



This Week from the Mayor



FEBRUARY 22, 2019

VOL. IV, NO. 4

Celebrating Black History Month



Mayor Denis Law, Renton councilmembers, Renton police, and members of Renton African American Pastors (RAAP) Group celebrate at a previous Black History Month program.

CELEBRATING AND SUPPORTING the diversity of Renton has long been a focus of mine. I encourage future leaders, youth and young adults to attend the upcoming program "Realizing the Dream: Justice for All" on February 28, from 6–7:30 p.m. at SKY Urban Empowerment and Transformation Center (879 Rainier Ave. N, Suite A-100, Renton). In its fifth year, this program is co-sponsored by Renton African American Pastors Group, the City of Renton, and Renton Police. Guest Speaker is Sadiqa Sakin, President of Seattle King County NAACP. The event will also include a drama performance, spoken word, speakers and dialogue.

Snow won't stop the Renton History Museum from commemorating Black History Month—the Museum rescheduled its events to March. On Saturday March 2 at 11 a.m., a special screening of *Hidden Figures* celebrates the accomplishments of women of color who contributed to the Space Program. Later in the month, Global Artists Collective will perform their hip hop, spoken word, and dance program on Saturday March 16 at 1 p.m.



Global Artists Collective will perform at the Renton History Museum on March 16 at 1 p.m.

Snow by the numbers

AS YOU KNOW, our Public Works road maintenance crews were kept very busy during the unusual snow events we experienced this month. Patrick Zellner, street maintenance manager, compiled some data on what it took to maintain the primary arterials in Renton between February 3 and 14. Our crews worked around the clock in 12 hour shifts during this event.

MATERIALS USED:



650
tons of sand

400
tons of salt

10,000
gallons of liquid deicer

Crews, using 12 vehicles equipped with plows and deicer equipment, serviced over **15,000 miles of roadway** over the 12-day period. They also worked day and night repairing equipment throughout the snow event.

While a few people were impacted with their driveways being blocked by the snow, a large majority of the public were very pleased with our response and let us know through our social media outlets, offered praise for the efforts of our staff.

Great job by our PW staff!

I-405 /SR 167 interchange completed

WE'VE ALL BEEN WATCHING construction of the new I-405 /SR 167 interchange. Earlier this week, I was joined by Governor Jay Inslee, former State Representative Judy Clibborn and Washington State Department of Transportation (WSDOT) Secretary Millar to officially cut the ribbon for the I-405/SR 167 Interchange Direct Connector Project in Renton.

While it is always great to host events in Renton and brag about the city of Renton, this was a particularly important ribbon-cutting ceremony. This connection will provide buses, vanpools, and carpools a much more seamless connection between the I-405 carpool lanes and the SR 167 HOT lanes. Thousands of commuters from South King County will benefit from this Direct Connector.

Originally expected to open to traffic in spring 2019, the I-405/SR 167 Interchange Direct Connector flyover ramp was completed four months ahead of schedule by WSDOT. It is also the first phase of the Renton-to-Bellevue Widening and Express Toll Lanes Project, which will help to improve traffic operations throughout the corridor. The ramp will be the critical link that will create



Together with WSDOT Secretary Roger Millar, former State Representative Judy Clibborn, and Governor Jay Inslee; Mayor Denis Law celebrates the completion of the new I-405/SR 167 interchange.

a 40-mile express toll lane system. This highway will solve weaving issues associated with drivers exiting the carpool or high occupancy toll (HOT) lanes, merging onto I-405 or SR 167, and merging across traffic again to the carpool or HOT lanes.

We in Renton are looking forward to a continued partnership with WSDOT through the next phase of work from here to Bellevue in the coming years.

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. [Translate](#) | [Archive](#)