



Burien

Washington, USA

City of Burien

MEMORANDUM

DATE: March 17, 2017

TO: City Council

FROM: Tony Piasecki, Interim City Manager

SUBJECT: Weekly Report

City Manager

- We've been eagerly anticipating the arrival of our new Economic Development Manager, Andrea Snyder. She joins us Monday, March 20th-be sure to stop by to introduce yourself and welcome her to Burien!
- City staff attended the YouthCare fundraising luncheon in Seattle on Tuesday, March 14. Two staff from Parks, one from Community Development, and two from the City Manager department took the opportunity to learn about the organization and build connections. YouthCare has operated for more than forty years and provides shelter, food, job training, funds for housing, and other services for youth aged 12-24. Data shows that 40% of homeless adults who have been on the streets for 20 years or more were homeless youth. YouthCare's mission is to get young people off the streets permanently.

Community Development

- Next week, March 20-23, building division staff will be attending Washington Association of Building Officials (WABO) training sessions on 2015 adopted construction codes and other current building related issues. We will have only one building inspector/plans examiner available each day and the Building Official will be staffing the counter on two days to enable the permit technicians to attend.

Finance

- Staff is busy working on year-end, and have submitted the budget document to Government Finance Officers Association (GFOA) for the Distinguished Budget Award. IT is working on installation of this year's desktop replacements.

Parks and Recreation

- The 2017 Wild Strawberry Festival (WSF) announcement went out on March 15 to request vendor applications for this year's event. WSF will take place June 17-18, Father's Day weekend, and is located within and around the Town Square Park area.

- PaRCS staff met with the Uplift Youth Program staff at the new Uplift Dawha Center last week. This is a new youth center and program in Burien at 14600 1st Ave S under the Elks Lodge. Their mission is to encourage youth (especially those who need us the most) to build strong character and realize their full potential as responsible citizens and leaders. They strive to cultivate a diverse community of leaders who promote respect, understanding, and cooperation while working to eradicate racism, anti-Semitism, and all forms of discrimination. The directors of the center have been reaching out to non-profits and other organizations that serve youth to see what is already provided to the youth of this area and where the gaps might be. They are very interested in forming partnerships and uniting to serve the youth. Youth Center Hours are Monday – Friday 10am – 6pm, (Afterschool Youth programs 2:30pm – 6pm for 8 to 17 yrs old), Saturday 10am – 7pm (Late Night Program 7pm – 11pm for 18 yrs +).
- Staff attended a “Meet your Muslim Neighbors” event at the Burien Community Church on Thursday, March 9. Over 100 people attended the event. Speakers shared information about the Muslim religion and beliefs, and what it means to be Muslim in America. Following the speakers, there was a casual gathering for food and socializing, and a comfortable setting for good open discussion.
- Staff and participants of our teen programs have been impacted by a recent shooting last Friday in Burien. The victim and the young man who accidentally shot him were both participants of our teen programs for many years. Staff have set aside time in the programs to allow students to share their memories, their fears and concerns. We’ve invited the police to come in during the three different teen programs to talk to the kids about gun safety and answer any questions they might have.