

City Manager's Weekly Update May 10, 2019

State of the City Luncheon



Mayor Erin Sitterley presented SeaTac's State of the City address at Four Points by Sheraton Hotel in Des Moines on Friday, May 10. The State of the City luncheon was sponsored by Seattle Southside Chamber of Commerce.

"The City is in excellent financial shape," stated Mayor Sitterley to the crowd seated at the luncheon. The City has a healthy strategic reserve of more than \$25 million dollars. This reserve has given the City an emergency fund cushion to continue City operations, programs, and services when the next economic downtown hits the region. "We can take care of our residents if we have money in the bank," said Mayor Sitterley.

In addition, Sitterley spoke about the \$12 million in capital public works projects that will be taking place in the City this year. These projects will improve infrastructure, the mobility of residents, and improve pedestrian walkways.

The Mayor also spoke about the City's focus on public safety with the addition of seven police officers, including two motorcycle officers, who will be focusing on traffic enforcement on International Boulevard. As of May 1, the City also launched a Permit Parking program in the McMicken Heights neighborhood after residents requested the City take action to prevent airport related parkers on their residential streets.



Also in attendance was City Councilmembers Peter Kwon, Pam Fernald, and Joel Wachtel. City Manager Carl Cole was also on hand for the multi-city presentation.



Fallen Soldier Cart

Members of the SeaTac City Council and staff took part in a send-off ceremony for a new Fallen Soldier Cart bound for Phoenix Sky Harbor International (PHX). The ceremony took place Wednesday, May 8, at the Angle Lake Park. This is the tenth cart crafted by Alaska Airlines maintenance employees to honor all fallen military members. The cart carries the remains of the fallen service members to their final resting place.

From Angle Lake, Alaska Airlines maintenance employees will drive to



Phoenix to deliver the cart. Mayor Erin Sitterley and her husband Tom rode in the procession which guided the cart from SeaTac to its new home in Phoenix. The new cart will remain in the care of Alaska Airlines but will be available for use by any airline operating out of PHX.

Also attending the event was Councilmember Stanley Tombs, Pam Fernald, Joel Wachtel, and Peter Kwon. City Manager Carl Cole, along with several city staff members, were at the morning ceremony.

In May 2011, Alaska Airlines employees developed a structured Fallen Soldier Program to ensure strict military protocols are followed when transporting a fallen soldier. With blue paint, red carpet, and American flag curtains, the customized cart's exterior features an aluminum San Francisco International Airport sign and plaques representing the Army, Navy, Air Force, Marines, and Coast Guard. Inside are plaques for the Army National Guard and Air National Guard. On the top of the cart, visible to airline customers, is a large decal that says, "Alaska Airlines Honoring the Fallen"



along with a star and emblems for the five-armed services.

Community Leadership Academy Wrap-Up

On Saturday May 4, 13 residents completed the 2019 Community Leadership Academy (CLA).

The participants learned about how the City functions and learned ways to get involved. The second of two Saturday workshops focused on:

- Public Works
- Parks
- Police
- Human Resources
- Finances



The CLA is free to the public and offered once a year.





Conversations with the Council Update

More than a dozen SeaTac residents attended the April 30, 2019 Community Conversations with the Council. City Councilmembers sat at seven different tables to hear from residents about their top issues.

One of the most talked about subjects was the zoning or up-zoning of neighborhoods. Residents had questions regarding how zoning is decided. Several residents had concerns over any rezoning along Military Road South. Other residents had questions regarding sidewalks, and how they are decided upon and whether they are all connected. Speaking of connection, at least one residents wanted to connect all of the trails in the City.

With all the growth in the City, some residents had questions regarding whether there was enough housing to meet demand. Another resident thought there were additional needs for housing and how lack of housing along a wide spectrum may be impacting ability to attract businesses and investments. One resident wanted to know more about the nearly 700 housing units being built near the Tukwila International Boulevard Link Light Rail Station. Other wanted to learn more about the several residential projects in the works.

Roadways was a popular topic at the meeting. Many residents wondered about Tukwila's idea to put International Boulevard on a "road diet" which would restrict traffic movement. Other residents were concerned about the turning lanes in the 16400 block of Military Road South near the Safeway Grocery Store. Some neighbors wanted to add Speed Calming Measures such as speed humps to their residential streets.

When it came to economic development at least one resident had questions regarding Federal Designated Opportunity Zones and how they may impact residential neighborhoods within the designated census tracts. Several attendees expressed a desire to see new development of either breweries or a winery in the City. Others like the model that Vancouver BC uses around their Sky Trains which included multifamily high rises with commercial space on the bottom floors.

When it comes to our City parks, residents tended to have great things to say about the park amenities. They also had some ideas to improve the parks. One individual wanted to add cricket fields to the existing cricket pitch at North SeaTac Park inside the softball complex. Others wanted to know about the future of the soccer fields at the North SeaTac Park with the Port of Seattle Sustainable Airport Master Plan (SAMP) looking at possible redeveloping specific areas of the park. Another residents wanted to turn the equestrian center at North SeaTac Park into a dog park. While others complained about commuters using the parking lot at Des Moines Creek Trail to walk to the Angle Lake Station. Others wanted to see musical performances at Angle Lake Park and possibly hosting Spanish Theater at the park.

When it came to public safety, the majority of the concerns were about cars. Some residents wanted police to crack down on racing cars and other wanted to stop the loud mufflers from cars interrupting their quiet neighborhoods. Some residents were concerned about abandoned cars and homes in the City. The residents did like the police updates in the City Manager Weekly Update. Finally, one of the attendees stated they "Didn't realize how difficult it is to run a city."

The City is looking to host an additional town hall this year.

Citizen Advisory Committee Vacancies - Applications Are Being Accepted



Want to be more involved with the City of SeaTac? Want to provide a valuable service to your community and be more informed about City business? Let your voice be heard! Consider joining a Citizen Advisory Committee.

The following Citizen Advisory Committees have vacancies with applications accepted until all positions are filled, with review every two weeks:

- Senior Citizen Advisory Committee
- Sidewalk Advisory Committee

If you are interested in serving on a committee and to download an application, visit the city's <u>website</u>, or contact the City Clerk at 206.973.4661 or <u>cityclerk@seatacwa.gov</u>.

All positions are appointed by the Mayor and confirmed by the Council.

New Transit Option

King County Metro, Sound Transit, and City of Seattle launched a new on-demand shuttle service called <u>Via to Transit</u> that will make it more convenient to take transit in southeast Seattle and Tukwila.

Residents can use the Via app or call 206.258.7739 to hail a ride to and from five Link light rail stations (Mount Baker, Columbia City, Othello, Rainier Beach, and Tukwila International Boulevard) where they can board a bus or a Link train. Payment with an ORCA card is accepted, and will automatically apply as a transfer toward a trip on a bus or train.

For the full article on this, please click <u>here</u>.



May Upcoming Events:

Tuesday the 14th—Special Council Meeting

- 5:30 PM—6:00 PM
- City of SeaTac City Hall Council Chambers (4800 South 188th Street, SeaTac)
- Click <u>here</u> to view the agendas, packets, and handouts.

Tuesday the 14th—Regular Council Meeting

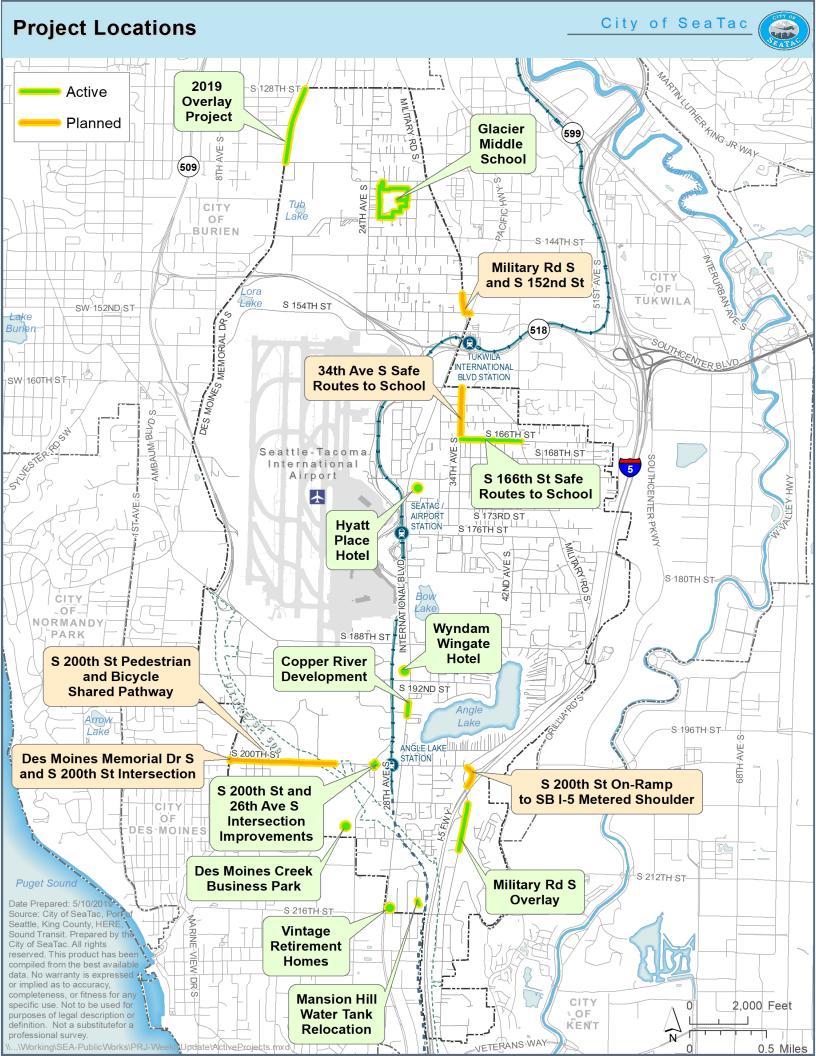
- 6:00 PM—9:00 PM
- City of SeaTac City Hall Council Chambers (4800 South 188th Street, SeaTac)
- Click <u>here</u> to view the agendas, packets, and handouts.

Monday the 27th—City Hall Closure: Memorial Day

- 8:30 AM—5:00 PM
- City Hall and its facilities
- Thank you to all our service members for your sacrifice!

Tuesday the 28th—Regular Council Meeting

- 6:00 PM—9:00 PM
- City of SeaTac City Hall Council Chambers (4800 South 188th Street, SeaTac)
- Click here to view the agendas, packets, and handouts.





2018 Annual Overlay Project—Military Road South

This project will overlay Military Road South from the Interstate 5/South 200th Street Bridge overpass to South 209th Street. Pavement repair, storm drainage infrastructure, and traffic signal improvements are also included in the scope of work. The contractor, R.W. Scott, is completing the final lift of paving from now through May 6. Please consider alternate routes during this time.

South 166th Street "Safe Routes to School" Project

This "Safe Routes to School" grant-funded project includes construction of sidewalks, curbs and gutters, storm drainage facilities, installation of an enhanced crosswalk, pedestrian lighting, and radar speed feedback signs. Construction is ongoing. Crews are currently working on placing concrete sidewalks.

Military Road South and South 152nd Street

Improvements for this road reconstruction and safety project include construction of bike lanes, curbs and gutters, sidewalks, new pavement, installation of street lighting, upgraded and interconnected signalization with pedestrian crossings, construction of a right turn lane on Eastbound South 152nd Street, and the elimination of the skewed intersection at Tukwila International Boulevard and Military Road South. A total of six construction bids were received on April 17, with Johansen Construction Company as the apparent low bidder. Project award is scheduled for the May 14 Regular Council Meeting, with construction expected to begin in July 2019.

2019 Annual Overlay Project—Des Moines Memorial Drive South

This project will overlay Des Moines Memorial Drive South from South 128th Street to South 136th Street. Pavement repair, storm drainage infrastructure, and traffic signal improvements are also included in the scope of work. Mile Resources is the apparent low bidder for this project. The project was awarded by Council on April 23. Construction is expected to begin in June 2019.

Des Moines Memorial Drive South and South 200th Street Intersection

Improvements for this intersection include construction of bike lanes, curbs and gutters, sidewalks, new pavement, installation of street lighting, a new traffic signal system with pedestrian crossings, left turn lanes for all approaches, and construction of a right turn lane on westbound South 200th Street. Final design and right-of-way acquisition are in progress.

34th Avenue South Project

This "Safe Routes to School" project includes construction of sidewalks, curbs and gutters, storm drainage facilities, installation of an enhanced crosswalk, pedestrian lighting, landscaping, and underground conversion of aerial utilities. Design and right-of-way acquisition are ongoing. Advertising for construction bids for this project is scheduled for the 4th quarter of 2019.

South 200th Street Shared-Use Path

This project includes building a new separated shared-use path along South 200th Street between 12th Place South and the Des Moines Creek Trailhead. The project will provide pedestrian connections to street improvements that will be constructed at the intersection of Des Moines Memorial Drive South and South 200th Street, and a connection to existing pedestrian and bicycle facilities accessing the Angle Lake Light Rail Station. Design and right-of-way acquisition are in progress. Advertising for construction bids for this project is scheduled for the 4th quarter of 2019.

See Project Map on Page 7.

