

COBI CONNECTS



COUNCIL TO RESUME DISCUSSION ON POLICE-COURT FACILITY

When someone in crisis needs to speak with a Bainbridge Island police officer, they're escorted past a busy street corner and ferry commuters and then seated in a room that does not feel inviting or comforting. "It's another level of trauma for them," said Det. Erik Pepper.

Victims and witnesses are interviewed in the same space where suspect interviews are conducted: the department's only interview room. "Our goal is to provide professional services to this community. The lack of basic resources makes that a real challenge," Chief of Police Joe Clark said. "The well-documented inadequacies of this building, to put it simply, cannot be fixed."

The Bainbridge Island community has known about the lack of adequate Police and Municipal Court facilities for more than 20 years; the topic has been discussed and analyzed with no resolution. But that may soon change. On Sep. 21, the Council will resume consideration of the problem.

City staff earlier this year postponed construction bid advertising for the retrofit of the 8804 Madison Avenue N building, purchased for \$8.975 million in 2020 as the future police-court facility site, until Blair King came on board as city manager. The idea was to have King lead the City through the project delivery. "My assessment is these are the worst police facilities and the worst municipal court facilities I've ever seen," King said. "They are inadequate to provide the services that the public expects."

King intends to restart the process for a new police-court facility with the introduction of a video that highlights the deficiencies of the current police and court facilities. Watch the video at bainbridgewa.gov/policecourt. King says there are three basic issues that need to be resolved: the current facilities are inadequate; a significant amount of money (at least \$11 million) has been spent on the project already; and the City sold \$8 million in tax-exempt bonds to buy a site for a new police-court facility, obligating itself to abide by the Internal Revenue Service—imposed terms for tax-exempt bonds.

The solution to the problem is picking a site for the police-court facility, King said. He's proposing three properties the City now owns: the current police station at 625 Winslow Way E, the City-owned Suzuki property located on New Brooklyn Road acquired by the City in 2000 for the police-court facility, and the 8804 Madison Avenue property.

POLICE FACILITY DEFICIENCIES

- » Existing building, originally built in 1945 for fire department, made of unreinforced masonry and likely to collapse during an earthquake
- » No generator for power outages
- » Electrical circuits inadequate to power technology and equipment
- » No secure areas for moving suspects between police vehicles and building
- » Unsecured staff parking
- » Inadequate privacy for victims and the public



COURT FACILITY DEFICIENCIES

- » Does not meet ADA accessibility requirements
- » Small courtroom puts victims and alleged perpetrators in close proximity during proceedings
- » Jury must use staff workroom/break area for deliberation
- » No witness stand
- » Restroom doubles as hallway from break room/jury room to court office

REPLACEMENT FACILITY COSTS

Over the years, the City has analyzed 18 potential sites and spent roughly \$11 million on the police-court replacement facility project:

- \$8.975 million to buy 8804 Madison Avenue**
- \$759,000 on designs**
- \$500,000 to buy 13.83 acres of land (Suzuki property) on New Brooklyn Road**
- \$415,000 on studies to determine best sites**
- \$222,000 for administrative costs**
- \$46,000 on land use and building permits**



We've created a **video** showing the conditions of the current police & court facilities. Watch here:



bainbridgewa.gov/policecourt

SAFETY IMPROVEMENT PROJECTS

The Public Works Department is currently working on the design or construction of many projects that would improve safety for people walking and biking in our community. See below for the status of these projects.

🚧 Eagle Harbor Drive Nonmotorized Improvements Phase 2

This project, which is almost completed, includes 6-foot-wide bike lanes separated from traffic, on both sides of Eagle Harbor Drive starting at McDonald Avenue and running north. The goal of the project is to enhance safety for cyclists and pedestrians. The project is funded primarily by a federal transportation grant, with the City contributing matching funds.



🚧 Eagle Harbor Drive Nonmotorized Improvements Phase 1

This project consists of an extension of the bike lanes in Phase 2, from the Head of the Bay south along the shoreline frontage of Eagle Harbor Drive. Under consideration is the possibility of an over-water structure across the bay and other options that would separate cyclists and pedestrians from traffic. Staff will brief City Council on the project in October, and construction is expected to start in 2024. A federal transportation grant will support a portion of the project costs.

🚧 Madison Avenue Sidewalk

This project, still under discussion, is focused on replacing the sidewalk along the east side of Madison Avenue between Wyatt Way and High School Road. The current design concept would expand the scope to include construction of separated bike lanes, traffic calming and sidewalk infill between Winslow Way and State Route 305. Approximately half of the project cost is supported by a federal transportation grant, with the remainder contributed by the City.

Did You Know?

Many of the City's transportation grants come from funding allocated to the state by the federal government. For example, every two years the City competes for a regular federal transportation grant cycle that has the potential for funneling money into all of the jurisdictions in Kitsap County. The grants typically provide 86% of project funding, with the City providing the balance.



🚧 Sound to Olympics Trail: Sakai Pond Connector

This paved, 10-foot-wide path will connect High School Road to Sakai Park to create an important link with the High School Road commercial areas and nearby schools. The project should be completed this fall. The Sakai Connector Trail is the Sound to Olympics (STO) Trail's first new segment on Bainbridge Island since the STO opened in 2018 between Winslow Way and High School Road. In early spring, a 100-goat herd "mowed" the project site clear of ivy and other vegetation as an eco-friendly way to prepare the land for trail construction.

🚧 Sportsman Club/ New Brooklyn Intersection →

All four corners of the intersection will be upgraded to 8-foot-wide multiuse paths and sidewalks to enhance accessibility and safety for children biking or walking to school. Crosswalks will be narrowed, and one segment will be raised to improve visibility. At the time of publication, the Council was expected to reject the construction bids due to higher-than-expected costs. The project will be re-bid closer to the time of anticipated construction: after school ends in June 2022. A majority of the project is funded by a federal transportation grant, with the remainder contributed by the City.



🚧 High School Road Safety Improvements

This project addresses pedestrian safety concerns along High School Road between State Route 305 and Grow Avenue through small improvements such as lighted crosswalk warning signage, crosswalk enhancements, and accessibility upgrades. The project should begin before the end of the year and is funded entirely by a federal transportation safety grant.

Neighborhood Traffic-Calming Program

With the goal of improving conditions for people walking, biking, or rolling in neighborhoods, City staff are evaluating more than 300 community-proposed traffic-calming projects, such as crosswalk redesigns or the installation of radar speed signs. On Sept. 21, staff will present the selected projects to City Council. A portion of the \$10 car-tab fee increase approved by Council in 2019 will support this program.

CALL FOR PROJECTS OVERVIEW

- 340 responses
- 50 locations/streets identified
- 60% responded "no" to an all-island 25 mph speed limit (excluding SR 305)

CITY CREATES COMMITTEE TO ADDRESS TRAFFIC ISSUES

To improve safety and mobility for islanders, City Manager Blair King has established a Traffic Operations Committee (TOC) to consider requests for speed limit changes, traffic control signs, parking, crosswalks, speed humps and other traffic-calming and safety solutions.

"We are committed to improving the lives and safety of our residents and visitors," King said. "The TOC is a tool to help us make the City of Bainbridge Island a safer and more wonderful place to live."

Members of the committee include the Director of Public Works, Chief of Police, City Attorney, City Engineer, Deputy City Manager and Planning Director.

The committee will consider traffic solutions based on technical standards and guidelines provided by federal, state and local agencies, including standards developed by City staff. After the City Manager reviews the TOC's recommendations, the City Council may act on them, but it is not required to.

The committee will meet regularly, follow a formal agenda and accept public comment. Its next meeting is tentatively scheduled for Nov. 17.



CITY SEEKS INPUT ON HOW TO SPEND \$7 MILLION STIMULUS FUNDS

The City Council on Sept. 28 is expected to make its final choice on how to spend \$7 million of federal stimulus funds—formally known as the American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA)—and wants your input to prioritize the projects.

ARPA, a \$1.9 trillion national economic stimulus bill passed by Congress in March, aims to help communities recover from the COVID-19 pandemic. The federal bill provides eligibility guidelines and encourages spending on public health, economic recovery and certain infrastructure investments in water, sewer and stormwater systems.

The Council in June approved additional City guidelines for how the money should be spent: to achieve long-lasting benefits, to support projects that would not be accomplished without a large one-time sum, to promote fiscal and environmental sustainability and to avoid cost reoccurrence.


In August, staff presented a list of proposed projects to the Council related to water and sewer infrastructure upgrades, nonmotorized transportation improvements, climate mitigation projects, affordable housing and emergency response infrastructure upgrades. Staff refined the project list based on Council feedback and is now seeking public input on the Engage Bainbridge page to prioritize projects.

ENGAGE

BAINBRIDGE

How should Bainbridge use COVID-19 recovery funds?

Share your thoughts on our Engage Bainbridge page:



cityofbainbridgeisland.civilspace.io/en

REMODELING YOUR HOME? THE CITY HAS A FASTER PERMIT FOR YOU

When it comes to remodeling a home, one size does not fit all. In recognition of this fact, the City is now offering a new permit type that makes the process more efficient and faster.

The R-ALT STFI, or Residential Alteration Subject to Field Inspection, permit applies to residential alterations or remodels limited to the interior of a home. Projects that exceed the original footprint or raise rooflines are not eligible.

Before the City introduced R-ALT STFI, getting a permit for even a small kitchen remodel, for example, might take 11 weeks. Now it should take only five days.

City staff can issue the new type of permit much more quickly because the process doesn't need to involve all the reviews and submittal requirements of larger, more extensive projects. R-ALT STFI, unlike other permits, does not require an appointment for application submittal and can be submitted online.

The permit cost for R-ALT STFI is similar to other permits because the City's permitting fee structure is based on project valuation.

Learn more about the new permit on the Planning & Community Development page at bainbridgewa.gov/154.

Eligible projects

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Kitchen remodel, with appliances moved around in the space Adding a beam to eliminate a post Moving or deleting walls for an interior space remodel Reconfiguring bedrooms (adding a bedroom requires Kitsap Public Health District approval) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Making small structural changes (requires an engineering stamp of approval) Bathroom remodel Adding interior LP gas lines for new appliances (gas fireplace or cooktop; adding an LP tank, however, is not eligible) Changing staircases or railings
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Not Eligible

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Adding an accessory dwelling unit Additions Detached garages 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Property grading Tree removal Installation of new utilities 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Drainage improvements Seismic retrofitting Commercial projects
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- Sign up for email or text alerts on City projects: bainbridgewa.gov/list.aspx
- Get weekly updates on City topics: bainbridgewa.gov/500

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It's time to **reduce waste** on Bainbridge Island!

NEW RULES FOR SINGLE-USE FOOD SERVICE ITEMS BEGIN JANUARY 1, 2022

- Bainbridge Island City Council has set a goal of reducing greenhouse gas emissions on Bainbridge Island by 90%.
- As an initial step toward that goal, single-use food service products can only be provided when a customer asks or confirms they would like to use them.
- **Single-use food service products include: Utensils, Straws/stirrers, Condiments in packaging, Beverage cups and/or lids***

*Beverage cup lids for hot beverages or beverages for delivery, drive-thru, or curbside pickup will still be allowed without customer request.



DINE IN: Single-use food service items are still available for customers who ask for them or respond yes to a business offering them.

TAKE OUT: Single-use food service items are still available for customers who ask for them or respond yes to a business offering them.



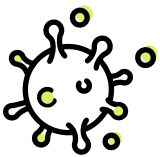
DINE IN: Businesses can't leave out bins with single-use food service items for customers to take out on their own.

TAKE OUT: Single-use food service items can't automatically be placed in to-go orders but are available for customers who ask for them or respond yes to a business offering them.



DAY OF PREPAREDNESS

Come join us for our annual Day of Preparedness on **Saturday, September 25** at **Commodore Options School (lower gym)**, 9530 High School Road NE



Vaccines | Flu Shots | COVID-19 Vaccination Record Card Replacements | Emergency Preparedness

COVID-19 testing now available

Mondays 9 a.m. to 1 p.m.
Rolling Bay Presbyterian | 11042 Sunrise Drive

LEARN MORE: bainbridgewa.gov/COVID19

For complete details, please visit: www.bainbridgewa.gov/foodwareordinance