



# This Week from the Mayor



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## Development project set for former City Hall



OVER THE PAST FEW YEARS we've witnessed several large investments come into Renton including a beautiful Hyatt Hotel on Lake Washington, the soon-to-be-opened Southport office complex, the award-winning Sartori Elementary School and all the positive steps we've made in providing housing and related amenities in the Sunset area.

We are now ready to begin another exciting development project that will be a major step in our goal of connecting the downtown to the Cedar River, Liberty Park and the Renton Library. The city council recommended and I have signed an agreement with Cosmos Development of Bellevue to [transform the former city hall site](#) into a mix-use development.

The project will be built in two stages, the first will consist of two market-rate apartment building totaling 550 units with retail on the bottom floor and an underground parking structure. The second phase will include a 150-room hotel. An integral part of the plan is a riverfront plaza that will connect the site to the Cedar River and become a community gathering place. Because of existing leases with tenants in the building, construction will not begin until 2022.

## More fun than a normal day



Mayor Law welcomed a delegation of 14 students from Renton's Sister City of Nishiwaki, Japan, to City Hall on Tuesday.



The mayor presented certificates to some of the 30 students who completed Washington State University's eight-week Food Sense program.

TWO EVENTS MADE TUESDAY more fun than my normal daily routine at City Hall.

We welcomed 14 students and their teachers from Nishiwaki, Japan, which is Renton's sister city. They were hosted by students from Renton's four middle schools. A delegation from Nishiwaki, including Mayor Shozo Katayama, will visit Renton in October to celebrate our 50th anniversary as sister-cities. We look forward to seeing the many friends we've made from Nishiwaki over all these years.

Later in the afternoon, I was able to join Carrie Olson, manager of our farmer's market, and Anna Kitchin, extension coordinator with Washington State University (WSU) in presenting certificates to 30 kids who completed an 8-week course on nutrition put on by WSU. Their "Food Sense Program" teaches kids the importance of healthy eating, especially with fresh fruits and vegetables, and the benefits of supporting local farmers. Under Carrie's leadership and with the help of Piazza Renton volunteers, the farmer's market continues to be one of the most popular programs offered in this city.

## Council approves two art projects



The Renton Loop (above) will be placed at Main Street South and South Second Street. Sunset Neighborhood Park will get several colorful vertical sculptures (right).



RENTON HAS ALWAYS BEEN KNOWN for our whimsical artwork. Soon we will have [two new pieces](#) to add to our collection.

The "Renton Loop" will be placed at Second Avenue South and South Main Street and provide an eye-catching entry to the city's downtown area. It will be fabricated by Western Neon, the same company that gave us the highly popular rooftop dragon on Wells Avenue South. The artwork celebrates our city's rise from a humble coal mining town to our current position as a center for manufacturing and high tech.

Sunset Neighborhood Park will be decorated by several colorful vertical sculptures designed by artist Kirk Seese of Maryland.

The Loop is funded by the 1% for Arts fund and a grant from the Arts & Culture project. The Sunset artwork will be paid for by developer density transfer fees.

## Feedback

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