

Planning MEMORANDUM

To: Mayor Muri and Members of the Town Council
From: Paul Loveless, Town Administrator
Date: March 17, 2023
Subject: Updates

Administration:

Upcoming Meetings:

Council Meeting – March 21, 2023, 6:00 PM. (Hybrid) at Town Hall, 1717 Lafayette Street, Steilacoom, Washington, 98388. Zoom invite: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/84361545606>
Planning Commission – May 8, 2023, 6:00 PM. at Town Hall, 1717 Lafayette Street, Steilacoom, Washington, 98388.
Civil Service Commission – April 6, 2023, at 2:00 PM. at the Steilacoom Public Safety Facility, 601 Main Street, Steilacoom, Washington 98388.
Preservation and Review Board – April 26, 2023, at 6:00 PM. at Town Hall, 1717 Lafayette Street, Steilacoom, Washington, 98388.
Parks, Community Services, and Environment Advisory Committee – March 20, 2023, 6:30 PM. at Town Hall, 1717 Lafayette Street, Steilacoom, Washington, 98388.
Public Safety Advisory Committee – April 19, 2023, at 6:00 PM. at the Public Safety Facility, 601 Main Street, Steilacoom, Washington 98388.

Sunnyside Beach Community Clean-up:

Please join us Saturday, April 1st from 8-9:30 A.M. and help clean Sunnyside Beach. Steilacoom Public Works will provide grabbers and bags, but we suggest bringing gardening/work gloves if you have them. Please feel free to reach out with any questions to Liz Grasher at elizabeth.grasher@ci.steilacoom.wa.us.
Sunnyside Beach Park address: 2509 Chambers Creek Road. Hope to see you then!

We Love Steilacoom Annual Meeting:

The We Love Steilacoom Association will hold its annual meeting on April 11 at 5 PM at the Steilacoom Community Center. 2022 activities and 2023 operational plan will be discussed. All are welcome to attend.

Spring Curbside Clean-up – April 20th:

One day FREE event - regular garbage/yard waste day. Watch for additional information in the Around Town, on the website, and in the weekly updates in coming months.

Kiwanis 5K Run/Walk:

Usher in spring with a healthy and fun Steilacoom event while making an impact on the lives of others at risk of hunger!

Sunday, 23 April 2023: Steilacoom Kiwanis 5K Run/Walk and 1 Mile Historic Stroll to support the **We Love Steilacoom Food Pantry**. Suggested minimum donation of \$10/person or \$20/family. Choose your start time between **0900 and 1100**. Courses close at **1200**.

The 5K non-timed, non-competitive event includes scenic views and trails. Local historians and Steilacoom Tribal members will be posted at historic sites along the 1 Mile route, eager to share Steilacoom's fascinating past. Register online at <https://www.kiwanisclubofsteilacoom.org/run-walk-event/>. Register in advance for chance to win a prize drawing. Drawing will be held at the end of the event and need not be present to win. Start and in-person registration will be at the Steilacoom Historical Museum patio at Rainier and Main St. COVID-19 guidelines will be observed. Questions? Contact Nancy Henderson at nehenders@comcast.net.

Confidential Document Shredding Event – May 13th:

Confidential document shredding event May 13 from 9 AM to noon or until the truck is full at the Public Works facility. Watch for additional information in the Around Town, on the website, and in the weekly updates in coming months.

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:

Chambers Place Development:

Council at their March 7, 2023, meeting set a public hearing for the Chambers Place Development (the former School District play field on Chambers Street) for March 21, 2023.

Community Services:

Bridge and Mahjong Players Wanted!

Interested in playing bridge or mahjong? Let us know! The Community Center will host games if there is enough interest. Contact 253-581-1076 to add your name to the list.

Junior Explorers:

Come explore with us! This class will prepare children, 4 - 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, 2022

- 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.

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.

We are currently utilizing a "wait list" for Junior Explorers and Little Explorers.

Public Safety:

Over the past week, 142 Public Safety incidents occurred in town, which included the following:

Emergency and patrol incidents

- 12 medical aid responses
- 64 suspicious circumstance/security checks
- 6 responses for persons in crisis/welfare checks

- 33 traffic stops
- 1 response for residential/commercial alarms
- 1 death investigation, no suspicious circumstances observed
- 2 responses for nuisance-related incidents (excessive noise/parties/unruly juveniles/narcotics use/etc.)
- 2 responses for parking/abandoned vehicle enforcement

Crimes against persons

- 1 incident of domestic violence/disturbance
- 1 incident of harassment/threats

Crimes against property

- 1 incident of burglary
- 2 incidents of fraud/identity theft
- 2 incidents of theft

A message from the Chief:

Trains are as much of a part of life in Steilacoom as the Apple Squeeze and the Salmon Bake. Unfortunately, recent events from across the county have highlighted the dangers that exist in communities with railroads. The Town of Steilacoom is a long-standing partner with the Pierce County Department of Emergency Management (PCDEM), and as recently as 2020, PCDEM has assisted us in the development of our All-Hazard Mitigation Plan. This plan analyzes and evaluates all categories of emergencies, from natural disasters to transportation-related, including railroads.

Additionally, since 2022, the Town of Steilacoom has partnered with the West Pierce Emergency Management Coalition (WPEMC). WPEMC is a partnership between our town and the cities of Lakewood and University Place and West Pierce Fire and Rescue. This partnership enhances our ability to prepare for emergencies before they occur and respond more effectively when an emergency occurs. This partnership also enables the Town to benefit from a broader range of resources which might prove too costly for us to seek out on our own.

One example of a resource that has provided immediate benefit is our SteilacoomAlert emergency notification system. With a wide array of emergencies, ranging from extreme weather to traffic gridlock, SteilacoomAlert allows for our residents to be notified with minimal delay. This system might have been cost-prohibitive, but in partnership with other agencies throughout Pierce County, we benefitted both from an enhanced service package and reduced cost.

Another benefit of our partnership with WPEMC has been newfound support for our Community Emergency Response Team (CERT). CERT presents an opportunity for our residents to prepare their families for emergencies, as well as get involved in our emergency response efforts.

Finally, this week our public safety department was invited to join the Pierce County All Hazards Incident Management Team. This team is composed of emergency management leaders from throughout the county who provide support in Pierce County, as well as throughout our state. This is another step in the continuing expansion of emergency planning and response capabilities for our town.

No two emergencies are alike, and no one can perfectly plan for every scenario. However, through increasing partnerships such as those mentioned here, our ability to serve our residents can only be strengthened.

Tom Yabe, Chief of Police

Significant information:

Throughout 2022 and into 2023, motor vehicle thefts have been on the rise, including within Steilacoom. In response to a rise in thefts of particular Hyundai and Kia vehicles, the Puget Sound Auto Theft Task Force

secured free steering wheel locks, which will be distributed through participating local law enforcement agencies. The locks are now available to be picked up at many locations throughout Pierce County, to include at Steilacoom Public Safety. To receive a free lock, owners will need to bring their registration and key to show that they own a 2011-2021 key-start Hyundai or Kia. It is important to note that the Puget Sound Auto Theft Task Force, in partnership with Kia and Hyundai, is providing these devices to aid in deterring vehicle theft. The locks do not guarantee protection from theft. For additional information, please visit: <https://tinyurl.com/43ssxs3>.

Public Safety lobby hours are changing. The front lobby will be open Tuesday through Friday, from 2:30 pm until 5:30 pm. During those hours, Public Safety can also be called at (253) 581-0110.

Prescription drug disposal is temporarily closed at the public safety building. Alternative locations, to include mail-in options, are available at: <https://med-project.org/>

Announcements:

In partnership with the West Pierce Emergency Management Coalition, Public Safety is enhancing our Community Emergency Response Team capabilities. Interested persons should contact cert@westpierce.org for more information.

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 an 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.

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:

Streets and Storm:

Crew Emphasis:

The crew concentrated on sign maintenance and repairs including graffiti removal; continued hauling away spoils from the Public Works facility; continued catch basin cleaning and street sweeping; attended emergency management training; and performed other maintenance activities.

Rigney Road Nonmotorized Improvements Project:

The contractor capitalized on the weather window and patched pavement along the west-side of Rigney Road adjacent to the new curb, gutter, and sidewalk.

Rainier Street Preservation Project:

The contractor is scheduled to mobilize the week of March 20th. Initial work will focus on sidewalk ramps.

Old Military Road Preservation Project:

The agreement has been executed and survey work commenced this week.

Electrical:

Crew Emphasis:

The crew installed 3-inch conduit at the Public Works facility for future EV charging stations; prepared for two (2) requested service disconnections in the 2100 block of Steilacoom Boulevard and the 2700 block of Cambridge Drive; attended emergency management training; and performed other maintenance activities.

Water/Sewer:

Crew Emphasis:

The crew installed a new water meter in the 1900 block of Rainier Street; continued working with the contractor at the Sunnyside pump station to commission the new control system; inspected a new side-sewer installation in the 700 block of Stevens Street; assisted the Parks crew with the installation of a backflow device at the Bell Tower monument; attended emergency management training; and performed other maintenance activities.

Parks, Buildings and Grounds:

Crew Emphasis:

The crew installed a new backflow device at the Bell Tower monument; continued coordination with the contractor performing the Webber Court playground installation; pressure washed the cookshack at Sunnyside Park; continued vegetation control; attended emergency management training; and performed other maintenance activities.

Other:

SHS Music Program Fundraiser:

Are you looking for a new mattress? You can get a new mattress and support our music students at the same time. The SHS Music Boosters will be hosting the 4th annual Mattress Fundraiser Saturday April 15th. from 10 am- 5 pm at Steilacoom High School.

ATM Services:

ATM services are available at the Public Works Facility, 1030 Roe Street, Steilacoom, WA during normal business hours – 8 AM to Noon Monday through Friday.

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.