Morgan Street Sidewalk Update

The City was able to bring in approximately $500,000 of grant funding from the Transportation Improvement Board and King County Community Development Block Grant funding for the Morgan Street Sidewalk project. The project was designed by Gray and Osborne and was put out to bid this past Summer. Scotty’s General Construction was the low bidder and started work in September.

With Railroad Avenue Street Improvement Project under construction earlier in the year and the overlay of a short section of 232nd Avenue SE in August, the Morgan Street sidewalk project had to wait for this Fall. The

Continued to page 2

Master Planned Developments – The Next Step

On September 20, 2010 the City Council approved YarrowBay’s two Master Planned Development (MPD) proposals: The Villages and Lawson Hills.

The MPD process continues to move forward. The City’s MPD code stipulates that before any permits for any type of construction may be issued within the MPDs, the developer and City must enter into a Development Agreement. This agreement will provide greater specifics regarding the development of the properties, addressing matters such as minimum setbacks; building heights; street standards; specific timing and funding of infrastructure improvements; provision of parks and recreation facilities; etc.

The Agreement will essentially serve as the regulation regarding the development of the MPDs over the next 15 years.

Copies of YarrowBay’s initial draft of the Development Agreements may be found on the City’s website at

Continued to page 2

Elected Officials

- Mayor, Rebecca Olness
- Councilmember, Kristine Hanson
- Councilmember, Craig Goodwin
- Councilmember, Bill Boston
- Councilmember, William Saas
- Councilmember, Leih Mulvihill

Inside this issue:

- MPDs, Next Step
- Morgan Street Update
- Calling 9-1-1
- Holiday Safety Tips
- City Offices Closures
- Community Events
- Business License Renewals
- Shoreline Management
- Pet Waste Stations installed
- Stormwater and Utility Rate Increase
- Help by Composting
- 2011 Budget Update
- Contact Information

A BI-MONTHLY NEWSLETTER

November/December Volume 2, Issue 6

Daylight Saving Time ends
November 7, 2010!

Remember to set your clocks back 1 hour – This is a good time to check the batteries in your smoke alarms too!
Master Planned Developments— The Next Step (continued from front page)

www.ci.blackdiamond.wa.us/Depts/CommDev/mpd_page. Staff and YarrowBay still need to spend considerable time in working through the proposal until a final draft will be brought forth to a public hearing. The public is free to provide comments to staff during this process and, of course, will be able to provide comments to the Hearing Examiner when public hearings on the final draft begin.

The hearing process for the Development Agreements will be similar to that of the MPDs: the Hearing Examiner will conduct an Open Record Hearing, make his recommendation to the City Council, and the Council will then conduct a Closed Record Hearing. These hearings will commence sometime next year.

Staff prepared a flow chart of the Development Agreement process, which can be found on the website at www.ci.blackdiamond.wa.us/Depts/CommDev/mpd_page.

For further information, contact the Community Development Department at (360) 886-2560.

Community Contacts

Black Diamond Community Center
(360) 886-1011
Hours of Operation:
Monday – Friday 8 a.m. – 4:30 p.m.

Black Diamond Library
(360) 886-1105
Hours of Operation:
Monday – Thursday 10 a.m. – 9 p.m.
Fridays – 10 a.m. – 6 p.m.
Saturdays – 10 a.m. – 5 p.m.

Black Diamond Museum / Historical Society
(360) 886-2142
Hours of Operation:
Thursdays – 9 a.m. - 4 p.m.

Black Diamond Post Office
(360) 886-9429
Hours of Operation:
Monday – Friday 9 a.m. – 5 p.m.

Morgan Street update (continued from front)

City was concerned about the weather impacts to the schedule for the overlay at the end of the project but with Dan Dal Santo’s creativity with the project management, Scotty’s General flexibility, cooperation and patience from the homeowners along Morgan Street and some excellent Fall weather, the City will be able to complete the sidewalk project before winter. Seth Boettcher, Public Works Director and Dan Dal Santo, Project Manager, appreciate the public’s patience with the inconvenience and difficulty of access during this project.

Scheduled Public Hearings

♦ November 4— Comprehensive Plan Amendments
♦ November 4— YarrowBay Special Event Permit
♦ November 18— Property Tax Levy and Revenues
♦ December 2— Final 2011 Budget

Watch the City’s website for the latest information.
Don’t Be Afraid to Call 9-1-1!

The Black Diamond Police Department relies on citizens to be vigilant of activity in their neighborhoods. The 9-1-1 system is designed for emergency and non-emergency use. Call 9-1-1 for **ANY** seemingly unusual or suspicious activity. Dispatch prioritizes calls so you will not be bothering police, or for calling-in unusual activity. Here are some examples of suspicious person(s), vehicles and/or activities that should be reported to 9-1-1.

Any person or non-resident going door to door in a residential neighborhood. A person is especially suspicious if, after a few houses visited, one or more of them goes into a back or side yard.

A person running. This may be suspicious especially if something of value is being carried (possibly fleeing scene of crime).

Carrying property, depending upon the circumstance. For example, if at an unusual hour or in an unusual place, and if the property is not wrapped, as if it had just been purchased. (Possible subject leaving the scene of a burglary, robbery or theft.)

Certain moving vehicles. Especially slow moving vehicles at night, without lights, or if the course appears to be aimless or repetitive. This is suspicious in any location, but particularly in areas of schools, parks, or playgrounds.

Abandoned vehicle. (Possible stolen car.)

Certain parked and occupied vehicles may contain one or more persons. Especially significant if observed at an unusual hour.

Since July of 2010, there have been 13 property damage crimes and five burglaries in Black Diamond. With heightened awareness and increased vigilance we can reduce this and other types of criminal activity in our city. Here is some additional information and tips to help us when we respond to your 9-1-1 call.

You may request to be an anonymous or confidential reporting party when calling into dispatch if you do not wish to have your name mentioned on the report. When calling in, please note (if you can) clothing colors and styles on a suspicious person, approximate height/weight, color/style of vehicle (i.e. truck, sedan, two-door), the direction of travel of the person or vehicle, or anything that may be of help to police when trying locating suspicious activity and/or persons. Numerous crimes have been solved or prevented by a simple timely phone call to 9-1-1. We encourage you to report all activity you feel is suspicious.

Recently Adopted Ordinances

**Ordinance No. 09-946**
- Approving the Master Planned Development for The Villages

**Ordinance No. 09-947**
- Approving the Master Planned Development for Lawson Hills

**Ordinance No. 09-948**
- Amendments to the Zoning Code, Chapter 18

**Ordinance No. 09-949**
- Amendments to Chapter 19.04– Environmental Policy

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.
Think safety this holiday season

The holiday season is upon us and Mountain View Fire & Rescue / Black Diamond Fire Department would like you to have a safe time with your friends and family.

Cooking Safety Tips:

- Have a “kid-free zone” of at least 3 feet around the stove and areas where hot food or drink is prepared or carried.
- Wear short, close fitting or tightly rolled sleeves when cooking. Loose clothing can dangle onto stove burners and catch fire.
- Always use cooking equipment tested and approved by a recognized testing facility.
- Stay in the kitchen when you are frying, grilling or broiling food. If you leave the kitchen, even for a short time, turn off the stove.
- Unplug kitchen appliances when they are not in use. This includes toasters, blenders, toaster ovens, griddles, etc.

Holiday Decorations:

- Select a fresh tree by bouncing the tree trunk on the ground. If many needles fall off, the tree is probably not fresh. Do not link more than three light strands, unless the directions indicate it is safe.
- Maintain your holiday lights and look for frayed wires, bare spots, etc.
- Do not overload the electrical outlets.
- Use non-flammable decorations.
- Never put wrapping paper in the fireplace.
- Never leave lit candles unattended. Battery operated candles are a good substitute.

For more information on holiday safety please contact Tim Perciful at (253)876-6788.

Remember to keep checking our website for up to date and current information!

www.ci.blackdiamond.wa.us

City Offices will be closed on the following Holidays:

- November 11th — Veterans Day
- November 25th & 26th — Thanksgiving
- December 24th & 31st — Christmas and New Years
COMMUNITY EVENTS

November 6, 2010—Annual Harvest Moon Dinner Auction—Black Diamond Community Center—(360)886-1011 for more information.

December 3, 2010—Annual Christmas Tree Lighting—Black Diamond Community Center—(360)886-1011 for more information.

Share the Joy!—Black Diamond Community Center’s gift-giving program serves around 150 youth each year from low-income families in Black Diamond, Ravensdale, Cumberland and the Green River Gorge areas, children who would otherwise not have anything on Christmas morning, when others are jumping up with joy. Please call the Black Diamond Community Center to donate, volunteer or sign up to receive help from this program at (360)886-1011.

Business license renewals are coming

The City of Black Diamond has approximately 400 businesses that operate in the City throughout the calendar year. These include retail stores, restaurants, real estate agents, hair salons, daycares, construction firms and more. Some of these businesses have storefronts here in Black Diamond, others are home occupations, and still more perform frequent business in Black Diamond but have offices elsewhere.

The Black Diamond Municipal Code requires businesses operating in the City of Black Diamond have a current license. The license helps ensure all businesses have acquired the appropriate state licenses and permits, adhere to the zoning guidelines, conform to all building codes, and meet safety requirements. Most businesses are characterized as regular licenses, but the City also has some specialty licenses for pawnbrokers, cabaret, amusement devices, carnivals, adult entertainment, firearms, solicitors/mobile vendors and utility licenses. Some businesses may require more than one type of license.

Solicitors are required to obtain their license before contacting the public. Background checks are performed on every solicitor operating in Black Diamond. If they are not able to produce a copy of the solicitor license upon request, they are not approved to solicit in City limits.

Business license permitting fees are based on the number of employees, and the majority of Black Diamond businesses are under 50 employees which will renew at $60 annually. Renewal forms will be sent out in mid-December. Renewals not postmarked by January 31, 2011 will be assessed a $10 late fee. Late fees will continue to assess monthly if licenses fees are not paid. Anyone not renewed by May 1, 2011 will be sent to a collection agency for unpaid fees. If your business has closed or no longer is working in Black Diamond please return the renewal form with that information written on the form. The City will cancel the license.

If you have any questions, please contact Amy Donlan at (360) 886-2560 extension 218. We would like this process to be as simple as possible. Please remember to sign and return the renewal form and enclose all payment. Checks should be made out to the City of Black Diamond.

If you are a new business, applications are available on the City website www.ci.blackdiamond.wa.us or at City Hall. Generally a new license will have a fee of $70 unless the employees exceed 50 or there are other specialty licenses required.
Shoreline Master Planning Continues

Staff and members of the Citizen Advisory Committee are continuing to work through items associated with updating the City’s Shoreline Master Program. A big thanks to the folks that are helping us move through this process. Their hard work is helping the City craft the best legislation to meet the needs of the shoreline community, while meeting guidelines required by the State in the update process.

At this point, a good portion of the budgeted grant money has been spent in the development of an Inventory and Characterization report, which is available online at www.ci.blackdiamond.wa.us/Depts/NaturalResources/nat_resource_home.html in addition to the Public Participation Plan. Both documents have been reviewed and accepted by the Department of Ecology. If you get a moment, please take the time to review these documents as they provide

Pet waste stations newly installed

With the recent installation of the new parking lot area at the Lake Sawyer Regional Park, staff noticed that a lot of users of the park bring dogs on their walks through the facility. Paramount to the protection of water quality within the park was to include the installation of pet waste stations like the one shown below. These facilities offer free pet waste bags that can be utilized in collecting pet waste as it may occur through use of the facility. The pet waste stations have been located next to trash cans for your convenience. Although these bags are biodegradable, staff asks that people utilizing the bags throw them away in the trash as opposed to disposing of them in alternative ways (such as throwing them in the woods or leaving them on the trail. This will assure that surface water leaving the park and finding its way into our Lake Sawyer System is clean and free of fecal material and its associated water quality degradation potential. (i.e. fecal coli form and others).

The City has installed three pet waste stations for your convenience, one at the newly installed parking area next to the sani-can before you enter the trail to the park. Another has been placed at the bottom of the hill from the new trail to catch trail users coming from other directions. Finally, a pet waste station was installed at the Lake Sawyer Boat Launch next to the pay station.

Our hope is that we can keep these facilities free of pest waste for the benefit of all that use the park. Your cooperation is greatly appreciated, in help making Black Diamond Parks some of the best in the region. Thanks for your support of the program!

Share the Joy!

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).
Stormwater and Wastewater rate changes for 2011

Stormwater rates will change from $11.50 per month for residence or Equivalent Residential Unit (ERU) to $13 a month effective January 1, 2011. The new amounts will show on the utility bills mailed at the end of January 2011. Lifeline discounts will continue at 50% of the residential rate for low-income seniors or low-income disabled residents. Council adopted by ordinance the stormwater rates on November 6, 2008.

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

Maintenance: Most 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, storm pond 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 and 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 metal, 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 practice, 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 City maintenance activities in the interest of protecting stormwater and providing lower impact development standards for the future.

Wastewater Pass-Through Rate Increase

King County has increased wastewater treatment rates for 2011. Under long-term agreements with local sewer agencies in its service area, King County charges each agency a monthly amount for providing wastewater treatment. That amount is based on King County’s monthly sewer rate and the number of customers served by the local agency. In turn, the City must pass this charge onto residences, businesses and industries in their wastewater collection system to recover the county charge plus the amount needed to operate their local collection systems. The Metro portion of wastewater will increase from the current $31.90 per month to $36.10 per month. The $4.20 a month increase will be included on the utility bills for January 2011 service which will be mailed out at the end of January.
Shoreline Master Planning (continued from page 6)

good information about the current state of the shorelines in Black Diamond and outlines the process for adopting new rules and regulations in the future.

The City held a Visioning workshop to get input from everyone in the public about there concerns and questions with regard to Black Diamond’s shorelines on September 12, 2010 at the Black Diamond Elementary School. Approximately twelve people attended the workshop and brought some great questions and comments towards the development of the Shoreline Master Plan. Key questions and comments included:

- What type of buffers will be required from the ordinary high water mark to where I can build on my property?
- What do the environmental designations mean and what impact might they have to my property?
- Protecting lakeshores is of upmost importance. Are there new innovative ways in which we can help protect our property and allow for better habitat for fish and other wildlife?

The Citizen Advisory Committee is currently working through all of these issues and should have a work product completed in early 2011 for review. Please stay tuned to the newsletter and the City’s website as information becomes available.

Help us; Help you; Help each other (Composting)

We probably all agree that we would like to improve and preserve the water quality of Ginder Creek; Lawson Creek, Rock Creek and Lake Sawyer. How can you help? One is to continue to learn all you can and take actions in your own back yard. One problem from local residential yards is the leaching of nutrients from lawn clipping piles into our waterways. The primary nutrient that leeches out of fresh green lawn clippings are nitrates. The soil does not do a very good job of treating and absorbing nitrates as they readily move through the soil. Elevated levels of nitrates in water bodies can add to the growth of algae and other water plants. Proper composting is a great way to reduce this risk.

Here are some composting tips to reduce nutrient transport from residential yards into the storm system or nearby waterways.

- PLANNING-Site selection place your compost in a location that is well drained and as far away from drainage swales and water bodies as possible.
- PREPARE-Prepare for three compost piles: One for current disposal; a second to allow time to mix, stirring occasionally; a third for reuse.
- MIX-Mix in green vegetable material with brown woody material. The brown woody material will use the nitrates in the decomposition process and the organic matter will help hold the nitrates.
- REDUCE RAIN-Compost does need some moisture to decompose but during the winter keeping the compost covered most of the time helps prevent the nutrients from leaching out of the compost and into drainage paths.
- GUARD-Be careful about composting too much household food waste as it will attract raccoons, bears, dogs, possums, crows and the like. Small amounts of food wastes can be composted if they are covered with ample lawn clippings, leaves and other organic yard waste.
- USE-Using good compost for your planting areas, gardening, and filling in low spots in lawns can save you money and reduce the need for commercial fertilizers.

We would like to encourage our residents to compost and discourage our residents from just dumping the lawn clippings in a pile over the back fence. Plan, compost and reuse a great organic soil amendment. For more information, visit the King County website at, http://your.kingcounty.gov/solidwaste/naturalyardcare/compost.asp.
2011 Budget update

In August 2010, Black Diamond staff began the 2011 budget process with adoption slated for December.

Earlier this summer, the City began operating budget development under the guidance of Mayor Rebecca Olness. With the continuation of economic slowdown, departments were asked to maintain “holding the line” and make additional cuts where possible as they prepared their budgets. Council began deliberations on the 2011 City Budget during September and October.

Council will hold two public hearings related to the operating budget on November 18, 2010—one on proposed revenues and expenditures for 2011, and the second one on the 2011 property tax levy.

The 2011 budget will include operating costs for Public Safety and General Government Revenue and Expenditures. It will also include budgets for the Street Fund, Water Fund, Wastewater Fund and Stormwater Fund. The 2011 projects from the Capital Improvement Plan for 2011-2016 are also included in the document. The Capital Improvement Plan was adopted by Council on June 17, 2010.

On December 2, Council will conduct the final public hearing on the 2011 City Budget and will consider budget adoption at this meeting or the December 16 meeting.

The final assessed valuation determined by King County is not complete and is not expected until December 2010. The final dollar amount of property tax will not be known until the County sets the assessed valuation. 100% of the property tax revenue will be used for Public Safety and provides about 64% of the needed revenue.

A copy of the 2011 Preliminary Budget will be available on November 18 to view or purchase at City Hall or you can download a copy from the City website: www.ci.blackdiamond.wa.us.

If you have any questions about the budget please call May Miller, Finance Director, at (360) 886-2560 extension 207.

PROPOSED MEETING DATES FOR 2011 BUDGET

- November 4 - Council Workstudy to review proposed 2011 Budget
- November 18 - Copies of Preliminary Budget made available to public
- November 18 - Council holds public hearing on revenue sources and expenditures for upcoming budget year
- November 18 - Public Hearing on Property Tax Levy
- November 18 - Council adopts property tax levy for the 2011 budget
- December 2 - Council holds final public hearing on 2011 budget
- December 2 - Council amends final property tax levy for 2011 budget (if needed)
- December 2 or 16 - Council adopts final 2011 budget and transmits to the State Auditor’s Office

*Calendar subject to change
### Contact Information

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

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Department</th>
<th>Address</th>
<th>Phone</th>
<th>Fax</th>
<th>Email</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>CITY HALL</td>
<td>P.O. Box 599 / 24301 Roberts Drive</td>
<td>(360) 886-2560</td>
<td>(360) 886-2592</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT/NATURAL RESOURCES/</td>
<td>P.O. Box 599 / 24301 Roberts Drive</td>
<td>(360) 886-2560</td>
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<tr>
<td>ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT</td>
<td></td>
<td>(253) 631-0351</td>
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<tr>
<td>POLICE DEPARTMENT</td>
<td>P.O. Box 309 / 25510 Lawson Street</td>
<td>(253) 631-1012</td>
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<tr>
<td>MUNICIPAL COURT</td>
<td>P.O. Box 599 / 25510 Lawson Street</td>
<td>(360) 886-7784</td>
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<tr>
<td>FIRE DEPT. DISTRICT #44</td>
<td></td>
<td>(253) 735-0284</td>
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<td>PUBLIC WORKS</td>
<td>P.O. Box 599 / 24301 Roberts Drive</td>
<td>(360) 886-2560</td>
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<tr>
<td>UTILITY AFTER HOURS (EMERGENCY PAGER)</td>
<td></td>
<td>(253) 333-5555</td>
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### Check out our website at www.ci.blackdiamond.wa.us

### Council/Commission/Committee Meetings

**CITY COUNCIL MEETINGS**

- **25510 LAWSON STREET**
  - Nov 4 - 7 p.m.
  - Nov 18 - 7 p.m.
  - Dec 2 - 7 p.m.
  - Dec 16 - 7 p.m.

**FINANCE/BUDGET COMMITTEE**

- **24301 ROBERTS DRIVE**
  - Nov 12 and Nov 26 - 9 a.m.
  - Dec 10 and Dec 31 - 9 a.m.

**PARKS/CEMETERY COMMITTEE**

- **24301 ROBERTS DRIVE**
  - Dates to be determined

**PUBLIC WORKS COMMITTEE**

- **24301 ROBERTS DRIVE**
  - Nov 9 and Nov 23 - 4 p.m.
  - Dec 7 and Dec 28 - 4 p.m.

**PUBLIC SAFETY COMMITTEE**

- **24301 ROBERTS DRIVE**
  - Dates to be determined

**PLANNING COMMISSION**

- **25510 LAWSON STREET**
  - Nov 9 - 7 p.m.
  - Dec 7 - 7 p.m.

**PLANNING/COMMUNITY SERVICE COMMITTEE**

- **24301 ROBERTS DRIVE**
  - Dates to be determined

### Note

- All committee meetings are tentative.
- All committee meetings are held in the public works conference room unless otherwise noted. Check website for any changes.

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Monthly meetings for City Council are held the first and third Thursday of each month at 7 p.m. Planning Commission meetings are held on the first Tuesday after the first Council meeting at 7 p.m. of each month (unless otherwise noted). Please contact the Clerks office for more information or meeting materials at (360) 886-2560 or check out the City Clerks webpage at [www.ci.blackdiamond.wa.us/Depts/Clerk](http://www.ci.blackdiamond.wa.us/Depts/Clerk).

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City of Black Diamond

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