

CANCELLATION NOTICE OF ALL FATHOMS O' FUN FESTIVAL'S FALL FOLLIES EVENTS: 3-Day Fall Follies Craft & Vendor Show Fathoms Annual Grand Parade Seagull Splat 5K Run/Walk

Today, on 8/12, the Fathoms O' Fun Festival Chair received a phone call from the Mayor of Port Orchard advising that no special event permits were being issued for any event request through Labor Day due to the following recommendation from the Port Orchard Police Chief as stated below.

As a public safety official, it is my responsibility to make recommendations that include all aspects of public safety with information known to me at the time. I cannot recommend the City support gatherings of this size for two reasons.

- 1. The Police Department is currently operating at a 20% staffing deficit even without considering those on leave or out with a health issue. Permitting a large event, that requires an appropriate response from the police department, risks a catastrophic loss of staffing that would place the safety of the public at risk.
- 2. Kitsap County is currently above the CDC defined threshold for "high transmission." A large crowd, with persons in close proximity to each other, is an invitation to continue the spread. It would be irresponsible of me to recommend approving an event knowing it could place the health and safety of the public at risk.

We will look forward to next year!!

Regards, Sharron King Fathoms O' Fun Festival Chair