



Volume 19, No. 3, December 2007

## President's Message

Our theme this year is Regeneration, and as the New Year begins, it's appropriate to take stock of where we are in the profession and how best to reinvigorate our efforts to meet the challenges ahead. The Regeneration theme reflects our efforts to reach out to a new generation of managers and administrators to take up the city/county management profession. But it also reflects our willingness to "regenerate" our own sense of commitment and purpose, and to embrace self-assessment and innovation in our own careers and in our own organizations.

WCMA has a lot to be proud about, and our new emphasis on mentoring public administration students who are seeking to "break in" to this profession is meeting with early successes. WCMA is also further developing its scholarship program to assist graduate students in our career field, as well as to facilitate their attendance at our conference. Our profession is not without its stressors, but we owe to the up and coming new generation, both within our organizations and in the graduate public administration programs, a reminder of the tremendous rewards of a public service management career.

I also want to remind our members of the upcoming regional conference with our colleagues in Oregon, to be held at Salishan Resort on the Oregon coast on March 11-14. The program will include a workshop on ethics and an opportunity to pursue ICMA credentialing. Hope to see you there!

Andrew Neiditz  
Lakewood City Manager  
President, WCMA

## Need Advice or Help?

What to do? Call a **Range Rider**!! Of course! Come January 1, 2008, there are about to be five of them! Lots and lots of experience to draw from. They are:

### **Ron Bartels**

2201 Chambers Lake Lane SE  
Lacey, WA 98503-6935  
Phone: (360) 438-5216  
Cell phone: (206) 948-4924  
E-mail: [rangeriderwest@comcast.net](mailto:rangeriderwest@comcast.net)

### **Roger Crum**

3406 S Grand Blvd., Apt. 312  
Spokane, WA 99204  
Phone: (509) 363-0034  
E-mail: [rdcrum@comcast.net](mailto:rdcrum@comcast.net)

### **Al Locke**

PO Box 13  
Allyn, WA 98524-0013  
Phone: (360) 427-4271  
E-mail: [aljeanyne@earthlink.net](mailto:aljeanyne@earthlink.net)

### **Stan McNutt**

271 Ryan Loop  
St. Maries, ID 83861-7111  
Phone/Fax: (208) 245-5043  
E-mail: [rangerider@smgazette.com](mailto:rangerider@smgazette.com)

### **L. Joe Miller**

4400 Stone Way N, #300  
Seattle, WA 98103  
Phone: (206) 547-0424

## Editor's Note:

This would be a good time to check up on yourself. Please take a look at your listing on the WCMA roster. And if it's not current and/or correct, please send what it ***should*** say, and immediately let us know what that might be. We try to keep the roster current, but we do find lapses, both in members letting us know of changes, and in getting things we're given up to date.

Go to the WCMA website at <http://wccma.org>. Click on "Membership", and then click on "Directory". Put in your last name, click on the search button, and take a look. If it's okay, please let us know. If it needs changing, let us know that, too, and what it should be changed to say. If, along the way, you stumble on something that tells us all that the listing for another person, or for someone you know, is incorrect, please send us an alert, and we'll chase it down. Send the results to Donita Knutson at [dknutson@mrsc.org](mailto:dknutson@mrsc.org).

Ron Bartels, editor  
WCMA News

---

## A Special Note:

The following article recently appeared in the ICMA web publication [Local Government Matters](#).

### Washington, Oregon City Managers Build Self-Sustaining Relationships with Communities in Poland

The mission of ICMA is to create excellence in local governance by developing and fostering professional local government management worldwide. In the case of Poland, a number of ICMA members from the states of Washington and Oregon have taken this mission to heart, by working to establish and strengthen self-sustaining relationships with their counterparts in Poland.

With funding from the U.S. Agency for International Development (USAID), [ICMA International worked intensively in Poland](#) with local government leaders and their communities for a little more than 10 years. Building on the efforts of the Solidarity movement, Poland was a leader in the transition to democracy and a market economy in Central Europe after 1989. While the last of those ICMA projects ended in 2001, many of the relationships between municipal managers in the United States and their counterparts in Poland that sprung up because of that USAID contract work have continued, and have even expanded.

One leader in these ongoing ventures has been Lloyd Halverson, city administrator of Camas, Washington. Halverson worked in Poland for 15 months for PricewaterhouseCoopers as a consultant with a project funded by USAID, the Local Government Partnership Program, for which ICMA also provided several full-time staff members.

---

After he returned to the U.S., Halverson maintained his personal connections with many local government officials in Poland and also sought to involve other city managers in Washington and Oregon in a wide range of activities. Delegations from Washington and Oregon have visited various Polish cities, and Polish officials have traveled to those two states. Washington and Oregon officials have given seminars in Poland on various aspects of local government management. Exhibits of art have been exchanged between communities in Poland and Washington. Camas and three Polish cities have become official “ sister cities.”

In May 2004, Camas and the Oregon community of Hillsboro signed a formal partnership accord with the cities of Morawica, Krapkowice, and Zabierzow. That agreement provided a framework for the various activities among the communities, and it also formally affiliated the new partnership with cities in Germany, the Czech Republic, Slovakia, and the Ukraine that already had ongoing relationships with those three Polish cities.

Efforts by Halverson and other Washington municipal managers culminated in March 2007 with the [signing of an agreement](#) between the Washington City/County Management Association (WCMA) and two Polish professional groups. One is an association for municipal officials in Swietokrzyski (Holy Cross) Province, and the other is the Foundation in Support of Local Democracy, which supports the development of local self-governance and public administration in Poland and other countries in transition.

Bob Jean, city manager of University Place, Washington, hopes he can help convince additional state associations to follow this example. This approach, says Jean, “ is a low-cost, high-leverage strategy.” When the municipal officials from one country visit their counterparts in the other country, they stay in the local officials’ homes, so the only major expense is the air travel. Jean wants to reduce that cost in the future,

especially for municipal officials coming to the U.S., by seeking out businesses to serve as sponsors for the exchanges.

While this approach may be appropriate for Poland and other emerging democracies, it won't work everywhere, says Jean. For countries like Iraq, that are still facing very difficult circumstances, U.S. government financial support will likely be needed to attract salaried professionals for the work. " But," says Jean, " we want to see these kinds of state-to-state activities expanded. And there can be other alternatives to [U.S. government] funding, such as person-to-person and city-to-city relationships."

Another enthusiastic supporter of the WCMA efforts is Bill McDonald, city administrator of Dupont, Washington. McDonald has traveled to Poland several times to help with seminars, giving presentations on such subjects as basic principles of local government, economic development, and the council-manager form of government. He and his wife hosted a Polish official in their home for a three-week visit.

During a recent visit by a Polish delegation to Dupont, the mayor and the council were deeply impressed by the Poles' commitment to democracy. " Several of them [the Dupont officials] said it was a life-changing experience," reported McDonald. " It shrunk the globe. The personal connection with people who have had a democracy for less than 20 years has been remarkable. Seeing the passion of the Poles has been infectious. I want to help them to be successful."

To learn more about the structure of local government in Poland, go to [Autorités locales du Monde/World Local Authorities](http://www.almwla.org/Autorités locales du Monde/World Local Authorities)<http://www.almwla.org/>

## And Another Special Note:

ICMA (International City/County Management Association) has informed WCMA that the following are 2007 ICMA Award Recipients. This list includes annual, service, and ICMA Center for Performance Measurement (CPM) award recipients.

Those recognized for Performance Measurement:

City of Bellevue  
City of Sammamish  
City of Tacoma  
City of University Place  
City of Vancouver

Annual service awards go to:

Theodore A. Barkley	City Manager	City of Ellensburg
John J. Caulfield	City Manager	City of Mountlake Terrace
Jane M. Christenson	Assistant to the Mayor	City of Redmond
Jay B. Covington	Chief Administrative Officer	City of Renton
Greg J. Cuoio	City Manager	City of Lacey
Lloyd Halverson	City Administrator	City of Camas
Allen Johnson	City Administrator	City of Arlington
Leon Kos	City Administrator	City of Issaquah
Richard A. Leahy	City Manager	City of Woodinville
Corbitt T Loch	Planning Director	City of Snohomish
David R. Mercier	City Manager	City of Spokane Valley
Robert L. Olander	City Manager	City of Shoreline
Steven R. Sarkozy	City Manager	City of Bellevue
John F. Sherman	City Supervisor	City of Pullman
Keith E. Stahley	Director of Community Planning & Development	City of Olympia
Stan R. Strebel	Director, Administrative & Community Services	City of Pasco
David G. Timmons	City Manager	City of Port Townsend
Gary R. Tomsic	City Manager	City of Blaine
Michael R. Wilson		
Bunyamin B. Yazici	City Manager	City of Sammamish

## And now, the news:

*Region 1, Clallam, Jefferson, Kitsap & Mason Counties*

*Lynn Nordby, Consultant*

[lknordby@msn.com](mailto:lknordby@msn.com)

No report.

*Region 2, Grays Harbor, Lewis, Pacific & Thurston Counties*

*Mike McCarty, Assistant Director, Operations and Services, AWC*

[mikem@awcnet.org](mailto:mikem@awcnet.org)

**Centralia** sent the following:

Due to flood emergency in **Centralia**, we will not have any news this time. Sorry.

Editor's comment: That's certainly understandable!

In a recent telephone conversation, Dave Campbell, assistant city manager of **Longview**, and former city manager of **Chehalis**, reports that he's been back to his old city trying to help out.

**Lacey** has been designated as an official "Green Power Community" by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) making our city one of only twelve such communities in the entire nation. EPA awards the honor to cities that meet or exceed minimum green power purchasing benchmarks.

More than 5 percent of the collective electrical energy used in **Lacey's** homes, businesses and offices is now green power, representing more than 17 million kilowatt-hours. The city purchases green power for 100% of its electrical needs.

The resulting annual reduction of approximately 9,000 tons of carbon dioxide from the atmosphere is equivalent to the amount of carbon stored by 6,545 acres of native forest—or taking 1,700 vehicles off the road.

Green power comes from renewable, non-polluting resources — including wind, solar energy, and biomass. All of the green electricity purchased in **Lacey** is produced in the Pacific Northwest and is Green-E certified, which ensures that strict environmental standards are met.

The city has issued a "Green Power Challenge" to residents and businesses to support the further development of renewable energy by using at least some green power in their homes and places of business.

Beginning January 1, the **Lacey** will partner with Puget Sound Energy (PSE) to kick-off a six-month campaign to expand participation in PSE's Green Power Program. The goal is to increase green power participation to 1,000 **Lacey** residential and business customers. If the campaign reaches the goal, our community will receive a solar energy demonstration project from PSE.

Green power can be purchased in increments starting as small as \$4 per month. An energy-efficient household using 800 kWh per month can go 100 percent green for about \$10 monthly.

On the economic development front, Cabela's, the world's foremost outdoor retail outfitter, opened one of its flagship stores in **Lacey** last month. Already, nearly ½ million customers from throughout the Pacific Northwest and Canada have visited the store. Cabela's will anchor a mixed-use 400 acre town center project. Upon completion, the project will include 2 million square feet of retail-commercial, 1 million square feet of residential, and 1 million square feet of office-professional development. **Lacey** has envisioned and planned for this new urban center for over fifteen years. We are fortunate to have landed one of the nation's top destination retailers to anchor the project.

**Lacey** also is fortunate to have under construction a 100 acre Regional Athletic Complex that ultimately will house seventeen athletic fields, concessions, trails, children's playgrounds, and a host of related amenities. This \$25 million project will allow practice, league, and major tournament play, and address a significant athletic field deficiency. The Complex is made possible through the formation of a regional Public Facilities District involving **Olympia**, **Tumwater**, and **Thurston County**.

The pace of development is still going strong in **Westport**. After the conclusion of a seven year legal battle with a local environmental organization, the developer broke ground on the Links at Half Moon Bay golf course in October. They have been working continuously since then to shape and begin planting the course. They have also completed their detention ponds and natural features. At this point they are still saying they plan to be open for limited play by late next summer, and will be up for full operation by the spring of 2009. They are working on a redesign of the hotel/conference center and condominium development. They anticipate bringing in updated site plans as soon as they finish the golf course. The first phase of condominiums at the end of the marina is almost complete. The first phase of a 63 lot subdivision in the south portion of town is also under construction. You can check out the details at [www.westportlegacy.com](http://www.westportlegacy.com). On the commercial side, construction is underway for a 60,000 square foot cold storage facility being developed by our largest seafood processor.

**Westport** was actually very fortunate in the recent storm. Although they were without power for a little over 5 days and were totally isolated for two, they did not have any of the flooding experienced inland. They were able to keep their water and sewer systems operating, keep their roads clear, and provide emergency services 24/7. A quarter of their employees could not make it back to the city, but the remainder worked as one crew to tackle the various problems that

came up. They worked with local organizations to set up a shelter at the senior center, a portable hot meal kitchen at the high school that served over 1600 meals in three days, a door to door

canvas by the national guard, and the distribution of over 1000 pounds of groceries. They had no major damage to any of their facilities, and at this point they have only identified one house that was destroyed by a falling tree. The total damages for both the city and citizens will be significant in terms of dollars when you add all minor damage that occurred. They were very fortunate. They also learned a great deal that will be used in future responses.

**Yelm** submits the following:

The City of **Yelm** remains economically healthy, vibrant, and active on many levels. Although residential building permits have dropped slightly, **Yelm** continues to be the choice for locals shopping for new homes and area transplants. Population is approaching 4,900 and infrastructure improvements continue to be a top priority. Since 2004, **Yelm** has spent \$2,500 per capita, or \$12 million, on road construction that improves the regional traffic system during the peak commute.

Some highlights:

- Phase 1 of the **Yelm** Avenue Local Improvement District project is complete. Bid awards for Phase 2 will mean construction begins early 2008. The \$10 million LID project added a traffic light on the west end of **Yelm** Avenue, and built a major arterial boulevard into the new Master Planned Community, Tahoma Meadows. Phase 2 will provide a center turn lane, sidewalks on each side of **Yelm** Avenue, street lighting and planter strips. This is a major project, the largest road improvement project ever undertaken by the city. It will greatly improve the traffic conditions of **Yelm** Avenue (SR 510), the only alternate route between **Lacey** and **Tacoma** when Interstate 5 is closed or in gridlock. The improvement will also aid in the economic development of adjacent commercial properties.
- Recent extension of a mini-loop inside city limits has greatly improved traffic on the main artery through the city. An additional grant of \$550,000 from the TIB received this fall and city matching funds will allow completion of the final \$1 million leg in 2008. The mini-loop allows citizens to traverse the city to reach their jobs, homes, or the commercial hub without getting caught up in regional commuter traffic.
- \$805,000 was also granted to **Yelm** for the **Yelm** Prairie Line Trail, a 1.1 mile pedestrian corridor between the city center and the northern border. The trail will extend from the Chehalis-Western trail and connect to an existing developer-built trail. Completion is also expected in 2008.
- **Yelm's** Wal-Mart Supercenter opened last July, giving area shoppers another choice for groceries and a shorter drive to obtain hard goods previously not available in the city.

- Longmire Park is the newest jewel in **Yelm's** crown. With stunning views of Mount Rainier, three regulation Little League baseball fields, one football/soccer field, walking

December 2007

trails and a volleyball court, it will provide a family friendly opportunity to all area citizens. It opens this spring. Regional tournaments are expected to bring an influx of visitors to boost our economy. The city is working to acquire additional funding for sewer and water infrastructure, and a concession/restroom facility.

- **Yelm's** new Public Safety Building project will reach completion this spring with occupancy in April. The uniquely designed, 12,000 square-foot, state-of-the-art building was funded with a \$4 million bond and will serve as the Police Department, Municipal Court facility, Emergency Operations Center, and City Council Chambers.
- Historically, **Yelm's** budget dedicates 25 – 45 percent to capital projects and reserves. In 2007, however, 63 percent of the budget was dedicated to Capital Projects and Reserves, with \$15 million to the projects. Completion of several substantial capital projects in 2007 resulted in a slightly lower 2008 budget, yet 51 percent is still set aside for projects and reserve. Despite the reduced budget, tax revenues continue to increase at 8 percent per year.
- The Conceptual Master Site Plan application for “Thurston Highlands” is awaiting the completion of the draft Environmental Impact Statement, expected early 2008. Thurston Highlands is a 1,200 acre mixed-use development in the southwest section of **Yelm**. With upwards of 5,000 housing units, full build out is anticipated in 20 years, water rights not withstanding.
- Balancing smart, planned growth with the environment and the need for water, **Yelm** continues to work closely with its Nisqually Watershed partners. Pulling together resources, experience, and cooperation, we are gathering information to make good decisions that satisfy a growing community and that support and protect the environment.
- YESSS, **Yelm** Student Support & Success, a new intern program for high school students, began this past fall. Applicants are interviewed and hired like any other city employee. They are introduced to the principals of municipal government and serve in a paid or volunteer position. Limited to 60 hours, each student earns \$8.50 per hour and may either job shadow or remain in one particular department of interest. The department heads have been pleased so far with their student interns and the students are not only grateful for the opportunity, but diligent and eager employees.

*Region 3, Clark, Cowlitz, Skamania & Wahkiakum Counties*

*Lloyd Halverson, City Administrator, City of Camas*

[lhaverson@ci.camamas.wa.us](mailto:lhaverson@ci.camamas.wa.us)

**Battle Ground** has a new assistant city manager, John Williams. Welcome to our area and the local city management scene.

---

WCMA News • 10

December 2007

Eric Holmes, former **Battle Ground** city manager has rejoined the public sector. He was appointed to the position of economic development director for the city of **Vancouver**. His task, as someone put it: “Grow the cake!” Is this a malapropism? It is a delight to see him return to public service.

Our correspondent, Lloyd Halverson, city administrator, **Camas**, sends the following:

As the solstice arrives and the Christmas/New Year holds out its good prospects, here are a few newsy notes from the Southwest area.

The major storms of early December brought little damage to **Clark County’s** “neck of the woods”. It was certainly a different story further north and on the Oregon Coast.

Amongst city management professionals there are changes to note at **Kelso**. Doug Robinson retired this past year after the better part of two decades of service to the people of **Kelso**. Doug had previously served in Silverton, Oregon, and in Illinois.

I remember Doug’s pride in the beautifully renovated train station in **Kelso**, his involvement in the major bridge project, his efforts at interlocal cooperation, and his service to the city family. Doug was very active and knowledgeable in the insurance field, serving on the board of directors of the Washington Cities Insurance Authority (WCIA) for many years. He was an able president of WCIA. I was surprised by the timing of Doug’s departure, and miss his presence in our gatherings. Doug Robinson is a gentleman, dedicated to public service, to his family and to professionalism.

Paul Brachvogel was appointed **Kelso** city manager in September. An attorney by training, Paul has “jumped right in”. He brings his experience as city attorney for **Kelso** to the challenges which lie ahead.

Your correspondent notes with humility and pride this very special year. Awards are heartwarming, and I will cherish three special awards conferred this year. In April, a NGO rooted in the Solidarity Movement, the Foundation for the Support of Local Government, and a counterpart professional organization presented me with a special award for contributions to professional local government management. This surprised me in a ceremony held in Kielce, Poland. In August, my Washington peers in WCMA gave me the WCMA 2007 Excellence award and a standing ovation at the summer conference. In December, Camas gave me a special “City Advocate” award. I feel like I was born under a lucky star.

**Longview** city manager Bob Gregory sends the following:

2007 has been a banner year for the city and our region, but fraught with challenges!

Legislatively, our council and city management team have worked over the past year to develop a strategic initiatives plan that will guide us for the next 3-5 years. Our management team is

---

WCMA News • 11

December 2007

completing an action plan for the initiatives and we look forward to finalizing them with the city council during our annual planning retreat in January of '08. Of paramount priority in **Longview** will be addressing the crime problem, making significant infrastructure decisions on a new water supply and abandonment of a sewage lagoon facility, and continued emphasis of our commitment to economic development and diversification of our economic base from our timber dependent economy.

Speaking of our council, we had a lively council election this year. Four council members were up for election and 2 incumbents were defeated. One of the incumbents is a long tenured councilor and her leadership will be missed. Dave Campbell, assistant city manager and I have already completed orientation with our 2 new council members and look forward to bringing them into the fold.

**Longview** and the region continue to enjoy a strong economy, although we see indicators that the unprecedented growth in city revenues will cool. We are projecting about a 4.5% increase in general fund revenues over 2006, primarily fueled by continued unprecedented growth in sales tax that have been double digit in '05 and '06. Property taxes have also benefited by the economic development in the city. In 2008, we will see a reduction in the property tax rate for the second year in row, down from \$3.60 in 2006, \$3.14 in 2007, and projected to be \$2.91 in 2008. Although a mixed blessing due to the 1% growth limitation, it does bode well for our community and our council's commitment to economic development and the benefits of property tax base!

On the economic development front, we continue to see new commercial and industrial development activity. With the assistance of our partner, Weyerhaeuser Real Estate Development Company, the Washington State Community and Economic Development Board's Job Development Fund, and **Cowlitz County's** Rural Economic Development funds, we are in the process of completing the balance of our infrastructure improvements for the city owned Mint Farm Industrial Park. This has been a public/private partnership in the truest sense and the vision of my predecessor, Ed Ivey, is becoming a gem for **Longview**.

Happy Holidays to all of our colleagues!

And Dave Campbell, assistant city manager of **Longview**, sends the following:

After an extensive application and review process, the **Longview** was designated this fall as a "Playful City USA" by KaBOOM!, a national advocacy group whose aim is to see a playground within walking distance of every child in America. There were 31 cities across the country that

received “Playful City USA” designation this year. Since it’s the first year of the program, those 31 are the founding or charter “Playful City USA” communities. They were recognized at the National League of Cities conference in New Orleans last month. **Longview** is the only city in the Pacific Northwest that was so recognized.

As a result of the award, **Longview** has been competing with the other communities for one of

three \$25,000 grants from KaBOOM! to enhance their play activities and programs. In our case, if successful, the grant would be applied to the construction of a new playground and park in a growing residential neighborhood of West **Longview**. We are partnering with the nearby residents and a couple of service clubs in the community to help make that happen.

The results of the grant competition are based in part (30%) on a video that each of the cities have submitted. Hopefully, you received the earlier e-mail that suggested an opportunity to vote on the issue and did so, also hopefully supporting **Longview’s** entry.

Dave reported that it truly is a well-done, fun and creative production that the **Longview** staff put together. They were competing against big cities like Atlanta, so they needed all the help they could get. Just in case you did vote, Dave reports that as of this writing (December 14) their shameless lobbying for votes seemed to be working, because they had established quite a lead over the second place community. Thank you!

*Region 4, Kittitas, Klickitat & Yakima Counties*  
*Frank Sweet, City Supervisor, City of Selah*  
[fsweet@elltel.net](mailto:fsweet@elltel.net)

No report.

*Region 5, Benton, Franklin & Walla Walla Counties*  
*Gary Crutchfield, City Manager, City of Pasco*  
[zunkert@ci.pasco.wa.us](mailto:zunkert@ci.pasco.wa.us)

Cindy Johnson reports that her appointment as **Richland’s** seventh city manager is/was effective Dec. 24. She has been serving as interim manager since John Darrington’s June 1 retirement. Cindy also reports that **Richland’s** mayor, who filed unopposed for reelection to his council seat, announced his retirement shortly before the November election. City council will name his replacement on council and select a new mayor and mayor pro tem in early January. One of Cindy’s objectives for her council is to move **Richland** toward strategic planning, which will enhance the current process by which staff and council establish, assess and revamp community priorities and set the municipal budget. As a first step in educating **Richland** citizens about the changing process, the city conducted a town hall meeting in November. The meeting featured use of a touch pad system, loaned by **Kennewick**, that allowed attendees to participate in a

game-show type session to gauge how much they know about their city's finances and services. Demand for municipal services is not diminishing, noted Cindy: **Richland's** residential and commercial growth continues at a steady pace. Walkers, bicyclists and others will be able to maintain their own pace as they enjoy a view of the Columbia River, thanks to the recently completed lowering of the levee on the **Richland** side of the river. **Richland's** business and economic development office has teamed up with the environmental education office to promote "Waste Free Holidays" in **Richland**: 15 businesses are participating in the effort to encourage gift giving of experiences rather than "stuff" to help reduce the packaging and wrapping that

typically ends up in the landfill after Christmas. Finally, Cindy reports that the **Richland** public library has closed its doors on its 1969 building while it undergoes a major renovation and expansion temporary library quarters are in a remodeled car dealership about two blocks from the library. The project should be completed in mid to late 2009.

Duane Cole, city manager, says the freeze up started early in **Walla Walla** with cold weather settling into the area just before Thanksgiving. There have been a few exceptions with days in the fifties and sixties which remind us that spring will eventually arrive. The cold weather put a damper on the Barrel Tasting Weekend Pig Roast on Main Street. This request gave the permit staff seizures but they found a way to grant it only to have it snow that day and the roast was canceled. Duane reports that he was very disappointed.

All of the normal year-end activities have been completed -- adopted the budget, increased the utility rates, increased the fees (and answered the annual question about how can a poor child afford \$40 to pay for swimming lessons -- the answer is a non-profit makes this a priority each year), and talked about that last \$10,000 in the budget and how to use it. It seems like no matter how big or small the budget is, there is always a discussion about the last few dollars.

Around the corner in 2008 there will be many exciting projects under consideration. They anticipate the mall to be demolished and replaced by new commercial development. They will be working on the Innovation Partnership Zone designation area in East **Walla Walla** in order to enhance the employment base. One company has already committed to an expansion and others will follow. They plan to adopt a complete revision of the comprehensive plan by May. A biennial budget is in the planning stages for adoption in 2008.

Duane suggests you plan to come out to **Walla Walla** in 2008 and enjoy the wine, onions and wind.

*Region 6, Asotin, Columbia, Garfield & Whitman Counties*  
*John Sherman, City Supervisor, City of Pullman*  
[john.sherman@pullman-wa.gov](mailto:john.sherman@pullman-wa.gov)

We still have more counties than managers in Region 6. Let's hope we are not endangered species nearing extinction. Carl Thompson, **Colfax** city administrator and John Sherman, **Pullman** city supervisor both got a probable four-year reprieve with the re-election of their

respective mayors. In **Colfax** the incumbent mayor finished second in the primary but won handily in the general election. In **Pullman**, no one dared challenge incumbent Mayor Glenn Johnson, the Martin Stadium and Friel Court voice of the Cougars!

Speaking of endangered species, did anyone hear about the Apple Cup? Go figure—the winning team fires their coach and the losers grant their coach another year at the helm. Maybe all those stupid Huskies jokes are true after all. The new Cougar football coach Paul Wulff was afraid that his last name might conjure up dawg-like images for some of the less cerebral Cougar

faithful so he was quick to quash in such Husky image associations by stating “dogs bite and bark, but Cougars hunt and kill”.

2007 was an absolutely banner year for the city of **Pullman**. Why? When you live in a company town it’s kind of like that old saying, “What’s good for GM is good for America”. The Cougs beat the Huskies three times in basketball and won the Apple Cup. That’s a 4-0 record for the year in the major sports. Shall we give it a go in horseshoes or darts to see if the Huskies can win at something?

Things were busy in both **Colfax** and **Pullman** this year. The owners of the 1,128 acre parcel of land that the city of **Colfax** annexed are now trying to actively market it for the development of small acreages. Work on Mill Street and various other projects are also continuing.

In **Pullman** several major projects were successfully completed including major street improvements and a new transit storage facility. Work on a new wastewater treatment plant digester and a new water well are continuing. These infrastructure improvements bode well for the continuing growth of the community. In contrast to the national housing slump, we issued more single-family building permits in 2007 than in 2006. Overall it has been a great year.

*Region 7, Adams, Grant, & Lincoln Counties*  
*Ehman Sheldon, City Administrator, City of Othello*  
[administrator@othellowashington.us](mailto:administrator@othellowashington.us)

No report.

*Region 8, Ferry, Pend Oreille, Spokane, & Stevens Counties*  
*Lewis “Griff” Griffin, in transition*  
[l-ygriffin@sisna.com](mailto:l-ygriffin@sisna.com)

No report.

*Region 9, Chelan, Douglas, & Okanogan Counties*

*Richard Brinkman, City Administrator, City of Leavenworth*  
[cityadmin@cityofleavenworth.com](mailto:cityadmin@cityofleavenworth.com)

No report.

*David Fonfara, City Administrator, City of Chelan*  
[dfonfara@nwi.net](mailto:dfonfara@nwi.net)

No report.

---

WCMA News • 15  
2007

December

*Region 10, Island, San Juan, Skagit & Whatcom Counties*  
*Gary Tomsic, City Manager, City of Blaine*  
[gtomsic@cityofblaine.com](mailto:gtomsic@cityofblaine.com)

No report.

*Region 11, Snohomish County*  
*Larry Bauman, City Manager, City of Snohomish*  
[bauman@ci.snohomish.wa.us](mailto:bauman@ci.snohomish.wa.us)

**Arlington** has recently completed a \$4 million rebuild of its main street in Downtown, Olympic Avenue. The project was completed in late September and officially reopened on Saturday, October 6 with a celebration of epic proportions. Since the completion, it is spurred significant reinvestment in buildings and properties in the Downtown by many of our key anchor tenants. Most surprising was that sales tax revenue in the Downtown did not drop during the construction, despite the six months of dust and heavy machinery. In addition, the city has already entertained council members and business leaders from two other cities looking to do similar Downtown revitalization projects.

Economic Development has been **Arlington's** mantra for the last two years and will continue in 2008. The focus for 2008 will be on branding the community and on identifying the city's main gateways. Building construction has slowed slightly, but we are still garnering a lot of interest from local and national retail outlets. Construction of a Wal-Mart in our fair city has been pushed back until 2009, with possible opening in February 2010. City manager Allen Johnson reports that they have developed streetscape plans for our main commercial corridor off of Interstate 5, 172<sup>nd</sup> St NE. Since the failure of RTID, efforts have now focused on revenue to make improvements to this corridor.

Residential construction has also slowed, allowing us to catch up a bit on capital improvements to our Wastewater Treatment Plant and other infrastructure. The expansion of the WWTP facility will more than double our capacity and is slated to begin in earnest in late 2008 or early 2009. The additional breathing room has also allowed us to focus on the Transfer of Development Rights program in Arlington. The Mayor currently serves on a CTED committee

to establish a regional TDR program in the Central Puget Sound. The concept behind the TDR program is to preserve local rural, agricultural and forested lands in exchange for the ability to construct to a higher density elsewhere. In **Arlington**, the program will work to preserve the Stillaguamish Valley, the entry way into **Arlington**, in exchange for a higher density development on over 300 acres in the eastern part of **Arlington**. A TDR transaction hasn't taken place yet, so the city will be redoubling its efforts with our agricultural and developer friends in 2008.

The city has spent much of 2007 working to improve its internal emergency management plans. With this phase of the project nearing completion, the city reached out to its other governmental

partners, the **Arlington** School District and Cascade Valley Hospital, to begin coordinating our emergency management plans. The partnership has resulted in the hiring of an Emergency Management Coordinator to make sure the three entities work together during an emergency situation. The salary for the position is split equally between the three agencies, which has helped off-set the budgetary impact of this newly created position.

After spending the last eight months without a Building Official and six months without a Community Development Director, the **Arlington** is pleased to announce these positions have now been filled. They were able to steal Christopher Young from Toledo, Ohio, to serve as Building Official and David Kuhl from Pinal County, Arizona to serve as Community Development Director.

John J. Caulfield, city manager, reports that it's been another great and memorable year in **Mountlake Terrace**. They continue to move forward on many fronts with a particular focus on economic development, downtown revitalization, and much needed capital improvements.

In September, the city council adopted new downtown zoning regulations, the city's first-ever impact fees (transportation and parks) on development, and a planned action ordinance. These new regulations will provide the necessary tools to allow revitalization to begin, consistent with the Town Center Plan, which the city council unanimously adopted in February to encourage the redevelopment and revitalization of the existing downtown. The outcome will be a vital, attractive downtown for **Mountlake Terrace**, not only for this generation, but also for generations to come.

The city council approved a proposal that will mean **Mountlake Terrace** will have a designated area for dogs to play and interact off-leash. If all goes as planned, the one-acre "dog park" could open in early to mid 2008. "MLT D.O.G." is the official name chosen by the city council's Off-Leash Dog Park Task Force. The name stands for **Mountlake Terrace** Dog Off-Leash Group – and will be comprised of residents who support and help maintain the park through volunteer efforts. The proposed site runs along the western border of Terrace Creek Park, just to the east of the Recreation Pavilion ballfields. An environmental checklist currently is underway and must be completed before any work can begin on the site.

The city's first detailed Transportation Master Plan (TMP) was adopted by the city council last month. The TMP looks at meeting needs for streets, walkways, transit, and bicycle facilities through 2025. It also recommends specific improvements and funding for the next six years of transportation projects, totaling more than \$17.8 million—nearly triple the previous six-year program. The projects can be funded without new taxes. The TMP helps carry out the Comprehensive Plan to increase walking and bicycling opportunities, as well as provide for motor vehicles. It identifies improvements that will be needed to address future traffic congestion and factors in the new Town Center Plan for revitalizing downtown. Work on the TMP began last spring and encouraged input from interested citizens.

In August, the city council approved ordinances that will enable the city to implement red light

photo enforcement and allow the city's hearings examiner to hear mitigated or contested tickets. The city has signed a contract with Redflex to conduct traffic analyses of several intersections in order to determine the extent of red light violations. It is anticipated that the 30-day warning period will start by year-end. After the warning period violators will be cited for red light violations beginning in early 2008.

The city's strong financial shape helped the council look at a number of new programs for the community as part of the mid-biennial budget review process earlier this fall. New programs for 2008 include: a part-time position for community relations to help with a number of new community outreach programs; Off-Leash Dog Park funds to cover the cost of annual maintenance in partnership with a group of volunteers; federal lobbyist to help pursue federal and state funding of various projects; additional funding for the Street Overlay Program to offset the rising cost of construction materials over the past 12 months; an emergency generator to provide backup power to city hall and library in the event of an emergency; a Steiner Mower to tackle some of our toughest maintenance jobs in a more efficient way; and setting aside \$1.7 million over the next six years to purchase and develop future parks in the community. The council also took action in November to adopt a one percent increase to the property tax levy - an increase of about \$12.00 per year for an average **Mountlake Terrace** home.

Our two code enforcement officers continue to take an aggressive approach in cleaning up our community. Recently, they surveyed 8 of the 20 sections of the city, resulting in 206 code violation cases primarily debris violations and inoperable vehicles or vehicles parked on grass. Of those, 101 cases, or about 49%, were closed through voluntary compliance within 30 days. Our code enforcement team routinely handles about 800 code violations annually.

In November, Community Transit awarded a \$15.3 million contract to build a four-story, five level parking garage on the site of the current Mountlake Terrace Park & Ride. The parking garage, which will hold about 660 cars, will be constructed on the lower portion of the current park & ride, adjacent to Interstate 5. The existing upper parking lot will also be renovated and will hold about 230 cars for a total of about 890 parking spaces. This expansion will more than double the current parking capacity of about 390 cars. When the facility reopens in late

2008/early 2009, it will be named the “**Mountlake Terrace** Transit Center”. This facility serves commuters between **Snohomish County** and **King County**.

Wishing you and your families a peaceful and safe holiday season.

Larry Bauman, city manager, reports that **Snohomish** reports steady economic growth and new retail commercial development (400,000+ square feet due to open in spring 2008) are continuing to support service improvements in the aftermath of voter- and now legislative-imposed limits on property tax revenues. With little fanfare and even less public participation the 2008 budget has been adopted, and staff is looking forward to the addition of several new full-time positions to augment service delivery. They have also conducted an extensive review of land use and building permit services and have developed a continual improvement program to ensure

timeliness and excellent customer service to both one-time applicants and our array of ongoing community developers.

**Snohomish** is partnering with two separate organizations to provide important new or improved services to the community’s senior population. One project that has been several years in the development is the construction of a new senior center (the old senior center has been demolished in 2006 as volunteers had placed it during the 1980s on a historic cemetery property where the community erroneously believed burial sites had been removed and reinterred in a new cemetery in the late 1940’s). This 6,000 square foot center will provide a modern, commercial-grade kitchen, meeting space, crafts, games and classroom space on a city-owned parcel adjacent to the future final Snohomish section of the Centennial Trail and across the street from Sno-Isle’s branch **Snohomish** Library. This project is being built entirely with private funds raised by the non-profit Senior Center Board.

The other project partnership is with a local non-profit organization to create new multifamily housing specifically for low-income senior citizens. With the city’s assistance, the **Snohomish** Affordable Housing Group (SAHG) will build approximately 24 new apartments for persons at least 62 years of age with incomes not exceeding 50 percent of HUD’s median income standard. This housing will also be right next door to the new senior center and will have pedestrian links to the center.

The city is donating the use of its land for the multifamily dwellings (and also for the senior center). A long-term, no-cost lease will allow SAHG to develop the new dwellings at a fraction of project’s real value. At the end of the 50-year lease, the land and its improvements become the city’s property. At that time, decisions can be made whether there is still useful life remaining in the structures, and whether use of the property for low-rent housing should be continued.

Our development regulations offer density bonuses for housing for low-income seniors. Also, off-street parking requirements are minimal for this type of occupancy (one parking space per

dwelling) because occupants are likely not to own an automobile. When covenants are established that preclude occupancy by any person less than 19 years of age, the city can also waive school impact fees that would normally apply. Meanwhile, the City plans to contribute permit application fees and to expedite the permit review process. Together, these incentives are sizable and critical to the financial success to this endeavor. The Washington State Constitution allows the gift of public resources to organizations that support the poor. SAHG already has a waiting list for the new dwellings, even though the structures are still in the design stage. The city council is expected to make final decisions on the draft lease in December or January. For more information, call planning director Corbitt Loch at (360) 568-3115.

The city's strategic plan ("Imagine **Snohomish**: Promoting Vitality and Preserving Character") continues to guide investments into key public services and projects. With two new councilmembers and one returning councilmember resulting from the 2007 elections, 2008 promises to offer continued strong leadership. The biggest challenges facing the city in 2008 are

to fund (with as much federal and state grant funds as possible) the city's much-needed wastewater system improvements, gain county approval for expansion of the city's northern Urban Growth Area at US 2 and SR 9 for commercial and residential development, to plan for the development of a parks and recreation department (now organizationally housed within public works) and to continue to make strides to improve and repair key street and utility infrastructure. At the same time, debate in the community continues regarding the future of the city's southern UGA, which contains Harvey Airfield, a number of industrial and retail businesses and all of which sits on the **Snohomish** River flood plain currently designated as density fringe (which means little or no additional development is currently allowed by FEMA and **Snohomish County** regulations).

*Region 12, North King County*

*Mitch Wasserman, City Administrator/Clerk-Treasurer, City of Clyde Hill*  
[mitch@clydehill.org](mailto:mitch@clydehill.org)

Ron Bartels has announced his retirement as public policy and management consultant at MRSC, effective at the end of 2007. He will become a WCMA/ICMA rangerider, and will continue to assist at MRSC by editing WCMA News and helping Rich Yukubousky, executive director, with the secretariat function as needed.

MRSC held a reception for him on December 14. Among other things, he was given a proclamation by the MRSC board of directors, an award recognizing his 50+ years of service to local government management, and a check to add to his "train fund" (many of you know that he is an ardent model railroad fan). His first paid position with a city was that of administrative intern with the City of Pasadena, California, which started in September 1955.

*Region 13, South King County*

*Doug Schulze, City Manager, City of Normandy Park*

[dougs@ci.normandy-park.wa.us](mailto:dougs@ci.normandy-park.wa.us)

From **Covington**, Derek Matheson, city manager, reports that the city continues to grow, which means **Covington** staff is very busy.

In terms of private development, Home Depot is under construction and Costco will start construction in the spring. Together, the two stores will increase the city's sales tax receipts by almost 50%. A number of residential plats are under construction or in the pipeline, too.

In terms of our capital program, **Covington's** first roundabout is complete, a \$6 million reconstruction of a major north-south arterial began a couple months ago, and a \$14 million new road that will open up major portions of downtown **Covington** to commercial development is out to bid. The city is also seeking proposals to master plan **Covington's** first non-neighborhood park, which likely will focus on youth athletics.

---

WCMA News • 20  
December 2007

Budget season has been interesting as the City Council (well, six of seven) wants to impose a utility tax -- for the second time. The City's first attempt was stopped by a referendum petition and public vote in 2004-05. If successful, the Council would use the new revenue to increase police staffing, invest in parks and streets capital and maintenance, and create an economic development position, among other things. Staff have been working hard to communicate to the public the need for the tax and the services it would fund. We'll see how it goes.

On a sad note, a longtime **Covington** councilmember passed away in September. After some scrambling by **King County** Elections to find out what happens when an incumbent councilmember running unopposed vacates his/her seat after a primary election but before a general election, the County removed the position from the ballot and the City Council was able to fill it by appointment for two years. The other three **Covington** councilmembers on the ballot were reelected without opposition.

City of **Issaquah**, Leon Kos, City Administrator, reports:

As usual, nothing happening in **Issaquah**.

And from **Federal Way**, by Neal Beets, city manager, sends this report:

Like **Issaquah**, not much is going on in **Federal Way**. Oh, yeah: There is that thing about changing the form of government. Probably not a big deal. Who cares if the voters choose a strong-mayor form of government rather than council-manager? The vote is February 19, 2008. Neal reports, "I found my resume and am in the process of updating it."

On a less depressing note, by the time you read this the city council will have approved the development agreement by which 4 acres of blighted property downtown will be redeveloped.

Our developer promises to build four, 20+ story residential towers in a phased development with ground-level retail, a one-acre city park in the middle, space for our local community college, and parking underground. We are looking forward to the transformation. Imagine “Flip This House” combined with “Extreme Makeover: Downtown Edition.”

We are in the middle of a feasibility study to determine whether we can sustain a new performing arts center. We have a 232-seat theater; the question the consultant will answer is if we can sustain another theater in the 500 to 1,000-seat size. The consultant is Charles Johnson and Associates from Chicago, IL.

Finally, also in the consultant arena, we are looking to engage a consultant or two next year to help us formulate a “Green City” plan. We are looking for the most high-leverage ways to invest in energy efficiency and to minimize our carbon footprint.

Remember, in **Federal Way** “It’s all within reach!”

---

WCMA News • 21

December 2007

And from **Normandy Park**, city manager Doug Schulze sends this report:

**Normandy Park** Towne Center construction has been completed and by the end of the year it should be fully occupied. The 54,000 s.f. of commercial space is a welcome addition to **Normandy Park** and has significantly improved the appearance of the 1<sup>st</sup> Avenue South corridor. The developer of **Normandy Park** Towne Center (II) broke ground in late October and has finished grading and drainage. Construction of the first building, which will include about 10,000 s.f. of commercial space for Emerald City Smoothies, Tight Cuts and Herfy’s, started in early December. **Normandy Park** Towne Center (II) is a mixed-use development with approximately 70 condominium and townhouse units, an Italian steakhouse restaurant, office space and several commercial spaces. Le Cartier, another mixed use development, is expected to be completed in early 2008. It will add 26 units of condominium townhouses and 2,000 s.f. of commercial space. On the single-family residential side, the first subdivision in **Normandy Park** in over twenty years has been approved and construction is underway. The new subdivision, Josephine Parc, will add about 25 new single-family homes with fantastic views of Puget Sound and the Olympic Mountains.

Construction activity in **Normandy Park** continues at a rapid pace. The number of permits issued is twice the number issued in 2006 and construction valuation is more than double the 2006 construction valuation.

**Normandy Park** city staff have been working with a citizen advisory committee to review the planning, zoning and development along 1<sup>st</sup> Avenue. The committee report will be presented as a “neighborhood plan” to the planning commission as a part of the annual comprehensive plan review and update.

Highline School District has recently submitted plans for a new elementary school, which will replace the existing Marvista Elementary. Construction on the new school is planned to start in mid-2008.

And from **SeaTac**, city manager Craig Ward sends this report:

I am proud to announce that **SeaTac** was one of two cities that received the Governor's 2007 "Smart Vision Award." **SeaTac** was recognized for the city's land use plans for the Light Rail Station Areas at S. 176 and S. 154<sup>th</sup> Street, which provide a vision, and action steps for redevelopment of the areas within walking distance of these light rail stations. Construction of the **Sound Transit** Link Light Rail line from downtown **Seattle** to the **SeaTac**/Airport station is 80 percent complete and on schedule to open in 2009. The Airport Link segment within **SeaTac** is 40 percent complete. **Sound Transit** continues to work on a redesign of the **SeaTac**/Airport station finishes and pedestrian bridge to help bring construction costs down within available funding. Construction of these station elements should begin in the first quarter of 2008.

After months of design and preparation, **SeaTac's** new 29,500 sq. ft. Fire Station 46 headquarters should go to bid this month. The new larger station will take the place of the

---

**WCMA News** • 22

December 2007

existing branch station located on S. 170th and 35th Avenue S. The steel and brick building will consist of five bays for equipment, housing for on duty fire personnel, and administration offices. The fire station will also be designed to serve as the city's emergency operation center in the event of major city emergencies. The station is scheduled to open early in 2009. (Editor's Note: Craig submitted a photograph, which certainly showed off the new facility. But we've found that including a photo in WCMA News results in a lot of browsers filtering it out, and not allowing it to be opened. So unfortunately, it's been removed from the article submitted.)

Three new multifamily projects are now under construction that will add 202 residential units to the city. The Sunset Station complex will include 55 units in one building. The Soundview apartments will be 92 units within three buildings. The Graydon mixed use multifamily/single-family development will provide new 58 residential units. Each project incorporates features required under the city multifamily design standards that enhance the safety, design and livability of multifamily development beyond what the IBC requires.

**SeaTac's** air logistics capacity is also expanding. ProLogis, a premier air logistics corporation is constructing 245,000 sq. ft. of new space for companies shipping products through **SeaTac** Airport.

Rhonda Berry, city administrator, **Tukwila**, reports:

Not much is going on in **Tukwila**, but here goes:

1) The **Tukwila** city council confirmed Jack Pace as director of the department of community development at a regular meeting on November 5, 2007.

2) Effective January 1, 2008, **Tukwila's** newest mayor will take office. Jim Haggerton has served on the **Tukwila** planning commission and has been a member of the **Tukwila** city council since 1995.

Two new council members will be elected: Kathy Hougardy was elected to fill the seat vacated by Pam Carter, and a person yet-to-be-selected will fill the remainder of Jim Haggerton's term which expires in 2009.

3) The city of **Tukwila** will kick off its Centennial Celebration on 01/01/2008. **Tukwila** was incorporated on June 23, 1908, and commemoration events will be held through June 2009.

4) **Tukwila** hired a full time emergency management coordinator. Hillman Mitchell previously worked for the **Seattle-King County** office of the American Red Cross and has extensive experience in disaster preparedness and response.

5) Recent heavy rains resulted in NO **Tukwila** residents or businesses being displaced though some streets experienced higher than normal water levels. This was quite a test of recently completely surface water projects.

---

WCMA News • 23

December 2007

6) Looking forward to a prosperous new year.

*Region 14, Pierce County*

*Rob Karlinsey, City Administrator, City of Gig Harbor*

[karlinseyr@cityofgigharbor.net](mailto:karlinseyr@cityofgigharbor.net)

From **Sumner**, city administrator John Doan sends the following report:

Recent highlights include passage of a \$57 million comprehensive budget (hopefully the last annual budget before switching to a biennial budget next year), planning for an annexation election into East **Pierce** Fire and Rescue, hiring a new police chief, and work on recruiting new retail business. The defeat of the transit initiative will mean the solution to the downtown commuter parking problems will be further away. We are examining long-term ways to finance the escalating unfunded operations and maintenance expenses in the street fund. While the city has been very successful with grants for arterials and new development has built a significant portion of the city's expanded street system, the bill for the O & M is coming due.

From **Bonney Lake**, Don Morrison, city administrator, reports that they are at the end of the first year of their first ever biennial budget. The comment was:

Believe me, the mid-biennial budget modification process saved us a ton of staff time. I used to shut the door every September first and not come out again until the budget was done. With this year being our mid-biennial budget amendment year, it was a breeze.

The biennial budget gets department heads thinking beyond one year. And if you already have a six year CIP and financial model as we do, its much easier. I would highly commend it.

Like many cities, **Bonney Lake** has its version of the town center in the planning and development phases. The council fully vested itself in implementing our downtown plan by recently issuing the city's first councilmanic bond -- in the amount of \$10 million to complete land acquisition for the future civic center, and construct an interim justice center that will host executive, council, community services, and perhaps engineering to free up space in a cramped and crowded city hall until a new civic center can be built in 5-10 years. The interim justice center (council's new name for it) will be built as a spec. retail/office building, not as a government building. We will also be planning an 11 acre town home/multi-family project in the Southeast corner of the downtown that the city has acquired. The sale of the interim justice building and the housing project is hoped to generate enough revenues to fund the construction of the civic center.

**Bonney Lake** just refunded a utility bond that will save the City about \$29,000 per year. The city did fairly well on the grant front this year, nailing \$1.5 million in safe routes and related sidewalk/trail funding, \$175,000 in downtown TIB sidewalk funding, and \$375,000 in conservation futures funding for a trail head/parking for our emerging Fennel Creek Trail.

---

WCMA News • 24

December 2007

While doorbelling for his campaign, one of our new councilmembers collected signatures on his initiative to create a city charter. However, the petition as submitted was fatally flawed as it included statements that the charter creation commission would not consider adopting a council-manager form of government. The statute expressly mandates that the commission consider all forms of government.

From **Gig Harbor** , Rob Karlinsey, city administrator, reports that their budget doubled from \$35 million in 2007 to \$70 million in 2008, all without raising taxes (I don't count permit & development fees in the definition of "taxes"). The main reason for the large increase is non-recurring capital project expenditures, including an \$11 million intersection improvement at the Burnham/SR16 interchange; a \$10 million sewer treatment plant expansion; a \$1.7 million sewer outfall expansion (from a 10'' to a 24'' line); a \$2 million federally-funded environmental cleanup of the tidelands at a recently acquired city park; and numerous other miscellaneous capital projects. Affordable housing, low-impact development, tree-cutting, Mainstreet, and saving a declining fishing industry are several of many hot topics in **Gig Harbor**. We're also updating impact fees and utility connection fees, all of which are likely to double or even triple in the near future. We're also in the middle of recruiting for a public works director. Even in this tight market, we received some decent resumes. Interviews will continue into January, and we hope to make a selection by late January/early February. The position is open until filled. Happy new year to you all!

From **Lakewood**, Andrew Neiditz, city manager, sends the following:

The city is pleased to have **Sound Transit** finally decide the alignment of the route for commuter rail through the Dome district in **Tacoma** to enable the **Lakewood-Tacoma** connection for the Sounder. They were worried that their train station, which will be completed in 2008, might never see train service. They're pleased that a decision is at hand, and the project will move forward, even if it takes 2-3 years. They will have express bus service in the interim period. The **Sound Transit** station in **Lakewood** is a very visible part of their overall redevelopment efforts along Pacific Highway, adjacent to I-5. The station will be very visible from the freeway, across from their new **Lakewood** Ford dealership.

Editor's note: The following message appeared on the screen indicating it had been sent as a broadcast to members who subscribe to the WCMA message site:

I keep watching the struggles with recovery from the last storm/flooding, but haven't heard of anyone's particular needs. Hope if WCMA member cities need help they'll feel free to use this list to ask.

In my estimation, it's a very good question. It came from Bob Jean, city manager, **University Place**.

---

WCMA News • 25  
December 2007

## The mechanics of WCMA News

We have been advised at MRSC to try not to send large attachments by web. Apparently it has to do with overloading the equipment here, and also perhaps something to do with the new spam filters in use, both on the MRSC end, and on your end. We've had a number of complaints in the past about people not being able to open a large attachment, specifically WCMA News. For that reason, this issue is NOT being sent as an attachment to the folks signed up for the mass e-mail broadcast. Instead, the WCMA website is being utilized by having the new issue posted there. And then the mass e-mail facility is being used to let you know that the new issue has been posted to the website. If for some reason you have trouble opening it or obtaining it through the web, please let me know. Send an e-mail to Ron Bartels at [rbartels@mrsc.org](mailto:rbartels@mrsc.org). And I'm hoping that you'll talk up the fact that it's out there among those WCMA folk in your area. If you hear of someone who isn't aware of it, please call this to their attention. And perhaps tell them how to gain access. The way is:

- A. Go to the WCMA website at <http://wccma.org>.
- B. In the stripe at the top of the page, you'll see "Newsletter". Click on it.
- C. The page that comes up contains links to all the past issues of WCMA News

that were put out in electronic format, as well as the new and current one. That's Volume 19, No. 3, December 2007, the "hot off the press" issue.

D. If you stumble onto somebody who does not have computer access, please also let me know at [rbartels@mrsc.org](mailto:rbartels@mrsc.org). We can mail them a paper copy. They should be a member of WCMA.

Ron Bartels, editor  
WCMA News

## Transitions

**Ron Bartels**, public policy and management consultant at MRSC, has announced his retirement at the end of 2007. The WCMA board of directors has approved his request to become an Honorary Life Member. He has also moved to Panorama in Lacey (a continuing care retirement community), and will be serving as a WCMA/ICMA Range Rider. He'll continue to be the editor of WCMA News and will continue to assist Rich Yukubousky, WCMA secretary/treasurer and MRSC executive director, with the secretariat function for WCMA.

**Paul Brachvogel**, formerly the city attorney, is the new city manager of Kelso.

---

WCMA News • 26  
December 2007

**Timothy W. Burns**, formerly public works director of Mill Creek, has been named city manager there.

**Eric Holmes**, who had been city manager of Battle Ground, and then left that position to work for a private engineering and planning firm, has rejoined the public sector. He is now the economic development director for Vancouver.

**Cindy Johnson** is the new city manager of Richland. She was the former assistant city manager there.

**Eugene (Gene) Scott Miles** is the new city administrator of Long Beach. He is formerly the city manager of Mount Angel, Oregon.

**Joyce Papke**, who has been assistant city manager of Normandy Park, is the new city administrator of Stanwood.

**Nina Regor**, deputy city manager of Spokane Valley, has been named city manager of Cloverdale, California.

**Doug Robinson** has retired as city manager of Kelso.

**Doug Schulze**, city manager of Normandy Park, has agreed to become the regional representative for Region 13, South King County, for WCMA.

**Bob Stockwell**, city manager of Sunnyside, and the city council there have parted company.

**John Vodopich**, who has been director of community development for Gig Harbor, has been appointed planning and community development director for Bonney Lake.

**John Williams** has been named the assistant city manager of Battle Ground.

## WCMA Officers and Board Members

<b>President</b>	Andrew Neiditz, City Manager, Lakewood (253) 589-2489 <a href="mailto:aneiditz@cityoflakewood.us">aneiditz@cityoflakewood.us</a>
<b>Vice President</b>	Ben Yazici, City Manager, Sammamish (425) 836-7902 <a href="mailto:byazici@ci.sammamish.wa.us">byazici@ci.sammamish.wa.us</a>
<b>Past President</b>	Duane Cole, City Manager, Walla Walla (509) 527-4522 <a href="mailto:dcole@ci.walla-walla.wa.us">dcole@ci.walla-walla.wa.us</a>
<b>Secretary-Treasurer</b>	Richard Yukubousky, Executive Director of MRSC (206) 625-1300 <a href="mailto:ryukubousky@mrsc.org">ryukubousky@mrsc.org</a>
<b>Board of Directors</b>	
	<i>(2006 - 2008)</i>
	Charlie Bush, Assistant to the City Manager, Bellevue (425) 452-6837 <a href="mailto:CBush@bellevuewa.gov">CBush@bellevuewa.gov</a>
	Pat McDonnell, City Manager, Vancouver (360) 696-8121 <a href="mailto:pat.mcdonnell@ci.vancouver.wa.us">pat.mcdonnell@ci.vancouver.wa.us</a>
	Cathy Mulhall, County Administrator, Chelan County (509) 667-6216 <a href="mailto:cathy.mulhall@co.chelan.wa.us">cathy.mulhall@co.chelan.wa.us</a>

(2007 – 2009)

Bob Hammond, City Manager, Kennewick  
(509) 585-4238 [robert.hammond@ci.kennewick.wa.us](mailto:robert.hammond@ci.kennewick.wa.us)

Tansy Hayward, Assistant to the City Manager, Tacoma  
(253) 591-5133 [thayward@cityoftacoma.org](mailto:thayward@cityoftacoma.org)

Julie Modrzejewski, Assistant City Manager, Shoreline  
(206) 546-8978 [jmodrzej@ci.shoreline.wa.us](mailto:jmodrzej@ci.shoreline.wa.us)

Gary Tomsic, City Manager, Blaine  
(360) 332-8311 [gtomsic@cityofblaine.com](mailto:gtomsic@cityofblaine.com)

#### Ex Officio members

Stan Finkelstein, Executive Director, Association of Washington Cities  
(360) 753-4137 [stanf@awcnet.org](mailto:stanf@awcnet.org)

Ron Bartels, RangeRider [rangeriderwest@comcast.net](mailto:rangeriderwest@comcast.net)  
(360) 438-5216

Roger Crum, RangeRider [rdcrum@comcast.net](mailto:rdcrum@comcast.net)  
(509) 363-0034

Al Locke, RangeRider [jeanynal@earthlink.com](mailto:jeanynal@earthlink.com)  
(360) 427-4271

Stan McNutt, RangeRider [rangerider@smsgazette.com](mailto:rangerider@smsgazette.com)  
(208) 245-5043

L. Joe Miller, RangeRider  
(425) 454-9793

---

WCMA News • 28

December 2007

## 2008 Calendar

- **Northwest Management Conference**, March 11 -- 14, 2008, Salishan Lodge & Resort, Gleneden Beach (near Lincoln City), Oregon
- **Association of Washington Cities (AWC) Annual Conference**, June 17 -- 20, 2008, Yakima, Washington (AWC 75<sup>th</sup> Anniversary -- and it all started in Yakima!)
- **Washington City/County Management Association (WCMA) Summer Conference**, August 19 -- 22, Sun Mountain Lodge, Winthrop, Washington
- **International City/County Management Association (ICMA) Annual Conference**, September 19 -- 24, 2008, Richmond, Virginia

## 2009 Calendar

- **Northwest Management Conference**, to be announced, Vancouver, Washington.
- **Association of Washington Cities (AWC) Annual Conference**, June 23 -- 26, 2009, Spokane, Washington
- **Washington City/County Management Association (WCMA) Summer Conference**, Suncadia, Cle Elum, Washington
- **International City/County Management Association (ICMA) Annual Conference**, September 11 -- 16, 2009, Montréal, Québec, Canada

## 2010 Calendar

- **Northwest Management Conference**, to be announced, Oregon
- **Association of Washington Cities (AWC) Annual Conference**, June 22 -- 25, 2010, Vancouver, Washington
- **Washington City/County Management Association (WCMA) Summer Conference**, to be announced
- **International City/County Management Association (ICMA) Annual Conference**, October 17 -- 20, 2010, San Jose/Santa Clara County, California

**WCMA News** is a publication of the Washington City/County  
Management Association. President, Duane Cole  
Editor, Ron Bartels

Please send news articles to:

**WCMA News** c/o MRSC  
2601 4<sup>th</sup> Avenue, Suite 800 • Seattle, WA 98121-1280  
(206) 625-1300 Phone • 1-800-922-6772  
(206) 625-1220 Fax  
or preferably e-mail [rbartels@mrsc.org](mailto:rbartels@mrsc.org)