



City Council Meeting Minutes

Vancouver City Hall | Council Chambers | 415 W. 6th St.
PO Box 1995 | Vancouver, WA 98668-1995
cityofvancouver.us

Anne McEnerny-Ogle, Mayor • Bart Hansen • Ty Stober • Erik Paulsen • Sarah J. Fox • Diana H. Perez • Kim D. Harless

August 4, 2025

Workshops: 4:45-6:00 p.m.

Vancouver City Hall - Council Chambers - 415 W 6th Street, Vancouver WA

The City Council Meeting was held on 8/4/2025 at 4:45 PM in the Vancouver City Hall, Council Chambers 415 West 6th Street, Vancouver, WA 98660.

Workshops were conducted in person in the Council Chambers of City Hall. Members of the public were invited to view the meeting in person, via the live broadcast on www.cvtv.org and CVTV cable channels 23 or HD 323, or on the City's Facebook page, or www.facebook.com/VancouverUS.

View the CVTV video recording, including presentations and discussion, for workshops at:

https://www.cvtv.org/vid_link/38193?startStreamAt=0&stopStreamAt=3628

Comprehensive Plan Update

(Approximately 45 minutes)

Rebecca Kennedy, Deputy Community Development Director,
rebecca.kennedy@cityofvancouver.us

Staff led Council through a discussion of the Comprehensive Plan Update.

Councilmember Perez was absent from the workshop.

Councilmember Harless was late to the workshop.

Clark County Parks Sustainable Funding Team

(Approximately 30 minutes, to immediately follow the previous workshop)

David Perlick, Director of Parks, Recreation and Cultural Services,
david.perlick@cityofvancouver.us

Staff led Council through a discussion of the Clark County Parks Sustainable Funding Team.

Councilmember Perez was absent from the workshop.

Council Dinner / Administrative Updates (6:00 - 6:30 PM)

Regular Council Meeting

6:30 PM

Vancouver City Hall - Council Chambers - 415 W 6th Street, Vancouver WA

This meeting was conducted as a hybrid meeting with in person and remote viewing and participation over video conference utilizing a GoToMeeting platform. Members of the public were invited to view the meeting in person, via the live broadcast on www.cvtv.org and CVTV cable channels 23 or HD 323, or on the City's Facebook page, www.facebook.com/VancouverUS. Public access and testimony on Consent Agenda items and under the Community Forum were also facilitated in person and via the GoToMeeting conference call.

Vancouver City Council meeting minutes are a record of the action taken by Council. To view the CVTV video recording, including presentations, testimony and discussion, for this meeting please visit:

https://www.cvtv.org/vid_link/38195?startStreamAt=0&stopStreamAt=4871

Electronic audio recording of City Council meetings are kept on file in the office of the City Clerk for a period of six years.

Pledge of Allegiance

Call to Order and Roll Call

The regular meeting of the Vancouver City Council was called to order at 6:30 p.m. by Mayor McEnerny-Ogle. This meeting was conducted as a hybrid meeting, including both in person and remotely over video conference.

Present: Councilmember Harless, Councilmember Fox, Councilmember Paulsen, Councilmember Stober, Councilmember Hansen, Mayor McEnerny-Ogle

Absent: Councilmember Perez

Motion by Councilmember Paulsen, seconded by Councilmember Hansen, and Yes: 6, No: 0, Abstaining: 0, to excuse Councilmember Perez. Absent from vote: Councilmember Perez.

Approval of Minutes

Minutes - July 7, 2025

Motion by Councilmember Hansen, seconded by Councilmember Fox, and Yes: 5, No: 0, Abstaining: 1, to approve the July 7, 2025, Meeting Minutes. Absent from vote: Councilmember Perez.

Councilmember Stober abstained.

Minutes - July 14, 2025

Motion by Councilmember Paulsen, seconded by Councilmember Stober, and Yes: 6, No: 0, Abstaining: 0, to approve the July 14, 2025, Meeting Minutes. Absent from vote: Councilmember Perez.

Community Communication

This is the place on the agenda where the public is invited to speak to Council regarding any matter on the Agenda not already scheduled for Public Hearing. (Separate instructions are provided for offering testimony on Public Hearing when applicable.) This includes the option to testify about Workshops. Members of the public addressing Council are requested to give their name and city of residence for the audio record. Speakers are to limit their testimony to a total of three minutes for all items combined. RCW 42.17A.555 and City Council Policy 100-32 prohibit the use of public facilities to support or oppose any ballot measure, or to support or oppose any candidate for elective office. Any violation of these rules could result in a suspension of speaking privileges during public comment periods at City Council Meetings for 90 days or longer for multiple offenses.

Mayor McEnerny-Ogle opened Community Communication and received testimony from the following community members regarding any matter on the agenda not scheduled for a Public Hearing:

- *Anastasiya Kozlovska, Vancouver*

There being no further testimony, Mayor McEnerny-Ogle closed Community Communication.

Consent Agenda

The following items will be passed by a single motion to approve all listed actions and resolutions. There will be no discussion on these items unless requested by Council. If discussion is requested, the item will be moved from the Consent Agenda and considered separately – after the motion has been made and passed to approve the remaining items.

Council pulled items 3, 6, 8, and 9 for discussion.

Council remanded Item 3 on the Consent Agenda back to staff.

Motion by Councilmember Paulsen, seconded by Councilmember Stober, and Yes: 6, No: 0, Abstaining: 0, to approve Items 1, 2, 4, 5, 7, and 10-12 on the Consent Agenda. Absent from vote: Councilmember Perez.

Motion by Councilmember Stober, seconded by Councilmember Hansen, and Yes: 6, No: 0, Abstaining: 0, to approve Item 6 on the Consent Agenda. Absent from vote: Councilmember Perez.

Motion by Councilmember Fox, seconded by Councilmember Paulsen, and Yes: 6, No: 0, Abstaining: 0, to approve Item 8 on the Consent Agenda. Absent from vote: Councilmember Perez.

Motion by Councilmember Hansen, seconded by Councilmember Stober, and Yes: 5, No: 1, Abstaining: 0, to approve Item 9 on the Consent Agenda. Absent from vote: Councilmember Perez. Councilmember Fox voted No.

1. Bid Award - NE 122nd Ave Sewer and Water Improvements - ITB 25-30

Staff Report: 157-25

Request: On Monday, August 4, 2025, award a construction contract for NE 122nd Avenue Sewer and Water Improvements Project to the lowest responsive bidder, Halme Excavating, Inc., of Battle Ground, WA, at the bid price of \$1,117,708.60, which includes Washington State Sales tax, and authorize the City Manager, or designee, to finalize and execute the contract and authorize any legal action necessary to enforce the terms of the same.

Sheryl Hale, Engineering Manager, sheryl.hale@cityofvancouver.us

Motion approved the request.

2. Bid Award - Trunk G2 Sewer Diversion - ITB 25-31

Staff Report: 158-25

Request: On Monday, August 4, 2025, award a construction contract for the G2 Trunk Diversion project to the lowest responsive and responsible bidder, Tapani, Inc of Battle Ground, WA at their bid price of \$2,014,933.57, which includes Washington State sales tax, and authorize the City Manager or designee to finalize and execute a contract and authorize any legal action necessary to enforce the terms of the same.

Sheryl Hale, Engineering Manager, sheryl.hale@cityofvancouver.us

Motion approved the request.

3. Contract Amendment - United Rentals for Hygiene Units at Safe Stay and Safe Park Communities - C-101224

Staff Report: 159-25

Request: On Monday, Monday, August 4, 2025, authorize the City Manager, or designee, to execute a contract amendment for rental, waste removal and water fills of restroom/shower units (hygiene) to our safe stay and safe park communities.

Kimbra Ledbetter, Financial Analyst,
Kimbra.Ledbetter@cityofvancouver.us

Council remanded the item back to staff to come back at a later date.

4. Contract Increase – Increase Spending for Bound Tree Medical LLC Contract through BuyBoard 704-23 for First Aid, Emergency Medical, and Athletic Trainer Supplies and Equipment - C-101251

Staff Report: 160-25

Request: On Monday, August 4, 2025, authorize the City Manager, or designee, to continue purchasing First Aid, Emergency Medical, and Athletic Trainer Supplies and Equipment from Bound Tree Medical LLC, under BuyBoard Contract #704-23, up to a maximum of \$450,000 for the life of the contract.

Michelle Bresee, Senior Management Analyst,
michelle.bresee@cityofvancouver.us

Motion approved the request.

5. Contract Amendment - Green Janitorial Products and Supplies, Waxie's Enterprises, LLC - WA Department of Enterprise Services - C-101486

Staff Report: 161-25

Request: On Monday, August 4, 2025, authorize the City Manager, or designee, to continue purchasing green janitorial products and supplies from Waxie's Enterprises, LLC, under Washington State Contract #25723, up to a maximum of \$800,000 through October 1, 2028.

Brian Taylor, Operations Superintendent,
brian.taylor@cityofvancouver.us

Motion approved the request.

6. Interagency Agreement - City Hall Lighting Upgrade

Staff Report: 162-25

Request: On Monday, August 4, 2025, award a contract and authorize the City Manager, or designee, to finalize and execute a construction contract and any required amendments with Ameresco of Portland, OR for the lighting upgrades at City of Vancouver City Hall at their bid price of \$803,027, which includes Washington State sales tax.

Wyatt Jones, Capital Projects Project Manager, Julia Denton, Senior Procurement Specialist, Wyatt.Jones@cityofvancouver.us, julie.denton@cityofvancouver.us

Motion approved the request.

7. Purchase and Sale Agreement - 2575 Falk Road

Staff Report: 163-25

Request: On Monday, August 4, 2025, approve the City's acquisition of the Parcel at 2575 Falk Road, Vancouver, WA 98661 pursuant to the Purchase and Sale Agreement ("PSA"), and authorize the City Manager, or designee, to finalize and execute the Purchase and Sale Agreement in substantially the form attached and to execute all other documents and related agreements necessary to implement the Purchase and Sale Agreement.

Chim Chune Ko, Principal Project Manager, ChimChune.Ko@cityofvancouver.us

Motion approved the request.

8. Resolution Requesting a Voted Measure from the City to be Placed on the Ballot during the General Election on November 4, 2025, Proposing a Property Tax Levy Lid Lift to Fund Police and Public Safety Services

A RESOLUTION of the City Council of the City of Vancouver, Washington, providing for the submission to the qualified electors of the City of Vancouver at the November 4, 2025, General Election of a proposition authorizing the City to increase its regular property tax levy above the limit established in chapter 84.55 RCW to fund police and public safety services; requesting the Clark County Auditor to place the proposition on the November 4, 2025, ballot; and approving matters properly related thereto.

Staff Report: 164-25

Request: On Monday, August 4, 2025, adopt the proposed resolution authorizing a proposition to be put before voters during the November 4, 2025, general election that, if approved by voters, would increase the City's regular

property tax levy limit by approximately \$0.15 per \$1,000 in assessed value, in addition to the annual 1% increase, to fund police and public safety services as set forth the ballot proposition. The 2026 levy would serve as the basis to calculate future levies.

Lon Pluckhahn, City Manager, lon.pluckhahn@cityofvancouver.us

Motion adopted Resolution M-4346 to approve the request.

9. 2025 Site Specific Rezone - 58th Street

AN ORDINANCE relating to Comprehensive Plan and Zoning for the City of Vancouver; amending the zoning map designation from R-22 to R-50 at a 1.6 acre property at 7711 and 7809 NE 58th Street, tax lots 107971000 and 107982000; providing for severability; and establishing an effective date.

Staff Report: 165-25

Request: On Monday, August 4, 2025, advance for consideration of the ordinance approving the 58th Street rezone to R-50, for a second reading and review at the public hearing on August 11, 2025.

Bryan Snodgrass, Principal Planner,
bryan.snodgrass@cityofvancouver.us

Bryan Snodgrass, Principal Planner, provided an overview of the item to Council. The applicant's representative, Jayson Taylor of PLS Engineering, provided additional information about the proposal.

Mayor McEnerny-Ogle read the title of the ordinance into the record.

Motion approved the request.

10. 2025 Site Specific Rezone - Bella Grove

AN ORDINANCE relating to Comprehensive Plan and Zoning for the City of Vancouver; amending the zoning map designation from R-18 to R-30 at a 6.2 acre property at 13401 and 13309 NE 59th Street, tax lots 107812000 & 107814000; providing for severability; and establishing an effective date.

Staff Report: 166-25

Request: On Monday, August 4, 2025, advance for consideration of the ordinance approving the Bella Grove rezone to R-30, setting the date for the second reading and public hearing for August 11, 2025.

Bryan Snodgrass, Principal Planner,
bryan.snodgrass@cityofvancouver.us

Mayor McEnerny-Ogle read the title of the ordinance into the record.

Motion approved the request.

11. Boards and Commissions Member Removal – Transportation and Mobility Commission (VMC 11.75.020(B)(4))

Request: On Monday, Monday, August 4, 2025, Pursuant to VMC 11.75.020(B)(4) and the TMC Bylaws, remove Michael Moore from membership on the Transportation and Mobility Commission effective August 4, 2025.

Mayor McEnerny-Ogle

Motion approved the request.

12. Approval of Claim Vouchers

Request: Approve claim vouchers for August 4, 2025.

Motion approved claim vouchers in the amount of \$30,847,031.01.

Public Hearings

The following item(s) are scheduled for public hearing. Members of the public addressing Council are requested to give their name and city of residence for the audio record. Unless otherwise announced by the Presiding Officer, speakers are to limit their testimony to three minutes for each public hearing.

13. Grayrock Second Pre-Annexation Development Agreement Amendment

A RESOLUTION approving Grayrock second pre-annexation development agreement amendment.

Staff Report: 167-25

Request: On Monday, August 4, 2025, authorize the City Manager, or designee, to finalize and execute the second amendment to the Grayrock Pre-Annexation Development Agreement in substantially the form attached.

Chim Chune Ko, Principal Project Manager, Chad Eiken, Community Development Director, ChimChune.Ko@cityofvancouver.us, chad.eiken@cityofvancouver.us

Chim Chune Ko, Principal Project Manager, Chad Eiken, Community Development Director, provided an overview of the Grayrock Second Pre-Annexation Development

Agreement Amendment.

Council discussed the item briefly with staff.

Mayor McEnerny-Ogle opened the public hearing and did not receive testimony from community members.

There being no testimony, Mayor McEnerny-Ogle closed the public hearing.

14. Section 30 PIT, LLC Second Pre-Annexation Development Agreement Amendment

A RESOLUTION approving section 30 PIT, LLC second pre-annexation development agreement amendment.

Staff Report: 168-25

Request: On Monday, August 4, 2025, authorize the City Manager, or designee, to finalize and execute the second amendment to the Section 30 PIT, LLC Pre-Annexation Development Agreement in substantially the form attached.

Chad Eiken, Community Development Director, Chim Chune Ko, Principal Project Manager, chad.eiken@cityofvancouver.us, ChimChune.Ko@cityofvancouver.us

Chad Eiken, Community Development Director, Chim Chune Ko, Principal Project Manager, provided an overview of the Section 30 PIT, LLC Second Pre-Annexation Development Agreement Amendment.

Council discussed the item briefly with staff.

Mayor McEnerny-Ogle opened the public hearing and did not receive testimony from community members.

There being no testimony, Mayor McEnerny-Ogle closed the public hearing.

Unfinished Business

15. Council Action to Appoint Committees to Prepare Arguments Advocating Voters' Approval and Rejection of the Council's Proposed Amendments to the Vancouver City Charter

Staff Report: 169-25

Request:

1. By motion, formally appoint a committee to prepare arguments advocating voters' approval of the proposed amendment to the City Charter, or, alternatively, defer such action to the County Auditor.
2. By motion, formally appoint a committee to prepare arguments advocating voters' rejection of the proposed amendment to the City Charter, or, alternatively, defer such action to the County Auditor.

Aaron Lande, Assistant City Manager, aaron.lande@cityofvancouver.us

1. Council selected Councilmember Sarah Fox, Janet Landesburg, and Siobhana McEwen to appoint to the Pro Committee.

Motion by Councilmember Harless, seconded by Councilmember Paulsen, and Yes: 6, No: 0, Abstaining: 0, to appoint Councilmember Sarah Fox, Janet Landesburg, and Siobhana McEwen to the Pro Committee. Absent from vote: Councilmember Perez.

2. Council selected Councilmember Ty Stober and Cemal Richards to appoint to the Con Committee. The Council deferred the selection of the third appointment to the County Auditor.

Motion by Councilmember Paulsen, seconded by Councilmember Fox, and Yes: 6, No: 0, Abstaining: 0, to appoint Councilmember Ty Stober and Cemal Richards to the Con Committee. Absent from vote: Councilmember Perez.

16. Council Action to Appoint Committees to Prepare Arguments Advocating Voters' Approval and Rejection of the Council's Proposed Single-Year Levy Lid Lift Property Tax Measure to Support Police and Public Safety Services

Staff Report: 170-25

Request:

1. By motion, formally appoint a committee to prepare arguments advocating voters' approval of the proposed single-year levy lid lift property tax measure, or, alternatively, defer such action to the County Auditor.
2. By motion, formally appoint a committee to prepare arguments advocating voters' rejection of the proposed single-year levy lid lift property tax measure, or, alternatively, defer such action to the County Auditor.

Aaron Lande, Assistant City Manager, aaron.lande@cityofvancouver.us

1. Council selected Jeff Anaya, Martha Baumgarten, and Cindy Reed to appoint to the Pro Committee.

Motion by Councilmember Stober, seconded by Councilmember Paulsen, and Yes: 6, No: 0, Abstaining: 0, to appoint Jeff Anaya, Martha Baumgarten, and Cindy Reed to the Pro Committee. Absent from vote: Councilmember Perez.

2. Council deferred selection of the Con Committee to the County Auditor.

Communications

A. From the Council

B. From the Mayor

C. From the City Manager

Comprehensive Solid Waste Management Plan Update

Will Elder, Environmental Services Manager, Julie Gilbertson, Solid Waste Supervisor, and Sara Schroeder, Clark County Environmental Operations Specialist, discussed the Comprehensive Solid Waste Management Plan Update.

Adjournment

7:50 p.m.

DocuSigned by:

Anne McEnerny-Ogle

6C89D9089EC5424...

Anne McEnerny-Ogle, Mayor

Attest:

DocuSigned by:

Natasha Ramras

493E940414AEE4BD
Natasha Ramras, City Clerk

The written comments below are those of the submitter alone and are not representative of the views of CVTV or the City of Vancouver, its elected or appointed officials, or its employees.

From: [Jay Renaud](#)
To: [City Council](#)
Subject: Testimony Item for Aug 4 Council Meeting
Date: Wednesday, August 6, 2025 2:15:40 PM

You don't often get email from [REDACTED] [Learn why this is important](#)

CAUTION: This email originated from outside of the City of Vancouver. Do not click links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

To: City Council of Vancouver

Re: 58th Street Zoning Public Hearing on August 4, 2025.

Dear Commissioners:

During the several decades that we have lived at our address of 7402 NE 58th Street, we have welcomed new residents as the area transitioned from semi-rural to highly urban. We support densification as reasonable and necessary given the growth in Vancouver's population. First to come here were two-storey single family homes followed by a multi-storey public housing project and then row homes. All these led to much more traffic on our now thru street which, despite the welcome installation of speed bumps, has become a GPS choice for drivers from west of Andresen who hasten to access Vancouver Mall and the I-205. Most recently, a just-completed dense project of 18 rental units will add further to the busy traffic load. All of these changes we recognize are proper and inevitable given the many desirable features of this part of Vancouver, and the surrounding neighborhood is now a thriving mix of housing styles, life styles and income levels, density and open space. But now we do reject the proposal to rezone and build to R-50 as proposed by the Sunlight group. This is too radical a shift that would threaten the existing positive qualities of life on this street. Those lots should be developed for housing, but at the existing level of R-22, which would allow a significant increase in housing here without upsetting the level of serenity that now exists. The project just opened at NE 74th Ct. would be a good model to go into those lots, meeting the community need for increased density while retaining the current flavor and advantages of the neighborhood, which with all the additional building, has retained its neighborly qualities.

Jay and Mary Renaud

[REDACTED]

Vancouver WA 98662

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

From: [inna diduk](#)
To: [City Council](#)
Subject: 58th Street Standalone Rezone Written Testimony
Date: Wednesday, August 6, 2025 2:15:46 PM
Attachments: [58th St Rezone Issue, 57th Cir Flooding and Landslide.pdf](#)

You don't often get email from [REDACTED] [Learn why this is important](#)

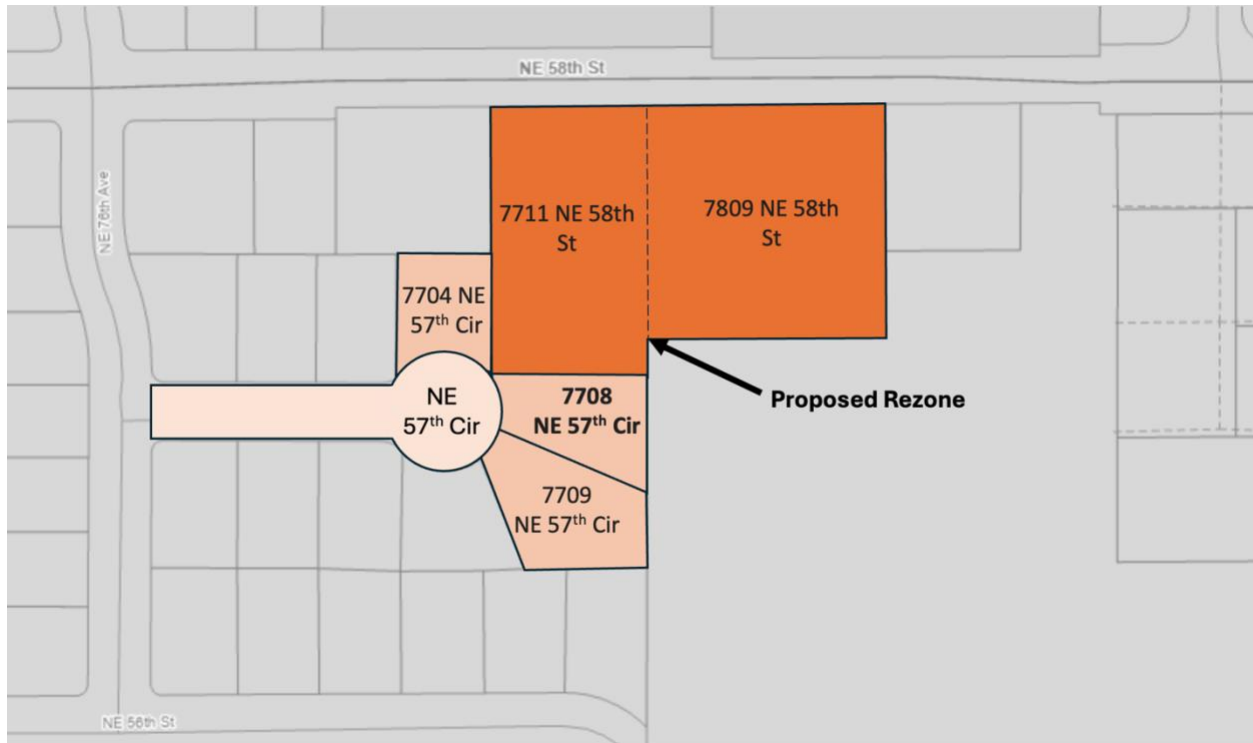
CAUTION: This email originated from outside of the City of Vancouver. Do not click links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

Hello,

Please see the following attachment for written testimony addressing the 58th St Rezone, with evidentiary images. Please include the attachment as public testimony. Thank you.

Attn: Regarding 58th St Rezone Proposal

To The City Council:



1. Map orienting to the locations of each property. Properties in rezone proposal are 7711 NE 58th St and 7809 NE 58th St (tax lots 107982000 and 107971000).

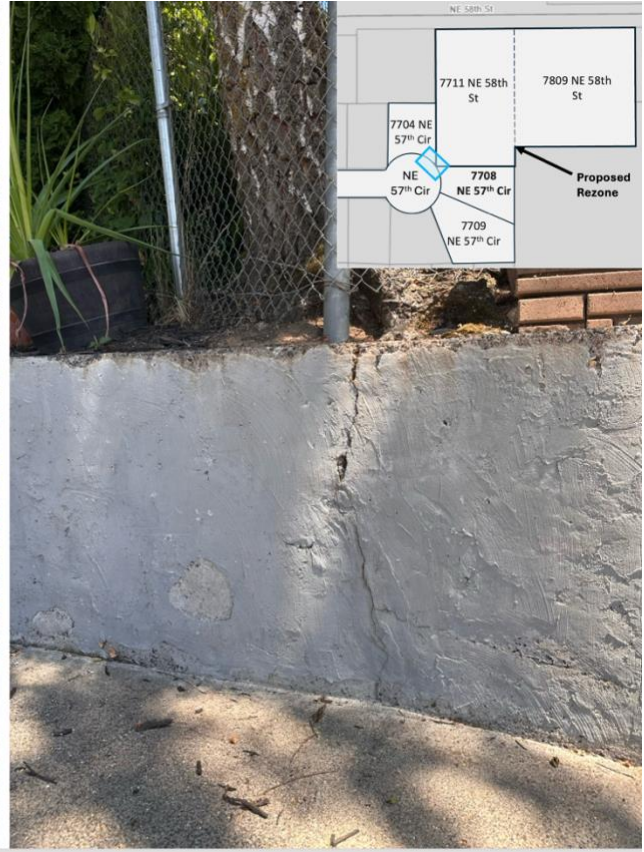
Flooding and Landslide Risk

I am writing as a homeowner of the immediately abutting home to the proposed 58th St development, 7708 NE 57th Cir – with shared concern of my neighbors at 7704 and 7709.

One of the important aspects that no one knows or talks about is the huge land grade (abruptly cut-off ground) between the 7711 NE 58th St (above) and the 7708 NE 57th Cir lot (below), and part of the NE 57th Circle itself.

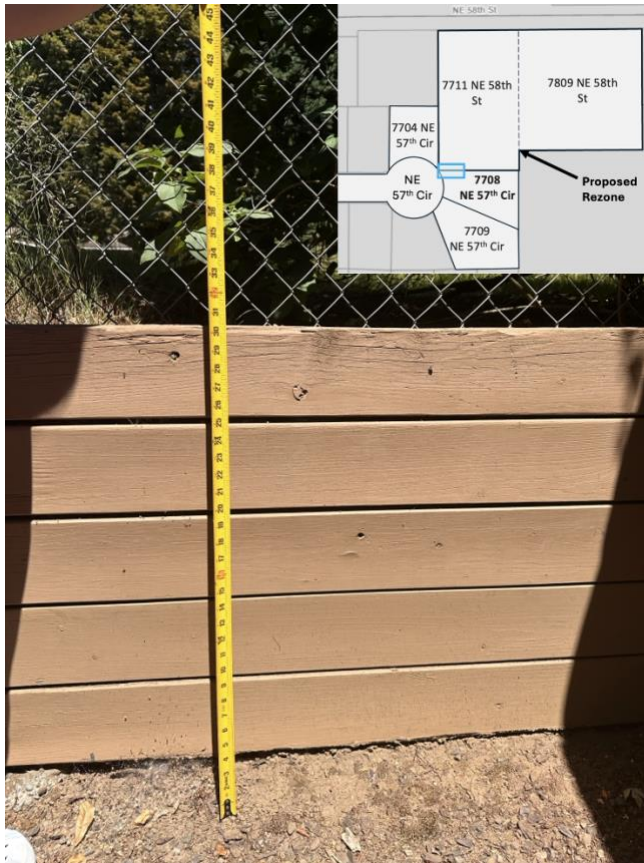
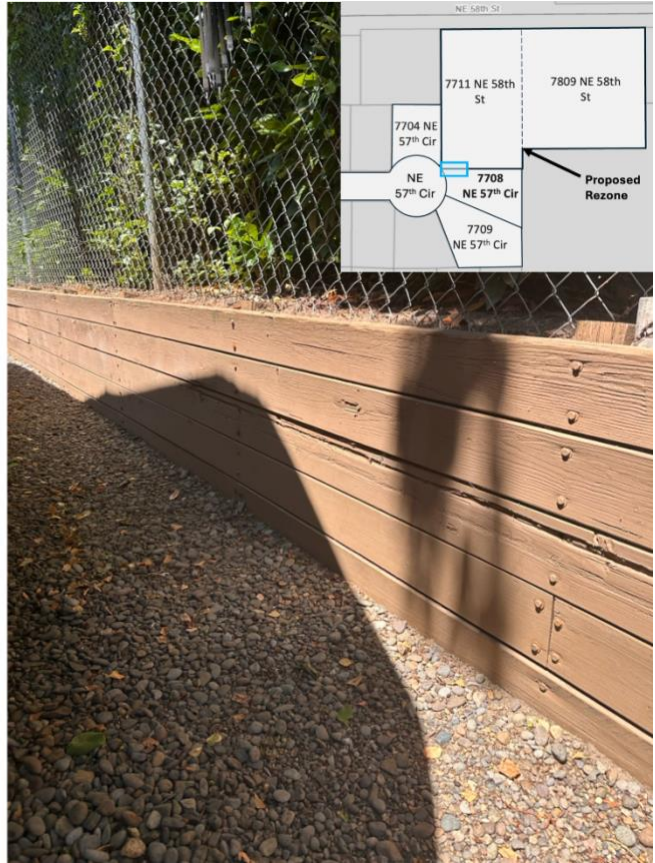
The entire length of the lot proposed for rezone (7711 NE 58th St) has a grade (abrupt cut) immediately bordering 7708 NE 57th Cir, and that length is reinforced with old wood boards on the 7708-home side, and on 57th Circle this drop is supported by an old (32-years-old) concrete slab, which already has deep, large cracks. The drop between the 58th St lot down to 57th Cir properties is between 2.7 ft to 4 ft. Photos are below.

If there is any significant weight load on the soil above—as an example, a 5-story building and over 1 acre of asphalt—land could slide down onto the 7708 home and 57th Circle.



2. Photos of cement crack (32-year-old slab) and height of grade between 7711 58th St and 7704, 7708 NE 57th Cir and right-of-way. Demonstrable risk of flooding and landslide onto 57th Cir.

(Location marked in light blue box, upper right corner).



3. Photos of 2.5-foot-tall grade on 7708 front yard, held by a thin layer of wood for decades.



4. Photos of 2.6-foot-tall grade on backyard of 7708; held by a thin layer of wood for decades. The backyard itself on 7708 starting from grade and down to 7709 is a natural steep downward slope, allowing water to rapidly descend from 7711 flooding both 7708 and 7709. Requires constant maintenance at personal cost of 7708 homeowners as is.

Also, special attention should be paid to the correct drainage of water.

Since the developer plans to fill more than 90% of the entire section 7711 and 7809 NE 58th St with asphalt for a parking lot, all the water from rain (which is constant in our area) will flow down to sections 7708 and below to section 7709, since both sections are at a lower level than 7711. 7704 NE 57th Cir is also located sharply downhill from 7711 and will be similarly impacted.

Therefore, it is very important that the developer must ensure proper water drainage. This would involve leaving as much green set back as possible throughout the entire lot of 7711, at least 30 ft along each downward sloped property line.

Otherwise, lots 7708, 7709, and 7704 and also 57th Circle itself will be chronically flooded with water, which will naturally flow down due to the unevenness of the soil—destroying houses, driveways, and 57th Circle. The bordering soil and wood holding the sharp grade difference will be constantly wet, leading to erosion, soil instability, and mud slipping down

toward 7708 and 57th Cir. With the massive weight of a five-story structure and 1.5 acres of asphalt and cars relying on 32-year-old concrete and thin wooden boards to hold them back, **there is absolutely no reassurance against a landslide.**

Inadequate Infrastructure for Stormwater Runoff (No Stormwater Drains)

Northeast 58th St, up where the proposed rezone is, does not have centralized stormwater drains. All water from Raymond Shaffer Park, 58th St, and other uphill neighborhoods has been draining naturally to our Stormwater Facility and towards 57th Cir. This hasn't been a frequent issue thus far given the rich nature of 7711 and 7809, having lots of permeable green land to absorb this water. Though, a massive impermeable parking lot is planned, and without stormwater drains, many questions demand answers from the developer:

1. Where is the water drainage plan?
2. Does the developer know all the ins and outs of their own and abutting sites?
3. What recourse will 7708, 7709, and the entire NE 57th Cir have in case of flooding and landslide?
4. What protections of financial and, importantly, physical safety will the City ensure for us in planning, construction, and maintenance of any future development up on 58th St?
5. How will the City hold the developers accountable to us?

One vague proposition mentioned in documentation is direction of stormwater runoff underground. Because of the sudden grade difference, what is considered "underground" for 7711 is actually 4 feet *above* ground for 7708 and 57th Circle. All water that is sent "underground" will rush directly onto 7708 and on. Again, there is no assurance against a landslide.

As it stands, R-50 and the 90% asphalted parking lot will realistically have only one path to follow: down. Along its way, it will be chronically flooding our backyards, homes, and 57th Circle's right-of-way, eating away at the circle's pavement and home foundations. "Underground" runoff is equivalent to "directly into your backyards and street" runoff. Water needs to be redirected away from the property to centralized drains, not underground or overflowing onto our land.

Lower density is safer

Regarding flooding and landslide risk, we believe that the R-50 is out of the question on such a small plot size as 7711 and 7809!

More land must be allocated and utilized to manage water runoff with formal infrastructure and expanded setbacks for *public safety*—which must be a priority over density. A smaller density development would de-prioritize a massive parking lot and retain more space for expanded green setback from NE 57th Cir, allowing for the space that would have been asphalted to remain a gorgeous urban forest. The forest and nature will continue to have the function of minimizing risk of flooding and landsliding. Less parking and more green land would also address our desire to maximally preserve hundreds-old evergreens and wildlife-rich parts of 7711 and 7809. A lower density zone is simply required to preserve our circle, forest, safety, and overall landscape of the neighborhood.

Sincerely,

Inna Kozlovska



Vancouver WA

From: [Dollar, Sarah](#)
To: [Dollar, Sarah](#)
Subject: FW: 58th Rezone Staff Report Amendment Request
Date: Monday, August 4, 2025 12:36:13 PM
Attachments: [Screenshot 2025-08-04 at 11.01.52AM.png](#)

8-4 Written Public Testimony

Sarah Dollar | Executive Assistant to the City Council

Pronouns: She/Her/Hers

CITY OF VANCOUVER, WASHINGTON

City Manager's Office (CMO)

Primary (Cell): 360-624-2949 | **Desk:** 360-487-8641

www.cityofvancouver.us

From: Ana From Walnut Grove [REDACTED]
Sent: Monday, August 4, 2025 11:12 AM
To: City Council <council@cityofvancouver.us>; Snodgrass, Bryan <bryan.snodgrass@cityofvancouver.us>
Subject: 58th Rezone Staff Report Amendment Request

CAUTION: This email originated from outside of the City of Vancouver. Do not click links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

Hello Bryan,

I hope your morning is going well!

In reading the Staff Report submitted for 58th Rezone August 4th First Reading, it currently states the following:

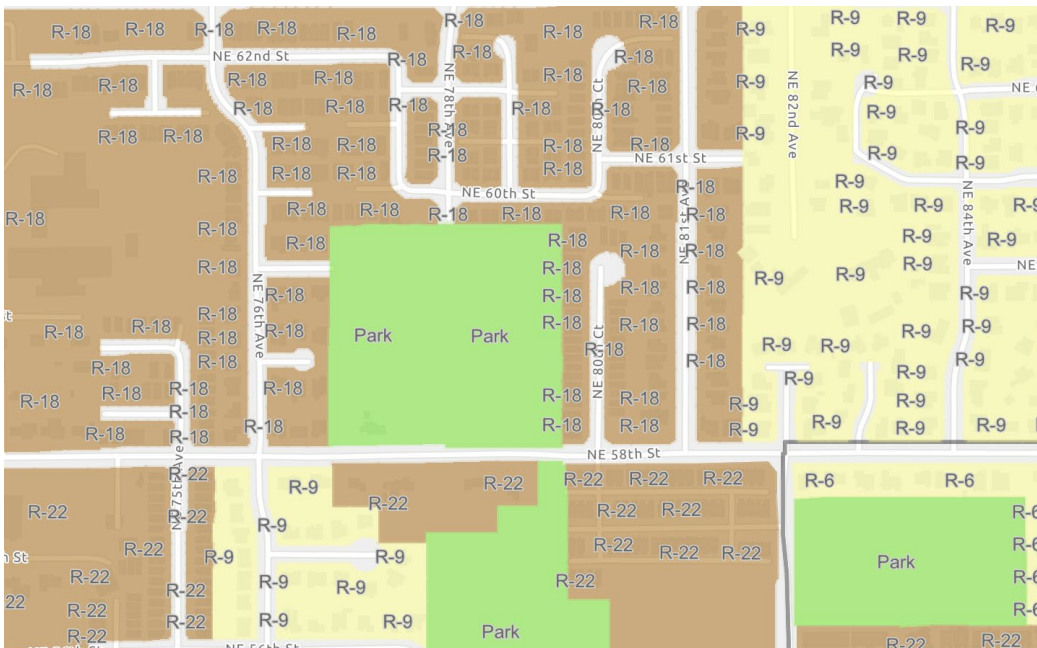
"To the north of the proposal site across NE 58th Street is Raymond Shaffer Park, zoned Park. West are single-family homesites zoned R-22. South and southeast is a City of Vancouver stormwater facility also zoned Park."

I am requesting an amendment for clarity to add to that to the West and Southwest of the mentioned properties are **two** single family homes zoned **R-9**. In total, two bordering properties are R-22, as the report mentions (50+ year old single-family homes), and two are R-9, which the report does not mention. The entire abutting Southwest neighborhood (NE 57th Cir) is also R-9.

For additional context: R-9 also includes two homes to the immediate west of the abutting 7705 NE 58TH ST (7607 and 7613 NE 58th St). Additionally, per GIS data, with the notable exception of duplexes to the east, the vast majority of Walnut Grove is R-9

and R-18. Attached below is a screenshot.

This is important information for the Council to have a complete picture.



Source: <https://city-of-vancouver-strategic-plan-dashboard-cityofvancouver.hub.arcgis.com/maps/5a99e283ea6547b696ad54247ac74335/explore?location=45.664128%2C-122.590358%2C15.49>

Hope this helps. Thank you for your time and diligence!

Best,
Ana

From: [Dollar, Sarah](#)
To: [Dollar, Sarah](#); [Jones, Wyatt](#); [Taylor, Brian](#); [Moyle, Geraldene](#)
Subject: FW: 2025.08.04 CoV - City Council - consent item #6 - lighting city hall SR-162-25 - pull from agenda
Date: Monday, August 4, 2025 12:34:21 PM
Attachments: [Screenshot 2025-08-04 09.34.36.png](#)

8-4 Written Public Testimony

Sarah Dollar | Executive Assistant to the City Council

Pronouns: She/Her/Hers

CITY OF VANCOUVER, WASHINGTON

City Manager's Office (CMO)

Primary (Cell): 360-624-2949 | **Desk:** 360-487-8641

www.cityofvancouver.us

From: Urbane Streets [REDACTED] >
Sent: Monday, August 4, 2025 10:44 AM
To: City Council <council@cityofvancouver.us>
Cc: Pluckhahn, Lon <lon.pluckhahn@cityofvancouver.us>
Subject: 2025.08.04 CoV - City Council - consent item #6 - lighting city hall SR-162-25 - pull from agenda

CAUTION: This email originated from outside of the City of Vancouver. Do not click links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

Dear council members,

I would request pulling today's consent agenda item #6 regarding the lighting update at City Hall, so as to address some questions and concerns identified below:

I was looking over today's agenda last night when this consent agenda item (Staff Report: 162-25) regarding the updating of City Hall lighting caught my eye, just wonder if its the 'right thing' to do given the following:

- POOR PUBLIC OPTICS: spending \$803,027 (much of it general funds) on lighting City Hall during a time of approaching budgetary belt tightening, continued remote work by staff, and priority programs' competition for general funds;
- WEAK ROI: This scope of work has a very weak ROI, one that will take "56 years", at a minimum, to reach through energy savings (see table 10 from Ameresco report), BUT if ALL external project costs are included in this calculations, then it will take over 94 years for payback;
- OPTIONS: Did the original staff study evaluate the more cost effective option to retain the existing fixtures with smart LED bulbs without rewiring / ballast modification, especially as many LED fixtures are 'throw away' once they reach their hour lifespan

- (~20k) vs exchanging LED bulbs as they fail, one cannot tell;
- BUDGET IMPACT: the staff memo states there is “no” budget impact since there are sufficient funds are on hand for the biennium, BUT any of these funds saved through a SOW with a better ROI would be available for other priority capital projects;
 - PRIOR COUNCIL REVIEW ‘UNKNOWN’: The staff memo included a typo in referring to a reported past council discussion on staff recommendations that cannot be found on the date reference given to the public (6 November 2023), a correct date for SR-197-23 would aid the public to better understand this project’s need and any past council input given to address potential shortcomings; and
 - OUT OF DATE: The long period of time since council (and public), as briefed on this staff proposal (~18 months per date in staff report) raises some concern, as costs, tariffs and technology changes rapidly and the findings for SOW may need revisiting.

In closure, as an environmental planner, I recommend pulling this item from agenda for further discussion. AND I also would recommend not entering into this contract today and to revise the scope of work to more economically meet the City’s climate and energy goals, especially given the scope of work’s full **RETURN ON INVESTMENT of over 94 YEARS.**

Best regards,

- Todd

Todd Boulanger
[REDACTED]
Vancouver WA 98666

COV Lighting
Energy Services Proposal

AMERESCO

Selected Measures

Table 10. Summary of Selected Measures

	Existing Electric Consumption (kWh/Yr)	Proposed Electric Consumption (kWh/Yr.)	Electric Consumption Savings (kWh/Yr.)	Total Energy Savings (\$/Yr.)	Average Annual Maintenance Savings** (\$/Yr.)	Total Savings (\$/Yr.)	Total Costs* (\$)	Estimated Utility Incentives (\$)	Est. Net Cost* (\$)	Est. Simple Payback (Yrs)
CITY HALL INTERIOR	223,496	104,082	119,413	\$6,329	\$1,980	\$8,309	\$481,963	\$20,000	\$461,963	56

***IMPORTANT:** Savings and payback estimates based on labor and material costs only. See Section 11 for total cost.

****NOTE:** The estimated maintenance savings considers only replacement parts; it does not account for labor cost savings.

From: [City Council](#)
To: [Dollar, Sarah](#)
Subject: FW: Submission: Contact City Council
Date: Tuesday, July 22, 2025 12:02:07 PM

8-4 Written Public Comment

Sarah Dollar | Executive Assistant to the City Council
Pronouns: She/Her/Hers
CITY OF VANCOUVER, WASHINGTON
City Manager’s Office (CMO)
Primary (Cell): 360-624-2949 | **Desk:** 360-487-8641
www.cityofvancouver.us

From: City of Vancouver, WA <noreply@cityofvancouver.us>
Sent: Monday, July 21, 2025 4:18 PM
To: City Council <council@cityofvancouver.us>
Subject: Submission: Contact City Council

Contact the City Council

Name
Janis Yarbrough
Email
Phone
3604331633
Address
Vancouver, WA 98662 United States Map It
Subject
Share an Opinion of a City project or Initiative
Choose Recipient
All the Council
Message

I regret not attending the public hearing concerning the rezoning of the 7711 and 8109 NE 58th Street properties. Please consider my thinking regarding rezoning of this nature: Rather than having to settle on immediate stop-gap measures like replacing green spaces with cramped, stacked housing benefiting construction and leasing companies, why not put the emphasis of the City's future on living wages as opposed to subsistence wages? Thus, creating a more fair, profitable Vancouver for everyone.

Sincerely,

Janis Yarbrough

[REDACTED]

From: [Wynn Grcich](#)
To: [Rebecca Messinger](#); [City Council](#); [Justin Forsman](#)
Subject: Watch "A VERY Interesting New Lawsuit AND Info re Aluminum in Vaccines" on YouTube
Date: Thursday, July 24, 2025 11:44:59 AM

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<https://youtu.be/RS8i19vPmvI?si=zNWKrlpqXj5caW-2>please send to council members and Melnick. Put on public record and confirm that you did. I talked about the aluminum in vaccines. The lawsuits are coming.

From: [Wynn Grcich](#)
To: [Rebecca Messinger](#); [City Council](#)
Subject: Watch ""They lied, billions were made': Doctor exposes COVID-19 'vaccine lies' at fiery Senate hearing" on YouTube
Date: Wednesday, July 23, 2025 8:28:06 PM

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https://youtu.be/toDki3a_kGk?si=heDcqDWWN5uthEwc. Please send to council members and Melnick. Put on public record and confirm that you did. Thanks from Wynn

From: [Wynn Grcich](#)
To: [Rebecca Messinger](#); [City Council](#); [Ken Vance](#); [Vern Jeremica](#); [Reform Clark County - Rob Anderson](#)
Subject: Watch "Fluoride Deception Mini Documentary water fluoridation and the phosphate mining industry" on YouTube.
Date: Wednesday, July 23, 2025 6:05:32 PM

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https://youtu.be/2aYRIhGzTUY?si=2zAlhgVkPLU_qdnp. PLEASE send to council members and Melnick. Make sure Glenn Young sees this, since he read the book! Put on public record and confirm that you did. Thanks from Wynn

From: [Wynn Grcich](#)
To: [Rebecca Messinger](#); Victorialeeferrer@gmail.com; [City Council](#); [Cemal Richards](#); [Vern Jeremica](#); [Justin Forsman](#)
Subject: Aluminum Autism Link Buried + Pediatricians Bullying Parents to Vaccinate + Mothers 2B | Childrens Health Defense
Date: Wednesday, July 23, 2025 3:45:04 PM

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<https://live.childrenshealthdefense.org/chd-tv/shows/good-morning-chd/aluminum-autism-link-buried--pediatricians-paid-to-vaccinate--mothers-2b/> Please send to council members and Melnick. Put on public record and confirm that you did. Thanks from Wynn

From: [Wynn Grcich](#)
To: [Rebecca Messinger](#); [City Council](#)
Subject: Clef pallet
Date: Friday, July 18, 2025 10:59:00 AM

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<https://www.newsweek.com/mom-given-option-terminate-20-weeks-unprepared-what-happens-next-2100775>. My friend's grandchild was born like this in Clark County, last year. MELNECK should give a talk about this and what causes it. I would like the statistics on DOWN SYNDROME in the county, since fluoridation causes that. Please send to council members and Melnick. Put on public record and confirm that you did. Thanks from Wynn

From: [Wynn Grcich](#)
To: [Rebecca Messinger](#); [City Council](#)
Subject: Watch "They drop BIOWEAPON TICK LARVAE from planes" on YouTube
Date: Friday, July 18, 2025 2:36:48 PM

CAUTION: This email originated from outside of the City of Vancouver. Do not click links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

<https://www.youtube.com/live/dRAYkeonkak?si=zwCxMBwgn9BMMJQf>. Please send to council members and Melnick .ThiS IS A PUBLIC HEALTH CRISIS. PLEASE MAKE AN ANNOUNCEMENT. THANKS FROM WYNN

From: [Wynn Grcich](#)
To: [Rebecca Messinger](#); [City Council](#); Victoraleeferrer@gmail.com; [Cemal Richards](#); [Justin Forsman](#); [Vern Jeremica](#)
Subject: Watch "Johnson & Johnson Lead Scientist Confesses J&J COVID-19 Vaccine Was "Not Safe and Effective"" on YouTube
Date: Friday, July 18, 2025 2:54:45 PM

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https://youtu.be/h1nr7fprFPc?si=OujpluB1UcHrGwQ_ please send to council members and Melnick. Put on public record and confirm that you did. Thanks from Wynn

From: [Wynn Grcich](#)
To: [Rebecca Messinger](#); [City Council](#)
Subject: Watch "BABY POWDER COVERUP: J&J Execs Admit Baby Powder Contained "Cancer-Causing Heavy Metals"Ask ChatGPT" on YouTube
Date: Friday, July 18, 2025 5:55:10 PM

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<https://youtu.be/JsMPpi8Ux0U?si=wgqz-id5VlorxCWR> . Please send to council members and Melnick. Put on public record and Confirm that you did. Melnick should talk about this.
Thanks from Wynn

From: [Wynn Grcich](#)
To: [Rebecca Messinger](#); [City Council](#)
Subject: ENDO 2025
Date: Friday, July 18, 2025 11:36:30 PM

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<https://www.moscone.com/events/endo-2025>. This was the UN event on the new Roundup . Diquat. Please send to council members and Melnick. Put on public record and confirm that you did. Thanks from Wynn.

From: [Wynn Grcich](#)
To: [City Council](#); [Rebecca Messinger](#)
Subject: Watch "Doctor EXPOSES Shocking Covid Vax Side Effects at Senate Hearing" on YouTube
Date: Sunday, July 20, 2025 7:52:20 PM

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<https://youtu.be/ihXxHM2HTNw?si=4ImqkovjVU2xSpdK>. Send to council members and Melnick. Put on public record and confirm that you did. Thanks from Wynn

From: [Wynn Grcich](#)
To: [Rebecca Messinger](#); [City Council](#); cityclerkinfo@cityofbg.org
Subject: Watch "Alpha Gal Syndrome: A Deep Dive into the Red Meat Allergy Epidemic" on YouTube
Date: Monday, July 14, 2025 11:47:14 PM

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https://youtu.be/MKj7o_Cac0Q?si=3WgAlrH2m0YR0xtb .Please send to council members and Melnick. Put on public record and confirm that you did. Thanks from Wynn

From: [Wynn Grcich](#)
To: [City Council](#); cityclerkinfo@cityofbg.org; [Rebecca Messinger](#)
Subject: Watch "New Guidance on AlphaGal Syndromes GI Implications What to Know" on YouTube
Date: Monday, July 14, 2025 11:53:03 PM

CAUTION: This email originated from outside of the City of Vancouver. Do not click links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

https://youtu.be/_loIKIX2CCw?si=-HTENgmpol5MINiA. Share with council members and Melnick. Put on public record and confirm that you did. Thanks from Wynn

From: [Wynn Grcich](#)
To: [Rebecca Messinger](#); cityclerkinfo@cityofbg.org; [City Council](#)
Subject: Watch "Trump's EPA Chemtrails Report Is A TOTAL WHITEWASH! w/ Dane Wigington" on YouTube
Date: Tuesday, July 15, 2025 12:02:58 AM

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<https://youtu.be/d8U59BuKjic?si=efHqfRu4Fl13fE4g>.. please send to council members and Melnick. Put on public record and confirm that you did. Thanks from Wynn

From: [Wynn Grcich](#)
To: [Reform Clark County - Rob Anderson](#); [Rebecca Messinger](#); cityclerkinfo@cityofbg.org; [City Council](#); Victorialeeferrer@gmail.com; [Justin Forsman](#); [Harris, Rep. Paul](#); stephanie.mcclintock@leg.wa.gov
Subject: Watch "SHOCKER! Medical Privacy Under HIPAA Is A Complete Lie! w/ Twila Brase" on YouTube
Date: Tuesday, July 15, 2025 1:43:18 PM

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<https://youtu.be/vynl3jaHFpo?si=1SNtgZN8y6iOi2iy> .Please send to council members and Melnick. Put on public record and confirm that you did. Thanks from Wynn

From: [Wynn Greich](#)
To: [Reform Clark County - Rob Anderson](#); [Rebecca Messinger](#); [Harris, Rep. Paul](#); [Lee Merritt MD from The Medical Rebel Commentary](#); [City Council](#); cityclerkinfo@cityofbg.org; [Calvin CLARK](#)
Subject: Fwd: Trump's DOJ Says EPA Will Appeal Landmark Fluoride Ruling • Children's Health Defense
Date: Tuesday, July 15, 2025 2:15:52 PM

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Please send to council members and Melnick. Put on public record and confirm that you did.
Thanks from Wynn

----- Forwarded message -----

From: **Laurel Pascual** <[REDACTED]>
Date: Tue, Jul 15, 2025, 8:17 AM
Subject: Trump's DOJ Says EPA Will Appeal Landmark Fluoride Ruling • Children's Health Defense
To: Wynn Greich <[REDACTED]>, Donna Llamas <[REDACTED]>, Herbert Chiu <[REDACTED]>, Justin Forsman <[REDACTED]>, Jacqueline Pascual Gutierrez <[REDACTED]>

<https://childrenshealthdefense.org/defender/trump-doj-epa-will-appeal-landmark-fluoride-ruling/>

Sent from my iPhone

From: [Wynn Grcich](#)
To: [Reform Clark County - Rob Anderson](#); [Rebecca Messinger](#); cityclerkinfo@cityofbg.org;
Victorialeeferrer@gmail.com; [City Council](#); [Justin Forsman](#)
Subject: Watch "PFAS LAWSUIT UPDATE!" on YouTube
Date: Tuesday, July 15, 2025 3:12:24 PM

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<https://youtu.be/1VtRh1337Zc?si=fZbHoT3MT21GQWax> Please send to council members and Melnick. Put on public record and confirm that you did. Thanks from Wynn

From: [Wynn Grcich](#)
To: [Rebecca Messinger](#); cityclerkinfo@cityofbg.org; [City Council](#); [Justin Forsman](#); [Reform Clark County - Rob Anderson](#)
Subject: Watch "STOP Using Disinfectant Wipes " on YouTube
Date: Tuesday, July 15, 2025 4:28:12 PM

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https://youtube.com/shorts/KkXukX6wcb0?si=LuebJf2E8cR_geOl. Please send to council members and Melnick. Put on public record and confirm that you did. Thanks from Wynn

From: [Wynn Grich](#)
To: [Rebecca Messinger](#); [City Council](#); [Victorialeeferrer@gmail.com](#); [Cemal Richards](#); [Justin Forsman](#)
Subject: Fwd: Summer Sewage Spills & Swimming Advisories
Date: Wednesday, July 16, 2025 2:34:02 PM

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Please send to council members and Melnick. Put on public record and confirm that you did.
Thanks from Wynn

----- Forwarded message -----

From: **The Brockovich Report** <[REDACTED]>
Date: Wed, Jul 16, 2025, 1:59 PM
Subject: Summer Sewage Spills & Swimming Advisories
To: [REDACTED] >

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Hi friends,

Today's newsletter is as much a PSA as it is an update on funding for our water infrastructure. It sounds like simple advice but don't go swimming in water that smells funky, looks discolored, or has visible debris.

Let's dive in!

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If you enjoy thought-provoking environmental news with a side of "here's what you can do about it," consider supporting us with a paid subscription for just \$6/month. Our mission is to help people stay informed without distracting ads or algorithms and get action steps to make change. At least \$1 from all subscriptions go to orgs fighting for clean water and a safe environment.

New Bonus: Erin and Suzanne will be going LIVE tomorrow! Free for all to join and paid subscribers can watch our Substack LIVES after they happen.

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Summer Sewage Spills & Swimming Advisories

What You Need to Know About Pollution In The Water This Summer

ERIN BROCKOVICH AND SUZANNE BOOTHBY

JUL 16



READ IN APP ↗



On hot summer days, many people seek to cool off and have some fun at the nearest beach, lake, or river.

But what happens when a refreshing dip becomes a health hazard?

Across the country, sewage spills and overflows are forcing communities to issue swimming advisories that can turn a sunny day on the water into a public health concern.

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Watch out for Fecal Matter Contamination

In 2024, more than 60 percent of U.S. beaches had potentially unsafe contamination levels, according to a [new report](#) published by Environment America's Research & Policy Center.

That means 1,930 out of 3,187 beaches experienced at least one day on which indicators of fecal contamination reached potentially unsafe levels, which means they exceeded EPA's most protective "[beach action value](#)," a conservative, precautionary tool states can use to make beach notification decisions. Beaches may also have experienced contamination on days when testing did not take place.

About 1 in 7 beaches, 453 of those sampled, showed potentially unsafe fecal contamination on at least 25 percent of the days on which testing occurred, according to the report.

The Gulf Coast had the largest share of beaches with at least one unsafe day at 84 percent, followed by the West Coast with 79 percent, and the Great Lakes with 71 percent.

This year, during July 4th weekend, a swimming advisory was issued at Rehoboth Beach, a popular beach destination in Delaware. [The advisory](#) was put out due to above-average levels of fecal bacteria found in the water during routine testing, according to DNREC officials. Increased levels of bacteria can often show up after periods of heavy rainfall.

Swimming in polluted waters can cause a range of health issues from gastrointestinal

distress to respiratory disease, ear and eye infections, and skin rashes.

Each year, about **57 million cases** of illness in the U.S. come from swimming in oceans, lakes, rivers, and ponds, and most of those cases go unreported.

Contaminated water can also trigger health warnings or closures that interfere with our ability to enjoy the water. States, territories and tribes issued more than 7,500 health warnings or closures at U.S. coastal and Great Lakes beaches in 2024, impacting one out of every 15 swimming days, according to **EPA data**.

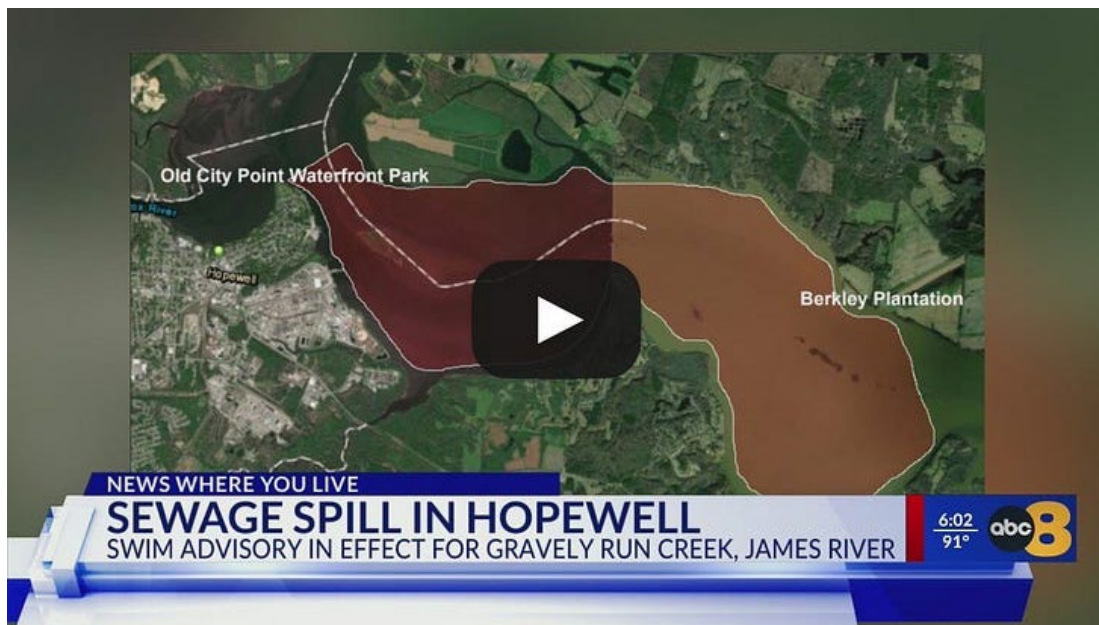
Where does all this pollution come from? One of the main sources is overflow from outdated and deteriorating sewage systems. Gross, right?!

Sewage is a particularly dangerous threat to beach safety because it contains bacteria, viruses, and parasites that can cause disease in humans. Unfortunately, sewage infrastructure around the country is **inadequate or in poor repair**, enabling raw sewage to find its way into our waterways.

Sanitary sewers (the most common in our country) overflow up to **75,000 times each year** in the U.S.

Fecal pollution from livestock production is also responsible for water pollution, especially in areas with factory farms, also known as concentrated animal feeding operations (CAFOs), because of the **sheer volume of manure** they generate. Lagoons holding waste from hog and dairy farms can also be inundated during heavy rains, carrying their contents into local waterways.

Get a load of this shit.



Failing infrastructure is everywhere but we continue to get distracted by other BS.

Congress is the midst of reconsidering funding for the main federal program that could help reduce sewage overflows. It's called the [Clean Water State Revolving Fund \(CWSRF\)](#).

Last year the EPA [reported](#) that this program needs *at least* \$630 billion in the next 20 years to provide sufficient treatment to the country's wastewater and stormwater infrastructure.

Sadly, that same fund could face steep cuts under the [White House's 2026 budget proposal](#), decreasing funds to \$305 million total to "allow States to adjust to alternative funding sources for their water infrastructure." That's \$2.46 billion less than the 2025 budget, or an almost 90 percent reduction.

[The National Association of Clean Water Agencies](#) said this proposal puts clean water agencies and public health at risk by "kneecapping the primary water infrastructure financing programs on which local utilities rely."

Now let's talk about what happened this weekend in Virginia. [More than a million gallons of raw sewage](#) spilled out of the wastewater treatment facility into the James River thanks to a power failure from faulty wiring.

Sewage spills are not just accidents. They are often the result of aging infrastructure, extreme weather, and overwhelming demand on treatment systems

[Hopewell Water Renewal](#) personnel and contractors “successfully restored full operational capacity” by late Saturday afternoon to the facility, repairing the faulty wiring that led to the power failure and ultimately the spill.

A permanent repair is scheduled for July 18, according to a [statement from the city spokesperson Ginger Holland](#). She also confirmed that there was no disruption to residential sewer service, and the drinking water supply remains safe.

While the leak has been contained, the Virginia Department of Health did issue a [recreational swimming advisory](#) for Gravelly Run Creek and both sides of the James River from City Point down to Berkeley Plantation in Charles City County, meaning people should avoid swimming, wading, and paddle-boating in the water.

In 2024, more than two-thirds of the water treated by Hopewell Water Renewal came from industrial sources, contaminated with different chemicals than domestic sewage. [VPM reports](#) that a state Department of Environmental Quality spokespersons said initial reports indicate only the domestic intake was affected, meaning no industrial waste was discharged.

In the 1970s, the sign that greeted anyone driving into the city, read, “Welcome to Hopewell, Virginia, the Chemical Capital of the South.”

In the summer of 1975, Hopewell made national headlines when a toxic pesticide known as [Kepone](#) was discovered as the source of a mysterious illness afflicting workers at a local manufacturing plant. The facility had also been dumping tens of thousands of gallons of Kepone waste daily into Bailey’s Creek, causing fisheries in the lower James River to be shut down for up to 13 years afterward. Read more about it [here](#).

Riverkeeper Tom Dunlap with [the James River Association](#) told VPM the recent spill shows a continued need to invest in wastewater management.

“We need to not only better invest in our infrastructure, whether it's wastewater infrastructure or otherwise, but also need a little bit more resilient infrastructure,” he

said.

The Department of Environmental Quality is investigating the incident and will be working with the plant to find solutions to prevent future leaks.

Always check local health department websites or social media for current water quality advisories before heading to the beach or a local lake or river.

If you're unsure about water quality, look for warning signs like unusual odors, discolored water, or visible debris. Avoid swimming in areas near storm drains, marinas, or industrial facilities where contamination is more likely.

Tips For If You Come In Contact With Contaminated Water

- Avoid any area of the waterbody where there is water with a foul or chemical odor, dead or dying fish, or discolored water.
- Promptly wash skin with soap and water if you cannot avoid contact with water in the vicinity.
- Rinse or wash items that come in contact with the water, including clothing, fishing gear, life vests, ropes and paddles.

Sewage spills will most likely continue to happen until we put more money to fix our infrastructure and improve our monitoring programs.

Public awareness can help minimize their impact on the water activities we love.

More Considerations To Protect Our Waterways

We must invest in fixing and improving our wastewater infrastructure. This work includes repairs and upgrades to conventional sewage treatment plants and stormwater storage, as well as natural and green infrastructure features such as rain barrels, permeable pavement, urban green space and green roofs; requiring the use of green infrastructure in new development; and protecting natural infrastructure such as riparian areas and wetlands that filter pathogens and other pollutants. Officials should also enforce pollution limits from wastewater systems and ensure proper maintenance of residential septic systems.

We need to prevent manure pollution by enacting moratoriums on new or expanded industrial-scale livestock operations; banning livestock waste lagoons, especially in flood-prone areas; enacting policies to stop manure from factory farms from flowing into waterways upstream from our beaches; and encouraging livestock operations to raise animals on rotational pasture.

We must continue to protect wetlands, which reduce beach contamination by absorbing floodwaters and filtering out pollutants. State and local protections for our remaining wetlands are increasingly urgent after the Supreme Court decision in *Sackett v. EPA* erased Clean Water Act safeguards for many of them.

We can continue to expand and improve beach/river/lake testing to identify waterways where pollution puts public health at risk and ensure the safety of the public.

Any sewage spills near you? Let us know your swimming plans for the summer and stay safe out there!

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 **Start writing**

From: [Wynn Grcich](#)
To: cityclerkinfo@cityofbg.org; [City Council](#); [Rebecca Messinger](#)
Subject: FDA Announces it Will Remove Prescription Fluoride Supplements for Children From the Market - Fluoride Action Network
Date: Wednesday, July 16, 2025 12:19:15 PM

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<https://fluoridealert.org/content/fda-announces-it-will-remove-prescription-fluoride-supplements-for-children-from-the-market/> . Send to council members and Melnick. Put on public record and confirm that you did. Thanks from Wynn