

From: Council
Sent: Monday, November 09, 2009 5:47 PM
To: 'eric@edickman.com'
Subject: RE: Burien Little Theatre as part of movie complex

Thank you for your message to the Burien City Council. Please excuse the delay in responding; staff was not available to do so.

Your message will be forwarded to the Councilmembers and included in the Correspondence for the Record for an upcoming Council meeting.

L. Clausen
City Manager's Office

-----Original Message-----

From: Eric Dickman [mailto:eric@edickman.com]
Sent: Friday, November 06, 2009 12:01 PM
To: Council
Subject: Re: Burien Little Theatre as part of movie complex

Dear Council,

Recently the B-Town Blog carried a story about the Council's November 2, 2009, meeting in which there was a discussion about the possibility of a movie theater complex in Burien. Burien Little Theatre and how it might possibly fit into such a complex was mentioned at that meeting and in the article on the B-Town Blog. Thank you for keeping Burien Little Theatre in mind.

In response to the article on the B-Town Blog I submitted the following post, which I would like to share with you:

Burien Little Theatre currently presents 19 weekends of live theater programming a year. BLT knows from questionnaire responses that a large portion of its audience go to local restaurants before or after the shows. BLT has also joined with a local restaurant to provide an evening of dinner and a show at a package rate.

BLT also knows that a majority of its online ticket sales come from outside the Burien area. The bulk of those patrons are from Seattle, Bellevue/Kirkland and Kent/Renton, but patrons also come from up and down the I-5 corridor between Vancouver, B.C. and Portland. With a more modern mid-sized dedicated performing arts space Burien could well be a place airline passengers could spend a pleasant evening before the next day's flight.

Studies throughout King County and elsewhere show that arts patrons spend more money than sports patrons when they go to an event. Arts patrons rarely have dinner at the event (no hot dogs or pizza at a play). Instead, they eat at a restaurant close to the arts event so they are not caught in traffic and miss the beginning of the event.

CFTR: 11/23/09

10 While BLT has been in what is now the community center for 29 seasons, BLT would be happy to be included in discussions about a theater space in or around Town Square.

Eric Dickman
Artistic Director for Burien Little Theatre