

# CITY MANAGER WEEKLY UPDATE REPORT ~ KENT MYERS

December 11, 2009

This week I had the opportunity to spend some time with Bruce Carter, Chief Executive Officer of the Greater Victoria Chamber of Commerce to discuss ways we can partner together to promote our communities in the future. He agrees that the Peninsula has some untapped potential to attract additional visitors to our area and offered some very worthwhile suggestions. Later in the week I met with the Southern Vancouver Island Committee of the Peninsula Tourism Commission to discuss specific action steps that we can take during 2010. We will have a written report to provide next month that outline several new initiatives. Also next month I plan on taking a day trip to Victoria along with Karen Gustin of Olympic National Park to promote the City and the Park to various tourism groups and the Victoria press. I am encouraged that key tourism entities in this area are starting to realize the benefit of increasing our visitor attraction efforts across the Strait.

This week I also participated in a meeting with the PenCom Advisory Board to discuss ways we can enhance the financial picture for PenCom in the coming year. As you may recall, it was necessary to use some of the PenCom fund balance in balancing their 2010 budget. Next year we will not have this same amount of fund balance to use so it is critical that we start working on PenCom financial issues now. At the meeting, new and increased user revenues were identified from agencies that utilize Pen Com services that will help improve the financial status over the next several months.

Yesterday the City hosted Kristine Reeves from Senator Murray's office and we were able to update her on a number of important projects that we are working on that may require federal support in the near future. This includes the expansion of ACTI, reopening of Pen Ply, Coho Ferry Terminal project, and the new Waterfront Promenade.

I wanted to remind you that this April we will have the next national Census and it is important that we have an accurate local count since a number of federal programs are based upon a city's population. I am pleased to report that PA Forward has agreed to serve as the Complete Count Committee for this area. Since this committee includes key local organizations such as the City, County, Port, Tribe, Transit, PABA, and PADA they can help us communicate the need for full participation in the Census throughout our community.

Next week I am planning on taking a few days of vacation to visit family in Texas and I will not have a weekly report. However, I will provide you with a final weekly update prior to the Christmas holiday.

**- Kent Myers**