



Report from Mayor Jennifer Gregerson

to the Community, City Council and City Staff

May 5, 2014

My monthly report on my activities, ensuring that I remain accountable and connected to our community.

- This month, I worked with our staff on recommendations for creating a position, and eventually hiring a new Human Resources Manager. This fulfills my promise to examine executive services in the city and ensure that we provide the highest quality services in the most efficient and effective way. I am also recommending a Management Services Director to help oversee most departments and provide full-time professional support of the day-to-day operations in the City.

Community Outreach

- Met with residents and visitors at the Harbour Pointe Retirement Center for coffee and questions for me. I updated them on the waterfront, and we discussed concerns about construction noise. I visit them every other month for this informal coffee, and really appreciate the opportunity. This month, I talked to a resident at HPRC who first came to Mukilteo in the 1940's and had some stories of Old Town at the

- time.
- Met with Everett Councilmember Paul Roberts to discuss issues of mutual interest. It's important to me to be good partners with our neighbors.
- Attended Mukilteo Youth Advisory Committee meeting. MYAC toured Fire Station 25 this month.



Mayor Gregerson and Officer Colt Davis joined the Easter bunny at the Mukilteo Firefighter's Annual Easter Egg Hunt, held at Mukilteo Elementary.

- Attended Snohomish County Cities and Towns dinner,

Retrofitting 77 streetlights to LED will save the City **\$6,220** per year!

discussed ways for Snohomish County to be more effective in the region and the state in advocating for our shared priorities.



Interim City Administrator Rex Caldwell and Mayor Gregerson accept certificates of appreciation for the City's support of guard and reserve employees. ICA Caldwell was also presented the "My Boss is a Patriot" award from Employer Support of the Guard and Reserve representative John Van Dalen. He was nominated by Sergeant Cheol Kang.

- Attended and helped open the Firefighters Easter Egg Hunt by sounding the horn on the fire engine! Many city staff volunteered to make this event a big success.
- Met with Edmonds Community College President Jean Hernandez to discuss their programs and other areas of mutual interest. We have partnered with some Edmonds

Mayor's Action Agenda

Preserving Our Streets • Green Team • Japanese Gulch • Human Resources
Edgewater Beach Access • Fire Regionalization • Domestic Violence Services

CC programs to help gather data in Japanese Gulch, and I look forward to other ways we can work together.

- Met with Lindsay Rucker to learn more about the coming HPMagazine.
- Presented information about my action agenda and answered questions from Mukilteo Seniors group. We discussed traffic concerns, safety issues and the needs of seniors in our community.



Connie Reilly celebrates the opening of her new office in Mukilteo with friends and employees. Mayor Gregerson presented a proclamation celebrating the opening.

- Attended a meeting with the Planning department to discuss Mindmixer tool as option for comprehensive plan outreach. I learned an interesting stat: 9% of adults attend one public meeting a year (any type of meeting, which might include a homeowners association, school board, or city meeting); and 48% of people never attend a public meeting! I'm interested in expanding our tools for community outreach, to engage and hear from those voices!

- Spoke at the Washington State Parliamentarian's annual conference, held in Mukilteo.

A Great Team

- Met with each Councilmember as part of my one-on-one outreach meetings to the Council.
- Held my first all-staff quarterly meeting and shared updates from departments and my goals and priorities, as well as acknowledgement of excellent employees. Just two of the great stories I shared: firefighters who helped a person in rehabilitation in a wheelchair, in a very sensitive and humane way, going above and beyond. Several employees in the Police Department continue to work in temporary, cramped conditions as we get the repairs done on the damaged Police Station lobby. They have handled the situation with patience and grace towards our customers.

The City has received **18** applications for our Finance Director vacancy, with interviews expected this month!

- Met with the consultant from Prothman Company to discuss finance director opening and qualities we are seeking in that role.
- Met with two Police Department shifts to share information about my first quarter as Mayor, and to answer their questions. It's important to me be available and open for all of our staff. I'm visiting all our facilities quarterly so that I get that chance to talk with them.
- Held First Quarter Budget

Amendment meetings with department heads, where they presented their proposals for changes to the 2014 budget. My priorities for these changes include adjustments that will allow us to work smarter and more effectively, and investing in big projects such as the waterfront and Japanese Gulch planning.

A Healthy Community

- Met with Mukilteo YMCA Director Martin Cross to tour the YMCA and learn more about their programs and opportunities to work together.
- Discussed Green Cities program with Forterra staff. This program helps create a volunteer base for green spaces in the community. They currently work with six cities in the Puget Sound. This is a possibility for the City to pursue in the future, to ensure we take advantage of the volunteer base in the community for our newly expanded forest and gulch areas.



Mayor Gregerson accepted an \$8,500 rebate check from PUD for our LED streetlight replacement program, replacing 77 lights. The project only cost a total of \$10,000, and we expect energy savings to total \$6,000 per year.

- Discussed partnership with the Boys and Girls Club with Chuck Davis, and supported our staff's work on a recreation grant

application in coordination with the Club.

Sustainability

- Held our first Green Team meeting! The Green Team includes one member from each department in the City, working together to share ideas and initiatives to make our City more sustainable. An energetic group, we came up with a number of simple ideas to improve city practices. Ideas included paper reduction, recycling procedures, cleaning and city operations.
- Accepted a rebate check from PUD for our LED street lights installation.

Waterfront and Japanese Gulch

- Attended the Mukilteo Multimodal Ferry Terminal project coordination meeting. This monthly meeting brings our city staff together with all stakeholders on the tank farm property, including Washington State Ferries, Port of Everett, Sound Transit, NOAA, and Island County. NOAA shared updates and discussed possible plans for a joint NOAA/community pier, and aligning their vision for community accessibility and their research needs. WSF expects to have paperwork in place so they can proceed with pier removal this fall. This will be the first significant activity on the tank farm since planning began for this concept over 20 years ago.
- Met with Paula and Dan Sullivan to discuss the lower gulch. Discussed reasons for restricting access, such as the proximity of BNSF right of way, and ways to encourage preservation of the area for salmon conservation.
- Met with Adam LeMieux from

Congressman Larsen's office. We discussed federal issues related to NOAA, WSF and the BNSF rail line.



Kamiak student Joel Bervell accepts a proclamation from Mayor Gregerson, honoring his family's work on their "Hugs for Ghana" project, supporting the people of Ghana.

- Stopped in for discussion and tour of tank farm with Transportation Staff from Senator Murray's office and other stakeholders. Senator Murray has been a supporter of improvements on Mukilteo's waterfront, and it was a good opportunity to get her staff up to speed on the plans, challenges and opportunities at the tank farm.
- Met with Councilmember Schmalz and Kevin Stoltz to discuss the waterfront and their ideas for improvements. Also met later with them, Christine Schmalz and our Community Development Director to discuss the waterfront.

A Safe Community

- Attended monthly SnoCom board meeting. The board meeting is an important opportunity to provide oversight and hear updates about our 911 Dispatch service.
- Attended State Interoperability

Executive Committee, as a representative of Washington State cities. Discussed SR530 response and interoperability, including some concerns related to the communications process during the event. There are opportunities in the future to ensure communications leaders are clearly identified, so that the right trained people are managing communications technology and techniques. That might include interoperable radios and which channels are used by which task forces, for instance. The group also discussed recent 911 outage.



Red Cork Bistro celebrates their grand opening with a ribbon cutting with Mayor Gregerson, with the whole family participating! Their new shop is open for lunch and dinner, next to QFC.

- Had coffee with County Sheriff Trenary and local residents at the Red Cup. We discussed block watch programs, the City's clearing and grading ordinance, ways to discourage clearing before development is actually proposed, and connecting Mukilteo residents with jobs in our community.
- Participated in a discussion with finance, fire and administration staff about the Fire District 1 proposal. We discussed scenarios and confirmed our data. This was

in preparation for bringing this information first to the Public Safety Committee, and eventually the full Council and the public.

- Attended City Council Public Safety Committee and presented Fire District 1 contract information to the members. Councilmembers asked good questions which will allow us to finetune our data and bring them the information they need. We also discussed updates from the Police Department.
- Celebrated Assistant Chief McMahan's Liberty Firemark Award for his contributions to the fire service.

A Vibrant Economy

- Toured UniEnergy Technologies, a Mukilteo business working in green energy and looking to expand in the coming years. After my tour, I worked to connect them with the Chamber of Commerce and our Recreation Department, so they might learn about opportunities to support community events.
- Toured Electroimpact with Chamber of Commerce board members. Learned more about this successful aerospace industry business, where my fiancé works!
- Attended Chamber of Commerce breakfast with presentation by County Executive John Lovick. Mukilteo business owners asked questions about the SR530 slide response and the Executive's experiences. We also made sure to ask him about an update on Paine Field commercial air service. Things are generally on hold pending the City's appeal of the FAA's decision.

- Celebrated the opening of several businesses with a ribbon cutting, including: Red Cork Bistro, Connie Reilly's Allstate Insurance office and a new UPS Store.



Mayor Gregerson celebrated the opening of a new UPS Store with owner Disha Bhajaj and her family. Disha is a supporter of Spreeha, a Washington State nonprofit that supports families in urban slum communities in Bangladesh and invited the organization to attend as well.

- Met with Meghan McKee from UniEnergy Technologies.
- Attended the Chamber of Commerce Executive Board meeting.

A Growing Community

- Met with Stanwood Planning Director and Alliance for Housing Affordability staff to discuss the possibility of Stanwood participating. This organization will provide tools for our cities to meet housing needs in our communities. We have recently added the City of Arlington to the list of participants, and look forward to also adding Stanwood.
- Met with Mohammed Khan and heard an update on the plans for the Mukilteo mosque. I think it's exciting to have a newly active faith community in Mukilteo. Mohammed is aware of the challenges related to traffic in the area of the proposed mosque, and

is working closely with our planning staff as he continues to develop the project concepts.

- Participated in meetings related to my role on the State's Shoreline Hearings Board. This is a fascinating opportunity to learn about shoreline regulations and how they are implemented and challenged in other communities. I have heard cases in Point Roberts, Thurston County, Kirkland, and most recently, Friday Harbor.



Mukilteo Yacht Club celebrated the opening of boating season on May 3rd, and Mayor Gregerson helped judge the Disney themed boat decorating contest!

Paine Field

- Met County Councilmembers, including Terry Ryan and Stephanie Wright to discuss commercial air service at Paine Field. Our City Councilmembers and I encouraged them to wait for the results of our appeal and also to consider the commitments the county has made as Mukilteo has developed.
- The City's appeal of the FAA

determination that air service would not cause any impacts is scheduled to be heard at federal court on June 18th, 8am, in Seattle.

Transportation

- Attended the City Council's Transportation Committee meeting. We discussed sidewalk prioritization and a pedestrian master plan with policies to support that, as well as pavement preservation discussion. Staff will pursue a \$650k county grant in budget year 2016 for Harbour Pointe Blvd and 5th Street improvements. If we are successful and pair that with our annual program, we should be able to get a BWC contractor to bid on a Mukilteo for the project. A recent bidding process at Snohomish County resulted in 4 vendors presenting proposals for BWC, so we now have an accurate assessment of costs. Unfortunately, the County did not elect to move forward with the BWC project, so we are unable to do a test case this year.