

# CITY MANAGER WEEKLY UPDATE REPORT ~ KENT MYERS

October 9, 2009

This week I had the opportunity to participate in a coordination meeting for the design of the Ennis Creek Bridge. This meeting included representatives from the City, Tribe, Harbor-Works, Rayonier, state agencies, and the project engineer. This meeting was intended to begin identifying the location for the new bridge that will accommodate the CSO lines that will extend through the Rayonier property. As we proceed with this project we are attempting to be as inclusive as possible and the attendees offered input that will assist us in making some key decisions regarding the design of this bridge.

I also had the opportunity to participate in a construction project meeting on the Lower Elwha Klallam Tribe's new Heritage Center on Front Street. This project is proceeding very well and should be a real improvement to this area of the City. Tribal officials have indicated that the project should be completed by the end of January 2010.

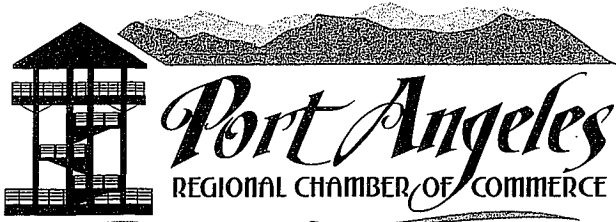
This week Mayor Braun and I met with the new local President for Nippon, Johnny Uchida, as well as their Senior Advisor, David Tamaki. They are pleased with the community support that they have received recently as they continue to work in a very competitive market. We are fortunate to have Nippon as a major employer in our City.

While the past week has been a very busy week, the coming week does not appear to offer much time for rest and relaxation. Please try to participate in some of these meetings and activities including the following:

- Shoreline Master Plan Meeting with the Department of Ecology - Monday at 10 a.m. at the County Courthouse
- AIA Team's Final Report - Open Public Forum - Tuesday at 6 p.m. Council Chambers
- Tourism Summit - Jamestown Tribal Center - Wednesday 8 a.m.
- AWC Regional Meeting in Poulsbo - Thursday at 6 p.m.

I hope that each of you enjoy Crab Festival and have a great weekend!

**- Kent Myers**



121 East Railroad Ave. Port Angeles, Washington 98362  
360-452-2363

*Port Angeles Harbor Works  
Public Development Authority  
Port Angeles, WA. 98362*

*Dear Board of Directors*

*In June of 2007 the Port Angeles Regional Chamber of Commerce put together a list of what we thought were good uses for the Rayonier mill site. During the last two years not much has physically happened on site, but we do agree there has been a lot going on with regard to positioning the community and Rayonier to move forward with the clean up.*

*In our opinion two major accomplishments, which should be celebrated, are the expanded dialogue between all parties involved and the development of the Harbor Works PDA. This entity with excellent representation by local groups will have a better chance to keep the heat on both private and public sectors to encourage this valuable piece of waterfront real estate to once again be a part of the business community. The difficult part the PDA has to accomplish is a thorough due diligence. This will take time which might cause some anxiety by residents, however we believe this process is critical to finding out the best uses for the site which if done correctly will also be the best fit for the community.*

*Of course number one priority is to encourage clean up as soon as possible, but we also understand the complexity of the issues involved. In 2007 we thought the best use for the site was a mixed use of residential, retail, low impact commercial all with the goal of keeping access for the public to the waterfront, the Olympic Discovery Trail and the tribal heritage associated with Ennis Creek. In a recent board discussion this outlook still seems to be very much the focus.*

*The board clearly does not want Rayonier to replace the current downtown shopping and cultural part of town, but looks for decisions made for development to enhance what we have. Having residential units with a mixture of full time, vacation rentals and conference space certainly would help create a critical mass of people that is needed to support an expanded tourism product in the business core of town.*

*Board members also want to leave the door open to discuss light industrial use. With so many businesses and employees looking to leave the high stress life style from major metropolitan areas around the country, the opportunity to move a business or company to this terrific location should not be overlooked.*

*The marine component is brought up a lot in discussions about the Rayonier site. We understand the current pier is not in good shape, so any ship traffic either commercial or cruise oriented would require a major renovation. But it sure seems like a good use.*

*Bottom line is the board believes this site has a great deal of potential, and there are uses we think work for the site that would replace the several hundred jobs lost when Rayonier closed. The most important element is communication between the parties involved with the clean up. There are compromises that need to be made by those passionate about environmental concerns and those just as passionate for major commercial use. The city and the Olympic Peninsula will be a better place when this prime waterfront property is back to full use.*

*Port Angeles Regional Chamber of Commerce  
Board of Directors*

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# The TOGGERY

*Personalized Fashions for Men & Women*

105 East First Street Port Angeles, WA 98362 Phone (360) 457-4303 Fax (360) 457-0138

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OCT 05 2009  
City of Port Angeles TP

October 2, 2009

Chief Terry Gallager  
Port Angeles Police Department  
321 E. 5<sup>th</sup> Street  
Port Angeles, WA 98362

Dear Chief Gallager,

On Sunday morning, September 27, 2009, we were approached by a lady in her car, upset and highly stressed. She was looking for a place to park. She explained she and her son were from out of town and they were on their way to participate in the Sequim Boys and Girls Club Bike Ride, starting point Hollywood Beach. She had been circling downtown for twenty minutes for a place to park and she was now late. Although there were plenty of empty parking spaces there was nowhere for her to park in downtown Port Angeles except for the daily rate 'ferry parking', that rate being from \$6 to \$11 a day. All other lots were 3 hour parking and the street was only two. She explained that most cities have posted free parking on Sundays and holidays. We sent her to the Zaks lot which we were by and told her she would probably be ok for the day as the parking officer does not work on Sunday. She again said it was posted 3 hours, she would be gone all day, she did not want a ticket and it was against the law. She very reluctantly parked there.

At one time I thought downtown had free parking on Sundays and holidays. I might have been wrong or it was changed over the years. Being downtown most everyday you'd think I'd know. I have always thought Sundays and holidays was open parking downtown as well as after 6 pm. This lady showed me I was wrong. I walked and checked all street signs and city parking lots (managed by the PADA). There is no place to park downtown at any time for more than three hours day or night, 24 hours a day, 7 days a week including Sundays and holidays without using the private parking lots for \$6 to \$11 a day.

This truly got me thinking. Unless you park in a pay to park private lot it is not possible to have dinner and a movie downtown. You might have one or the other, but not both. Not enough time. For a movie you must park in a lot not on the street because a movie is often more then 2 hours. If you park on the street to have dinner in one of downtown's restaurants, no wine or appetizers, you only have two hours. It is not possible to spend an evening at the Elks for a dance, a wedding reception, a charity fundraiser, the Chamber Auction, the Juan de Fuca Festival Fall Ball Fundraiser, New Years' Eve and many many more functions held at the Elks. Every one of these would usually take more than 3 hours in the evening. If you stay longer you are in a parking violation.

The Farmer's Market last longer than three hours on both Wednesdays and Saturdays. Vendors cannot park anywhere downtown without paying in "ferry parking" lots or purchasing a parking permit. Now there is talk of a Sunday market in the bus lot (not sure if this will be a reality) but vendors cannot be downtown on Sunday longer than 3 hours, again without paying to park in private lots.

The Chamber works relentlessly getting venues downtown. The Dungeness Crab and Seafood Festival, Jazz in the Olympics, The North Olympic Discovery Marathon, Arts in Action, Music on the Pier, 4<sup>th</sup> of July parade and fireworks and lots more. A lot of these are on Sundays. You cannot park on the street or in a city parking lot and spend hours at one of these events. Often these events involved more than 3 hours or at least the event organizers hope you do. Organizers, volunteers, and vendors have nowhere to park downtown for these events without being in violation of a parking ordinance unless they are in private lots.

You cannot come downtown for the 4<sup>th</sup> of July parade and spend time at the pier for fireworks. It is a holiday but per the posted signs you can only stay 2 or 3 hours depending on where you park or be in violation of a parking ordinance.

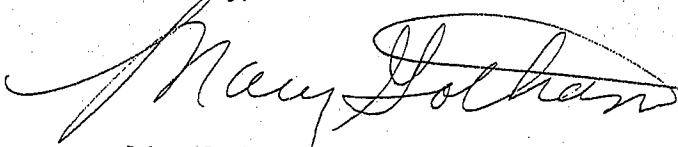
If the law is indeed, free parking on Sundays and holidays then the signs need to be changed. If the law is no more than 3 hours allowed downtown 24 hours a day, 7 days a week then perhaps the law needs to be reexamined. If the law is no parking downtown more than three hours perhaps these events need to be moved out of downtown so all these people are not breaking the law and subject to \$25 parking tickets.

It is a fact that the Port Angeles Police Department is not trolling the downtown streets in the evenings and on Sundays and holidays looking for parking violators. But I'm sure you must agree, the law is the law and needs to be adhered to. If the posted signs are correct, I'd venture to say a lot of people at public events in downtown Port Angeles in the evening, Sundays and holidays are in violation of parking ordinances.

The lady we met on Sunday was trying to do the right lawful thing. Yes she could have paid \$6 to \$11 for all day parking while literally hundreds of parking spaces in public city spaces were empty on Sunday. It might be time to review parking options on Sundays and holidays in downtown as the Chamber spends thousands of dollars enticing visitors to visit our festivals and events. If we have hundreds of empty spaces on Sundays and holidays it might be nice to offer them one.

Your thoughts would be appreciated. [toggery@toggerypa.com](mailto:toggery@toggerypa.com)

Sincerely,



Mary Gotham

c.c. Kent Myers, Port Angeles City Manager  
c.c. Port Angeles Downtown Association  
c.c. Russ Veenema, Chamber Executive Director