

SAMMAMISH

ISSUE 122

CITY NEWSLETTER

AUGUST 2012

Survey says:

**RESIDENTS ARE
HAPPY WITH OVERALL
DIRECTION OF CITY**

**2012 RESULTS ARE EVEN
BETTER THAN 2008 NUMBERS**

Echoing past surveys of community sentiment, the great majority of Sammamish residents say they're satisfied with the "overall direction of the city" and the "leadership" of city officials.

This according to a random, statistically valid telephone survey of 400 residents conducted by Hebert Research of Bellevue.

To make this even better news, the 2012 results are up substantially from the excellent numbers obtained four years ago, the last time the city did a survey covering a broad spectrum of topics.

"We're really pleased with the results," City Manager Ben Yazici said. "Jim Hebert, the president of Hebert Research, said he had a 'wow' reaction when he saw how positive the Sam-

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"Fill her up?" Jennifer Dilley offers to top off a Leaf's battery during staff training.

Leafs (Leaves?) join city fleet

With a federal grant paying for a portion of the cost, the city has added a pair of brand-new Nissan Leafs to the city fleet. The all-electric vehicles will be used primarily by code compliance and building officials but will also be available as pool cars to other city employees.

The city recently installed four charge points at City Hall, including two that are available to the general

public in the surface parking lot. The charge points were also funded by a federal grant, with the city responsible only for the cost of installation.

"When we developed our sustainability strategy, residents told us they wanted to make energy conservation a top priority," City Manager Ben Yazici said. "This is an important step in that direction."

MAYOR'S MESSAGE
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FOURTH ON THE PLATEAU
Story on page 3

WASTEMOBILE
Story on page 2

Inglewood Hill Road sidewalk construction to begin

It's a long journey, but the city's drive to shrink a sidewalk deficit will continue this month when construction begins along Inglewood Hill Road.

In this case, the city is filling a 2,000-foot gap between 222nd Avenue Northeast and the roundabout at 216th Avenue Northeast. The sidewalk will go in on the southern side of the road only.

"There's quite a bit of foot traffic along that stretch of Inglewood Hill Road so this should really help with both safety and convenience," City Manager Ben Yazici said. "We have a long list of places that need sidewalks. It's nice to scratch some of them off the list each and every year."

Construction on the \$700,000 project is scheduled to begin this month and wrap up in late October. Traffic will often be reduced to just one lane between 9 a.m. and 4 p.m., so drivers are cautioned to drive slowly.

For more information, contact Project Manager Jed Ireland at jireland@ci.sammamish.wa.us or 425-295-0563.



Pedestrians walking west along Inglewood Hill Road.

"The Journey"

*Now on exhibit at City Hall:
The art of Sammamish artists
Anna Macrae and Carol Ross.*



Free to the public through October 10.

Wastemobile visits city

Have you been wondering what to do with old batteries, pesticides, solvents and other hazardous waste you've accumulated over the years? Well, the answer is coming your way on Aug. 10, 11 and 12, 10 a.m. to 5 p.m., at Sunny Hills Elementary, 3200 Issaquah-Pine Lake Road. That's when King County's "Wastemobile" pays a visit and hauls away all that stuff you've been stashing in your garage.

Here's what you can drop off: propane tanks, fluorescent tubes and bulbs, mercury products, gasoline, anti-freeze, oil, pesticides, cleaners, oil-based paint, batteries and solvents.

Here's what you can NOT drop off: latex paint, computers, TVs, explosives, asbestos, appliances, medicines, solid waste, sharps, tires and empty containers.

The Wastemobile is free of charge and for King County residents and small quantity generators only. For more information, visit www.hazwastehelp.org or call the Household Hazards line at 206-296-4692.

July 4th at Sammamish Commons!!!



2012



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SURVEY, cont. from pg. 1

mamish survey responses were.”

The 2012 version follows similar surveys conducted by the city in 2003, 2004, 2005, and 2008.

“Over the years, we’ve asked a lot of the same questions in the same way so we could make an apples-to-apples comparison when we looked at the responses,” Yazici said. “Fortunately, this survey indicates that the responses are continuing to improve.”

Asked to explain the “wow” numbers, Yazici credited the City Council with having a very good feel for community sentiment and a steady leadership style.

“We’ve opened new parks, expanded recreational options, improved roads, and generated a real sense of togetherness with our emphasis on community events,” Yazici said. “Most importantly, the Council has done all this while staying fiscally conservative and maintaining very healthy financial reserves.

“Put all that together with the natural beauty of Sammamish and our great schools and I think that goes a long way towards explaining why Money Magazine has consistently named us as one of the 15 ‘best places to live’ among small towns from coast to coast.”

For a look at all the results and the complete Hebert Research report, go to the city website at www.ci.sammamish.wa.us. The Hebert report also includes demographic information, the financial profile of residents, and a description of the survey methodology.

Survey responses were elicited through questions or by asking respondents to agree or disagree with a statement. Here are some of the highlights:

Statement: “The overall direction of the city is on the right track.”

Among those who expressed an opinion,

- 88.3 percent either strongly or somewhat agreed.
(Up from 78.6 percent in 2008)
- 11.7 percent either strongly or somewhat disagreed.
- 35 out of 402 respondents had no opinion and were excluded from the data sets.

Statement: “I’m satisfied with the leadership of the City Council and the city administration.”

Among those who expressed an opinion,

- 85.6 percent either strongly or somewhat agreed.
(Up from 74.2 percent in 2008)
- 14.4 percent either strongly or somewhat disagreed.
- 53 out of 402 respondents had no opinion and were excluded from both data sets.

Statement: “I’m satisfied with the management of city finances.”

Among those who expressed an opinion,

- 85.9 percent either strongly or somewhat agreed.
(Question not asked in 2008)
- 14.1 percent either strongly or somewhat agreed.
- 89 out of 402 respondents had no opinion and were excluded from the data sets.

Statement: “I’m satisfied with the city’s efforts to reach out, engage and listen to residents on important issues.”

Among those who stated an opinion,

- 78.7 percent either strongly or somewhat agreed.
(Question not asked in 2008)
- 21.3 percent either strongly or somewhat disagreed.
- 54 out of 402 respondents had no opinion or said “neutral and were excluded from the data set.

Statement: “I’m satisfied with Sammamish’s long-range planning for the future.”

Among those who expressed an opinion,

- 72.9 percent either strongly or somewhat agreed.
(Up from 69.6 percent in 2008)
- 27.1 percent either strongly or somewhat disagreed.
- 101 out of 402 respondents had no opinion and were excluded from both data sets.

Statement: “The city is making good progress on improving city roads.”

- Among those who expressed an opinion,
80.4 percent either strongly or somewhat agreed.
(Up from 66.1 percent in 2008)
- 19.6 percent either strongly or somewhat disagreed.
- 14 out of 402 respondents had no opinion and were excluded from both data sets.

Question: “What about Sammamish would you most like to change or see happen to make the community more livable?”

- 19.3 percent mentioned more businesses.
(Up from 7.6 percent in 2008)
- 18.7 percent mentioned congestion.
(Down from 22.4 percent in 2008)
- 12.1 percent mentioned community pool/center
(Up from 3.8 percent in 2008)
- 10.1 percent mentioned more recreational opportunities.
(Up from 7.6 percent in 2008)

Question: “What city services are you most satisfied with?”

- 24 percent mentioned police.
(Down from 26 percent in 2008)
- 23.7 percent mentioned parks.
(Down from 28.2 percent in 2008)
- 15.5 percent mentioned fire.
(Down from 20.4 percent in 2008)

Question: “What city services are most in need of improvement?”

- 22.2 percent mentioned roads.
(Down from 23.9 percent in 2008)
- 18.5 percent mentioned parks.
(Up from 7.9 percent in 2008)
- 15.5 percent mentioned sidewalks.
(Up from 9.7 percent in 2008)

Question: “What is your favorite community event?”

- 34.3 percent mentioned the 4th of July celebration.
(Question not asked in 2008)
- 32.6 percent mentioned the Farmers Market.
- 20 percent mentioned summer concerts

in the park.

Question: “How safe do you feel walking alone in your neighborhood after dark?”

- Among those who expressed an opinion,
95.9 percent felt either very safe or somewhat safe.
(Up from 91.6 percent in 2008)
- 4.1 percent felt either somewhat unsafe or very unsafe.
- 7 out of 402 respondents had no opinion and were excluded from both data sets.

Question: “Do you think the police presence in the city is too low, just about right, or too high?”

- Among those who expressed an opinion,
7.2 percent said too high.
(Up from 1.5 percent in 2008)
- 72 percent said just about right.
(Up from 70.4 percent in 2008)
- 20.8 percent said too low.
(Down from 28.1 percent in 2008)
- 27 out of 402 respondents had no opinion and were excluded from both data sets.

Question: “Do you think traffic enforcement by the police is too low, just about right, or too high?”

- Among those who expressed an opinion,
11.9 percent said too high.
(Question not asked in 2008)
- 71.6 percent said just about right.
- 16.5 percent said too low.
- 25 out of 402 respondents had no opinion and were excluded from the data set.

Question: “How do you rate the city’s efforts to protect the environment?”

- Among those who expressed an opinion,
86.4 percent said excellent or good
(Question not asked in 2008)
- 13.6 percent said poor or very poor
- 130 out 402 respondents had no opinion or said “neutral” and were excluded from both data sets.

Sammamish Days!

If you would like to immerse yourself in the cultural diversity that now enriches our city, please come to Sammamish Days at City Hall plaza on Saturday, Aug. 18!

The big event, presented by Swedish Hospital and several other sponsors, will get underway at 9:45 a.m. with a “kids parade” and then slowly navigate



through a long list of attractions until it wraps up at 3 p.m. Among other things, attendees will enjoy steel drums, belly dancing, storytelling for kids and Irish Dancers.

This year's event will also have a food truck rodeo featuring mobile food trucks such as Rainy Day Gourmet, Curry Now, Funnel Cakes and The Box on Wheels.

Registration and check-in for the parade will run from 9 to 9:30 a.m. Online registration for the parade is now available at www.sammamishdays.com.

Sammamish Nights!

The night always follows the day – and that's a good thing on Aug. 18 because one of the community's classiest events will once again come around again for its annual visit to City Hall.

It's “Sammamish Nights,” an adults-only event featuring wine, live music, art and an unforgettable evening of fun under the stars! Sponsored by the Sammamish Chamber of Commerce, the party starts at 6 p.m. and runs until 9:30 p.m.

The region's premier wineries, breweries and distilleries will offer their best, and restaurants will do the same by presenting you with a long menu of signature delicacies.

For more information, or advance tickets (\$40 per person, everything included) go to www.sammamishchamber.org. Admission at the door will be \$45.



Ponds with a purpose: Capturing storm water, pollution

Is there a stormwater pond in your neighborhood? These ponds are designed to look like natural lakes or wetlands and are often mistaken for them.

But stormwater ponds are not your average swimming, fishing, frog-catching ponds. They are man-made basins built to reduce flooding, capture and treat stormwater, and decrease the pollution in our streams, lakes and wetlands.

Whenever it rains, stormwater rushes along hard, impervious surfaces, picking up pet waste, oils, pesticides, sediment, fertilizers and nutrients, among other things. The result: algae blooms, brown water and other pollution-related problems.

Since stormwater ponds are de-

signed to capture pollutants, it's difficult to keep the ponds themselves



looking clean and healthy. What can you do help?

Here are some tips:

- Limit use of lawn care products such as fertilizers or pesticides. Use phosphorous-free fertilizer.

- Pick up animal waste.
- Don't dump lawn clippings or leaves in or near the pond.
 - Preserve established trees, shrubs and vegetation.
 - Plant a natural buffer or filter strip, using native plants, not sod, to trap and clean runoff.
 - Don't pour chemicals, oils, etc., in or near the pond.
 - Sweep driveway and sidewalk debris into lawns or gardens instead of hosing them off onto the street.
 - Capture roof runoff with rain-gardens or rain barrels.

If you have any questions or concerns regarding the city's stormwater ponds, please contact Stormwater Technician Lisa Werre at 425-295-0573 or lwerre@ci.sammamish.wa.us.

CITY CALENDAR

AUGUST

Wednesday, Aug. 1

-Farmers Market, 3-7 p.m.
-Parks and Rec Comm Mtg,
6:30 p.m.

Thursday, Aug. 2

-Concert in the Park,
6:30-8 p.m.
Pine Lake Park

Tuesday, Aug. 7

-Safe and Sound Sammamish,
2-5 p.m.

Wednesday, Aug. 8

-Business Recycling Collection Event,
11 a.m.-4 p.m., Discovery Elementary
-Farmers Market, 3-7 p.m.
-Beaver Lake Management District
Meeting, 7 p.m.

Thursday, Aug. 9

-Volunteer Event, Meet & Greet,
10 a.m.- noon, Lower Commons
-Concert in the Park,
6:30-8 p.m.

Pine Lake Park

Monday, Aug. 13

-Donate Blood, City Hall,
9 a.m.-3 p.m.

Tuesday, Aug. 14

-KidsFirst! Performance Series,
12-1 p.m.

Wednesday, Aug. 15

-Farmers Market,
3-7 p.m.

Thursday, Aug. 16

-Concert in the Park,
6:30-8 p.m.
Pine Lake Park

Saturday, Aug. 18

-Sammamish Days,
10 a.m.-2 p.m.
City Hall
-KidsFirst! Performance Series,
2-3 p.m.
City Hall

-Sammamish Nights,
6:30-10 p.m., City Hall

Monday, Aug. 20

-Arts Commission Meeting,
6:30 p.m.

Tuesday, Aug. 21

-KidsFirst! Performance Series,
12-1 p.m.
Ebright Creek Park - 1317 212th Ave SE

Wednesday, Aug. 22

-Farmers Market, 3-7 p.m.

Thursday, Aug. 23

-Concert in the Park,
6:30-8 p.m.
Pine Lake Park

Saturday, Aug. 25

-Sammamish Walks, 10 a.m.- noon
Beaver Lake Preserve

Wednesday, Aug. 29

-Farmers Market, 3-7 p.m.

Thursday, Aug. 30

-Concert in the Park, 6:30-8 p.m.
Pine Lake Park

SEPTEMBER

Monday, Sep. 3

-Labor Day, City offices closed

Tuesday, Sep. 4

-City Council Meeting,
6:30 p.m.

Wednesday, Sep. 5

-Farmers Market,
3-7 p.m.
-City Council Office Hour,
5:30-6:30 p.m.

-Parks and Rec Comm Mtg,

6:30 p.m.

Thursday, Sep. 6

-Planning Commission Mtg,
6:30 p.m.

Tuesday, Sep. 11

-City Council Study Session,
6:30 p.m.

Wednesday, Sep. 12

-Farmers Market, 3-7 p.m.
-Community Service Fair,
3-7 p.m.

Thursday, Sep. 13

-Volunteer Event, Meet & Greet,
10 a.m.- noon, Lower Commons

Saturday, Sep. 15

-Parks and Rec Volunteer Opportuni-
ty, 9 a.m.- noon, Sammamish Landing
-Sammamish Walks, 10 a.m.- noon
Hazel Wolf Wetland Preserve

Monday, Sep. 17

-Finance Committee Mtg,
5:30-6:15 p.m.
-City Council Meeting, 6:30 p.m.
-Arts Commission Meeting, 6:30 p.m.

Tuesday, Sep. 18

-Open House: 244th Avenue
Improvements, 6-8 p.m.

Wednesday, Sep. 19

-Farmers Market, 3-7 p.m.

Thursday, Sep. 20

-Planning Commission Mtg,
6:30 p.m.

Saturday, Sep. 22

-All Sammamish Reads,
Volunteer Project,
9 a.m.- noon.
Beaver Lake Dog Park
-Mayor's Day of Concern for the
Hungry, 9 a.m.-5 p.m.

Sammamish Area Grocery Stores

Wednesday, Sep. 26

-Sammamish Farmers Market,
3-7 p.m.

PLEASE NOTE:

All meetings and events at City Hall, unless otherwise noted. Times, dates and locations are subject to change. Please consult the city website for the most current information.



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Nancy Whitten
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Summer Entertainment!

Concerts in the Park

(Pine Lake Park, 6:30 p.m.)

August 9 - Adrian Xavier Band, Reggae World Music

August 16 - Cloverdayle, Modern Country

August 23 - Sammamish Symphony

August 30 - Cherry Cherry, Neil Diamond Tribute

Kids First! Performance Series

August 14 - Harmonic Pocket, Music for Children,
City Hall Plaza, Noon

August 18 - Daring Dreams in Times of Magic,
Multi-cultural stories,
City Hall Plaza, 2-3 p.m.

August 21 - Eric Herman and the Thunder Puppies,
Children's music, Ebright Creek Park, Noon

CITY OF SAMMAMISH OFFICES

801 228th Ave. SE, Sammamish, WA 98075
Phone: 425-295-0500 • Fax: 425-295-0600

www.ci.sammamish.wa.us

Tom Odell, Mayor

todell@ci.sammamish.wa.us

John James, Deputy Mayor

jjames@ci.sammamish.wa.us

John Curley, Councilmember

jcurley@ci.sammamish.wa.us

Don Gerend, Councilmember

dgerend@ci.sammamish.wa.us

Ramiro Valderrama, Councilmember

rvalderrama-aramayo@ci.sammamish.wa.us

Tom Vance, Councilmember

tvance@ci.sammamish.wa.us

Nancy Whitten, Councilmember

nwhitten@ci.sammamish.wa.us

Ben Yazici	City Manager
Lyman Howard	Deputy City Manager
Kamuron Guroi	Com Dev Dir/Asst City Mgr
Joe Guinasso	Finance Director
Laura Philpot	Public Works Director
Jessi Richardson	Parks & Rec Director
Mike Sauerwein	Admin Services Director
Melonie Anderson	City Clerk
Nathan Elledge	Police Chief
Wes Collins	Fire Chief
Bruce Disend	City Attorney

Newsletter suggestions or concerns?
Contact Communications Mgr Tim Larson
425-295-0555
tlarson@ci.sammamish.wa.us