

Town Topics



City Council

Matthew Jolibois *Mayor*
 Shannon Reynolds
 Brett L. Wittner
 Blake L. Surina
 Hunter T. George *Mayor Pro Tempore*
 Denny Waltier
 Jason Medley

Sign Code

The City Council adopted a new sign code that went into effect Wednesday, June 21, 2017. Thank you to staff, the Planning Commission and those business representatives who provided comments and participated in this year long process.



Sign regulations can be a win-win for both businesses and communities. They can improve the aesthetics of a community by encouraging original and artful identities while at the same time reducing visual clutter. Well-designed signage can create a positive impression that attracts people's attention and more effectively provides identification and direction.

The new code applies to both commercial and non-commercial signage and can be viewed via the website. Please feel free to contact the Planning and Building Department with any questions, 253-564-8902.

Introducing David Johnston

I am enjoying serving as Fircrest's Interim City Manager. I see why many of you see your hometown as a special place, especially in how everyone keeps up their property. You use the City parks programs with enthusiasm and the strong community spirit is shown by the many smiles I see on your faces.

I am working with the Council and staff with the annual budgeting process, the City Manager search process and the various other projects that come up in local government. I have over 20 years of experience managing communities in Illinois and Indiana, and for the last 7+ years managing Maple Valley, WA.

Wherever I have managed, the goal is the same: Serving the citizens with great public services and programs. Thank you for allowing me to be a part of your community!

David Johnston
 Interim City Manager

Planning Commission Topics

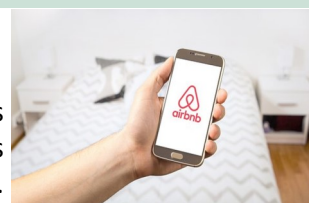


Do you own an RV or boat? Does your neighbor? How about a broken down vehicle?

At the request of the City Council, the Planning Commission has been looking at amending the regulations related to outdoor storage and parking of recreational vehicles, boats, trailers, and other vehicles, especially in front yards. Currently, the code allows two recreational vehicles to be placed in the front yard and an unlimited number in the rear if screened. *The current draft would limit recreational vehicles to one per residence and prioritizing storage to side and rear yards with appropriate screening.* They are also looking to clarify the limits on parking of inoperable and commercial vehicles, while restricting the parking of any vehicle on lawns.

Home Businesses: Short-term rentals & Home Occupations

The Planning Commission is also reviewing regulations related to home businesses. They are looking to expand the current regulations for bed and breakfasts to cover all *short-term rental establishments*. Short-term rentals are defined as rooms or houses that are rented for less than 30 days, for example Airbnb and VRBO. Proposed regulations would require permit approval, performance standards, and a current business license. Additional amendments are proposed for the *home occupation standards* to reflect the changes in technologies and employment trends.



The Planning Commission has scheduled a public hearing on **Tuesday, August 15th** to receive public input on these topics. Your comments - either written or in person - are encouraged and will help finalize the Planning Commission's recommendation to the City Council, who will hold an additional public hearing prior to making a final decision. The draft proposal is available on the website.

Serving the community since 1925

Public Works Update



Construction is now complete on the Emerson Street Sidewalk project. Thanks for all your patience during construction. This project helped fill in the gaps of our sidewalks and improve the look of Emerson Street.

This project was funded by a grant from the Transportation Improvement Board. Here are some great before and after photos.



BEFORE



AFTER



BEFORE



AFTER

Upcoming Events

Labor Day


September 4, 2017

City buildings will be closed in observance of Labor Day.



Clean-Up, Recycling & Food Drive

October 7 & 14 8:00AM to 4:00PM

Here's an opportunity to dispose and/or recycle some unwanted items and yard waste for free. Limited to one load per Fircrest resident per day. Other restrictions do apply. Visit  for more information.



Going out of Town?

Are you headed out of town for a summer vacation or do you head south for the winter? Did you know that the City offers several courtesy services to our residents:

- The City Manager may authorize an exception to the solid waste charge once a year for up to 4 months
- Public Works may approve a temporary disconnect of water service
- The Police Department offers courtesy drive by inspections for vacant homes.

Visit the website or call 253-564-8901 for more information.

Yard Sales

Garage and/or yard sales are allowed with the following guidelines:

- The sale is for household items
- Purchasing items to resell at a garage sale is prohibited
- Sales are not to exceed four events or 12 days in any calendar year
- Signs cannot be attached to a utility pole, street sign, tree or fence nor placed on the street or sidewalk in a way that would interfere with traffic, pedestrians or property.

Who To Contact

City Hall 253-564-8901
Municipal Court 253-564-8922
Public Works 253-564-8900
Community Center 253-564-8177
Non-Emergency Police 253-565-1198

www.cityoffircrest.net

Other Agencies:

Westside Disposal 253-564-3212
Animal Care & Control 253-627-PETS
Humane Society 253-383-2733
Puget Sound Energy 888-225-5773
Tacoma Power 253-502-8600