

Planning MEMORANDUM

To: Mayor Muri and Members of the Town Council
From: Paul Loveless, Town Administrator
Date: August 12, 2022
Subject: Updates

Administration:

Upcoming Meetings:

Council Meeting – August 16, 2022, at 6:00 PM. (Virtual only)

Zoom Invite: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/86058753872>

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 – August 24, 2022, at 6:00 PM. (Virtual only)

Zoom Invite: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/85621437755>

Parks, Community Services, and Environment Advisory Committee – August 15, 2022, at 6:30 PM. Zoom Invite: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/85944465692> (Virtual only)

Public Safety Advisory Committee – August 17, 2022, at 5:30 PM. (Virtual only – Special time.)

Zoom Invite: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/88261331850>

Positions Available:

The Town currently has openings for facility attendants (part time). Additional information is available on the Town's official website at <https://townofsteilacoom.org/234/Employment>.

Farmers' Market:

The Town of Steilacoom's 2022 Farmers' Market continues every Wednesday through 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:

Summer concerts will continue August 17, 2022, with Joey Jewel (Sinatra in the Sands). 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. The 2022 schedule is also available on the Town's official website. 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.

State Auditor's Office – Biannual Audit:

The Washington State Auditor's Office will commence their regularly scheduled biannual audit on Wednesday, August 17, 2022. The audit will cover calendar year 2020 and 2021.

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 Billing:

Our software provider's business partner Wright Business Graphics, who handles our secure printing and mailing of utility bills, is experiencing service delays. Staffing shortages at Wright, equipment maintenance vendors, and the USPS are impacting delivery of our mailed utility bills.

Our software provider met with Wright to understand how to remedy these issues. Although they cannot address the issues with slower mail delivery by USPS, Wright has agreed to:

- Prioritize our print and mail projects which will expedite delivery to USPS
- Implement new streamlined production methods to move mail through the system faster
- Build a notification process alerting us when our mail batch was delivered to USPS

Bill amounts may be viewed online at the Town's official website once posted/sent to the mailing company, at <https://townofsteilacoom.org/> - Utility Payment Portal link. Bills are usually posted by the 25th of the month.

Burn Ban:

A countywide burn ban in Pierce County is announced effective Friday, Aug. 5 at 12 a.m. until further notice. The burn ban is also effective within the Town of Steilacoom.

The Pierce County Fire Marshal, in partnership with the Pierce County Fire Chiefs' Association, has declared a county-wide burn ban. This ban is due to current and predicted dry weather conditions. The burn ban applies to all land clearing and yard debris outdoor burning. This ban does not apply to small recreational fires in established fire pits at approved campgrounds or private property with the owner's permission. The use of gas and propane self-contained stoves and barbecues are allowed under the ban.

Recreational fires must:

- Be built in a metal or concrete fire pit, such as those typically found in designated campgrounds and not be used as debris disposal.
- Grow no larger than three feet in diameter.
- Be located in a clear spot free from any vegetation for at least 10 feet in a horizontal direction, including at least 25 feet away from any structure and allow 20-foot vertical clearance from overhanging branches.
- Be attended at all times by an alert individual and equipment capable of extinguishing the fire like hand tools and a charged garden hose or not less than two five-gallon buckets of water.
- No burning when winds exceed 5 mph.

Please see the Pierce County Fire Prevention Bureau's website for additional information at www.piercecountywa.gov/fpb.

If you have an approved DNR burn permit and/or your property falls under the jurisdiction of the department of Natural resources, you are advised to call 1-800-323-BURN for more information.

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 this week and following up on code compliance issues.

Community Services:

Kindergarten Ready:

- Kindergarten is a big step, even for children who have already spent time in preschool. Being ready for kindergarten can make all the difference in your child's kindergarten experience. Kindergarten Ready is a week-long class that will prepare your child for the full day kindergarten schedule. Class activities will develop and build on the skills necessary for classroom success.
- Location: Steilacoom Community Center
Pre-registration is required and payments can be made online, by phone, or by check/cash at the Community Center. Late registrations will be accepted until the class is full.
- Schedule: Monday - Friday, August 15 - 19
- 9:00 a.m. – 3:00 p.m.
- Tuition: \$250 reduced to \$125 due to the Town receiving a SEEK grant; a \$25 deposit is required to hold a spot.

Additional information and registration is available on the Town's official website at <https://townofsteilacoom.org/156/Youth-Programs>.

Public Safety:

Over the past week, 133 Public Safety incidents occurred in town, including the following:

Emergency and patrol incidents

- 11 medical aid responses
- 37 suspicious circumstance/security checks
- 5 responses for persons in crisis/welfare checks
- 57 traffic stops
- 4 responses for residential/commercial alarms
- 1 response for animal-related incidents
- 1 motor vehicle collision
- 1 response for nuisance-related incidents (excessive noise/parties/etc.)

Crimes against persons

- 2 incidents of assault
- 1 incident of domestic violence/disturbance

Crimes against property

- 1 incident of burglary
- 1 incident of vehicle theft
- 2 incidents of vandalism

Significant information:

Public Safety is hiring! Please visit our town website for information about how to join our exceptional team: <https://tinyurl.com/56bfvfv3>

Public Safety has concluded month 2 of the Steilacoom Summer Slowdown:

- Nearly 200 traffic stops were conducted in June, with emphasis toward speeding along Union Avenue.

- Over 250 traffic stops were conducted in July, with emphasis toward speeding along Lexington Street and Roe Street.

During the coming months, in response to concerns expressed by our residents, expect to see increased presence of your public safety officers on our roadways helping to reacquaint some our drivers with our posted speed limits. Please slow down.

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:

Last 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 except for some 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 inspected the new paving on the extension of Worthington Street east of Galloway Street; continued the installation of torch-down pavement markings and replacing center line reflective buttons;

sign repair and replacement along Steilacoom Boulevard; continued the traffic counter program; swept streets; maintained/weeded rights-of-way; and performed other maintenance activities.

Electrical:

Crew Emphasis:

The crew rebuilt the streetlight circuit at the Community Center that feeds two streetlights on Worthington Street; assisted the Water/Sewer crew repair a water leak on Short Street; repaired a faulty wire on Champion Street; responded to a power outage in the vicinity of Briston Lane and Oak Drive caused by faulty wire; and performed other maintenance activities.

Water/Sewer:

Crew Emphasis:

The crew repaired a water service leak in the 900 block of Short Street; rebuilt the pump packing in pump #1 at the Sunnyside pump station; assisted the Street crew with repairs to a stormwater swale on Short Street; assisted the Electric crew with a wire repair on Champion Street; inspected a sewer service repair in the 2400 block of Lexington Street; 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; 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:

Monkeypox:

Monkeypox virus (MPV) can cause a rash that looks like bumps, blisters or ulcers. Some people have flu-like illness before the rash develops.

Anyone can get MPV. The virus spreads during close, physical contact.

Most people recover in 2–4 weeks, but the disease can be serious, especially for children and people who are immune compromised or pregnant.

The United States is experiencing an outbreak.

Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) is [tracking the outbreak](#).

Anyone who has close contact with a person who has MPV is at risk. Men who have sex with men may be at higher risk because the virus is spreading in these communities.

Before the [current outbreak](#), nearly all MPV cases outside Africa were linked to travel to countries where the disease commonly occurs or imported animals.

What are the symptoms?

MPV can cause a rash that looks like bumps, blisters or ulcers. Before the rash, some people have flu-like symptoms, like:

- Fever.
- Headache.
- Muscle aches and backache.
- Swollen lymph nodes.
- Chills.
- Exhaustion.

If you have a new rash or sores or other symptoms:

- Avoid sex or intimate contact.
- See your healthcare provider. Remind them MPV may be circulating in the community.

How does it spread?

MPV spreads through contact with:

- MPV rash, sores or scabs.
- Objects, fabrics or surfaces a person with MPV used.
- Respiratory secretions during prolonged, face-to-face contact with a person with MPV.
-

MPV can spread as soon as symptoms start until all sores heal and a fresh layer of skin forms. This can be several weeks.

Treatment and vaccination.

Healthcare providers may prescribe antiviral medicine for people who are at high risk of severe disease.

The monkeypox and smallpox viruses are similar. Antiviral drugs and vaccines developed to protect against smallpox may be used to treat and prevent MPV.

Demand for MPV vaccine is high and the supply from CDC remains limited.

The Tacoma Pierce County Health Department is working with pharmacies, healthcare providers and community partners who routinely provide care to people at high risk of exposure to get vaccine to those who need it most.

Additional information may be obtained at:

tpchd.org/monkeypox
doh.wa.gov/monkeypox
cdc.gov/monkeypox

Steilacoom-DuPont Road Construction Update:

Updates can be found on the City of DuPont's website by clicking on the "Construction Updates" tab, then the "DuPont-Steilacoom Road Updates" link, or at the following link:
<https://www.dupontwa.gov/637/DuPont-Steilacoom-Road-Updates>.

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