



# Renton City News

## City initiates new hiring policy

A new hiring policy designed to remove the possibility of unintentional or implicit bias during the selection process has been implemented by the city.

The new policy will develop and edit job classifications and incorporate inclusion principles into job announcements and recruitment materials. Online job applications for department review will no longer have an applicant's name, address or any other such identifiable information. Applicants will not be required to submit resumes or cover letters until they are selected for an interview.

This anonymous feature minimizes unintended bias during the initial part of the selection process, and will allow the hiring manager to focus on the skills, qualifications and experience of each applicant they review.

This unique process will open doors for applicants who may have historically been eliminated due to implicit bias. It will also allow the city to invite those who are among the most qualified based solely on their listed credentials.

Hiring panels will undergo training and use behavior-based and competency-based interview questions. A variety of tools will also be provided to view writing samples and other materials once the candidate enters the interview process.

For additional resources, please visit [www.governmentjobs.com/careers/rentonwa](http://www.governmentjobs.com/careers/rentonwa).



## A new vision for downtown Renton

The Renton Downtown Civic Core Vision and Action Plan, covering the Downtown Business District and concentrating on the Civic Core area, has been approved by the City Council.

The plan is the result of a year-long series of community meetings and online input and provides recommendations to take advantage of the future possibilities and opportunities for Renton's Downtown.

Some specific design and development projects include:

- Creation of a festival street along Logan Avenue and South Third Street connecting Piazza and Gateway parks.
- Reconfiguration of Burnett Avenue So. between South Second and South Fifth streets to connect Burnett Linear Parks North and South and add bike facilities.
- Creation of "River Streets" along north-south streets to connect east-west streets more directly to the Cedar River.
- Installation of a downtown wayfinding system—a series of decorative directional signs that help residents and visitors find their destination or discover a new one.

- Use of temporary pop-up retail, food spots and events to fill in vacant storefronts and lots.

The plan also includes strategies to help Renton:

- Better manage publicly owned facilities like the City Center Parking Garage and Pavilion Event Center, as well as public and private parking in the business district.
- Work with King County Metro and Sound Transit to move bus layover areas outside of the Civic Core, while keeping the level of downtown transit service the same or making it better than what currently exists.
- Coordinate downtown activities with the Renton Downtown Partnership.

The plan's strategies and actions are phased to be implemented as Quick Wins (now/within the next year), Short-Term (within five years) or Mid/Long-Term (five to 10 years).

More information can be found at [www.rentonciviccore.com](http://www.rentonciviccore.com) and [www.RentonDowntown.com](http://www.RentonDowntown.com).

## SUMMER JOB FAIR ON MARCH 3

The city will host a job fair designed to fill summer positions with the Recreation Division. The fair is March 3 from 10 a.m. to 12 p.m. at the Renton Community Center. Available positions include parks, lifeguards, swim instructors, guest services, summer sports, Maplewood Golf Course, facilities and the volunteer program.



## Renton Fire to visit schools during Heart Health Month

When February and hearts and thoughts turn to Valentine's Day. But this month is also American Heart Month.

As part of heart month, Renton Regional Fire Authority (RRFA) is again partnering with Valley Medical Center to visit schools in Renton School District to check student, teacher and staff blood sugar levels. This is the 11th consecutive year the firefighters have provided this service, which is optional.

Anyone found with elevated blood pressure or blood sugar levels will be referred to their health care provider. Students with alarmingly high levels will receive immediate treatment.

An educational component is part of the visit as firefighters will give tips on making healthy life choices and answer questions.

RRFA plans to visit 24 schools from February to May. A complete schedule is on their website at [rentonrfa.com](http://rentonrfa.com).

## Museum celebrates Black History Month and Women's History Month

February is Black History Month and March is Women's History Month and the Renton History Museum celebrates both.

The museum presents *Emerald Street: Race, Class, Culture, and the History of Hip Hop in the Northwest* on February 24, at 11 a.m. Discover the history behind not only the Northwest's Grammy-winning rappers, but its world champion break dance crew, world-renowned clothing designers, and its community driven grassroots

organizations. Courtesy of Humanities Washington.

On March 3, at 11 a.m. they will present *Hear My Voice* by Living Voices, the story of a young woman and her personal struggle between the expectations of her family and her dreams. The event is recommended for ages 10 and up.

Museum events are free with regular museum admission, \$5 for adults, \$2 for children 8 and older. Children under 8 are free. Events are always free for museum members.

## Officers honored for saving lives



**Mayor Law, City Council, and Chief Milosevich honored six Renton police officers—Blanco, Bauer, Jacobs, Nugent, Jensen and O'Rourke—for their life-saving efforts in three separate incidents.**

Six Renton police officers were recently honored for their quick and decisive actions in saving three lives.

Officers Matt Nugent, Randy Jensen and Adele O'Rourke were credited with saving the life of a 72-year-old resident of the Highlands. Officers Jesse Blanco, Corey Jacobs and Scott Bauer saved the life of a shooting victim.

The first aid training for Renton officers goes beyond the normal to include assessment of victim's injuries and prioritize first aid. The use of that training was recognized as another reminder of the skills of Renton's first responders.



## YOUR GUIDES TO RECREATION ACTIVITIES

From sports to dance to drop-in programs, the city has something for people of all ages. What's Happening is Renton's guide to recreational activities around the city. Golden Opportunities is the city's guide to activities for adults 50 and over. Both publications are mailed to residents, and are available online, at city facilities, or the library.



## Neighborhood Program grants

Renton's Neighborhood Program is a resource for neighborhoods to create vibrant and connected communities. Over 90 Renton neighborhoods are supported through grants and events.

Applications for 2018 grant money are now available. The program awards over \$70,000 annually to recognized neighborhoods within the city for projects and events.



Grant dollars can be used towards a variety of projects, including the installation of outdoor playground equipment or hosting an outdoor movie night at a local park. Last year the Neighborhood Program awarded funding to over 30 neighborhoods for a variety of fun and exciting projects. To learn more and access the application, visit [rentonwa.gov/neighborhoodgrants](http://rentonwa.gov/neighborhoodgrants), or call 425-430-6595.



### RENTON FEATURED

## CERT Class in April

Ever wondered how you'd react in a disaster? Community Emergency Response Team (CERT) classes can help you be prepared to help yourselves and people around you during an emergency.

Learn disaster first aid, fire suppression, utility safety, personal preparedness, search and rescue, and other skills. The class combines lecture and hands on

experience to get you prepared. The next CERT class will be held on Tuesdays and Thursdays, 6 to 9 p.m., from April 3-24 at Fire Station 14, 1900 Lind Ave SW. The cost is \$25 for city residents. Call 425-430-6700 to register. More information available at [rentonwa.gov/cert](http://rentonwa.gov/cert) or 425-430-7723.

## State of the City

**MAYOR DENIS LAW** will present the annual State of the City address on March 28 at 7:30 a.m. at Renton Technical College.

## Give the Gift of Play

**GIFT OF PLAY!** is the city's Recreation Scholarship fund. It is wholly supported by donations from individuals, community service organizations and local businesses. All proceeds provide help for low-income children, seniors and people with disabilities to afford program fees.

You can donate to the fund by contacting Teresa Nishi, 425-430-6694 or [tnishi@rentonwa.gov](mailto:tnishi@rentonwa.gov). You can also donate in person at the Renton Community Center. Thank you for making a difference in our community!



## Report drainage issues

**DRAINAGE PROBLEMS** on your property or in your neighborhood? Request a Surface Water Utility drainage investigation, which includes a site visit, by calling Gary Fink at 425-430-7392 or email [gffink@rentonwa.gov](mailto:gffink@rentonwa.gov).

# GET YOUR GREEN THUMB ON

Spring is coming and the SubUrban Farm and Garden Expo is the perfect event to prep your green thumb. Bring your plants and seeds to swap. There will be workshops and vendors, and city code enforcement will discuss property issues. It'll be a great way to get your summer gardening off on the right foot. March 3 from 10 a.m. to 12 p.m. at the North Highlands Community Center, 3000 NE 16th Street.



## Out in the community

### Black Fashionista! The History of Black Women Fashion Designers

**FEBRUARY 8, 6:30–7:30 P.M.**

Renton History Museum, 235 Mill Ave. S.

Discuss modern fashion designers who are Black women, their fashion style, and the celebrities they have styled during the 21st century.

### Emerald Street: Race, Class, Culture & History of Hip Hop in NW

**FEBRUARY 24, 11 A.M.–12 P.M.**

Renton History Museum, 235 Mill Ave. S.

Delve into the history behind the northwest's Grammy Award-winning rappers, world champion break dance crew and many more.

### Surviving Mass Violence

**MARCH 1, 6:30–8:30 P.M.**

Renton Technical College, 3000 NE 4th St.

Renton Police answer questions about surviving mass violence incidents and give tips on how to react. Room C111. Register: [rentonwa.gov/cybersignup](http://rentonwa.gov/cybersignup).

### Summer Job Fair

**MARCH 3, 10 A.M.–12 P.M.**

Renton Community Center  
1715 SE Maple Valley Hwy.

Apply for seasonal positions with the City of Renton. Postings include parks, aquatics, sports, golf course, facilities and volunteer programs.

### SubUrban Farm & Garden Expo

**MARCH 3, 10 A.M.–2 P.M.**

North Highlands Neighborhood Center  
3000 NE 16th St.

Bring plants and seeds to share at the Plant n' Seed Swap! Learn about gardening, beekeeping, backyard chickens and more! Info: 425-430-7214.

### Hear My Voice by Living Voices

**MARCH 3, 11 A.M.–12 P.M.**

Renton History Museum, 235 Mill Ave. S.

Learn about the 72-year battle for women suffrage through the lens of a young woman who shares her personal struggles and dreams.

### Weird Hazards

**MARCH 13, 6–7:30 P.M.**

Renton Technical College, 3000 NE 4th St.

Mega-quakes, zombies and solar flares! Learn about the weird hazards Renton could face and how to prepare. Room C111. Register: [rentonwa.gov/cybersignup](http://rentonwa.gov/cybersignup).

### Community Garage Sale

**MARCH 24, 9 A.M.–1 P.M.**

Renton Community Center  
1715 SE Maple Valley Hwy.

Over 75 booths with treasures you never knew you needed! Free admission for shoppers. Details: 425-430-6700.

### La Causa by Living Voices

**MARCH 31, 11 A.M.–12 P.M.**

Renton History Museum, 235 Mill Ave. S.

Experience the 1960s movement that changed the lives of Latin American farm workers who fought for civil rights and battled racism and indecent working conditions.

### Community Emergency Response Team

**TUES & THURS, APRIL 3–24, 6–9 P.M.**

Renton Fire Station #14, 1900 Lind Ave. SW

Are you ready to help yourself and your community after a disaster? Learn the skills you need to respond when the unthinkable happens. Register: [rentonwa.gov/cert](http://rentonwa.gov/cert).

### Senior Resource Expo

**APRIL 7, 10 A.M.–2 P.M.**

Renton Senior Activity Center  
211 Burnett Ave. N.

Improve your independence, health and quality of life. 40 vendors on hand. No registration required.

### Wilderness & Remote First Aid

**APRIL 14 & 21, 8:30 A.M.–5 P.M.**

Renton Community Center  
1715 SE Maple Valley Hwy.

Whether you're camping or the zombie apocalypse has occurred, being prepared in the wilderness is useful for everyone. Register: 425-430-6700.

### Shredathon

**APRIL 28, 9 A.M.–NOON**

Location TBD

Shred up to 5 boxes containing paper (12-15 inches deep, 10 inches high). Canned good donations will be accepted to benefit the Renton Food Bank. Info: [rentonwa.gov/shredathon](http://rentonwa.gov/shredathon).

### Arbor Day & Earth Day

**APRIL 28, TIME TBD**

Location TBD

Volunteer to help promote a healthy environment. More details provided in February. Contact [tnishi@rentonwa.gov](mailto:tnishi@rentonwa.gov)

## 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) or <a href="http://epolice.rentonwa.gov">epolice.rentonwa.gov</a>	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](http://rentonwa.gov)**

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

