Des Moines

CITY CURRENTS



Volume 4, No. 2

April 1993



'Big Catch' model

Highline Times photo

'Big Catch' sculpture captures nature of waterfront community

The City Council and Greater Des Moines Chamber of Commerce have joined together in an effort to give Des Moines a visible piece of outdoor art that reflects the character of the waterfront community.

The result will be a life-sized bronze sculpture called Big Catch, the creation of Northwest artist Richard Beyer. The sculpture depicts a smiling man dancing with a giant fish. It will be situated at the north end of downtown, near where Marine View Drive crosses Des Moines Creek.

Beyer is best known for his sculpture "Waiting for the Interurban" in the Fremont district of Seattle.

The sculpture for Des Moines won't be finished and set in place for a few years, after the widening of Marine View Drive across Des Moines Creek is completed.

A model of the sculpture can be seen at the Chamber office, 22236 Dock Ave., at the Marina.

Cost of the \$30,000 art project is being split by the City and Chamber

SPRING CLEAN COLLECTION DAY APRIL 24

In honor of Earth Day 1993, the City of Des Moines and Sea-Tac Disposal are providing a special Spring Clean Collection Day, Saturday, April 24.

On this day only, residents can have their garbage, recyclables and yard waste picked up at their curbside for little or no charge.

Collection starts early in the morning, so have your items at curbside the night before.

This collection is available only to singlefamily residences, duplexes, triplexes, and fourplexes within the City of Des Moines. Only materials that meet the guidelines below will be picked up:



- ◆ Place garbage at the curb and separate from recyclables and yard waste.
- Garbage must be in containers less than 60 pounds. No loose garbage will be collected.
- A YARD WASTE IN
 PLASTIC BAGS WILL
 NOT BE COLLECTED.
 Yard waste must be separate and placed in biodegradable containers (cardboard boxes or paper bags) or bound with natural fibers.
- Yard-waste containers/bundles must not exceed 4 feet in length or weigh more than 60 pounds. Branches must be less than 4 inches in diameter.
- ◆ Place recyclables in bags or boxes, clearly labeled and separate from garbage and yard waste. No loose material will be collected.
- Used appliances will also be collected at curbside for recycling, however a
 fee is charged. Tags must be purchased
 at the city Public Works building prior to

the collection day. Tags are \$25 for refrigerators, air conditioners and freezers; \$10 for all other appliances. APPLIANCES WITHOUT TAGS WILL NOT BE PICKED UP. Call 878-8626 for information.

♦ NO HAZARDOUS WASTES WILL BE COLLECTED. They include paints, solvents, pesticides, motor oil and car batteries. Save the materials for drop-off at the Household Hazardous Wastemobile; call 296-4692 for information.

For more information about Spring Clean Collection Day, call Sea-Tac Disposal at 872-7220.

DES MOINES DIRECTORY

City Hall, 21630 11th Ave. So., 878-4595 Business Hours: Monday - Friday 8:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.

City Council - 878-4595

Richard Kennedy, Mayor Lew Anderson, Mayor Pro Tem Audrey Bowers Frank Jovanovich

Scott Thomasson

Don Wasson

Bob Wray

Administration - 878-4595

Greg Prothman, City Manager Bob Olander, Assistant City Manager James Gorham, City Attorney Gene Logas, Finance Director Denis Staab, City Clerk

Planning/Engineering/Parks/Public

Works - 878-8626

Judith Kilgore, Planning Director Dale Schroeder, City Engineer Frank Olson, Supt. of Public Works Jon Jainga, Parks Supervisor

Police Department

878-3301 Business - 911 Emergency

Martin Pratt, Chief

Fire District No. 26

878-2210 Business - 911 Emergency

Bob Arnold, Chief

Des Moines Senior Center - 878-1642

Karen Marshall, Supervisor

Des Moines Marina - 824-5700

Jesse Cadena, Harbormaster

Des Moines Library - 824-6066

Mike McNamara, Librarian

■ The City of Des Moines does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, national origin, sex, religion, age or disability in employment or provision of services.

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Funding for recreation program OK'd

Supported by the results of a community survey, the City Council has approved the establishment of a recreation program for Des Moines residents.

The new program is expected to be up and running this summer with limited activities. An expanded recreational program, with classes, workshops and other activities for citizens of all ages, should begin next fall.

The new City program has evolved from a decision by King County not to operate three county park facilities in Des Moines: the Fieldhouse Park, Zenith Park and Parkside Park. The City was given the option of taking over maintenance and operation of the parks.

The City conducted a survey in January to determine if the public would be willing to pay higher taxes to support a parks and recreation program, making use of the three county parks as well as City parks facilities.

The survey, randomly sent to 2,000 households, presented different alternatives for parks and recreation funding and asked which one the survey recipient would support. Of the 809 responses, 85% supported some sort of utility tax to fund a parks and recreation program.

The greatest number, 31% supported implementation of a 2% utility tax to fund a full-scale recreation program like those programs in many

other area cities of similar size. Some 28% supported a scaled down program funded through a 1.25% utility tax, and 26% supported a .8% tax for minimum funding to only maintain the county parks facilities.

Based on the support from the survey, the City Council in February voted to establish a 2% utility tax effective April 1, 1993, to fund the program. The tax is being levied on gas, power, telephone, cable TV and garbage collection. Residents will see the tax on their utility bills.

The utility tax is expected to generate \$270,000 a year to operate the recreation program and to fund maintenance for the three parks transferred from King County. Other revenue needed for the program will be collected through users fees.

The City is now in the process of hiring a recreation supervisor to get the program started. Some recreation activities may be offered as early as this summer.

The City Council thanks those citizens who took the time to respond to the survey. Nearly 30 pages of written comments from respondents were transcribed and read by council members.

While the comments varied greatly, the general tone of those responding was that people want the parks in Des Moines maintained, and recreational programs for children and teenagers.

NEW PLANNING DIRECTOR

Judith Kilgore joined the staff at City Hall in January as the City's new Planning Director.

Ms. Kilgore formerly was supervisor for the Economic Development Team at the City of Seattle. She also served as project manager for construction of the Westlake Center.

She sought the position in Des Moines because she wanted to work and live in a smaller community "where I could see the results of my work," and where her daughter could experience community spirit and a sense of belonging.

Ms. Kilgore said her plans for the Planning Department include chang-

ing its name to the Community Development Department and emphasizing customer service and community outreach.

One change since Ms. Kilgore started with the City is a restructuring of the engineering and



Judith Kilgore

planning departments. Now, the Building Division is part of the Planning Department which should result in a smoother process for city staff members and people applying for building permits.



Newsletter/March 1993

THE NOISE IS GETTING WORSE

-- By Hans Aschenbach, Assistant Planner, City of Des Moines Community Development

Have you ever wondered why the Port of Seattle is telling you one thing about airport noise while your ears are telling you something else? The Port has stated that airplane noise was at its worst in 1973 right after the second runway was opened. Ever since, the noise has supposedly been lessening at a steady pace.

A staff study by City of Des Moines Community Development has proven this to be false -- using the Port's own data. From 1987 to 1991, information from two Port noise studies shows that the noise contours around SeaTac International Airport have increased by 3.2% This may not seem like a lot, but remember that the Port has been saying that noise is decreasing by over 32% in the next five years.

This contradiction led to a close inspection of the Port's scientific method. Des Moines' study has shown that the Port's claims have no basis in fact. POS has compared apples and oranges for twenty years. How did they do this? By changing study methodologies and computer models, the Port has created studies that show shrinking noise contours. But these contours may only be shrinking because of different measurement techniques or changed computer formulas.

The only two comparable studies that the Port has produced are the two used by Des Moines which show that the noise is getting worse. This is our only trend information. We can reasonably assume that the noise will continue to increase in the future, given the Port's prediction or increased operations and the inability of the financially weak airlines to buy new stage 3 aircraft. This trend will be worsened by the third runway which will spread noise 1,700 feet to the west.

RCAA LOBBIES LEGISLATORS

City representatives of Burien, Normandy Park, Des Moines, and Tukwila, who are members of RCAA, recently visited Washington D.C. for the National Cities Annual Meeting. While there they met with many of the Washington State Delegation to lobby for help in the fight against expansion of SeaTac at the federal level.

RCAA has met with many other state legislators, county officials, and PSRC members in the past few months. As with the federal legislators, these politicians were provided books of factual information developed by RCAA. Articles within the books contained expert's studies on economics, noise, health, education, and environmental issues. - Kelly Bernard, Mayor Pro-tem, Normandy Park.

WE CAN'T AFFORD THE PORT'S BILLION \$\$\$ BAND-AID

The 3rd runway option should be rejected based on cost alone. Construction costs for the 3rd runway will be one-half billion dollars. No other runway in the country has cost nearly as much to build. Denver recently completed five runways at it's new airport for only \$380 million. Interest will push the total bill for the 3rd runway close to 1.2 billion dollars.. This figure does not include social costs, property devaluation, infrastructure costs, or mitigation.

Construction costs for the 3rd runway are extremely high because the Port will have to build up the west slope of the airport. This project will require almost 18 million cubic yards of compacted dirt to be trucked in to Sea-Tac. This amount of fill would occupy seven Kingdomes. To move this much dirt would require almost 2000 trucks each day for 3 years on I - 5.

The 3rd runway will provide, at best, a marginal increase in annual operations at Sea-Tac from 380,000 to 480,000. This increase will only provide ten years of adequate capactiy. After that, this region will still need a new airport to meet expected increases in demand.

21% of Sea-Tac's traffic goes just two places: Portland and Vancouver, B.C. Much of the demand on Sea-Tac will be eliminated if this region invests in rail plans now being considered. In addition, cost-effective techniques have been identified to increase Sea-Tac's capacity without investing in the expensive capital improvements sought by the Port.

Sea-Tac is just too small to meet our long range air capacity needs. The 3rd runway is a 1.2 billion band-aid solution that provides marginal benefits to this state's air transportation needs. Since we need a new airport anyway, it is fiscally irresponsible to invest in the astronomically expensive 3rd runway. It is time to get the maximum benefit out of Sea-Tac through available costeffective methods, and then get on with the real work of siting a new regional airport capable of meeting our needs well into the 21st centruy. - Debra Rinaudo, Secretary, RCAA

KEEP THE GRASS ROOTS GROWING! WE NEED YOUR SUPPORT RCAA

Mail your check to:

Regional Commission on Airport Affairs

801 S.W. 174th St.

	Norm	248-7603	
Name		Phone	
Address		× □	
City	State	Zip	

Final paving due for mprovement project

Final asphalt paving for the Downtown Des Moines Improvement Project has been postponed until this month because of inclement weather and damage caused to new pavement by studded tires.

If the weather cooperates, all paving, sidewalk work, landscaping and pavement marking should be completed by mid-May, when the new traffic signals are scheduled to be brought on line.

At the request of downtown merchants, two-hour parking limits are planned to be installed and enforced for the block of Marine View Drive between S. 223rd and S. 225th.

The state Dept. of Transportation still plans to initiate the Des Moines Creek fill widening project this summer. Marine View Drive will be widened to four lanes at the creek crossing. The project is expected to continue through the summer of 1994.

EMPLOYEE OF THE QUARTER

Angela Chaufty, receptionist/clerk at City Hall, has been chosen by her peers as the Employee of the Quarter.

Angela has beenwith the City for two years. Her main duties include anwering the phone and greeting the public



Angela Chaufty

at City Hall. She also assists the City Clerk and personnel department.

She says she enjoys her job because she likes working with the public.

Her supervisor, Assistant City Manager Bob Olander, says, "Angie projects a caring and customer-service oriented attitude toward the public."

Angela was chosen for the honor for best demonstrating the city's "Sails With Pride" employee values of "Positive, Resourceful, Integrity, Dedication and Excellence."

Angela and her husband live on the North Hill of Des Moines.

DEPARTMENT PROFILE



Karen Marshall, right, Senior Services Supervisor, and Vi Canody, Senior Program Assistant.

Senior Services Division serves area's older citizens

The City of Des Moines Senior Services Division relies on two fulltime employees and dozens of volunteers to operate the Senior Center and administer a variety of programs serving the community's older citizens.

The Greater Des Moines Senior Center provides an important role in the community since 21% of the Des Moines population is at least 55 years old. Last year more than 1,400 different people came to the Senior Center, an average of 77 per day.

"We exist to keep people in their own homes and to keep them independent," says Karen Marshall, Senior Services Supervisor. Vi Canody is Senior Program Assistant.

The Senior Center is situated in a former church camp at Des Moines Beach Park, north of the Marina. The facility has a dining hall, multipurpose room, offices and a classroom. Lunches are served on weekdays and a variety of programs and activities offered, from bridge tournaments to country-western dance lessons.

The Senior Services Division also provides outreach programs such as Meals on Wheels providing nutritious meals to seniors unable to leave their homes. A respite care program that provides a break for caregivers is offered. Also, the Senior Center serves as a community resource for senior citizens seeking information or needing help of any sort. For information, call 878-1642.

SPAGHETTI DINNER: The Senior Center is sponsoring a spaghetti dinner on April 14 in the dining hall of the center. This is a fund-raiser to help offset the Center's share of the operating budget.

Cost is \$4 for adults, \$3.50 for older adults, \$1.50 for children under 10 years old, or \$12 for the family. Advance reservations are requested so seating for families or large groups is guaranteed. Call 878-1642 to make a reservation, or for more information.

Two seatings are available: 5 p.m. for families with children, and 6:45 p.m. for anyone.

NEGOTIATIONS OVER POOL FUNDING CONTINUE

King County's Mt. Rainier swimming pool in Des Moines remains open for public use while county and city officials negotiate continued funding of the pool.

The county has proposed turning

maintenance and operation of the county pools located in municipalities over to the cities.

County officials and officials from the Suburban Cities Association have proposed seeking an additional funding source to keep the pools open. Negotiations are continuing.

CITY COUNCIL HIGHLIGHTS



Richard Kennedy Mayor



Lew Anderson Mayor Pro Tem



Audrey Bowers Council member



Frank Jovanovich Council member



Scott Thomasson Council member



Don Wasson Council member



Bob Wray Council member

DECEMBER 1992

- Passed Ordinance No. 994 accepting 1993 property taxes.
- Passed Ordinance No. 995 establishing a "Rental Housing Registration Fee" of \$9.50 per unit for multifamily residences.
- Passed Ordinance No. 997 adopting City's 1993 budget.
- Authorized the City Manager to enter into negotiations with King County for clear titles to the Des Moines Field House and Parkside Parks, and to negotiate with Highline School District for lease of the Zenith Park.

JANUARY 1993

■ Held public hearing and began review of the Downtown Element of the Comprehensive Plan.

- Passed Ordinance No. 1001 requiring street system improvements as a condition of buildingpermit approval.
- Passed Resolution No. 712 adopting a sidewalk route map.
- Passed Ordinance No. 1003 providing specific requirements for rightof-way improvements in subdivisions.
- Awarded contracts for bio-enhanced vapor extraction and for downgrading and drilling characterization in the amount of \$121,250 to RZA Agra, Inc.
- Held public hearing and passed Ordinance 1004 to provide for a 2% utility tax for Airport Defense Funding.

- Held a public hearing and passed Ordinance 1005 to provide for a 2% utility tax for parks and recreation funding.
- Held a public hearing and passed Ordinance 1006 regarding commute trip reduction.

FEBRUARY 1993

■ Accepted an interlocal agreement with Highline Water District for Marine View Drive, south of Kent-Des Moines Road, construction project.

- Passed Ordinance No. 1007 establishing procedures and fees for vacation of public right-of-way.
- Passed Ordinance No. 1008 relating to public records, establishing procedures for granting and denying access to public records by the general public.
- Passed Ordinance No. 1011 relating to marina vessel impound and sale.
- Passed Ordinance No. 1012 requiring undergrounding of certain wiring and related facilities for all utilities.
- Awarded the contract for streetsweeping services to Best Parking Lot Sweepers, Inc., in the amount of \$39,000.

SURFACE WATER BILLING CHANGING TO QUARTERLY

Effective Aug. 15, 1993, the City will begin billing quarterly instead of bi-monthly for surface-water management. The rates will remain the same but instead of receiving a two-month billing for \$9.80, patrons will get a three-month billing for \$14.70.

Payments will still be due 30 days from the billing date and late charges will be applied after 40 days. Bi-monthly billing will continue through June 1993.

If you have any questions or concerns about the billing, call 824-7447 weekdays between 8 a.m. and 4:30 p.m.

City of Des Moines

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