

OCTOBER 2020 NEWSLETTER



The rainy season is upon us and with that comes much needed relief from the wildfires that have plagued many up and down the West Coast. It also brings challenges as we work to identify storm drains and other infrastructure meant to mitigate rain water runoff. If you notice any issues with backed up storm drains or water pooling, please contact City Hall at 360.793.2231.

In this month's newsletter, I will share some public works project updates and the re-launch of the City's volunteer program.

Lake 16 Dam Repair

As you may know, the City of Sultan owns a watershed in the Sultan Basin which is the source of our municipal water supply. The reservoir we draw water from is created by a man-made dam which was originally constructed 70 years ago. Last spring, City staff identified a leak that had sprung on the side of the dam. We immediately constructed a temporary solution to drain the reservoir and assess the problem. It became clear the porous soils surrounding the dam were not sufficient to continue to hold water back. The City worked with our engineer to develop a solution that would expand the width and depth of the dam.

That work began during the summer and will be completed this month. This solution is expected to last many years so the City can continue to provide quality, reliable drinking water for Sultan residents and businesses.

Lighting at Traveler's Park

For the past couple of years, a dedicated group of volunteers and City staff have worked to identify improvements to Traveler's Park on the South side of US-2. These improvements include new signage, a picnic area, the Freedom Rock, and walking paths in the park. Last month, City staff worked to install lighting to the sign, display log, and Freedom Rock. That project was completed and now visitors can see and enjoy the great assets in the park at any time of the day.

I would like to thank the Traveler's Park Committee and City staff for their diligence in continuing to improve the appearance of our US-2 frontage.

New Volunteer Opportunities

Sultan has a long tradition of volunteerism and City Wide Pride. I am excited to announce that last month, we re-launched our volunteer program with a new, easy to use form to sign up to volunteer. The form can be found on the City's website. After you fill out the form, our new volunteer coordinator, Dave Sivewright, will reach out to you to find the best place to plug you in based on your availability, talents, and passion.

I am excited to see projects like beautifying Main Street and US-2, the next phase of the off-leash dog park, filling sand bags for flood season, and other projects to engage volunteers. We all benefit when residents come together to make the community better. If you have any questions about the new volunteer program, please call City Hall at 360.793.2231.

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

Sincerely,

Russell Wiita, Mayor
City of Sultan

Flood Map Update – New Flood Maps Have Been Adopted – Does this affect me?

FEMA has been in the process of updating the Flood Insurance Rate Maps (FIRM) since 2006. On June 19, 2020, new FIRMs were adopted County wide, which includes the City of Sultan. The updated flood maps changed properties within the city limits of Sultan. Some people who were in the Special Flood Hazard Areas (SFHA) are now removed from them and some people who were not in a flood zone could be in a SFHA area now.

This also has an affect on many Letter of Map Amendments, Changes, Revisions or Revisions based on Fill (respectively: LOMA, LOMC, LOMR and LOMR-F). FEMA did not revalidate all of the changes for various reasons. Some properties may have been removed from the flood zone and no longer need the letters of changes. Some documents do not have information FEMA is requiring, so they become invalid.

For more information, please visit the Building Department on the City website and click on Flood Information. Materials are being added to the website to assist you with these changes.

These changes are made by FEMA and the City of Sultan is required to adopt the changes.



BUILDING CORNER



OCTOBER/NOVEMBER GARBAGE PICK UP



Zone A	OCTOBER 5 OCTOBER 19 NOVEMBER 2 NOVEMBER 16 NOVEMBER 30
Zone B	OCTOBER 8 OCTOBER 22 NOVEMBER 5 NOVEMBER 19
Zone C	OCTOBER 12 OCTOBER 26 NOVEMBER 9 NOVEMBER 23
Zone D	OCTOBER 1 OCTOBER 15 OCTOBER 29 NOVEMBER 12 NOVEMBER 25

Wet weather is on its way!

I don't know about you, but I'm ready to move into fall. As the summers are nice and a necessary break from the long winter's rain and darkness, it's nice it returns every year. Can you imagine no rain in your life? To me, rain washes away the old and refreshes, even takes away SMOKE! But rain can also create problems.

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 our 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. The plumbing code allows for this as a non-potable water source, however some cities have decided to disallow this action as they say, it is robbing the streams of natural water flow...what do you think?

As always I am here should you have questions about building codes.

Richard Karns, CBO
Building Official, City of Sultan

GARBAGE SERVICE CHANGE COMING JANUARY 2021

At the June 25, 2020 Council Meeting, the Sultan City Council voted to approve an agreement with Republic Services to handle the City's garbage service. This is in addition to recycle and yard waste services which they already provide. Republic Services will provide weekly garbage service, billed quarterly and will handle all customer service.

In the coming months, you will receive communications from Republic Services.

Please take a moment and fill out the information update form on the back of your utility bill. It is important the City provide Republic Services with your most up to date information as they utilize phone and e-mail in communicating with their customers.

If you have already filled out the information update, thank you!!

Feel free to contact utility billing by phone at 360.793.1129 or by e-mail at janice.mann@ci.sultan.wa.us with any questions you may have.

OCTOBER 2020 CALENDAR

All Meetings Held in the Community Room

ON HOLD	Community Alliance Meeting Check website for updates
OCTOBER 6	Planning Board—7:00 pm Remote Attendance via Zoom or Phone
OCTOBER 8	City Council Meeting—7:00 pm Remote Attendance via Zoom or Phone
OCTOBER 20	Planning Board Meeting—7:00 pm Optional—Please check website
OCTOBER 22	City Council Meeting—7:00 pm Remote Attendance via Zoom or Phone.

CITY HALL INFORMATION

DUE TO CORONAVIRUS AND DIRECTIVES FROM THE GOVERNOR, CITY HALL IS NOT OPEN TO THE PUBLIC BUT WE ARE STILL CONDUCTING BUSINESS. IF YOU HAVE QUESTIONS OR NEED TO TALK TO SOMEONE, WE ARE AVAILABLE BY PHONE AT 360.793.2231.

Physical Address: 319 Main Street #200, Sultan WA 98294

Mailing Address: PO Box 1199, Sultan WA 98294

Office Hours: Monday 9:00 AM to 5:00 PM

Tuesday through Friday: 8:00 AM to 5:00 PM

(Closed daily between 12:00 pm—1:00 pm for lunch)

Phone 360.793.2231 • Fax 360.793.3344 •

www.ci.sultan.wa.us

NEED HELP WITH YOUR SULTAN UTILITY BILL?

Don't wait until your water is shut off. Past due payments or payment arrangements **MUST** be made by **5:00PM on October 27th.**

If you are a *RENTER*, the owner needs to approve any payment arrangements.

If you need help paying your bill, please contact us at 360.793.2231.