

FEBRUARY 2023 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:
February 20, 2023 — President's Day

Website:
www.ci.sultan.wa.us

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

The City Council will be making some big decisions in the next two years regarding the future of Sultan. We are beginning the process of updating the City of Sultan's Comprehensive Plan which sets a big picture vision and guide for the city for the next ten years.

Comprehensive Plans ("Comp Plans" for short) are just what they sound like. Required by state law, Comprehensive Plans are adopted by the City Council and set the framework for our local planning efforts over a set time period. The city is required to plan for land use, housing supply, capital facilities, utilities, and transportation in our Comp Plan. There are also optional elements including economic development and parks and recreation that we plan for.

The Comp Plan undergoes a full review, usually every 8 years. Because of the impacts of the pandemic, the adoption deadline was pushed back to 2024. We are starting the process now to leave ample time for public outreach and participation and council consideration.

We want to hear from Sultan residents to determine how we should be planning for the future. Input on housing, parks, facilities, and transportation will help inform our planning goals. We will have a wide-reaching public engagement plan with multiple opportunities and methods for providing feedback. While we have not yet set the public engagement strategy, we are considering surveys, town halls, website and social media posts, flyers, message boards, and other ways to get the word out and hear from you.

The Comp Plan is used to guide the City Council and Mayor on more specific development regulations, infrastructure investments, and other policies that impact our community. The more public input we have early in the process, the better our Comp Plan will be and the more it will reflect the community's interests.

Assisting us with the development and adoption of the Comprehensive Plan will be our new Community Development Director Hal Hart. Hal was hired in January 2023 and comes to the City of Sultan with an impressive resume working in jurisdictions of various sizes and demographics. Hal has worked for Whatcom County, City of Woodinville, City of Juneau, City of Anchorage, and Skagit County. His experience in local planning and community engagement is a real benefit to the City and I am looking forward to working with him on the Comp Plan as well as many other projects for the City.

I encourage you to keep an eye on the city website, Facebook page, and utility newsletter to learn about opportunities to participate in the Comp Plan update process.

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

Sincerely,

Russell Wiita
Mayor, City of Sultan

MEETING CALENDAR

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

February 2023

Feb 2	Council Workshop 7:00 pm In person and remote attendance via computer or phone
Feb 9 & 23	City Council Meeting 7:00 pm In person and remote attendance via computer or phone
Feb 7 & 21	Planning Board 7:00 pm In person and remote attendance via computer or phone
Feb 1, 8, 15 & 22	Community Alliance Meeting 5:00 pm In person and remote attendance via computer or phone
Feb 2, 9, 16 & 23	Coffee with the City 9:30 am

March 2023

Mar 2	Council Workshop 7:00 pm In person and remote attendance via computer or phone
Mar 9 & 23	City Council Meeting 7:00 pm In person and remote attendance via computer or phone
Mar 7 & 21	Planning Board 7:00 pm In person and remote attendance via computer or phone
Mar 1, 8, 15, 22 & 29	Community Alliance Meeting 5:00 pm In person and remote attendance via computer or phone
	Coffee with the City 9:30 am

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 AND INFORMATION



PUBLIC WORKS

PROJECTS

- ◆ Snow and ice operation pre and post snow event—Re-stock and clean up is complete. The street sweeper continues to do clean up.
- ◆ Wind—The crew has been very busy replacing downed street signs and debris clean up.
- ◆ Holiday decorations have been removed.
- ◆ Focused on customer service restoring the city right of way along with parks and open space. Debris clean up in all parks and open spaces.
- ◆ Public Works team is looking forward to a great 2023!

WASTEWATER TREATMENT PLANT—PROJECT UPDATE

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

The south half of the oxidation ditch has been poured, the forms will be stripped and the tank will start to be backfilled. Work continues on both the new headworks and solids handling buildings. Albion Street may be closed periodically due to construction. During closures, Marcus Street will need to be used for access to the park. The construction team will safely flag you through the site.

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>



BOARD VACANCIES

The city is accepting applications for the following:

- **Salary Commission:** This is an independent commission for the purpose of setting salaries of City Council members. For more info visit our website newsfeed post at <https://ci.sultan.wa.us/CivicAlerts.aspx?AID=220>
- **Community Alliance Board:** Their mission is "to build and promote a safe, clean and health community through family-oriented events and volunteer-driven cleanup efforts." For more info visit our website newsfeed post at <https://ci.sultan.wa.us/CivicAlerts.aspx?AID=221>

POSTAGE RATES HAVE GONE UP, WHY NOT GO STAMPLESS!

- ⇒ Put a check or money order in one of our drop boxes. Locations are downstairs at City Hall to the left of the front entrance and outside the Post Office on the wall to the left of the main entry.
- ⇒ Make a phone payment by calling 360.799.3007. You will need your full account number.
- ⇒ Make a quick payment by going to <https://sultanwa.merchanttransact.com/Login>, click on "One Time Payment". You will need your full account number.
- ⇒ Register your account for online access. You'll have the ability to receive your statements and set up autopay. Go to the following: <https://sultanwa.merchanttransact.com/Login>, click on "Sign Up". You will need your full account number.

Should you need assistance with any of these options, please contact City Hall at 360.793.2231

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.

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

COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT

CODE ENFORCEMENT

The City of Sultan is always happy to investigate properties that are or might be out of compliance with city codes.

If you have a concern about a property and would like the city to investigate, you can report a suspected violation through the city's public portal at: https://public.mygov.us/sultan_wa

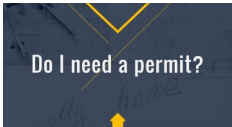
Keeping a clean neighborhood is good for everyone! Here are a few examples:

- Do no overfill your trash bin (as a courtesy, please take in your trash bins after emptied)
- Keep all bushes and trees trimmed
- Clean up all grass off the sidewalks and streets after mowing
- Vehicles parked on a city street need to be currently licensed and driven regularly
- Disabled/non-running vehicles cannot be stored on city streets

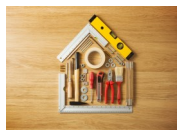
If you have any questions or concerns, please contact the Community Development Department at 360.793.2231.

WHAT HAPPENS WHEN YOU RENOVATE YOUR HOME WITHOUT A PERMIT?

Renovating your home offers you a chance to increase your property values while improving your own quality of life while living in your home. While minor projects like replacing flooring or counter tops typically do not require a permit, once you start moving a sink or an oven range hood, you need to check with us at City Hall.

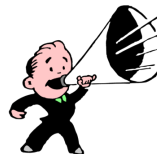


Some might say it is too costly or "I don't need the extra paper work and frustration in my life". As such, you may be inclined to skip the permit and hope you don't get caught, but that decision could really hurt you in the long run. Snohomish County reviews our permits and adds them to the tax rolls for square footage and all other work permitted on your property. Without permits, your project upgrades, new habitable space, new deck and covers etc., will not be documented and when you sell your home, it needs to coincide with the tax rolls. Realtors are requesting building files when a home goes on the market to verify if improvements were permitted. The City retains building files to provide as public documents, if work completed was permitted or not. If not, there could be ramifications, additional costs, or actually removing the work done to verify structural loading, concealed plumbing, electrical work, fire walls etc. Please don't let this happen to you.



Finally, permits are not just pieces of paper giving you the right to make changes to your home and property. They come with inspections from subject matter professionals! We know if it's not right and can make contractors fix elements that can be harmful or sometimes, heaven forbid, even fatal.

Remember we here at City Hall are here for you! We are simply people doing the best job we can to make sure you are safe and comfortable in your community.



CALLING ALL HOA'S

THE CITY WOULD LOVE TO CONNECT WITH YOU!

In the coming months, the city would like to connect with each Homeowner's Association. We want to hear what is important to your neighborhood and share key projects and programs that would benefit you.

Please email the City Administrator with your HOA contact information. He can be reached at will.ibershof@ci.sultan.wa.us

WE APPRECIATE YOUR HELP!