



# This Week from the Mayor



NOVEMBER 17, 2016

VOL. 1, NO. 19

## A strong partnership with our legislators is a strong partnership for the Renton community

Renton is very fortunate to have a committed group of legislators representing our interests at the state level. They have always worked hard to uphold our legislative priorities. This week, I had the pleasure of inviting them to lunch to thank them for their dedicated service. We also used this opportunity to give them an update on our Sunset area plan. We specifically briefed them on the Sunset Neighborhood Park and asked for their help as we request funding from the state capital budget for the next phase of the park.



We have made exciting progress in the Sunset Area, an area with low income levels and socio-economic challenges. We have created strong partnerships to completely transform the area. Our plan replaces distressed public housing with high-quality mixed-income housing and private development, invests in transportation and stormwater projects and provides neighborhood assets such as the Meadow Crest Inclusive Playground, Renton Highlands Library, and the Sunset Neighborhood Park.



*We hosted a lunch for legislators to thank them for their hard work and brief them on the next phases of the Sunset area plan.*

The Sunset Neighborhood Park, a 3.2-acre park, is the gateway for the Sunset Area and will be a catalyst for transforming the neighborhood. It will include a teen/adult fitness area, children's play areas, water features, picnic areas, pergola with seating and art. The park will serve over 6,000 people and improve health, provide environmental benefits and bring the community together. We plan to request \$3.05 million from the state for constructing phase II and phase III of the park.

## Renton police officer named "Star in Your Community"

Congratulations to Renton Police Officer Thaddeus Kerkhoff who was named the winner of [Macy's and Q13 "Star in Your Community"](#) contest. Officer Kerkhoff serves as the School Resource Officer (SRO) for Renton High School.



*School Resource Officer Thaddeus Kerkhoff answers questions at Wednesday's "Pizza with a Cop".*

The contest recognizes unsung heroes in the community and Officer Kerkhoff certainly qualifies. In addition to his SRO duties, he volunteers as an assistant football coach at the school and has been known to use his own money to buy equipment for students who could not afford it. He also hosts a regular "Pizza with a Cop" where students sign up and then discuss issues.

School Resource Officers are a vital link between the police department and students, faculty and staff. They're on campus not just to provide security but also to serve as mentors and discuss youth-related issues. In the case of Officer Kerkhoff's and other Renton police officers, they go above and beyond. We appreciate your efforts!

### FEEDBACK

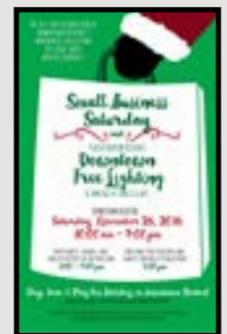
Comments, questions or suggestions, or just want to share all the great things that are happening in the city, please [e-mail](#) me. Thanks for reading.

### DID YOU KNOW?

The city's holiday schedule kicks off with the [Hassle Free Holiday Bazaar](#) at the Renton Community Center from 11:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m. this Friday and 9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. this Saturday.



On Saturday, November 26, celebrate [Small Business Saturday](#) by shopping at one of our outstanding local businesses.



At 5 p.m. come to Piazza Park for the Christmas tree lighting and Santa's arrival. There will be music and refreshments courtesy of local non-profits.



Thanksgiving is next Thursday and we will not be publishing a newsletter. I'd like to extend my best wishes to you and your family for a happy and restful holiday and safe travels to all.