



Administrator's Friday Letter

April 9, 2010

1. Fire Department Receives Smoke Alarm Grant

The DuPont Fire Department has received a grant through State Farm Insurance for 250 smoke detectors with 10 year batteries. These smoke detectors are made in the USA, have 9 volt long life lithium batteries, a silencer feature, and a low battery audible indicator. Although all new homes built in DuPont during the last ten years have built in smoke detectors systems, most of the homes in the historic village and El Rancho Madrona do not. Citizens in these areas who either do not have smoke detectors or have older models can call the DuPont Fire Department at 253-964-8414, or the Fire Chief at 253-405-8048 to schedule installation of new smoke detectors by qualified firefighters. Residential smoke detectors are the first line of safety, alerting residents early that a dangerous situation exists and providing additional time to exit the home.

2. Skilled Nursing Facility Pre-application

Patriot's Landing has submitted a pre-application review request for an 80 bed Skilled Nursing Facility at the southwest corner of their property. Staff will review the concept and meet with the Applicant to discuss design requirements, processing times and filing fees.

3. Joint Base Lewis McChord Baseline Conditions Report Issued

The JBLM Growth Coordination Committee met at 9:00 AM, Friday, April 9 at Madigan Army Medical Center to review and accept the baseline conditions for assessing community gaps in services and needs that was prepared by Expert Panel Committees on subjects ranging from housing, economic impact, and transportation to quality of life. The next step is completion of the Preliminary Needs Assessment due in May 2010 that will carry forward the baseline conditions and report on a preliminary policy evaluation guided by the Expert Panels. The final JBLM Growth Coordination Plan will be completed by the end of 2010. More information on the subject is available online at <http://www.jblm-growth.com/about-the-project>.

4. Tree Board Reviews UW Urban Forestry Mapping Proposal

The City was contacted this week by representatives of the University of Washington School of Forest Resources & Precision Forestry Cooperative. They requested support for their grant proposal to the Washington State Department of Natural Resources, to doing aerial mapping of changes in tree canopies over time in urban environments. The data developed would provide urban planners with a baseline of data on changes in urban forests. The Tree Board is discussing the proposal next week but generally see some advantages. The work would not occur until 2011.