



A Message from Mayor Denis Law

I am honored to take my place as the mayor of Renton. This couldn't have happened at a better time. The benefit of years of vision and hard work are beginning to be evident as we see new development taking place across our city.

Renton citizens will experience significant changes this year as we complete the official opening of The Landing, welcome the Seattle Seahawks to their new home in Kennydale, and cut the ribbons on the openings of the Federal Reserve Bank and the new office for King County Elections.

But the big story for 2008 will be the annexation of the Cascade/Benson community that will result in growing our city by at least 16,000 people, increasing our population to 80,000 or more. And by March 1, we will have hired – or started recruitment efforts – to add upwards of 90 new city employees to provide services to our new residents.

Many other things will take shape this year. A major apartment complex with street-level retail stores is planned for the intersection of S. 2nd St. and Main St. Harvest Partners is finalizing the process to purchase an additional 21 acres from The Boeing Company for the next phase of The Landing. Frontier Bank is building a new branch in downtown Renton and several auto dealers will cut the ribbons on their new facilities.

In addition to all this new development, the city will continue to focus resources on efforts to revitalize the Highlands and downtown Renton. And we will examine our code enforcement efforts to make sure we're making progress at targeting and eradicating problems negatively impacting our neighborhoods.

We have several major improvements underway for our roads and other infrastructure. BNSF Railway Company is currently replacing the railroad bridges in downtown Renton to provide reliable rail service to The Boeing Company. Taking advantage of this opportunity, we will make several improvements to our roads through the downtown area.

We will also continue to work hard to keep our neighborhoods and our city safe. People need to feel safe in their homes and when they are out in the community.

We will strengthen our entire array of public safety services. We will work together with the community and give our police the support and resources they need to make our neighborhoods even safer in the years ahead.

In the days and months ahead, I will work with the City Council and our staff to develop the goals for our future and lay out the steps to achieve them.

Growth is inevitable and as our city continues to attract more residents, it's very important that we manage this growth and stay focused on our goal of creating and maintaining a high quality of life for our residents.

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