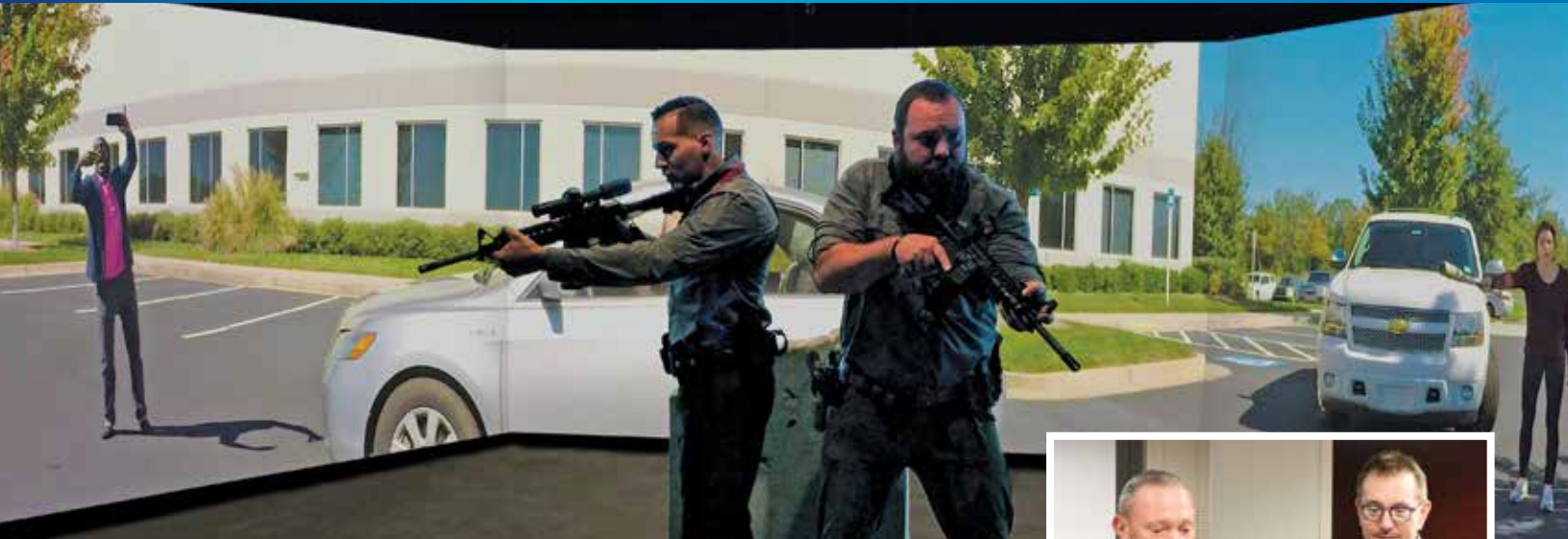




Our Renton

Community News, Programs, and Events



Renton police go high tech in training officers

THE HEALTH AND SAFETY OF EVERY RENTON RESIDENT is the overriding priority of each of the men and women of the Renton Police Department.

To help our officers continue to provide first class service to our residents, the city has installed a state-of-the-art, reality-based training system at city hall. This multi-screen system will provide officers with a fully immersive training environment allowing them to sharpen decision making and de-escalation techniques in a safe, controlled environment.

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— Mayor Armondo Pavone

said Mayor Armondo Pavone, whose father served as a Renton police officer for 24 years. “This system helps us keep that promise.”

The simulator can present a variety of scenarios officers may encounter or have encountered in the past.

These scenarios can also be tailored to the specific officer. Training officers can also observe in real time and provide immediate feedback.

“Re-creating what our officers might encounter while on patrol is an important part of our training and something that cannot be re-created in the classroom,” explains Police Chief Ed VanValey. “We now have a more realistic approach to our training.”

Mayor Armondo Pavone is briefed on the new system by Police Chief Ed VanValey.

Renton officers currently receive two hours training monthly, but those trainings are not at city hall. These sessions require five to seven officers to facilitate which significantly impacts patrol and specialty units. The new system requires only one instructor and officers have access to the system 24 hours a day.

“We have seen research that shows officers trained by a simulator will make better decisions and that will result in fewer injuries to both officers and residents,” said VanValey.

The simulator is just one part of a new dedicated officer training area at city hall. The new space is double the previous and also includes a 30-person classroom and a room dedicated to teaching defensive tactics.



Renton Complete Count Committee



City to use census ambassadors

DURING THE 2010 CENSUS, the City of Renton was one of the most undercounted cities in King County. This lack of an accurate count cost the city much needed federal funding to support vital infrastructure and human services programs.

In preparation for the 2020 Census, the city has been working to identify and develop a group of census ambassadors who can go out into their communities and encourage census participation, hold educational sessions and staff the various question assistance centers.

Renton residents will receive their census invitations in the mail in mid-March. The city has several community-based meetings planned to make sure your census questions are answered. All meetings will be listed on the city Facebook page and on the calendar on the city's website.

For more information, please contact Ginna Hernández, the city's census program manager, at 425-430-7728 or ghernandez@rentonwa.gov.

Recreation areas get improvements

CONSTRUCTION ON SUNSET PARK phase II is underway. Phase II will add two playground areas for ages 2–5 and 6–12, and a parent plaza with picnic tables, adult fitness area and a picnic gazebo. The park will remain closed until completion, estimated this summer.

THE CEDAR RIVER TRESTLE BRIDGE will undergo repair work starting this spring and lasting until late summer. Work will repair timber piles, replace the timber facing and remove debris. The project is timed to comply with regulated fish-windows. The work will temporarily close access to the Cedar River Trail from Riverview Park through the Maplewood Roadside Park. During construction, pedestrian and bicycle traffic will be detoured.

"TOMMY THE TURTLE" is being relocated this month to his new home at Kennydale Beach Park. Tommy first came to Renton in the 1960s outside Newberry's and Sears downtown. He then located to the Highlands Public Library before moving to his new location.



Black History Month Celebration

IN CELEBRATION OF BLACK HISTORY MONTH the Renton History Museum presents *Black Fashionista!* on March 5, from 6 to 7 p.m. Black fashion designers have contributed style-changing ideas to fashion, an industry typically dominated by white male designers. University of Washington Ph.D. candidate Victoria Thomas will share her research on pioneering African American female fashion designers, their fashion sense, and the celebrities they have styled.

The SKY Urban Empowerment and Transformation Center will celebrate the month by presenting "Re-Powering for Justice 2020" on Feb. 27, at 6:30 p.m. The center is located at 301 S. 3rd Ave.

Senior Center Speaker Series

RENTON'S SENIOR ACTIVITY CENTER provides a wide range of fitness, cultural and informational programs to Renton residents 50+.

New this year is a series of presentations addressing issues important to our senior population. Held each Tuesday from 12:30 to 1:30 p.m., the presentations will cover a wide range of topics from keeping your mind sharp and health issues, to housing and effective communications. Find out more in the *Let's Go Renton!* recreation guide or at rentonwa.gov/rsac.

Downsize your garbage cart & save

THE SIZE OF YOUR CURBSIDE GARBAGE CART determines the rate you pay for recycling, organics and garbage service. To save money and divert waste from the landfill:

- Choose reusable items over disposable. Purchase products with no packaging or minimal packaging that is recyclable or compostable.
- Review the new Recycling, Organics & Garbage Guide received in the mail or at republicservicesrenton.com. Always place accepted items in your recycling and organics carts.

- Many items like clothes, electronics, Styrofoam, plastic bags and latex paint are not accepted in curbside recycling, but may be dropped off for reuse or recycling. See a quick list of drop-off locations at bit.ly/recycleresourcesrenton.
- Replace your larger garbage cart with a smaller one. To see how much you can save, review the 2020 Solid Waste Rate Brochure at rentonwa.gov/utilityrates.



Reduced rates for low-income seniors

THE CITY OFFERS REDUCED RATES for water, wastewater, surface water and garbage, as well as animal licenses for low-income senior citizens (61 and over) and low-income disabled citizens.

The current yearly income limit is \$35,000 for one resident with an additional \$5,000 per year for each additional resident. Qualified residents can find more information at rentonwa.gov/reducedrates or by calling Utility Billing Customer Service at 425-430-6852.

Stormwater Management Program Plan needs your input

THE RAIN THAT FALLS on our roofs, driveways and streets picks up everything it touches including motor oil, yard chemicals and pet waste. This contaminated rain water then flows into storm drains and eventually into our creeks, rivers and lakes.

The city's Stormwater Management Program Plan details actions and activities to help keep Renton's waters clean and healthy. The plan meets the requirements of the Western Washington Phase II Municipal Stormwater Permit, issued by Washington State Department of Ecology, and contains new requirements that the city must implement over a five-year (2019–2024) term.

The plan outlines the city's efforts to:

- Engage the community in stormwater education and outreach, public participation and pollutant reporting.
- Inspect public and private development sites and stormwater facilities.
- Implement new regulatory requirements including a stormwater planning program and a source control program involving the inspection of commercial, institutional and industrial properties with pollutant generating potential.

To read and provide comments on the plan, visit rentonwa.gov/npdes.



Kennydale Reservoir on schedule

CONSTRUCTION OF THE KENNYDALE RESERVOIR is progressing smoothly toward a June 30 completion date. Once online, it will greatly improve operation of the city's water system, increase storage for fire protection and provide a reliable water supply to meet the demand in the Kennydale area.

The reservoir will feature a mural designed by Artist Brothers Inc. of Spokane, WA.



Judge Kara Murphy Richards sworn in

RENTON MUNICIPAL COURT gained a second full-time jurist as Judge Kara Murphy Richards was sworn in on Jan. 16. Judge Murphy Richards has worked as judge pro-tem in the court for the past 10 years. The court's increased caseload necessitated the addition of a full-time judge.

Community Calendar

Tax Aid Program

THRU APRIL 9, THURSDAYS ONLY

Senior Activity Center, 211 Burnett Ave. N.

By appointment. Trained volunteers assist seniors with tax returns. Bring last year's return. E-file only. Appointments: 425-430-6633.

Coffee with a Firefighter

FEB. 18, 9:30-11 A.M.

MARCH 26, 9:30-11 A.M.

Senior Activity Center, 211 Burnett Ave. N.

For residents 50+. Have a burning question to ask a Renton firefighter? Have coffee and conversation.

Homeless Community Resources

FEB. 19, 10:30 A.M.-12:30 P.M.

MARCH 18, 10:30 A.M.-12:30 P.M.

APRIL 15, 10:30 A.M.-12:30 P.M.

Renton Library, 100 Mill Ave. S.

Free. County resource providers offer access to services for those experiencing homelessness or near-homelessness.

Newcomers Hour

FEB. 21, 10-11 A.M.

MARCH 20, 10-11 A.M.

APRIL 17, 10-11 A.M.

Senior Activity Center, 211 Burnett Ave. N.

Free. Meet center staff and learn about all the exciting programs and activities available. rentonwa.gov/rsac

Mental Health First Aid

FEB. 22, 8 A.M.-5 P.M.

Renton Technical College

3000 NE Fourth St., Room C111

16 & up, minors with an adult. Learn to give initial aid to a person showing symptoms of mental illness or in a mental health crisis. [#7621](http://rentonwa.gov/recreation)

Black Fashionista!

MARCH 5, 6-7 P.M.

Renton History Museum, 235 Mill Ave. S.

Celebrate the history of Black women fashion designers and the celebrities they styled. rentonwa.gov/museum

SubUrban Farm & Garden Expo

MARCH 7, 10 A.M.-2 P.M.

North Highlands Neighborhood Center

3000 NE 16th St.

Free. Bring plants and seeds to share at the Plant n' Seed Swap! Plus, learn about gardening, beekeeping, backyard chickens and more! 425-430-7214. info@rentonfarmersmarket.com

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rentonwa.gov/publications

Mom & Son Fortnite Dance

MARCH 13, 6-8 P.M.

Renton Comm. Ctr. 1715 Maple Valley Hwy.

Ages 6 & up. It's mom's turn to have a special night with her little guy! Register by March 1. NR \$19 / R \$16, [#7930](http://rentonwa.gov/recreation)

Coffee with the Curator

MARCH 21, 11 A.M.-12 P.M.

Renton History Museum, 235 Mill Ave. S.

Sparkle! curator Sarah Samson will be sharing objects from the collection that did not make it into the exhibit and offering insights into the exhibit process.

Renton City Concert Band

MARCH 22, 2 P.M.

Renton IKEA Perf. Arts Center, 400 S. Second St.

Spring concert "Friends Old & New." \$10 for adults, \$7 for students and seniors 50 & over. rentonwa.gov/rccb

Superhero Brunch

APRIL 4, 10:30 A.M.-12 P.M.

Renton Comm. Ctr., 1715 Maple Valley Hwy.

For superheroes 3 & up. Includes lunch and photos. Wear your superhero costume. NR \$19 / R \$16. [#7931](http://rentonwa.gov/recreation)

Community Police Academy

APRIL 14-JUNE 16, TUESDAYS, 6-8:30 PM

Renton City Hall, 1055 S. Grady Way

Ten weeks will cover all aspects of Renton Police Department. Applications due by March 6. rentonwa.gov/cpa

Community Emergency Response Team (CERT)

APR 23-JUNE 6 THURSDAYS, 6:30-7:30 P.M.

Fire Station #14, 1900 Lind Ave SW

Ages 16+, minors with adult. Learn disaster first aid, fire suppression, personal preparedness, light search & rescue, and more skills in lecture and hands-on training. NR \$30 / R \$25 (#7819)

Arbor Day/Earth Day

APRIL 25, 9 A.M.-12 P.M.

Jones Park, 98 Wells Ave. at Cedar River

Ages 14 & up. Volunteers needed to help plant 10-11 replacement trees. Gloves and tools provided. Register at rentonwa.gov/volunteer

Shred-A-Thon

APRIL 25, 9 A.M.-12 P.M.

Boeing S1 Lot, N. 6th St. & Logan Ave. N.

Shred up to five boxes (12-15" wide, 10" deep) of paper. Donations of canned goods will be accepted. rentonwa.gov/shredathon

City Contacts

General Information	425-430-6400
Mayor	425-430-6500
City Council	425-430-6501
Chief Admin Officer	425-430-6500
Administrative Services	425-430-6868
City Attorney	425-430-6480
City Clerk	425-430-6510
Code Enforcement	425-430-7373
Community & Economic Development	425-430-6575
Community Services	425-430-6600
Emergency Mgmt	425-430-7723
Graffiti Reporting	425-430-7362
Human Resources & Risk Management	425-430-7650
Municipal Court	425-430-6550
Police (business line)	425-430-7500
Public Works	425-430-7394
Regional Fire Authority	425-271-7900
Street/Water/Sewer Maintenance	425-430-7400
Utility Billing	425-430-6852

EMERGENCY 911

Non-Emergency 425-235-2121



The City of Renton provides reasonable accommodation upon request.



rentonwa.gov

rentonwa.gov/publications
rentonwa.gov/rentonresponds
communications@rentonwa.gov

