



CITY COUNCIL ANNUAL PLANNING MEETING - RETREAT

Saturday, March 8, 2025, 8:30 a.m. – 4:00 p.m.

**City Council Chambers
25510 Lawson Street
Black Diamond, WA 98010**

**THIS IS OFFERED AS A HYBRID MEETING AND MAY BE ATTENDED IN PERSON
AT THE ABOVE NOTED ADDRESS
OR BY JOINING VIRTUAL/TELEPHONICALLY. CALL IN AND JOINING
INFORMATION FOLLOWS:**

Zoom link to join meeting:

<https://zoom.us/j/4454477047?pwd=eGxRY3ZEeU14SVM2cGRBcUxCSjdmZz09>

(Note: You do not need a web cam to join the meeting, but you will need audio to hear the proceedings.) Meeting ID: 445 447 7047 Password: Council

Telephone dial in options: +1 253 215 8782 US (Tacoma) +1 206 337 9723 US (Seattle)
Meeting ID: 445 447 7047 Password: 426953

AGENDA

THE MEETING'S GOALS:

1. Come away from today's meeting with a clear understanding of the Council's roles and responsibilities, and the rules and procedures that help all of us to be effective elected officials.
2. Identify our common vision, mission, and goals, and how the Council Action Plan aligns with or complements them.
3. Review the status of key projects and discuss how the City will engage the community about them.

8:30 Welcome! Review Purpose of Today's Meeting - Mayor Benson/Council President Deady

8:35 Review Agenda and Ground Rules - Jim Reid, Facilitator

8:40 Getting to Know Each Other - Council/Mayor Benson

- *What important experience in your life led you to become an elected official?*
- *Years from now, after you are no longer an elected official, what do you want people to remember about your service?*

9:10 Jurassic Parliament - Ann Macfarlane, Guest Presenter/Council/Mayor

Ann Macfarlane, a credentialed Professional Registered Parliamentarian and author, will meet with us via Zoom. She will discuss the fundamentals of being an elected official and the most effective uses of parliamentary procedure. In preparing for today's meeting, Council members expressed interest in and enthusiasm for working with Ann, and asked these additional questions:

- *How does our adopted Code of Conduct align with the concepts and responsibilities that Ann is addressing? (The **Code of Conduct** is a separate document that accompanies this agenda.)*
- *How do we ensure that we accurately reflect the interests, needs, and concerns of the community?*
- *What are the opportunities for the Council to engage the public? At Council meetings? In study sessions? In other forums?*

11:15 Break

11:25 Review and Discuss the Council Action Plan (CAP) - Tamie Deady/Council/Mayor

- *What is the Council Action Plan? How did it come about? What does it mean to those who helped develop it in 2023 and refine it last year? (The **Council Action Plan** is a separate document that accompanies this agenda.)*
- *Are there any reactions or questions from the new members?*
- *Are there items on the CAP that the Council members would like to see accomplished in 2025?*

11:55 Our Vision for the City's Future - Council/Mayor

- *What do each of us envision for the City in the next 10-20 years? In the next 3-5 years?*
- *What do our visions have in common? Are there central themes that constitute our joint vision for the future of Black Diamond?*
- *What does our vision for Black Diamond indicate about the City's mission?*

12:30 Lunch (to be provided)

1:00 Goals and Priorities - Council/Mayor

In preparing for the retreat, some Council members expressed interest in goals, priorities, actions, and measurements to track progress, inform the public, and provide accountability. In 2023 the Council and Mayor Benson refined and agreed on a set of **Guiding Principles**. (See Attachment on page 5.)

- *Are the Guiding Principles the foundation for developing a set of Council goals?*
- *How might the Council Action Plan align with or serve as a companion of our goals and priorities?*
- *What might be some goals for the coming 2-3 years?*

2:00 Break

2:10 Goals and Priorities (continued) - Council/Mayor

- *Of these goals, which might be priorities because they appear to be urgent or the logical starting point for achieving our vision? What outcomes do we seek when they are achieved?*
- *Which partners could most significantly influence the City's direction and the Council's goals in 2025 and '26? State agencies? King County? Other cities and special purpose districts? Private sector companies? Non-profits?*
- *How would our priorities be funded?*
- *What would be next steps in refining our vision, mission, goals, and priorities?*

2:55 An Overview of Key Projects - Mayor Benson/Council

- *What is the status of key projects, such as Ten Trails, financial sustainability, police staffing, the regional and community parks, and, potentially, a new City Hall?*
- *In light of these projects, do we need to do anything more or differently to communicate to and educate the public?*

3:55 What are We Taking Away from the Retreat? - Council/Mayor

4:00 Adjourn

THE MAYOR'S AND COUNCIL'S GUIDING PRINCIPLES

- ❖ **Growth and Development:** Growth is planned and communicated in a responsible way that retains our strong sense of community character and livability.
- ❖ **Social and Economic Vitality:** An economically vital and diverse community that is supported by robust businesses and supportive services.
- ❖ **Environmental Stewardship:** Environmental resources are proactively enhanced, protected and stewarded.
- ❖ **City Leadership and Services:** Leadership and accountability are provided in the delivery of public services for our growing and diversifying community.
- ❖ **Infrastructure:** Infrastructure systems that are planned, designed, built, and maintained well to support current and future community needs.
- ❖ **Mobility:** Getting around town is easier for people who live, work and play here.
- ❖ **Inclusion, Diversity, Equity, Accountability (IDEA):** Actively work for a more inclusive and diverse city, with a strong sense of equity and expectation of accountability.
- ❖ **Public Safety:** The community is safe, secure, healthy, resilient, and accessible.