



This Week from the Mayor



JANUARY 18, 2018

VOL. III, NO. 2

Staff retreat establishes 2018 goals

WHEN YOU LOOK AROUND RENTON TODAY, you see many positive things:

- An effective level of public service to our residents
- A continuing effort to make Renton an inclusive city, where all are welcome
- An infusion of billions of dollars in commercial investments, including the new Hyatt Regency Hotel and a new IKEA
- A plan to renovate and revitalize the downtown core that is gaining momentum
- A place as the center for healthcare in the Northwest

We've added more police officers and diversified the department, which has led to a reduction in crime. We successfully transitioned after the retirement of some talented and dedicated city employees.

But like any city, we're also facing challenges, including housing, transportation, and the impact of growth.

To address these and other areas, I spent three days last week with city department heads reflecting on our accomplishments and establishing specific goals for 2018. Our discussions were candid and thought-provoking, but were always focused on what we need to accomplish to achieve our objective of making Renton the "Best City in King County."

We talked about the next budget cycle, revenue streams, and economic development. We discussed ways we can assist a younger workforce successfully balance work and family life.

Renton is well-positioned to sustain our growth. But at the same time we must maintain a high level of service, continue to make our community safe, and provide for those less fortunate. We owe that to our residents.

I am extremely proud to work with such a talented group of professionals who are single-minded in their pursuit of new ways to improve the quality of life for all our residents. I look forward to working with them and with our equally dedicated city councilmembers in the coming months to, yes, make Renton the "Best City in King County."



Civic Core plan passes another milestone

OUR VISION FOR A REVITALIZED DOWNTOWN RENTON CIVIC CORE passed another milestone last week when it was approved by the City Council.



The plan covers the business district with a special emphasis on the core area around the Renton Pavilion Event Center and Piazza Park. It contains many exciting ideas that will not only unite the area, but also improve traffic flow (including adding bike lanes), add retail opportunities, better manage our public facilities like the parking garage

and Pavilion Event Center, and coordinate activities with the Renton Downtown Partnership. Implementation is planned through a three-phased approach: Quick Wins (now/within the next year), Short-Term (within five years) or Mid/Long-Term (five to 10 years).

Information can be found at www.rentonciviccore.com and www.RentonDowntown.com.



Mayor Denis Law and Doug Baldwin along with Starbucks Senior Vice President John Kelly. The Starbucks Foundation donated \$150,000 to the Family First Community Center.

Starbucks donates to Family First Center

Donations for our planned Family First Community Center continue to come in. On Wednesday, The Starbucks Foundation donated \$150,000 to the project, which will build a much needed community center in the Cascade/Benson Hill area. The public/private partnership includes the Seahawks Doug Baldwin with support from the city and Renton School District.

We are very pleased to add Starbucks to our growing list of supporters committed to providing valuable opportunities to local youth and families.

Feedback

Comments, questions or suggestions, or just want to share all the great things that are happening in the city, please [email](mailto:mayor@renton.wa.gov) me. Thanks for reading.