



SUMMIT - WALLER COMMUNITY ASSOCIATION

————— *Serving The Community Since 1993* —————

A Message from the Board President

2021 Board Members

- Robert Koreis, President
- Angela Angove, Vice Pres.
- John Goodspeed, Secretary
- Russell Reed, Treasurer
- Gabe Tetrault, Webmaster
- Jenn Bosworth
- Dan Haire
- Don Massie
- Larry Volland
- Chris Gallagher, alternate
- Mark Giannobile, alternate

Dear Supporting SWCA Members & Summit Waller Neighbors,

The first thing I need to do is thank Larry Volland for his nearly three decades of service to this community, many of them as President of SWCA. If you spend much time at Orangegate Park, you've likely seen Larry picking up trash or clearing trails. The Mid-County Land Use Advisory Commission meeting and other county meetings of importance to our community would have him in attendance. Our community just would not be the same without the volunteer efforts of Larry and others like him. But Larry isn't going away yet. He will still be on our board for at least this year as he scales back commitments in order to spend more time with his children and grandchildren.

So who is your new SWCA President? I'm a retired school librarian who originally moved to the community in 1993, left for a few years, then after moving back found a piece of property for me and my wife to build our forever home. I'd known about the SWCA because a neighbor of mine back in '93 was one of the founding board members.

Anyone with a computer or smart phone knows of the monumental changes in technology over the years. Our prior website, which was created by the late Jim Akers, was showing its age. Lucky for us, Gabe Tetrault showed up for a meeting and never left. He brings a set of skills we were missing and soon had a new website built, one that takes better advantage of current software. I encourage you to take a look at our website. It is kept current with happenings in our community and those around us. You will soon be able to renew your membership from the website, saving a stamp and the hassle of finding an envelope. There is also a contact form if you wish to contact us about a concern or have a question. If you are suffering from insomnia, we even have our virtual board meetings recorded and available for viewing.

At the time of writing, Covid-19 cases are increasing again, but access to and supply of vaccines is also increasing so maybe we can finally get on top of this thing. The board is looking at some possibilities for hosting an in-person membership meeting, but that all depends on everyone masking, physically distancing, and taking the other steps necessary to keep numbers low and allow people to gather. As the great philosopher Red Green would say, we're all in this together.

Bob Koreis



**Adopt-A-Road
Clean-up**
September 18th @ 9 am

Please check for updates on
our website or Facebook

We continue to work for you – even in a pandemic!

Despite the shutdowns and quarantines in 2020, the Summit-Waller Community Association (SWCA) has continued its work to support the mission of promoting the rural quality of life, neighborhoods, and enjoyment of property for residents living in the Summit-Waller Community. This was accomplished in several ways:

- ◆ *Board members continued to meet monthly via virtual meetings. All meetings were recorded and are available on our YouTube channel. Find our channel by simply searching for Summit-Waller Community Association in the search bar.*
- ◆ Board members helped advertise and participated in two public comment periods for Pierce County's Pipeline Trail Project and Orangegate Master Plan Update.
- ◆ *SWCA's mission, objectives and by-laws were updated over the course of several meetings. A copy of those is located on our website at www.summitwaller.org.*
- ◆ SWCA submitted scoping comments for a Pierce County environmental impact statement (EIS) regarding a policy change for acreage density calculations which would have impacted the rural separator. This EIS and proposed policy were both rescinded.
- ◆ *Key board members continued to care for Orangegate Park by regularly removing litter and storm debris from trails and roadside areas, reporting illegal dumping and maintaining signage throughout the entire park.*
- ◆ Our webmaster continued to redesign our website to increase communication and relevancy with Summit-Waller residents. Board members continued to use Facebook to communicate with residents also.
- ◆ *The Board requested the installation of streetlights for increased visibility and safety at six intersections.*
- ◆ Pressed for signage on segments of Canyon Road where the use of compression brakes is prohibited. The Pierce County Council approved signage during the March 16 meeting.

In 2021 the Board will continue to work for the community. While many of these actions may appear "internal" to the Board, they are intended to address the overall operations, transparency and accountability to the citizens that we serve in the Summit-Waller community.

The Board is focusing its efforts by continuing or initiating the following actions:

- ◆ Continue with website updates and revisions with the intent to provide more relevant and timely information. We now store our meeting minutes on our website at www.summitwaller.org!
- ◆ *Continue to advocate for rural separator preservation and acknowledgment of potential impacts from plans and projects by submitting comment letters and continuing to coordinate with neighboring community associations.*
- ◆ Continue to push for additional traffic safety features in the Waller Road curve area.
- ◆ *Continue to request additional street lighting at key intersections. A request for three streetlights was submitted to Pierce County Council earlier this year.*
- ◆ Continue to work with the Pierce County Council, Pierce County Code Enforcement and Waller Road Neighborhood Watch Action Team to resolve and eliminate nuisance properties.
- ◆ *Hold an Adopt-a-Road litter cleanup along Waller Road and continue recruitment efforts for more volunteers. Tentatively planned for September 18th.*
- ◆ Continue to care for Orangegate Park via removing litter and performing trail maintenance.
- ◆ *Continue to actively participate and provide feedback during stakeholder outreach processes for both the Orangegate Park Master Plan update and the Pipeline Trail project.*

Orangegate Park & Pipeline Trail

Over the next few years Summit-Waller Community citizens will see some significant changes and improvements regarding Summit-Waller's regional Orangegate Park and the Pipeline Trail that will traverse the community via City of Tacoma Water's right-a-way connecting the City of Tacoma with other communities and trail systems in the county.

The community association suggests the following links:

- ◇ Orangegate Park Master Plan Updates:
<https://www.piercecountywa.gov/OrangegateParkProject>
- ◇ Pipeline Trail Project Updates:
<https://www.piercecountywa.gov/6569/Pipeline-Trail-Design>

Also, Pierce County Park's Natural Lands Team is working hard to remove invasive species and improve trails in Orangegate Park south of 84th St E.

The Summit-Waller Community Association encourages park users to help with litter control and reporting illegal dumping on county right-of way at: 253-798-6000, and also to call 911 if park users see illegal activities at or in the park.

Keep up to date with the community online!

We have more than 1300 people in our community Facebook page group! We share local information about safety and current happenings in the area. Join the conversation at:
www.facebook.com/groups/SummitWaller

To learn more about our community and find important information, be sure to check out our website:
www.summitwaller.org

Serve Your Community - Become a Board Member

Does this look familiar? If you read last year's news letter, you might remember our call for Board Members. Well, the requests came flooding in, and it was a difficult process choosing the newest members.

Okay, that wasn't true. We did get two new Board members though. **Gabe Tetrault** started as a volunteer to assist with updating and maintaining our website and Facebook page. He transitioned to a full time seat on the board and **Mark Giannoble** opted to move to an alternate position. **Chris Gallagher** also joined the board this winter as an alternate. We do still need another volunteer or two to consider joining us as alternates as members retire or their service term ends.

Join us for a meeting or two and then make a decision as to whether this could be a way to serve your local community.

Supporting your local community - Membership & Board position

Senior \$15/Family \$20

Payable to: SWCA

Mailing Address:

**11012 Canyon Road, Suite 8-153
Puyallup, WA 98373**

**Please include your contact information:
name, address, phone, email**

What does a Board member do aside from participating in monthly meetings? We are some of the eyes and ears of our community. We pay attention to what is happening and support efforts to maintain our local values. We also keep the roads and parks cleaned up, advocate for community members when appropriate, request signage and streetlights to maintain safety, support our educational communities, ask for compliance with local ordinances, and encourage civic participation.

Contacting Elected Officials

- ⇒ **Bruce Dammeier:** Pierce County Executive (253) 798-7477
- ⇒ **Marty Campbell:** Pierce County Councilman, District 5 (253) 798-6653
- ⇒ **Chris Gildon:** WA. St. Senator, 25th Leg. District (360) 786-7648
- ⇒ **Kelly Chambers:** WA. St. Representative, 25th Leg. Dist. (360) 786-7948
- ⇒ **Cyndy Jacobsen:** WA. St. Representative, 25th Leg. Dist. (360) 786-7968
- ⇒ **Marilyn Strickland:** U.S. Representative, 10th Congressional Dist. (202) 225-9740
- ⇒ **Patty Murray:** U.S. Senator, Washington State (202) 224-2621
- ⇒ **Maria Cantwell:** U.S. Senator, Washington State (202) 224-3441

Pierce County Council meetings: Tuesdays at 3pm via Zoom

Did you know...

The Historic 1850's Byrd's Mill Wagon Road (State Historic Road #1) actually traversed Orangegate Park, west/east? Yep! The historic wagon road connected Fort Steilacoom, Byrd's Gris Mill & the town of Steilacoom to the Puyallup Valley and wagon roads beyond. Currently, 84th St. E. is the nearest road through the Summit-Waller community that runs closest to the original wagon route. The actual wagon route was clearly seen south of 84th St E in the park before the area was logged off in the 1980's. The orange gate remnants show where part of the old historic road was located.



SUMMIT WALLER COMMUNITY ASSOCIATION
11012 CANYON ROAD E
SUITE 8-153
PUYALLUP, WA 98373

Postage
Here

www.summitwaller.org