



Economic Development Board

Stanwood City Hall
Conference Room
10220 270th Street NW, Stanwood

Meeting information is posted online at
<https://stanwoodwa.org/>.

Friday, January 17, 2025, at 7:30 AM

1. Election of Chair and Vice Chair
2. New Member Introduction
3. Receive the Minutes of the November 15, 2024 Meeting
4. Grant Requests
5. Special Events
6. Downtown District Initiative
7. Year in Review
8. Business License Analytics
9. Round Robin, Time Permitting
10. EDB Next Meeting, tentatively scheduled for February 21, 2025

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Economic Development Board Minutes
Meeting Minutes
Friday, November 15, 2024 | 7:30 am

Economic Development Board Members Present: Les Anderson, Kristine Birkenkopf, Dave Pelletier, Camrie Ingram, Teresa LaFleur, Dustin Dekle

Staff Present: Patricia Love, Niki Strachila, Audrey Rotrock

Others Present: Jason Dorsey (SCAAC), Steve Shepro (Council Member-online), Rosie Olsen (online)

Les Anderson called the meeting to order at 7:31 a.m.

1. Receive the Minutes of the September 20, 2024 Meeting

The minutes of the September 20, 2024 meeting were approved unanimously.

2. Stanwood Create – The Downtown District Initiative

All Board members are supportive of a Downtown Creative and/or Historic District. A Stakeholder Board will be created in 2025 for the Downtown District Initiative, and the topic will become a regular agenda item for Economic Development Board discussion.

3. Tourism Promotion Grant – Snow Goose Festival

Les Anderson made a motion to approve the Snow Goose Festival Tourism Promotion Grant. All were in favor.

4. September & October Business License Analytics

In September, the City received 3 City Business license applications, 10 Home Occupation Business License applications, and 19 Non-City Business license applications. In October the City received 5 City Business license applications, 6 Home Occupation Business License applications, and 21 Non-City Business license applications.

5. EDB Next Meeting, tentative schedule for January 17, 2025

Adjourn: 8:40 a.m.



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**CITY OF STANWOOD
ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT BOARD
AGENDA STAFF REPORT**

MEETING DATE: January 17, 2025
SUBJECT: January 17 Agenda Topics
FROM: Patricia Love, Community Development Director
Niki Strachila, Communications and Marketing Specialist

ELECTION OF CHAIR AND VICE CHAIR

At the first meeting of the year, the Economic Development Board elects a new Chair and Vice Chair. Election of officers should be the first item of new business and the new officers assume their duties at the close of elections. The roles of the Chair and Vice Chair are as follows:

Chair: The Chair shall preside at all meetings and public hearings and adhere to the duties of the presiding officer prescribed in Robert's Rules of Order Newly Revised.

Vice Chair: The Vice Chair shall perform the duties of the Chair in the absence of the same.

NEW MEMBER INTRODCUTION

The City of Stanwood is pleased to announce that Natalie Hagglund has been appointed to the Economic Development Board. Natalie grew up in Stanwood and has raised her family here over the last 20 years.

She served two terms on the Stanwood-Camano School District Board of Directors and taught preschool for Our Saviour's Lutheran for 10 years. Natalie is now the Executive Director of Stanwood-Camano Area Foundation (SCAF), which is committed to "promoting a culture of philanthropy in our local community. SCAF works with

community members, businesses, and other local nonprofit organizations to connect people who care with causes that matter most to them.”

City staff are excited to have a nonprofit representative serve on the Economic Development Board and know that Natalie will be an excellent addition.

GRANT REQUESTS

Background

The Stanwood City Council has adopted and funded a Special Events/Tourism Grant program, established under Resolution No. 2018-13, to promote community events that draw visitors from outside the area. Grants are considered by the Economic Development Board and awarded by the Mayor. Grants may be considered in an amount up to \$1,000 for events with less than 4,000 participants, and \$2,000 for events over 4,000 participants. The applicant’s total event budget must match at least 50% of the total requested grant amount.

Tourism Promotion Grant Applications

Northwest Glass Quest

Every year, Northwest Glass Quest draws 10-15,000 people to the Stanwood Camano region during the slow month of February and consistently increases business sales over the event. It also showcases the area to visitors and encourages return visits and overnight stays. The Camano Island Chamber of Commerce puts this event on every year and has a robust marketing plan that covers digital and print advertising reaching British Columbia down to Oregon.

Glass Quest 2025 is set to take place February 14-23, 2025, and will occur on Stanwood and Camano Island. The Camano Chamber of Commerce is requesting a Tourism Promotion Grant—see Attachment A—in the amount of \$2,000.

Staff Recommendations

Our region greatly benefits from Northwest Glass Quest. The city participates in the event by hiding clue balls in five of our public parks, encouraging out of area visitors to explore all that Stanwood has to offer. Staff recommend the Economic Development Board support the tourism promotion grant request for Northwest Glass Quest 2025 in the amount of \$2,000.

SPECIAL EVENTS

Background

Special event means any temporary or ongoing activity that occurs on public property that affects the ordinary use of public streets, right-of-way, sidewalks, traffic, and other places that reasonably expected to cause or result in a gathering in a public place; and/or is reasonably expected to have an uncommon impact on such public place; and/or is reasonably expected to require the provision of public services.

Upcoming Special Events

- **Snow Goose and Birding Festival February 22, 2025, from 10am-4pm at the Floy.** Every year, over 500 birding and nature enthusiasts visit the Stanwood Camano area to celebrate the Snow Geese and other shorebirds that have come to this region for years. Tours and guides will help attendees experience one of Western Washington's most spectacular natural events – the annual winter gathering of thousands of Snow Geese and Trumpeter Swans. In addition, we have flocks of wintering seabirds and shorebirds along with many raptors that call Stanwood and Camano Island home. This event is hosted by the Stanwood Historical Society.
- **Glass Quest, February 14-23, 2025, Stanwood and Camano Island.** [Learn more today](#) and participate in one of our region's biggest events of the year.
- **Special Events Calendar** – City staff have produced a special events calendar—see Attachment B—that showcases annual events taking place in Stanwood from May through September. The final calendar will be distributed in various community locations to help spread awareness. Special events not only benefit the community but draw in visitors, contributing to the city's economic development efforts. An annual events calendar is a simple, effective way the city can help market, promote, and support events that benefit Stanwood.

DOWNTOWN DISTRICT INITIATIVE

Background

City Council has expressed an interest in the adoption of a historic preservation ordinance and the implementation of a creative arts district to preserve and promote Stanwood’s unique heritage by building on the communities of existing cultural and special events activities to stimulate economic growth. This initiative will assess the potential economic benefits, costs and challenges of historic preservation programs and creative districts. While this appears as a two-prong project – Historic Preservation and Creative Arts District – they are not mutually exclusive of themselves. They can, in fact, be complimentary to each other.

The project narrative—Attachment C—was presented to the Economic Development Board during the November 2024 meeting. The Board is very supportive of this initiative. In 2025, staff will begin assessing the feasibility of establishing a creative district and/or historic preservation ordinance.

Progress Update

In the project narrative, the 2025 assessment is broken into seven steps which include:

Phase 1: Initial Assessment

- 1.Assemble Team: Create a stakeholder group consisting of technical experts and interested community members.
- 2.Inventory: Conduct a historic, arts, and cultural inventory of potential assets.
- 3.Other Programs: Research state and federal programs.
- 4.Initial Evaluation Study: Assess the viability of the district, including potential economic benefits, costs, and challenges.
- 5.Identify potential funding sources: % for Arts Programs, grants, partnerships, sponsorships, or contributions.
- 6.Zoning Review: Review existing zoning to identify potential challenges.
- 7.Committee and Council Review: Review findings with City Committees and Council.

Staff have initiated step one, which involves assembling a stakeholder group of technical experts and interested community members. This group will meet 3-6 times in 2025 and will include representatives from the following groups:

- City Council representative
- Stanwood Camano Arts Advocacy Commission
- Stanwood Historical Society

- Stanwood Commerce Alliance
- Stanwood Camano Chamber of Commerce
- Local Artists
- Stillaguamish Tribe Representative
- Stanwood – Camano School District and/or Youth Representative
- Local Architect, Realtor, and/or Other Business Representative

Staff have begun initial outreach to form the group. Once the stakeholder group or committee is formed, 3-6 meetings will be scheduled and an inventory of historic, arts and cultural assets will be conducted.

Staff will also be meeting with Ryan Walters for guidance and insight. Ryan Walters played a role in establishing the City of Anacortes Creative District. We will provide a recap of this conversation during the Economic Development Board meeting.

2024 YEAR IN REVIEW

At the beginning of each year, staff prepares a year in review summary of the work accomplished. During 2024 the Community Development Department workload included:

Parks:

- Prepared a Forest and Trail Management Plan for Church Creek Park
- Adopted the 2024 Parks, Recreation and Open Space Plan

Long Range Planning:

- Staffed the Planning Commission
- Adopted the following amendments to the Stanwood Municipal Code:
 - Title 7 – Health and Sanitation
 - Title 8 – Animals
 - Title 10 – Vehicles and Traffic
 - Title 11 – Streets and Public Rights-of-Way
 - Title 14 – Building Code
 - Fire Works Code Amendment
 - Complete Streets Code Amendment
 - Construction Noise Ordinance
- Adopted the 2024-2044 Comprehensive Plan

Economic Development/City Beautification:

- Staffed the Economic Development Board

- Continued Implementation of the Storefront Improvement Program – 2 New Agreements
- Implemented the 88th Avenue Arch banner art project
- Worked on concept plans for the Brick Road
- Designed the 88th Avenue, Mid-Block and 84th Avenue intersection projects in the East End Historic District Area
- Staffed, processed, and/or participated in approximately 23 special events such as: Summer Concert Series, Movies in the Park, National Night Out, Touch-A-Truck, parades, Car Show, Ghouls Night Out, Light Up Your Holidays, Glass Quest, 5-K runs, the Snow Goose Festival and the Studio Tours.
- Coordinated business ribbon cutting events
- Published four community newsletters

Current Planning:

- Subdivisions
 - Issued preliminary plat approval for Faulkner
 - Issued civil construction plans for Meadowhawk
 - Issued final plat approval for Summerset Springs (Summerset Division II)
- Site Development
 - Issued civil construction plans for Cedarside Commons
 - Issued site development approval for a 3-unit townhome infill project
 - Issued civil construction plans for the Wolfkill property
- The City issued 26 new single-family homes, and 3 townhouses this year.

Permit Activity Review:

The number of permits submitted per year reflects the Community Development Departments workload: each permit submitted is processed and reviewed by city planners, the building official and / or the City engineering team. The numbers reflected in the data below is as of December 1, 2024. There is the possibility that one or two of the multifamily buildings in Cedarside Commons project may be issued before the end of the year. If that occurs, updated tables will be provided at the January meeting.

The data reveals a consistent volume of permit activity in Stanwood over the last three years, reflecting steady development trends. Below are key highlights from the analysis:

Permit Volume Trends:

- 2022: 429 permit applications
- 2023: 489 permit applications
- 2024: 475 permit applications

Building Permits:

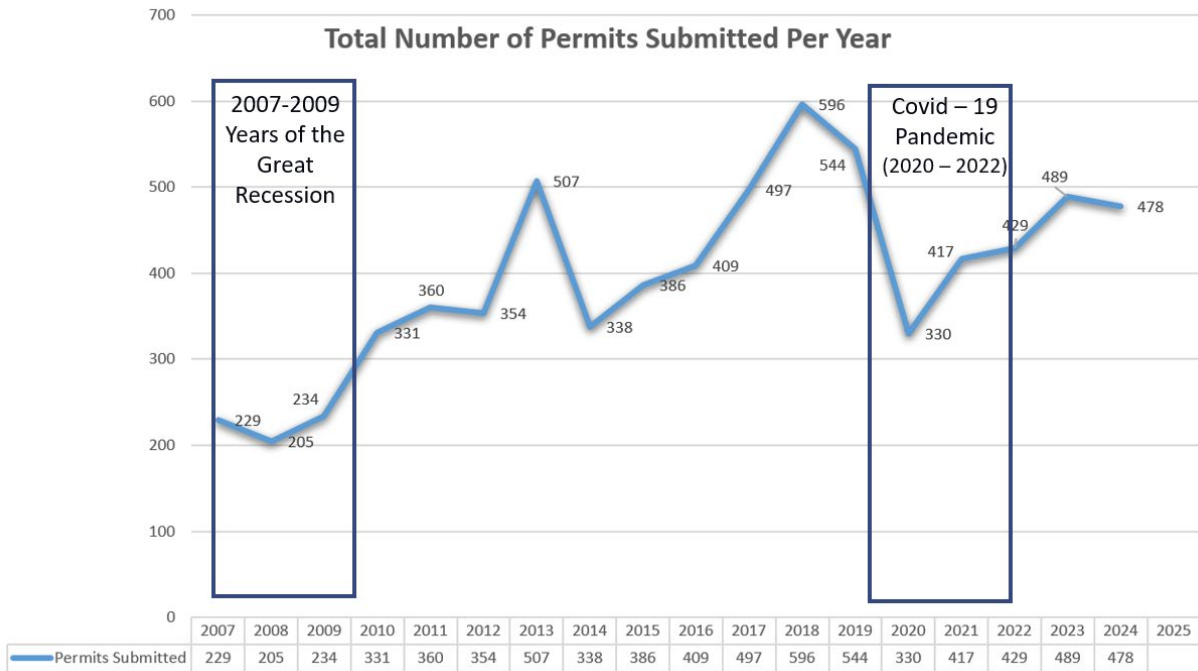
- The majority of building permits submitted include mechanical permits, new single-family/townhouse units, residential remodels, plumbing permits, and fire permits.
- Indicates a focus on residential development and upgrades.

Land Use Applications:

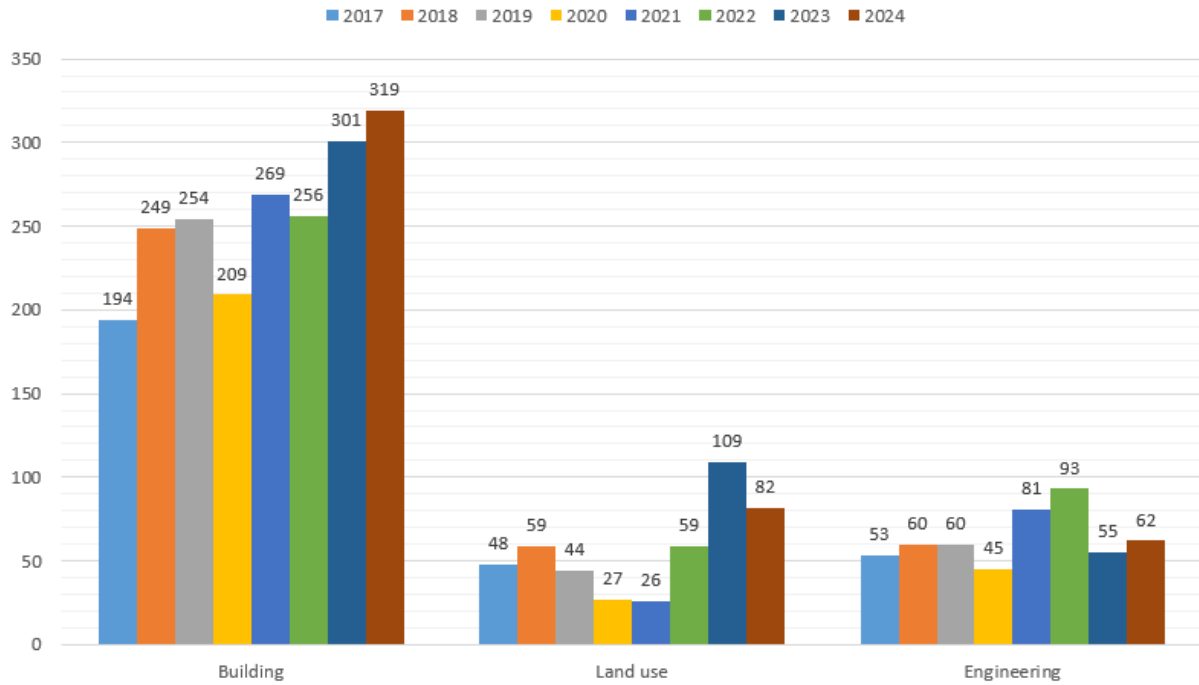
- Act as a precursor to future building permit submissions.
- 2024 saw submissions for two short plats and one long plat, suggesting moderate growth in parcel development over the next year.

Engineering Permits:

- Right-of-Way (ROW) Permits were the most common, indicating continued infrastructure work and utility-related activities.

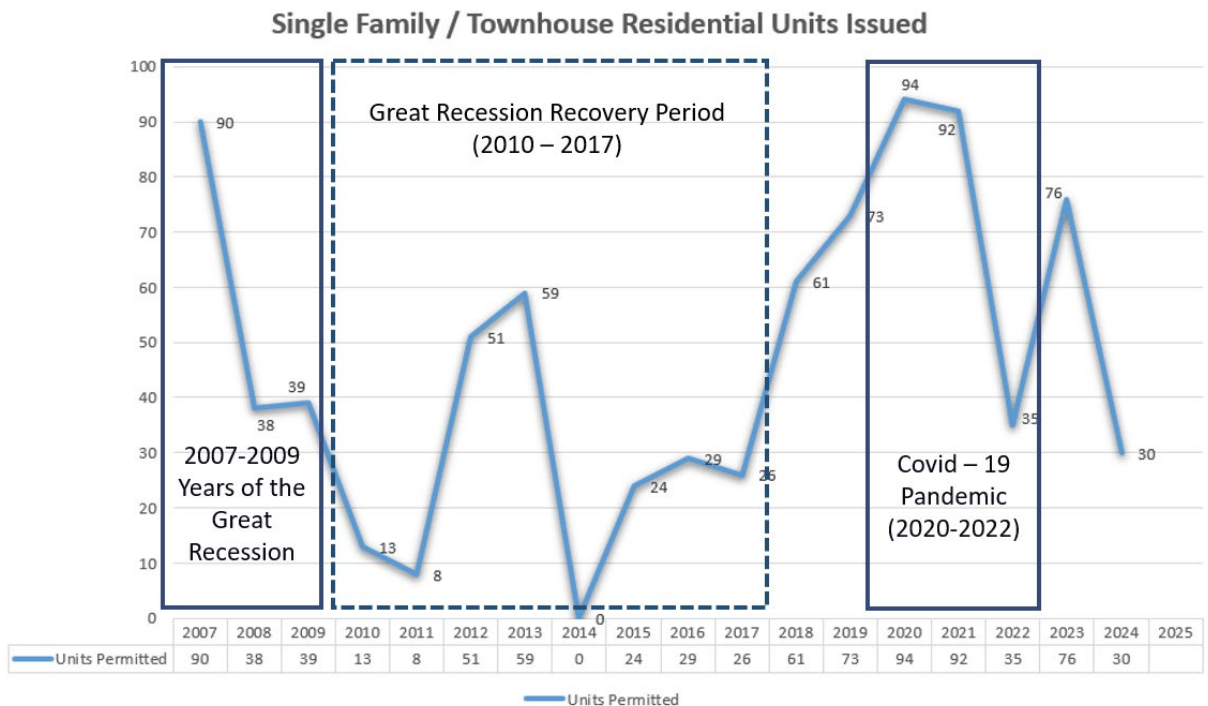


Permit Activity Comparison by Year



The City also tracks the number of residential units issued per year. Submitted and issued permits are not the same number, as several permits cross over years between when they are submitted and when they are issued.

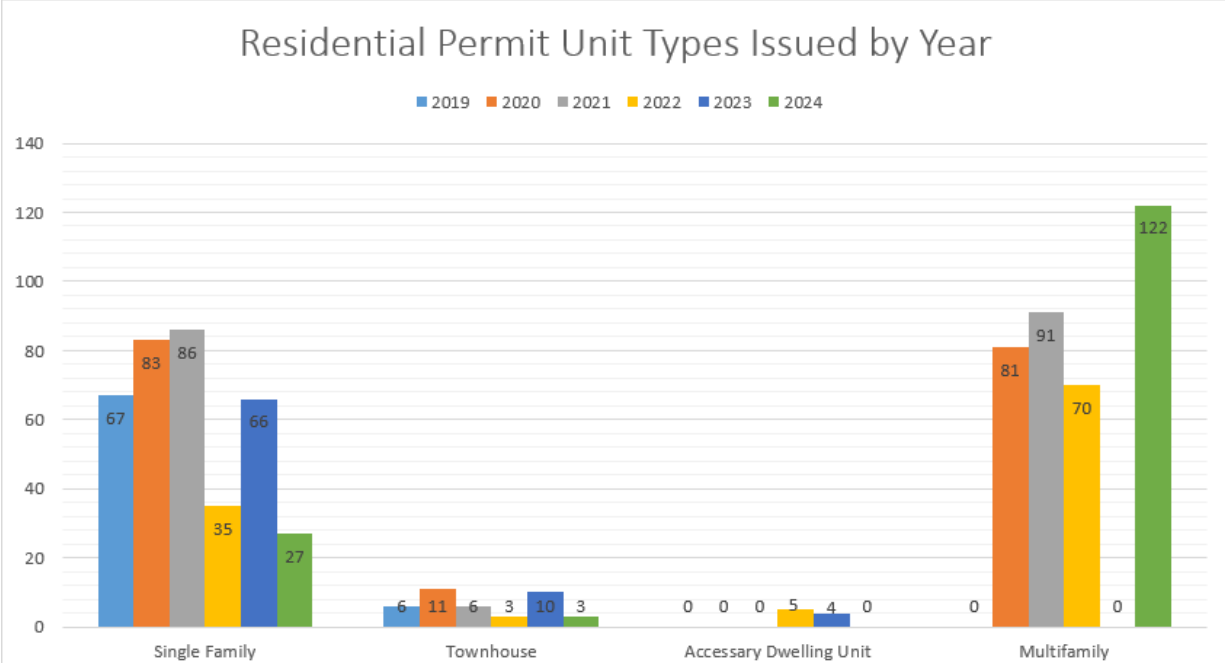
Over the last four years, the permitting data highlights Stanwood's typical development cycle: showing how plat approvals lead to construction phases followed by housing unit development. In 2022 several plats were under construction, then in 2023 the housing units were built. 2024 and 2025 will continue this pattern with approved plats transitioning into active housing construction.



Future growth includes nearly 850 housing units in the pipeline which will be built over the next few years. These include:

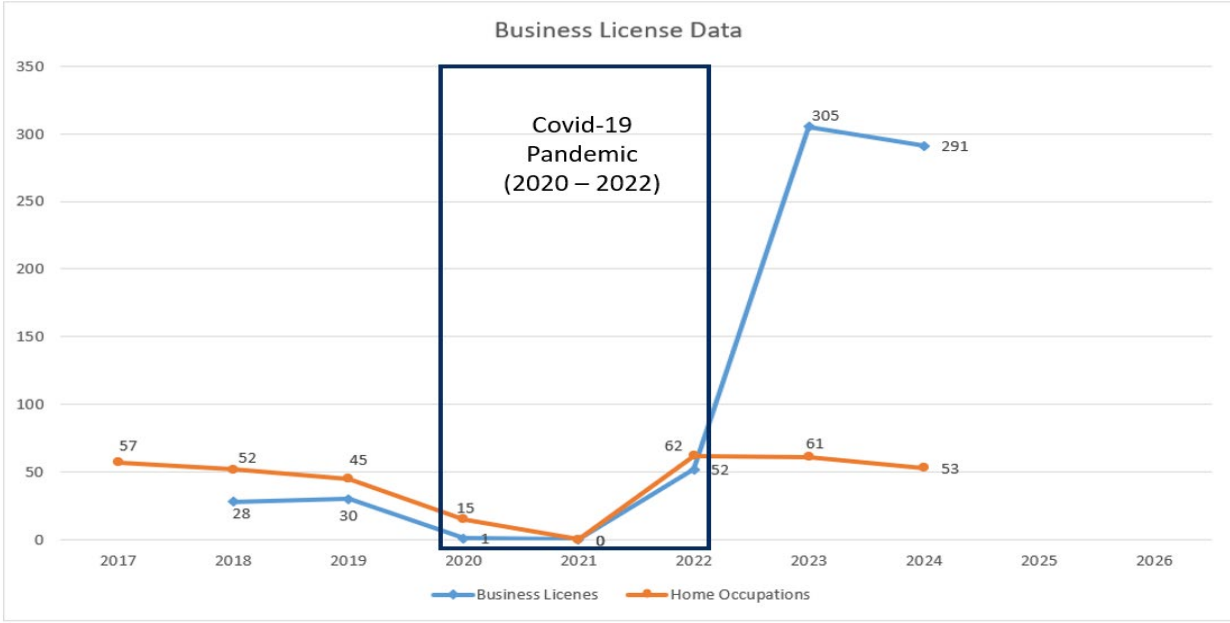
- **Multifamily Housing (Cedarside Commons):** Over 500 units planned, addressing growing demand for higher-density housing options.
- **Single-Family/Townhouse Lots:** Approximately 350 lots in various platting stages, contributing to traditional residential growth.
- **Annexations:** Two potential annexations could further expand development opportunities and increase housing capacity.

Tracking the types of residential housing units constructed is crucial to determining whether Stanwood is on pace to meet its housing targets as outlined in the Comprehensive Plan. This is even more important now that state law is requiring cities to plan for missing middle housing. The following chart shows the number of residential units by type issued over the last several years.



The below listed additional data points provide a snapshot of Stanwood’s economic activity and community engagement.

- Business Licenses: 291 (the majority of these are construction related businesses or out-of-city companies doing business within city limits)
- Home Occupations Business Licenses: 53
- Special Event Permits: 25



Note: 2021 data is missing



STANWOOD TOURISM PROMOTION GRANT GUIDELINES

The purpose of the Stanwood Tourism Promotion Grant Program is to solicit proposals from those agencies and groups actively engaged in the promotion and enhancement of tourism in Stanwood. Events and activities shall show how the program implements the Economic Development Element of the Comprehensive Plan and the Economic Development Action Plan. (View Economic Development Action Plan on our website www.stanwoodwa.org).

Special events must meet the following sponsorship criteria; The event contributes to the marketing of the city; the event will attract the general public into the downtown or uptown commercial areas and will be conducted in a way that creates the potential for additional retail or service business transactions that contribute to the city's tax base; the event provides recreation benefit to the general public; the event promotes the general public welfare; the city of Stanwood logo and or text indicating the city's role shall be included in signage, posters and other advertising materials for the event.

To be considered for grant funding, the activity and/or event must be based in the City of Stanwood or Camano Island area and clearly demonstrate the ability to attract tourism.

CRITERIA AND GUIDELINES

Any agency or group actively engaged in the promotion and enhancement of new or existing tourism and events in the Stanwood community may apply for this tourism promotion grant.

Priority will be given to agencies, events, activities, and or places in Stanwood that promote out-of-town visitors; have demonstrated results or high potential to result in documented economic benefit to City of Stanwood businesses; support events and activities which have the potential to grow and be repeated year after year.

Events and activities should promote city tourism efforts by advertising, publicizing, and distributing information for the purpose of attracting and welcoming tourists.

Excluded activities include promotional activities that reach a specific small target audience already located solely within Stanwood/Camano Island; salaries toward any event management; fundraising events for the benefit of the promotion; funds toward the operation of business; or philanthropic groups. However, activities sponsored by such groups are eligible provided that all funds are allocated to the event and "profit" resulting from the event is set aside for subsequent operation of the same event. Financial statements should be submitted with request for grant.

Events funded through this program are exempted from the city sponsorship funding limits established in the City of Stanwood Fee Resolution. (View resolution on our website www.stanwoodwa.org)

Grant reimbursements for eligible expenses must be approved consistent with the City of Stanwood Uniform Procurement Policy.

Grants may be considered in an amount of up to \$1,000 for events with a minimum of 250 but less than 4,000 participants, and \$2,000 for events over 4,000 participants.

Grant award must be matched at 50% from sponsoring organization. Match may consist of cash, donated, and documented services.

The applicant will be required to provide the City with data from the event to include, but not limited to:

- Number of attendees
- Zip codes of attendees
- Lodging used for event

Data Collection Ideas:

- Hold a drawing- Participants will write their zip code on their entry ticket
- Social Media analytics, where are your viewers from?
- Survey of attendees or vendors
- Vendors to request zip codes at point-of-sale

GRANT APPLICATION PROCEDURES

Complete and submit the grant application. All information is required; incomplete or missing information will disqualify the applicant.

Final approval of grant application shall be reviewed by the Economic Development Board, and recommended to the Mayor. The Board will review applications and make a recommendation for funding to the Mayor. Grants utilizing funds earmarked in the city's adopted budget may be approved by the Mayor upon certification by the Finance Director that funds are available. Grants which exceed budgeted amounts shall be reviewed and approved by the City Council.

RESPONSIBILITIES

1. Approved grant shall be executed through a contract for services agreement between the special event sponsor and the city.
2. Payment is to occur after the services are performed and are documented with receipts.
3. A grant reimbursement request shall be submitted within 30 days of the event and shall include a minimum of:
 - An Event Expenditure Form with receipts
 - Documentation of the required match
 - A report documenting the effectiveness of the proposed event in promoting tourism and community marketing
4. Special events utilizing grant funding shall obtain a special event permit at City Hall or online at www.stanwoodwa.org.
5. If services in lieu of grant funds are provided prior to the event, such as digital billboard space for marketing and event data is not submitted, the event will receive an invoice for those cost.

STANWOOD TOURISM PROMOTION GRANT DETAILS

Event Name:			
Event Date(s):			
Event Location <i>AND</i> Address:			
Estimated # of People Attending Event:			
Host Organization:			
Mailing Address:			
Contact Person:			
Phone Number:		Title:	
Website:		Email:	

<p>Total Event Budget: _____ Amount of Funding Requested: _____</p> <p>Other Funding Sources (50% minimum): _____</p> <p>Estimated number of people attending the event: _____</p> <p>Estimated number of people who will travel 50 miles, or more (not staying overnight): _____</p> <p>Estimated number of people who will seek lodging: _____</p> <p>Estimated number of lodging nights: _____</p>
<p>Provide a brief description of the event and how the event will support Stanwood's tourism and/or promoting events or activities in the City of Stanwood. Include a marketing/promotional plan if available.</p>

Please attach an event budget to your application. Failure to provide the required information may disqualify the application from consideration.

1. Provide a project budget. List all sources of funding. Include in-kind, city funding, organization's own funding, if applicable provide historical data.

PROJECT BUDGET					
Please detail the budget for your project, specify whether your various matches will be cash, or in-kind.					
Budgeted Item	City of Stanwood Grant Dollars	Event Match \$ (Min. 50% of total)	Cash %	In-Kind %	Total
1.	\$	\$			\$
2.	\$	\$			\$
3.	\$	\$			\$
4.	\$	\$			\$
5.	\$	\$			\$
6.	\$	\$			\$
7.	\$	\$			\$
8.	\$	\$			\$
9.	\$	\$			\$
10.	\$	\$			\$
TOTALS	\$	\$			\$

I understand that if awarded, funds will be distributed after the event has occurred. I understand that I must furnish an invoice, payment, and expense documentation, and participant data within 30 days of event closure. I understand that a submitted proposal is a public record potentially eligible for public release. Final reimbursements will not be released until the required Event Data and Expenditure Report Form have been submitted.

Signature: _____

Title: _____ Date: _____

REMINDERS

PRIOR TO THE EVENT

- The City of Stanwood logo and Discover Stanwood Camano logo must be included in signage, posters, and other advertising materials for the event.**
- Applicant must submit event to DiscoverStanwoodCamano.com event calendar.
- Applicant must have a completed special event permit application submitted to the City if applicable.

AFTER THE EVENT

- Applicant will be required to provide the City with data from the event to include, but not limited to:
 - Number of attendees
 - Zip codes of attendees
 - Lodging used for event
- A grant reimbursement shall be submitted within **30 days** of the event and shall include a minimum of:
 - An Event Expenditure Form with receipts
 - Documentation of the required match
 - A report documenting the effectiveness of the proposed event in promoting tourism and community marketing
- If services in lieu of grant funds are provided prior to the event, such as digital billboard space for marketing, and event data is not submitted, the event host will receive an invoice for those costs.

FOR OFFICE USE ONLY			
Date Application Received:	Date Presented to EDB:		
	Application Complete		
APPLICATION APPROVED:			
City Authorization:	Date Approved:		
	Post Event Data Supplied Date:		Grant Reimbursement Date:

Upcoming Stanwood EVENTS

MAY 17

CITY OF STANWOOD CLEAN SWEEP, 9AM-2PM AT 8815 271ST STREET NW

JUNE 6

STANWOOD FARMERS MARKET, FRIDAYS FROM 2-6PM AT 8727 271ST ST NW

JUNE 28

MUSIC IN THE PARK, AARON CRAWFORD, 4-7PM AT CHURCH CREEK PARK

JUNE 29

TWIN CITY IDLERS CAR SHOW, 9AM-3PM AT 271ST STREET NW

JULY 4

JULY 4TH PARADE AND ICE CREAM SOCIAL, 11AM AT 102ND AVE NW

JULY 19

MUSIC IN THE PARK, LIST ARTIST NAME, 4-7PM AT CHURCH CREEK PARK

AUG. 1-3

STANWOOD CAMANO FAIR AT 6431 PIONEER HIGHWAY

AUG. 1

STANWOOD CAMANO ROTARY PARADE, DOWNTOWN STANWOOD

AUG. 5

NATIONAL NIGHT OUT, 6-8PM AT 8727 271ST STREET NW

AUG. 7

MOVIES IN THE PARK, 8:30PM (DUSK) AT CHURCH CREEK PARK

AUG. 14

MOVIES IN THE PARK, 8:30PM (DUSK) AT CHURCH CREEK PARK

AUG. 16

MUSIC IN THE PARK, ARTIST NAME, 4-7PM AT CHURCH CREEK PARK

AUG. 21

MOVIES IN THE PARK, 8:30PM (DUSK) AT CHURCH CREEK PARK

SEPT. 13

TOUCH A TRUCK, 10AM-1PM AT STANWOOD HIGH SCHOOL





2024-2044 Comprehensive Plan Implementation Project
Stanwood Create - The Downtown District Initiative

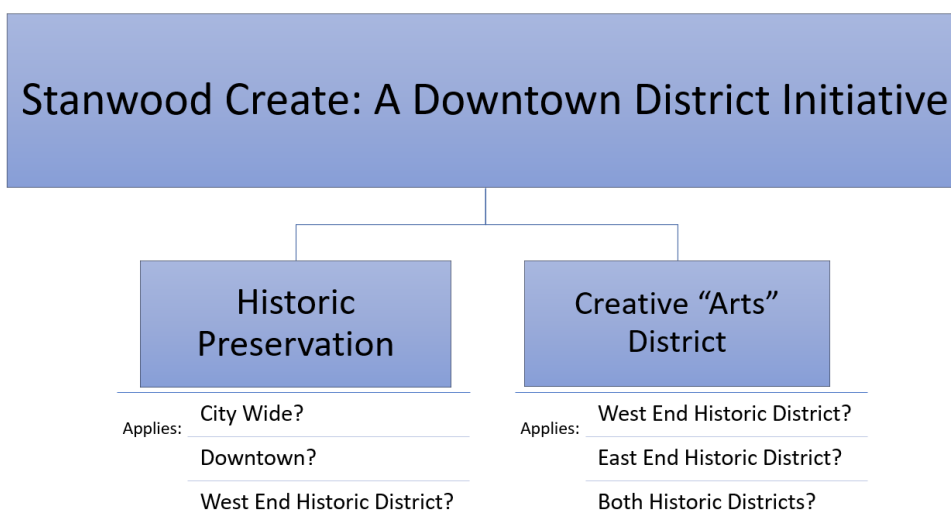
INTRODUCTION:

The City of Stanwood adopted its 2024-2044 Comprehensive Plan in September of 2024. Included in the Comprehensive Plan are goals and policies to promote Downtown Stanwood as the commercial and cultural heart and center of the greater Stanwood / Camano region. It is the City’s desire to preserve its heritage and build upon a thriving arts community to turn Stanwood’s historic downtown into a thriving cultural hub.

PROJECT DESCRIPTION:

The City Council has expressed interest in the adoption of a historic preservation ordinance and the implementation of a creative arts district to preserve and promote Stanwood’s unique heritage by building on the communities existing cultural and special event activities to stimulate economic growth. This initiative will assess the potential economic benefits, costs, and challenges of historic preservation programs and creative districts. While this appears as a two-prong project – Historic Preservation and Creative Arts District – they are not mutually exclusive of themselves. They can, in fact, be complementary to each other as they have many overlapping goals including preserving cultural heritage and fostering creativity and innovation.

For example, a historic area with well-preserved architecture can serve as an inspiring backdrop for the creative arts, attracting artists and visitors alike. Likewise, a Creative Arts District can bring new life to historic buildings, transforming them into galleries, studios, performance spaces, and cultural venues. This synergy can boost economic development by attracting tourism, encouraging local spending, and enhancing the community's identity.



INITIAL PROJECT VISION:

A historic / creative district should build upon, support and complement the broader community and city initiatives. Suggested approaches include:

- Arts (SCAAC) Center: expand access to arts and cultural experiences by supporting programs and events that bring people together;
- Historical Society: promote and preserve Stanwood’s historic structures as the anchors of the historic and/or creative district;
- Parks and Open Spaces: create public spaces and connect the Stanwood-Port Susan Trail to the district;
- Twin City Mile: integrate the district with the Twin City Mile Beautification / Brick Road restoration projects to create a unified, vibrant space in the West End Historic District;
- Tourism: market the district as a destination for shopping, dining, festivals, exhibits, and artistic experiences;
- Agricultural History: create a cohesive marketing narrative that combines the creative district’s artistic vibrancy with Stanwood’s agricultural history; and
- Integration of Historic Buildings, Art and Public Spaces: create an economically sustainable and inclusive district that weaves together reuse of historic buildings, inclusion of art, and development of public spaces to build a vibrant and accessible downtown.

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT BOARD ROLE:

Utilizing the Economic Development Board as an advisory body, this initial phase of the work will adopt a strategic project approach, aligning both historic preservation and creative arts goals. The Board will help determine the project structure: either as an integrated program or as coordinated but separate programs. 2025 will begin the initial investigation period, with future years establishing and implementing the program(s).

POLICY GUIDANCE:

The City utilizes two policy plans to guide yearly work plans: the Comprehensive Plan and the Strategic Plan. The Comp Plan is a long-term planning document that guides city growth and development over a 20-year planning horizon and the Strategic Plan is a short-term implementation strategy that the Council uses to set yearly budgeting priorities. Both of these documents encourage the preservation and promotion of the City’s downtown.

2024-2044 Comprehensive Plan

Goal	Policy
Land Use Goal 8 – Develop downtown Stanwood, defined as the area incorporating the East End, the 271 st Corridor, and West End and recognize that the Downtown District services the City and tri-county region consistent with the Downtown Master Plan.	LUP 8.19: Support the creation of a creative district celebrating the local arts and culture in Downtown.
Land Use Goal 10 - Historic Preservation: Encourage Preservation of lands, culturally significant site and structures of historic significance.	LUP 10.8: Evaluate options to preserve the City’s unique historic and historic properties by forming a historic district, adopting a historic preservation ordinance or adopting neighborhood-specific design guidelines that support the economic vitality of downtown.

Goal	Policy
Economic Development Goal 5 – Arts: Support and promote the arts within the greater Stanwood Community region.	EDP 5.4: Consider the development of an art and cultural district in Downtown Stanwood.
Economic Development Goal 9: Enhance the City’s historic Downtown District	EDP 9.1: Using the adopted Economic Development Plan, Downtown Master Plan, Stanwood Destiny by Design and the Downtown Beautification Action Plan as guidelines, implement the City’s economic development vision and strategies.

2025-2030 Strategic Plan

Goal	Implementing Initiative
Goal 2, Cultivate an outstanding quality of life for all residents.	Promote a thriving arts scene that enriches the lives of residents, attracts visitors, and contributes to the economic and cultural vitality of the community.
Goal 6, Promote local businesses and the City as a great place to do business.	Promote Stanwood’s offerings to regional visitors. Foster the development and promotion of arts and culture between our artistic community and Stanwood’s residents and businesses.

PROJECTION LOCATION:

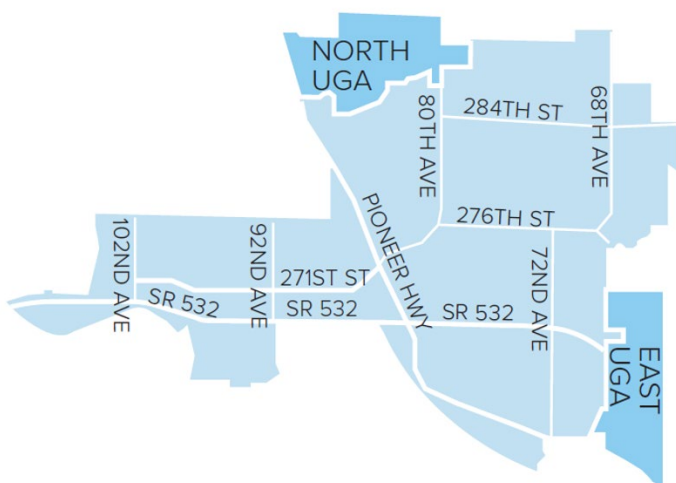
The City of Stanwood is geographically defined as either downtown or uptown. Downtown comprises of the historic east and west ends that merged in 1960 to create downtown Stanwood. Uptown is newer and reflects how the City has grown overtime due to multiple annexations and where growth should occur in the future.



This first phase of the project will help define the project boundaries:

- Historic Preservation: Should it apply to downtown only or to the city as a whole?
- Creative District: Should it apply to all of downtown, the historic east and west ends, or just the west end?

Determining the project boundaries will be evaluated as part of this project after outreach and discussions with various stakeholders.



PROJECT APPROACH:

Stanwood has a strong historic identity and a growing arts community. This initial framework can serve as a conversation starter, helping to outline a project approach. From there, elected officials and stakeholders can weigh options such as adopting a standalone program for each focus area, creating a hybrid model, or developing a new concept specific to Stanwood’s unique character.

	Historic District	Creative “Arts” District
Definition	An area that has been recognized for its historical, architectural, cultural, or archaeological significance. Buildings, structures, and sites within this district are often preserved and protected due to their importance in illustrating a particular period, style, or theme of historical development.	An area that fosters and supports a wide range of creative industries, including art, design, music, technology, media, and other innovative fields. These districts are designed to be hubs for creativity, collaboration, and economic growth, where creative professionals can work, live, and showcase their talents.
Intent / Uses	Reuse of existing buildings into living spaces, restaurants, business space; schools; childcare, or storefronts.	Galleries, theaters, music venues, restaurants, boutique retail, artist lofts / workspaces, business space, public spaces.
Benefits	Preservation of cultural heritage; Preservation of historic buildings; Community pride and identity; Reuse of buildings; and Potential tax incentives and grants	Tourism, Economic growth and innovations; Inclusion of incubator spaces for creativity; Cultural preservation; Area revitalization; Cross-disciplinary creativity; Educational opportunities; Public spaces
Constraints / Challenges	Strict building preservation regulations; Potentially higher maintenance costs due to age of buildings; Permitting processes can take more time; Property owners may not be able to do exactly what they want with their buildings;	Community displacement; Inconsistent funding; Conflicts with commercial growth and artistic goals; Space affordability; Cost of infrastructure; Changing market demands

POTENTIAL IMPLEMENTATION STEPS:

Phase 1: Initial Assessment

1. Assemble Team: Create a stakeholder group consisting of technical experts and interested community members.
2. Inventory: Conduct a historic, arts, and cultural inventory of potential assets.
3. Other Programs: Research state and federal programs.
4. Initial Evaluation Study: Assess the viability of the district, including potential economic benefits, costs, and challenges.
5. Identify potential funding sources: % for Arts Programs, grants, partnerships, sponsorships, or contributions.
6. Zoning Review: Review existing zoning to identify potential challenges.
7. Committee and Council Review: Review findings with City Committees and Council.

Phase 2: Formulation of Program (if Approved by City Council)

8. Community Engagement Plan: Create a formal plan to involve the community at every step.
9. Partnership Development: Build connections with local businesses, cultural institutions, and funding sources.
10. Adopt Program: Prepare resolution adopting a program with potential zoning ordinance changes.
11. Marketing Rollout: Develop a timeline for branding and promotional campaigns, targeting locals and tourists alike.
12. Official Designation: Apply for recognition as a Historic, Arts, or Creative District from relevant state or national organizations.

Phase 3: On-Going Program Management

13. Establish a board, bylaws, and other management functions.
14. Adopt vision, mission and objectives.
15. Adopt implementation strategy and work plan.
16. Execute work plan.

PROJECT BUDGET:

2025 city budget contains \$20,000 for consultant support.

STAKEHOLDERS:

For the Downtown Initiative to be successful it is important to capture many different perspectives from the community. To ensure a comprehensive and inclusive assessment of what is needed to create a historic or creative arts district, a 7–10-member stakeholder group should be formed that includes representatives from the following groups or interests:

- City Council representative
- Stanwood Camano Arts Advocacy Commission
- Stanwood Historical Society
- Stanwood Commerce Alliance
- Stanwood Camano Chamber of Commerce
- Local Artists
- Stillaguamish Tribe Representative
- Stanwood – Camano School District and/or Youth Representative
- Local Architect, Realtor, and/or Other Business Representative

RESOURCES:

Stanwood: Destiny by Design

Stanwood 2024-2044 Comprehensive Plan

Washington State Department of Archaeology and Historic Preservation

Arts WA – Creative Districts

EXAMPLES OF OTHER PROGRAMS:

Port Townsend Creative District



History and Background: Port Townsend’s Creative District was established in May 2020, as part of Washington State’s Certified Creative Districts Program. Port Townsend has long been a haven for creatives, artisans, and performers. The Creative District designation formally recognized this cultural richness and aimed to support its growth by fostering economic development, attracting tourism, and nurturing a vibrant, sustainable community for arts and indentureship.

Boundaries and Key Areas: The Creative District stretches from the historic downtown and waterfront areas of Port Townsend, as well as parts of the uptown district. This area encompasses numerous galleries, theaters, music venues, artist studios and workshops. Major landmarks include the Northwest Maritime Center, the Port Townsend Marine Science Center and the iconic Rose Theater.

Benefits and Impact: The Creative District has boosted local businesses by attracting more tourists invested in arts and culture, contributing to a strong economy. Artists and cultural organizations have received more support and exposure fostering a sense of community pride and making Port Townsend a more attractive place to live and work for creative professionals. The district has also helped preserve Port Townsend’s historic buildings by increasing the funding and awareness for their maintenance, helping maintain the town’s unique character.

Drawbacks and Considerations: Some possible concerns associated with any Creative District include rising costs, seasonal dependence, and resource strain. The district’s economy is heavily reliant upon tourism, and the influx of visitors during certain times of years may put a strain on local infrastructure, from parking to transportation. Increased property values and rent may also displace some of the residents.

Additional Resources: [Port Townsend Creative District Webpage](#), [Creative District Communities Webpage](#).

Twisp Creative District



History and Background: Twisp is a small rural town that is home to 1,100 people. Located in the scenic Methow Valley, Twisp is known for its beautiful landscapes and close-knit community. Artistic offerings are plentiful and are rapidly growing. The Creative District was established in 2020 to strengthen the town's creative industries and artists, strengthen the local economy and honor the cultural diversity and heritage of the region. Twisp draws a variety of visitors and artists to its unique community and offers a range of music, festivals, exhibits, arts classes, artists' studios, art walks, makers spaces and more.

Boundaries and Key Areas: The Twisp Creative District encompasses much of the town's core including popular spots like the Methow Valley Interpretive Center, the Confluence Gallery and the Methow Valley Theater. It also includes outdoor public art spaces and community hubs where artists and artisans frequently gather.

Benefits and Impact: The Creative District has created new opportunities for local artists. The area has also become a magnet for cultural tourism, increasing foot traffic for local businesses such as shops, galleries and cafes. The district fosters a sense of community by providing venues and funding for various events and art installations.

Drawbacks and Considerations: Some possible concerns associated with any Creative District include rising costs, seasonal dependence, and resource strain.

Additional Resources: [Creative District Communities Webpage](#), [Methow Arts Webpage](#)

Anacortes Creative District



History and Background: Anacortes, known for its maritime heritage and natural beauty was designated a Creative District in 2022 as part of Washington State’s effort to support cultural and economic growth in smaller communities. Anacortes has a rich history of artistry and craftsmanship with roots in fishing, shipbuilding, and fine arts.

Boundaries and Key Areas: The Anacortes Creative District is the core downtown area of Anacortes that is known as “Old Town,” which is primarily retail and commercial businesses along the main throughfare of Commercial Avenue. Popular sites within the district includes the Depot Arts Center, Anacortes Library, numerous museums, Croatian Cultural Center, bookstores, retail shops, maritime industry businesses and restaurants. It is home to Friday art walks, annual festivals, free outdoor concerts, annual festivals, and events.

Benefits and Impact: Local visitors are drawn to the city’s unique blend of arts, history and natural scenery. The district offers more visibility for local artists. Anacortes’ cultural festivals, performances and gallery events have also grown, bringing people together, increasing tourism and fostering a stronger sense of community identity.

Drawbacks and Considerations: Some possible concerns associated with any Creative District include rising costs, seasonal dependence, and resource strain.

Additional Resources: [Anacortes Creative District Webpage](#), [Creative District Communities Webpage](#)

OTHER PROGRAMS TO CONSIDER:

Arlington, Edmonds, Ellensburg, La Conner (not a formal Creative Arts District), and Langley.

November & December 2024 Business Licenses

City Businesses	Doing Business As	Business Description	Location	Number of Employees	Status
NORTHWEST HEALTH & HEALING, PLLC	NORTHWEST HEALTH & HEALING	I AM A LICENSED NURSE PRACTITIONER WHO IS A 1099 CONTRACTOR. I BILL HOURLY FOR MY SERVICES.	7202 267TH ST NW, STE 104	1	Approved
STANWOOD WELLNESS CLINIC, LLC	STANWOOD WELLNESS CLINIC, LLC	Medical Consultant.	27016 102ND AVE NW	1	Pending Information
STANWOOD WELLNESS CLINIC, LLC	OPTIMAL HRT AND WEIGHT LOSS	Medical Consultant.	27016 102ND AVE NW	1	Approved
ABUNDANT LIFE AFH LLC	* ABUNDANT LIFE ADULT FAMILY HOME LLC	ADULT FAMILY HOME SERVICES	28404 74TH DR NW	0	Pending Information
HOUSE OF RENAISSANCE NAILS AND BOTANICA LLC	HOUSE OF RENAISSANCE NAILS AND BOTANICA	I PROVIDE MANICURIST SERVICES INCLUDING NAIL ENHANCEMENTS AND PEDICURES	7208 267TH ST NE, STE 104	0	Pending Information
NO MEAT FACTORY USA INC.	NO MEAT FACTORY USA INC.	Food Processor.	10120 269TH PL NW	28	Approved
ARTHRO THERAPEUTICS, INC.	JOINT ACADEMY	3rd Party Administrator, Management Company.	9612 270TH ST NW, STE 103	10	Pending Information
CHAPINES INVESTMENTS, LLC	CHAPINES INVESTMENTS, LLC	Restaurant.	7009 265TH ST NW, STE 103	7	Approved
DAVIDSON, EMILY	LUMINOUS ESTHETICS	WAXING, FACIALS, EYELASH EXTENTIONS. SELLING RETAIL BEAUTY PRODUCTS.	27500 102ND AVE NW, STE 4	1	Approved
Total Employees:				49	

Home Occupations	Doing Business As	Business Description	Location	Number of Employees	Status
GRID HITS LLC	GRID HITS LLC	Hobby, Toy, and Game Retailers, Trading Cards. <u>ONLINE RETAIL</u>	N/A	2	Approved
KATE WEBER LLC	CREATE HER WITH KATE	Yoga Instructor, Nutrition Counseling, Reiki. WILL BE PROVIDING ONLINE SERVICES TO BEGIN WITH THE OPTION OF BEING IN PERSON FOR YOGA, REIKI, AYURVEDA	N/A	1	Approved
THE FDCTS GROUP, L.L.C.	FDCTS	Internet Advertising, Internet Marketing, Consultant, Writer, Artist.	N/A	0	Approved
AMRIT TRANSPORT LLC	AMRIT TRANSPORT LLC	Transportation, Freight.	N/A	3	Approved
Total Employees:				6	

Non-Profit	Doing Business As	Business Description	Location	Number of Employees	Status
SEATTLE CHILDREN'S HOSPITAL	SEATTLE CHILDREN'S HOME CARE SERVICES	PEDIATRIC HOME HEALTH MEDICAL SERVICES	N/A	5	Approved
YOUNG MINDS CHESS FOUNDATION	YOUNG MINDS CHESS FOUNDATION	ONLINE CHESS INSTRUCTION.	N/A	1	Approved
Total Employees:				6	

Non-City	Doing Business As	Business Description	Location	Number of Employees	Status
HIGH POINT GUTTER, LLC	HIGH POINT GUTTER, LLC	GUTTER CLEANING, MAINTENANCE, INSTALL, ROOF BLOW OFF, ZINC POWDER TREATMENT	N/A	1	Approved
SUCK IT UP GUTTER SERVICES LLC	SUCK IT UP GUTTER SERVICES LLC	Cleaning Service, Gutter Cleaning, Roof Cleaning, Yard Cleaning, Pressure Washing.	N/A	1	Pending Information
WASHINGTON WATER HEATERS, INC.	WASHINGTON WATER HEATERS	sales & services	N/A	0	Approved
ERDMANN, TIA	HAPPY-HEARTS-HORSEMANSHIP	Horse Trainer, Horse Riding Instructor.	N/A	0	Approved
SME SOLUTIONS, LLC	SME SOLUTIONS, LLC	INSTALLATION, REPAIR, AND MAINTENANCE OF FUEL SYSTEMS. 3/1/07 SRVC PETROLEUM EQUIPMENT SERVICE.	N/A	6	Approved
BERNSTEIN, DEBORAH H	DEBORAH BERNSTEIN	SCHOOL PSYCHOLOGICAL SERVICES	N/A	1	Approved
12TH VAN SERVICES LLC	12TH VAN CARPET CLEANING	Carpet Cleaner.	N/A	0	Pending Information
RUSSELL, VICTORIA LEE	YOU ARE ZEN YOGA	Yoga Instructor.	N/A	1	Approved
TAYLOR JR, DOYLE WAYNE	A&D MECHANICAL	SERVICESINSTALL HVAC	N/A	2	Approved
COAST DEVELOPMENT CO. LLC	COAST DEVELOPMENT CO. LLC	GENERAL CONTRACTING	N/A	4	Approved
CARL'S CUSTOM WOODWORK LLC	CARL'S CUSTOM WOODWORK	Woodworking.	N/A	2	Approved
SEPTIC SOLUTIONS LLC	SEPTIC SOLUTIONS LLC	Septic Tank Pumping, Septic Tank Design, Septic Systems, Design, Septic Tank Installation, Septic Tank Services.	N/A	2	Approved
TRADEWORKS NW, INC.	TRADEWORKS NW, INC.	Plumbing - Install, Repair, Heating, Ventilation and Air Conditioning, HVAC, Electrician.	N/A	2	Approved
WALTON BEVERAGE CO.	WALTON BEVERAGE CO.	WHOLESALE SALES & DELIBERY OF SOFT DRINKS WATER JUICES	N/A	1	Approved
ROLLING FRITO-LAY SALES, LP	ROLLING FRITO-LAY SALES, LP	WHOLESALE TRADE AND DISTRIBUTION	N/A	0	Pending Information
CONTRACTING SERVICES LLC	CONTRACTING SERVICES LLC	Framing - Construction, Tile Setting, Building Repair, Building Restoration and Preservation, Wood Floor Laying.	N/A	0	Approved
PACIFIC NORTHWEST WINDOW AND DOOR LLC	ECOVIEV WINDOWS AND DOORS	Contractor, Construction.	N/A	3	Approved
KBP NORTHWEST LLC	FRONTIER BUILDING SUPPLY	Building material products distribution	N/A	1	Approved
IRON STAR WELDING INC.	IRON STAR WELDING INC.	STRUCTURAL STEEL PRODUCTS: BEAMS, COLUMNS, HANDRAILS, STAIRS AND MISCELLANOUS WELDING	N/A	5	Approved
PERMACOLD ENGINEERING, INC.	PERMACOLD ENGINEERING	INDUSTRIAL REFRIGATION CONTRACTING	N/A	4	Approved
JOSEPH T. RYERSON & SON, INC.	JOSEPH T. RYERSON & SON, INC.	Metals - Construction, Wholesale Distributing.	N/A	1	Approved
COLEMAN, VERONICA NICOLE	BELONG	Boutique.	N/A	0	Approved
KIMLEY-HORN AND ASSOCIATES, INC.	KIMLEY-HORN AND ASSOCIATES, INC.	541330	N/A	10	Approved

CUNDY GENERAL CONTRACTING LLC	CUNDY GENERAL CONTRACTING LLC	Contractor, Construction, Construction.	N/A	3	Approved
ENVIRONMENT CONTROL OF NORTH SEATTLE, INC.	ENVIRONMENT CONTROL OF NORTH SEATTLE, INC.	COMMERCIAL JANITORIAL SERVICES	N/A	5	Approved
GROOMING GARAGE LLC	GROOMING GARAGE LLC	Dog Kennel, Grooming.	N/A	1	Approved
TRI-VIN IMPORTS, INC.	TRI-VIN IMPORTS	WILL SELL IMPORTED WINES TO LICENSED WASHINGTON STATE DISTRIBUTORS	N/A	1	Approved
K & D MECHANICAL, INC.	K & D MECHANICAL, INC.	HVAC SPECIALTY CONTRACTOR	N/A	4	Approved
TRADEMARK PLUMBING LLC	TRADEMARK PLUMBING LLC	PLUMBING SERVICES: COMMERCIAL AND RESIDENTIAL	N/A	10	Approved
BGC INVESTMENTS, LLC	BGC INVESTMENTS, LLC	Real Estate Investment.	N/A	1	Approved
HAWAIIAN CONSTRUCTION LLC	HAWAIIAN CONSTRUCTION LLC	GENERAL CONTRACTOR	N/A	4	Approved
NIGRO, PETER J	SEVEN LAKES HAULING	CONSTRUCTION DEBRIS REMOVAL AND HAULING	N/A	0	Pending Information
EVERGREEN COMMUNITY & SUPPORT SERVICES LLC	EVERGREEN COMMUNITY & SUPPORT SERVICES	DDA CONTRACTED PROVIDER	N/A	3	Approved
			Total Employees:	79	

Temporary Merchant	Doing Business As	Business Description	Location	Number of Employees	Status
Edward Jones	Edward Jones - Johnny Matkins	Financial Advising for Saving/Investing	N/A	1	Approved
			Total Employees:	1	

