



Aberdeen At Work

A newsletter for City Council, City Employees, Citizens and visitors to the City of Aberdeen, WA

Upcoming Events

Great ShakeOut Drill
October 15, 10:15 a.m.

**Change your Clocks –
Change your Smoke
Alarm Batteries**
Sunday, November 1

**Thank You
“Bloom Team”
Volunteers**



A special thank you to the “Bloom Team” volunteers who spent the 2nd and 4th Tuesday each month this summer tending to the beautiful flower pots in downtown Aberdeen. Without you, our streets wouldn’t have looked as great as they did!

City Council Meetings

2nd and 4th Wednesday evening of each month on the third floor of City Hall at 200 E. Market Street. The “Committee of the Whole” meets at 7:15 p.m., followed by the regular session.

Committee Meetings

Finance

First floor of City Hall,
Wednesday at 6:00 P.M. on
weeks when Council meets.

Public Safety

Third floor of City Hall,
Wednesday at 6:30 P.M. on
weeks when Council meets.

Public Works

Second floor of City Hall, at 4:00
P.M. Tuesday on weeks when
Council meets.

Find us at www.aberdeenwa.gov
and on Facebook as
City Government of
Aberdeen, Washington



Fall 2015

Come As You Are

The Great ShakeOut is Coming

The employees of the City of Aberdeen are participating in the Great Washington ShakeOut on Thursday, October 15, 2015, at 10:15 a.m. The Great ShakeOut is an earthquake and tsunami drill. I encourage you and your business to be prepared to survive and recover quickly from an earthquake should one occur.



We live in earthquake country. Our proximity to the Pacific Ocean also makes us vulnerable to tsunamis. If you feel the ground moving, Drop, Cover and Hold On to a solid object until the shaking stops. Then, head for high ground. The City has designated Assembly Areas throughout the City. If you don’t know where the assembly areas are, take a look at the City’s website at www.aberdeenwa.gov. Click on Emergency Management and then look for the Northside and Southside Evacuation Guides.

You should plan to be on foot. After an earthquake it is likely that roads will be impassible with fallen debris and broken pavement. That’s why

Aberdeen created the Yellow Brick Road. Poles, reflective posts and other objects are marked with yellow stickers with black arrows (like the one shown here) to designate the Yellow Brick Road to the assembly area. Never noticed them before? Take time today to find one.



Preparation is the key to surviving any event. I encourage you to take time today to look at the resources on the City’s Emergency Management webpage and make plans to participate with us during the Great ShakeOut on October 15, 2015.

Bill Simpson
Mayor



School Resource Officer Coming This Fall

We are pleased to announce that in partnership with the Aberdeen School District, the City of Aberdeen Police Department applied for and received a COPS Hiring Grant for the position of School Resource Officer. Officer Ron Morella applied for and was selected to fill this position. He began his new assignment on September 14, 2015.

The goals of the SRO are to improve the police-student relationship, encourage more collaboration with students, reduce juvenile crimes through counseling, and respond to calls on school grounds. Having a uniformed officer on a school campus working with the staff, students and parents will be very beneficial to our schools, our police department and our community. Police Chief Robert Torgerson said, "I have no doubt that Officer Morella's presence will have a positive impact on students and staff alike."

Officer Morella joined the Aberdeen Police Department on November 8, 1999, shortly after retiring from the United States Marine Corps.

Welcome New Employees

The Human Resources Department handles recruitments for the City. Each vacancy is considered on a case-by-case basis before determining whether it will be filled. Watch for job openings on the City's website at www.aberdeennwa.gov/human-resources.

The City welcomes the following new employees since July 1*:

Derek McDougall,
Firefighter/Paramedic
Kevin Randich, Wastewater
Treatment Plant Operator II
Chad Pearsall, Police Officer
Trevor Jones, Firefighter
Ryan Spencer, Corrections
Officer

Aberdeen has Bike Lanes!

As you have most likely noticed, we have bike lanes on Market Street. A first for Aberdeen! There has been some confusion about how motor vehicles should interact with the bike lanes. This article is intended to clear up that confusion.

Washington state law allows bicyclists to use the roadway, a bike lane, the shoulder, or the sidewalk when riding their bikes. Pedestrians and bicyclists have the right-of-way. They are at risk of being injured by your motor vehicle, so yield to them.

The bike lane is marked by a solid white line separating the motor vehicle lane from the bike lane. That solid white line marks the edge of the roadway, just as it does on Simpson and Sumner avenues. Motor vehicles are to remain to the left of the white line unless they are

crossing it to 1) enter a driveway or 2) park on the shoulder.

Market Street does allow parallel parking near the curb unless otherwise marked. You can cross the white line of the bicycle path to turn into a driveway or park, but not to make a right hand turn.

If you want to turn right off of Market Street, yield the right-of-way, enter the intersection, and complete the turn without driving on, over or in the bicycle lane.

Remember, the City of Aberdeen requires all bicyclists to wear helmets, regardless of age.

Be safe and enjoy the bike lanes!



Aberdeen maintains Fire Insurance Rating

The Washington Surveying and Rating Bureau (WSRB) recently completed its evaluation of the Aberdeen Fire Department's fire protection capabilities. A Fire Protection Classification rating is assigned by the WSRB and is used by insurance companies to develop fire insurance rates. The survey is performed approximately every ten years by auditing four major areas: Water Supply System, Fire Department Operations, Emergency Communication System, and Fire Safety Control.

The WSRB is Washington State's premier source of property underwriting and rating information for the insurance industry. The WSRB has been in continuous operation since 1911 with roots that go back to the 19th century. They

operate as a non-profit public-service institution providing service to all companies licensed to sell property insurance in Washington as well as set minimum performance standards for the fire service.

With help from the GH E911 center, the Aberdeen Water Department System Manager Mike Randich, and all of the Fire Department staff, we are pleased to report that we maintained our Class 5 rating. The rating system scale is from 0 to 10 and is similar to golf, zero is the best score you can achieve.

By maintaining its Class 5 rating, the City of Aberdeen has ensured that residential and commercial properties within the city limits will not see rate increases due to increases in their fire insurance premiums.