

## RENTON, THE CENTER OF OPPORTUNITY

### NEWS IN BRIEF

#### Renton Growing Quickly

Renton is one of the fastest growing of the 20 largest cities in Washington. Renton's population has nearly doubled over the last 18 years, from about 40,000 in 1990 to nearly 82,000 in 2008.

With the recent annexation of the Benson Hill and Cascade Communities, Renton is the 11th largest city in the State and 5th largest in King County.

#### Renton's Neighborhood Picnics Bring Residents, City Together

Once again this summer, the city's various neighborhood associations had picnics in their respective areas to bring residents



together to celebrate and honor the uniqueness and accomplishments of their neighborhoods.

The city's recognized neighborhoods are eligible for a one-time city-sponsored "Kick Off Picnic". Neighborhoods can then apply for matching funds from the city for an annual picnic. Neighborhood picnics are held between May and mid-September.

#### Renton — Official Home of the Seattle Seahawks



Renton officially became the home of the Seattle Seahawks this month when the team began practicing at the Virginia Mason Athletic Center (VMAC), the new Seattle Seahawks Headquarters and Training Facility.

The new Seahawks Way sign (above) represents approximately 1,900 square feet of Ripley Lane/Hazelwood Lane that has been renamed Seahawks Way—from the intersection of Ripley Lane with Lake Washington Blvd. to the northern boundary of the VMAC.

## CITY LAUNCHES PUBLIC SAFETY INITIATIVE

*"People need to feel safe in their homes and when they are out in the community and I will continue to emphasize crime reduction and safety in all our neighborhoods."*  
— Mayor Denis Law

The city has been actively working on a comprehensive plan to reduce criminal activity and enhance overall safety throughout Renton. The city's inter-departmental effort includes additional security, increased patrols, security cameras, enhanced code enforcement efforts, a significant emphasis on traffic safety and more.

Starting in July, the city has added uniformed private security officers to make downtown Renton a better, safer and friendlier place. The added security is part of the city's broader community-wide public safety initiative to reduce crime and promote a sense of safety downtown and in the Renton community.

The security officers will serve as the eyes and ears of downtown by providing hospitality and public safety services, reporting vandalism and graffiti, deterring criminal activity and extending a helping hand when needed to Renton businesses, citizens and visitors. They wear distinctive black and yellow uniforms for easy recognition.

#### Other key strategies include:

- Renton police officer assigned for foot patrol in downtown Renton during the summer.
- Increased police patrols and better surveillance cameras in downtown and the transit center.
- Renton Police Special Operations Division's relocation to the transit center.
- Renovations underway at the parking garage for the future relocation of Renton's traffic officers.

• Coordinated effort between the City of Renton and King County Metro Transit for routine maintenance and cleaning to improve the appearance of the transit center.

• Implementing E-police for on-line reporting of minor crimes, allowing our patrol officers to spend more time in the field.

• Launching the photo enforcement program that includes red light cameras and speed cameras to help reduce accidents and injuries.

• Creating an inter-departmental anti-graffiti and vandalism task force to develop and implement a comprehensive plan to remove and prevent graffiti and vandalism in the city.

To report graffiti or vandalism in progress, please call 9-1-1. The city has also established a graffiti hot line (425-430-7373) to report graffiti on public or private property.



**Security officers Ron Jackson and James Gates patrol the Piazza six days a week serving as the eyes and ears of downtown.**

# OUT IN THE COMMUNITY

**Friday, August 15**

**“Second Time Cool” Crafts for Teens.** Workshop for grades 6 to 12. Renton Public Main Library.

**Tuesday, August 19**

**Farmers Market.** 3-7 p.m. Piazza Park, South 3rd Street.

**Friday, August 22**

**Anime Festival.** Klds grades 6-12 learn about Japanese comic culture & all things Japanese. 2-4 p.m. Renton Public Main Library.

**Saturday, August 23**

**Arts Unlimited 3rd Annual Art & Antique Walk.** More than 60 artists liven up the streets of Renton. 11 a.m. to 5 p.m. Downtown.

**Monday, August 25**

**Cinderella and The Bug Brigade.** A puppet version of Cinderella. 7-8 p.m. Renton Public Main Library.

**Tuesday, August 26**

**Farmers Market.** 3-7 p.m. Piazza Park, South 3rd Street.

**Monday, September 1**

**Coulon and Kennydale beaches, Moses Aquatic Center close for the season.**

**Tuesday, September 2**

**Farmers Market.** 3-7 p.m. Piazza Park, South 3rd Street.

**Friday, September 5**

**Renton Soccer Challenge.** Soccer skills competition for boys and girls ages 5-14. Top finishers qualify for state competition. 6-8 p.m. at Ron Regis Park. Event is free. Cosponsored by City of Renton and Renton Sports and Spine Physical Therapy.

**Tuesday, September 9**

**Farmers Market.** 3-7 p.m. Piazza Park, South 3rd Street.

**Saturday, September 13**

**Fall Recycling Day.** Bring your household recycling materials to one convenient location. 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. Renton Technical College, North Parking Lot. Call Solid Waste Utility at 425-430-7396 for more information.

**Thursday, September 25**

**Disaster “Job” Fair.** 3-8 p.m. Visit City Hall, 7th floor Conferencing Center for displays and demonstrations on disaster volunteer opportunities.

## IRS Seeks to Help Disabled Veterans and Retirees with Economic Stimulus Package

The Internal Revenue Service is making efforts to reach those retirees and disabled veterans who qualify for the economic stimulus payment but have not filed to claim it. These individuals must file a tax return before Oct. 15 this year

to receive their economic stimulus payments. For details go to [rentonwa.gov](http://rentonwa.gov) and for a list of IRS office addresses visit [www.irs.gov](http://www.irs.gov).

## Helpful Tip from Renton Police

**What do you do if police cars are in your neighborhood at night blocking an intersection with emergency lights and frequent blasts of the sirens?**

Stay in your homes and/or avoid the area while police are present.

Police officers use this tactic to keep suspects contained to a localized area when they're in pursuit. This helps officers contain a suspect to an area until the K-9 unit arrives on scene to aid in the apprehension of the suspect.

## Renton Police Need Your Help

On June 26, at approximately 11 p.m., a fatal, felony hit-and-run occurred. A white SUV was traveling northbound on Talbot Road S. when the driver made a left turn at the intersection of Talbot Road S. and S. 45th PL., colliding with a southbound motorcycle. The white SUV fled the scene and the right (passenger) side of the vehicle may be damaged.

Crime Stoppers is offering a reward of up to \$1,000 for information leading to the arrest and conviction of the driver. Call 1-800-222-TIPS (8477). All calls are confidential.



**RentonNow Feedback**  
[RentonNow@ci.renton.wa.us](mailto:RentonNow@ci.renton.wa.us)

## READY IN RENTON

Is your household ready for a disaster? City staff will survey neighborhoods at various community picnics to see how prepared they are. The city also provides information about the many training opportunities available through the new Renton Emergency Preparedness Academy. Most classes are free. For information call 425-430-7027 or search [www.renton.wa](http://www.renton.wa) for “REPA”.

To get a copy of “A Survivor’s Guide to Disaster” visit [rentonwa.gov](http://rentonwa.gov) and search for “survivor’s guide.”

## Renton Lifeguards Compete with Lifeguard Teams from Seattle and Bellevue



*Renton Lifeguards earned second place in the “First Aid Scenario” during a regional competition with lifeguards from Bellevue and Seattle July 15.*

## CITY CONTACTS

Area Code 425

General Information.....	430-6400
Mayor .....	430-6500
City Council.....	430-6501
Municipal Court Judge.....	430-6550
Chief Administrative Officer.....	430-6500
City Clerk .....	430-6510
Code Enforcement.....	430-7373
Community Services .....	430-6600
Community & Economic Development .....	430-6575
Emergencies .....	<b>911</b>
Finance & Information Services .....	430-6850
Fire/Emergency Services.....	430-7000
Human Resources & Risk Management.....	430-7650
Public Works .....	430-7200
Police .....	430-7500
or <a href="http://epolice.rentonwa.gov">epolice.rentonwa.gov</a>	
Utility Billing.....	430-6852

[rentonwa.gov](http://rentonwa.gov)

## GREEN CITY RENTON



### City adds new hybrid boom truck to service fleet

In an effort to conserve fuel and preserve the environment, the City of Renton has purchased a new boom truck that runs on both diesel and electric power. Boom trucks are used to erect and maintain signs, street lights, power lines, etc. The purchase of the new hybrid boom truck is an effort by the city to take a step towards going green.