

CITY MANAGER WEEKLY UPDATE REPORT ~ KENT MYERS

June 25, 2010

I have just returned from the Association of Washington Cities Conference in Vancouver so this week's report is rather brief. The Conference went very well with several excellent and very timely topics presented during the workshop sessions. Councilmembers Cherie Kidd and Brad Collins, and I will provide a report on the conference at the next regular Council meeting.

I wanted to mention that I met with Jim Pendowski, the Deputy Director of the Department of Ecology, on my way to Vancouver and he is very supportive of our efforts to clean up and redevelop the Rayonier site. He indicated that State funding is available to support our efforts and the Rayonier site is one of the State's top priorities. I also spoke to him about the recent frustrations we had experienced dealing with his staff on the agreed order and the CSO project and he pledged to get more directly involved in our efforts. He also urged us to move forward on the Ennis Creek restoration and the final plans for this restoration should be released in the next two weeks.

With next Tuesday's work session focused on dealing with the budget challenges facing the City, I wanted to let you know that we are already taking steps to reduce our costs in anticipation of major budget reductions next year. I am preparing a detailed report on steps we have taken this year to reduce our bottom line and this information will be available next week.

In the meantime, I wanted to let you know that I am planning on doing some internal reorganization in my office by relocating the City Clerk into the City Manager's office area. This will improve office coverage, provide opportunities for cross training, reduce costs, and provide a number of other benefits to our operations. Janessa will be moving her office into the conference room adjacent to mine and her former office space will be converted to a public records management area. This is proposed to take place over the next month, so please let me know in the next several days if you have any questions or concerns.

Several Councilmembers enjoyed a presentation by ACTI this week about their expansion plans for the future. These plans will create additional job opportunities for our community. I wanted to let you know that the City and Port are fully engaged in assisting with this expansion effort. The Port recently retained a local engineering firm to design three 25,000 square foot buildings with ACTI proposed for one of the buildings. City staff met with Jeff Robb and his staff several times in the past 30 days to discuss infrastructure needs for the expansion particularly in the area of stormwater improvements.

See you on Tuesday evening for the Council Work Session at 5:00 p.m.

- Kent Myers