



Administrator's Friday Letter

December 4, 2009

1. Mayor's Exchange/AWC Briefing

AWC hosted its first Mayor's Exchange on Thursday which the Mayor, Dawn Masko, and I attended. The program included a briefing on the state budget which was not a pretty picture. The state is faced with a 2.7 billion dollar shortfall and slim chances of raising new revenues. AWC briefly discussed its legislative agenda. Its top priority as set by the AWC board is reform of labor relations law. Following that was a good discussion of the weaknesses in the current public records request process. The cost of responding to harassing and frivolous public records requests is a mounting problem for local government. Washington is the only state in the union where a public entity can't recover its true costs of delivering public records. A final subject was trends in citizen engagement. Stewart Elway of Elway Research presented survey results of public attitudes to tax initiative measures. Cheryl Simrell King of Evergreen State College followed with best practices in Citizen Engagement.

2. Glacier Supplemental Feasibility Study Update

The City of DuPont hosted the first meeting of the study group working on environmental issues related to the Glacier land use application. This group is the result of the recently adopted MOU of the parties to the 1994 Settlement Agreement. The meeting was very positive in its tone and many good ideas were advanced by participants. A preliminary scope of work is the first product which will be delivered. The timeframe for the supplemental work calls for a first draft of the feasibility study to be completed by January 22nd. There will be several iterations as the group works to final recommendations. The next meeting of the study group will be in DuPont on February 17th at 9:30am. The meeting was open to the public.

3. Mission Site Status

The City has been working with Quadrant on the mechanism to transfer ownership of the Mission Site. We will meet the week of December 15th to work on a transfer agreement which would supersede the option agreement. This legal approach will provide for a date certain for conveyance of title. The transfer will be akin to negotiated mitigation to protect the historic site.

4. Lakewood Hero's Memorial and Remembrance Service

The churches in the community are working together to conduct a service in honor of the slain Lakewood Police Officers. The service will be on Monday, December 7th at 6PM at Ross Plaza, 1500 Wilmington Drive. It is expected to be about a 30 minute service. This is open to the public and is an opportunity for those in the community wishing to pay their respects to participate in a memorial event. Notice is on our city webpage and facebook page.