



Administrator's Friday Letter

May 28, 2010

1. Wreath Laying Ceremony

In honor of Memorial Day, the City is hosting a Wreath Laying Ceremony on Monday, May 31st at Ross Plaza, the future site of a Memorial Tribute to our DuPont residents who have lost their lives in service to our country. The ceremony, which is open to the public, begins at 3:00 PM.

2. Sequalitchew Creek Trail Markers

Several trail markers will be installed along the Sequalitchew Creek Trail next week to provide directional guides for trail users. The markers will be augmented by an interpretive map and additional markers and point-of-interest signage in the near future. The concept, once complete, is to provide trail users with an interactive and enjoyable experience between the interpretive map and trail markers along the way. This project is being coordinated by the DuPont Tourism Board.

3. National Trails Day

The City of Dupont will be joining with communities throughout the nation to celebrate National Trails Day on Saturday, June 5th. A trail walk will begin at 9 AM at the Civic Center for a walk along the Sequalitchew Creek Trail. More information and registration forms are available online at the City's website or at City Hall. The cost is \$5 and participants are encouraged to dress with appropriate clothing and footwear for the weather.

4. New City Attorney

I am sad to report that our current Attorney, Steve Victor, has accepted a job with another City beginning next week. His replacement from Kenyon Disend PLLC, the firm whom the City contracts with for legal services, will be Chris Bacha. Mr. Bacha was introduced to the City Council at the May 25th Council meeting. He has over 24 years of municipal law experience with areas of expertise in telecommunications, economic development, storm and surface water management, and municipal contracting. Welcome to the City team!

5. Shaw Street Station

We are happy to report that as of today, May 28th, the Shaw Street rental is officially occupied!

6. Fire Department Training Exercise

The DuPont Fire Department partnered with Joint Base Lewis McChord and the Lacey Fire Department on Tuesday May 25th to conduct a live burn training exercise. The Nisqually Tribal Association donated a house on Mounts Road that had been scheduled for demolition, and acquired all required permits from the Department of Ecology. Numerous fires were set inside the building and teams of 4 firefighters were able to make 16 attacks on the structure before the building was allowed to burn. Firefighters are required to have between 180 to 240 hours of training annually and must complete at least one live-fire training exercise.

7. Police Grant Update

The Office of Community Oriented Policing Services (COPS) is now reviewing 2009 grant requests for funding that were not funded in 2009. The City of DuPont had submitted a grant application for 2 sworn officers but was not awarded the grant at that time. Police Department staff is updating our application materials so that we can be evaluated on current information for possible 2010 funding. The updated application must be filed with the COPS Office by their June 16th deadline.

8. WSDOT Repair Work

Beginning at 9:00 PM on Friday, June 4th through 7:00 AM on Sunday, June 6th, WSDOT will be doing repair work on northbound I-5 from the Gravelly Lake Drive exit to the Bridgeport Way exit. The freeway will be reduced to 1 lane and 10 mile backups are expected. There will not be a designated detour but it is believed the many motorists will self-detour using the Center Drive and Barksdale freeway exits. This will create much heavier traffic on Center Drive and on the Steilacoom-DuPont Road during these times. WSDOT is paying for DuPont police officers to be at those off-ramps to assist with traffic congestion. This project is weather permitting and may be postponed to a later date in the case of inclement weather.

9. Steilacoom School District Community Meeting Postponed

The Steilacoom School District has postponed scheduling a DuPont community meeting to discuss a new elementary school location. The School District had discussed the possibility of building a new elementary school in the Hoffman Hill neighborhood at a recent City Council work session. The School District is now exploring alternate locations and will schedule a community meeting to present additional information when it is available.

10. Signatories to 1994 Settlement Agreement meetings

The signatories to the 1994 Settlement Agreement met this past week in the first of a series of meetings. These are private meetings open only to the original signatories. The Glacier NW Feasibility Study is scheduled to be completed at the end of May. More meetings have been scheduled between now and August to discuss the study and next steps.

11. Point Defiance High-Speed Rail Bypass Project

Notification was received from the Washington Utilities and Transportation Commission that WSDOT withdrew their application for the Point Defiance Bypass project. The hearings which were scheduled to begin on June 7th have been cancelled. WSDOT will conduct additional environmental reviews and assessments which could delay the project until sometime in 2012. An advisory committee, which includes representation from DuPont, has been established to oversee this project, with the first meeting tentatively scheduled for late June 2010.

12. Edmonds Marsh Beaver Deceiver Permit Application

Staff received the Sequim Creek Watershed Council's Joint Aquatic Resource Permit application (JARPA) to install beaver deceivers in Edmonds Marsh this past week and is in the process of reviewing it.