



# Renton City News

RENTON. AHEAD OF THE CURVE.

## The State of the City today is great *With a positive reputation throughout the region, our future is bright!*

Mayor Denis Law delivered his 2015 State of the City address on March 4, before Renton City Council members, business leaders, community partners and residents. Here are a few excerpts:

Property and business owners came together with our city leaders 20 years ago with a commitment to our city. A transformation began at City Hall that, over a period of years, moved Renton to become a model city in this state for our customer service and permitting process.

This commitment to improving our community continues today. The city is comprised of nearly 90 separate businesses. With a workforce of 686 people, we provide services to nearly 100,000 people spread throughout a 24-square-mile community. Our employees are responsible for providing a variety of vital services every day that citizens have come to expect. Here is a snapshot of some of what they do:

- Public Works staff maintains about 675 miles of roads, delivers nearly 2.5 billion gallons of water services, 223 miles of sewer lines, and gets rid of your unwanted waste.



- Police officers risk their personal safety every day to serve you and keep you safe.
- Fire fighters put out fires, conduct rescues and extrications, and handle more than 14,000 calls for medical assistance.
- Our parks division maintains over 1,200 acres of park land, while our recreation programs serve thousands; we have more than a million visitors at Gene Coulon Park alone each year.
- We also offer specialized services for seniors and local youth, and assistance to our vulnerable populations.
- Our popular aquatic center serves more than 70,000 people each summer. And every year thousands enjoy Renton River Days, the Farmers Market, the 4<sup>th</sup> of July celebration and Neighborhood Picnics.
- We license businesses and review hundreds of plans.
- We also operate an airport where more than 100,000 annual flights take place.

### WE ARE A BUSY ORGANIZATION WITH LOTS GOING ON!

Last year we set a goal to be the **Best City in King County** and established four areas of priority for special focus.

- Continuing our focus on economic development opportunities
- Improving service to our vulnerable and diverse populations
- Enhancing customer service and the productivity of our employees
- And developing a sustainable fiscal strategy

We've made great progress in each of these areas.

*Continue on page 2*





State of the City (continued)

## KEY ACCOMPLISHMENTS

### SERVING OUR VULNERABLE AND DIVERSE POPULATIONS

- Provided training for all of our employees on race, equity and inclusion.
- Strengthened our relationship with our community liaisons; working on an equity lens to evaluate several internal systems and emphasize inclusion.
- Working on the needs of our aging population.
- Working closely with local churches to address the needs of our homeless and vulnerable populations.
- Created Center of Hope, a shelter at City Hall to help provide services to homeless women with children.
- Collaborating with local leaders, community groups, and regional law enforcement organizations to improve communications and relationships between our police officers and members of our diverse communities.

### ENHANCING PRODUCTIVITY AND CUSTOMER SERVICES

- Created an environment that accepts change and embraces creativity and performance improvement.
- Providing on-going vision, leadership, training and motivation through our management team.
- Created a culture committed to solving issues for our citizens—multiple departments work together.

### A STRONG AND SUSTAINABLE FISCAL STRATEGY

- Instituted a Business and Occupation Tax to help overcome the structural deficit in our budget.
- Received \$118 million in state and federal transportation grants for large infrastructure projects such as Rainier Avenue improvements.

### OUR CITY IS SAFER THAN A FEW YEARS AGO

- Addressed local establishments that were a huge public safety concern, resulting in every one of the problem businesses closing down.
- Partnered with the Renton School District to reinstate School Resource Officers at our high schools.
- Provided free blood sugar and blood pressure screenings for over 55,000 adults and children and found 18% at risk during the fire department February Heart Month.



*Renton has earned a positive reputation throughout this region. Our future is bright!*





Don't miss the April 19th  
**Seahawks 12K Run!**  
Registration and info at  
[seahawks12krun.com](http://seahawks12krun.com)



The Seahawks 12K is in conjunction with the **GLOW 5K Run/Walk** and the half mile **Play 60 Kids Run**

State of the City (continued)

## ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT AND BUILDING OUR COMMUNITY

- \$300 million dollars in new projects underway and another \$300 million dollars of projects planned. A total of \$600 million dollars of private investment in this community!
- New Group Health Cooperative to develop 12 acres of land at Longacres and bring 1,000 new jobs.
- Luxury hotel under construction on Lake Washington and new 736,000-square-foot Class A office space.
- Renton Honda recently opened a new showroom.
- Hampton Inn and Marriott Residence Inn to build new hotels across from Gene Coulon Park.
- Two new libraries to be completed this fall.
- Aerospace training center at the airport under construction soon.
- PACCAR is currently constructing a new, 200,000-square-foot parts distribution center.
- Our downtown revitalization emphasis is moving forward including a five-story complex at S 2<sup>nd</sup> and Main Ave S with 101 units and 4,000 square feet of retail space; and a new Piazza Park.
- Transformation in the Sunset area of the Highlands, including a new library, multi-family housing complexes, new housing units for low-income families and a 3.7-acre park.

For a complete copy of the Mayor's state of the city speech, go to [rentonwa.gov](http://rentonwa.gov). To view the Mayor's entire speech, tune to channel 21. ◀

## Celebrate Arbor Day/Earth Day

Saturday, April 25, 9:00am–1:00pm  
Gene Coulon Memorial Beach Park

This month we celebrate Arbor Day/Earth Day on Saturday, April 25, and honor our commitment to future generations. Every year Arbor Day is celebrated by planting and caring for trees. Planting trees is one of the most effective ways to protect the environment. Earth Day is a time to unite and take action to protect our environment. Renton's Arbor Day/Earth Day celebration is a great opportunity to have fun and do our part to reduce our impact on the environment.

Join hundreds of volunteers at Gene Coulon Memorial Beach Park, 1201 Lake Washington Blvd. North. Help us beautify the grounds by planting trees and flowers, and cleaning areas in the park. Free lunch and t-shirt to celebrate your hard work!

**To register: 425-430-6600.**  
**Check-in begins at 9am.**  
**Event is 9:30am–1pm.** ◀

## Lights, Camera, Action—SIFF—Renton

May 21–27, IKEA Performing Arts Center

The world of cinema is returning to Renton! We are pleased to announce that once again Renton will be hosting a week-long screening of Seattle International Film Festival (SIFF) films at the Renton IKEA Performing Arts Center from May 21 to 27, 2015. Renton is honored to be part of the longest running, largest and most highly attended film festival in the United States.

We are very excited to be hosting this annual event—this is the fifth year of our partnership with SIFF. Hosting SIFF draws

thousands of visitors to Renton from throughout the region to experience our city, restaurants, hotels and other businesses. This great event provides us the opportunity to showcase Renton as a vibrant, diverse city at the cutting edge of cinema, arts and culture.

**For more information visit [siff.net](http://siff.net).** ◀





Local farmers, fresh food,  
friendly people at  
**Renton Farmer's Market**  
[rentonfarmersmarket.com](http://rentonfarmersmarket.com)

## Out in the Community

**SATURDAY, APRIL 18, 2015**

### Spring Shred-a-thon

9am–12pm, Sam's Club parking lot, 901 S Grady Way. Shred up to five boxes (12 to 15 inches deep and 10 inches high) containing paper. Donations of canned goods will also be accepted for Renton Food Bank.

**APRIL 18 & 19, 2015**

### Storybook Theatre: The Ugly Duckling

11am & 1pm, Carco Theatre, 1717 SE Maple Valley Hwy. Life isn't what it's quacked up to be for an unfortunate, young duckling. Tickets \$11. Call 425-820-1800. Info: [carcotheatre.org](http://carcotheatre.org).

**SUNDAY, APRIL 19, 2015**

### Seahawks 12K Run at The Landing

9am start time. Runs north along the southeast shore of Lake Washington from The Landing to the Virginia Mason Athletic Center and back. Info: [seahawks12krun.com](http://seahawks12krun.com).

**SATURDAY, APRIL 25**

### Arbor Day / Earth Day Volunteering

9am–1pm, Gene Coulon Memorial Beach Park 1201 Lake Washington Blvd N. Help plant trees and flowers, and assist in cleaning the park. Free lunch and t-shirt! Register: 425-430-6600.

**SUNDAY, MAY 3**

### Renton Youth Symphony Orchestra Spring Concert

3pm, Carco Theatre, 1717 SE Maple Valley Hwy. Enjoy compositions from the Youth Symphony Orchestra and the Debut Orchestra. Tickets are \$10 for Adults, \$7 for Seniors/Students, \$5 for children. Info: [carcotheatre.org](http://carcotheatre.org).

**SATURDAY, MAY 9**

### 13<sup>th</sup> Annual Piazza Renton Spring Festival

12pm–4pm, Piazza Park, Downtown Renton Celebrate Spring with handmade and fair trade crafts and art vendors, entertainment, and fun for the whole family! Info: 206-914-0198 or [piazzerenton.com](http://piazzerenton.com).

**SATURDAY, MAY 9, 2015**

### Spring Recycle Event

9am–3pm, Renton Technical College, north parking lot. Renton residents are welcome to recycle large and hard-to-recycle materials. Call 425-430-7398. Info: [rentonwa.gov](http://rentonwa.gov).

**THUR, MAY 21–WED, MAY 27**

### Seattle International Film Festival (SIFF)–Renton

Film Screenings & Opening Night Gala. Times vary. Renton IKEA Performing Arts Center, 400 S 2nd St. SIFF returns to Renton for a fifth year to screen films throughout the week of May 21–27. Info: [www.siff.net](http://www.siff.net).

**MONDAY, MAY 25**

### Memorial Day Program

1pm, Veterans Memorial Park, Main Ave S & S 3rd St. Join us as we recognize the men and women who have served our country. Parking is available at the 200 Mill Building. Info: [rentonwa.gov](http://rentonwa.gov).

**SATURDAY, JUNE 6**

### Fishing Kids Derby

Various times, Gene Coulon Memorial Beach Park, 1201 Lake Washington Blvd N. Kids ages 5-14 can fish from the dock into a stocked pen. Participants receive a t-shirt and Zebco rod & reel. Register: [rentonwa.gov/cybersignup](http://rentonwa.gov/cybersignup).

**TUESDAYS, JUNE 2–SEPTEMBER 29**

### Farmer's Market

3–7pm, Downtown in the Piazza Park, 233 Burnett Ave. Local farmers, fresh food, friendly people. Info: [rentonfarmersmarket.com](http://rentonfarmersmarket.com).

**WEDNESDAY, JUNE 3**

### Renton Historical Society Annual Meeting

6–8pm, Renton History Museum, 235 Mill Ave S. Join us for food, a brief program, and plenty of time to socialize. Info: 425-255-2330.

## City Contacts

General Information . . . . .	425-430-6400
Mayor . . . . .	425-430-6500
City Council . . . . .	425-430-6501
Municipal Court Judge . . . . .	425-430-6550
Chief Admin. Officer . . . . .	425-430-6500
Administrative Svcs . . . . .	425-430-6868
City Attorney . . . . .	425-430-6480
City Clerk . . . . .	425-430-6510
Code Enforcement . . . . .	425-430-7373
Community Services . . . . .	425-430-6600
Community & Economic Development . . . . .	425-430-6575
Fire & Emergency Svcs . . . . .	425-430-7000
Graffiti Reporting Line . . . . .	425-430-7373
Human Resources & Risk Management . . . . .	425-430-7650
Public Works . . . . .	425-430-7394
Police . . . . .	425-430-7500 or <a href="http://epolice.rentonwa.gov">epolice.rentonwa.gov</a>
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.**

**TDD . . . 711 (425-430-6511)**

**[rentonwa.gov](http://rentonwa.gov)**

[RentonCityNews@rentonwa.gov](mailto:RentonCityNews@rentonwa.gov)

