

**CITY OF ISSAQUAH  
City Council Regular Meeting**

7:00 PM  
July 21, 2025

**MINUTES**

Council Chambers, 135 E.  
Sunset Way, Issaquah WA

**COUNCIL AND ADMINISTRATION ATTENDANCE**

**Present:** Mayor Mary Lou Pauly (*Attended Virtually*), Deputy Council President Barbara de Michele, Councilmember Zach Hall, Councilmember Kelly Jiang, Councilmember Russell Joe, Councilmember Tola Marts, Councilmember Chris Reh, and Council President Lindsey Walsh

**Excused Absence:**

**Staff Present:** Andrea Snyder, Deputy City Administrator; Rachel Bender Turpin, City Attorney; and Tisha Gieser, City Clerk

**CALL TO ORDER**

Mayor Pauly called the meeting to order at 7:00 PM.

Mayor Pauly asked if there was any objection to her chairing tonight's meeting remotely. There being no objection, Mayor Pauly proceeded to chair the meeting.

**PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

Mayor Pauly led the Pledge of Allegiance.

**SPECIAL BUSINESS**

a) **ID 1850 - National Night Out Proclamation**

Councilmember Marts read the proclamation.

b) **ID 1851 - Park Ranger Day Proclamation**

Councilmember Reh presented the proclamation to Park Ranger Alex Anderson.

c) **ID 1900 - Farmers Market Week Proclamation**

Councilmember Joe presented the proclamation to Recreation Supervisor Kelli Diann and Assistant Market Manager Jocelyn Sandruck.

d) **ID 1849 - Sister Cities Commission - Friendship Day Proclamation**

Council President Walsh presented the proclamation to Sister Cities Commission Co-Chair Ryan Opitz and Commissioners Wendy Pickering and Victor Bello.

e) **ID 1886 - Recognition of Young Artists & Authors Showcase Top Recipients**

Sister Cities Commissioner Victor Bello announced the Young Artists & Authors award winners Rishika Chinthakindi and Jayce Grant. Jayce received a Certificate of Appreciation. Rishika was unable to be in attendance; the Certificate was provided to her teacher, Neha Parikh.

**AUDIENCE COMMENTS**

The following public comment was provided:

- Kevin Nichols, resident, spoke in support of Amendment "P" in AB 8988, 2025 Title 18 Policy Amendments, allowing for more commercial businesses in residential neighborhoods.
- Alex Tsimmerman, Bellevue resident, made comments.
- Steve Pereira, resident, made comments regarding culturally sensitive trees.

**CONSENT CALENDAR**

*Items listed were distributed to Councilmembers in advance for study and were enacted with one motion.*

Councilmember Hall, Chair of the Planning, Development & Environment Committee, summarized the Committee's recommendation on AB 9039, Update of Impact and Mitigation Fees.

**It was moved by Council President Walsh, seconded by Deputy Council President de Michele, to approve the consent agenda as presented. Motion Carried (7-0).**

- a) **Minutes: City Council Regular Meeting, July 7, 2025**

**MOTION:** Approved.

- b) **ID 1795 - Accounts: Payables and Payroll of July 21, 2025, \$3,310,234.71**

**MOTION:** Approved.

- c) **AB 9008 - Mid-Budget Request to add Police Communications Specialist FTE**

**MOTION:** Authorized the inclusion of an additional \$105,000 from the General Fund for the addition of a Communications Specialist Position in the Issaquah Police Department in a subsequent 2025-26 budget amendment.

- d) **AB 9012 - Teamsters 763 representing Public Safety Telecommunicator Employees Collective Bargaining Agreement**

**MOTION:** Approved the terms of the 2025-2026 Collective Bargaining Agreement between the City and Teamsters 763, representing Public Safety Telecommunicator Employees and authorized the Mayor to enter into and execute the Agreement; and directed the Human Resources Director to amend the salary ordinance to incorporate the revised wages in a subsequent amendment.

- e) **AB 9019 - Transit Oriented Development - Opportunity Center (TOD-OC) Housing Cooperation Agreement**

**MOTION:** Authorized the Mayor to enter into and execute the Housing Cooperation Agreement with the King County Housing Authority for the Transit Oriented Development Project at 1550 Newport Way NW in substantially the same form as the attached agreement (Exhibit A), as approved by the City Attorney.

- f) **AB 9025 - Dept. of Ecology Pollution Prevention Assistance (PPA) Partnership (Local Source Control Program Interagency Agreement)**

**MOTION:** Authorized acceptance of grant funds in the amount of \$144,989.12 and authorized the Mayor to enter into and execute the grant agreement with the Washington State Department of Ecology for the Pollution Prevention Assistance Partnership program in substantially the same form as the attached agreement (Exhibit A), as approved by the City Attorney.

g) **AB 9033 - Newport Way NW Improvement Project - SR900 to SE 54th Street Local Agency Agreements**

**MOTION:** Authorized the Mayor to execute the Local Agency Agreements for phases 1, 2, and 3 of the Newport Way NW Improvement Project - SR900 to SE 54th Street with WSDOT to authorize use of federal grant funds for the right-of-way phase of the project.

h) **AB 9038 - 12th Ave NW and SR 900 / 17th Ave NW (TR004) Project**

**MOTION:** Accepted completion of the 12th Ave NW & SR 900 / 17th Ave NW project (TR 004) and released the retainage bond to the contractor.

i) **AB 9039 - Update of Impact and Mitigation Fees**

**MOTION:** Adopted Ordinance No. 3096, adopting updated impact and mitigation fees to comply with RCW 82.02.060.

j) **AB 9041 - Equipment Replacement and Repairs ITS Bucket Truck**

**MOTION:** Authorized the inclusion of \$364,813.00 in funding from the General Fund for the replacement of the current bucket truck (#2014), recuperative costs for the unexpected 2025 repairs and rental trucks, and an estimated amount of ongoing rentals and repairs in a subsequent 2025-26 budget amendment.

**MOTION CARRIED, 7-0.**

k) **AB 9047 - Washington Administrative Office of the Courts Therapeutic Courts Interagency Funding Agreement**

**MOTION:** Authorized the Mayor to execute Interagency Agreement IAA26839 with the Washington Administrative Office of the Courts, accepting \$220,507 in funding to fully fund and operate a therapeutic court model in substantially the same form as the attached agreement (Exhibit A), as approved by the City Attorney.

**MOTION CARRIED, 7-0.**

**PUBLIC HEARING**

a) **AB 9035 - Vacation of a Portion of 12th Avenue Northwest**

Introduced by Mayor Pauly and presented by Transportation Engineering Manager John Mortenson.

Mayor Pauly opened the public hearing at 7:39 PM.

There being no public comments the hearing was closed at 7:40 PM.

This item will return on the Consent Calendar for action at the Aug. 11 City Council meeting.

**REGULAR BUSINESS**

a) **AB 8988 - 2025 Title 18 Policy Amendments**

Introduced by Mayor Pauly and presented by Acting Planning Director Christen Leeson.

Councilmember Hall, Chair of the Planning, Development & Environment Committee, summarized the Committee's recommendation on this item.

Councilmember Hall asked the City Council whether they want to go through a prioritization exercise for future Title 18 Land Use amendment, and if so, if they'd like that to occur at a Committee of the Whole or the Planning, Development & Environment Committee.

Feedback included:

- Yes to future discussion and prioritization coming to a Committee of the Whole.
- Recommend adding potential use types in different zones as another consideration for a future policy discussion.

**It was moved by Council President Walsh, seconded by Deputy Council President de Michele, to:**

**MOTION:** Adopt Ordinance Nos. 3097-3110 adopting minor, state required, and policy amendments to Title 18, Land Use Code as presented.

<b>RESULT:</b>	<b>Carried 7-0</b>
<b>IN FAVOR:</b>	Deputy Council President de Michele, Councilmember Hall, Councilmember Jiang, Councilmember Joe, Councilmember Marts, Councilmember Reh, and Council President Walsh
<b>OPPOSED:</b>	None

b) **AB 9026 - WSDOT Transfer of Development Rights (TDR) Development Agreement Extension for Bellevue College**

Introduced by Mayor Pauly and presented by Community Planning & Development Director Minnie Dhaliwal and Jorge de la Torre, Bellevue College Vice President of Administrative Services.

Councilmember Hall, Chair of the Planning, Development & Environment Committee, summarized the Committee's recommendation on this item.

**It was moved by Council President Walsh, seconded by Councilmember Hall, to:**

**MOTION:** Approve Resolution No. 2025-15, authorizing the Mayor to approve an amendment to the WSDOT TDR Development Agreement extending the expiration date to allow Bellevue College to evaluate development options and seek community input.

**MOTION:** The City Council referred the motion to the Sept. 8, 2025 Committee of the Whole meeting by unanimous consent.

When the item is discussed at the Committee of the Whole, Councilmembers expressed interest in hearing information on:

- Discussion on building types
- What's allowed currently
- What exposure there is to housing under the current Development Agreement
- Tax implications (property tax versus leasehold tax)
- Options with the Issaquah School District
- What the surplus process is for Bellevue College
- What the affordable housing requirements are
- Public benefits that have already been received and public investments that have already been made

**c) AB 9040 - Policy for Naming Public Facilities/Parks/Trails**

**It was moved by Council President Walsh, seconded by Deputy Council President de Michele, to:**

**MOTION:** Direct the Administration to prepare a resolution naming the East Sunset Way Trailhead after Bill Ramos.

<b>RESULT:</b>	<b>Carried 6-1</b>
<b>IN FAVOR:</b>	Deputy Council President de Michele, Councilmember Hall, Councilmember Jiang, Councilmember Joe, Councilmember Marts, and Council President Walsh
<b>OPPOSED:</b>	Councilmember Reh

**COMMITTEE / REGIONAL REPORTS**

*Councilmember Joe:*

Cascade Water Alliance Board - Announced upcoming meeting.  
 Cascade Water Alliance Public Affairs Committee - Announced upcoming meeting.  
 Lodging Tax Advisory Committee - July meeting is canceled.

*Councilmember Hall:*

Planning, Development & Environment Committee -There is no meeting in August.  
 Eastside Fire & Rescue Board - Made report. Announced upcoming meeting.  
 Water Resource Inventory Area 8 Salmon Recovery Council - Announced upcoming meeting.  
 Safety & Civic Facilities Task Force - Announced upcoming meeting.

*Councilmember Marts:*

Sound Cities Association Public Issues Committee - Made report.  
 Services, Safety & Parks Committee - Announced upcoming meeting.

*Deputy Council President de Michele:*

Regional Transit Committee - Made report. August meeting is canceled.  
 King County Board of Health - Made report. August meeting is canceled.  
 Eastside Transportation Partnership - August meeting is canceled.

**MAYOR'S REPORT**

The Mayor reported on the following topics:

- Executive Session: There will be an Executive Session tonight to discuss pending or potential litigation. The Executive Session is estimated to take 15 minutes. Action is anticipated to occur in open session.
- Transit Oriented Development - Opportunity Center (TOD-OC) Housing Cooperation Agreement
- Upcoming Events

**GOOD OF THE ORDER**

*Mayor Pauly:*  
Upcoming Council Meetings - Announced anticipated agenda items.

**EXECUTIVE SESSION**

At 9:17 PM the City Council took a short break. The City Council recessed into Executive Session at 9:21 PM for the purpose of discussing pending/potential litigation per RCW 42.30.110(1)(i). The item was expected to take approximately 15 minutes. The session was extended by 10 minutes.

- a) **ID 1901 - Executive Session - Pending/Potential Litigation per RCW 42.30.110(1)(i)**

**OPEN SESSION**

The regular meeting reconvened at 9:47 PM.

**It was moved by Council President Walsh, seconded by Deputy Council President de Michele, to:**

**MOTION:** Authorize the Mayor to negotiate and execute a settlement agreement for water account 303458 upon terms acceptable to the Mayor and City Attorney.

<b>RESULT:</b>	<b>Carried 6-1</b>
<b>IN FAVOR:</b>	Deputy Council President de Michele, Councilmember Hall, Councilmember Jiang, Councilmember Joe, Councilmember Reh, and Council President Walsh
<b>OPPOSED:</b>	Councilmember Marts

**ADJOURNMENT**

There being no further business to come before the Council, the meeting was adjourned at 9:48 PM.

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Mary Lou Pauly, Mayor

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Tisha Gieser, City Clerk