

PLANNING MEMORANDUM

To: Mayor Muri and Members of the Town Council
From: Paul Loveless, Town Administrator
Date: February 2, 2024
Subject: Updates

Administration:

Upcoming Meetings:

Council Meeting- February 6, 2024, 6:00 PM. (Hybrid) at Town Hall, 1717 Lafayette Street, Steilacoom, Washington, 98388. Zoom invite: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/89264752401> Meeting ID: 892 6475 2401
Planning Commission – February 12, 2024, 6:00 PM. at Town Hall, 1717 Lafayette Street, Steilacoom, Washington, 98388.
Civil Service Commission – March 7, 2024, at 2:00 PM. at the Steilacoom Public Safety Facility, 601 Main Street, Steilacoom, Washington 98388.
Preservation and Review Board – February 7, 2024, at 6:00 PM. at Town Hall, 1717 Lafayette Street, Steilacoom, Washington, 98388.
Parks and Environment Advisory Committee – February 26, 2024, 6:00 PM. at Town Hall, 1717 Lafayette Street, Steilacoom, Washington, 98388.
Public Safety Advisory Committee – February 21, 2024, at 6:00 PM. at the Public Safety Facility, 601 Main Street, Steilacoom, Washington 98388.

Valentines for Veterans:

U.S. Rep. Marilyn Strickland is again collecting “Valentines for Veterans and First Responders.” Residents, schools, and organizations are invited to make handmade valentine’s cards and drop them off on or before Tuesday, Feb. 6, 2024. Once received, valentines will be distributed to veterans and first responders living and working across Washington’s 10th Congressional District. Residents can bring their valentines to Lakewood City Hall, 6000 Main Street SW, to be delivered to the Congresswoman’s office.

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://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.

Bradford Plat:

The developer is nearing completion of the installation of the utilities and is currently pouring curbing in preparation for paving potentially next week. Expect minor delays on Union Avenue.

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, 79 Public Safety incidents occurred in town, which included the following:

Emergency and patrol incidents

- 5 medical aid responses
- 36 suspicious circumstance/security checks
- 3 responses for persons in crisis/welfare checks
- 20 traffic stops
- 1 response for residential/commercial alarms
- 1 response for animal-related incidents
- 1 response for nuisance-related incidents (excessive noise/parties/unruly juveniles/narcotics use/fireworks/littering/etc.)
- 3 responses for parking/abandoned vehicle enforcement

Crimes against persons

- 1 incident of domestic violence/disturbance/protection order violation

Crimes against property

- 2 incidents of fraud/identity theft

Significant information:

This week, our newest public safety officer graduated from the police academy. Welcome aboard, Dustin Hulbrook!

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/43ssxsb3>. 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
- Applications for protection orders
- Emergency and community notification
- Missing persons information
- 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 completed catch basin and man-hole repairs on Steilacoom Boulevard and Union Avenue; completed a continuing education class for pesticide applicators; continued cleaning moss off sidewalks on Steilacoom Boulevard; hauled waste dirt from the lower yard to an approved fill site; continued sweeping and blowing streets and sidewalks throughout Town; and performed other maintenance activities.

Rainier Street Preservation Project:

The contractor completed WSDOT required punch list items. WSDOT officials will reinspect next week.

Sunnyside Beach and Parking Lot Temporarily Reopened Effective January 3, 2024:

The parking lot contract was suspended due to adverse weather conditions precluding being able to complete painting and sealing the lot. These steps will be completed once the weather conditions allow.

In the interim, Sunnyside Beach Park and the parking lot were reopened effective January 3, 2024.

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. Design work by the coastal erosion engineers is currently underway. Staff submitted a request to the Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife to modify the Hydraulic Permit Approval for this project. If we receive the approval in a timely manner, we will proceed with the beach nourishment element of the project in February. If the permit is delayed, then the work will need to be done in the Fall.

Tribal Cultural Center and Museum:

Six (6) bids were received and opened on January 25, 2024. Staff and the architect are reviewing the bids and are planning on bringing a recommendation to the Council at their February 6, 2024, meeting.

Pedestrian Safety Improvements Project:

The Town will be installing pedestrian activated rectangular rapid flashing beacons (RRFB) similar to the ones at the Union Avenue roundabout at three locations: Union Avenue and Sequash Street, Puyallup Street curve, and Steilacoom Boulevard at the library. The contracts have been signed and a preconstruction meeting is being scheduled.

Old Military Road Pavement Preservation Project:

WSDOT officials considered our appeal, found in our favor, and the project is progressing. The preconstruction meeting is scheduled for Wednesday.

Electrical:

Crew Emphasis:

The crew continued working with the contractor on the Bradford development; completed a planned outage on Silver Beach to repair a transformer; assisted the Water/Sewer crew with removing pump #1 at the dock lift station; met with the contractor developing the new homes in the Chambers Place Development along Sequash Street and Chambers Street; performed a utility disconnection for a panel and meter base change out in the 400 block of First Street; and performed other maintenance activities.

Water/Sewer:

Crew Emphasis:

The crew repaired a water service leak at the School District's administration building; began clearing the Well #4 site for well pulling equipment; installed a new water meter in the 2700 block of Chambers Point Court damaged by the freezing weather; installed a new water meter in the 500 block of First Street; removed a pump at the Dock street lift station and sent it in for repairs; performed other maintenance activities.

Parks, Buildings and Grounds:

Crew Emphasis:

The crew attended pesticide applicator continuing education class; repaired drywall at the DSHS Administration building; cleaned the pickleball courts at Cherrydale Park; continued storm cleanup throughout Town; completed annual fire extinguisher inspections; emptied garbage cans; picked up litter; cleaned restrooms; and performed other maintenance activities.

Other:

West Pierce Emergency Management CERT Training:

West Pierce Fire & Rescue invites citizens who live or work in the Lakewood and University Place area to attend their next session of CERT (Community Emergency Response Team) classes.

Aimed at preparing groups of citizens in the community to prepare for and respond to disasters, the classes will follow a model developed by the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) and offered in cities across the United States. The idea behind this model is to teach people in neighborhoods how to help each other in the first few minutes or hours following a disaster – before emergency responder are able to get to them to render professional help.

In the classes, students will gain hands-on skills such as how to put out small fires, render first aid in a disaster situation, and perform light search and rescue. The series of six classes will be held on Tuesday and Thursday evenings for three weeks, from 6:00 – 9:00pm, and will culminate in a practical exercise to be held on a Saturday from 10:00am – 2:00pm. Classes will be held at Fire District locations. Instructors will be uniformed Firefighters with special experience in the particular area, or subject matter experts from other areas. The classes are free! The next class starts on March 5, 2024. To obtain additional information and to register, visit the WPFR website at westpierce.org.

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.

We Love Steilacoom will hold its annual meeting on February 13th at 5 PM at the Steilacoom Town Hall. 2023 activities and 2024 operational plan will be discussed. All are welcome to attend.

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