



# DuPont Friday Letter

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## A Little Bit of Everything...

So first, look at that picture over there... we live here. I took that picture after walking (without worrying about getting mugged) to the Puget Sound. How cool is that?!? Having lived in 22 states and 4 foreign countries, my thought is that we're lucky to be have the issues we do instead of the ones I'm used to... try to look at DuPont as if you've never been here and you'll see what I mean.

### 2015 Budget

Hopefully you know the Mayor rolled out his proposed budget last week. The good news is that an outside consultant validated our projections, examined our books and using very conservative revenue estimates, we're balanced until 2018. The best news? The Mayor is channeling his best George The Elder, because he is proposing no new taxes- don't even have to read his lips, it's written down. Highlights include adding a police officer, expanding our EMT program, adding money towards the maintenance and irrigation of our medians and parks, adding people in Public Works and using outside funding sources to help defray the cost of a full-time Museum and Tourism Coordinator. On top of that the City has its first-ever Contingency and Revenue Reserve Funds (thank you Mayor and Council) which the Mayor proposes beginning to fund. Unlike the State or nearby cities, we are in a position to discuss what to add rather than cut, a nice place to be. We're here because the Mayor, Council, and previous elected leaders made hard decisions and cut services when they had to instead of using reserves. That means we are out of survival mode and into a rebuilding phase. (Full disclaimer: neither the Mayor or Council paid me to say that and I'm not saying it to make anyone feel good. Facts are facts.) If you want to learn more, attend the budget meetings on Tuesdays or check it out on our-

### New Website

We launched a new website last week, we hope you like it! I appreciate everyone who has taken the time to let us know about bugs. Our web host fixes them immediately, so I think we're going to have it squared away shortly. Thanks to all of city staff for getting that done on time; they managed to get thousands of pages of material ready to go in a few short weeks. As a reminder, the new website makes possible online bill paying coming in the next few weeks, with electronic forms and



## Community Announcements & Reminders

<http://http://www.dupontwa.gov/calendar.aspxwww.dupontwa.gov/calendar.aspx>

**Sat, Oct 25 - Center Drive Median Planting**

**Tues, Oct 28- City Council Executive Session followed by a Meeting and Budget Workshop 6:30, Council Chambers**

**Wed, Oct 29- ACE Day 1 hour early release**

**Fri, Oct 31 - Downtown Trick or Treating 3:00-5:00 p.m. Downtown.** Thanks to the DuPont Business Association and Parks and Recreation for sponsoring!

<http://www.dupontwa.gov/Calendar.aspx?EID=706&day=24&month=10&year=2014&calType=0>

online registration not too far behind that. If that weren't enough, we're also rolling out a new online budget tool so you'll be able to see exactly how we spend your money. You can go here <https://www.opengov.com/> to see how other cities are using it. Lots of modernization coming!

### Fire Safety

Chief Creekmore reminds us that with Daylight Savings ending next weekend, it's a good time to change your batteries in your smoke detectors. He also said we're getting a number of calls about malfunctioning alarms because a lot of them are reaching their 10-year service life. If your alarm is older than 10 years, be sure to replace it. Don't know how or need help? PLEASE call the Fire Department at (253) 964-8414. They'll talk you through it or even come over and lend a hand if you need it. But they'll want it back, I'm pretty sure. (So bad, I know)

### Center Drive

This weekend, we're getting a great gift from the Church of Latter Day Saints, Girls Scouts and other DuPont citizens. They'll be planting kinnikinnick in the median between Palisade and Civic. More great volunteer spirit in DuPont, thank you so much!