



Administrator's Friday Letter

October 23, 2009

1. Ft. Lewis Community Connector "Make a Difference Day"

Several soldiers from the 6th MP Group (CID) were here on Thursday and Friday of this week to take part in Ft. Lewis' Make a Difference Day program for DuPont. Our PW staff has worked over the last few weeks to coordinate and set up for the group of 20 soldiers, who worked this week to spruce up the paint on the arbor at Ross Plaza and the white trim on the front of the Historic Village Community Center. While additional work will be needed at the Community Center to replace some of the building's exterior wood trim (likely next spring), the soldier's efforts this week will help to preserve the building's exterior over the winter months and provide a fresh look for the facility. Thanks to Captain McKenna for her work with City staff to help organize these efforts.

2. Street Access and Parking Restrictions Informational Meetings scheduled

Two informational meetings have been scheduled for Wednesday, October 28th, 2:00 pm and 6:00 pm, to provide opportunities for the Fire Department to discuss the street access and parking issues at various areas in the community. These meetings will provide additional forums to inform residents of the problem areas for emergency vehicle access and the proposed street parking restrictions to mitigate the problems. The meetings have been posted on the City's website, published in the newspaper, and door hangers were also distributed today by our Fire Department in the subject areas. Following the meetings, an update will be brought back to the Council in November.

3. Dialogue with Puget Sound Energy

The Public Works Director met last week with representatives from Puget Sound Energy to follow up on the status of repairs and testing in response to the July 28th area-wide power outage. As was reported by PSE at the August 11th Council meeting, primary repairs of the failed components were completed as part of restoring the power. Testing and review of secondary components has been completed, and additional infrared testing at the substation has been scheduled for November. While all components are currently functioning properly, this additional testing will provide best available technologies to identify and provide early detection of any additional components needing repair or replacement.

4. Tree Board Documents Tree Issues

As an introductory overview of the variety of issues to be faced in an urban forestry program, the Tree Board has begun the process of making photo's documenting different types of forestry/tree issues in DuPont. Tree Board member Kerri McConnell has taken the initiative to begin the creation of an album of photos.

5. Planning Agency

The Glacier NW Fabrication Shop SEPA decision was issued October 23, 2009. The next meeting of the Planning Agency is November 9th. They will discuss the First Park NW Landing Development Agreement at that meeting.

6. McDonalds Building Permit Authorized

The Building Division issued a Building Permit approval letter for McDonald's Restaurant on October 16. This project should begin construction in 2009.

7. Preparations for Winter

We are entering the wet and dark season. Homeowners can help with water management by removing leaves from gutters and storm drainage grates. This action helps keep water flowing to our stormwater facilities which prevents street pooling and flooding. On a family level, remind children about safe walking habits and to stay away from ditches and storm drainage basins.

8. Emergency Operations Drill Successful

The City of DuPont was one of the cities participating in the Quake and Shake exercise last Wednesday run by Pierce County Department of Emergency Management. The City Hall was vacated briefly as a test of our evacuation procedures. The Emergency Operations Center was brought online and the police, fire and public works departments tuned into a common radio frequency operated from a base station in our EOC. The purpose of the test is to prepare for a real disaster situation where the City would have to stand alone for up to 72 hours. Thanks to Bob Barto of DEM for his technical assistance in a variety of ways as we got ready for the test.