



City of Des Moines

City Manager's Office
21630 11th AVENUE S, SUITE A
DES MOINES, WASHINGTON 98198-6398
(206) 878-4595 T.D.D: (206) 824-6024 FAX: (206) 870-6540



City Manager Weekly Report February 23, 2024

Park Zone Speed Enforcement Update

Our staff has overcome significant obstacles this week in efforts to finalize installation and activation of the Speed Enforcement Cameras in the Redondo Park Zone. The City received our much-anticipated approval from the Administrative Office of the Courts for our penalty schedule and infraction notices. As I have stated before, the City will be the first in the state to install Park Zone Speed Enforcement Cameras that were only recently authorized by state law. Because of this, there was no playbook for us to follow, and our staff has had to navigate through a variety of issues, both foreseen and unforeseen. Power installation has been completed at both sites (Redondo Beach Dr. and Redondo Way S.), and now the final item we are waiting on is for our vendor to finalize the backend software required to run this program. The projected date for this completion is March 31, which would enable us to begin the 30-day warning period shortly thereafter.

Former Masonic Home Demolition

The Public Comment Period on the Draft Environmental Impact Statement for the Zenith Properties Demolition Application at the former Masonic Home/Landmark on the Sound remains open until March 8th. You can access the Draft EIS and provide your input by visiting the City of Des Moines project webpage [here](#). The City has received many questions and comments from the public related to the City Council's role in this process. The decision for the pending demolition application is not a City Council decision. Not only does the Council not have a role in the decision making process, they have been advised both by the City Attorney and the City's insurance provider not to comment on the application as it could be viewed as an attempt to improperly influence the decision making process. State law and the City's Municipal Code govern the environmental process that is currently underway and designate the City's SEPA official as the decision-maker ([DMMC 16.05.070, WAC 197-11-460](#)). Although the public can provide comments and input to the City Council on any issue, the only way to have your opinions considered by the decision maker is to submit them via the [official comment portal](#).

Help Wanted!

The City has a number of paid positions (full or part-time) as well as volunteer opportunities that are currently available. If you are interested or know someone who may be interested, check out our hype video [here](#) as well as the list of available opportunities.

The Waterland City

Meetings of Interest

In addition to day-to-day administrative duties, this week I met with Mayor Buxton to discuss upcoming City issues, Council items and to prepare for the Thursday Council meeting. I hosted a roundtable discussion with the City's Department Director's to discuss current and upcoming City issues. I met with Councilmember Harris to discuss topics of interest to him. I attended the Municipal Facilities Committee Meeting as well as the City Council meeting.

City Council Meeting Summary

The City Council met on February 22nd. The full agenda and supporting materials from the 22nd can be found [here](#). There is no meeting next week as the Council generally does not meet on the fifth Thursday of the month. Our next meeting is a Study Session on March 7. The agenda and materials for that meeting will be posted in next week's Weekly Report. The Municipal Facilities Committee also met this week, highlights included consideration of signage on the newly installed Wesley overpass as well as preliminary designs of the Flag Triangle Memorial Park upgrade. The agenda and materials for that meeting can be found [here](#).

Sports Update

My wife knows how depressed I get every February once the NFL season ends. So yesterday, she surprised me with a delivery of three pallets of concrete blocks and asked me to build a wall in the back yard. Instead of me sulking around the house all weekend, I will be lugging 50-pound cement blocks around the side of the house. I would call that a win-win. Spring Training has finally arrived as the Mariners open up tomorrow against the downtrodden White Sox on Root Sports (if anyone still has that channel). The Sounders take on LAFC Saturday afternoon and the Kraken play the Wild on Saturday night. But hopefully we get some sunshine this weekend so maybe just skip these games and get some fresh air!

Have a great weekend!
Tim George
Interim City Manager

The Waterland City