



# Administrator's Friday Letter

February 19, 2010

## **1. Meeting for I-5 Transportation Alternatives and Operational Traffic Model Study**

As part of the ongoing regional efforts to address impacts from the expansion of our bases (now Joint Base Lewis McCord, JBLM), the City was the host for Meeting #5 of the I-5 transportation study committee this Thursday. Under a grant through the Federal Office of Economic Adjustment (OEA), the study is aimed at identifying the traffic impacts from the base expansion on the I-5 corridor and developing concepts for system improvements to address these impacts. As part of the review committee, staff has continued to advocate for improvements and concepts that will decrease congestion and increase mobility for traffic flows near the DuPont gate. An extra lane on the freeway and a rebuilt 119 interchange are prominent subjects in the continued concept development. The study is intended to lead to future earmarks for transportation improvements and funding to address congestion on I-5 through the JBLM corridor.

## **2. Update on Sequelitchew Trail Washout Repair**

Following the emergency repairs to a damaged drainage culvert across the Sequelitchew Creek trail late last month, City staff has been working with our consultants and state contacts to prepare the restoration plans and permit applications required to move forward with the repair of the washed out trail section. We have submitted a draft of the JARPA (Joint Aquatic Resources Project Application) form and plans to our contact with Department of Fish and Wildlife for initial review prior to formal submittal. Once the necessary approvals have been received, we plan to complete the trail repairs with City crews. We are hopeful that the repairs can begin in the coming weeks. Due to safety concerns, the trail remains closed to the public until repairs can be completed.

## **3. CalPortland/Glacier Feasibility Study**

On February 17, DuPont sponsored the second in a series of stakeholder meetings evaluating environmental mitigation for the Cal Portland/Glacier NW mine expansion. This meeting focused on a review of the first draft of the Feasibility Study authorized by the MOU approved by 1994 Settlement Agreement signatories. There were a couple notable outcomes. One was the desire to establish a historically valid environmental benchmark for a healthy functioning Sequelitchew Creek and Edmonds Marsh. A second was a desire to include Burlington Northern Railroad in future discussions given the impact of the current rail line on the creek and the brackish marsh at the mouth of the creek. The next meeting is scheduled for April 22, location to be determined.

#### **4. FedEx Expansion**

On February 18, DuPont issued the FedEx building expansion building permit. The permit will increase the building by 20,700 square feet; add 114 parking stalls and 21 trailer stalls on their 13.5 acre site. The land use application was submitted May 2008.

#### **5. Development Plan for Camp Murray**

The Washington Military Department is requesting public comments on a long-range Site Development Plan and Preliminary Environmental Assessment at Camp Murray including a new main gate near Portland Avenue/Berkley Street intersection, new billeting facility, new warehouse district, new Air National Guard Building, new Joint Forces Headquarters, and new Education Center or Education building. The plan can be reviewed at:

<http://mil.wa.gov/Environmental/Army.shtml>. Comments will be accepted until March 19, 2010.