

MEMORANDUM

To: Mayor Muri and Members of the Town Council
From: Paul Loveless, Town Administrator
Date: January 28, 2022
Subject: Updates

Administration:

Upcoming Meetings:

Council Meeting – February 1, 2022, at 6:30 PM.

Zoom Invite: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/84872026898>

Planning Commission – February 14, 2022, at 6:30 PM.

Zoom Invite: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/89768121465>

Civil Service Commission – February 3, 2022, at 2:00 PM.

Zoom Invite: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/85147092975>

Preservation and Review Board – February 23, 2022, at 6:30 PM.

Zoom Invite: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/86227948164>

Parks, Community Services, and Environment Advisory Committee – February 28, 2022, at 6:30 PM.

Zoom Invite: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/83856308427>

Public Safety Advisory Committee – February 16, 2022, at 6:30 PM.

Zoom Invite: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/85002273794>

Free At-Home COVID Tests - Federal:

Every home in the U.S. is eligible to order 4 free at-home COVID-19 tests. The tests are completely free.

Orders will usually ship in 7-12 days. Order your tests now so you have them when you need them.

Available at covidtests.gov.

Free At-Home COVID Tests – State:

The Washington State Department of Health is providing free COVID-19 tests. Sign up at <https://sayyescovidhometest.org/>.

Free Masks and Hand Sanitizer:

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

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.

Utility Account Management:

Federal and State moratoriums ended September 30, 2021, for utility delinquent account penalties and disconnections. January was the first month post moratorium that the Town disconnected utility accounts.

We started with those accounts that were at least 90 days past due that had not made payment arrangements.

We started with 186 accounts meeting this criterion, however, due to arrangements being made or the

account being paid in full, this number was reduced to 58 accounts. Staff physically disconnected 51

accounts and the other 7 paid prior to disconnection. Of the 51 accounts disconnected, as of this morning, 47

services are back on with 4 remaining off.

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:

Code Compliance:

The Code Compliance Officer is focusing on following up on out-of-compliance properties which have now exceeded the grace period; inspecting construction sites for erosion control measures; and reviewing building permit applications.

Sign Code:

The Town Council reviewed revisions to the Town's sign code at their meeting on January 4, 2022, and continued the public hearing to March 15, 2022. The updated proposed revisions are posted to the Town's website at <https://townofsteilacoom.org/CivicAlerts.aspx?AID=302> for public review. Please send any comments to Doug Fortner at doug.fortner@ci.steilacoom.wa.us.

Rezone and Comprehensive Plan re-designation of School Property:

The Steilacoom Historical School District has requested that the property at the corner of Sequalish and Chambers Streets, formerly used as a football field and bus barn, be re-designated for Housing under the Comprehensive Plan and rezoned to R-7.2. Hearings will begin in February at the Planning Commission. A determination of non-significance was issued under SEPA on January 24, 2022.

Mill Site:

Staff met with the owner's consulting biologists and the habitat biologist for the Washington State Department of Fish and Wildlife on-site on Wednesday and discussed the possibilities associated with Garrison Springs. Additionally, staff met the owner's representatives following up on the possibility of utilizing tax-increment financing on this project.

Public Safety:

Over the past week, 145 Public Safety incidents occurred in town, including the following:

Emergency and patrol incidents

- 1 medical aid responses
- 11 suspicious circumstance/security checks
- 1 response for persons in crisis/welfare checks
- 80 traffic stops
- 3 responses for residential/commercial alarms
- 2 responses for animal-related incidents
- 1 motor vehicle collision
- 1 response for a missing person (located shortly after being reported)
- 1 response for parking enforcement

Crimes against persons

- 1 incident of alleged child abuse (investigation determined unfounded)
- 1 incident of domestic violence/disturbance
- 1 incident of indecent liberties

Crimes against property

- No significant incidents to report

Unwanted prescription medication can be turned in at Public Safety for disposal. Additionally, mail-back services for expired or unwanted medicines are available, free of charge, to all residents upon request. More information can be located here: <https://tinyurl.com/2p9b54ht>

A frequent question asked to public safety officers is when to call 9-1-1 versus the non-emergency number. According to our dispatch agency, South Sound 911, "Call 911 when it is an emergency and a prompt response is needed. Emergencies requiring 911 are life-threatening or a crime that is in-progress. Examples include a fight or assault occurring at the time, a burning fire or a possibly life-threatening medical problem." More information can be found here: <https://tinyurl.com/2p9bs3ej>

Drivers in Washington have the option to include disability and medical designations in the Department of Licensing driver license and identification card system. These designations can give first responders information about how you communicate or inform them that you have one or more conditions that might affect a health emergency. More information can be found here: <https://tinyurl.com/mpfypjsb>

South Sound 911 announced their Emergency Health Profile program, which allows for crucial life-saving information to be automatically shared with 911 during call or text without saying a word. Information can include pre-existing medical conditions, disabilities and allergies; behavioral health information; emergency contacts; and other relevant information about the caller or members of the caller's household. More information can be found here: <https://tinyurl.com/ycktkenze>

*A cell phone is required to use this service.

Prolonged hours of darkness are here, which can create increased opportunities for victimization by theft, such as catalytic converter theft and package theft. Please help Public Safety keep an eye out on our streets and report suspicious activity. Additional information about catalytic converter theft, to include tips to protect against theft, may be found here:

- <https://tinyurl.com/3rb8yzm6>
- <https://tinyurl.com/27v2a6ve>

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 Town of Steilacoom maintains a connection with local wildlife. Unfortunately, sometimes that interface occurs when wildlife is found injured or deceased. Please find the following resources regarding injured or deceased wildlife:

- City of Lakewood Animal Control: <https://tinyurl.com/d7n3hjzn>
- Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife: <https://tinyurl.com/579d8k6d>

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

- Concealed pistol license applications
- Online crime reporting
- Anonymous reporting of suspicious activity
- Reporting of persistent traffic concerns

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.

Public Works:

Building Energy Efficiency/Replacement Project:

Air Systems Engineering began work on Town Hall this week. We anticipate work will continue in this facility for the next 5-6 weeks.

Streets and Storm:

Crew Emphasis:

The crew concentrated on sign maintenance and repair; street sweeping; tree trimming; erosion control inspections; moss control on sidewalks; responded to a high-water situation in the 1000 block of Union Avenue on Friday; and performed other maintenance activities.

Electrical:

Crew Emphasis:

The crew repaired the parking lot lights at the Community Center and the Public Safety Building; performed utility disconnections and reconnections; and performed other maintenance activities.

Water/Sewer:

Crew Emphasis:

The crew concentrated on jetting various sewer mains throughout Town; pressure washing facilities including well #4; replaced an air compressor at the Sunnyside pump station; and performed other maintenance activities.

Parks, Buildings and Grounds:

Crew Emphasis:

The crew continued fruit tree pruning at Pioneer Park; cleaned up storm debris from trails, parks, and other facilities; completed the annual fire extinguisher inspection for all vehicles and facilities; and performed other maintenance activities.

Other:

Little Free Pantry:

The Town of Steilacoom in partnership with the We Love Steilacoom Association and the Lakewood Rotary are sponsoring a Little Free Pantry at the Community Center. Stop by and drop a nonperishable food item off or if in need, pick something up.

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

Emergency Food Network – Home Delivery:

Since May 2020, EFN has expanded its services to include food delivery for people living in Pierce County who are high-risk or facing barriers to access their local food pantries.

EFN is adding community members to their delivery schedule based on their location in Pierce County. A Home Deliver Request Form is available at <https://efoodnet.org/resources/home-delivery/>. After you complete your request form, you will receive a phone call from the Home Delivery line (253-290-7172) within 2 business days to confirm your information and begin your deliveries. **EFN must make contact with you via phone or email before they begin your deliveries.**

If you are unable to use the request form or if you are in an immediate crisis, please call 253-290-7172

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