



This Week from the Mayor



JUNE 21, 2018

VOL. III, NO. 19

Friend of Renton Rep. Judy Clibborn retires

WE HAVE BEEN truly blessed to have Judy Clibborn represent Renton and the 41st Legislative District since 2002.

Judy's grit and ability to "work across the aisle" has benefitted the city in many areas. As chair of the Transportation Committee, she passed "Connecting Washington," a \$16 billion transportation project that was investment the largest of its type in our state and improved highways, ferries, buses and trains.

Before she became a legislator, Judy was a councilmember and later mayor of Mercer Island. It was those experiences that made her keenly aware of quality-of-life issues. She was instrumental in securing funding for the revitalization of the Sunset area (more on that below), the new Riverview Park pedestrian bridge, and \$1.5 million for the Family First Community Center.

Last March, Judy announced her intention to retire from the legislature, so it was fitting that I proclaimed June 18 as [Judy Clibborn Day](#) in Renton to honor someone who has been a real champion for our city. I hope you'll all join me in thanking her for her outstanding service to our city and our state.



Mayor Denis Law and State Representative Judy Clibborn.



Sunset Neighborhood Park opens

LAST SATURDAY WE DEDICATED more than new a park in the Sunset area; we opened the first phase of what promises to be a catalyst for transforming the entire neighborhood.

[Sunset Neighborhood Park](#) is part of our master plan to transform this World War II-era community from one that suffered from socio-economic challenges into one that can be a model for similar projects across the region.

The park will serve over 6,000 people and improve health, provide environmental benefits and unite the community. The state has already funded our request for a little over \$3 million for Phase II, which will add two playgrounds, picnic area, fitness area, interactive water feature, gazebo, walkways, and pergolas with seating. Construction starts in 2019.

Already in place next to the park is the new Renton Highlands Library, more than double the size of its predecessor. Nearby, the Meadow Crest Inclusive playground, a cooperative effort with Renton School District, has been a welcomed addition for families.

New, market-rate housing and retail stores are planned as well as additional quality affordable housing units for low-income families and seniors.

The multi-million dollar Sunset project is possible because of a partnership between the city, Renton Housing Authority, Renton School District, King County, the state, and federal agencies, as well as significant investments from the private sector.

Doug Baldwin up for humanitarian award

ANOTHER FRIEND OF THE CITY, Seahawks receiver Doug Baldwin, is making a difference in Renton as he and I have been working for the past two years to bring the Family First Community Center to the Cascade/Benson Hill area.

As recognition of this project and Doug's many other endeavours, he is one of four finalists for the Muhammad

Ali Sports Humanitarian award. The award "celebrates the impact made by athletes, teams and sports industry professionals who use the power of sport to make a difference throughout the world." ESPN presents the award on July 24.

The Family First Community Center is crossing the goal line thanks to the tremendous support of our state legislators and a phenomenal public-private partnership. We have raised enough of the \$15 million cost of the center to start working with architects and contractors on a design. Our capital campaign to raise the remaining amount continues. Donations may be made to the Family First Community Center through [Renton Community Foundation](#). Simply click the "Donate Now" button and select "Family First Community Center Fund" from the list of funds.



Doug Baldwin and Mayor Denis Law make a Family First Community Center presentation.

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. | [Newsletter archive](#)