

**#3**

**10-14-2021**

**Meeting Minutes**



# Public Safety and Justice Virtual Council Committee Meeting Minutes

Thursday, October 14, 2021  
6:00 PM  
Council Chambers Virtual

Members:	Present:	Absent:	Commence: 6:00PM Adjourn: 7:32PM
Pam Fernald, Chair	X		
Senayet Negusse	X		
Stanley Tombs	X		

Staff Coordinator: Jon Mattsen/Chief  
 Other Council Members Present: Clyde Hill, Peter Kwon  
 Other Staff Present: Evan Maxim, Mary Kate McGee, Bart Perman, Gwen Voelpel, Mary Mirante-Bartolo, Koby Hamill, Troy Smithmeyer, Andy Conner, Alex Grotzky, Brion Humenay

1. Call to Order	Chair Fernald called the meeting to order at 6:00PM
2. Public Comment	There was no public comment.
3. Review of 7/8/21 Minutes	<u>X</u> Approval  Committee approved the meeting minutes as written.
4. Code Compliance Program	<u>X</u> Discussion/Update – Mary Kate provided an update related to the Code Compliance Program, which included the new cases from June through September broken down by the top requests for action. The City has issued a Request for Proposals for a new permit and code compliance tracking and workflow system. Proposals are due 11/5/21 with implementation to begin in early 2 <sup>nd</sup> quarter of 2022. As part of the on-going program evaluation, CED has revised and updated code case communication policy and procedure. On-going program evaluation also includes identification of specific types of violations that are difficult and take significant staff resources. Staff will be working to identify possible solutions to code compliance challenges, which may involve recommendations for amendments to the SMC.  Discussion / Questions followed.
5. Human Trafficking	<u>X</u> Discussion – Det. Alex Grotzky gave a presentation on Human Trafficking and how it is considered modern day slavery. Statistics show that anywhere from 700,000 to 4 million individuals, primarily women and children, are trafficked within or across national borders annually. Homeland Security defines human trafficking as involving the use of force, fraud or coercion to obtain some type of labor or commercial sex act. Three types of human trafficking are debt bondage, forced labor, and sexual exploitation. Victims fall prey due to political instability, civil unrest, natural disasters in their homeland, promise of a better life, money

	<p>and substance abuse. Technology has allowed women to be trafficked online. It is not a victimless crime. Officer Andy Conner talked about the non-profit Genesis Project, which he created in 2009, and how it helps victims of trafficking by providing job training, education, and immediate services to help these girls get off the streets. GP relies on grants and volunteers to continue running and has partnerships with other States. There are several operations police use such as CSAM (Commercial Sex Abuse of a Minor) and John Patrols. 75 percent of participants who attend the 8-week Men's Accountability "john" class in a nearby jurisdiction do not reoffend. Rescue Operations focuses on recovering victims, especially juveniles. The goals of these operations are to recover victims, offer them services, and then target the trafficker.</p> <p>Discussion / Questions followed.</p>
6. Fentanyl issue	<p>X Discussion – Acting Captain Koby Hamill discussed the issues of fentanyl. The Drug Enforcement Agency released a Public Alert regarding the importation of counterfeit pills that are laced with meth and fentanyl. More than 90% are counterfeit- or not what they purport to be. A small amount can have massive effects with death occurring in minutes. In King County so far this year, there have been 273 fentanyl overdose deaths, up from 177 in 2020. In SeaTac in 2021 there have been 9 deaths, up from 4 in 2020. Koby is notified of all fentanyl related deaths and all are reviewed. Fentanyl is non-discriminatory nationwide problem that affects men and women young and old alike.</p> <p>Discussion / Questions followed.</p>
	<p><b>Next Meeting: December 9th, 2021 at 6:00PM.</b></p> <p>Potential topics for next meeting: TBD</p>
Adjourn	<p>Chair Fernald adjourned the meeting at 7:32PM.</p>

**#4**

**Safety Concerns at  
Angle Lake**



## MEMORANDUM

To: Public Safety and Justice Committee  
Through: Carl C. Cole, City Manager  
From: Legal Department/Risk Management  
Date: February 4, 2022  
Subject: Safety Concerns at Angle Lake Park

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### **Background:**

On Thursday, August 12, 2021, we learned there was a drowning at Angle Lake Park involving a parent and child. Unfortunately, the parent died at the scene. We learned a couple months later the child made a full recovery. As the events of that evening unfolded, the Police Chief, City Attorney, Communications and Government Relations Manager, and City Manager tried to ascertain the facts. Media inquiries were coming in and it was important to make sure the information disseminated was factual and sensitive.

On Friday morning, August 13, 2021, Legal/Risk Management contacted the City's broker and Clear Risk to inform them of the event and to request a representative from Clear Risk to go to the park to assess the situation, and whether there were additional safety measures the City could take in an effort to prevent another incident like this. The City's broker confirmed the City had no negligence or liability for this incident. The Recreational Immunity Statute, [RCW 4.24.210](#), is applicable here. Notwithstanding the determination of non-liability, Legal/Risk Management arranged to have Blair Kok come out to Angle Lake Park on Monday, August 16, 2021, at 10:30 a.m.

At around noon and in response to several inquiries, the City Manager sent out an email to the Council explaining the background on the topic of lifeguards at Angle Lake Park. It included background information, the nationwide shortage of certified lifeguards, the process the City utilized to recruit lifeguards, and the results of that recruitment effort.

Due to a series of incidents at Angle Lake, a Council Request Form (CRF) was submitted the afternoon of August 13, 2021, in which the following was suggested:

1. *Competitive pay rate for lifeguards: Increase the pay rate for lifeguards or seek out a company to contract with that provides these critical services. Also obtain partnerships w/ organizations that are connected or train individuals seeking certification, so we have a pipeline of folks when summertime comes around.*
2. *Increase signage/notice at the lake warning visitors of the dangers, including rope dividers w/ water depth signage (signage should be made available in SeaTac's top languages).*

3. *Purchase of a borrow and return – lifejacket loaner station (life jackets of all sizes with safety instructions).*

On Monday, August 16, 2021, Blair Kok met Risk Management staff and Parks Department staff at Angle Lake Park where he conducted an assessment on the safety of the swimming area. He indicated he would prepare a report. Risk Management requested it be done as expeditiously as possible.

On September 3, 2021, the City received the report by Clear Risk who did address several things the City could do proactively to enhance safety measures relative to swimmers at Angle Lake, summarized as follows:

**AREAS WITHOUT LIFEGUARD SERVICES:**

Per Mr. Kok, visitors at a location without lifeguard services have a greater responsibility to ensure their own safety. According to the State of Washington Department of Health, all should do the following:

- Wear a life jacket;
- Adults must carefully supervise children and adolescents;
- Bring a life jacket, or other lifesaving device, and a cell phone;
- Know how to rescue someone; and,
- Know how to perform CPR.

**SIGNAGE AT ANGLE LAKE PARK:**

The following signs should be added to Angle Lake Park:

- Hours of Operation;  
Pursuant to SeaTac Municipal Code, [SMC 2.45.030](#), park hours are from dusk until dawn. Parks staff install two additional signs that have closing hour posted on them, which staff replace as needed to correspond with “dusk” depending on the time of the year.
- “NO LIFEGUARD ON DUTY” Signs;  
New signs in multiple languages were installed week of September 13, 2021, on the lifeguard shack and near the entrance to the beach area.
- “NO DIVING” Signs;  
New signs in the universal “NO DIVING” graphic were placed on each side of the dock; they were installed the week of September 28, 2021.
- Curb/Dock Painting;  
Parks staff painted a mark on the curb of the dock in a bright color at or near the place the universal signage for “DEEP WATER” was installed.

**REMOVE LIFEGUARD CHAIRS:**

Having lifeguard chairs present without a lifeguard could be interpreted by others that there is a lifeguard on duty. Mr. Kok felt the structure itself (lifeguard chair) implies there could be a lifeguard on duty. It was recommended the lifeguard chairs be removed, and they were removed on September 27, 2021.

**ROPE DIVIDERS:**

It was not feasible to use rope dividers with water depth signage because it would be difficult to give an accurate depth since the floor of the lake varies constantly as levels change.

**LIFEJACKET LOANER STATION:**

Initially, the Director of Claims at Clear Risk expressed an opinion that this could expose the City to liability for several reasons: improper fitting, damage to the lifejacket, etc. However, staff continued to have discussions with Puget Sound Regional Fire Authority Association about having a lifejacket loaner station that may be possible without exposing the City to liability. Legal/Risk Management went back to Clear Risk and asked if PSRFA were to manage the Lifejacket loaner station, then wouldn't the City's exposure to liability be significantly reduced? On September 28, 2021, Blair Kok from Clear Risk indicated he spoke with their pool administrator and underwriter and decided to change course. They decided it is a risk that can be managed so long as the lifejacket station is checked on a daily basis and proper guidelines are followed.

Finally, the fishing pier and boat ramp at Angle Lake Park are identified for refurbishment in the 2021-2026 Capital Improvement Program (CIP). A request for proposals (RFP) has been issued and selection of an architectural/engineering firm for design services is forthcoming. As part of the design process, the current configuration of the fishing pier will be evaluated for safety. This design process may provide a great opportunity to discuss pier configuration changes that may improve swimmer safety.



# Water Safety Assessments at Angle Lake Park

February 10, 2022





# PRESENTATION OVERVIEW

## **PURPOSE OF PRESENTATION**

**Update regarding improvements to Water Safety Assessments at Angle Lake Park**

## **WHY IS THIS ISSUE IMPORTANT?**

Due to a series on incidents at Angle Lake, the City assessed water safety at Angle Lake Park.



# Angle Lake Park

Angle Lake Park is located at 19408 International Blvd., in SeaTac, Washington. The park is a 10-acre lake-front park with several amenities, including boat launch, fishing pier, picnic shelters, stage, playground, and swimming beach (photographed here). The park also has a spray park play area with many water features.



# EXISTING SIGNAGE AT ANGLE LAKE PARK





# NO LIFEGUARD ON DUTY

BEFORE



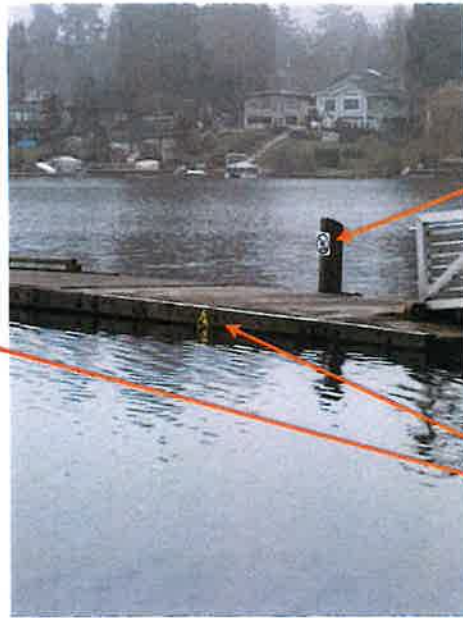
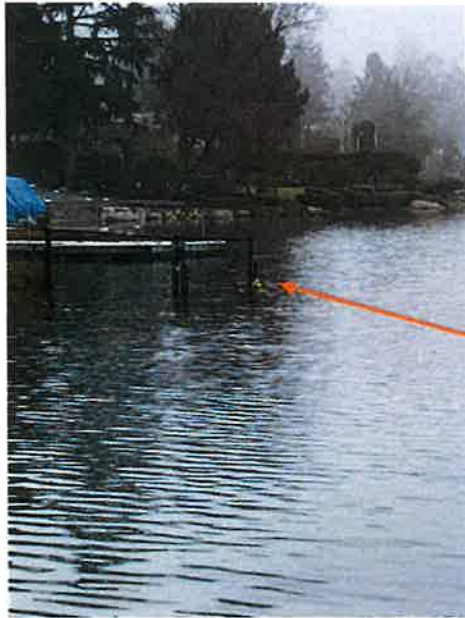
AFTER



The NO LIFEGUARD ON DUTY signs were updated to be in three additional languages. The universal graphic sign for NO DIVING was also added at the entrance of the dock.



# UNIVERSAL GRAPHIC SIGNS



Universal graphic signs for **NO DIVING** were installed at the entrance of the dock, as well as the dock area. Universal graphic signed for **DEEP WATER/DROP OFF** were installed in the dock areas.



# LIFEGUARD CHAIRS REMOVED

**BEFORE**



**AFTER**



**Lifeguard chairs were removed from the shore of the beach on 9/27/2021.**



# LIFEJACKET LOANER STATION

Partnership with the Puget Sound Regional Fire Authority (PSRFA) and Kent Firefighters Foundation (KFF)

- Build a life jacket holding stand (example photographed here)
- Joint venture with PSRFA and KFF; potential opportunity to partner with local businesses, and apply for grants to buy life jackets
- The station would be operational from May until October, depending on the weather
- The station would hold 14-16 life jackets, in various sizes
- Lifeguards should not be responsible for helping parents fit a life jacket
- Restocking and inspection joint endeavor





# STATUS OF LIFEGUARDS

## Many local cities struggling to fill life guard jobs as crowds return to area beaches

by Joel Morano, KOMO News reporter | Tuesday, June 22nd 2021



A no lifeguard on duty sign.



SEATTLE — Concerns are mounting in the state that lifeguard stations will sit empty this summer because there are not enough eligible candidates to fill the jobs.

During a typical summer, lifeguards would already be monitoring swimmers at Angle Lake in SeaTac, but this year the city is struggling to get its lifeguard program launched.



QUESTIONS?

QUESTIONS

