

City Info

A QUARTERLY NEWSLETTER FOR LONGVIEW CITIZENS

This edition of City Info connects you with our Longview City Council and their goals for 2006. Please contact us if you have any questions or comments.

2006 LONGVIEW CITY COUNCIL

Around Town

Back: Chet Makinster,
Don Jensen,
Mayor Pro-tem Kurt Anagnostou,
Andy Busack.

Front: Mary Jane Melink,
Mayor Dennis Weber,
Ramona Leber.



Council Goals for 2006

(Based on the five key elements of Vision 2023: Our Preferred Future)

A Vital Economy

- ◆ Create a strong diversified economy; increase the number of jobs while creating a business-friendly atmosphere.
 - Continue marketing and development of both Phases 1 and 2 at the Mint Farm.
- ◆ Enhance and strengthen the vitality of downtown Longview by improving its attractiveness as a place to live, work, shop, and play.
 - Continue involvement in downtown plan implementation.
 - Initiate property tax exemption to stimulate new multi-housing.
 - Revise ordinances to permit additional way-finding signs.
 - Consider additional lighting alternatives in alleys.
 - Explore proposal for cost-shared downtown manager.
 - Plan for comprehensive Commerce Avenue streetscape improvements beyond CDBG-funded lighting projects.
 - Conduct feasibility analysis for new hotel/motel facility.

Community Character & Spirit

- ◆ Institutionalize the involvement of our Teen Council and other youth in seeking input in our planning and policy-making, when applicable.
 - Identify avenues to increase youth participation in local governance issues.
- ◆ Facilitate communications to and input from citizens of our community.

- ◆ Continue to explore means to communicate, enhance, and seek input on City services and issues.
- ◆ Ensure that all areas of the community are desirable places to live and raise children.
 - Revitalize the Highlands area.
 - Explore development of a landlord/tenant program and other means of improving the housing stock, such as home repair/rehab programs, home ownership programs, and housing maintenance standards.
 - Improve the effectiveness of the Highlands Satellite Office to include:
 - Expansion of Block Watch and other crime prevention efforts.
 - Expand nuisance abatement services.
 - Provide library outreach programming.
 - Evaluate potential infrastructure and facilities improvements, including street lighting, parks, and community center space.
- ◆ Develop mechanisms to promote a healthy community.
 - Focus on children, youth, and families.
 - Evaluate environmental factors that contribute to healthy children, youth, and families.
 - Investigate the feasibility of acquiring property for a community center and park.
 - Collaborate with local agencies to promote

- healthy children, youth, and families.
- ◆ Improve public safety by dealing with the methamphetamine problem in the community.

Educational & Cultural Opportunities

- ◆ Create a successful learning community.
 - Continue efforts to promote/attract four-year college programs to Longview

Physical Environment & Structure

- ◆ Work with Cowlitz County to provide more "cost-effective" jail beds.
- ◆ Improve the quality of living in Longview by enhancing our parks, recreation, and cultural activities and facilities.
 - Add and maintain paths and trails, including development of a regional long-range paths/trail plan.
- ◆ Improve entryways to city at major entrances:
 - SR4 / Ocean Beach Highway
 - Oregon Way
 - SR432 / Tennant Way
- ◆ The City will facilitate the preservation of existing neighborhoods (residential, commercial, and industrial) and support sustainable managed growth.
 - Encourage (cause) annexation consistent with

- the comprehensive plan.
 - Continue update to City Comprehensive Plan.
- ◆ Continue to partner with all agencies involved in transportation to maximize federal, state and local money to implement regional and local transportation projects.
 - Continue efforts to implement the recommendations of the SR432 Route Development Plan.
 - Improve traffic and pedestrian safety and flow.
- ◆ Maintain and improve the city's transportation infrastructure.
 - Repair and improve street and sidewalk facilities.

Regional Cooperation

- ◆ Reduce community impacts from homeless population
- ◆ The City will leverage opportunities at the local, state, and federal levels for funding and political support of policies that enhance the quality of life for its citizens.
 - Develop and actively pursue state and federal legislative agenda.



Draft Comprehensive Plan Available for Review

The City of Longview is in the process of updating its 1993 Comprehensive Plan, a roadmap for the future of Longview. A comprehensive plan consists of maps and growth-related policies that help the City make informed decisions about where and how to plan for transportation improvements, new housing, and commercial and industrial areas. It affects how Longview will look and function for the community's next generation of residents.

Over the past seven months, the City has developed land use alternatives, formulated policies, and completed the draft Comprehensive Plan. The City is seeking community input on the draft plan elements in advance of the Planning Commission and City Council Comprehensive Plan hearings scheduled to begin in the fall of 2006.

Staying Involved

- ◆ Visit the City web site at www.mylongview.com for details on the Comprehensive Plan.
- ◆ View the draft Comprehensive Plan update at Longview City Hall, 1525 Broadway, or at the Longview Public Library, 1600 Louisiana.
- ◆ Attend Planning Commission and Longview City Council meetings where the Comprehensive Plan will be discussed.
- ◆ Check the local newspaper for upcoming meeting notices and other events associated with the Comprehensive Plan update.
- ◆ Contact the City's Community Development Department at 360.442.5086.

Find out what's happening in Cowlitz County at www.CowlitzToday.com

Q. What is CowlitzToday.com?
www.CowlitzToday.com is a free, one-stop community calendar that provides up-to-date information about events, meetings, and happenings in Cowlitz County.

Q. How can I get my organization's events on the calendar?
Simply sign up to be a "partner" by logging on to www.CowlitzToday.com and clicking on the "Become a Partner" button. Approved partners can enter community calendar events at any time.

Q. What are the qualifications for being a partner?
To qualify as a partner, your organization should be:

- ◆ A government, not-for-profit, or public educational institution catering to Cowlitz County.
- ◆ A generally recognized community council or organization.
- ◆ An art, cultural, sporting, major festival, or similar organization of general interest to Cowlitz County citizens.

Water conservation measures now will help City meet demands this summer

Water customers for the City of Longview are reminded to use water conservation measures this summer to help reduce the potential of reduced water supplies.

A water treatment plant filter failure occurred on May 5. Increased demands on our water supply during the summer months, coupled with the filter failure, could decrease water supplies for Longview and outlying areas

served by the treatment plant. As a result, the City and Cowlitz PUD are requesting that all customers begin implementing immediate water conservation measures. Repairs to the filter system will not be completed until late July or mid-August.

The filter system failure caused a 15% loss of filtration capacity. An emergency was declared by the City Council on May 25 to expedite making the

necessary repairs. "We have experienced near-double demands on our system during the few unusually hot spells we have had already," said Ric Saavedra, water treatment plant manager. "Average home water usage is about 200 gallons per day, and that climbs to over 400 gallons per day during the peak summer months. It is critical that aggressive conservation efforts begin immediately to reduce those demands."

Outside conservation measures:

- ◆ Discontinue watering lawns and gardens, or irrigate them minimally and only at night.
- ◆ Adjust sprinklers to make sure that only the lawn or plants gets watered.
- ◆ Refrain from washing down homes, decks, patios, or driveways with the garden hose during shortages.
- ◆ Avoid car washing at home. It is best to use a commercial car wash that recycles water.

- ◆ Avoid filling swimming pools or using water recreation toys that require running water.

Inside conservation measures:

- ◆ Turn faucets off tightly after each use.
- ◆ Do full loads of laundry or dishes only.
- ◆ Keep a pitcher of water in the refrigerator to prevent the need to run the tap to get a glass of cool water.

How are we doing?

City Info is usually published quarterly in January, April, July, and October on the last Friday of the month. City Info can also be accessed online at www.mylongview.com. If you have suggestions, comments, or other information that you would like to see here, please call 360.442.5022, or email Susie Meyers, Public Information Specialist, at susie.meyers@mylongview.com.