

NOVEMBER 2022 NEWSLETTER



CITY HALL INFORMATION

Address: 319 Main Street #200
PO Box 1199
Sultan WA 98294
Phone: 360.793.2231
Fax: 360.793.3344

Office Hours:

Monday 9:00 AM to 5:00 PM
Tuesday—Friday 8:00 AM to 5:00 PM
Closed daily 12:00 pm—1:00 pm for lunch

CITY HALL WILL BE CLOSED:
NOVEMBER 11TH—VETERANS DAY
NOVEMBER 24TH & 25TH—THANKSGIVING

Website:

www.ci.sultan.wa.us

Facebook:

<https://www.facebook.com/sultanwashingtongovernment>

MEETING CALENDAR

All Meetings Held in the Community Room
at 319 Main Street Unless Otherwise Noted

NOVEMBER 2022

CANCELLED	Council Workshop 7:00 pm In person and remote attendance via computer or phone
Nov 3 & 17	City Council Meeting 7:00 pm In person and remote attendance via computer or phone
Nov 1 & 15	Planning Board 7:00 pm In person and remote attendance via computer or phone
Nov 2, 9, 16, 23, & 30	Community Alliance Meeting 5:00 pm In person and remote attendance via computer or phone
Nov 3, 10, & 17	Coffee with the City 9:30 am

DECEMBER 2022

CANCELLED	Council Workshop 7:00 pm In person and remote attendance via computer or phone
Dec 1 & 15	City Council Meeting 7:00 pm In person and remote attendance via computer or phone
Dec 6 & 20	Planning Board 7:00 pm In person and remote attendance via computer or phone
Dec 7 & 14	Community Alliance Meeting 5:00 pm In person and remote attendance via computer or phone
Dec 1, 8, 15 & 22	Coffee with the City 9:30 am

Last month, I had the opportunity to host a roundtable in Sultan with members of our Congressional delegation to discuss US-2 improvements and response to the Bolt Creek Fire. In this month's newsletter, I will share the highlights from our meeting and some positive next steps coming from the discussion.

On Thursday, October 27, 2022, I joined community leaders for a roundtable discussion with members of our Congressional delegation from Washington D.C. including U.S. Senator Maria Cantwell and U.S. Congressmembers Suzan DelBene and Kim Schrier. Joining me were State Representative Carolyn Eslick, County Councilmember Sam Low, Mayor Steve Yarbrough (Gold Bar), Mayor Norm Johnson (Index), Mayor Henry Sladek (Skykomish), Debbie Copple (Sky Valley Chamber of Commerce), Chief Eric Andrews (Sky Valley Fire), and representatives from Washington Department of Transportation, Snohomish County, and King County.

At the meeting, local officials shared updates on the Bolt Creek Fire and the impacts to local communities. Chief Andrews shared the concerns about the highway and the ongoing risk of landslides and debris closing the highway this fall and winter. The mayors of Skykomish and Index shared the impact of highway closures on residents and the need for alternative routes when the highway is closed, and Debbie Copple shared the impact on local businesses from the highway closure and poor air quality.

We heard from our Congressional delegation that they would be sending a letter to the United States Forest Service asking them to prioritize any emergency funding to help shore up the hillside along US-2 in the burn scar to help mitigate falling debris in the coming months.

We also discussed potential opportunities for economic relief for businesses affected all along the corridor, especially those further up the valley. Some of these businesses saw a complete stop to customers which has had an especially negative impact as they were still recovering from the COVID-19 economic shutdowns.

The conversation then turned to the broader issues associated with US-2 regarding congestion and safety. I shared an update on the work the City of Sultan has done in partnership with the community and other local agencies. This is the proposal we have developed to create four (4) lanes through Sultan and replace the existing traffic signals with 2-lane round-a-bouts.

The proposal was received well by our Congressional delegation and they indicated support for finding federal funding opportunities to make these long awaited improvements to US-2.

I am thankful to Senator Cantwell, Congresswoman DelBene, and Congresswoman Schrier for making the time to come out to Sultan and hear from local representatives about the issues facing our communities. I look forward to working with all of our local, state, and federal partners as we continue to respond to the impacts of the Bolt Creek Fire and work on improvements to US-2.

As always, if you have any questions or concerns about the City of Sultan, please do not hesitate in reaching out to me at russell.wiita@ci.sultan.wa.us or 360.454.4145. Take care.

Sincerely,

Russell Wiita
Mayor, City of Sultan



WE ARE HERE TO HELP

DO YOU NEED HELP WITH YOUR SULTAN UTILITY BILL?

If you are having financial issues and need help with your utility bill
or to make payment arrangements, please contact City Hall at 360.793.2231



CITY HAPPENINGS



PUBLIC WORKS PROJECTS

- ◆ City Hall Parking Lot—Striping was postponed but is now complete.
- ◆ Installing gutters at Osprey Park basketball court.
- ◆ Public Works continues to support the Alliance and Chamber events.
- ◆ Gazebo & Public Works Roofs—Hope to have complete in November.
- ◆ Asphalt patching at Gohr Road, 3rd Street, and Birch Avenue October—November.

WASTEWATER TREATMENT PLANT—PROJECT UPDATE

The City of Sultan is continuing the upgrades to the City's Wastewater Treatment Plant.

The footing for oxidation ditch #2 is complete and in the concrete curing process. This is a big milestone to get the footings done before winter when the water table rises. Next they will be going vertical land forming the walls. Construction on the headworks building is underway, currently building walls and getting the structure out of the ground. Construction on the solids handling building will be breaking ground soon.

For more information, check out the city's website under the current city project page at <https://www.ci.sultan.wa.us/180/Current-City-Projects>

HELP KEEP STORMWATER CLEAR

We all need to help protect and improve the quality of water in our local creeks, rivers, lakes, and wetlands. During the fall months, our Public Works crew is out keeping the storm drains clear from debris and there are some things you can do to help reduce stormwater pollution.

- ⇒ Do not blow grass or leaves into the street.
- ⇒ If there is a storm drain near your house, please help keep it clear of debris.
- ⇒ Use commercial car washing facilities or wash your car on the grass. Make sure your vehicle is not leaking fluids.
- ⇒ Practice natural garden and yard care to reduce the use of hazardous products. This helps you save money and also helps save water and preserves the environment.
- ⇒ Report any spills and dispose of waste properly.
- ⇒ Dispose of your pet waste properly.



EVERY LITTLE BIT HELPS!

Inclement Weather Here's What To Expect

If weather conditions prevent the safe collection of curbside garbage, recycling, or organics, please remove your carts from the street by the end of the day. On your next regularly scheduled collection day, we will collect up to **TWO** times your usual amount.

Extra Garbage: Place securely tied plastic bags labeled "GARBAGE" (max 65lb weight limit) next to the cart or a 32gal lidded can.

Extra Recycling: Box, bundle, or place in brown paper bags, label "RECYCLING," and place next to recycling cart. Do NOT place items in plastic bags.

Extra Yard Waste: Place in Kraft paper bags, 32gal lidded can (65lb limit), or bundles tied with twine (4"x2" limit). NO food scraps outside of cart.



COME DINE AT THE SENIOR CENTER!

Anyone and everyone are welcome. Lunch is Monday through Thursday! Meals start at 11:30 am and end at 1:00 pm

Volunteers are needed from 10:00 am to 1:30 pm. If you would like to volunteer by helping to serve and prepare food, please contact Deanna French at 360.395.2133 or by email at dfrench@voaww.org.

Sky Valley Youth Coalition Teen Center is Hosting Events!

After school youth group is held at 430 Main Street from 3:00 pm to 6:00 pm.

Teen Nights are every Friday at the Boys and Girls Club from 7:00 pm to 10:00 pm. Volunteers are needed from 6:45 pm to 10:00 pm.

If you would like to volunteer, please contact Kim Biegel at 360.395.2529 or by email at kbiegel@voaww.org.

FOR MORE COMMUNITY EVENTS AND INFORMATION, PLEASE GO TO:
<https://www.voaww.org/skyvalley> or <https://www.skyvalleychamber.com/>

PRUNING

All overgrown shrubs/bushes and trees are required to be trimmed by the homeowner to keep sidewalks clear and a clear view of traffic. Also remember when you trim your trees or bushes, to clean up all your clippings and keep them off city streets.

SMC 8.04.050.C, D, E states the following:

- All trees, hedges, signs or other obstructions which prevent persons from obtaining a clear view of traffic when approaching an intersection or pedestrian crosswalk;
- All limbs of trees which project over a public sidewalk, less than 8-feet above the surface thereof or less than 14-feet above the surface of a public street;
- All trees, limbs, buildings, structures, power and light poles and their appurtenances, or equipment which poses a reasonable threat to life or property in the event that such trees, limbs, buildings, structures, power and light poles and their appurtenances or equipment were to fall on adjacent public or private property;

THE CITY APPRECIATES YOUR HELP!

GUTTERS

With the rain finally here, are your gutters ready for the upcoming season? Rain gutters, in good working fashion, can stop dry rot, mossing over, flooding in yards and so many more issues that can cost you money, time, and hard feelings with neighbors. There are provisions in our codes that discuss water sheeting into other yards, hence the collection of storm water and its conveyance.



This is a big deal in the State of Washington! Rain waters will always seek the lowest point it can reach. This is why new construction in plats may require yard drains, French drains or other means to capture rain water and remove it to an approved location. Some folks will even catch their rain water and use it to water indoor gardens, house plants, even do their laundry with it.

Thank you!

US-2 Project Progress Report



In accordance with the US-2 project timeline, the City held its second round of technical, local community, and regional working group meetings in July 2022.

Project staff are following up with regional stakeholders that were not able to attend for further input. Upcoming project activities are as follows:

November 17, 2022

Round 3 City Council Check-In Presentation

December 2022

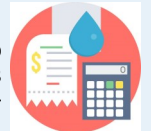
Final Community Engagement Report

The City conducted an online survey between May 11, 2022 and July 29, 2022. The survey asked respondents about their perception of existing conditions, problems they experience along the US2 Corridor through Sultan City limits, desired improvements to US2, and impacts to avoid. The City received 920 responses, and the survey is now closed.

Thank you to everyone that filled out the survey!!

If you have any questions regarding this project, please contact the City Hall at 360.793.2231.

UTILITY RATE STUDY



Every five years, the city reviews its utility rates to determine if they are meeting the changing needs and requirements of the water, sewer, and storm-water systems.

In January 2022, the city began working with a consultant to review the infrastructure and operating needs of the utilities moving forward. The City Council held discussions on the rate study at their January 27th, March 3rd, April 28th, and October 13th meetings. Public hearings will be held on November 3rd and November 17th with adoption of the new rates scheduled for November 17th.

There will be a public hearing at the November 3, 2022 council meeting. Please go to <https://ci.sultan.wa.us/205/City-Council> for the council packet.

For additional information on the rate study, please contact City Hall at 360.793.2231.