



# This Week from the Mayor



OCTOBER 4, 2018

VOL. III, NO. 31

## Balanced budget presented to city council

ON MONDAY I PRESENTED my proposed balanced budget for 2019 and 2020 to the Council's Committee of the Whole.

I'm pleased to say that the city's financial strength remains strong and the proposed budget will allow us to continue providing the services that our growing community requires.

The budget reaffirms public safety as my number one priority. It calls for expenditures of \$525 million for two years, of which \$217.3 million is the general fund, which includes police and courts.

We have seen hundreds of millions of private dollars invested in new projects around the city. In fact, our Community & Economic Development staff have broken all previous records in terms of permits processed and inspections performed.

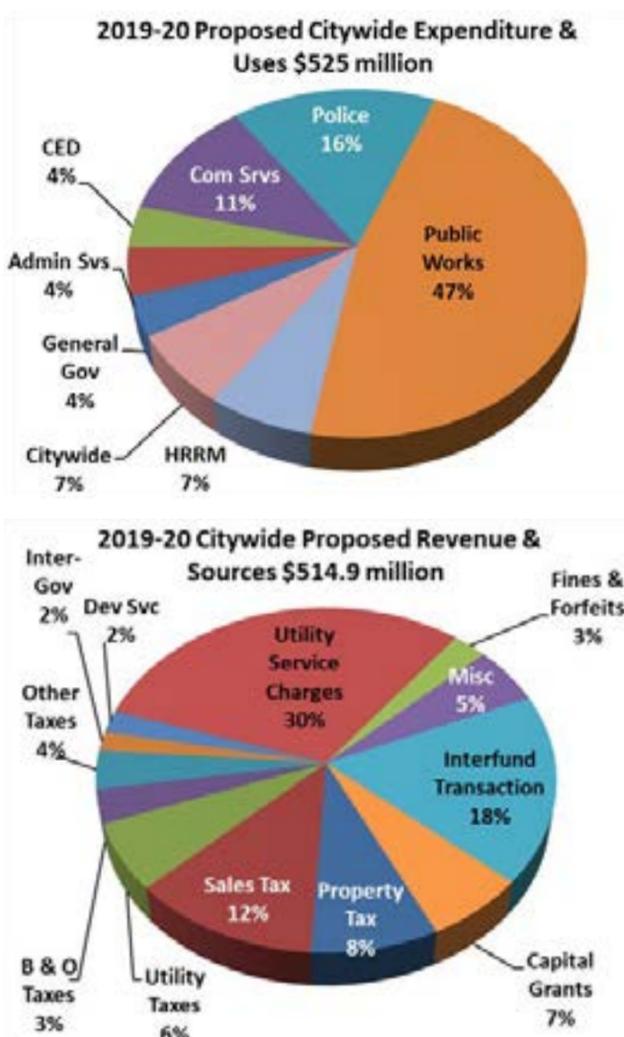
We have also seen our population top 104,000. Add to that more than 57,000 people who work in the city, and you can see our facilities and services are being stretched. To keep us moving forward with

our commitment to providing excellent service, the budget proposes adding positions to our Community & Economic Development and Community Services Departments. These new positions will allow us to continue our successful efforts in recruiting quality companies, new jobs and redevelopment opportunities to Renton.

The budget also contains funding to assist seniors and others with housing needs as part of the Healthy Housing Initiative and an additional \$50,000 each year for arts and culture projects in support of the Renton Municipal Arts Commission.

Putting together the budget is a meticulous process that involves both city staff and members of the community. I would especially like to thank the contributions of the Budget Advisory Group: a group of local residents, business owners and community leaders who met over several weeks with city administrators to provide valuable input that helped shape the budget.

You can watch my presentation to the city council and review the budget at [rentonwa.gov/budget1920](http://rentonwa.gov/budget1920).



Mayor Law and Chief VanValey shake hands after the swearing-in ceremony. Later, there was time for a photo with his mother JoAnn.

## Ed VanValey is new police chief

ALSO AT MONDAY'S COUNCIL meeting I had the privilege of [swearing in Ed VanValey](#) as Renton's ninth police chief. Ed grew up in Renton and attended Lindbergh High School, where he set a goal of working for the Renton Police Department.

After graduating from Central Washington University and serving 18 months with the United States Army in the Middle East, he joined the department in 1998. He was promoted to sergeant in 2008, commander in 2012 and to deputy chief in 2013 by his predecessor Kevin Milosevich.

Ed has earned the respect of everyone inside and outside the department over the years for his hard work and dedication to his craft. I know he'll do an excellent job as our chief.

## REACH fundraising gala is October 18

REACH, the Renton Ecumenical Association of Churches, is a community of churches and partner agencies that has been a vital part of the Renton community for over 40 years. I've had the pleasure of working with them on several projects that benefit our community, one of which is the Center of Hope housed here at city hall.



The Center of Hope at City Hall provides basic survival needs for homeless and single women.

Now is your chance to help them. REACH's annual gala is October 18, at 6 p.m. at the Renton Event Center. The evening features a silent auction, dinner, program celebrating our community, and raffle. Tickets are \$50 and available at [reachrenton.org](http://reachrenton.org). If you can't attend the gala, but still wish to donate, please visit their website.

## 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](#)