



# DuPont City News

MAY 2014 | ISSUE 02

## “MONDAYS WITH THE MAYOR”

Join me for a series of interactive conversations about key issues in our community. “**Mondays with the Mayor**” began April 28 focused on public safety and will continue through early summer. Each event has a specific topic and is designed to listen to you. Your ideas will be used to develop long-range plans for our community and help create a forward-looking vision for DuPont. Everyone is encouraged to participate.

### Save the dates:

- May 12, 7:30 pm: **Quality of Life**, *Community Center in Historic Village*
- June 2, 6 pm: **Tourism & Economic Development**, *The Home Course*
- June 30, 6 pm: **Transportation & Infrastructure**, *Hampton Inn*
- July 21, 6 pm: **Environmental Preservation & Restoration**, *PowderWorks Park*
- August 4, 2 pm: **Caring for our Seniors**, *Patriot’s Landing*
- August 19, 6 pm: **Council Work Session: Summary & Next Steps**, *City Hall*

## FIXING I-5/JBLM TRAFFIC CONGESTION

Gridlock along the I-5/JBLM corridor is frustrating. Because there are no quick or easy solutions, we are tackling this big problem by working with JBLM and other local, state, and federal partners. Together, we’re creating a long-term, attainable plan for the Legislature and Congress to fund. We’ve scheduled a public meeting on **June 11** at **JBLM’s Eagle’s Pride Golf Course** so you can hear what’s been developed and provide feedback as we keep moving forward together.

## THE END OF BUSINESS AS USUAL

People are excited about the progress and many positive changes seen at City Hall these past two years. We’re doing things differently, focusing on the future, and taking City operations to the next level. Here are some highlights:

- ✓ **Financial Stability & Long-term Financial Planning:** We’ve developed the City’s first long-term financial model that enables us to plan ahead for a six-year horizon. Today, we have a solid understanding of our City’s current and future revenue, and provide quarterly reports to the public and City Council to ensure transparency and proactive decision-making. Standard & Poor’s (S&P) recently upgraded the City’s credit rating from A+ to AA, saying, “We view the city’s management conditions as strong, supported by good financial policies and practices.”
- ✓ **Work Plans by Boards, Commissions, and Agencies:** The DuPont Youth Council, Planning Agency, Parks Agency, and Tree Board have developed work plans and are making presentations to the City Council. This is part of an ongoing effort to have better planning, interaction, and communication with the community. This culture change may seem small, but it helps create a new and deliberative way of doing business.
- ✓ **Planting the Right Trees & Vegetation in the Right Places:** We’ve partnered with the Washington State Dept. of Natural Resources and secured a grant to



## MESSAGE FROM MAYOR GRAYUM

Spring is here, and it’s time to get outside and enjoy all our community has to offer. April showed us many reasons to be grateful with family-friendly events like the **Egg Hunt**, **Bunny Breakfast**, and **Parks Appreciation Day** where over 200+ volunteers came together to show the true spirit of community. We have many great things happening in DuPont and are a very busy and diverse community. **Not everyone gets their news online** which is why many people asked me to bring back a printed newsletter. I’m proud to provide this short update to every resident and business as part of our ongoing efforts to improve communications and foster a spirit of inclusivity. For those who receive their information online, please visit the calendar page on the City’s website, [www.dupontwa.gov](http://www.dupontwa.gov) and connect with the City on [Facebook](#) and [Twitter](#). You can contact me directly through the resources below or set up a meeting during weekly scheduled office hours.

### Contact Mayor Grayum:

- 253-912-5218
- [MGrayum@dupontwa.gov](mailto:MGrayum@dupontwa.gov)
- [Facebook.com/MayorMichaelGrayum](https://www.facebook.com/MayorMichaelGrayum)

remove the trees that are breaking up sidewalks along Palisade. We'll replant trees more appropriate for this area. We're also working with the Pierce County Conservation District to plant native vegetation along Center Drive—drought resistant groundcover will reduce watering costs. Phase one was recently completed thanks to hundreds of volunteers on Parks Appreciation Day.

- ✓ **Unconventional Public Safety Services:** When we lost our grant-funded firefighters, we were only able to schedule two or three firefighters per shift. While this still allowed for minimal-levels of emergency response, the City was left unguarded when patients were transported to the hospital. This situation was unacceptable. Thanks to the **leadership of our new Fire Chief** and hardworking firefighters, last year we established a Combination Fire Department with a blend of professional full-time and reserve firefighters and EMTs to provide more sufficient coverage. Today, we have twelve reserve firefighters and EMTs that allow us to provide basic life support and transport services on a more regular basis. We've also entered into a new mutual aid agreement with JBLM to help provide assistance and backup when available.
- ✓ **Saving Money With New Contracts:** The DuPont Fire Department cut their annual bill for vehicle and fleet maintenance in half by switching to a private company. Not only did we save \$12,000, routine maintenance will now be done at the fire station and result in much shorter down times.
- ✓ **Community Policing Plan:** Chief Sheehan is putting the final touches on the new Volunteer Program for your DuPont Police Department, which will include using reserve officers. Come learn more at the next Community Policing Public Meeting on May 29 at Patriot's Landing.
- ✓ **Reviewing Purchasing Options:** Even though we're allowed to purchase police vehicles from the state negotiated contract, we reached out and asked local dealerships to bid as well. Competitive purchasing is a positive practice for the City and local businesses.

## GOLF DUPONT, HOME OF GOLF IN THE NORTHWEST

We're working to strengthen tourism and economic development by attracting big events to our golf course community. We're excited for the **2014 U.S. Women's Amateur Public Links Championship**, a United States Golf Association event, to happen here at The Home Course this July. It's free for kids and families to attend, and will be a great boost for our local businesses. We're working with [The Home Course](#), [Washington State Golf Association](#), [Pacific Northwest Golf Association](#), USGA and hundreds of volunteers to make this a world-class event. Look for signs going up along McNeil and DuPont-Steilacoom road to help promote these events. We're also getting a sign for I-5. Additionally, if anyone wants to try golfing, The Home Course has generously reduced green fees for DuPont residents so more people can enjoy this incredible championship course.

## VOLUNTEERS WELCOME

Volunteers are the heart of our community. We've made it easier for you to help make a positive difference and put your passion into action. There are many great ways to lend a hand no matter your age, resources, or abilities. Please check our volunteer page for a list of opportunities on the City's website, <http://www.ci.dupont.wa.us/city-hall/volunteer-program.html>, or call our Volunteer Coordinator at (253) 912-5245. Additional opportunities include DuPont's Fire Reserve Program, Police Reserve Program, as well as serving on City boards and commissions.

## COMMUNITY EVENTS

As of this January, we have three new members serving on City Council. We invite you to attend regularly scheduled [Council meetings](#) every 2<sup>nd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> Tuesday of the month at 7 pm at City Hall. Everyone is welcome to attend.

Join Police Chief Sheehan every third Friday of the month for **"Coffee with the Chief"** 7- 9 am at Forza.

### MAY

- 16 ROA Wine Tasting
- 26 Memorial Day Celebration
- 29 Community Policing Program
- 31 Princess Tea

### JUNE

- 7 National Trail Day & Safety Fair
- 11 I-5/JBLM Congestion Relief Plan, Eagles Pride Golf Course
- 13 ROA Annual Ice Cream Social
- 13 Relay for Life
- 21 Semi-Annual Yard Sale

Check out the Community Calendar at [www.DuPontWA.gov](http://www.DuPontWA.gov) for details on these and other events.