

CITY OF ISSAQUAH
City Council Committee-of-the-Whole

6:30 PM
September 8, 2025

MINUTES

Council Chambers, 135 E.
Sunset Way, Issaquah WA

COUNCIL AND ADMINISTRATIVE PERSONNEL PRESENT

Councilmembers:

Barbara de Michele
Zach Hall
Kelly Jiang
Russell Joe
Tola Marts
Chris Reh
Lindsey Walsh

Administration/Staff:

Wally Bobkiewicz, City Administrator
Andrea Snyder, Deputy City Administrator
Tisha Gieser, City Clerk

CALL TO ORDER

Council President Walsh called the meeting to order at 6:30 PM.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Brian Candelori, representing the Issaquah Library and King County Library System (KCLS), shared information about KCLS and encouraged partnership between the City and KCLS.

Council President Walsh announced that at the July 21 City Council meeting, the City Council referred the motion to approve AB 9026 - WSDOT Transfer of Development Rights (TDR) Development Agreement Extension for Bellevue College to tonight's Committee of the Whole meeting. However, additional time is required to gather the information requested by the City Council. This item has been delayed to the Oct. 20, 2025 City Council meeting [and subsequently delayed to Nov. 10 City Council meeting].

AGENDA ITEMS

City Administrator Wally Bobkiewicz introduced Ken Estabrook, a fellow through the International City & County Managers Association (ICMA) Army Senior Management Fellow.

a) **COM 0169 - Prioritization of Future Long Range Planning Work**

Presented by:

Minnie Dhaliwal, Community Planning & Development Director

The following public comment was provided:

Linda Bailey, Olde Town resident, expressed concern with the volume of traffic and residual noise and safety concerns in Olde Town.

A majority of the City Council expressed support for prioritizing the below items in the following order:

1. Implementing the recommendations in the EcoNorthwest Report, and
2. Updating the Housing Strategy Work Plan.

City Councilmembers provided other feedback, including:

- Would like to avoid any major reallocation of the budget or new funding as part of the mid-biennium adjustment.
- Other suggestions for prioritization were:
 - Central Issaquah Plan Update to incorporate Transit Oriented Zone/Overlay
 - Central Issaquah Station and Alignment Study
 - Suggestion to include rapid transit service be included in this study given Sound Transit's financial challenges.
 - Permit Streamlining
- Suggested the Planning, Development & Environment Committee's discussions around code areas for further review be added to the Title 18 Future Updates List, including stepbacks, outdoor amenity space, commercial space height, and corner stores.

City Administrator Bobkiewicz shared that any resulting financial requests associated with these priorities will be included in the mid-biennium budget adjustment.

GOOD OF THE ORDER

Councilmember Hall:

Farmer's Market - Expressed appreciation for the NW Sammamish Road Project outreach.

Council President Walsh:

Eastside Fire & Rescue Fire Chief Meet & Greet - Occurring tomorrow.

Councilmember Jiang:

Salmon on Sunset - Occurring this weekend.

Deputy Council President de Michele:

Culture Fest Event - Great event.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at approximately 8:33 PM.

Lindsey Walsh, Council President

Tisha Gieser, City Clerk