

# CITY OF RENTON FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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## City of Renton Contacts

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## Ron Straka named Utility Systems Director for the City of Renton

*Straka has served as Surface Water Utility Engineering Section Manager since 1992*

**RENTON, WA** – Ron Straka has been promoted to Utility Systems Director for the City of Renton, Public Works Administrator Gregg A. Zimmerman announced Tuesday. Straka will begin his new position in January.

“Ron brings extensive public works expertise and strong management skills to his new position,” said Zimmerman. “He’s a leader and a problem solver and we’re excited to have him lead the entire division.”

The Utility Systems Division oversees the planning, engineering, construction, customer service and regulatory compliance programs for the city’s water, wastewater (sewer), surface water (rain), and solid waste utilities.

Department staff work with residents, businesses, other city departments and outside public agencies to meet utility customer service needs, protect public health and safety, meet regulatory requirements, protect environmental resources and support the city’s Business Plan goals.



*Ron Straka has been named City of Renton’s Utility Systems Director effective January 16, 2019.*

Straka currently works as the city’s Surface Water Utility Engineering Section Manager and oversees an eight-person engineering team, the largest section within the Utility Systems Division. He was responsible for overseeing the section’s capital improvement program, customer service programs, and regulatory compliance programs to prevent flooding and protect public safety, water quality, and environmental resources. He directed the Cedar River Maintenance Drainage project in 2016 and the city’s partnership with the Washington State Department of Transportation in building the Springbrook Creek Wetland Mitigation Bank in 2006. He was also a member of the team that developed The Landing and worked with the Army Corps of Engineers to develop and implement a flood hazard reduction plan to prevent flooding on the lower Cedar River.

Straka graduated from Washington State University with a Bachelor of Science in Civil Engineering and is a licensed professional civil engineer with over 30 years of experience. He was hired by the City of Renton in September 1989 and earned promotions to civil engineer in February 1990 and to his current position in September 1992.

“I am excited to lead an outstanding group of individuals in the Utility Systems Division,” said Straka. “It’s my goal to continue to provide outstanding customer service and I can’t wait to get started.”

**About the City of Renton**

*The City of Renton, Washington, with a population of 104,100 (2018), is located on the southeast shore of Lake Washington, just south of Seattle. Renton's strong economic base, diverse marketplace and favorable business climate have attracted the attention of nationally recognized companies that are providing employees and their families an outstanding quality of life. Renton is the home of Boeing, PACCAR, IKEA, the Seattle Seahawks, and the eternal resting place of Jimi Hendrix. More information can be found on our [website](#), [new releases](#), or [Facebook](#), [Twitter](#), and [Nextdoor](#) pages.*

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