



# This Week from the Mayor



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Mayor Denis Law and Renton School Board Director Dr. Avanti Bergquist hold the awards the city and school district won for work on two community and economic development projects. Also in the photo are Renton Schools Superintendent Dr. Damien Pattenaude and Sartori Elementary School Principal Angela Sheffey-Bogan (on either side of Dr. Bergquist), Renton School Board Director Alisa Louie (on Dr. Pattenaude's right), John Flanagan, Transportation and Economic Development advisor to Gov. Jay Inslee (behind Dr. Pattenaude), and Lloyd Skinner, APA Washington Awards Committee Co-Chair (front row, far left).

## City wins two awards for civic planning

MY CONGRATULATIONS to our Community and Economic Development (CED) staff for [two awards](#) they won for city planning projects in downtown Renton.

At Monday's city council meeting, the city and Renton School District were formally presented with Governor Jay Inslee's Smart Communities Award for their outstanding work on the Sartori Elementary School project. The review committee had high praise for the thorough design process, including the extensive public input phase. The school will serve as a flagship location for the district, and as a gathering place for the community during non-school hours, plus it fits perfectly with our vision of an urban downtown Renton.



*Sartori Elementary School*

I'm very pleased that Renton is only city in Washington to win seven Governor's Smart Communities Awards - for seven consecutive years!

The second award was for Outstanding Contributions for Comprehensive Planning from the Washington Chapter of the American Planning Association and the Planning Association of Washington. The award honors our staff for the Downtown Civic Core Vision and Action Plan.

The plan is the result of input from the community detailing what they would like to see in downtown. It builds on what is already happening in the community and strengthens the bonds with those organizations that will make it happen.

Both awards are the result of the vision our staff has for transforming Renton's downtown into a vibrant urban area. They also have another thing in common: both projects included an extensive amount of public engagement and reflect the efforts of many members of our community who were involved in the visioning process.

We are very much on our way to achieving our goal of an urban downtown Renton where people come to live, work, learn, play and visit.

## Farmers Market is a true community event

ON MONDAY, I PROCLAIMED this week to be [Farmers Market Week](#) in Renton.

The market is truly a community event. Its' congenial atmosphere appeals to residents of all ages and backgrounds, as there's something for everyone. It also provides a place for hard-working Washington family farmers and artisans to bring their goods directly to consumers.



The [market showcases](#) the best of Renton to the thousands who visit: live entertainment, cooking demonstrations, money-saving tips. The Community Booth is a wonderful way to learn about activities here in Renton. For example on August 14, the market will spotlight the Renton History Museum and on August 21 the Renton Senior Activity Center. We also have the Kids Passport contest, which shows youngsters the importance of developing good nutritional habits.

If you haven't already, take some time out of your busy schedule to visit the market on any Tuesday, 3 to 7 p.m., at Piazza Park, through September 25. You'll be glad you did.

## Rainier Ave project receives regional funding

THE CITY HAS RECEIVED \$3 million from the Puget Sound Regional Council fund for Phase 4 of the Rainier Avenue S. Corridor Improvement project. Phase 4 will extend from South Third Street to NW Third Place.

The Rainier Avenue S. project is one of four high priority projects the [Transportation Division](#) presented to the City Council's Committee of the Whole on Monday as part of the process city departments go through in determining their 2019 and 2020 budget requests.



## Come Cruz the Loop on August 18

OUR SECOND ANNUAL [CRUZ THE LOOP](#) is Saturday, August 18, from 5 to 9 p.m. We had a great time last year in our first go-around and have made some alterations to make year two even better.

The new location, Piazza Park, is more centrally located downtown, providing easier access to restaurants, shops, and parking. We've added a beer garden, wing-eating contest, and yard games. Of courses we kept the hot rods and live music from the era!



## 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](#)