

# CITY CURRENTS



VOLUME 6 NO. 3

JULY 1995

## City welcomes another North Hill neighborhood

The city's population grew another 1,733 on July 1, the date when the latest North Hill annexation became effective.

The North Hill III annexation is the last in a series of smaller annexations that have brought all of the North Hill neighborhood into the City of Des Moines.

The 229-acre annexed area, made up mostly of single family houses, lies directly north of the current city limits and is bounded by 1st Avenue South on the west; Des Moines Memorial Drive on the east; South 200th Street on the south; and South 192nd Street on the north.

City officials said the new residents on North Hill will benefit from improved services while the City will benefit from higher tax revenues.

The City of Des Moines' 1995 certified population was 21,404 prior to the annexation. Now, the population is estimated to be 23,137.



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## A vision for Des Moines, mission statement

In early June, City Council members and department heads attending a retreat in Leavenworth sat down together to do something that sounded simple enough: come up with a long-range vision for the city.

They were successful, but it wasn't as easy as it sounded.

"Everyone has their own interpretation of the role of government," said Mayor Richard Kennedy, "and trying to reach a consensus among several people can be difficult anytime."

After a lively discussion, the Council members finally agreed on a vision and mission statement (right).

Mayor Kennedy explained that the mission statement recognizes that Des Moines is primarily a residential community and city government's responsibility is to provide the type of services that support this type of community.

"The mission statement provides a purpose, a context for us to make decisions," Kennedy said. "Hopefully people

**Vision:**  
*A friendly and safe waterfront community*

**Mission of City Government**  
*To enrich residential living by providing leadership, administration and community services that reflect the pride and values of Des Moines.*

will start seeing our 'residents first' philosophy as reflected in the mission statement."

This was the first time the Council had attempted to develop a mission statement for the city. Mayor Kennedy said it was important for the Council to step back and examine long-term strategies instead always having to deal with "immediate fixes."

## GIFT FOR SENIOR CENTER FROM KING COUNTY



The Senior Center has received this seven passenger wheelchair accessible van from King County, a gift made possible through the efforts of County Councilman Peter Von Reichbauer. The graphics design labor was donated by a local citizen. The Senior Center staff is now ready to transport seniors to the Center for classes, services or lunch. Rides are \$1 each and one day notice is needed. Call the Senior Center at 878-1642 to arrange rides.

## DES MOINES DIRECTORY

City Hall, 21630 11th Ave. S.  
878-4595

Business Hours: Monday - Friday  
8 a.m. - 4:30 p.m.

### City Council - 878-4595

Richard Kennedy, Mayor  
Scott Thomasson, Mayor Pro Tem  
Lew Anderson  
Terry Brazil  
Jeanette Burrage  
Dan Sherman  
Gary Towe

### City Offices

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

### Other Numbers

Emergency .....911  
Fire (non-emergency) ....878-2210  
Police (non-emergency) .878-3301  
Field House .....870-6527  
Library .....824-6066  
Marina .....824-5700  
Senior Center .....878-1642

## TEEN NIGHTS

Friday, July 14

7 - 10 p.m., Des Moines Field House

Friday, Aug. 11

7 - 10 p.m., Pacific Middle School

Basketball, volleyball, ping pong, open  
mic/Karaoke, video game challenge,  
arts & crafts, free food

**COME JOIN THE FUN!**

Ages 12 - 18

**FREE!**

## New police station set to open in April '97

Police staff and architects are busy planning the interior of the new Des Moines Police Station following voter approval in April of a \$3.35 million bond issue to build the new facility.

Construction will begin next spring with a scheduled completion date of April 1997.

Three vacant houses on the police station site, on 11th Avenue South just south of the existing police station, were demolished in June and site preparation will continue through the summer. The project will go out to bid in February of 1996.

Good news for taxpayers is that the financing for the police station will cost less than anticipated. Bonds to build the facility were recently sold at a 5.1 percent interest rate instead of 6.7 percent which had been projected. Also, the bonds will be paid off in 12 years instead of 15 years.

Property owners will pay 25 cents per \$1,000 of assessed valuation instead of 30 cents per \$1,000 that had been estimated prior to the April election.

Currently, police officers and other staff members are providing input to architects on how the interior of the building should be laid out.

"We're trying to make sure we're

meeting everyone's needs, now and in future," said Lt. Kevin Tucker. "We o have one shot at this and we're trying to do it right."

The building will be a single story, 15,000 square foot facility that is designed to meet the department's needs for the next 20 years. It will include a public meeting room and restroom facilities for public use.

Chief Don Obermiller said that he hopes citizens visiting Des Moines Field House Park, City Hall or the Des Moines Library will take advantage of the facilities.

"This will be designed to be a public facility," Obermiller said. "We hope people will stop in and see us."

The chief thanked the people of Des Moines for their continued support of the police department.

"Obviously, we were thrilled with the results of the bond issue, but not surprised," he said. "The community knew we had a need and they were there for us."

Lt. Tucker added that the police department staff is very excited about working in a facility that allows them to do quality, professional police work, which will reflect the professional nature of the community.



## CONCERTS BY THE SOUND



All concerts are free at Des Moines Beach Park, 22030 Cliff Ave. S.

### TUESDAYS 7:30 p.m.

July 11 **Toucans**  
*All acoustic percussion*

July 18 **Suffering Gaels**  
*Irish music*

Aug. 1 **Foggy Bottom Jazz Band**  
*Dixieland music*

Aug. 8 **Mazeltones**  
*Yiddish favorites, jazz, Broadway*

Aug. 15 **Stampede Pass**  
*Country music*

### WEDNESDAYS 1 p.m.

July 12 **Loco Rodeo**  
*Family cowboy vaudeville*

July 19 **Washington Old-Time Fiddlers Association**  
*Vocal, fiddle, harmonica, accordion*

Aug. 2 **Navy Band**  
*Patriotic tunes*

Aug. 9 **Bellevue Philharmonic Brass**  
*Popular and contemporary brass*

Aug. 16 **Synergy**  
*Youths perform hip-hop, jitterbug, musical theater dance*

Sponsored by Des Moines Parks and Recreation and King County Arts Commission.

## Another runway at Sea-Tac will make bad situation worse

*(This article appeared as a guest opinion in the May 16, 1995 Seattle Post Intelligencer. It has been updated for this publication. Robert Olander is Des Moines assistant city manager and former executive director of Airport Communities Coalition (ACC).*

**By Robert Olander**

**I**n the great push to build a third runway at Sea-Tac Airport the Port of Seattle, and now the Seattle Post-Intelligencer (May 3 editorial), have neglected to address many of the current environmental problems at Sea-Tac.

Sea-Tac has had, and continues to have, enormous pollution problems even if no third runway is built. Those of us who live and work near the airport have a difficult time understanding how the Port is going to be a diligent steward of the environment when they have been ignoring those problems for decades.

For instance, the Port operates an industrial waste water system (IWS) intended to catch toxic materials from airport operations such as airplane cleaning fluids, fuels, de-icing chemicals and other poisonous mixtures and keep them from running into Des Moines and Miller Creeks and Puget Sound. But the IWS has been out of compliance with state ecology laws since 1965. Toxic chemicals are running into those water sources, destroying fish and habitat.

Sea-Tac Airport also sits on top of a major underground lake used for drinking water. While we do have laws in Washington state concerning clean underground water, many of those laws are being ignored, making the area's drinking water less and less safe to drink.

Perhaps one of the more frightening examples of current environmental disasters from operations at Sea-Tac is the presence of raw sewage showing up in Des Moines Creek from the airport's drainage lines. The Port was informed long ago that the lines were contaminated and that leaks were occurring, however, no action has ever been taken by the Port to test the lines and to fix the leaks.

Those are just a few of the more blatant examples of environmental and quality-of-life concerns for the people of Puget Sound. Right now, significant and recurring violations are happening with two runways

operating at Sea-Tac. What happens when there are more planes to maintain, more waste to dispose of and more flights producing noise and air pollution as well?

The Port has been whitewashing environmental problems at Sea-Tac for a number of years, yet it claims there will be no environmental damage to the area if a third runway is built. For those of us who have lived near the airport and seen the Port's lack of action when it comes to keeping our neighborhoods clean and safe, that assertion just doesn't make sense. A recent "Notice of Intent to Sue Under the Clean Water Act" filed June 13 by the Waste Action Project listed dozens of continuing violations of the federal Clean Water Act.

**N**oise remains an environmental problem as well. One jet flying overhead is noisy. Add hundreds of more jets and what happens? It gets a lot louder. That isn't a difficult concept to understand, especially for the hundreds of thousands of people living near Sea-Tac Airport whose daily lives are interrupted over and over with the roar of 747s flying overhead.

But the Port would like people who live and work near the airport to pretend that the jet noise isn't getting worse. They want us to believe that because they have machines that indicate a 1 decibel reduction in noise impacts, it must be getting less noisy. But that's not the case.

In a recent study conducted by Dr. Sanford Fidell, a nationally recognized noise expert, 90 percent of the residents who live nearby have noticed no decrease in aircraft noise. In fact, people who lived in the area for more than two years thought jet noise was getting worse.

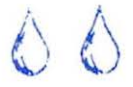
Building the third runway when the Port obviously is unable to control current environmental and noise problems just doesn't make sense.

With Sea-Tac, Boeing Field and Renton Airport, Seattle and King County have reached a saturation point for airport noise impacts. We have taken enough and can take no more. Future solutions to our regional air transportation needs must include sharing some of the burdens, as well as the benefits, with Snohomish and Pierce Counties.





# Surface Water News



SUMMER 1995

NUMBER 7

## RECENT DRAINAGE PROJECTS

In May, Public Works crews installed a new drainage system on S. 240th St., west of Marine View Drive. A total of 110 feet of 12" pipe and two catchbasins were installed along S. 240th St. near the bluff above the Sound. The new system replaces two old pipes that had separated joints and curved alignments. Public Works used a robot video camera inside the pipes to check the poor condition of the pipes before repairs were started. Crews had to use particular care while digging the trenches for the new pipe because located under that street is a large natural gas main that goes to Vashon Island!

The maintenance will be easier because the new pipe has fewer joints and the joints are smooth so cleaning equipment won't get snagged. Sediment accumulated in the new catchbasins can easily be reached and removed with the city vac truck. Since this is a major stormline which handles considerable water, the repair work is an important improvement to the city system.

Also this spring, Public Works crews painted the fence around the sediment pond across from Taco Time. The city used a tan stain to protect the cedar fence from weathering and to improve its looks.

In other projects, city crews improved and upgraded the drainage at several other sites. They installed 75 feet of storm pipe, three catchbasins, repaired two outfall control structures, placed asphalt berms and performed routine cleaning. As part of the pipe program, Public Works installed 418 feet of storm pipe and 4 catchbasins.

## GIRL SCOUTS COMMUNITY SERVICE

As part of an environmental awareness program, the Girl Scouts (Troop Nos. 6, 197, 389, 1061 and 1124) were busy marking catch basins in the Thunderbird, Mt. Rainier High School and Zenith Park areas. The weather really cooperated as almost 200 storm drains were marked with the logo - DUMP NO WASTE - DRAINS TO STREAM. The scouts say the objective is clear. "Toxic chemicals don't belong in our water. Every year people pour hazardous chemicals, pesticides, paints, antifreeze and used motor oil down stormdrains and dry wells. This contaminates our streams and drinking water sources. Some people believe that the stormdrain will carry the waste to a sewer treatment plant for cleanup." The fact is, here in Des Moines, the stormwater drains directly to the city's streams and marina.



*Meghan Harrell, a seven-year-old Des Moines Girl Scout, shows fellow scouts April Peter and Hope Bales how to stencil storm drains.*

The girl scouts noted, "Even small amounts of toxic chemicals like antifreeze, pesticides and household cleaners can weaken fish and make them susceptible to fatal diseases." So hopefully when someone gets ready to pour waste down the drain, they'll get the message. PLEASE DON'T!

## CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT PROJECTS

The designs for the City Park (adjacent to Kent-Des Moines Road) stormwater detention facility and City Park drainage bypass have been completed and approved by the City Council. The detention project includes installation of a trash and outlet control structure at the lower end of the park, plus a maintenance access road to the structures from 22nd Place S. The bypass project will include installing over 700 feet of 24-inch diameter pipe from S. 228th Street through a storm easement behind Grace Lutheran Church to the park. The project also includes paving a maintenance access road along the easement and the installation of an energy dissipater structure at the outfall to the park stream. Some bank stabilization work will be done at the existing outfall structure at the north end of the park.

Both projects will be advertised for bids in June with construction scheduled to start the first week of August. During the two months of construction, the park will be temporarily closed.

### CITY PIPE PROGRAM

Those street ditches can be filled! In a joint venture with the home owners, Public Works crews will provide the heavy equipment and labor to install pipes, catch basins and backfill material (gravel) to fill in the ditches if the owner pays for the materials. For those interested, a cost estimate can be obtained from Wayne Matthews at 870-6567. He would be happy to make a site visit and suggest improvements that are needed for your particular site (some restrictions apply).

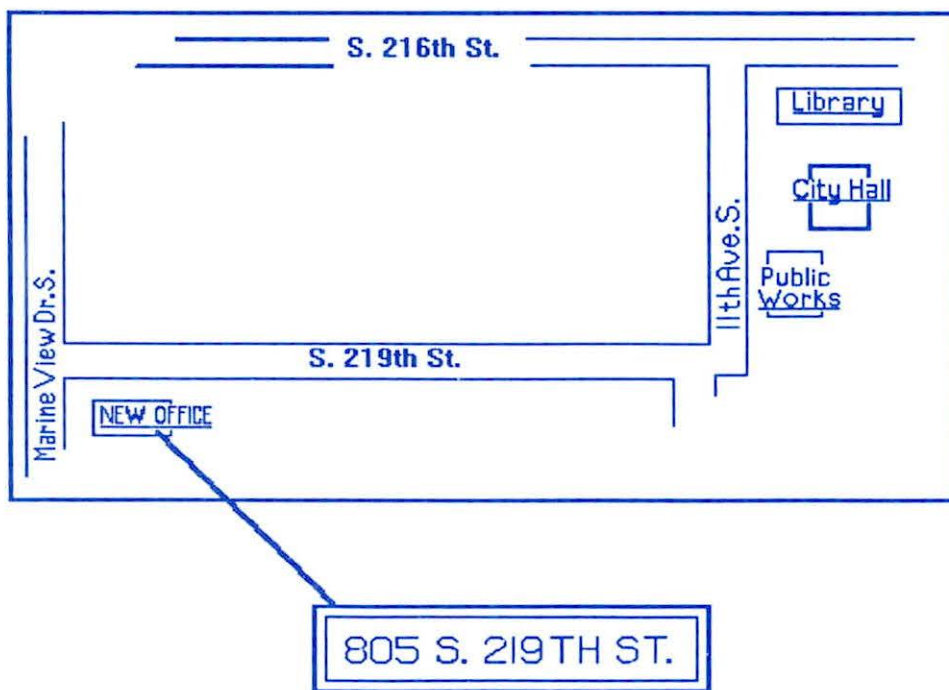


**We are moving.**  
**Community Development**  
**and**  
**Public Works Departments**

will be open with *REDUCED STAFFING* at their office located at 21650 11th Ave. S. on Thursday, August 10th.

The office will be closed on Friday, August 11th.

Effective August 14, 1995, the new office will be open at:



## WATERLAND '95

Waterland '95, which runs July 26-30, kicks off with a fireworks display at the marina at 10 p.m. on Wednesday.

The annual Grand Parade takes place Saturday, July 29, 4:30 p.m., preceded by the Parade Against Hunger and the Junior Parade. Parade-goers are encouraged to bring a non-perishable food item to donate. One change this year is the three parades will be closely coordinated so that one immediately follows the other.

The changes at the Marina implemented at last year's Waterland worked well and will remain. The stage, Waterland Pub, and arts and crafts booths were moved last year farther south to provide room for additional carnival rides.

Waterland hours are noon - 10 p.m. daily. For more information call the Des Moines Chamber office at 878-7000. The lineup of musical entertainment for Waterland '95:

### Wednesday, July 26

6 p.m. Sewanee Mt. Revue  
8:30 p.m. Lonnie Mardis Rock & Roll

### Thursday, July 27

1 p.m. JuggleTunes with Linda Severt  
3 p.m. Sunshine Generation  
Music Revue  
6 p.m. Mary Wiles Band  
8:30 p.m. Guitar Slim

### Friday, July 28

1 p.m. Sweet Swing's "Ellarella"  
3 p.m. Kids in Dance  
6 p.m. The All-Stars  
8:30 p.m. The Hard Tops

### Saturday, July 29

1 p.m. Islanders Carriibbean Band  
3:30 p.m. Project L.A.  
6 p.m. Midnight Ramblers  
8:30 p.m. Ricochet

### Sunday, July 30

1 p.m. Fabulous Roadstars  
3 p.m. David Cook (comedy)  
4:30 p.m. Selah



## THIRD-RUNWAY UPDATE

### ACC scores wins in fight against airport expansion

The Airport Communities Coalition (ACC) this spring marked a few checks in the win column in its ongoing fight to prevent construction of a third runway at Sea-Tac International Airport.

First, ACC was successful in convincing the state Legislature to include noise and airport mitigation funds in its general fund for the City of Burien, which is a member of ACC along with the cities of Des Moines, Normandy Park, Tukwila and the Highline School District. The Legislature appropriated \$500,000 to Burien to assess the impacts of the airport and the potential third runway, and for airport-related future planning. The City of Des Moines will be working with Burien on mitigation and use of the funds, which will be administered through the state Community Trade and Economic Development Department.

ACC was also successful in getting the review period extended from 60 to 90 days for the draft environmental impact statement on the third runway. During a trip to Washington D.C. in March, ACC members asked federal transportation officials to extend the review period to allow the public more time to review the lengthy document and provide input. Ninth District Congressman Randy Tate, a strong supporter of ACC, was instrumental in getting the review period extended.

The review period for the draft EIS ends on August 3. ACC has hired consultants who are currently reviewing the document and formulating a response.

Two cities who are not members of ACC, Federal Way and Mercer Island, have joined the effort by contributing funding for preparation of a response to the EIS.

Citizens can submit their own responses to the EIS, which is available for public review at the Des Moines Library and other airport area libraries.

ACC officials testified during three days of hearings in May before the "Expert Panel," a group appointed by the state transportation secretary to determine if the Port of Seattle has undertaken adequate noise mitigation measures at the airport.

Also, the panel must determine if the Port has employed demand management and systems management measures, which deal with airport efficiency and transportation systems that could alleviate airport congestion.

The panel must endorse the third runway project before it can proceed and is expected to make a decision by April, 1996. More hearings are planned for this fall and March, 1996.

The Port Commission is expected to vote on the third runway project following the Expert Panel's determination.

### "BEACH DAY" AUG 19

Beach Day '95 is an intergenerational program that promises a day of fun for the whole family. People of all ages are welcome to attend, with or without family, and enjoy the festivities at Des Moines Beach Park on Saturday, Aug. 19, from 10 a.m. - 2 p.m.

The day starts with relay races and games for everyone. After a picnic lunch, participants can play volleyball or enjoy an interactive concert by Lora & Sukutai Marimba and Dance Ensemble. Tickets are \$1.50 and include everything. They can be purchased in advance at the Senior Center or the Des Moines Field House, or at the event.

### KAMP K.H.A.O.S

#### (Kids Having An Outrageous Summer)

Young people ages 6 - 12 are invited to join in the fun at the Des Moines Parks and Recreation Summer Day Camp, "Kamp K.H.A.O.S."

Campers participate in a variety of activities including arts & crafts, games, sports, hikes, swimming, music, field trips and more. Lunch is provided. Camp is in session Monday through Friday, 7:30 a.m. to 6 p.m. and is held at Des Moines Beach Park Founder's Lodge. Cost is \$70 a week and scholarships are available. Preregistration is required. Call 870-6527 for more information.

## CITY COUNCIL HIGHLIGHTS



Richard Kennedy  
*Mayor*

Scott Thomasson  
*Mayor Pro Tem*

Lew Anderson  
*Council member*

Terry Brazil  
*Council member*

Jeanette Burrage  
*Council member*

Dan Sherman  
*Council member*

Gary Towe  
*Council member*

### **MARCH 1995**

■ Held the following public hearings:

- Comprehensive Plan Elements and related textual code amendments.
- maximum building height in Downtown Commercial zone.

■ Approved the following ordinances:

- No. 1118 applying a Utility Occupation Tax to cellular telephone service.
- No. 1119 employment of a payroll processing company for employee payroll.
- No. 1120 maximum building height in Downtown Commercial zone.

- No. 1121 amending the Downtown Neighborhood Element of the Comp Plan.

■ Reviewed the 1995-2000 Capital Improvement Plan.

■ Authorized the City Manager to sign the Airport Communities Coalition Interlocal Agreement for 1995.

### **APRIL 1995**

■ Continued review of the 1995-2000 Capital Improvement Plan.

■ Approved the following ordinances:

- Nos. 1122 through

1131 dealing with Comprehensive Plan Elements and related textual code amendments.

■ Approved the following resolutions:

- Nos. 786 declaring intent that certain capital expenditures to be made in connection with construction of a new police station shall be reimbursed from proceeds of tax exempt bonds or other obligations.

■ Held the following public hearings:

- A rezone amendment request at 2224 South 234th Street.
- 1996 Block Grant Policies.

■ Held a special meeting at Mt. Rainier High School to discuss issues of interest to teens.

■ Authorized the City Manager to expend \$34,407 from the Municipal Capital Improvement Fund to construct a skateboard park at the Des Moines Field House Park.

### **MAY 1995**

■ Continued the public hearing regarding a rezone amendment request.

■ Approved Resolution No. 787 adopting the 1995-2000 Capital Improvement Plan.

■ Authorized the City Manager to sign a lease for the premises located at 805 South 219th Street for two years.

■ Approved the purchase of Lots 9-16, Block 42 and the whole of block 43 of Plat of the Town of Des Moines from Midway Sewer District for \$110,000 and authorized the City Manager to sign a purchase and sale agreement, and closing papers.

■ Authorized the City Manager to expend up to \$1,500 for Des Moines' continuation in the south Access Advisory Committee.

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

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