintained. If any unforeseen problems arise, please contact Mark Burlingame with the Town of Steilacoom at 253.581.1912 or Nathan Walker with Pivetta Brothers Construction at 253.862.7890

Construction hours are anticipated to be Monday through Friday from 7:00 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. There will be construction signs, barricades, and traffic control employees along the construction routes to help traffic get to their destination. We apologize in advance for any inconvenience this may cause. Please use alternate routes and avoid this intersection if possible. Information on the project may be found on the Town's official website at www.townofsteilacoom.org.

Electrical:

Crew Emphasis:

The crew identified the cause of the Cherrydale feeder power outage on September 1st/2nd being a fault in one phase of a three-phase wire near the Roe Street water tanks. They crew, assisted by other staff members, trenched 200 feet and installed new conduit and three-phase wire and transferred the service. As part of this, they also installed a new above ground junction box at Roe Street and Cambridge Drive. Additionally, the crew coordinated necessary work in the roundabout project and performed other maintenance activities.

Water/Sewer:

Crew Emphasis:

The crew responded to a pump failure at the Sunnyside pump station and rebuilt the packing in pump #3; installed four new water meters for new homes in Norberg Estates; adjusted water meters and services as part of the roundabout project along with completing inspections; assisted the Electric crew with the wire replacement along Roe Street; inspected a side-sewer replacement in the 1400 block of Nisqually Street; repaired a leaking water service in the 900 block of 5th Street; and performed other maintenance activities.

Parks, Buildings and Grounds:

Crew Emphasis:

The crew mowed and maintained park facilities; removed the flower baskets and flags from the downtown core; and performed other maintenance activities.

Other:

Hand Sanitizer Gel:

Hand sanitizer gel in 1-gallon containers is available at the Community Center or the Public Works facility free to Town of Steilacoom residents. Limit one per family per week.

Steilacoom Historical School District Enrollment Open:

Enrollment is now open for all grades K-12 for the Steilacoom Historical School District 2021-22 school year. If you are new to the area and have not yet enrolled your children, now is the time to contact the District to ensure your children are included in summertime communications and fall scheduling! Visit the District Enrollment page at <https://www.steilacoom.k12.wa.us/Page/4332>.

Pierce County Library Explorer Series:

The Library Explorer Series of monthly educational and informative lectures returns on September 10, 2021 at 2:00 pm. These events sponsored by Friends of Steilacoom Library (FOSL) and the Steilacoom Historical Museum Association (SHMA) bring together community members to listen and learn. The September speaker, sponsored by Humanities Washington, is Dr. Eric Wagner, biologist and writer, speaking on "After the Blast: Mt. St. Helens 40 Years Later", a compilation of biological, ecological and people impacts in the blast zone. To register for the Zoom presentation, please go to the Pierce County Library web site (www.piercecountylibrary.org) and click on the calendar tab at the top. Select September 10 from the calendar and register.

If you are interested in becoming a member in the Friends of the Steilacoom Library, please contact Linda Collins at landjcollins@msn.com.

Tasting the Squeeze:

The Apple Squeeze is cancelled due to the virus but enjoy **Tasting the Squeeze!**

Pre-order some of the great Squeeze foods and then pick up on Sunday, October 3rd from 10-4 on Lafayette Street near Town Hall. This opportunity is sponsored by the Steilacoom Historical Museum and all purchases will benefit the Museum. Masks and social distancing will be required.

Follow these directions:

1. Visit
www.steilacoomhistorical.org
or call the Museum at
253-584-9410
2. Pre-Order Cider, Apple Butter,
Candy Apples and Apple
Fritters
3. Pick up orders on Sunday,
October 3 from 10-4 on
Lafayette Street by Town Hall.
This is the only pick up day.
4. The 2022 Steilacoom Calendars
will be available too!

Friends of the Steilacoom Library Book Sale:

The Friends of Steilacoom Library (FOSL) will host a book sale at the Steilacoom multi-purpose crt on September 18 from 10:00 A.M. to 3:00 P.M. With COVID restrictions at the library for the last 18 months preventing the sale of used books that benefit the organization, the organization will take your used books and hold a one-day sale to further projects that support the community and the Library. If you wish to donate books or volunteer to help with the sale, please contact John Ufford at jlaufford@msn.com

Kayak Rentals:

KayakShare.com is a new self-serve kayak rental available at Sunnyside Beach Park in Steilacoom in cooperation with the Town. You may reserve 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!

Questions – Contact Paul Loveless at 253.581-1912 -- Town’s Official Website - townofsteilacoom.org.