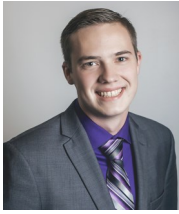


# APRIL 2021 NEWSLETTER



As the weather begins to improve and spring arrives, you will see more utility workers out and about to make sure our City looks great and our parks and open spaces are ready for you and your family to enjoy. Youth sports are coming back and we are continually working on your community facilities to ensure they are in great shape.

In this month's newsletter, I will highlight our advocacy efforts on US-2 and an update on where we stand with COVID-19 response and recovery.

## US-2 Advocacy

Last month, I asked our community to help in the City's US-2 advocacy efforts and write to transportation leaders in Olympia to make our voices heard regarding the need for capacity improvements on our highway. Specifically, we were writing to the Chairs, Vice-Chairs, and Ranking Members of the House and Senate Transportation Committees. These powerful committees lead the legislature in determining how the State of Washington will spend its transportation funding.

Thank you to those of you who answered the call and sent letters and emails to Olympia. Leaders from these committees heard us and I believe we have momentum this session to finally secure funding for a capacity study of US-2.

This study is a necessary first step in making meaningful investments in our infrastructure. Once a study is complete, we will have specific projects we can request funding for at the state and federal levels. These things take time but having the support of our community in these efforts will help us get there.



### **\*\*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

Website: [www.ci.sultan.wa.us](http://www.ci.sultan.wa.us)

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

## COVID-19 Response and Recovery

Last month, we were moved to Phase 3 of the Governor's re-opening plan. This move was critical to helping our small businesses continue to recover from the disastrous impacts of the economic shutdown. As vaccinations continue to roll out and our cases remain at manageable levels, I hope we can continue to allow more of our economy to function properly again.

If you are looking for a local source for a COVID-19 vaccine, you can find them at the Sultan Pharmacy, Invara Pharmacy, or Cascade Health Clinic, all located here in Sultan. Contact the individual locations for details about appointments.

Finally, I would like to highlight the American Rescue Plan funding that the City will be receiving from the federal government. The City of Sultan will be receiving roughly \$900,000 from the American Rescue Plan passed by Congress. These funds will be invested in responding to the direct impacts of COVID-19 as well as helping to stimulate our local economy moving forward. I look forward to working with the City Council and local business and community leaders to find ways to invest these funds to help our community.

As always, if you have any questions or concerns regarding the City of Sultan, please do not hesitate in reaching out to me at:

[russell.wiita@ci.sultan.wa.us](mailto:russell.wiita@ci.sultan.wa.us) or 360.454.4145. Take care.

Sincerely,

Russell Wiita

Mayor, City of Sultan

## APRIL 2021 CALENDAR

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

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

## BUILDING CORNER

### Moratorium on Utility Rate Increases

The Mayor of the City of Sultan has issued a moratorium on utility rate increases for the City.

This postpones any rate increases for water, sewer, and stormwater through May 31, 2021 and on the scheduled rate increase that took effect on December 1, 2020.

We recognize this is a difficult time for residents and businesses financially which is why the rate increase was delayed. The Mayor will work with the City Council in the new year to review utility rates, payment plans, and impacts of the moratorium on late fees and disconnections mandated by the State.

Please contact City Hall at 360.793.2231 with your questions or concerns.

As we prepare for spring weather and say GOODBYE to the snow, this is a good time of year to spring clean your forced air ducts. These ducting systems collect all kinds of debris. They are also known to hold molds and bacteria that could affect your family's health.

There are many companies that perform these cleaning jobs with vacuums and brushes then remove the unwanted debris. The International Mechanical Code, IMC, requires all forced air systems to be equipped with an air filter. The 2015 IMC §605.1 states; "Heating and air-conditioning systems shall be provided with approved air filters. Filters shall be installed such that all return air, out-door air and makeup air is filtered upstream in an approved and convenient location....."

So before you open up your windows for that wonderful spring air, change out your air filter! They are typically located toward the bottom of your forced air unit. Happy building!"

If you would like to know more, please feel free to contact me at 360.793.2231 or email me at [rick.karns@ci.sultan.wa.us](mailto:rick.karns@ci.sultan.wa.us)

As always stay safe and build well!

Your building guy,  
Rick Karns, CBO

### PASSPORT PROCESSING

#### THE CITY OF SULTAN IS CURRENTLY PROCESSING PASSPORTS ON A LIMITED BASIS.

We are scheduling passport appointments on Wednesday afternoons only. Once your appointment is scheduled, you will receive an e-mail confirming your appointment time and a checklist of items you must bring to the appointment. If you do not have all items required, you will have to re-schedule your appointment.

The State Department processing time for regular passports is currently 10 - 12 weeks and expedited processing is 4 - 6 weeks.

Please contact City Hall at 360.793.2231 to schedule an appointment or receive further information.



### Main Street Sewer Project—Phase 2

The City is excited to announce Phase II of the Main Street Sewer Line Project which will begin this spring and be completed no later than July 3, 2021.

During Phase II, Main Street from First Street to Fourth Street will be closed to traffic for three consecutive weeks. The City will notify residents directly impacted two weeks prior to the start of Phase II.

More information about the project can be found on our website at:

<https://www.ci.sultan.wa.us/314/Main-Street-Sewer-Line>

If you have questions or concerns, please reach out to:

Nate Morgan, Public Works Director  
360.793.2262  
[nate.morgan@ci.sultan.wa.us](mailto:nate.morgan@ci.sultan.wa.us)

Ben MacDicken, Field Supervisor  
360.793.1114  
[ben.macdicken@ci.sultan.wa.us](mailto:ben.macdicken@ci.sultan.wa.us)

#### PAY YOUR BILL ON-LINE! NO FEES!

Want to save some paper? SIGN UP FOR ELECTRONIC STATEMENTS OR AUTOMATIC PAYMENTS!!

Go to our website at [www.ci.sultan.wa.us](http://www.ci.sultan.wa.us)

#### PHONE IN BILL PAY—ONE MORE WAY TO PAY YOUR BILL.

How can I pay my City utility bill? Let me count the ways.

1. Mail a check or money order to PO Box 1199, Sultan, WA 98294
2. Drop Box a check or money order in one of two drop box locations.  
There is one located at the post office outside the main entrance and another in City Hall just inside the entrance doors on Main Street.
3. Online with Credit, Debit, or Checking Account at:  
<https://sultanwa.merchanttransact.com/default.aspx> - (no fee for this service)  
Via phone with Credit, Debit, or Checking Account by calling 360.799.3007. (no fee for this service).

#### 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.

The City has temporarily suspended shutting off utilities for non-payment due to the Governor's proclamation.