



Winter 2022

GRANITE FALLS WASHINGTON

GATEWAY TO THE MOUNTAIN LOOP

BUILDING A BETTER COMMUNITY

Improving and maintaining any city's infrastructure often costs more money than property, and other taxes can afford. Thanks to the diligent efforts of our City staff in the past few years, we've been able to secure additional grant funding for street and sidewalk improvements. This year we applied for two grants from the Washington State Transportation Improvement Board (TIB) to continue upgrading portions of Union and Alpine streets. Both grants were awarded and will cover 90% of the overlay engineering and construction management. In addition, the City will pay for pedestrian improvements on the south side of Union Street from Indiana Avenue to Alder Avenue. Those will include new concrete curbs, gutter and sidewalks, storm system improvements, and asphalt pavement to pave the existing gravel parking area. The City will create four new curb ramps at the northwest and southwest corners of the intersection with Alder Avenue. On January 5, the City Council authorized Gray and Osborne, Inc. to proceed with engineering services. Bidding for the project should go out in March, with construction slated for this summer.

The City also received a third grant from the TIB for \$600,000. Those funds will go towards the long-planned Galena Street Extension Project. The City funded the design last year with a target completion date in the summer of 2023. The original cost estimate was \$1.3 million, and we have funds to cover additional costs, provided inflation remains typical.



Keep your pipes clean of fats, oils, and grease to avoid costly plumbing problems. Your clean pipes also help our wastewater treatment plant work more efficiently.

Here are some common troublemakers:

- Baked goods and baking products
- Butter or margarine
- Cooking oil
- Dairy products—cheese, ice cream, milk, etc.
- Food scraps
- Meat and meat fats
- Sauces, salad dressings, mayonnaise
- Shortening or lard

What should you do instead? Scrape your food wastes, fats, oils and grease into a disposable container, then place them into your trash. Your pipes thank you and your community thanks you!

NEW SKATE PARK COMPLETED

The renovated skate park is ready for action, with new decks, rails, ledges, quarter-pipe and half-pipe and more! The skate park is located in Jim Holm Park at 210 S. Granite Avenue. The park also features a recently revitalized basketball court, children's play area, picnic tables and a pavilion.

Skateboarders, scooter riders and a young toddler enjoying the new skate park.

JANUARY CITY COUNCIL AND PLANNING COMMISSION NEWS

The City swore in re-elected Councilmembers Tom FitzGerald and Steven Glenn to their new terms along with newly elected Councilmember Dave Griggs. Granite Falls City Clerk Darla Reese administered the Oath of Office to each. Also, at the meeting, the Council voted to keep Glenn as Mayor Pro-Tem and Councilmember Matt Hartman as Mayor.

Bruce Straughn applied for a position on the Granite Falls Planning Commission to take over the unexpired term of Julie Cory-Wyman, who recently resigned from Seat 1. Straughn has previous experience in City government as a former Councilmember. In his application, he wrote he is “simply giving back” to our community. Straughn recently retired after thirty-plus years working at the Snohomish Health District. The unexpired term will continue until 2027.

Former Planning Commissioner Chris Marsh applied to serve in seat 5, vacated early by Monica Hoersting, whose term ends in 2028. He wrote, “My goal is to continue to help make Granite Falls a great place to live while maintaining our history.” The City Council voted to appoint both applicants.

The Granite Falls City Council and Planning Commission has begun their periodic review and update of the 20 Year Comprehensive Plan for controlled and sustainable city growth. The City completed the current Plan in 2015 after three years of public workshops and meetings with citizens and elected officials. The Plan covers natural resources, land use, housing, capital facilities and utilities, transportation, economic development, and recreation.

The current Plan is available to review online at the City’s website by clicking on the Documents tab, then Planning and Development. Citizens are encouraged to submit written comments to City Hall. The City Council also plans to hold public hearings before an updated 2025 plan is approved.

www.GraniteFallsWA.gov

As a reminder, regulations still require visitors to wear masks when inside City Hall or the Civic Center. Online services and over-the-telephone access are available for those unable to wear masks. Every citizen is encouraged to attend City Council meetings available online. To join, click on the City Hall tab on our website, then choose City Council. There will be an online link to the next meeting and the current agenda of items for consideration.



FREE COMPOST for your Spring gardening is available from the City of Granite Falls Wastewater Treatment Plant. Your trees, shrubs, lawn, and garden beds will love our local compost. We are happy to deliver a load for you at no charge within a ten-mile radius of the City. Call Lyle or Darin at 360-691-7432 to make arrangements.



CONTACT US

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Stop by to register to vote, pick up community information, a map of Granite Falls, pay your water bill, or just say hello!

- Open 8:30 am—5:00 pm Mondays thru Thursdays
- Open 8:30 am—12:00 pm Fridays
- Closed on legal holidays

Visit our website

www.GraniteFallsWA.gov

GRANITE FALLS CITY COUNCIL

The City Council meets on the first and third Wednesdays of each month at 7:00 pm in the Council Chambers at City Hall. City Council work sessions are on the second Wednesday of the month at 7:00 pm.

- Mayor Matt Hartman
term expires in 2024
- Councilmember Tom FitzGerald
term expires in 2026
- Councilmember Steven Glenn
term expires in 2026
- Councilmember Erin Hogan
term expires in 2024
- Councilmember David Griggs
term expires in 2026

GRANITE FALLS PLANNING COMMISSION

The Planning Commission meets on the second Tuesday of each month at 7:00 pm in the Council Chambers at City Hall.

Seat 1 – Bruce Straughn
Seat 2 – Ronald Stephenson
Seat 3 – Frederick Cruger (Chair)
Seat 4 – Removed by Ordinance
Seat 5 – Chris Marsh
Seat 6 – Scott Morrison

- For after-hours water or sewer emergencies, call Public Works at 425-583-1781 or call 9-1-1
- For police or fire emergencies, call 9-1-1
- For non-emergency dispatch, call 425-407-3999

