

# CITY MANAGER WEEKLY UPDATE REPORT ~ KENT MYERS

April 15, 2011

Yesterday I participated in a discussion with representatives from the Department of Ecology (DOE) to discuss the status of the Rayonier property. DOE was represented at the meeting by their Director, Ted Sturdevant, as well as Assistant Director, Jim Pendowski, and Sally Toteff and Rebecca Lawson. I was joined at the meeting by Jeff Robb, Jim Jones and Ron Allen. We enjoyed an open and frank discussion. One of the outcomes of the meeting was the commitment of the DOE that the property would be cleaned up to the standards of unrestricted use if Rayonier decides to pursue the NERDA credits and restore the property. A full account of the meeting will be provided at the Council meeting on Wednesday, April 20. (Please note that the Council meeting has been continued from the regular second Tuesday of the month to Wednesday, April 20, and will begin at 6:00 p.m.)

We were pleased to receive notification from the Association of Washington Cities (AWC) this week that the City of Port Angeles will receive the AWC Well-City Award for our employee wellness program. This is a very significant recognition that highlights the City's commitment to creating a healthier workforce. In addition to lowering insurance premiums, this program results in reduced sick leave and on the job injuries, all while providing a happier and healthier workforce. The Wellness Committee should all be commended for their hard work in creating a comprehensive wellness program for all city employees.

This week I also participated in the local public executives group meeting which involved executives from Olympic Medical Center, The Port Angeles School District, Clallam County, Clallam County PUD, and the City of Sequim. This group meets every quarter to share information on programs and activities involving their organizations. We also discuss areas for possible cooperation and coordination such as the public building energy conservation program which started with this informal group. They are all interested in the current areas of cooperation that the City and County are considering such as IT and fleet management services. They indicated an interest in expanding these cooperative ventures in the future to include their agencies.

We have completed the establishment of our Retail Sector Study Group that will be exploring ways to expand local retail business activities as part of on-going economic development efforts. This group includes Don Droz of Swain's, Tracey Hedin of Alley Cat Boutique, Katrina Berg of Fiddleheads, Dan Gase of Coldwell Banker / Uptown Realty, Kaj Ahlberg, Mike Edwards, and Councilmembers Pat Downie, Brad Collins and Brooke Nelson.

This group includes Council representatives as well as three local retailers and other individuals who have an interest in retail expansion. The involvement of existing local retail businesses is critical. As the City works to recruit additional retailers to fill voids in our community, it is important that current businesses are not impacted and that they continue to grow and expand as part of this effort. The first meeting of this Group will be held next Friday.

We hope to see all of you next Tuesday, April 19, 2011, at 1:00 p.m. at the ground breaking for the new Composite Manufacturing Campus

**- Kent Myers**