



The City Connection

Quarterly Newsletter

April, May, June 2021

Mayor's Message



City Council Officials

Mayor, Carol Benson

Councilmembers:

Tamie Deady
Melissa Oglesbee
Chris Wisnoski
Vacant
Kristiana de Leon
Bernie O'Donnell
Vacant

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City Offices will be
closed on the
following days:

5/31 ~ Memorial Day

Hello Spring! The days are getting longer, the plants are starting to bloom, and a time to look forward to warmer weather and outdoor fun! As we head into the second quarter of 2021, I'd like to take this opportunity to share with you the following information.

HONORING A BLACK DIAMOND GREAT ONE...DAN DAL SANTO!

At the end of February, a major Black Diamond event occurred that needs recognition, honor, and thanks.

Dan Dal Santo, Public Works Operations and Maintenance Superintendent, retired. Dan served the citizens of Black Diamond in maintaining the quality of life here for 26 years.

When Dan took over the Public Works Department in 1995, much of the drainage systems, the water system, streets, and parks had fallen into disrepair. Dan and a new hire, Ken Blakely dug in with new vigor to restore, maintain and repair the City's infrastructure with a very limited budget. Amazingly, these two guys managed the water, sewer, streets, stormwater, parks and cemetery needs for the growing city.

Dan applied for grants and showed the additional effort going door to door to gather signatures for grant qualification. Through Dan's efforts the City was able to fund a sidewalk extension project from the elementary school and the skateboard park. He was instrumental in moving forward with a grant funded project from Jennifer Dunn for the replacement of a small Asbestos Concrete springs supply line which served the entire city. The funding was about to expire and Dan managed the project and bought it to completion, including the federal paperwork needed prior to the expiration date.

So, year after year, the story continued for 26 years of major accomplishments such as: constructing/installing the coal car city limit monuments; building trails; changing a 30 acre blackberry patch into a beautiful natural grassy park with drifts of trees which we now know as the Lake Sawyer Regional Park. Upgrading public works facilities, reconstructing the springs collection system with City forces for 10% of engineering estimates. As



Mayor's Message~ Continued from page 1



well as, constantly adjusting the operations to meet new regulations and requirements from Department of Health and the Department of Ecology and other agencies. Sometimes he would work through the night to keep the City with water or clear the way for people to get to work in the morning. The impact that Dan has had on this community truly is remarkable.

The Dal Santo family going back to his grandparents have lived here since the early 1900's and Dan has raised his family here and probably will be a Black Diamond resident for life. What a great career! We want to honor and thank Dan who has taken great pride in serving his fellow citizens and the City with great dependability, strong work ethic, honesty and professionalism.

Farewell to Councilmembers Stout and Paige –

In March Councilmembers Stout and Paige resigned from the City Council. Councilmember Paige left



due to work commitments and Councilmember Stout and her husband moved out of the city. I really enjoyed working with each of them and want to thank them for all their hard work and dedication in representing the citizens of Black Diamond. They will be missed, and I wish them nothing but the best!

Council Vacancy Recruitment – The recruitment process for the two Council vacancies (Position 4 and 7) is moving forward. Applications were due on March 23rd and the next step in the process is interviews with the candidates on April 1 with possible appointments at the April 15th Council meeting.



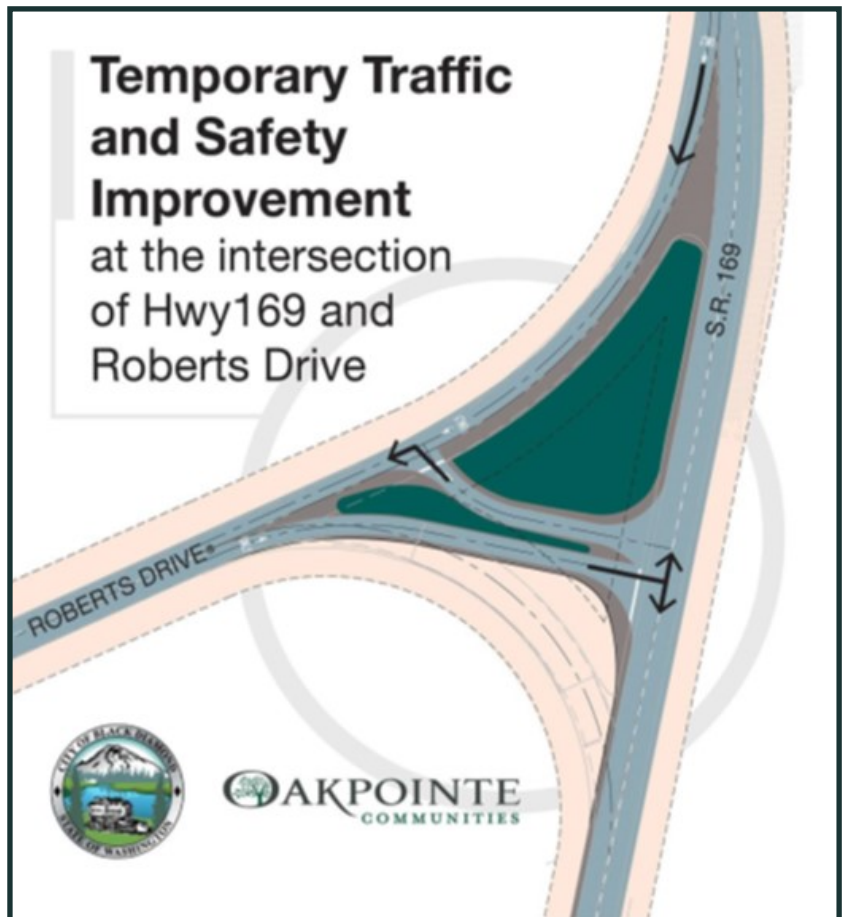
Town Hall Meeting and Council Retreat – The City Council is planning to hold a Town Hall Meeting in May to replace the regular scheduled Town Hall that was cancelled in March. Also in the works is a Council Retreat to be held in June. I encourage residents to sign up to receive agenda notifications of all Council meetings. Please send your email information to info@blackdiamondwa.gov and ask to be added to the distribution list.

Roberts Drive Construction Project – With the recent Hearing Examiner decision on the reconsideration on the appeal of the temporary improvements at the intersection at Hwy 169 and Roberts Drive, I am happy to announce that construction will start March 31, with completion by the end of April. This project will improve safety and traffic flow and is the first step of multiple improvements at this intersection. For more information on when/where, traffic changes, and detour information/driving directions, please go to the following link on the City's website: http://www.ci.blackdiamond.wa.us/public_notices.html

In closing, should you have any concerns or questions I encourage you to reach out to me, your Councilmembers, or city staff.

Stay safe and healthy,

Mayor Carol Benson



POLICE DEPARTMENT NEWS

DISPOSAL OF UNWANTED OR UNUSED MEDICATIONS APRIL 24, 2021 FROM 10 A.M. TO 2 P.M.

WHAT ITEMS CAN I DISPOSE OF?

ACCEPTED: Medications in any dosage form and in their original container or sealed bag, **except** for those listed below.

NOT ACCEPTED: Herbal remedies; vitamins; supplements; cosmetics; other personal care products; compressed cylinders; aerosols; inhaler; medical devices; pet pesticide products; sharps; illicit drugs; iodine-containing medications.

Results from the October 2020 National Take Back Event:

- ◆ Total Law Enforcement Participation: 4,153
- ◆ Total Collection Sites: 4,587
- ◆ Total Weight* Collected: 985,392 lbs. (492.7 Tons)

The Black Diamond Police Department is proud to partner with the DEA for the National Prescription Drug Take Back Day. The event addresses a crucial public safety and public health issue. According to the 2018 National Survey on Drug Use and Health, 9.9 million Americans misused controlled prescription drugs. The study shows that most abused prescription drugs were obtained from family and friends, often from the home medicine cabinet. The DEA's Take Back Day events provide an opportunity for Americans to prevent drug addiction and overdose deaths.

Too often, unused prescription drugs find their way into the wrong hands. That is dangerous and often tragic. That is why it was great to see thousands of folks from across the country clean out their medicine cabinets and turn in - safely and anonymously - a record amount of prescription drugs from October's event.



Black Diamond Police Recognized for Excellence in Policy and Training



Black Diamond's excellence in policy and policy training enhances community safety by ensuring consistent, effective response based on national best practices.

Recently, Black Diamond PD was recognized by the Lexipol Connect program for achieving Gold level for consistently and effectively disseminating policies to officers, issuing timely policy updates as laws change, and ensuring officers are trained on policies. Lexipol is the nation's leading content, policy, and training platform for public safety agencies; the Connect program tracks Black Diamond's performance on five metrics proven to measure success in policy management.

"Policy – and regularly training on policy – is crucial to the success of the department. It is important to be up to date with the many changes that are implemented from a State and Federal level in how we can enforce the law. We are proud to be recognized by Lexipol Connect for continuously improving professionalism and safety," says Chief Kiblinger.



ATTENTION PADDLERS

In March 2021, the City Council of Black Diamond adopted the following amendment to the municipal code regarding water safety. **This amendment requires kayaks, canoes, stand-up paddleboards, and other paddle craft to stay between the shoreline and buoys during speeding hours, when other motorized boats are present.** This amendment is the result of on-going concerns relating to the continued increase in recreational boating on Lake Sawyer. Paddlers are urged to boat responsibly to prevent accidents, minimize impacts, and avoid conflicts with other boaters. Paddle craft sit low on the water, making them difficult for other boaters to see. In addition to making yourself seen, carry a sound producing device (such as whistle), have one USCG approved wearable PFD for each person on board, and have navigation lights between sunset and sunrise, such as a flashlight or headlamp with a white light.



COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT NEWS

HOUSING NEEDS ASSESSMENT AND HOUSING ACTION PLAN UPDATE

Over 130 residents responded to the Housing survey! We heard you and we thank you for your participation in the public process!

The City prepared a Housing Needs Assessment (HNA) in December 2020 with grant funding from the Department of Commerce to identify future housing needs to serve all economic segments of our community. The Department of Commerce recently recognized our City's HNA as a great example for other jurisdictions to follow! Looking ahead at 20-year growth targets, the HNA serves to identify gaps between the diversity of housing and the supply of housing based on the community's demographic profile. Communities change over time, as do the housing needs of residents and the local workforce, and the HNA was utilized to draft the Housing Action Plan (HAP). The HAP informs our housing targets, which are primarily being met with the Master Planned Developments, including a review of our housing policies and regulations to better know if what we have today meets our future needs. The City is mandated to plan for housing for all income brackets, which includes an affordable component to our housing plan. City staff are working closely with PSRC, Department of Commerce, and King County to establish housing and job growth targets for Black Diamond.

It's important to understand that the HAP is a guiding document only and does not propose or adopt policy measures. There will be plenty of opportunity for our citizens to participate in public meetings with future updates to the Comprehensive Plan and your input is encouraged!

More to come! There will be an additional survey launched in May for the Parks, Recreation & Open Space (PROS) planning. Your voice matters!



~ Mona Davis, Community Development Director

PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT

What is Going on with the Skateboard Park?

The skateboard park will have to be removed because the City can no longer maintain the facility in a safe condition for use. The manufacturer has gone out of business and parts are no longer available. Additionally, the substructure is also failing. Unfortunately, the removal of the existing skateboard features is what we need to do to keep park users safe.

What Happens Next?

After the demolition, The Mayor and City Council would like to see the remaining skateboard park repair funds used to place two small new skateboard modular surface units at the site as a small interim place for skateboarders to enjoy until the next steps are taken.

Next Steps?

The City is in the process of future planning for the city parks and future park projects. The City would like to know what you would like to see in the city park system. The Mayor and Council are in support of reconstructing a bit bigger and better. Once the Park planning step is completed the City will be looking for funding to reconstruct the skateboard park. This could take several years to complete the planning, funding, budgeting, designing and construction.

The City staff, Mayor and Council feel that the skateboard park was a big success in Black Diamond and have enjoyed seeing the large number of kids and adults enjoy the fun rolling around out there. Thank you Skateboarders!



NEWLY ADDED ORDINANCES

21-1156 - Amending Black Diamond Municipal Code 8.24.220 related to the Use of Paddlecraft During Speeding Hours on Lake Sawyer

Administration

Mayor Carol Benson

City Clerk/HR Manager

Brenda L. Martinez, MMC

Community Development

Mona Davis

MDRT/Economic Development

Andrew Williamson

Public Works

Seth Boettcher

Finance

Mayene Miller

Police

Chief Jamey Kiblinger



CITY OF BLACK DIAMOND CONTACTS

CITY HALL (Administration, Public Works, Community Development and MDRT/Economic Development)

Physical Address.....24301 Roberts Drive
Mailing Address.....P.O. Box 599

Phone Numbers:

Main Line.....360-851-4500
Community Development.....360-851-4447
MDRT/Economic Development.....360-851-4448
Public Works.....360-851-4446

(Call the main line for any Public Works emergencies and use prompts)

Fax Number (for all departments listed above).....360-851-4501

MUNICIPAL COURT :

Physical & Mailing Address.....25510 Lawson Street

Phone Number360-851-4490

Fax Number360-851-4491

POLICE DEPARTMENT :

Physical Address.....25510 Lawson Street

Mailing Address P.O. Box 309

Phone Numbers (non-emergencies)360-851-4450

(EMERGENCIES)911

Fax Number360-851-4451

FIRE DEPARTMENTPhone Number (non-emergencies)253-735-0284
(EMERGENCIES)911

Council/Commission/Committee Meetings

Monthly meetings for City Council are held the first and third Thursday of each month at 7 p.m. Work Sessions are held the second Thursday of each month at 6 p.m. Planning Commission meetings are held on the first Tuesday after the first Council meeting at 6 p.m. of each month. Please contact the Clerk's office for more information 360-851-4564 or check the City Clerks webpage at:

www.ci.blackdiamond.wa.us/Depts/Clerk

CITY COUNCIL MEETINGS

- * April 1st @ 7 p.m. (Regular Meeting)
- * April 8th @ 6 p.m. (Work Session)
- * April 15th @ 7 p.m. (Regular Meeting)
- * May 6th @ 7 p.m. (Regular Meeting)
- * May 13th @ 6p.m. (Work Session)
- * May 20th @ 7 p.m. (Regular Meeting)
- * May 26th @ 7 p.m. (Tri-City Meeting)
- * June 3rd @ 7 p.m.. (Regular Meeting)
- * June 10th @ 6 p.m. (Work Session)
- * June 17th @ 7 p.m. (Regular Meeting)

PLANNING COMMISSION MEETINGS

- * April 6th @ 6 p.m.
- * May 11th @ 6 p.m.
- * June 8th @ 6 p.m.

Typically meetings are held in the Council Chambers located at 25510 Lawson Street unless otherwise specified. *However, due to Covid-19, all meetings will be held via ZOOM until further notice.*

If you'd like to be added to the Council Agenda or Planning Commission Agenda Distribution List, please email your request to info@blackdiamondwa.gov.



COMMUNITY CONTACTS

- * **Community Center**
360-886-1011
(Mon. thru Fri. 8-4)
- * **Post Office**
360-886-9429
(Mon. thru Fri. 9-5)
- * **Museum/Historical Society**
360-886-2142
(Thurs. 9-4, Sat and Sun 12-3)
- * **Library**
360-886-1105
(Mon. thru Thurs. 10-9 and Sat. 10-5)