



Burien

Washington, USA

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MEMORANDUM

TO: Honorable Mayor and Members of the City Council
FROM: Mike Martin, City Manager
DATE: April 26, 2010
SUBJECT: City Manager's Report

I. INTERNAL CITY INFORMATION

A. Letter of Intent Prepared for Communities Putting Prevention to Work Grant (Pg. 55)

Per the Council's prior direction, staff have completed and submitted the attached Letter of Intent for the County Health Department's "Communities Putting Prevention to Work" grant. Due to the ongoing and substantive nature of the program and its future impact on the City's Work Program, it is my intent to seek the Council's concurrence that the City should participate in this effort if it were to receive this funding.

B. Emergency Management Radio Spots

New emergency management radio spots are now being broadcast over the City's radio station (540 am). We're using a professional broadcaster to voice the radio spots, made available to the City for free as part of our membership in the American Association of Information Radio Operators (AAIRO). We're currently having a script recorded that would be used in the event of an earthquake. The recording will be on a separate flash drive that can be plugged into the radio station apparatus at the old Community Center. Another recording, on a separate flash drive, will be available in the event of large, damaging storms. Steve Botkin, our communications contractor, is working on the emergency communications projects as part of a grant the City has received for Emergency Management.

C. Contracts Over \$25,000 Signed by City

The City has recently signed the following contracts for 2010 that are over \$25,000:

- Calm River for \$82,217 for the Special Census of the North Burien annexation area.
- KPG, Inc. for \$148,815 for 1st Ave. S., Phase 1 design services for construction completion.
- King County Water & Land Resources for \$61,813 for 2010 Miller and Walker Creeks Basin Stewardship Technical Assistance.
- Microflex for \$74,354 for 2010 Business Licenses, B & O Tax, Sales Tax, and Utility Tax Auditing Services.

D. City Recognition Program

As part of the City's continuing Good2Great program, the intra-department Recognition Committee rolled out the City's Recognition Program at the February All Staff Meeting. The Recognition Program is comprised of two award programs, the Daily Slog Award and the Innovative Stewards Award.

In keeping with its definition (Slog: 1. to plod one's way perseveringly especially against difficulty; 2. to work hard and steadily), the purpose of the Daily Slog Award is to recognize employees who have gracefully handled a difficult situation in the course of their normal day-to-day responsibilities. Any employee may recognize any other employee at anytime. During the first month of the program, 45 Slog Awards were granted. Then, at the monthly All-Staff Meeting, the names of all the Slog Award winners were put into a drawing for a \$25 gift certificate. David Johanson, recognized for his numerous number of night meetings due to the Planning Commission's review of the Shoreline Master Plan, received the first gift certificate.

The second component of the Recognition Program, the Innovative Stewards Award (the Innie) is a biannual award presented to a team of employees who best exemplify outstanding productivity, problem-solving, improved service, significant dollar savings, or other achievement in public service. Award winners will be announced at the annual Employee Appreciation Event and the Holiday Party.

We will provide an update on the Employee Recognition Program via the CM Report on an on-going basis.

E. Hiring Processes

The City of Burien has been doing its part to stimulate the economy by recruiting for the following positions since mid-March:

- Maintenance Worker III (2 positions)
- Maintenance Worker II (2 positions)
- Maintenance Assistants (2 seasonal positions)
- Facility Attendant (3 part-time, intermittent positions)
- Accountant (1 position)
- Day Camp Staff (7 seasonal positions)
- Finance Director (1 position)

A number of qualified applicants have submitted applications and staff is either in the process of reviewing applications, interviewing candidates, performing background checks, or negotiating job offers for these positions. We hope to have all of these positions filled by the end of May.

F. New Restaurant to Open by End of April

Piranha Joe's restaurant located at 180 SW 148th Street received its final inspection from the Building department and will be opening by the end of April. They plan to provide Dinner service only for the first couple of weeks.

G. New Burien Business Opening Soon

Pyramids, a new private club opening at 153 SW 153rd Street, will be the first hookah bar to be located in Burien. A hookah bar is an establishment where patrons share flavored tobacco from a communal hookah pipe which is placed at each table.

H. Evergreen HS3 Mock Interviews

Human Resources Manager Angie Chaufy recently participated in mock job interviews for seniors enrolled in Evergreen's Health Sciences & Human Services High School. Students presented their resumes and were interviewed for the position of their choice. After the interview, interviewers were asked to provide feedback to the students. The coaching often resulted in a student realizing their hidden potential as they were encouraged to use their high school activities and interests as an example of desirable work traits (i.e. - participation on the basketball team demonstrates discipline, commitment, and a willingness to work hard to achieve a goal). In a follow-up thank-you note, one of the students wrote, "I think your advice on leadership and working hard, putting in the extra work was very helpful for me. Thank you for taking your time out of your day to interview us."

I. City Receives AWC 2010 Well City Award of Commitment

The City of Burien was recently notified that it has been awarded the 2010 AWC WellCity Award of Commitment. This award is given to cities that demonstrate best practices in employee health promotion. A minimum number of points must be earned in each of the nine WellCity Award Standards to receive the award.

The Wellness Program is intended to address escalating health care costs through helping employees improve their health by reducing health risks. In addition, such programs help employers reduce workers' comp claims, decrease absenteeism, achieve wiser employee use of health care resources, and improve productivity. Beginning in 2011, the AWC Employee Benefit Trust will provide a financial reward to members with outstanding wellness programs. Trust members that receive the 2011 WellCity Award will receive a 2% premium discount on Regence BlueShield/Asuris Northwest Health employee and spouse premiums. The discount will be applied to the following year's premium.

J. Transportation Projects on Hold

Second Round of American Recovery & Reinvestment Act (ARRA) funding for the Jobs bill has hit a snag. The Jobs bill was signed, however, funding for transportation-related projects was left out of the bill. This means that the Ambaum Overlay Project with ARRA funds more than likely will not be used this construction season.

K. Purchase of Public Works Vehicles

The Public Works department purchased vehicles to support the expanding maintenance responsibilities of the City. The vehicles include two new Chevrolet one-ton trucks, a 1999 Ford F-250, a used 5-yard dump truck with plowing and sanding attachments, and a trailer. The fleet will also include a leased backhoe. The trucks are at the shop for the installation of lights, racks, and utilities boxes.

L. North Burien Census Approved by State (Pg. 63)

On April 15, 2010 the Washington Office of Financial Management (OFM) officially approved the 14,292 new residents in Burien. In all, the Census visited 5,529 housing units, to count each and every new resident in the North Burien area. Of the 5,529 units, 393 were vacant for an overall vacancy rate of seven percent (7%). The attached graphs chart population density, type of housing units and vacancy rates in North Burien.

II. COUNCIL UPDATES/REPORTS

A. City Receives Congratulatory Letter from Judge Barbara Linde (Pg. 71)

Attached is a letter the City received from King County District Court Chief Presiding Judge Barbara Linde congratulating Burien on its successful annexation.

B. City Receives Letter Inviting Comments on New Fire Station Headquarters (Pg. 72)

Attached is a letter from King County Fire District #2 inviting public comment or written comments on their planned new Fire Station Headquarters.

C. Thank You Letter to Dane Johnson & Kathy Justin (Pg. 73)

Attached is a thank you letter sent to Dane Johnson & Kathy Justin both to thank them for their recent gift of framed posters of events at the B/IAS project, as well as to acknowledge the significant contribution they made to our community.

D. Congressman Smith Speaks at Chamber of Commerce

U.S Representative Adam Smith addressed the monthly meeting of the Southwest King County Chamber of Commerce on April 9. Deputy Mayor Rose Clark and staff joined representatives of other local governments and dozens of businesses in the southwest King County region to hear the 9th District Congressman speak. His topics ranged from the economy to health care to global stability and the wars in Iraq and Afghanistan.

E. Crime Rates in Unincorporated North Highline

In response to questions from Council, Chief Kimerer has been able to capture the crime breakdown in the remaining (post annexation) North Highline area. The recognized standard for determining crime rates is broken down into types of crime per thousand populations. This standard then provides a proportional look at crime in a city regardless of size, taking into account that bigger cities have more resources available to deal with crime issues. The numbers provided by Seattle in the Times article were not accurate, but not grossly overstated either. The corrected crime numbers reported in 2009 specifically in the remaining North Highline area are:

Auto Thefts-229
Res. Burglaries-200
Rapes-11 (includes DV)

The Major Crime index for North Highline is broken down to a Violent Crime rate of 41 and a Property Crime rate of 54 for an overall crime index of 46 per thousand. Seattle's Major Crime index is 66 per thousand.

This is all simple math based on reported crimes and an estimated remaining population of 18,000 residents in North Highline. The reported crime numbers may also be off by one or two based on the cross-over of district boundaries into Burien's annexation area. The Seattle numbers are from their website. All that said, these numbers are about as accurate as we can get.

In summary, North Highline has an overall Major Crime rate that is 20 per thousand lower than Seattle. In addition, calculating the Violent and Property Crime rate in North Highline over the last 4 years in North Highline:

Violent Crime has decreased by 29%
Property Crime has decreased by 31%

Burien also has an overall lower Major Crime rate (55) than the City of Seattle (66). In 2009, the Seattle Violent Crime rate *increased* by 12% with Burien *decreasing* by 3%. The Seattle Property Crime rate *increased* by 7% while Burien *increased* by 6%.

The exceptional deputies and detectives in the Sheriff's Office and working for the City of Burien define service not by staffing levels, instead it is accomplished by work ethic and dedication to the communities they serve.

F. Suburban Cities Discuss Animal Control & Other Issues – April 14, 2010

Of several regional issues discussed at the April 14 meeting of the Suburban Cities' Public Issues Committee (PIC), the future of animal control received the most attention. City Councilmember Keene reports that a number of the 25 suburban King County cities at the meeting said they want to see better numbers from the County before they make a decision about whether to join with the County for animal control services.

The County is holding firm to the June 30 shut-down date if there is no agreement. Cities wondered about what would happen if only a few cities choose to do the sub-regional arrangement with the County.

On another matter, Mayor McGilton provided information to the PIC members about legislation that will help with recycling light fixtures or bulbs that contain mercury. She also reported that legislation that did not pass this session would have made it easier to dispose of medicine safely. Currently Burien Bartell Drugs will accept certain medications but will not accept controlled substances. There are no good alternatives for disposing of controlled substances, but for now the best option is to use the garbage.