



Burien

Washington, USA

City of Burien

MEMORANDUM

DATE: January 13, 2017

TO: City Council

FROM: Tony Piasecki, Interim City Manager

SUBJECT: Weekly Report

City Manager's Office

- On Tuesday, January 24, interviews will be held with the two finalists for the Economic Development Manager position. The candidates will first interview with the Leadership Team, then a panel comprised of three BEDP members and three councilmembers. They will then have a final interview with me.
- We look forward to welcoming our new Communications Officer, Emily Inlow-Hood, on Tuesday, January 17.
- ICMA Management Fellow Laura Crandall has been appointed as staff liaison to the Burien Airport Committee. She will also assist with the ad hoc human services committee.
- On January 23, staff and I will meet with Debra George, Executive Director of CARES, to negotiate the CARES contract amendment and a future contract.

Parks and Recreation

- Empty Bowls is Friday, January 27, at the Burien Community Center. Lunch will be served 11:00am-2:00pm, and dinner at 4-8:00pm, and will consist of soup, bread, dessert and a drink. Participants can also pick out a beautiful handmade bowl. The minimum donation is \$15 for adults and \$10 for children. Proceeds benefit the Highline & White Center Food Banks so please be sure to come out on the 27th to help combat hunger in our community!
- January 9-14 is Free Fitness Trail Week. This is a great opportunity for participants to sample a class before registering.
- Recruitment is underway for the Parks Maintenance Worker position that was vacated by Cory Jenkins when he was promoted to Parks and Facilities Maintenance Supervisor.

Legal

- The animal cruelty case went before the hearing examiner on January 3. Detective Mandela was present and testified on behalf of the City. If the hearing results in an unfavorable decision for the City and does not result in a permanent impound of the animals, we will appeal the hearing examiner's decision to Superior Court. The City did not adopt by reference King County Code Section 11.04.225, which prohibits a person who has committed animal cruelty from owning animals for a four year-period. This may be considered in the future.
- We are seeking a permanent injunction against the VIP Hookah Lounge so they will not be able to reopen.

Community Development

- The Planning Commission held a public hearing on January 11 to discuss minor zoning code amendments including parking, personal wireless service facilities, and accessory dwelling units. The commission is scheduled to make a recommendation to City Council at the February 6 meeting.
- As required by law, staff will publish by the end of January a 2016 land use performance decisions report. We are rated on issuing a decision within 120 days; we have met this target 95% of the time.

Economic Development

- Wayfinding: The scope and contract have been agreed upon with KPG Interdisciplinary and a kick-off meeting will be held next week.
- Branding: On Thursday, January 12, JayRay delivered to me the two logo designs recommended by the Branding Advisory Committee for consideration; these will go to Council on February 6.
- Sweet Breeze Ice Cream celebrated their grand opening on Thursday, January 12, at 1:00pm.
- Medzo Gelato Bar and Travel Café opened in Olde Burien and will serve gelato, sorbet, espresso, and spirited options for guests 21 and over.
- Business owners on 152nd are expressing concern over the shooting last Saturday in front of the library. They are also reporting a steep increase in homeless activities negatively impacting their businesses including garbage, human waste, vandalism, theft and drug use.
- The 45th Annual Economic Forecast Conference, presented by Economic Development Council of Seattle & King County, was Thursday, January 12, from 7:30am-1:30pm at the Westin Hotel in Seattle. Chris Craig, Economic Development Specialist, attended along with Councilmember Nancy Tosta and Deputy Mayor Bob Edgar.

Police

- On Saturday, January 7, one man shot another during a verbal dispute on SW 152nd Street near 4th Ave. The suspect, known to police, was arrested right away and the area was canvassed and the weapon recovered. The victim was taken to Harborview with non-life threatening injuries.
- Tuesday, January 3, an 18-year-old man was shot and killed in a gang related incident at Alturas Apartments in north Burien. A suspect is in custody. Officers attended the victim's wake to prevent further violence, and new detectives will be assigned to this community to increase safety and send the message that gang activity will not be tolerated.

Human resources

- The 2016 L&I report was recently completed. A total of five injuries were reported; one resulted in days away from work and one resulted in a return to work with job restrictions.
- The City's application for the AWC Well City Award is in process. Members of the AWC Employee Benefit Trust are eligible to apply for the award and the cities that earn the award receive a 2% discount on all medical premiums.

Public Works

- On January 23, work is scheduled to begin on the City Hall drinking fountain and reconfiguration of the adjacent wellness room. This work is mandated in the Letter of Agreement signed last summer between Burien and the United States Attorney's Office (USAO). Construction is scheduled to last for six weeks. Noisy work will occur outside of library and City Hall operating hours, and a dust curtain will help keep the lobby presentable during construction.
- Design is underway to replace the 'Downtown Burien' archway sign in the 130 block of SW 152nd that was toppled by a crane last February. Staff is coordinating with businesses that may be impacted by this project. The start date will depend on feedback from the businesses in the area, but completion is expected by the end of July.

Finance

- The Finance Department's focus remains on the 2017-2018 budget. Staff is working on improvements to the graphics and pages will be sent out soon to directors for proofreading.
- Recruitment has begun for the open Senior Financial Analyst position; 11 applications have been received so far.
- Eugene Tamiya has been hired to fill our open Information Services Technician position and he will start on January 17. He comes to us from Seitel Systems where he worked for the past 18 years. Welcome to the Burien team, Eugene!