

# CITY MANAGER WEEKLY UPDATE REPORT ~ KENT MYERS

January 28, 2011

Although the City does not have a full-time grants coordinator, our staff pursues a number of grant opportunities throughout the year. For example, the attached report from Chief Gallagher shows the status of eight different grants that the Police Department is trying to obtain. If successful, this will decrease reliance on general fund dollars to fund equipment and vehicle expenses over the next several years. It will also enhance our Police Department technology and improve security in our downtown area. This is also another example of an area of cooperation between the City and County as we work together on most of these grant opportunities.

This week, Nathan West and I joined Councilmember Kidd at the annual meeting of the Port Angeles Downtown Association (PADA). The PADA is very positive about the recent improvements and future plans for the downtown area. Their new board appears to be both optimistic and enthusiastic. PADA reported that 18 new businesses have opened in the downtown area in the past year with only five businesses closing. They also reported on the many downtown activities that are planned with regard to the Elwha Dam & River Restoration project kick-off event this September. In addition, you may have seen the report that many of the Juan de Fuca Festival events are moving downtown. If you add to this news that the waterfront improvements will be started this year and the new wayfinding signs will be installed, I think that it is obvious that the immediate future is very bright for downtown Port Angeles.

In addition, this week I attended a meeting of transportation consultants who are working with Olympic National Park (ONP) to consider transportation options to various park sites including Hurricane Ridge. With the success of the shuttle service provided this winter, ONP is considering what types of transportation might be provided in the future. ONP has been directed to decrease their carbon footprint and a bus or shuttle van service would help to reduce vehicular traffic in some of their environmentally sensitive areas. The consultants should have a report to consider in the next few months.

I also wanted to mention this week that City staff met with a member of the Discovery Trails Coalition to update them on the CSO project plans and how these improvements will impact future use of Discovery Trail. Some positive suggestions were offered at this meeting that Glenn Cutler and his staff are now exploring. We are looking forward to the community report and discussion on the trail that is scheduled for a public meeting on February 8.

This week I made two additional presentations on the state of the City to community groups and both were very well received. On Monday, I will be making this presentation to the Chamber and you are encouraged to attend.

**- Kent Myers**



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**POLICE DEPARTMENT**

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**Date:** January 7, 2011  
**To:** Kent Myers, City Manager  
**From:** Terry Gallagher, Chief of Police  
**RE:** Grant Application Status Report

Kent,

The Police Department has several grants in the works, with the majority moving slowly through the approval process. We owe Patti Morris, the CCSO OPSCAN Grant Administrator, a huge debt of gratitude for the work she has done on our behalf as these are diverse grants that involve multiple agencies.

**Stonegarden 2009:** This grant represents approximately \$115,000 to the City. \$3,900 was received and spent in 2010 for operational overtime. We have received 14 Panasonic CF-19 mobile data computers (\$7,500 each = \$105,000) for our police vehicles. The grant includes installation, necessary software, one (1) in-car camera system, some training money and some minor equipment.

**Stonegarden 2010:** We estimate our share of this grant at \$106,000. The operation order should be finalized in early February 2011. The order and equipment compliments 2009 so the approval process should move much more quickly. Our primary goal is furthering our mobile data project and acquisition of a new, fully equipped patrol vehicle. Seven (7) CF-19 computers for patrol and five (5) GD 8000 computers for detectives are expected – about \$82,000 in equipment. There is additional money for overtime included in the application.

**Stonegarden 2011:** This grant will be released to Washington State this summer. We will make decisions about how to spend this money in cooperation with the CCSO and in consideration of the Stonegarden 2009 and 2010 grants.

**FEMA Port Security 2009 Phase 1:** This project was put together in collaboration with the goals set forth by our IT Department after IT informed us of the condition of the existing cameras in our downtown. The grant is for \$325,000. It includes replacement of all existing waterfront cameras, servers and software. It adds 10 additional cameras for the Waterfront Promenade project. The grant includes funding for the support IT would need to complete the work. This has already been approved by Washington State and had been forwarded to FEMA in Washington DC for final review. There is no match required.

**FEMA Port Security 2009 Phase 2:** In the grant, we have requested additional computers with camera interfaces (front and rear cameras) at \$11,000 per vehicle, or \$33,000. There may or may not be a required match. If a match is required, we estimate it at \$6,800. There is some equipment included in the application that would be used to enhance the capabilities of the County's mobile command center. There is also \$25,000 to upgrade lighting on the Coho dock to benefit US Customs but with the side benefit of making the area more tourist/pedestrian friendly.

**FEMA Port Security 2011:** \$20,000,000 is expected to be released to Washington State in February. Patti Morris has strongly suggested that we request another vehicle in this grant application (\$39,000 fully equipped).

In each of these grants, we have attempted to consider our needs as a police agency but also the needs of other City departments when we can legitimately fit them into the grant proposal. For example, the request to fund lighting improvements is an effort to help the Waterfront Promenade project and US Customs while improving security in that area. We have also asked for approximately \$80,000 to help Public Works with the need to replenish the rip-rap in place on Ediz Hook. Those requests have cleared at the State level and are now in Washington DC.

In respect to vehicles, we are not working to add to our fleet. We are asking to purchase vehicles that we are scheduled to replace. The same is true of overtime. If we are awarded money to fund overtime, we will spend it to augment our patrol shifts when it is necessary – during civic events, the 4<sup>th</sup> of July, etc. Our goal has been and will continue to be the maintenance of our operational capabilities during very tough budget times at a reduced cost to the City.

I have attached an Excel spreadsheet that gives you some idea of the equipment that has been requested and the number of agencies that stand to benefit from these many opportunities. Patti Morris has done wonderful work for the City as a part-time County employee and, in some cases, as a volunteer. We will achieve full mobile data capability later this year and we have spent very little City money. The grant applications even include a request to fund the cost of air cards for the mobile computers.

Having mentioned air cards brings me to the BTOP grant that will allow for the construction of a very robust wireless mesh network within the City. That network is of tremendous importance to our public safety agencies and can also be of great benefit to the hospital, our schools, the library, the college, etc.... With such a network, air cards become largely unnecessary. Other communities envy our success in applying for and gaining approval of that grant. Communities with similar (but much less robust) systems report the maintenance and operations costs of the systems to be minimal. The BTOP grant provides 21<sup>st</sup> Century technology that is going to have to be built someday if Port Angeles wants to compete economically in today's technology-driven environment. A mesh network means that all of the equipment acquired through the Stonegarden and FEMA grants can be optimally employed. The benefit to the City of Port Angeles is substantial, requires minimal investment, and will be realized for years to come.

It should also be noted that there is another grant in the works through a company called Pictometry that will allow for the photo mapping (geo-referenced aerial imaging) of the entire county. PAPD and the CCSO have worked in cooperation with the Jefferson County Sheriff's Office on this issue. Photo mapping is something our Public Works Dept. does every few years at substantial cost. Because there are substantial security applications inherent in the end product, there is federal funding available for the work. We will know if the application was successful in late summer 2011.