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VOICE of the Valley

55TH YEAR, NUMBER 42
MAPLE VALLEY, WASHINGTON
TUESDAY, OCTOBER 15, 2024



Since 1969

The 26th Annual Maple Valley Model Train Show is HERE!



Come join the fun! Saturday, October 19, 10 a.m. - 5 p.m. and Sunday, October 20, 10 a.m. - 4 p.m.
Gracie Hansen Community Center ~ 27132 SE, Ravensdale Way, Ravensdale, WA.....Plenty of free parking

Suggested Donation: Adults \$5.00, Children ages 3-11 \$2.00. **Cash Only.** Sorry, we are unable to process credit or debit cards.

Lots to See and Do: Various scale exhibits are presented by model railroad clubs from the Puget Sound Area. You can visit displays at your own pace, conversing with the exhibitors. Kids will enjoy the play area where they can create unique Thomas the Train layouts with blocks and logos. There will be an exhibit from the Black Diamond Historical Museum depicting the mining and logging history of our local area.

Prizes: Door prizes are awarded throughout the day--so hold on to your entry ticket for the periodic drawings. Also, there are Silent Auction items to bid on.



Food Trucks: Saturday, October 19 - American Taco and on Sunday, October 20 - Pizza Maniacs

This event is sponsored by the Greater Maple Valley Unincorporated Area Council (GMVUAC) and hosted by Rock Creek Sports. To learn more about the GMVUAC, please visit our website at www.gmvuac.org.

History of Black Diamond Featured at Museum

By D'Ann Tedford

Black Diamond Museum is setting the stage for a history lesson. Photos, songs, and narration present the history of the city of Black Diamond. The Historical Society is hosting a three-part presentation titled "Black Diamond and How It Came To Be" on **Saturday, Oct. 19, 1:00 p.m.**

The town's history is captured with storytelling conveyed through lyrics by Steve Israel who is Black Diamond Historical Society's current president. He has written a set of 12 songs with lyrics based on stories told by miners and the town's old timers. As Steve's lyrics convey, the stories include "some funny, some sad, some true." All songs are accompanied by old-time pictures or staged photos. Playing harmonica in the song "Train to Black Diamond," Steve replicates the sound of a whistle on the train coming to town. The audience is also treated to lyrics recounting the work of coal miners' wives, the lifestyle of children who lived in town, scary shows at the local movie hall, and pennies spent at Mrs. Davies' Candy Store. Sherrie Evans narrates between songs and Dee Israel handles power point.

Even those who have previously attended the three-part presentation are sure to enjoy seeing it once again; they may soon be singing along with familiar songs documenting Black Diamond's history.



The site of the city of Black Diamond was originally inhabited by Coast Salish people. The town was established in mid-1880s and incorporated in 1959.



Director of the King County Department of Local Services

By Peter Rimpos, GMVUAC Corresponding Secretary

On Monday, October 9, the Area Council held its regular monthly meeting at the Maple Valley Fire Station and via Zoom. Our Special Guest was Leon Richardson, new Director of the King County Department of Local Services (DLS). Major topics discussed were: (1) DLS issues and potential solutions; (2) 2024 King County Comprehensive Plan Update; and (3) Annual Operating Model Train Show.

Department of Local Services

As one of our main local government providers, DLS is comprised of two Divisions—Permitting and Road Services. Presentations to Director Richardson discussed issues and potential solutions related to each division. Also present from King County DLS were: Ty Peterson, Permitting Division—Commercial Product Line Manager, and Andrew Kim, Road Services Division Deputy Director.

Permitting Division

General Concerns

Issue ~ There appears to be an ingrained culture of ignoring Code and Policy.

Solutions ~ Launch a new Executive-led initiative to address long-term, ingrained issues and use existing Code Enforcement tools in KC Code.

Case Study of Reserve Silica

The old coal and sand mine, located south of Ravensdale for nearly two decades has been conducting "reclamation" under the auspices of a Grading Permit with no terms or conditions represents an abject failure of King County's responsibilities.

Major concerns discussed were: (1) Reserve Silica imported far more fill material than is permitted under its Clearing & Grading Permit; (2) Reserve Silica violated the essence of its Clearing & Grading Permit and Reclamation Plan; (3) King County allowed major operating expansions beyond the Clearing & Grading Permit and Reclamation Plan, without any public notification, review or comment; and (4) King County enforcement of the Clearing & Grading Permit has been virtually non-existent, only motivating even more violations. It was expressed that King County's position on enforcement here has approached that of negligence. Without due diligence from nearby stewards in Ravensdale, who had legal access to a viewpoint, the Public would not have known about illegal clearcutting and illegal dumping, including ASARCO toxic waste, until EPA and DOE stepped in. We remain extremely disturbed with lack of any kind of transparency by KC despite many communications.

A proposed resolution Plan was offered to Director Richardson:

- I. Identify all the *issues and potential violations*.
- II. Identify *any and all guilty parties*.
- III. Develop a comprehensive *Resolution Plan*.
- IV. Require identified guilty parties to *rectify any and all violations*.
- V. Assess appropriate *finer* accordingly.
- VI. Convene a Public Meeting to *inform* the community.

During and following the presentation Ty Peterson provided some updates and agreed to send the Area Council documentation on several items. The Area Council's Growth Management Committee will review the materials and provide an assessment to the full Area Council. Director Richardson also stated the Area Council will be given the opportunity to review and comment on the pending Reserve Silica permit update, conditions, and reclamation plan *prior* to these being finalized and approved.

Please see: Issues and Potential Solutions & Case Study: Reserve Silica (<http://gmvuac.org/wp/wp-content/uploads/2024/10/Permitting-Division-Presentation-10-7-24.pdf>).

Road Services Division

A Decade of Definition, Analysis, and Commitment (<http://gmvuac.org/wp/wp-content/uploads/2024/10/JTI-A-Decade-of.10724.pdf>)

Transportation issues are regional issues not neighborhood issues. Local rural groups realized more than a decade ago that joining forces was vital to effectively address transportation problems affecting rural/unincorporated areas. The rural/unincorporated population is about 11% of the total population of King County. Rural citizens are underrepresented in King County policy formation. It was only logical to join together to increase the volume of our voices.

In 2014 the Joint Transportation Initiative (JTI) was formed comprised of multiple Rural Area organizations lead by the Area Council. JTI has held several major Transportation Forums with State Legislators, PSRC Transportation managers, and King County Councilmembers. JTI has conducted several technical studies, including *Opus Trafficus*, *The Trouble with Traffic in Rural King County* and provided same to King County officials.

Several challenges remain: (1) Need to better understand how Federal and State governments affect the policies of King County, hence rural residents and (2) Learn how to better communicate with WSDOT to increase our rural footprint in its decision-making process.

Future Funding for Unincorporated Area Roads (<http://gmvuac.org/wp/wp-content/uploads/2024/10/Future-Funding-for-Unincorporated-Area-Roads-100224.pdf>)

Several ideas were presented on how to resolve the enormous lack of funding for roads that has consistently limited King County's ability to properly serve needs of the unincorporated area. Most of the tax base for the county road fund has been lost due to annexations and incorporations of new cities. Meanwhile, outlying cities generate growing streams of commuter traffic through the unincorporated area, accounting for the majority of traffic on rural arterials even though those city residents pay zero into the county road fund.

Several unconventional ideas were presented to raise funds or reduce costs. A countywide voter-approved tax was suggested, aimed at improving safety of roads for all users in all cities as well as the county – pedestrians, bicyclists, motorists, and transit. Taking a balanced budget view of the long-term needs for road reconstruction would identify roads that must be closed for lack of funds to maintain them. Some unfunded costs for county roads can be avoided by closing a couple of roads at strategic points so long-distance commuters must use state highways. Four high-volume roads designated as "Rural Regional Arterials" (e.g., the Issaquah-Hobart Rd) could be turned over to the state, since they function the same as state highways.

It was expressed by Director Richardson that King County has been looking at many of the ideas mentioned in the presentation and Andrew Kim was directed to continue to work with the Area Council on several key issues.

2024 King County Comprehensive Plan Update (Update)

The Area Council continues to coordinate a *Joint Rural Team* of nine Unincorporated Rural Area Councils in participating in the **Update**—a 3-yr effort. The Joint Rural Team has offered multiple amendments to the **Update**. The Joint Rural Team has been conducted several one-on-one meetings with the offices of each of the nine King County Councilmembers to discuss and request *sponsorship* its proposed Amendments for the **Update**. In July and August meetings were held with the offices of Councilwoman Mosqueda; Councilman Zahilay; Councilman Uptegrove; and Councilman Dembowski. In September meetings were held with the offices of Councilman Baron; Councilwoman Balducci; and Councilwoman Perry.

The Council's Striking Amendment, that will include those amendments sponsored by various councilmembers, will be released to the Public on November 14. A Public Hearing before the Council will be held on November 15.

Final approval by the full Council will take place sometime this December. More information can be found at: Update (<https://kingcounty.gov/so-so/dept/council/governance-leadership/council-council/useful-links/comprehensive-plan/2024>).

Annual Operating Model Train Show

The Area Council's 2024 Annual Operating Model Train Show will be held on October 19-20 at the Gracie Hansen Community Center at 27132 SE Ravensdale Way in Ravensdale. from 10 am to 5 pm on Saturday and 10 am to 4 pm on Sunday.

There will be operating model train layouts in many popular gauges. There will be an exhibit from the Black Diamond Museum depicting local history, including transportation, timber, and mining.

The show is fun for the entire family. If you have questions about model railroading the exhibitors are happy to try to answer them. There will be plenty of free parking. The suggested donation for the train show is \$5 for adults and \$2 for children ages 3-11.

Please visit the Area Council's table. We have monthly Council meetings that are open to the public. The dates are listed on our [Website](http://www.gmvuac.org) (www.gmvuac.org). The Area Council is a Washington non-profit corporation and is not any type of 501c charitable organization under the IRS code. Note that the Gracie Hansen Community Center is made available courtesy of Rock Creek Sports.

Next Area Council Meeting

The next Area Council monthly meeting will be held Monday, November 4 from 7 - 9:30 PM at the Maple Valley Fire Station at 22225 SE 231st St (across from the KC Sheriff's Precinct).

Meetings are held on the *first* Monday of the month (except for Holidays, when they are held on the *second* Monday). All meeting announcements, agendas, and Zoom information are posted on the Area Council's [Website](http://www.gmvuac.org) (www.gmvuac.org) and local *NextDoor* platforms. You can also find us on our [FaceBook page](https://www.facebook.com/GMVUAC/) (<https://www.facebook.com/GMVUAC/>). Each meeting begins with an open Public Comment period where anyone can voice concerns, comments, etc.

Area Council Membership

Your Area Council, founded in 1978, is one of the longest continuously active local councils. It serves as an all-volunteer, locally recognized advisory body to King County on behalf of all rural unincorporated area residents living in the Tahoma School District (TSD). The Area Council, in "working to keep the Rural Area rural," collaborates *regionally* with other King County Rural Area organizations through both the *Joint Team* and its *Joint Transportation Initiative*.

The twelve-seat Area Council has four open seats. If you have an interest in joining, please send an e-mail to: [GMVUAC](mailto:info@gmvuac.org) (info@gmvuac.org) or attend (either in-person or virtually) a monthly meeting and express your interest. To be eligible to join the Area Council as a *Member* you need to live *within* the TSD.

Residents, even those not living *within* the TSD, are eligible to become *Associate Members* who can serve (including as Chair or Vice-Chair) on any Area Council Committee: *Environment, Growth Management, Transportation, Public Relations, or Train Show*. For information on each of these committees please see the Area Council's [Website](http://www.gmvuac.org) (www.gmvuac.org) and use the drop-down menu under *Committees*.

All Monthly Meeting Summary Articles can be found on our Home page in the *2024/2023 GMVUAC Monthly Meeting Articles* box or by using the drop-down menu under *Correspondence*.

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An Encouraging Word Taylor Creek Church
 By Pastor Jason Katen



Got Plans?

“Two years before his death, Mike Hanzas, who lived alone, began to make preparations for his demise. He bought a lot in the cemetery. Weekly, he visited the site where his mortal remains would be interred. He planted grass there and mowed it regularly. On Memorial Day, he placed flowers on the grave site, for he said, “I want to see flowers there now. I won’t be able to see them when I’m gone!”

A while later, Mike went into a funeral home. “I want to buy the casket, which will be my new home,” he said. Whenever he passed the funeral home, he would go in. Standing beside the casket, he would say, “That’s where I’m going to live someday!”

One day, Mike invited a nephew and the rest of his family to visit him. After a hearty meal, Mike began to dispense some canned goods and personal effects among his visitors. Then he handed his nephew his will. As he did this, he dropped dead of heart failure!

So far as we know, Mike Hanzas had made every provision for his body but none for his soul.”

It’s funny that we are good planners for everything else, but when it comes to thinking about eternity, we don’t plan at all, or we make plans that are not very reassuring. Most people just don’t want to think about it, especially those who are under the age of fifty. The unfortunate reality is that most people research the future purchase of their next automobile or electronic gadget with more scrutiny and intensity than any thought concerning their own eternal soul.

A word of wisdom: finding the nicest casket and burial plot does nothing for the soul. It may give peace to your family in not having to deal with those physical details, but it will do nothing for you.

If you take this article seriously and begin to research how you can be sure of heaven, know that there is only one way. It is what God did in sending the son, Jesus Christ, who paid for our sins. All other perceived ways fall into the category of man believing that by his good works, he will merit heaven. God’s Word says, “Salvation is found in no one else, for there is no other name under heaven given to men by which we must be saved.” - Acts 4:12. I challenge you to open the Bible, look at it thoroughly, scrutinize it, compare it with all other religious writings and you will find that it stands alone as the Word of God. In it, you will find that Christ is the only way, the truth and life, the only way of salvation and peace with God – John 14:6.

So then, if you’re making plans for the future, don’t miss the most important one, where you will spend eternity. Don’t you think that of all the plans you make in life, this is the most important?

Would you like to know more about making plans? Contact us at 425-432-0634 or www.taylorcreekchurch.org. We would love to talk to you about the hope we can have in Christ. You can also join us every Sunday at 9 AM for Sunday School and 10:15 AM for Worship. 21110 244th Ave. S.E., Maple Valley.

Church Information and Services



HOPE FELLOWSHIP

Are you wondering if there’s a God and what place He should have in your life? Join us Sundays! Sing to contemporary music. Hear the Bible explained simply. Keep your money. Wear normal clothes. Nursery and children’s program provided. Did we mention coffee? Visit either at 9 a.m., 10:45 a.m. or 6 p.m.

Hope Fellowship, 21115 Kent Kangley Road just past Sawyer’s Village. 425-432-5114. www.HopeFellowship.net

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TAYLOR CREEK CHURCH

A place for you to grow in your relationship with the Lord and fellowship with His people. We invite you to join us each Sunday for Sunday School Classes for all ages at 9 am, and for our Worship Service with verse-by-verse teaching of the Word of God at 10:15 am. (Children’s Church and Nursery are provided through Kindergarten) A cry room is provided for nursing mothers with a video feed of the service.

We invite you to also join us throughout the week for personal encouragement and spiritual growth through Adult Small Group Bible Studies, Studies for Men, Studies for Women, as well as Youth Ministry (grades 7-12) and Adventure Club (ages 3 through grade 6).

We are located at 21110 244th Ave. SE (right off Hwy 18). For more information about our church or other activities, please call the church office at (425) 432-0634 or visit our website at www.taylorcreekchurch.org. Senior Pastor: Jason Katen

When Coal Was King

By Bill Kombol



Last week’s column highlighted the coal mine that Eugene Lawson opened on the rich seam of McKay coal that was simultaneously mined in nearby Black Diamond and Franklin. Though the mine produced a superior grade of bituminous coal, the operation was challenged by explosive methane gas that claimed the lives of 11 men on Oct. 1, 1902, and another 16 miners on Nov. 6, 1910, after which the operation was permanently closed.

The Old Lawson Mine was located at approximately 26000 Old Lawson Road. The Columbia & Puget Sound Railroad tracks that connected Black Diamond to Franklin can be seen just above the mine’s portal. The mine employed mules to pull coal carts within the mine. An electric hoist, shaped like a giant fishing reel and spooled with steel cable, pulled coal carts to the surface. The hoist’s cable rests on a roller between the two rails. The pile of lumber in front of the large group of miners and mules was called lagging and used to hold up the mine’s ceiling. Housing for the predominantly Austrian and German miners who worked at Old Lawson are visible above the railroad.

The Lawson Mine operated for just over 15 years and produced more than 1.1 million tons of coal, averaging 74,600 tons per year. Yet, during that period Lawson experienced 34 fatalities, making it by far the region’s most dangerous and probably the deadliest coal mine in the state. Lawson recorded 33 deaths per million tons mined compared to nearby Mine #11’s eleven deaths and Mine #14’s four deaths per million tons mined.

As for Eugene Lawson, after selling his mine holdings to

Pacific Coast Coal Company in 1899, he had an interesting second act. In 1901, he was cited as an accessory in a case of bankruptcy fraud after taking possession of 80 city lots in east Seattle deeded to him by D.N. & Lizzie Holden who were trying to evade property forfeiture by bank foreclosure.

Two years later in August 1903, Lawson was retained by the Black Diamond Coal Mining Co. (BDCMC) to broker a sale of their operations to Pacific Coast Coal Co. Lawson and two associates, Bruce Cornwall and Maurice McMicken were authorized by BDCMC to sell the business for \$1.5 million, after which a deal was struck. However, Black Diamond’s President, H.H. Taylor, and its major shareholder, D.O. Mills butted in, initiating direct negotiations with John D. Farrell of Pacific Coast that resulted in an inexplicable price reduction to \$1.1 million. The sale closed in June 1904 as Pacific Coast vastly expanded its coal mining footprint.

Lawson sued for his 5% commission amounting to \$55,000, but BDCMC refused to pay. The case dragged on for five years and twice reached the Washington Supreme Court. In June 1909, Lawson was awarded \$66,935 in commission and damages. The court held that Black Diamond Coal Mining Company owed him the commission and that through poor negotiations BDCMC squandered perhaps \$400,000 when renegotiating the original deal.

Eugene Lawson soon started a well-drilling company. In 1911, Lawson undertook a search for coal near the Green River. His exploratory drill hole penetrated 1,403 feet deep and discovered at least seven coal seams in the Kummer series. Natural gas was encountered between the 900 and 1,000-foot levels.

After his Green River drill hole was abandoned, pressurized water began bubbling to the surface yielding significant amounts of coal-bed methane gas. When ignited the gas caused flames to burst high into the air and the site became known as Flaming Geyser. A privately owned resort sprung up and operated for decades. A later attempt to enlarge the geyser failed and restricted the gas flow thereby reducing the flame to something resembling a BIC lighter. The property was eventually acquired by Washington and became the popular Flaming Geyser State Park.

Lawson was born in Monroe County, Kentucky in 1857 to Tyre and Mary (Johnson) Lawson. He never married, living most of his life in Seattle boarding houses and later hotels. Eugene Francis Lawson died on Aug. 26, 1937, at age 80, having resided in the Stevens Hotel at First Ave. and Marion Street for decades. His prostate condition probably contributed to a urinary tract infection from which he died. He was survived by a sister, Mrs. M.E. Boozer, and a nephew, Frank R. Lawson, who wrote the short obituary appearing in Seattle newspapers.

This Black Diamond Historical Society photo #97.1.26 of the Old Lawson Mine was preserved by Frank Guidetti, a photographer who captured and retained many historic images. It was likely taken between around 1900. Biographical information about Eugene Francis Lawson was provided by Donna Brathovde, a Ravensdale historian and genealogist. Next week story - a bowling alley photo at Old Lawson provided to the Museum by John “Cut” Kravagna.

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ABANDONED VEHICLE AUCTION

ABANDONED VEHICLE AUCTION
Dick's Towing and Road Service, Inc. 8425 1st Ave S, Seattle, WA 98108. 206-364-2000 Ext. 137. **Wednesday, October 23, 2024.** 2 hour preview @ 8-10 a.m. Auction: 10 a.m. For list of vehicles see www.roadnonesetttle.com
(Published VOICE of the Valley, Tuesday, October 15, 2024)

LEGAL NOTICES

Court of Washington County of King
In re the Estate of Maria Belen Valdez aka Belen Valdez Foltz, Deceased.
No. 24-4-06560-9 KNT Probate Notice to Creditors (RCW 11.40.030)
PLEASE TAKE NOTICE

The above Court has appointed Marie C. Harrison as Personal Representative of Decedent's estate

Any person having a claim against Decedent must present the claim:

- Before the time when the claim would be barred by any applicable statute of limitations, and
- In the manner provided in RCW 11.40.070:
- By filing with the Court the original of the signed Creditor's Claim, and
- By serving upon or mailing by first class mail to me at the address provided below a copy of the signed Creditor's Claim.

The Creditor's Claim must be presented by the later to occur of:

- Thirty (30) days after I served or mailed this Notice to you as provided in RCW 11.40.020(3), or
- Four (4) months after the date of first publication of this Notice.

If the Creditor's Claim is not presented within the foregoing time period, the claim will be forever barred except as provided in RCW 11.40.051 and 11.40.060. This bar is effective for claims against both the Decedent's probate and non-probate assets.

Date of First Publication of this Notice: Tuesday, October 1, 2024. Dated: September 23, 2024

/s/ Jennifer A. Gellner: Jennifer A. Gellner, Gellner Law, Attorney for Personal Representative, WSBA #30701
Address for Mailing of Service: Jennifer A. Gellner, Gellner Law, 8407 S. 259th Street, Suite 203, Kent, WA 98030-7536
(Published VOICE of the Valley, Tuesdays, October 1, 8, & 15, 2024)

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ABANDONED VEHICLE AUCTION
Lincoln Towing Enterprises Inc., 1201 North 125th St., Seattle, WA 98133. 206-364-2000. **Saturday, October 19, 2024.** 3 hour preview @ 7-10 a.m. **Auction @ 10 a.m.** For list of vehicles see: www.roadnonesetttle.com
(Published VOICE of the Valley, Tuesday, October 15, 2024)

ABANDONED VEHICLE AUCTION
Lincoln Towing Enterprises Inc., 8425 1st Ave S., Seattle, WA 98108. 206-364-2000 Ext. 137. **Wednesday, October 23, 2024.** Preview 8-10 a.m. Auction @ 10 a.m. For list of vehicles see: www.roadnonesetttle.com
(Published VOICE of the Valley, Tuesday, October 15, 2024)

ABANDONED VEHICLE AUCTION
Thursday, October 17, 2024
@ Noon / Viewing @ 11:30 a.m.
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Federal Way, WA 98003
253-941-4565
(Published VOICE of the Valley, Tuesday, October 15, 2024)

ABANDONED VEHICLE AUCTION
Tuesday, October 22, 2024.
@ Noon / Viewing @ 11:30 a.m.
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(Published VOICE of the Valley, Tuesday, October 15, 2024)

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METROPOLITAN KING COUNTY COUNCIL NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING 2024 Comprehensive Plan Proposed Ordinances 2023-0438 and 2023-0440

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN, that a public hearing before the Metropolitan King County Council will be held at the King County Courthouse, 516 3rd Avenue Room 1001 on the 19th day of November, 2024, at 11:00 a.m. to consider adoption of Proposed Ordinances 2023-0438 and 2023-0440, which would adopt the 2024 Comprehensive Plan. Written public testimony will be accepted from 9 a.m. on October 14, 2024 through 9:00 a.m. on November 19, 2024, by sending such public testimony to CouncilCompPlan@kingcounty.gov. Please include the legislation number and related agenda item in the subject line. In-person and remote testimony will be accepted at the November 19th, 2024 hearing. Information on the public hearing and how to submit public testimony can be found at this website: <https://kingcounty.gov/en/dept/council/governance-leadership/county-council/committees/county-council-meetings>.

County Council meetings - King County, Washington

It is expected that the Council will take action on these Proposed Ordinances at the December 3, 2024 meeting.

SUMMARY:
The King County Comprehensive Plan is the guiding policy document for all land use and development regulations in unincorporated King County. The 2024 Comprehensive Plan includes substantive changes to policies in all chapters, map amendments changing land use designations and zoning classifications, updates to appendices, adoption of the Snoqualmie Valley / Northeast King County Subarea Plan, amendments to the Vashon-Maury Island Subarea Plan, updates to the Countywide Planning Policies, and updates to development regulations. A detailed description of the 2024 Comprehensive Plan is available on the Council's website: <https://kingcounty.gov/en/dept/council/governance-leadership/county-council/useful-links/comprehensive-plan/2024>.

The 2024 Comprehensive Plan constitutes the periodic update required under RCW 36.70A.130. The Growth Management Act (GMA) requires King County to take action no later than December 31, 2024, to review and, if needed, revise its comprehensive plan and development regulations to ensure the plan and regulations comply with the requirements of the GMA. The 2024 King County Comprehensive Plan is compliant with the GMA and completes the requirements of the update in RCW 36.70A.130. Additional work on critical areas regulations is ongoing into 2025, as allowed under the reasonable progress exception in RCW 36.70A.130(7)(b).

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FINAL CONSIDERATION:

The Council will review the Proposed Ordinances as recommended by the Council's Local Services and Land Use Committee. Councilmembers may offer amendments to the pieces of legislation for consideration by the Council. As a result, persons interested in any of the issues raised on the pieces of legislation should testify and make their views known at the public hearing on November 19, 2024. Amendments that may be considered for adoption by the Council include, but are not limited to, the following topics:

Comprehensive Plan

- Modifying policies related to rural area growth, rural character, Rural Towns, and Rural Neighborhood Commercial Centers.
- Modifying policies related to anti-displacement measures tied to development and capital investment.
- Modifying policies related to critical areas and the allowance for changes to critical area policies with an annual Comprehensive Plan update.
- Modifying policies related to climate resilience hubs.
- Modifying policies related to coordination on an intake system for families and individuals experiencing homelessness.
- Modifying policies related to prioritization of specific types of development in permit review.
- Modifying policies (and code) to require accessory dwelling units on rural properties to be included in density calculations with a proposed subdivision.
- Modify policies related to electrification of freight infrastructure.
- Modifying policies related to rural economic development.
- Modifying or adding policies related to Indian tribal cultural resources and tourism.
- Modifying the essential public facilities policies in the KCCP to name the entities/agencies carrying out the policy in each case.
- Modifying policies related to provision of public facilities and services.
- Modifying policies related to coordination with partners on discouraging development in flood hazard areas.
- Modifying policies related to composting toilets, on-site septic systems, and provisions for accessory dwelling units.
- Acknowledging that "undesigned" land use designation exists in the KCCP.
- Adding or modifying policies and development regulations related to using universal design in construction.
- Establishing clear, consistent, and reasonable evaluation and monitoring requirements for implementation of the KCCP.
- Modifying Policy I-108 to simplify the proposed requirements.
- Establishing timing for each of the Work Plan actions in Chapter 12 of the KCCP.
- Adding a Work Plan action to study urban residential density increases throughout urban unincorporated King County.
- Adding a Work Plan action to establish a legacy business program, particularly in areas with a high risk of displacement.
- Adding a Work Plan action to evaluate legal nonconforming open-air theaters and temporary event uses.
- Addressing comments from the Puget Sound Regional Council.
- Addressing comments from the Department of Commerce.
- Modifying the Shoreline Master Program (policies and code) to address comments from the Department of Ecology.
- Modifying Appendix A, Capital Facilities and Utilities, to provide updated information on other service and utility providers.

Snoqualmie Valley / Northeast King County Subarea Plan

- Modifying policies related to Rural Towns and housing.
- Modifying policies related to pedestrian and active transportation links in the Fall City Rural Town.
- Modifying policies related to designated Washington Scenic and Recreational Highways and historic or scenic corridor.
- Modifying policies related to trail connections to the Snoqualmie Valley Trail.
- Modifying policies for alternatives to driving to Snoqualmie Pass.
- Modifying policy language related to supporting unique local businesses in the Snoqualmie Valley / Northeast King County subarea.

Map Amendments

- Reviewing land use designations and zoning classifications in North Highline to increase the residential density in in the R-6 and R-8 zones to R-12 or R-18 zoning.
- Reviewing land use designations and zoning classifications to increase residential density in R-zoned areas of the Vashon Rural Town, including rezoning properties along Vashon Highway SW inside the Vashon Rural Town from R-1 to R-4.
- Modifying the map amendments to maintain agriculture land use designations for lands within Agricultural Production Districts.
- Reviewing land use designations and implementing zoning on parcels 2225069027 and 2225069097, in the Happy Valley area, to consider changes to the p-suffix condition, ES-P05, and an associated KCCP policy.

Development Regulations

- Modifying the inclusionary housing regulations, including affordability limits in specific geographic areas such as the Vashon Rural Town or the White Center and Skyway unincorporated activity centers, density allowances, housing and ownership types, dimensional standards such as height limits and step backs, and transfer of development rights provisions. Establishing affordable housing requirements for the Four-to-One Program consistent with the inclusionary housing changes.
- Creating density or floor area ratio bonuses for developments

with child daycare facilities.

- Defining "event centers" and listing them as an allowed use in Title 21A, with or without development conditions in each zoning classification.

- Modifying the allowances for temporary uses, including separating the temporary use permits for special events from other types of temporary uses, and establishing standards for each type of temporary use. This could include, but is not limited to, exemptions, permit requirements, limits on attendees or visitors, traffic and parking conditions.

- Modifying the review requirements for temporary use permits to require full environmental and public review, and limiting use of legal nonconforming status for event uses.

- Amending regulations relating to temporary events in urban areas. Amending regulations for temporary events held at properties owned by nonprofit organizations.

- Reducing permitting conditions to provide temporary farm worker housing.

- Requiring single detached residences on Agricultural zoned land to be accessory to active agricultural production, and requiring these residences to be located in areas not suitable for agricultural purposes.

- Allowing microshelter villages (also known as tiny house villages) as a temporary use on church properties in the RA zone.

- Adopting regulations to allow "lot splitting," which would allow single detached properties to be split into two lots, subject to restrictions and development requirements such as lot size, lot width, parking, or street improvements.

- Amending the grading permit exemptions for wildfire risk reduction.

- Modifying the regulations, including in the alternative housing demonstration project, for congregate housing.

- Establishing a new regenerative development demonstration project, to apply to properties in Vashon Rural Town.

- Modifying requirements for residential uses on the upper floors in the Fall City Business District. Revising building height maximums and affordability incentives in Fall City Rural Town.

- Modifying the maximum density for manufactured home communities in the Fall City Rural Town residential zones.

- Amending requirements for daycares, such as fencing requirements, to reduce barriers. Prioritizing daycares in permit review.

- Amending requirements for retail nurseries, garden centers and farm supply stores in the Rural Area and/or Agricultural zones.

- Modifying permit requirements and development conditions for uses allowed in the land use tables considered "Industrial" uses so that uses with similar impacts are regulated similarly. Defining or clarifying what is considered an "industrial" use to create alignment between the KCCP

and Title 21A.

- Making changes to what types of utility development projects require equity impact review and what is required during the review.

- Reviewing dimensional, density, design, parking, and ground floor use requirements for developments in urban areas to reduce barriers to building housing, including reducing or eliminating setbacks, upper floor step backs, off-street parking; and/or increasing base density, height, or floor to area ratio.

- Removing regulatory barriers for uses unlikely to have negative impacts, such as removing requirements for Conditional Use Permits or Special Use Permits.

- Raising the maximum square footage for accessory dwelling units in the urban area and reducing or eliminating fees relating to accessory dwelling unit construction.

- Waiving parking requirements in the White Center unincorporated activity center for certain uses.

- Limiting chain or formula stores in the White Center unincorporated activity center and in Vashon Rural Town.

- Modifying or eliminating maximum residential density in urban areas, particularly where neighboring jurisdictions have different maximum density standards.

- Modifying development standards and design standards in North Highline to reduce barriers to building housing, including reducing setback requirements, raising height limits in some zones, providing extra density for developments within ½ mile of transit, reducing parking requirements.

- Adding a density bonus for small businesses in mixed-use developments in White Center.

- Creating different dimensional standards for single detached residences and multiunit attached residences.

- Applying minimum density requirements in the Rural Towns.

- Amending dimensional standards for Vashon Rural Town, including height and parking requirements.

- Increasing residential density and allowing a greater range of uses in rural neighborhood commercial centers.

- Establishing size limitations for uses in Rural Neighborhood Commercial Centers and Rural Towns.

- Allowing for warehousing and manufacturing as conditional uses in the proposed green energy special district overlay when associated with efforts that further the County's Strategic Climate Action Plan or other green energy goals.

- Reducing permitting requirements for animal rescue shelters, including allowing for a "home-based animal shelter."

- Reviewing regulations for community centers.

- Reducing barriers to and/or requiring climate-resilient landscaping and green stormwater infrastructure.

- Making changes to the sign code relating to historic markers and heritage trails.

- Revising the definition for family and household for consistency.

- Aligning uses between the permitted uses tables and the landscaping chapter.

- Clarifying and streamlining code sections on site area and density calculations.

- Modifying subarea plan requirements in Title 20 and the Comprehensive Plan.

- Reviewing the substantive authority section in Title 20 to update it to currently adopted plans and regulations.

- Reorganizing K.C.C. chapter 20.18 to make the requirements clearer without changing intent.

- Modifying when Community Needs Lists are transmitted to the Council.

- Creating consistency between definitions in different titles of King County Code.

- Modifying regulations for materials processing uses.

- Updating parking dimensional standards to comply with updates in state law.

- Modifying the transfer of development rights program to allow affordable housing to be considered an amenity to be eligible for amenity funding.

- Modifying the allowance for specialty hospitals to remove the allowance as a permitted use in the R-12 zone.

- Modifying the allowed uses in the Vashon Rural Town.

- Modifying the allowances for doctor's office/outpatient clinic, hospital, social services, crisis care center, nursing and personal care facilities, adult family home, and emergency housing uses in Rural Towns, Rural Neighborhood Commercial Centers, and Rural Area zones.

- Modifying the definitions of emergency housing uses.

- Modifying the allowances for anaerobic digesters in commercial and mining zones.

- Modifying the requirements for docket submittals as part of midpoint and 10-year Comprehensive Plan updates.

- Modifying or removing the rural area advisory commission.

(2024 Comprehensive Plan Continued on page 6)

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LEGAL NOTICES

(2024 Comprehensive Plan Continued from page 5)

□ Modifying the requirements for the Strategic Climate Action Plan.

General

- Engrossing changes made by other ordinances.
- Making technical corrections, clarifications to terminology, and streamlining of language that does not change the intent.
- Any amendment within the alternatives analyzed in the 2024 Comprehensive Plan Environmental Impact Statement.
- Any amendment contained in the Executive's version of the subject legislation, either in the public review draft or as transmitted.
- Any amendment offered, or issue discussed, during the Local Services and Land Use Committee review.

For More Information:

The complete text of the legislation as transmitted by the Executive, the text of the recommended Local Services and Land Use Committee version, and available conceptual line amendments are at the following website: <https://kingcounty.gov/en/dept/council/governance-leadership/council-useful-links/comprehensive-plan/2024>. As amendments are made public, they will also be available at this website.

A copy of Proposed Ordinance 2023-0438 is available on the internet at:

<https://mkcclegisearch.kingcounty.gov/LegislationDetail.aspx?ID=6445313&GUID=83C330F2-B895-4C25-BA64-5B6C78D9DF98&Options=ID|Text|&Search=2023-0438>

A copy of Proposed Ordinance 2023-0440 is available on the internet at: <https://mkcclegisearch.kingcounty.gov/LegislationDetail.aspx?ID=6445382&GUID=D52C8883-3290-43F7-86B4-AC5D10C49A7E&Options=ID|Text|&Search=2023-0440>

You may also view this notice at the Clerk's webpage at: <https://kingcounty.gov/en/dept/council/governance-leadership/council-clerk-of-the-council/public-notice>.

DATED at Seattle, Washington, this 15th day of October, 2024.

METROPOLITAN KING COUNTY COUNCIL
KING COUNTY, WASHINGTON

Melani Hay
Clerk of the Council
(Published VOICE of the Valley, Tuesday, October 15, 2024)



Spooktacular Halloween House is Open!!

Enjoy this FREE creepy crawler display of homemade props and blood curdling scares as you enjoy this synchronized musical fun. Be sure to do the "Walkway Challenge". Push the buttons all the way to the front door, but watch out for spooks.

Now showing, dusk until 11:30 p.m. daily through Nov. 1st. Crest Air Park- 30211 176th ave se Covington.

Follow signs off of Covington/ Sawyer rd and 179th pl.

CAN FOOD DONATIONS to benefit:

The Black Diamond Senior Center and Food Bank. Thank you to our Sponsor: The Nail Genie

Check us out: Facebook: Spooktacular Halloween House. The Very Merry Christmas House, MAP of more decorative houses! Facebook: PacNWChrist

maslights, Northwest Haunters Association



Last weekend at the "Place To Race" the 4th Annual Pacific Raceways Invitational was held. Cars and drivers from the various racing sanctions competed together on the 10 Turn, 2.25-mile road course. The teams came from SOVREN, SCCA, IRDC, Lucky Dog Racing League and others. In addition to the action on the track, there was a Car Show in excess of 70 cars and trucks on display for all the fans to check out. It was a great weekend of race cars and customs. There is still more drag racing scheduled, as well as the Annual Trunk or Treat for the kids. New this coming November is the Pacific Raceways Fall Swap Meet. If you're interested in a spot for your wares then give Diana a call (M, W, F) at (253) 639-5927 or email her at DianaH@pacificraceways.com. Photo by Bill Archer

Cemetery Tour Offers History, New Perspective



Black Diamond Cemetery, founded in 1884, is on the National Registry of Historic Places. It is also on Washington's "most haunted" list.

By D'Ann Tedford

Visiting a cemetery is on par with dropping in to a museum; each occasion occurs with a new perspective. The public is invited to a guided tour of Black Diamond Cemetery on **Saturday, Oct. 26**. To enhance the event, several speakers are scheduled **beginning at 11:00 a.m.** Topics range from coal mine disasters, Civil War veterans who are buried in the cemetery, and a Memorial Garden created by Daughters of the American Revolution (DAR).

There will even be mention of paranormal activity that has occurred at the cemetery.

Speakers and their subjects will be: Melanie Self, city administrative assistant, on "How and When the City and Cemetery Began"; Mayor Carol Benson, six of the earliest known graves; Bob Beers whose great grandmother was the first non-native woman to live in Black Diamond; Elaine Parks, DAR "Women of American History" award presentations; George Sato, five Civil War vets

who are buried in the cemetery; Katie Hanzeli, DAR "Never Forget Memorial Garden"; Steve Israel - "Lawson Mine Explosion" the tragedy and loss of 16 coal miners. Burial site for eight of those miners is part of the tour.

The cemetery tour is sponsored by City of Black Diamond, Black Diamond Historical Society, Daughters of the American Revolution (DAR) and King County 4-Culture. Dee Israel is tour coordinator.

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