Welcome, Leonard Smith

Stop by and welcome Leonard Smith as the new City Administrator. Mr. Smith accepted the role of City Administrator on September 28, 2009. The City is pleased to have Mr. Smith aboard!

From the desk of
City Administrator
Leonard Smith

I would like to first take this opportunity to thank the community and its elected officials for granting me this opportunity to serve the City of Black Diamond. I have had the opportunity to work with the City on a number of issues over the past two years in my former role as a principal with the firm PacWest Engineering. I have been impressed with the vision that has been expressed by the Mayor and City Council for the City of Black Diamond and look forward to working with the community to achieve the vision of making Black Diamond a better community.

As part of this introductory article I would like to give more of my background. My professional career has provided me the opportunity to work in both the private and public sectors giving me a good understanding of the challenges of each. My public career has included experience as City Engineer of Corvallis, Oregon and as City Administrator for Tumwater, Washington. As a professional Civil Engineer and Land Surveyor, I founded PacWest Engineering in 1995. The geographic area of practice is primarily in the states of Oregon and Washington with offices in Albany, Oregon and Fife, Washington. I was pleased to be able to pass the reins of that company to my son in order to fully devote my attention to my current responsibilities. I have found the combination of both public and private experience to be helpful in finding solutions to issues that protect the public interests without unnecessarily hampering the private business activity needed by every vibrant community.

I am pleased to report that, while the City faces significant challenges ahead in realizing its destiny, there is strong support from dedicated staff, elected officials and involved citizens. These dedicated efforts will be rewarded by creating a legacy for future generations.
New playground equipment at Eagle Creek

In an effort to help improve Black Diamond Parks and Recreation opportunities, upgrades were recently made to Eagle Creek Park (corner of Roberts Drive and Bruckners Way). A slide, climbing wall and bouncing bee were installed by City maintenance staff to help improve the park and make it more user-friendly for area kids.

Many residents are unaware of the park and that it is open to the public for use. If you have the opportunity to visit Eagle Creek Park, please do so. The feedback from residents has been tremendous. This, in addition to other projects slated on the Capital Improvement Plan list for parks are ways the City is trying to help improve recreational opportunities for the citizens of Black Diamond.

If you have any ideas about the way staff can help improve area parks, please contact Aaron Nix, Natural Resources/Parks Director at (360) 886-2560 extension 220 or email anix@ci.blackdiamond.wa.us. We’d love to hear from you!

Baked potato fundraiser dinner for Police K-9 Program a great success

On September 11, 2009, Officer Kris Chatterson and K-9 Sabre entertained a crowd of over 100 people at the Black Diamond Eagles Hall for the Baked Potato Dinner Fundraiser for the Black Diamond K-9 program.

Black Diamond Eagles Club auxiliary member, Robin MacNeill along with her assistants Kaylee Page, Taylor Page, Taisha McMasters, and Madison Trulson organized the fundraising dinner together. By the end of the evening, a total of $1,779.50 was raised for the Black Diamond Police Department K-9 program.

Officer Chatterson conducted a drug sniffing demonstration with his partner Sabre for everyone who attended the fundraiser. Community members enjoyed good entertainment, great food and the opportunity to win a variety of prizes. Much appreciated donated items were brought in to be raffled off at the dinner fundraiser. Those who donated items included Cenex, Horizon Pets, Black Diamond Labor Day Committee, Mt. Rainier Bank, Dorothy Botts, Frank’s Meats and The Loft. Doreen Wymore also helped with food donations. A special thank you goes to Royal Towing of Black Diamond and the Moneyman Pawn Shop who made very generous donations. A separate account has been set up to track K-9 expenditures and revenue.

Donations continue to be welcomed with checks payable to the Black Diamond Police Department K-9 Fund. For more information, please contact Officer Kris Chatterson at (253) 631-1012 or email kchatterson@police.ci.blackdiamond.wa.us.

Share the Joy this Holiday Season!

Black Diamond Community Center is collecting new toys and gifts for low-income families and seniors in our area. If you can, please stop by City Hall to pick up a gift tag and help make someone’s holiday a special one! Donations should be dropped off at the Black Diamond Community Center. (Please do NOT wrap the gifts).
What is a Comprehensive Plan?
The City has been actively looking at the long-term prospects of a great trail system throughout the City. There are significant costs, property ownership issues and advanced planning needed in order to develop the types of trails that would benefit the residents and visitors to Black Diamond. A Comprehensive Plan looks at all of these factors and helps develop a trail plan that is cost effective and meets the needs of the residents of Black Diamond.

Where is the City at in this process?
Staff has been actively engaging the citizens of Black Diamond as we begin to develop a plan of a Comprehensive Trail System throughout Black Diamond. All of this information has been extremely helpful in letting staff know what citizens would like to see in the City as it pertains to trails. A draft of the Comprehensive Trail System is nearing completion. Staff is preparing to put this plan up on our website www.ci.blackdiamond.wa.us, for further comment from residents and folks interested in trails throughout Black Diamond. This draft plan will be up on the City's website by the end of October.

What are the next steps?
If you have an opportunity, please take the time to review the draft plan and provide comment back to the City. In addition to the plan, staff will provide a comment letter survey on the website so we can hear your thoughts. Staff plans to take these comments and integrate them into the final Comprehensive Trail Plan. Our hope is that we can complete this process by the end of the year and integrate the document into our Parks, Open Space and Recreation Plan. By doing this, the City will then be given the opportunity to apply for Community Grants through the Recreation and Conservation Office through the State of Washington, with hopes that trails in Black Diamond can become a reality. Again, we appreciate any and all comments. Questions can be directed to the City's Natural Resources/Parks Director, Aaron Nix at (360) 886-2560 extension 220 or email anix@ci.blackdiamond.wa.us.

Remember to Vote!

How to Vote:
Now that King County votes entirely by mail, ballots are automatically sent to all registered voters 20 days before each election in which they are eligible to vote, making voting easy and convenient. There is no need for voters to re-register or request their ballot be sent to them. Ballots must be returned to Elections or postmarked by Election Day. Your signature is just as important as your vote; remember to take your time when signing your ballot envelope. King County has ballot drop boxes throughout the county to provide voters with a way to securely return their ballots without the cost of postage. The nearest location for Black Diamond voters is the Black Diamond Library, 24707 Roberts Drive, Black Diamond, WA 98010.
In May of this year, YarrowBay filed its two Master Planned Development (MPD) applications for The Villages and Lawson Hills projects. Their applications are available for review at the public library, on the City’s website www.ci.blackdiamond.wa.us or at the Community Development Department.

On September 1, the Draft Environmental Impact Statements (EIS) for the two projects were released for public review and comment. By the close of the public comment period on October 9, over 100 comments had been received from both the general public and other governmental agencies. The task is now to review those comments, possibly conduct additional impact analysis, and then respond to all comments as part of the Final EIS documents. Due to the large number of comments that were received, a target date for publication of the Final EISs has not yet been established.

Publication of the Final EISs is necessary before the City’s Hearing Examiner can conduct public hearings on the two proposals. All individuals who have sent in comments will be advised of that hearing, plus notice will be posted on the Public Notice Boards, published in the Voice of the Valley, and also posted on the City’s website. Several weeks after the public hearing, the Examiner will issue his written recommendation to the City Council, which will then conduct a closed record public hearing. Please note that if you think you will want to testify to the Council, it will be necessary to become a “party of record” by first participating in the Hearing Examiner’s hearing. The City Council has the final responsibility for ruling on the MPD proposals.

If you have any questions regarding the MPD process, please contact the Community Development Department at (360) 886-2560.

Keep up-to-date on YarrowBay’s Master Planned Developments

BLACK DIAMOND POLICE nab “serial” burglar

BLACK DIAMOND (AP) - A Maple Valley man has been charged with multiple counts of trafficking in stolen property, residential and commercial burglary, as well as other stolen property-related crimes dating back as far as January of 2009. The two month long multi-agency investigation which included Black Diamond Police Department, Maple Valley Police Department and the King County Sheriffs Office, resulted in the arrest of a suspect as his home in the 23900 Block of 212th Avenue SE in Maple Valley.

Since the first of the year, the citizens of Black Diamond and Maple Valley have been subjected to a high amount of residential and commercial burglaries. There have been eleven such incidents in Black Diamond alone, with property damage and losses estimated at approximately $50,000. In early August investigators got a break in the case when a resident noticed several items that belonged to him for sale in an area pawn shop. With the help of a new on-line investigative data base which tracks all pawned items and the people who pawn them, several people of interest were identified in connection to numerous burglaries in and around the City.

After many hours of investigation, officers from the Black Diamond Police Department surrounded the suspect’s home, and were able to take him into custody without incident. Police say more arrests are anticipated as the investigation continues.
Many people are becoming aware of the possible flooding of the Green River that may happen over the next few years. There is a plethora of information available for people that would like to prepare if this were to happen.

King County has a website with various links that will provide the best and most up-to-date information available. This website is comprised of messaging from several jurisdictions, organizations, and government agencies to make it easy for you to get accurate consistent messaging. You can find information on preparedness in several languages, information on public meetings, flood warning systems, and contact information at the link below:


How is the Fire Department Involved?
Mountain View Fire & Rescue / Black Diamond Fire Department serve the community in the Upper Green and the Middle Green. The Middle Green is between Highway 169 and Highway 18. This is probably the first area that will have flooding due to any issues with the Green River. This area comprises of homes, farmland, Flaming Geyser State Park and a few businesses.

The Fire Department is working with King County Sheriffs and various other agencies on public notification, rescue, response, evacuations, public information, etc. for this community. We have participated in public meetings, numerous planning meetings and preparing resources for a flooding event. The department is in the process of going door-to-door throughout the Middle Green to hand out information to individuals that could be impacted by flood waters.

How Will Any Flooding in the Green Valley Impact Black Diamond?
It is nearly impossible to predict how much, if any, flooding there may be. The variables depend on the rain, snow melt, weather systems and how much water needs to be released from the Howard Hanson Dam. The Army Corps of Engineers predicts that there is about thirty-three percent chance of flooding over the next few years.

There is a chance that Black Diamond will not be impacted at all by the flooding but the City may be impacted in other ways. Again, it is difficult to forecast what will happen with any flooding but some of the things that you take for granted may not be available due to wind, rain, snow, people evacuating or business’ directly impacted by flood waters.

How Can You Prepare if You Live in Black Diamond?
The best way to prepare for the flood is to prepare for any type of disaster. Be sure to have plenty of drinking water, food, emergency heating source, a generator, etc.

To prepare specifically for any flooding you could get FEMA flood insurance, go to public meetings and get in informed by getting a NOAA weather radio and signing up for some of the warning systems.

See the information at the following links:
NOAA Weather Radio: http://www.nws.noaa.gov/nwr/
Regional Public Information Network: www.RPIN.org
My State USA: http://washington.mystateusa.com/

City budgets for 2010
Revenues and expenditures. Capital projects and outlays. Service and staffing levels. Trends and forecasts. Those may sound like college business course titles, but they are actually some of the many topics the City Council will deliberate on during the formation and adoption of the 2010 capital and operating budget.

The budget document tells the City’s financial story and sets spending targets for the programs and services city residents receive. Currently, the Finance Department and Administration are busy preparing the City’s 2010 operating budget—which outlines the day-to-day costs of police, fire, planning, utilities and all City functions. Below is the 2010 Operating Budget calendar for your reference. Please note that dates may change, so check the City’s website to keep apprised of the current calendar.

PROPOSED MEETING DATES FOR 2010 BUDGET
♦ November 19 Copies of Preliminary Budget made available to public
♦ November 19 Council Workstudy to review proposed 2010 Budget
♦ November 19 Council holds public hearing on revenue sources and expenditures for upcoming budget year including possible increases in property tax revenue
♦ November 19 Public Hearing on Property Tax
♦ November 19 Council adopts preliminary property tax levy for the 2010 budget
♦ December 3 Council holds final public hearing on 2010 budget
♦ December 3 Council adopts final property tax levy for 2010 budget
♦ December 3 or 17 Council adopts final 2010 budget and transmits to the State Auditor’s Office

*Calendar subject to change
Another safe summer on Lake Sawyer

The officers of the Black Diamond Police Department Marine Services Unit would like to thank all of our citizens and surrounding friends who used Lake Sawyer this year for yet another fun, safe boating season. With your help, we were able to end the boating season again without any major accidents. While boating safety is a year-round concern, marine patrol is typically heavier during the months of May through September when more people are out enjoying the beauty of our lake.

Through the use of our police boat and wave-runner, we were able to meet many people utilizing our lake. Education is a key component of our unit, however at times it is necessary to enforce the ordinances of the lake. This summer, the Marine Services Unit logged approximately 200 hours of time on the water and visually or “spot” inspected 530 vessels.

Again, thanks for helping keep Lake Sawyer the safest lake around. If you have any questions about our Marine Services Unit, please contact Sergeant Greg Goral, Marine Services Coordinator at (253) 631-1012.

Where does the money I pay for stormwater go?

The Stormwater Fund pays for two major categories of effort within the City:

**Maintenance:** Approximately half of the funds are used to maintain the City owned stormwater systems that provide drainage for the City streets. The City maintains 572 catch basins, over nine miles of storm drainage pipes and culverts, nine storm ponds and approximately 15 infiltration facilities. The City maintenance crew is typically busy during heavy rain events keeping the inlets and outlets of the storm system free of debris to prevent street and property damage. Other maintenance activities are ditch maintenance and catch basin cleaning.

**Water Quality:** This category of effort is focused on dealing with the impacts of urban living on the water environment. When we live in a dense urban environment, we truck in food, fuel, supplies, equipment and build all kind of things to sustain life in an urban environment. Our activities and habits of washing cars, applying chemicals and cleaners for every imaginable purpose, keeping dogs and cats, fertilizing lawns, piling lawn clippings near creeks or wetlands, leaky garbage cans, all contribute to the degradation of surface and ground water quality. Even driving on our streets distributes heavy metals, hydro-carbons and other contaminants along the streets that add pollutants to the creeks, wetlands and lakes in our area. The City is required under our stormwater permit from the Department of Ecology to reduce these impacts by educating our citizens and directing them to better management practices, tightening the requirements for proper erosion and sediment control on construction sites, policing illegal discharges into the storm system or natural water systems and improving the city maintenance activities in the interest of protecting stormwater and providing for lower impact development standards for the future.

Examples of this type of effort would be:
1. Preparation of the Stormwater Comprehensive Plan which provides the professional guidance for the activities listed above
2. Training our staff on Illicit Discharge Detection and Elimination and Erosion and Sediment Control
3. Water Quality testing on Lake Sawyer as required by the Department of Ecology
4. Storm Pond inspections and maintenance
5. Public education
6. Implementing the best management practices with all city operations
7. Requiring new development to provide facilities that provide stormwater treatment with the best stormwater treatment practices

What can I do to help?
One of the first things you can do to help is take the time to educate yourself on the various activities and practices around your home that impact surface water and ground water. The following website is a great site to explore that will help raise your awareness and provide in-sight in how you reduce your impact to the local and regional water environment [www.pugetsoundstartshere.org](http://www.pugetsoundstartshere.org). We will continue to provide you with more information on how we can reduce our impact to the creeks, wetlands and lakes. Check out our website [www.ci.blackdiamond.wa.us](http://www.ci.blackdiamond.wa.us) to view the press release on the Puget Sound Starts Here campaign and the effort to save Puget Sound waterways.

Other statistics include:
- Written inspections: 42 vessels
- Written warnings issued: 33 violations
- Citations issued: 31 violations
**Recently Adopted Ordinances**

To be added to the Council agenda distribution list, please call us at (360) 886-2560 ext. 209 or contact the City Clerk by email at bmartinez@ci.blackdiamond.wa.us

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Ordinance No.</th>
<th>Description</th>
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<tr>
<td>09-921</td>
<td>Amending Budget for Calendar Year 2009</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>09-922</td>
<td>Crimes of Disorderly Conduct</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>09-923</td>
<td>Possession of Drug Paraphernalia</td>
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**Scheduled Public Hearings**

Get involved with your community: attend public hearings

- **November 5 ~ 2009-2014 Capital Improvement Plan (CIP)**
- **November 5 ~ YarrowBay Special Event Permit**
- **November 19 ~ 2010 Budget Revenues and Expenditures**
- **November 19 ~ Setting Property Tax Levy**
- **November 19 ~ School Mitigation Agreement**
- **December 3 ~ 2010 Budget**

*Watch the City’s website for the latest information.*

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**Daylight savings ends November 1, 2009!**

Remember to set your clocks back 1 hour—this is a good time to check the batteries in your smoke alarms too!

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**CHECK OUT OUR WEBSITE @ WWW.CI.BLACKDIAMOND.WA.US**

**EVENT CALENDAR**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Event</th>
<th>Time</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>NOV 7</td>
<td>Dinner Auction — BD Community Center</td>
<td>4 p.m.</td>
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<tr>
<td>DEC 4</td>
<td>Tree Lighting — BD Community Center</td>
<td>6:30 p.m.</td>
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<tr>
<td>DEC 4 to 24</td>
<td>Share the Joy tags available to pick up around town at local businesses</td>
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**COMMUNITY CONTACTS**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Contact</th>
<th>Phone Number</th>
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<tr>
<td>Black Diamond Library</td>
<td>(360) 886-1105</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Black Diamond Community/Senior Center</td>
<td>(360) 886-1011</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Black Diamond Post Office</td>
<td>(360) 886-9429</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Black Diamond Museum / Historical Society</td>
<td>(360) 886-2142</td>
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**CITY OF BLACK DIAMOND**

All City Offices Hours: Monday-Friday 8:30 a.m.-5 p.m.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Department</th>
<th>Address/Location</th>
<th>Phone/Fax Number</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>CITY HALL</td>
<td>P.O. Box 599 / 24301 Roberts Drive</td>
<td>(360) 886-2560 / (253) 631-0351</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>POLICE DEPARTMENT</td>
<td>P.O. Box 309 / 25510 Lawson Street</td>
<td>(253) 631-1012 / (360) 886-2901</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MUNICIPAL COURT</td>
<td>P.O. Box 599 / 25510 Lawson Street</td>
<td>(360) 886-7784 / (360) 886-7758</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>FIRE DEPT. DISTRICT #44</td>
<td></td>
<td>(253) 735-0284</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PUBLIC WORKS</td>
<td>P.O. Box 599 / 24301 Roberts Drive</td>
<td>(360) 886-2560 / (253) 631-0351</td>
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For meeting agendas and packet material please view the City Clerk page at www.ci.blackdiamond.wa.us. Click on the meeting packets or agendas then click on the date of your choice.