Public Works honors their own

Yesterday I was on hand as our Public Works Department honored their own during their annual longevity ceremony. This year’s event had an extra twist since it was the last ceremony for administrator Gregg Zimmerman, who is retiring at the end of this month after 30 distinguished years with the city. Under Gregg’s leadership public works has gained a well-deserved reputation for not only completing projects on time and under budget but for also providing first class customer service to our residents. I am very proud of Gregg and thankful for all his achievements and years of service to the city. His definitive job mark on Renton and will be missed by all.

Maintenance Service Worker Kevin Halti also received a 30 year award and Water Services Manager George Stahl received a 40 year award. My congratulations to Kevin and George for reaching their milestones, and my thanks and appreciation to all the women and men of the department. You are truly a credit to the city.

Renton Counts!

We hosted a Census 2020 information table at the annual resource exchange last week at Lindbergh High School. We discussed the how census results determine federal funding for vital school programs like special education, Head Start, school lunches, and classroom technology. We also stressed the need for all Renton residents to be counted because an inaccurate count would lead to fewer federal funding and lead to crowded classrooms and insufficient supplies, a major concern for both students and parents.

If you would like us to share Census 2020 information at an upcoming community event, please contact Ginna Hernandez our census program manager at 425-430-7728 or ghernandez@rentonwa.gov. An incomplete count can have a negative impact on Renton for the next ten years. Remember, Renton Counts!

St. Vincent de Paul celebrates centennial

Last week city staff were on hand at the St. Vincent de Paul thrift store on Rainier Avenue to help celebrate the charity’s 100 anniversary in Washington. An idea that was started in Wallingford remains a vital part of the community today.

Renton is fortunate to have a St. Vincent de Paul thrift store in our community providing recycled and reused items as well as creating jobs in our community. My thanks and appreciation for all you’ve done and will continue to do for our city.

Angelina Benedetti appointed to Council

Congratulations to Angelina Benedetti on her appointment on Monday to the Renton City Council. Angelina will complete the remaining term for the District 4 seat my council seat.

Angelina has served our community for many years and has been active with different boards and commissions in the City of Renton. Ms. Benedetti has served on the Planning Commission since 2013, including two years (2017-2019) as Chair, and is the current Vice Chair. She has been a member of the City Center Community Plan Advisory Board since 2014, a member of the Renton Downtown Partnership, and a member of the Budget Advisory Committee in 2016 and 2019. She will be formally sworn in during Monday’s City Council meeting.

Construction firm chosen for Williams and Wells avenue project

Our plan to convert both Williams Avenue South and Wells Avenue South from one-way to two-way took a major step forward this week as Cascade Civil Construction was the project’s low bidder.

The project is one of the main parts of the Civic Core Plan. It will add lighting, street furniture, bike racks, signage, wayfinding in addition to improve the flow of traffic. Staff will be working closely with local businesses, chamber of commerce and residents to help minimize the impact.

Feedback

Comments, questions or suggestions, or just want to share the great things that are happening in the city, please email me. Thanks for reading.