



Renton City News

RENTON. AHEAD OF THE CURVE.

Downtown Civic Core Vision Depends on Your Input



The Civic Core is the heart of Renton's downtown area. It is home to housing, cultural destinations, transit, parks and shops. The city is developing a Downtown Civic Core Vision and Action Plan which will result in a community-driven vision for the future of this important area.

Last month, the first in a series of visioning workshops was held and almost 150 people came to provide their ideas to city staff and MIG, the project's consultant.

In May a second workshop for downtown business and property owners will discuss property safety and storefront design. In June the public will be invited to be part of a community design workshop to consider the look, feel, and operation of strategic places in the project areas.

MIG will review the information from these workshops and present recommendations. The public will be able to view visualizations in September and provide feedback both in-person and online. A draft plan will be created and reviewed by the Planning Commission and City Council in November. The final review and adoption by the City Council is scheduled for November or December. All workshops, Planning Commission, and City Council meetings will be open to the public.

More information, including the opportunity for input, can be found at rentonciviccore.com.

Renton Stands for Inclusion

Last month, the mayor affirmed Renton's status as an inclusive city by issuing a proclamation, which was adopted by the Council, stating that Renton is an inclusive city.

But what does that mean?

Recent federal immigration policies have caused significant concern among our community, especially among immigrants. The proclamation reminds our citizens that Renton's commitment to protect and serve everyone in our community remains strong.

As a city, Renton will not tolerate hate crimes, discrimination or harassment.

We believe in the dignity, equality, and constitutional and civil rights of all people and we are committed to being a welcoming and inclusive place for all to live, work, learn, and play.

The proclamation also reiterates that city employees, including police officers, do not check the immigration status or documentation of our residents.

All immigrants should feel safe when accessing city services without fear of a check of immigration status.

Renton police will continue to arrest people involved in illegal activity or with outstanding warrants. But those reporting crimes or stopped for traffic violations will not have their immigration documentation checked.

You can read the entire proclamation at rentonwa.gov/proclamations/.



DISPOSE OF YOUR UNWANTED MEDICINES

◀ Dispose of your unwanted or expired medicines in a secure kiosk in the police department lobby on the first floor of City Hall. The kiosk is available weekdays, 7:30 a.m. to 5:30 p.m. and accepts bottles up to 6 inches in diameter and 12 inches tall. It does not accept medical waste and is tamper-proof.

"Leftover medications, especially those containing opioids, are a potential hazard for everyone and I hope residents will take advantage of this program."

"Studies have shown there's a direct link between abuse of over-the-counter opioids and our nation's heroin problem."

— Mayor Denis Law

Volunteers Are Renton's Lifeblood

April is Volunteer Appreciation Month around the city and the nation and a perfect time to recognize and thank our hundreds of volunteers who do everything from keeping our trails safe, to beautifying our parks, to planning and working community events. Later this month our volunteers will be honored at the city's annual recognition banquet.

Keeping our parks clean for all to enjoy is a great way to volunteer and the **Spring Green & Clean** project has two upcoming events. The spring outing is **May 13** at May Creek Park. Register online at rentonwa.gov/cybersignup. The course number is 58462.

The summer outing is **June 10** at Philip Arnold Park. Register online at rentonwa.gov/cybersignup. The course number is 59255.

Check-in for both events is 8:45 a.m. The day will end at 11:30 a.m.



Volunteers must be 14 years of age or older. Unaccompanied 14 to 17 year-olds must have a waiver filled out by an adult.

The city has other volunteer opportunities with summer programs, various city departments, and on boards, commissions, and committees. More information can be found at rentonwa.gov/volunteer.

NEIGHBORHOOD WATCH

Plan Your Next Neighborhood Event

Now is the perfect time to plan that neighborhood get-together. Officially recognized Renton neighborhoods are eligible to receive up to \$1,000 from the Neighborhood Program to host an event to promote community and inclusion. Here are ideas for a fun and exciting event:

- Rent movie equipment from the city and hold an outdoor movie night
- Organize a chili cook-off for a fun and competitive potluck
- Host a kickball tournament at one of Renton's many parks
- Hire a yoga or fitness instructor for a personalized fitness class
- Reserve a local event space and provide food and drink for a Mariners, Sounders or Seahawks watch party
- Host a BBQ at a local park. Ask local businesses to supply the food
- Gather a group of volunteers to clean up a local park or block; provide light refreshments
- Plan a Halloween party for kids and parents that is safe and spooky
- Set up a festive holiday photo booth for hassle-free family photos
- Host a winter holiday celebration with cocoa, caroling, and treats

For more information on how to apply for a Neighborhood Event Grant please call 425-430-6595, or email dhicks@rentonwa.gov.

Become a Volunteer Trail and Park Ranger



The Parks Department is looking for individuals 18 and older to serve as Volunteer Trail and Park Rangers.

Rangers educate visitors on rules and regulations, enhance safety awareness, provide information and direction, watch for vandalism, and act as "Good Will Ambassadors" for the city. Applications can be downloaded at rentonwa.gov/volunteer or by calling 425-430-6600.



feelin' green in 2017

The city will **CELEBRATE ARBOR DAY/EARTH DAY** on April 29 in Heritage Park.

City Initiatives **Conserve Resources** and Save Tax Payers Money

City departments have taken several proactive steps to preserve natural resources and save citizens money.

In 2013, the city replaced almost 3,700 street lights with **Light Emitting Diode (LED) lights** that were brighter, cheaper to operate, and more environmentally friendly than high pressure sodium lights. The \$4.3 million project was partially funded by two grants, \$589,000 from Puget Sound Energy and \$500,000 from the Department of Commerce. The remainder was financed through a 15-year low-interest Qualified Energy Conservation bond. The city estimates an annual savings of \$55,000 for the first 15 years. Once the bond is retired, the savings will jump to \$216,000 per year. There will also be a savings in maintenance costs as the LED bulbs last longer.



City maintenance shops recycle and/or reuse project construction debris. This allows for the recovery of topsoil and structural fill that can be used in other projects rather than sent to landfill. The process also saves money by reducing the amount of fill material and topsoil the city must purchase. This program saves \$50,000 to \$80,000 per year.

The city converted **18,000 water meters to wireless meters** that track water flow around the clock and alert the city to unusually high consumption. In 2016, this Automatic Meter Reading (AMR) system confirmed 1,786 leaks, saving utility users almost \$145,000 and 42.6 million gallons of water.



City Can Help With Your Spring Recycling

Spring is just around the corner and the city is hosting a pair of events to help with your recycling plans.

SPRING SHRED-A-THON

The Spring Shred-a-thon is April 29 in the parking lot of Sam's Club from 9 a.m. to noon. Bring up to five boxes (12"x15"x10" please) of your sensitive documents to this free event. The Renton Food Bank will also be on site collecting donations of canned goods. The Shred-a-thon is sponsored by the city, Sam's Club, Iron Mountain, and the Salvation Army.

SPRING RECYCLE EVENT

The first of two recycle events is May 13 in the North parking lot of Renton Technical College from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. One trip per household per event and residential items only, no businesses. We reserve the right to refuse oversized loads or unacceptable materials. More information at rentonwa.gov/springrecycle.

RECYCLE OLD CLOTHES

Did you know that you can donate your worn clothes for recycling? Locations around King County want all of your clothes, shoes and linens. The only items not accepted are those that are wet, mildewed or contaminated with hazardous material. These worn out items are then recycled into athletic equipment, insulation and more.

Learn where you can donate your clothes, shoes and linens at King County's Threadcycle website at kingcounty.gov/threadcycle.



*Renton Career Fair
May 3, 3–6 p.m.
Renton Technical College*

Out in the Community

“Sorting Out Race”

THROUGH MAY 17, 10 A.M. – 4 P.M.

Renton History Museum, 235 Mill Ave. S

An exhibit examining racial identity and stereotypes in thrift store donations. Tuesday through Saturday from 10 a.m. – 4 p.m.

“Within Silence”

APRIL 8, 11 A.M. – NOON

Renton History Museum, 235 Mill Ave. S

The imprisonment of thousands of American families because of their Japanese ancestry is examined.

Seahawks 12K Run

APRIL 9, 9 A.M.

The Landing, 715 N Landing Way

Event will feature a 12k run, GLOW 5k Run/Walk and Half-Mile Kids Run. All ages are invited. Register: seahawks12krun.com

Arbor Day & Earth Day

APRIL 29, 9 A.M.

Heritage Park, 233 Union Ave. NE

Shred-a-thon

APRIL 29, 9 A.M. – NOON

Sam’s Club, parking lot, 901 S Grady Way

Shred up to five boxes containing paper (12 to 15 inches deep, 10 inches high). Donations of canned goods will also be accepted to benefit the Renton Food Bank. Visit rentonwa.gov/shredathon

Renton Youth Symphony Spring Concert

APRIL 30, 3 P.M.

Carco Theatre, 1717 SE Maple Valley Hwy.

A community concert performed by the Renton Youth Symphony Orchestra. Tickets available at the door. Info: rentonwa.gov/ryso

Career Fair

MAY 3, 3–6 P.M.

Renton Technical College Cafeteria

Roberts Campus Center, 3000 NE Fourth St.

Showcase of Renton employers who are hiring. Details: bit.ly/RCF2017

Native Vision

MAY 13, 11 A.M. – NOON

Renton History Museum, 235 Mill Ave. S

A Navajo girl is taken from her family and placed in a government-run boarding school in the 1930s. A federal effort to assimilate Native American children into society.

Spring Green & Clean

MAY 13, 8:45 – 11:30 A.M.

May Creek Park, 4260 Lake Washington Blvd. N

Volunteer to help maintain the parks for all to enjoy. Register: Call 425-430-6700 or go to rentonwa.gov/cybersignup. Class #58462.

Spring Recycle Event

MAY 13, 9 A.M. – 3 P.M.

Renton Technical College, north parking lot
3000 NE Fourth St.

Renton residents can recycle large and hard-to-recycle items. More: 425-430-7398 or rentonwa.gov/springrecycle

Bike Safety Rodeo

MAY 13, 10 A.M. – 12 P.M.

Highlands Neighborhood Center
800 Edmonds Ave. NE

This is a free event for children ages 4-12. Bring your bike and try out your skills.

Spring Neighborhood Forum

MAY 13, 9 A.M. – 12 P.M.

Renton Senior Activity Ctr., 211 Burnett Ave. N

Topics include city resources for neighborhoods, transportation, and State of the City updates. Contact: 425-430-6595.

Memorial Day Program

MAY 29, 1 P.M.

Veteran’s Memorial Park, 523 S 3rd St.

Join us as we recognize the men and women who have served our country. Info: rentonwa.gov/veteranspark

Farmers Market

TUESDAYS, JUNE – SEPT, 3–7 P.M.

Piazza Park, 233 Burnett Ave. S

Fresh produce, flowers, baked goods, wine, crafts, and more! Plus kid activities, live entertainment, chef demonstrations, and market tours. Visit rentonfarmersmarket.com

City Contacts

General Information	425-430-6400
Mayor	425-430-6500
City Council	425-430-6501
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 & Economic Development	425-430-6575
Community Services	425-430-6600
Emergency Mgmt	425-430-7041
Graffiti Reporting	425-430-7373
Human Resources & Risk Management	425-430-7650
Municipal Court Judge	425-430-6550
Police (non-emergency)	425-430-7500 or epolice.rentonwa.gov
Public Works	425-430-7394
Reg. 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.

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

rentonwa.gov

RentonCityNews@rentonwa.gov

