



Burien

Washington, USA

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MEMORANDUM

TO: Honorable Mayor and Members of the City Council
FROM: Mike Martin, City Manager
DATE: April 5, 2010
SUBJECT: City Manager's Report

I. INTERNAL CITY INFORMATION

A. Burien Masonry Award (Pg. 83)

On March 18, 2010 more than 20 projects were honored at the 2010 Masonry Institute of Washington Excellence Awards in Masonry Design for outstanding work in masonry building design and construction. Projects were submitted by architects and mason contractors from around the state.

Award categories included commercial, residential, educational, institutional, restoration, weatherproofing and unique use. Honor awards were given to the top winners in each category, and merit awards were given to the runners-up. 3 of the winning projects are located in Burien.

- **Burien Library and City Hall** earned an honor award in the Commercial: Government category. The exterior is designed to expose the programs and internal activities to passersby and to complement activities in the adjacent 1-acre park. The project, designed by Ruffcorn Mott Hinthorne Stine, opened in fall of 2009 and is on target to achieve silver LEED certification. (See attached announcement.)
- **Cedarhurst Elementary** in Burien earned an honor award in the Education: K-12 category. The building, designed by TCF Architecture, opened in 2008.
- **A Three Tree Point Residence** earned a merit award in the Residential: Single Family category.

B. Burien Hosts American Planning Association

On March 19th, we hosted the Washington Chapter of the American Planning Association's quarterly board meeting (led by Chapter President and Burien Community Development Director Scott Greenberg), and Communications Committee Retreat (attended by Assistant Planner Liz Ockwell). The meetings were attended by planners from as far away as Kennewick and Spokane. Both groups enjoyed our accommodations and local refreshments from Burien businesses.

C. Proposed Biennial Budget Calendar for 2011-2012 (Pg. 85)

Attached is the proposed 2011-2012 Biennial Budget calendar. Please note that there is flexibility and time built into the calendar so that Council has the option of taking more time to review certain items or make final decisions.

D. Sound Shake 2010 the Aftershock

On March 16, 2010, "Sound Shake 2010 the Aftershock" series was kicked off with a Post Disaster Building Official Workshop held at the King County ECC in Renton. The purpose of this series is to identify what minimum resources are needed and are implemented after a disaster. This meeting targeted Building Officials, Building Inspectors, Plans Examiners, Fire Officials, and Emergency staff from the University of Washington and State government.

A major concern which came to light is the lack of interlocal agreements and resources available to the local governments necessary to perform Rapid Assessments of Buildings after an event which impacts the ability to get businesses up and running more quickly.

A series of meetings and drills are planned throughout the year with the next meeting titled, "Post-Disaster Housing Seminar" being held March 24 at the Criminal Justice Training Center in Burien.

E. Staff Attends Cascade Land Conservancy Meeting

Planning staff attended the Cascade Land Conservancy (CLC) City Leaders Meeting in downtown Seattle on March 18th. We heard about CLC efforts to begin a new program to connect Transfer of Development Rights with Tax Increment Financing to help pay for growth. The agenda also included discussion on market acceptance and economic viability of city growth with several economic consultants.

F. City Staff Work on Future Transportation Plans

Burien's Public Works and Government Relations staff have been working on providing comments related to the SR 518 Route Development Plan amendment for the DMMD interchange, and concerning the draft new Regional Transportation Plan known as Transportation 2040.

Burien hosted a meeting on March 25 with staff from the Washington State Department of Transportation (WSDOT), Port of Seattle and City of SeaTac to review the various comments on the RDP amendment. Based on the City's comments from the meeting WSDOT staff will revise the draft RDP amendment in the next month. A presentation to Council may be scheduled in early May.

G. Puget Sound Regional Council Executive Board Meeting – March 25

An effort to change the draft Transportation 2040 Plan with potentially burdensome requirements for cities did not succeed at the Puget Sound Regional Council's Executive Board meeting on March 25, thanks in part to Burien staff. The staff provided input on the possible effects of the proposed requirements to the Board members who represent the Suburban Cities of King County. Those members raised concerns at the Board meeting and the Board declined to approve the proposal. The Plan will come before the Regional Council's General Assembly for action by all member jurisdictions in May.

H. Washington State Recreation and Conservation Office (RCO) Site Visits

Staff from the RCO met with Parks staff and toured Mathison and Seahurst Parks on March 17 for a project closeout inspection related to the \$550,000 park improvement project completed at Mathison Park in February. This project involved a \$210,000 grant from the Washington Wildlife and Recreation Fund grant program towards design and construction, and the inspection is the last step before reimbursement and project close.

RCO staff were very pleased with the project design and quality of construction, especially the attention to details related to accessibility for all users. They plan to highlight the Mathison Park improvements as a model project in their future publications.

The purpose of the Seahurst visit was to introduce new RCO staff to the project. It also gave City staff the opportunity to describe the scope of the project on-site, which is invaluable for a full understanding of what the City is trying to accomplish at the park. In the next grant funding cycle for 2010, Parks staff will be applying for an additional \$1-1.5 million in funding from several grant programs administered by RCO.

I. Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) Site Visit

Representatives from FEMA met with Parks and Public Works staff to tour the Seahurst Park slide repair project on March 18. The purpose of the visit was for final project inspection and closeout for the Seahurst service road and trail repair. This work was to repair damages which resulted from the January 2009 winter storm event. Inspectors were very pleased with the work performed, and the City has been reimbursed for the majority of the project costs.

J. City of Burien Arbor Day

Burien Parks, Recreation and Cultural Services (PaRCS) will be celebrating Arbor Day at 11am on Tuesday, April 13 at Mathison Park, following the park dedication at 10am. A Mayoral Proclamation regarding the City's recognition of Arbor Day is also planned. Staff and volunteers will be planting a ceremonial, native vine maple tree in honor of Arbor Day. With the combination of the Arbor Day and Park Dedication ceremonies, staff expect to have in attendance representatives from the Recreation and Conservation Office, King County Youth Sports and Facilities Grant program, and the State of Washington's Urban Forestry program.

K. Burien Census Wrapping Up

The majority of field work for our North Burien Census will be wrapped up by Friday (April 2nd). As of March 30th, we have good resident counts for approximately 5,450 households and only 150 households remain uncounted. The census workers will try for a 5th or 6th time to reach out to those remaining households. To recap the highlights of the project, field work began on March 12th, with 25 part-time enumerators in the field. Each and every household must be contacted and the goal is to obtain the names of all the home's occupants. Richard Miller, our contractor, reported that the work has gone smoothly and this is his company's first census (out of many) without a single naked person coming to the door.

L. Building Staff Attend Code Update Classes

Last week some of the Building Department Staff attended Building, Residential and Plumbing Code update classes to begin to become familiar with the changes in the 2009 construction codes which go into effect July 1, 2010. Every three years, the State adopts the most current version of the International Building, Residential, Mechanical, and Fuel Gas Codes, Uniform Plumbing Code, and Washington State Energy Code along with State amendments to these codes. Local jurisdictions are required to begin applying the new codes on July 1. Multiple training opportunities will be provided through the spring so all inspection staff gets the opportunity to get the training needed to update our handouts and provide our builders with information on the upcoming changes.

M. King County Animal Control Services

City staff has been participating in a series of regional meetings regarding the future of Animal Control Services in King County. On April 7, the City will receive an agreement in principle for a regional animal services model to include services, service levels, and cost and revenue allocation that would form the basis of a new contract between cities and the County starting July 1. The City will need to decide by April 30 if they would like to participate in this new model. As part of this process, all cities that now contract with the County for animal control services will receive a contract termination notice from the County this week. If a new contract is not signed by June 30th, King County will no longer be providing animal service and the current contracts will terminate on that date. A discussion on King County Animal Control Services has been placed on the April 12 Burien City Council meeting agenda.

II. COUNCIL UPDATES/REPORTS

A. Foreclosures in Burien

Councilmember Clark asked staff for an update on foreclosure activity in Burien. According to RealtyTrac.com, 440 foreclosures have taken place in Burien during the last 12 months. With 7,803 households in the data bank, this means 1 in every 18 Burien households has been subject to foreclosure in the past year. During the same time period, the median home price here has decreased by 14.98% to \$278,071. This compares to King County's 15.71% drop in median value to \$352,440. In SeaTac, the median price is down 20.53% to \$222,402 and 1 in 9 households has been subject to foreclosure in the last 12 months. The national foreclosure rate is 1 in every 10 households.

B. January 2010 Sales Tax Detail & Sales Tax Revenue by Category (Pg. 89)

Staff has provided Council with the above referenced reports (attached).