



Burlington City Newsletter

Fall 2023

FROM THE CITY ADMINISTRATOR'S DESK

Welcome to the second edition of the Burlington Newsletter! This edition focuses on the major developments around town. The City, through prudent stewardship by the Mayor and Council, continues to work to make Burlington an even better place to call home. Burlington has always been a City that prides itself on a high quality of life, preferring to pay cash whenever possible which, combined with grant funding, allows us to grow and prosper. I believe the highlighted projects in this Newsletter reflects this management approach. So, while our town continues to grow, we believe that newcomers and existing residents alike will continue to agree that Burlington is the place to be.

CITY EVENTS

Join us for fantastic Community Events in Burlington:

**Veterans Day Parade-
November 11th @ 11am**



EAST-WEST CONNECTOR ROAD- COMING SOON!

The City has been working over the last few years to build a new road connecting the Costco exit on Burlington Blvd to Walnut Street, passing in front of the La Quinta Hotel. Grant financing is secured and the project is scheduled to start soon. The first step will be the demolition of the Skagit Cycle Shop and reconstruction of the building a little further south (the new road will be constructed where the existing Cycle Shop is located). Because of this new road, Sage Homes is also set to construct a 120-unit apartment complex nearby – you may have seen the dirt moving around the site. This Project represents a partnership between the City and Sage Homes and a number of Federal, State and County grants made this road project a reality.



AFFINITY SENIOR LIVING CENTER

Exciting developments are happening at the corner of S. Walnut & McCorquedale with the construction of a 170-unit senior living center. The building is nearing completion and is very impressive. We anticipate further progress in the coming months. This facility is designed for Active Retirement with the development including a cinema, health facility, and other amenities designed for the enjoyment of their residents.

TAMMI WILSON TRAIL EXTENSION

Construction will begin soon on an extension of this popular trail at the southern end of the Cascade Mall. This grant-funded project will extend the trail with a widened sidewalk down Burlington Blvd to the intersection with Pease Road. Pedestrians and bicyclists will now be able to walk or bike on a safer pathway. This Project will be the first of what the City hopes is an expansion of our bikeways throughout Burlington.



NEW COMMUNITY CENTER

Another exciting project is the possible transformation of the existing Parks and Recreation Building (old City Hall/Library) into a new Community Center. The City Council continues to explore ways to improve the quality of life in Burlington and to this end, is working with planners to renovate this building. To keep costs in check, we do not envision changing the footprint of the building but with much of the facility somewhat empty, we hope to modernize the mechanics of the building and bring new life into this well-constructed building.

FIRE DEPARTMENT

Fire Station Remodel:

The City is in the final stages of a remodel to our Fire Hall. With the City taking on Emergency Medical Services (EMS) in addition to our Fire response, we now have many more individuals living and working out of the building. Our Firefighters and EMS personnel work 48-hour shifts during which they call the Fire Hall home. To modernize the building to serve our citizen's needs, the City is expending approximately \$2.5 million to renovate the building, adding additional sleeping quarters and improving the health and welfare of our employees. This project did not involve outside financing as the Council decided to cover the costs with existing City funds. The building may not look different from the outside but inside it is ready to serve our needs for many years to come.



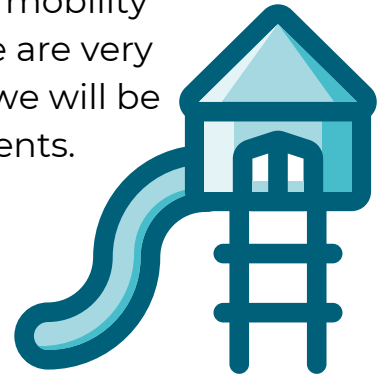
OUTLET MALL & CASCADE MALL

You may have heard that the Mall has recently been sold. It was purchased by the same individual who previously bought the Outlet Mall. He has already made improvements to the Outlet Mall with new tenants in place and more coming soon. The owner is now in discussions with City staff as to the next steps for redevelopment of the Cascade Mall. While nothing has been finalized, the new owner is very excited to be part of Burlington's growth and hopes to bring even more vitality to our City in the coming months. Stay tuned.



INCLUSIVE PLAYGROUND AT ROTARY PARK

Following the award of a \$500,000 grant, the City is in the planning stages of constructing an Inclusive Playground at Rotary Park adjacent to the Skate Park. Inclusive Playgrounds are designed to give individuals with mobility challenges the ability to enjoy the playground experience and we are very excited to begin this project. In addition to the new playground, we will be adding bathrooms, lighting and sidewalks linking the improvements. Construction is anticipated to begin next spring/summer.



MAIBEN PARK

Being centrally located, Maiben Park has served as a gathering place for many years. With the Senior Center, basketball courts, and the splash pad, many generations have enjoyed this park year round. To continue this tradition, the City is embarking on a Project to possibly add other amenities to the Park – this may include a Natural Playground, renovated Splash Pad, and Pickleball Courts. The City has dedicated funding for park improvements so the cost of this rejuvenation will not come out of property taxes but from funds collected whenever property is sold in Burlington. These monies are restricted for capital projects and the City Council and Parks Board have identified improvements to Maiben Park as one of their top priorities.



BOERNER PARK

While in the very early planning stages, the Parks Board has also identified Boerner Park as needing improvements. We have recently completed a User Survey, held a Pop Up Event at the Park, and have reached out to the neighborhood to determine what type of improvements are desired. The result of our outreach has identified a covered pavilion, basketball courts, and an expanded playground as possible improvements. We will be working with the Parks Board to refine this project for completion in the coming year. In the meantime, we temporarily placed soccer goals over at the park and once soccer season is completed over at Skagit River Park, we will be returning these goals for use by the area residents.

DOG PARK

Our local dog park has been a hit, with overwhelmingly positive feedback from its users. We are addressing minor issues to ensure the park continues to be a safe and enjoyable space for our furry friends and their owners. If you have not yet enjoyed some outside time with your pets, please stop by, let your dog run and visit with your neighbors.



THANK YOU!

We hope this newsletter has served to bring you up to date on some of the major developments in our fair city. With the positive reception for our inaugural edition of the newsletter, we plan on publishing it on a regular basis. Should you have ideas for story topics, please let us know so we can make the Newsletter ever better in the future. Stay connected with your community, and watch out for these exciting developments. Your city is on the move, and we are thrilled to be a part of it.



833 S Spruce St
Burlington, WA 98233 -2801
<https://burlingtonwa.gov/>

CITY COUNCIL MEETINGS

Thursday, October 12th
Thursday, October 26th
Thursday, November 9th
@ 7pm

City Council Meetings can be attended via Zoom:

ZOOM WEBINAR LINK:
<https://zoom.us/j/97859681042>

ZOOM DIAL-IN:
+1-253-215-8782

WEBINAR ID:
978 5968 1042



Scan to view the street sweeping map & discover what day each week we'll be in your neighborhood:



ANNUAL STREET OVERLAY

This year, as has been the case for the last several years, the City has continued its efforts to repave select roads in town. Through grant funding from the State, we continue to assess the conditions of our major roadways (unfortunately we cannot use the State monies for neighborhood streets) and each year grind and repave certain areas. We hope to continue these efforts to maintain our roads.

COURTS & PASSPORTS

If you need to apply for a new U.S. passport, you can access all the forms at the Burlington Municipal Court, including renewal forms. Staff is available to answer any questions you may have.

You can also log onto the U.S. Department of State Passport website to download an application and to obtain other important information on applying for a passport.

For more information visit <https://burlingtonwa.gov/175/Passports> or scan the QR code above .

