



## Annual Bon Fire & Holiday Cruise Set for Dec. 4

Join spirited folk and enjoy complimentary cookies, hot cider and cocoa at the annual bon fire to be held at Des Moines Beach Park on Friday, December 4 from 6 - 7:30 p.m. The Argosy Christmas Ship will depart the Des Moines Marina at 6:30 p.m. and anchor off shore in front of Des Moines Beach Park. The Bellevue Chamber Chorus will perform traditional holiday songs. The ship will then depart for other beachfront parks at 7:10 p.m. Argosy is encouraging those with boats to decorate and follow in the boat parade.



The Argosy Christmas Ship will anchor in front of Des Moines Beach Park at around 6:30 p.m. on Friday, Dec. 4.

### Redondo Holiday Fun!

In the Redondo area, festivities begin at 6:45 p.m. with a performance by the Federal Way Chorale. Under the direction of Don Barrows, the Chorale will perform a selection of traditional holiday songs in Wooton Park. The bon fire will burn from 7:45 - 8:15 p.m. on the beach just north of Salty's to be accompanied by arrival of the Argosy Christmas Ship. A community sing-along will begin at 8:20 p.m. at Wooton Park with the arrival of Santa Claus and candy canes for kids. Special thanks to

the Redondo Community Store for sponsoring the Federal Way Chorale and community sing-along.

For boat parade and Christmas Ship information call Argosy at (206) 623-1455. For bon fire information, call the Des Moines Park & Recreation Department at (206) 870-6527. (Choir and schedule subject to change. Bon fire scheduled weather permitting.)

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## Bond Issue for Community-Senior Center

Des Moines residents will be voting next March on a \$4.85 million bond issue to build a new Community-Senior Center. The City has already acquired the four-acre site for the center at 2045 S. 216th St., adjacent to the new post office. The site was purchased with Community Development Block Grant funds.

The Community-Senior Center would have 19,900 square feet, including a dining/meeting hall that would seat up to 240. There would be three multi-purpose rooms, an arts and crafts room, children's

arcade, exercise room, computer technology room and senior services rooms. If approved in March, the facility would open in 2000.

The cost for taxpayers on the 20-year bond would be 23 cents per \$1,000 assessed valuation. The election will be a mail-in vote that will be due by March 9, 1999. Voters will receive their ballots in the mail two-three weeks earlier. The bond issue requires 60 percent voter approval for passage.

Watch for additional information about the bond issue in future mailings and editions of this newsletter.

## DES MOINES DIRECTORY

City Hall, 21630 11th Ave. S.  
206-878-4595  
Business Hours: Monday - Friday  
8 a.m. - 4:30 p.m.

### City Council – 206-878-4595

Scott Thomasson, Mayor  
Terry Brazil, Mayor Pro Tem  
Dave Kaplan  
Bob Sheckler  
Dan Sherman  
Gary Towe  
Don Wasson

### City Offices

City Attorney .....206-870-6553  
City Clerk .....206-878-4595  
City Manager .....206-870-6541  
Comm. Development .206-878-8626  
Engineering .....206-870-6522  
Finance Director ....206-878-4595  
Marina .....206-824-5700  
Municipal Court ....206-878-4597  
Parks .....206-870-6556  
Police Department ...206-878-3301  
Public Works .....206-870-6559  
Recreation .....206-870-6527  
Senior Services .....206-878-1642

### Other Numbers

Emergency .....911  
Fire (non-emergency) .206-878-2210  
Police (non-emergency) 206-878-3301  
Field House .....206-870-6527  
Library .....206-824-6066  
Marina .....206-824-5700  
City Job Line .....206-870-6593  
City Web Page:  
[www.ci.des-moines.wa.us](http://www.ci.des-moines.wa.us)

### BUSINESS LICENSE RENEWAL DEADLINE: JANUARY 1, 1999

Commercial - \$50  
Home occupation - \$20  
Rental of Real Property -  
\$50 + \$11.30 per unit

Contact the City Clerk's Office for  
information at (206) 878-4595.



The new post office opened on November 16.



Terry Brazil, Des Moines Mayor Pro Tem, right, cut the red ribbon at a November 13 ceremony. Also pictured are Seattle Postmaster Lee Salazar, left and Post Office Manager, Jaime Timbang.

## New Post Office Opens at 2003 S. 216th St.

Des Moines' new post office opened its doors to the public on Nov. 16. The new facility at 2003 S. 216th St. is 23,000 square feet, about twice as large as the former post office at 22203 7th Ave. S., which is now closed.

The additional space will enable all carriers for all 98198 postal routes to work out of the same building which should improve efficiency. Previously, carriers for 98198 routes worked out of the Riverton and Des Moines post offices.

The new facility has 1,300 post office boxes, compared to 800 in the old post office. There is additional counter space, a self-service vending machine area, and a retail area that features postal products. The post office is served by a new Metro route, No. 189.

Post office hours are 8:30 a.m. - 3 p.m., Monday - Friday; 8:30 a.m. - 3 p.m., Saturday.

The postal service is currently reviewing bids for a limited contract office in downtown Des Moines.

## New Land Use Policies, Zoning Proposed

Des Moines' planners are working with interested citizens and the City Council to plan for the future of the Pacific Highway South area. The study area includes both sides of Pacific Highway as far south as Kent-Des Moines Road. Discussions include the possibility of high-rise buildings containing condominiums over street-level retail.

Also in the planning stage is a new zoning map for the entire City. The existing map dates back to 1964, when the City was much smaller in size. Now, computer-drawn maps can provide better clarity, accuracy, and are easier to update over time.

This is also an opportunity to make the zoning map better match the City's Comprehensive Plan (a requirement of State law). As a result, the zoning of some properties may be changed to either a more restrictive or more permissive zone. The names of the zones may also be updated to better reflect their purpose and use. Notice of the public hearings for the new map will be mailed to the owners of affected properties.

To find out more about the Pacific Highway South study area or the new zoning map call Corbitt Loch (206) 870-6568.

## Street and Surface Water Maintenance

The City of Des Moines Street Maintenance crew has a large responsibility. The City has approximately 85 miles of streets. Seven maintenance workers have the responsibility to care for all City rights-of-way; that is over 12 miles per worker. Part of their mission is to maintain all streets, sidewalks, and open rights-of-way ensuring a safe environment for vehicle and pedestrian use. Some of the services provided are:

### Road and Street Maintenance

Road and street maintenance includes road and shoulder repair, grading, graveling, pothole patching, and asphalt repairs.

### Traffic Control Measures

This involves installing new signs, lights, and markings, as well as maintaining those that exist. This is done in an effort to safely guide the citizens and commuting public on our City's rights-of-way.

### Roadside Vegetation

This service is to keep the rights-of-way beyond the curb or shoulder neatly trimmed and free of overhanging or intruding vegetation that may be a hazard or that impairs motorists' vision. The crews also remove trees that are dead or in some way could be dangerous to people or property. Other services include litter control, as well as snow and ice removal.

The other four members of the

Public Works Maintenance crew take care of surface water and storm drainage. Their mission is to maintain, protect, and improve the City's surface water and drainage systems. These crews do regular routine maintenance of City-owned storm water catch basins, closed pipe conveyance systems, and above and underground detention facilities. Private facilities that have maintenance agreements with the City are also maintained. The crew also continues with the neighborhood pipe program. This program involves installing pipe into open ditches per an agreement between a requesting citizen and the City. Under this agreement, the citizen pays for the materials and the crew does the installation.

The typical citizen may not be aware of how large the system is with its huge quantity of pipe, thousands of catch basins, and several detention facilities. The crew is dedicated to improving the quality of the surface water that flows through our systems into our streams by doing the best job possible.

Other services provided include ditch cleaning, stream vegetation maintenance, minor repair of stream banks, litter control, and street sweeping. These services are intended to extend the life of the City's drainage system, to continue to minimize localized flooding, and to improve water quality by removing debris, pollutants, and sediment from the system.

## New Finance Director

Scott McCarty is the new Finance Director for the City of Des Moines. Scott comes to Des Moines from Gilbert, Arizona, a suburb of Phoenix, where he was the City's Accounting Manager. Scott is a native of Arizona and earned his degree in accounting at the University of Redlands in Southern California. Scott and his wife, Deanna, have a 1-year old son, Matthew. They are looking forward to making their home in Des Moines.



Scott McCarty



## Are You Prepared for Winter?

Some climatologists are saying that because of La Nina, the Pacific Northwest may be facing the most severe winter in decades, with possible prolonged periods of cold temperatures and power outages. There are some things residents can do to be prepared for winter storms:

- Have an alternate heat source for your home - woodstove, fireplace, kerosene heater, etc. Natural gas heaters usually have an electric fan which makes them inefficient during power outages.
- Have an alternate cooking source such as a camp stove for use outdoors. (Never use a charcoal barbecue indoors; the fumes can be toxic)
- Protect pipes with insulation and outside faucets with Styrofoam covers.
- In extremely cold conditions, leave a faucet trickling to prevent freezing.
- Stay indoors during windstorms.
- If pipes freeze, expose the frozen area to a heat source.

### HOME DISASTER KIT



- Emergency phone numbers
- Fire extinguisher
- Water and food supplies
- Spare clothes, including heavy coat and sturdy shoes
- First aid kit & blankets
- Prescription medicines
- Special infant, pet & sanitation supplies
- Flashlights
- Battery-powered radio
- Extra batteries
- Extra cash

### VEHICLE EMERGENCY KIT



- Maps & compass
- Warm, waterproof clothing
- Heavy boots
- Shovel, booster cables, tow rope
- Tire repair kit and pump
- Sack of sand or kitty litter

## City Employees and Businesses Donate to United Way

The City of Des Moines recently completed its 1998 United Way Campaign with record giving to benefit local human services agencies. This year's campaign donations totaled \$5,695.00 up \$1,221.00 over past years.

1998 Employee Campaign Committee Coordinator Patrice Thorell stated, "The fundraising increase is due in part to the enthusiasm of Employee Committee members Sue Bowman, Peggy Watson, Charlie Martin, Wayne Matthews, Mike Chaney, Barbara Wagner, and Rick Still and their organization of many creative fundraising events." Special theme goodie baskets and auction items were also prepared by each city department and auctioned to the highest bidders with proceeds going to United Way.



Many of the baskets contained prizes donated by local businesses including: Anthony's Homeport, Furney's Nursery, Big E Nursery, Lloyd's Enterprises, J B Sod, Red Robin, Snure Law Offices, Des Moines-The Cleaners, Lago Azul Restaurant, Miller's Marine Center, Quartermaster Store, Breakers Restaurant, Bayview Limousine Services, Midway and Des Moines QFC stores, Des Moines Creek Restaurant, Cindy Martin Jewelry, and B & E Meats. The special fundraising events raised \$1,170.00 that will go directly to Des Moines human services agencies serving our residents. The City of Des Moines applauds the city employees contributing to the 1998 United Way effort and the Des Moines area businesses that helped to make the campaign a success.

## Planning to Build a Fence?

Many fences are constructed by Des Moines property owners each year. To many, fences are an important feature of home or property ownership and are built for a variety of reasons. Property owners often like to physically define or mark the limits of their property, and fences help achieve that. Fences also provide for a sense of increased security and privacy for residents whose homes or yards may be too exposed for personal comfort.

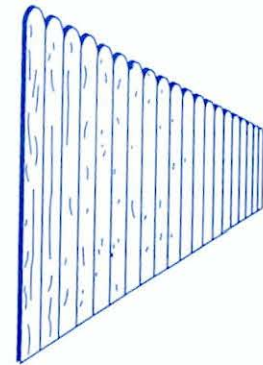
The City of Des Moines Community Development Department is frequently asked questions when it comes to building fences. The two most popular questions are: "Do I need a building permit?" and "Are there any regulations, restrictions or other things that I need to know before I decide to build a fence?"

A building permit is not needed to construct a fence provided that:

- The fence follows the normal contour or grade of the property involved; and
- The fence is not built together with a retaining wall constructed beneath the fence; and
- The fence is 6 feet or less in height and not located within the required front yard setback area.

Even though a building permit may not be required, there are a few additional things that property owners should do or know before starting to build a fence.

- Don't guess where your property lines are located. Build your fence only within your property if you do not have formal agreement with a neighbor. If you are not completely sure where your property lines are, have a survey performed or you may risk having to relocate or remove your fence.



- Talk to your neighbors and try to obtain a mutual understanding about where the common property lines are believed to be located if you want to save survey costs. Obtain written agreements or easements with each neighbor to avoid future disputes.

- Do not rely solely on existing fence lines, hedges, lawn edges, landscaped beds or other informal markers or improvements to determine where your side or rear property lines are located.

- Do not rely solely on the location of fire hydrants, telephone poles, phone boxes, water meters, or the edge of sidewalks or street pavement to determine where your front property line is located.

- The property owner is ultimately responsible for having a fence built properly both in terms of its location and height. A contractor can build a fence, but he/she may not know where property lines are without a survey or what city codes are required for fence height or setbacks.

Call the Community Development Department at (206) 878-8626 for information about what height and setback requirements apply to the fence you plan to build. In some cases, a fence may be required to set back from a property line or height reduced depending on the exact circumstances involved with your property.

## AIRPORT COMMUNITIES COALITION

### Des Moines Amends Comprehensive Plan

In mid-October, the Des Moines City Council amended the City's Comprehensive Plan to specifically incorporate language from the State Environmental Policy Act (SEPA) as the primary point from which the City would exercise its authority to impose mitigation and/or deny approval of development projects. These amendments are intended to satisfy the Growth Management Hearings Board, which generally directed the City to articulate the yard stick it would use to review, approve, condition or deny a development project associated with an essential public facility, such as Sea-Tac airport. Other cities have adopted similar amendments to satisfy the Growth Board's requests.

The City expects that the Growth Board will dismiss the current challenge to the City's Comprehensive Plan. The odds of dismissal appear to be good. The Port of Seattle, which filed the pending challenge of the City's Comprehensive Plan with the Growth Board in early 1997, acknowledged that the City's SEPA-based amendments are consistent with state law. The amended Des Moines Comprehensive Plan retains the City's full permitting authority under SEPA to review and mitigate Port projects and activities with the City's jurisdiction.

### Federal Case Proceeds

Oral arguments were heard recently in the Ninth Circuit Court of Appeals kicking off the ACC's federal case against the Port's proposed third runway. The ACC seeks to invalidate the Federal Aviation Administration's (FAA) approval of the third runway. The ACC believes that the FAA violated federal law governing airport development runway projects by failing to impose sufficient mitigation and has violated the federal Clean Air

Act by relying on a flawed and incomplete analysis of the project's adverse impacts on the region's air quality. The FAA approved the Port's third runway project in a July 1997 Record of Decision.

### Wetlands Delay 3rd Runway

The Port of Seattle has withdrawn a state application to fill in wetlands to build a third runway at Sea-Tac airport delaying construction of the project. Delays in getting new permits could set back construction months, if not another year.

The Port of Seattle will need to submit a new Section 401 permit, hold new public comment periods and public hearings which will take several months. This process may push back the hiring of several key construction contracts until late summer 1999 which would cause the Port to miss another construction season.

The Section 401 permit requires that the Port survey the number of acres of wetlands to be bought, filled and leveled to build the third runway. Because the Port has acquired only a quarter of the properties needed to build the third runway, they are unable to determine the exact number of acres of wetlands that will need to be filled. The Port is required to purchase additional wetlands to offset the wetlands filled for construction.

The Section 401 permit is one of several permits required by the state of Washington before the Port can build the third runway. The Port had received initial permission from the state's Department of Ecology earlier this year. The Port also needs to acquire a section 404 permit from the US Army Corps of Engineers before it can disrupt wetlands. The Corps cannot act on the 404 application until the 401 certification is issued by the Department of Ecology.

## King County Dump Fees

King County will be raising fees for dumping garbage the first of the year. Because of those increases, Des Moines residents can anticipate their rates from SeaTac Disposal to go up slightly.

If you have any questions, please call SeaTac Disposal at (206) 682-9730.



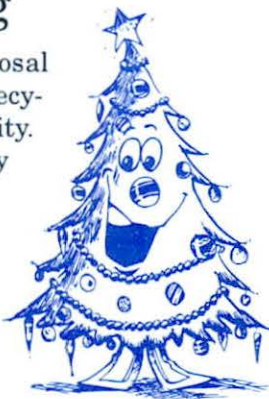
## Visit the City's web site

The City of Des Moines offers information about City government over the Internet. The City's web site offers information about elected officials, upcoming meetings, minutes from previous meetings and access to the Des Moines Municipal Code, as well as links to other officials, agencies and information. Des Moines "City Currents" newsletter also appears on the web site. The address is:

[www.ci.des-moines.wa.us](http://www.ci.des-moines.wa.us)

## Free Holiday Tree Recycling

The City of Des Moines and SeaTac Disposal Company are providing FREE holiday tree recycling for single family residents within the City. Pick-up will be on your regular collection day **January 13, 14 or 15**. Cut your tree into 3-foot lengths, bundle it with twine (biodegradable) and set it out with your garbage at curbside. **ONLY CLEAN TREES** will be accepted at no charge. All flocked or decorated trees will be collected as extra garbage and you will be charged \$3.50. If you have any questions, call SeaTac Disposal at (206) 682-9730.



*If you live in a condo or apartment you can take your clean tree to a nearby Holiday Tree Recycling Center provided by King County. The nearest one will be at the Little League baseball fields next to the King County Aquatic Center on S. 348th St. in Federal Way. Clean trees only, please.*

December 26, 27 and January 2, 3, 8, 9, 10  
9 a.m. to 5 p.m.

## Household Hazardous Wastemobile

Early in 1999 Des Moines again will be hosting King County's Household Hazardous Wastemobile. This is an opportunity for residents to safely dispose of hazardous materials found in the home **FREE OF CHARGE**.



**January 22, 23 & 24**

**January 29, 30 & 31**

Des Moines Marina South Parking Lot  
10 a.m. - 5 p.m. each day

### OK TO BRING:

- ✓ Pesticides
- ✓ Hobby chemicals
- ✓ Glue and adhesives
- ✓ Oil-based paints
- ✓ Thinners and solvents
- ✓ Toxic cleaning products
- ✓ Automotive products
- ✓ Antifreeze
- ✓ Aerosols
- ✓ Latex paint

### DON'T BRING:

- ✓ Business or apartment maintenance waste (Call 206-296-3976 for disposal information)
- ✓ Explosives (call Bomb Squad, 911)
- ✓ Medical wastes
- ✓ Large quantities or unusual wastes must be pre-approved by calling (206) 296-4692.

*If you have questions, please call the Health Department Hazard Line at (206) 296-4692. You can reduce your risks by using less toxic products. Ask the Health Department for more information on alternative products.*

## WINTER BREAK DAY CAMP

**December 21, 22, 23**

**December 28, 29, 30**

**7 a.m. - 6 p.m.**

Des Moines Park and Recreation will be offering Winter Break Day Camp for kids ages 5-14. Some of your favorite camp leaders from Camp KHAOS will be back to bring six fun-filled days of activities including arts and crafts, group games, special guests, field trips, free play, snacks and more!

Camp is limited to 50 kids. Registration is accepted on a first-come, first-served basis. All fees must be paid in full at time of registration. Payment can be made in cash, check or by credit card. Cost is \$25 per day. Discounts available for multiple day sign ups - see below. NOTE: Scholarships are not available for this program. No refunds/credits will be given. The camps are listed below:

Activity #1100.400 - Dec. 21, 22, 23 & Dec. 28, 29, 30; 7 a.m. - 6 p.m.; \$135

Activity #1100.401 - Dec. 21, 22, 23; 7 a.m. - 6 p.m.; \$70

Activity #1100.402 - Dec. 21; 7 a.m. - 6 p.m.; \$25

Activity #1100.403 - Dec. 22; 7 a.m. - 6 p.m.; \$25

Activity #1100.404 - Dec. 23; 7 a.m. - 6 p.m.; \$25

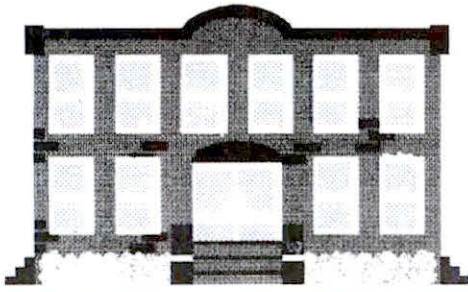
Activity #1100.405 - Dec. 28, 29, 30; 7 a.m. - 6 p.m.; \$70

Activity #1100.406 - Dec. 28; 7 a.m. - 6 p.m.; \$25

Activity #1100.407 - Dec. 29; 7 a.m. - 6 p.m.; \$25

Activity #1100.408 - Dec. 30; 7 a.m. - 6 p.m.; \$25

Camp will be held at the Fire House, 1000 South 220th Street. Please call (206) 870-6527 for information and registration.



## Des Moines University Commences February 3, 1999

Classes are free  
and are held from  
7:00 - 9:00 p.m. at the  
Council Chambers.

### Des Moines University 1999 Spring Quarter



#### February 3 - How to Hire a Contractor

Are you thinking of doing an addition, remodeling, or adding a deck to your home? This session will provide an overview of your rights and responsibilities when hiring a contractor. Learn what questions to ask, how to check licenses and credentials, and how to protect yourself from unscrupulous firms.



#### March 3 - So You Want to Do-It-Yourself?

Many homeowners fashion themselves as do-it-yourselfers. What does it take to **really** manage or construct a home improvement project on your own? This session will provide information on what you really need to know to construct a simple to moderately difficult home-improvement project. How to design it, what to look for in materials, and the required permits. Come learn from the experience of past do-it-yourselfers.



#### April 7 - Water Smart Gardening and Landscaping

With spring in the air, City staff will offer creative ideas on designing a garden with minimum water requirements. Learn about water tolerant plants, how to make the most of your water, and how to put the right plant in the right place for gardening success.

### Please Register Me For the Following Classes



- February 3 - How to Hire a Contractor       April 7 - Water Smart Gardening and Landscaping
- March 3 - So You Want to Do-It-Yourself?

\_\_\_\_\_  
Name

\_\_\_\_\_  
Telephone Number

\_\_\_\_\_  
Address

\_\_\_\_\_  
City, State and Zip Code

*Please join us - even if you participated in these classes last year!  
We will be sharing new ideas on these important topics.*

Please mail or return this form to : Community Development, Attn. DMU  
805 S. 219th St.  
Des Moines, WA 98198

# DES MOINES CITY COUNCIL



Scott Thomasson  
Mayor



Terry Brazil  
Mayor Pro Tem



Dave Kaplan  
Council member



Robert Sheckler  
Council member



Dan Sherman  
Council member



Gary Towe  
Council member



Don Wasson  
Council member

## CITY COUNCIL HIGHLIGHTS

*Awarded the following agreements/bids/contracts:*

- Construction contract for 7th Avenue South LID Project to Archer Construction Inc., in the amount of \$346,609 plus a 10% contingency.
- Contract for professional construction administration services for the 7th Avenue South LID project to Harding Lawson Associates Infrastructure, Inc. in the amount of \$33,727 plus a 10% contingency.
- Contract for providing and installing a new gate security system at the Des Moines Marina in the amount of \$44,484 plus a 10% contingency.
- Contract for the Des Moines Transportation Plan Update to the Transpo Group in the

amount of \$67,779 plus a 10% contingency.

- Construction contract for the 20th Avenue South Traffic Calming Project to MER-CON Inc., in the amount of \$45,576, plus a 10% contingency.
- Interlocal agreement between the City of Des Moines and the City of Kent for jail services.

*Began review of the following:*

- 1999-2004 Capital Improvement Plan
- 1999 Preliminary Budget
- Potential Institutional Zoning
- Potential Regulations – Licensing of Cats

*Approved the following resolutions:*

- Res. No. 852 authorizing application for funding assistance for an Aquatic Lands Enhancement Account project to the Department of Natural Resources.
- Res. No. 853 approving a public park development plan, subdivision and the final plat of Westwood-Des Moines.

*Other business:*

- Held a Public Hearing on Comprehensive Plan Amendments mandated by the Growth Management Hearing Board and approved Ordinance No. 1220 incorporating such amendments.
- Voted to discontinue membership in the Puget Sound Regional Council effective July 1, 1999.

## Upcoming Events

- December 4:** Holiday Events, Des Moines Beach Park and Redondo.
- December 10:** City Council Public Hearing, 1998 Comprehensive Plan Amendments. City Council Discussion - Regulating Mobile Vendors.
- January 13-15:** Holiday Tree Recycling.
- January 14:** City Council Discussion - SeaTac Disposal Proposed Rate Increase.
- February 3:** Des Moines University - How to Hire a Contractor.
- February 11:** City Council Public Hearing, Zoning Map Changes.

*Please call the City Clerk's Office at (206) 878-4595 for date confirmation on City Council agenda items.*

**CITY OF DES MOINES**  
21630 11th Avenue South  
Des Moines, WA 98198

BULK RATE  
US POSTAGE PAID  
SEATTLE WA  
PERMIT NO. 1123

ECRWSS

POSTAL CUSTOMER