

# SUQUAMISH COMMUNITY ADVISORY COUNCIL

Thursday, October 6, 2022 @6:30 PM

In-person – Suquamish Police Training Room or On Zoom

## **ATTENDEES:**

### **SCAC Board Members:**

In-person: Laurie Kadet, Martha Burke, Tom Curley, Mariane Pierce, Erin Bischoff, Carol Larsen, Kurt Olmstead

Zoom: Brynn Felix

**Quorum:** Yes

### **Community Members:**

Zoom: Chris Miller, Andrew Nelson, Bill & Joanna, Eric Martin, Lindsay van? , Jennifer Morrison, Stephen Growdon, Louise Barbee, Tony Haney

### **Presenters/Government Officials:**

Jennifer H, Kitsap County; Lisa Edge, Education and Outreach Coordinator, Kitsap County Public Works; Michele Laboda, Public Information Officer for North Kitsap Fire & Rescue; Jennifer Marsland, Suquamish Emergency Management; Stella Vakarcs Kitsap County, Mark Williams, Suquamish Police Department; Andy Nelson - Kitsap County Public Works Director

## **OPENING ITEMS:**

**Meeting Called to Order:** 6:32 p.m.

**Land Acknowledgement:** We would like to begin by acknowledging that the land on which we gather is within the ancestral territory of the “People of Clear Salt Water” (Suquamish People). Expert fishermen, canoe builders and basket weavers, the Suquamish live in harmony with the lands and waterways along Washington’s Central Salish Sea as they have for thousands of years. Here, the Suquamish live and protect

the land and waters of their ancestors for future generations as promised by the Point Elliott Treaty of 1855.

“Every part of this soil is sacred in the estimation of my people. Every hillside, every valley, every plain and grove, has been hallowed by some sad or happy event in days long vanished.” Chief Seattle 1854.

### **APPROVAL OF MINUTES:**

July 2022 Minutes and September 2022 Minutes (there was not a meeting in August) Tom motioned to approve the minutes, and Mariane seconded. The minutes were approved unanimously.

### **PUBLIC COMMENTS #1:**

- Stephen Growdon: Concerns regarding no paved shoulder on Miller Bay Road, 40 MPH speed limit
- Erin Bischoff - Dangers about Rainbow Fentanyl & targeting youth ([recent warning](#) from Seattle’s Drug Enforcement Administration)
- Mark Williams, Suquamish Police Department-
  - Requested his contact info be part of the Public Record: 360-535-3339 mwilliams@suquamish.nsn.us
  - The department has been down three officers but recently hired a new officer from Spokane.
  - Speeding and Traffic Concerns: Will assign additional traffic patrol on Augusta, Brockton & Division.
  - He supports a crosswalk/speed threshold on Augusta to calm traffic
  - Fentanyl is the primary concern — if you come across syringes, etc. don’t pick them up with bare hands.
  - There is no record management system/database in place to track repeat offenders.
- Martha - change needs to happen at the legislative level
- Laurie - Suggested that Tara Simmons, Mark & other SPD to attend an upcoming meeting
- Andy Nelson - Any citizen who has concerns should use SEE CLICK FIX. The more we hear, the more we are aware. Augusta & Suquamish Way are arterials

and it is not popular to have speed thresholds on arterial roadways. Speed Bump policy on the website.

## **MEETING CORE:**

**Sewer Utility Rate Increase** – Stella Vakarc, Kitsap County Public Works – Sewer Utility; [kcowa.us/sewerrates](http://kcowa.us/sewerrates)  
[Presentation](#)

Sewer is solely funded by ratepayers; Kitsap County owns and operates five separate sewer utility systems; 4 wastewater treatment plants, 60 pump and lift stations, 200 miles of piping, 70 employees

Proposed Sewer Rate Increase for 2023; Most equipment was installed 50 years ago at the Central Kitsap Treatment Plant;

The purposes for a rate increase:

- Produce sufficient revenues
- Provide long-range financial stability
  - Operations and maintenance costs affected by inflation
  - Need to replace worn and outdated infrastructure
  - Cover bond obligations and repayment of loans on capital projects
- Propose rate increase of 4.5%
  - Lower than the rate of inflation at 7-9%
  - Sufficient to maintain funds and reserves
  - Evaluate rates in 2023 after the 20-year capital facilities plan is complete
- The Kitsap County Board of Commissioners approves rate increases; Scheduled to vote on proposed rate increase on Nov. 14
- Odor at Suquamish Treatment plant — See Click Fix; Or after hours call 9-1-1 and state that it is a non-emergency and request that the on-duty person for Kitsap County Public Works investigates

**North Kitsap Fire and Rescue Ballot Measure** – Michele Laboda, Public Information Officer

## Presentation

- Big emphasis on community risk reduction — prevent incidents from happening in the first place
- 3,360 total calls in 2021; 68% for medical, 2% for fires; 30% for other incidents. Fires take a lot of resources
- The service area is 46 square miles; four staffed stations and one unstaffed (volunteer) station. Average response time under 7 minutes for priority calls
- There is good cooperation between Kitsap county jurisdictions (Bainbridge, Poulsbo, etc.)
- 11 responders are on duty across four stations every day; paid personnel augmented by volunteer tender operators
- Dual-qualified in firefighting and emergency medical services; some trained in specialties such as technical rescue and marine operations
- Reliable Fleet Apparatus - four engines, four ambulances, mechanics, three water tenders, one brush/utility truck, one command vehicle, one fir/rescue boat, etc.
- Receive no state, county, or federal funding; **Supported by local property taxes**
- When assessed valuations rise, statutory caps prevent revenues from growing at the same rate
- Prop 1 - Replace one expiring tax
  - Funding to finance a \$6-9M replacement station at Suquamish; the current station is more than 60 years old and isn't seismically safe. It is important for first responders to be able to respond during emergencies.
  - Funding to finance scheduled facilities maintenance and apparatus replacement
  - Funding to maintain levels of service
  - Includes hiring three additional firefighters
  - Lid lift restores the levy to \$1.50
  - [www.nkfr.org](http://www.nkfr.org)

**Disaster Readiness Training on October 11** – Jennifer Marsland, Suquamish Emergency Management;

- Submitting the Hazard Mitigation Plan to Tribal Council & FEMA; this is done every five years and will be posted on the website.
- Adding climate change and cyber security to the plan;

**PUBLIC COMMENTS #2:**

None

**ADJOURNMENT:**

The meeting adjourned at 8:06 p.m. The next meeting is on November 3, 2022.

Minutes submitted by: Recorder, Erin Bischoff

**MINUTES APPROVED:**

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(Chairperson's Signature) (Date)