



Proclamation

Whereas, Don Persson is retiring from the Renton City Council after 20 years of service; and

Whereas, he previously retired from the Renton Police Department after 33 years of service; and

Whereas, Vicky has decided that 53 years of service is quite enough, and their 5th wheel trailer is not getting any younger; and

Whereas, having grown up in the Renton community, Don's commitment to Renton has been a hallmark of his character; and

Whereas, he has demonstrated that commitment through his service as one of the founders of Renton River Days, and his continued support and service to that event to this day; and

Whereas, Don served for years on the board of Communities In Schools, provided food and other supplies to REACH's Center of Hope and orchestrated the annual Senior Center Thanksgiving dinners; and

Whereas, when Don was not actively involved on boards, he was donating his time, money and his considerable barbeque skills to neighborhood picnics, community events, employee recognition lunches and more than we can possibly all remember; and

Whereas, his community involvement did not in any way diminish his contributions as an effective City Councilmember; and

Whereas, Don's particular interest and acumen was in and around the City's finances and his skills of police interrogations showed in his probing questions and ability to flush out uncertainties and soft spending projections, and city staff knew they better come prepared to his committee meetings; and

Whereas, Don's experience patrolling the streets of Renton while in the Police Department helped him become a valued member of not only the City's Transportation Committee, but also on regional transportation committees; and

Whereas, throughout his career on Council, Don demonstrated the unique ability to find solutions acceptable to his colleagues, while not compromising his own principles; and

Whereas, one key to his success was his ability to bring humor into the room and, if that didn't work, to invite people to lunch or dinner, where he would completely disarm them through his amazing culinary skills; and

Whereas, Don's laugh was unmistakable and infectious, and it will be missed in City Hall; and

Whereas, the community of Renton will forever be a better place because of Don's service to it;

Now, therefore, I, Denis Law, Mayor of the City of Renton, do hereby proclaim December 9, 2019, to be

Don Persson Day

in the City of Renton, and I encourage all members of the community to join me in this special observation.

In witness whereof, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the seal of the City of Renton to be affixed this 9th day of December, 2019.



Denis Law, Mayor
City of Renton, Washington

