



152 W. Cedar Street, Sequim, WA 98382  
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Coffee with the Mayor Recap

Date: May 23, 2019 at Black Bear Diner

In attendance: Charisse Deschenes, Assistant City Manager, David Garlington, Public Works Director

<b>Policy Issues</b>	
Topic	Resolution/Action/Notes
Simdars Interchange	One person wanted information about what was happening with the Simdars interchange at Highway 101. He had some suggestions about that interchange and also about extending Brownfield Road. David Garlington provided a response.
5G / Broadband Access	Where is the City regarding the availability of 5G communication? Are we in favor etc? What about broadband access overall? The Sequim City Council identified broadband as a Council Goal for 2018-2019. The City has formed a Broadband Action Team to coordinate on expanding broadband access. Access in the City of Sequim is significantly better than in the surrounding county, but there are still pockets of need. The City of Sequim permitted 5G technology in 2016 through its small cell regulations ( <a href="https://www.codepublishing.com/WA/Sequim/html/Sequim18/Sequim1861.html#18.61.020">https://www.codepublishing.com/WA/Sequim/html/Sequim18/Sequim1861.html#18.61.020</a> ). Cities are compelled by the Federal Communications Commission (FCC), and now Washington State law, to allow 5G technology. Cities are only able to regulate telecommunications facilities in narrow fields, like dictating aesthetics and the density of equipment. Local telecommunications providers do not anticipate that Sequim will see 5G service for several more years. If residents are concerned about the lack of any City's ability to regulate these facilities, we recommend that they contact our federal legislative delegation.
City Transportation Plan	There was a brief discussion regarding the City Transportation Plan--yes there is one. David was able to provide some insight.
City Budget Process	We talked a little about the City budgeting process. The process for the 2020 budget will begin next month with a hope to have a budget for approval by the end of November 2019.

<b>Operational Issues</b>	
Topic	Resolution/Action/Notes

Spraying for Weeds	There was a gentleman there to meet me when I arrived prior to the start of the meeting. He wanted to talk about what Public Works used to spray for weeds etc. He was very much opposed to the use of Roundup and provided an article for me to share with Public Works. I did pass the article and the individual's name and contact info to the City Manager and Public Works. City staff followed-up with the gentleman. The City is using a product like Roundup, due to its effectiveness, but is also in the process of testing other applications that may have less of an environmental impact. The gentleman understood what we were doing and why and appreciated that staff were looking for other alternatives.
Disabled Parking Spaces at the Civic Center	There was an individual there who had attended the meeting in April and brought up the number of handicap parking positions available when there are events on the plaza such as the farmers market. He was there to thank the City for the effort to provide at least 4 parking slots for handicap parking during the Irrigation Festival events.
Inadequate Walking Space along West Sequim Bay Road	Received a complaint about no adequate walking space along West Sequim Bay Road on either side after leaving Washington St. Why are there no walking trails, at least, and maybe even sidewalks? Is there a plan? Right now, it is extremely dangerous to walk along the road in that area. Public Works staff have shored up walking areas in the City's right-of-way. Unfortunately, there are significant stretches of private property that are barriers to creating a contiguous connection back to the City. Typically, those properties would construct sidewalks as they are subdivided and development occurs. It would be an expensive project for the City to buy the right of way needed and then to construct sidewalks. Staff continue to look creatively at this challenge and will be evaluating whether private property owners might be interested in donating property to the City to create a contiguous pathway.
People's Project	There was a brief presentation concerning the People's Project.
West Fir Street Project	The West Fir Street project has begun. It is expected to last for at least one year.
Four Council Seats up for Re-election	We talked about the applicants for the 4 vacant positions on the City Council. Since only one person filed for each position we basically know who will be on the City Council on January 1, 2020.
2020 U.S. Census	There will be a new US Census in 2020. Several people indicated they would be interested in helping with the Census. Mayor Smith told them that more information would be forthcoming soon about how this was to be done and how they might be able to help.
<b>Other Jurisdiction Issues</b>	
Topic	Resolution/Action/Notes

Proposed Bed & Breakfast West Sequim Bay Road	One individual wanted to know what was happening with the proposed bed and breakfast on Sequim Bay. No one in attendance had an answer as this is a County Community Development issue that seemed to be headed into the courts for resolution.
Bond / Levy Issues	We talked a little about the Library not passing their bond issue as well as the funding that went to Fire District 3. Fire District #3 was very pleased, and the Library was very disappointed. They were told that the Library will be coming forth with a different approach in a future election.

The next Coffee with the Mayor will be June 27, 2019 at the Black Bear Diner.