

## CITY MANAGER WEEKLY UPDATE REPORT ~ KENT MYERS

January 20, 2012

As you may recall, several months ago we initiated an exchange program with the City of Victoria involving our recreation management personnel. Richard Bonine, our Recreation Manager, and the recreation manager from the City of Victoria both reported they learned a lot from this initial experience. Therefore, last month I proposed to the City Manager of Victoria that we expand this program to involve other managers from our respective organizations. This week I received the attached letter from the City Manager of Victoria approving a broader management exchange program. This program should begin in April or May once we have worked out all of the details. This is an exciting opportunity to build a better working relationship with our international neighbor and learn from each other on best practices in providing municipal services. Additional information will be forthcoming.

A loud round of applause and praise should go out to all of our employees who devoted so much time and effort to keeping our roads and bridges safe during the recent snowstorm. I personally received many positive comments on the fact that the crews were out early and maintained a continuous effort for several days as the bad weather persisted. On a related note, I was quite surprised to see so many employees at City Hall on Wednesday even though city offices were officially closed. We are so fortunate to have such a dedicated group of employees who are willing to give an extra effort during times when city services are critical to our citizens.

Next week, Mayor Kidd, Councilmembers Mania and Downie, and I will be attending the Association of Washington Cities (AWC) Legislative Conference in Olympia. We hope to learn more on the potential impact to the City from the proposed State Budget reductions. During the conference we also have meetings scheduled with our local legislative delegation to discuss several issues facing our community.

We are looking forward to the City Council Retreat tomorrow and the opportunity to discuss a number of important programs and projects planned for the coming year.

***Kent Myers***  
City Manager

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City of Port Angeles

January 12, 2012

Mr. Kent Myers  
City Manager  
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Port Angeles, Washington  
USA 98362-0217

Dear Kent:

Please accept my well wishes for a happy and healthy 2012; may many good things come your way!!

Thank you for taking the time to send such a well thought out letter with your plan to initiate an exchange program between our key management personnel. I recently discussed your proposal with the Directors at one of their weekly meetings and am happy to report that the idea was well received. We also received a briefing on the exchange that occurred this past July with staff from our respective recreation and culture departments. I gather that that was a very worthwhile venture.

I would like to suggest that one way to manage this program is to exchange contact information at the Director and Assistant Director levels. These names and email addresses can be distributed to our respective teams directly and, like the recreation exchange noted above; allow the individuals themselves to make contact as their time and/or need dictates. We could enlist the assistance of our executive assistants to facilitate the distribution of the meeting notes and other such items.

You may also be interested to know that our Director of Sustainability, Roy Brooke, is discussing options for regional collaboration on sustainability-related issues with several other municipalities in the Pacific North West. You may wish to contact Roy directly if you want to follow up on this. [rbrooke@victoria.ca](mailto:rbrooke@victoria.ca) or 250.361.0290.

The City of Victoria looks forward to working with the City of Port Angeles in this regard.

Yours truly,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Gail Stephens".

Gail Stephens  
City Manager

cc: Peter Sparanese, GM, Operations  
Kevin Greig, GM, Corporate Services

Attachment: contact information