



This Week from the Mayor



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Family First Center receives \$3 million donation

A heartfelt thank you to the First Financial Northwest Foundation who authorized \$3 million toward the construction of our proposed Family First Community Center in the Cascade/Benson Hill area.

The center is a collaborative effort between the city, the Seahawks Doug Baldwin, and Renton School District. The contribution marks a significant step towards fulfilling our fundraising goal.

Doug and I met with the foundation board and explained the many ways a community center would benefit the community. The center will be instrumental in providing health and fitness programs as well as educational and recreational opportunities to area residents.

We estimate the center will cost \$15 million to build and Renton School District is donating the land. Renton City Council has authorized \$4 million for the project; Car Pros, a Renton auto dealer, will make a donation for every car sold; and King County councilmembers Dave Upthegrove and Reagan Dunn have authorized \$75,000 from Kingdome surplus funds. All this before we start our capital campaign, develop a design for the center, and establish programs.

We're well on our way to making this necessity a reality.



Gary Kohlwes, Denis Law, Joann Lee, Charles DeLaurenti II, Norma McQuiller, Gary Faull, and Doug Baldwin

KING5 profiles Saturday's Cruz the Loop

How many of you saw the [lighthearted story](#) on our upcoming [Cruz the Loop](#) that KING5 Evening did Wednesday night? I had fun reminiscing about my days cruising the loop and talking about our plans for this Saturday.

George Stahl from Public Works and his wife Stacy were a prominent part of the piece. Did you know they met while cruising the loop, married, and will celebrate their 38th wedding anniversary this year? They, along with their seven children and seven grandchildren, will be taking part.

[Cruz the Loop](#) takes place this Saturday from 12-5 p.m. on the grounds of Renton High School. There will be bands playing the hits of the era, food trucks, and family fun activities. At 4 p.m. registered cars will pull out and recreate the loop. It promises to be an afternoon of fun.



George Stahl and his wife, Stacy, met while cruising the loop. They'll celebrate 38 years of marriage this year.

Our 6th consecutive Smart Communities Award



Gary Idleburg, State of Washington Department of Commerce Senior Planner (center) was at Monday's city council to present the Governor's Smart Communities Award to the city and members of the Renton Municipal Arts Commission.

At Monday's city council meeting we officially received our sixth consecutive [Governor's Smart Communities Award](#).

We were honored for our Galvanizing Art Projects program, a unique partnership between the city and [Renton Municipal Arts Commission](#) (RMAC). RMAC received \$10,000 from the city's general fund and is using the money to commission a broad spectrum of local artists to create public art that reflects Renton's heritage.

Now in its 51st year, RMAC has been working to improve our quality of life longer than any other in King County. Its members meet monthly to work with local residents and organizations to both develop and support art projects and culture in the city.



Mayor Law and Gary Idleburg

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.