Don’t procrastinate: mitigate

By Deborah Needham

Renton’s natural environment, despite its beauty, is hazardous at times. Some natural hazards turn into small-scale disasters, like high winds and winter storms. For those minor events, our community bounces back quickly after the power comes back on.

Other hazards haven’t hit us with their full impact yet. That little earthquake up north several weeks ago? Most Renton residents slept through it. The Big One isn’t going to let you hit the snooze button. Damaged and destroyed buildings, power and fuel line disruptions, multiple fires, broken roads and bridges, communication systems out region-wide...now THAT’S a disaster.

We can’t avoid our natural hazards entirely, but you don’t have to sit idly by and wait for disasters to strike. Wouldn’t it be cool if we could prevent some of those disasters, or at least prevent the damage? This is the idea behind “hazard mitigation.”

For instance, there are many simple low-cost things you can do to prevent injuries and damage from earthquakes:

- Secure heavy furniture to the wall
- Use museum wax to hold items on shelves
- Put non-skid mats under items inside cabinets
- Install childproof cabinet latches to keep cabinets from flying open

These are just a few examples of earthquake mitigation, with related how-to videos available at rentonwa.gov/em_youtube. Renton-specific hazards and many more mitigation strategies can be found at rentonwa.gov/hazards.

Every hazard can be mitigated in some way. You might do it yourself, or you might need to hire a contractor. Other really big mitigation measures require an investment from the city, like the seismic retrofitting that is being done to help our bridges survive a big earthquake. Many of those large scale projects are being considered or redesigned now as our Hazard Mitigation Plan undergoes revision.

The city is collecting input from the Renton community online and in open meetings in September as part of the revision process. To learn more or to share your ideas or concerns about hazard mitigation, visit rentonwa.gov/hazardmitigation.

Deborah Needham, MA, CEM®, is the City of Renton’s Emergency Management Director.
Work underway on Kennydale reservoir

Work is well underway on our newest water reservoir. The site has been cleared and graded and next is the installation of utilities and support pilings. The above-ground reservoir will address long-identified needs for supply reliability, pressure surge control and increased storage capacity within the Kennydale area for fire protection and domestic water use. Construction is expected to be completed in July 2020.

Save water and money this fall

THE CITY’S PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT offers these tips to help you save water and money on your garden this fall.

- **PLANT IN FALL.** For beautiful and robust plants ready to thrive by summer, plant perennials in the fall. They’ll take advantage of our rainy winters to build strong roots.
- **PAUSE THE SPRINKLERS.** The days are getting shorter and plants and lawns only need half as much water as they do in the summer.
- **LEAVES ARE GOLD!** Build healthy soil by adding leaves or mulch around plantings. Healthy soil drains well and retains water for plants, which means you don’t have to run the sprinkler as often.

Volunteer with the Youth Council

THE RENTON YOUTH COUNCIL (RYC) gives students in sixth through 12th grades a place to start giving back to the community through volunteer activities. RYC is a leadership- and service-oriented group that volunteers at community events, organizes activities and attends leadership trainings. Application forms are available at rentonwa.gov/volunteer (look under ongoing or seasonal programs) or by calling Tom Puthoff at 425-430-6766.

Topgolf coming to Renton

TOPGOLF, one of the country’s leaders in high-tech sports and entertainment, has announced they will be bringing their first Washington location to Renton. The facility will be located on 14 acres near The Landing and Boeing’s 737 plant. Topgolf plans include a three-story building that houses an outdoor driving range, parking and a large outdoor plaza. A second phase of development will consist of a to-be-determined mixed-use component on a little over two-and-a-half acres of the property.

RRFA to hold open houses at stations

RENTON REGIONAL FIRE AUTHORITY will host a series of open houses on Saturdays from September 7 through October 19 from 1 to 4 p.m. The open houses are a tremendous opportunity for the community to tour their local station.

- September 7: Station 11
- September 14: Station 12
- September 21: Station 13
- September 29 (Sunday): Station 14
- October 5: Station 15
- October 12: Station 16
- October 19: Station 17
Renton City News

LET’S GO RENTON!

The fall edition of Let’s Go Renton! is out. It contains information on recreation programs, classes and events. If you did not receive it in the mail, it’s available at city facilities, King County libraries and online at rentonwa.gov/recreation.

OCTOBER 3, 6–8 P.M.

Parks, Recreation & Natural Areas Plan open house

HELP SHAPE THE NEXT 20 YEARS

THE THIRD AND FINAL Parks, Recreation and Natural Areas Plan open house is October 3, from 6 to 8 p.m. at the Renton Community Center. The updated plan will set the priorities for the parks, recreation and natural areas system for the next 20 years. Attendees can comment on draft park redevelopment drawings and prioritize improvements. Visit rentonparksplan.com for open house details and other ways to participate.

SOUND TRANSIT HAS AGREED to purchase the former Sound Ford property near the intersection of I-405 and Highway 167, just west of METRO’s Park & Ride, and will construct a transit center and parking structure. Sound Transit’s commitment will allow the city to pursue several projects that will both benefit commuters and reimage the downtown core. Bus service will continue to downtown, but the transit center will be moved to the new site. This will allow plans to convert the one-way streets into two-way streets downtown to proceed.

METRO INCREASING SERVICE TO RENTON

KING COUNTY METRO TRANSIT will increase service on four routes serving Renton this fall.

Route 101 between the downtown transit center and downtown Seattle will add four trips on weekdays, Saturday and Sunday. Route 105 between Renton Highlands and the transit center will increase Sunday frequency from every 60 minutes to every 30 minutes. Route 107 between the transit center and Beacon Hill is adding one trip on weekdays and adjusting its schedule to combine with Route 60 for 15-minute frequency between the Beacon Hill Station and Renton Transit Center during evenings and nights. Finally, Route 906 between Fairwood and Southcenter will increase weekday peak frequency from every 60 minutes to every 30 minutes. More information at kingcounty.gov.

RENTON RESPONDS will aid communications with the city

REPORT A PROBLEM AND STAY INFORMED

EVER DRIVE AROUND RENTON and wonder how you can report graffiti, a pothole, or anything else that needs the city’s attention? Currently you can by submitting an online form, but soon you’ll be able to submit that report through your mobile device. The city is in the final development stages of Renton Responds, an app available for Apple and Android devices. Renton Responds will allow easy two-way communication with the city. Simply open the app, select the issue, take a photo, give some information and submit. Your issue will be sent directly to the city department responsible and you will be kept informed of the process throughout.

Look for more information about Renton Responds on our website, social media accounts and at community events.
50 years of friendship: Renton and Nishiwaki

The Sister City relationship between Renton and Nishiwaki, Japan, will celebrate 50 years this October. Renton will welcome dignitaries and a citizen delegation from October 16-19. If you’d like to get involved, contact volunteer chairman Chris Johnson at chris5255@gmail.com or 425-381-7069.

Community Calendar

Renton Farmers Market
TUESDAYS THRU SEPT. 24, 3–7 P.M.
Piazza Park, 233 Burnett Ave. S
The best from local farmers and artisans. Kids’ activities, live entertainment, chef demonstrations and more. rentonwa.gov/fm

Renton Multicultural Festival
SEPTEMBER 13, 6–9 P.M.
Carco Theatre, 1717 SE Maple Valley Hwy.
SEPTEMBER 14, 11 A.M.–3 P.M.
Renton Pavilion Event Ctr, 233 Burnett Ave. S
Join your neighbors in a celebration of Renton’s diversity. rentonwa.gov/festival

Renton Recycle Day
SEPTEMBER 21, 9 A.M.–3 P.M.
Renton Technical College, 3000 NE Fourth St.
Recycle large and hard-to-recycle items in the north parking lot. rentonwa.gov/fallrecycle

Community Emergency Response Team (CERT)
SEPTEMBER 17–NOVEMBER 2, 6–9 P.M.
Renton Fire Station #14, 1900 Lind Ave. SW
Tuesdays. $25/resident; $30/non-resident. Learn the skills you need to take care of yourself and your community in an emergency. rentonwa.gov/register. Code: 6433

Coffee with a Cop
SEPTEMBER 25, 9:30–11 A.M.
Senior Activity Center, 211 Burnett Ave. N
Renton police officers and staff will be on hand to answer questions and explain policies and procedures. Open to all. rentonwa.gov/police

Ladies Team Invitational Tourney
SEPTEMBER 26, 9 A.M.
Maplewood GC, 4050 SE Maple Valley Hwy.
2-Lady Best Ball. $180 per team. Shotgun start. Open to all with a verified USGA handicap. 425-430-6800

Renton Wine Walk
SEPTEMBER 27, 6–9 P.M.
Pavilion Event Center, 233 Burnett Ave. S
$25 in advance; $30 at event. Cost includes 10 one-ounce drink tokens. rentonwinewalk2019.eventbrite.com

Salmon Journey
OCTOBER WEEKENDS, 11 A.M.–4 P.M.
Various Renton locations
Learn about the salmon’s epic journey from volunteer naturalists along the Cedar River. rentonwa.gov/salmon

Parks, Recreation & Natural Areas Plan Open House
OCTOBER 3, 6–8 P.M.
Renton Community Center
1715 SE Maple Valley Hwy.
Help shape the future of our parks, recreation and natural areas. rentonparksplan.com

50+ Senior Resource Expo
OCTOBER 12, 10 A.M.–2 P.M.
Senior Activity Center, 211 Burnett Ave. N
Improve your independence, health and quality of life. Free. No pre-registration required.

Fall Green and Clean
OCTOBER 19, 8:45–11:30 A.M.
Windsor Hill Park, 432 Windsor Way NE
Volunteer opportunity to help maintain a park for all to enjoy. rentonwa.gov/volunteer

“In the Know About Snow”
OCTOBER 17, 6–7:30 P.M.
Public Works Shops, 3555 NE Second St.
Ages 16 & up. Learn how the city prepares for snow from our experts. Free. rentonwa.gov/cert

“Sparkle”
OCTOBER 22 THROUGH MARCH 2020
Renton History Museum, 235 Mill Ave. S
Women’s clothing and accessories tell the story of special occasion fashion in Renton and its connection to the world. rentonwa.gov/museum

Truck-or-Treating
OCTOBER 25, 6–7:30 P.M.
Renton Community Center
1715 SE Maple Valley Hwy.
A uniquely Renton trick-or-treating experience. $8 per child. rentonwa.gov/cert

Olde Fashioned Halloween Party
OCTOBER 26, 1–4 P.M.
Main Street Square
Free games, activities & refreshments. Trick-or-treat at businesses. Doggy costume contest. rentondowntown.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 .......... 425-430-7723
Graffiti Reporting .......... 425-430-7362
Human Resources & Risk Management ............ 425-430-7650
Municipal Court Judge ........ 425-430-6550
Police (non-emergency) ....... 425-430-7500
Public Works .............. 425-430-6800
Regional Fire Authority ...... 425-271-7900
Street/Water/Sewer Maintenance ............ 425-430-7400
Utility Billing ............. 425-430-6852

The City of Renton provides reasonable accommodation upon request.

rentonwa.gov/publications
communications@rentonwa.gov

rentonwa.gov

rentonwa.gov/urgentnews

communications@rentonwa.gov

rentonwa.gov

rentonwa.gov/urgentnews

communications@rentonwa.gov