



Administrator's Friday Letter

March 26, 2010

1. David Douglas Award

The Awards Committee for the Washington State Historical Society Board of Trustees announced that the DuPont Museum and Historical Society has been selected to receive the David Douglas Award for its exhibit *Life in a Company Town: Yesterday and Today*. The David Douglas Award recognizes projects and exhibits that expand the appreciation of any field of Washington State history during the year. The Mayor, Lee McDonald and Joh Jones will receive the award at the Washington State Historical Society annual Awards Luncheon in June at the Washington State History Museum.

2. Sivinski Grant Award

The Museum also received notice yesterday that they are the recipients of a Valerie Sivinski Washington Preserves grant for \$500 to move and restore DuPont's last remaining Hose Cart Shed. The Museum and Historical Society are partnering with Chief Greg Hull and members of the Fire Department to complete this project. The Historical Society will fund the remaining project costs.

3. Council Chamber Lighting

The City Council chamber has now lost its humorous reputation as the mood room due to the dim lighting. Yesterday electricians from Kirby Electric corrected the lighting problem by lowering the fixtures and more than doubling the output (lumens). The new lighting fixtures look identical to the old ones but provide both up and down directed lighting. With all the lights turned on the Council Chamber is a bright and inviting venue.

4. Train Bypass Hearing Schedule

The current dates for the evidentiary hearing on the Bypass Project for Lakewood is Monday and Tuesday June 7th and 8th. We do not yet know if DuPont's joining Lakewood will amend the schedule. The Public Hearing is scheduled on June 8th, (location to be determined).

5. Budget Document to Printers

The 2010 Budget Document is a very detailed document providing a wealth of information on City finances and operations. It is a huge amount of work for our Assistant City Administrator/Finance Director to reconcile all the final details and produce the final document. Dawn Masko reports that the document is off to the printers today.

In the News: State and Local Government Shedding Government Jobs As Economy Hurts.

The [AP](#) (3/26, Rugaber) reports "State and local government jobs have traditionally provided a haven during economic downturns. But as states have struggled to close growing budget gaps, job cuts have spread." Pennsylvania lost 2,200 jobs; Minnesota lost 1,900 and Massachusetts 1,500. Furthermore, Washington State lost 900 last month and Wisconsin lost 1,600. Mark Vitner, a senior economist at Wells Fargo, said, "The drag from state and local government will continue to shave a few points off (economic) growth, further slowing an already modest recovery." However, some states have managed to gain private sector jobs to make up for the losses of government jobs.