

2017 SUMMIT

THE COVINGTON CITY COUNCIL'S ANNUAL STRATEGIC PLANNING MEETING

Saturday, January 28th from 8:00 a.m. to 3:45 p.m.
Maplewood Golf Club at 4050 Maple Valley Highway in Renton

AGENDA

THE COUNCIL'S PRIMARY INTEREST IN THE 2017 SUMMIT:

The City Council is primarily interested in discussing in depth four big issues facing the City this year: public safety, transportation, Town Center, and community events. As a result of these discussions, we will have defined the problems that need to be addressed, articulated our mutual interests, and identified the range of solutions the City should consider.

***NOTE:** Refreshments will be served at 7:45. Please arrive early to enjoy them so that we can convene the meeting precisely at 8:00.*

8:00 Welcome! Review Today's Purpose
MAYOR JEFF WAGNER

8:05 Review Agenda and Ground Rules
FACILITATOR JIM REID

8:10 Identify Major Accomplishments of 2016
COUNCIL AND LEADERSHIP TEAM

- What was an accomplishment of the Council and/or staff in 2016 that will have positive, long-term benefits for Covington?

8:35 Review Vision, Mission, Goals

COUNCIL

- Are the vision and mission statements still taking the City in the right direction?
If not, how should we revise them?
- Are our current Council goals still valid as tools to achieve our vision?
If not, how should we revise them?

8:45 Discuss Community Survey Findings

COUNCIL AND COMMUNICATIONS AND MARKETING MANAGER KARLA SLATE

- What are the most important findings from the community survey conducted in 2016, particularly given the major issues on today's agenda?
- What are the Councilmembers' reactions and responses to these findings?

9:10 Public Safety

COUNCIL AND CHIEF OF POLICE ANDY MCCURDY

In 2016 the number of calls for service continued to increase and the crimes became more complicated and violent. The Council is interested in learning why, and discussing what the City might do to stop this trend and reduce the crime rate.

- What do the crime statistics and data indicate about the rate and nature of crimes in 2016?
- What appear to be the causes of crime? Are we witnessing the beginning of new trends?
- What might the City do to combat crime, both violent and non-violent? Should the City sponsor community conversations or implement a regional approach or pursue both strategies?
- What resources would be needed? From where would funding come?
- Would the addition of resources or changes in how they are deployed have any impacts on our contract with King County?
- What is our current thinking about fireworks? Should the City ban their sale and/or use in Covington, as Kent and Maple Valley have?

10:00 Break

10:10 Town Center

COUNCIL, CITY MANAGER REGAN BOLLI, FINANCE DIRECTOR ROB HENDRICKSON, AND PRINCIPAL PLANNER SALINA LYONS

The Council is interested in maintaining momentum for its vision of developing Town Center. With the passage of the School Bond, the Kent School District appears ready to sell the parcel of land it owns that could become Town Center. Thus, 2017 and '18 may be crucial years for advancing the Council's vision.

- What is the status of the City's engagement with the developer to assist us in achieving the Council's vision for Town Center?
- What are the estimated costs of purchasing the land and developing Town Center?
- How do we make it happen? From where will the funding come? Are there strategies, such as phasing the facilities that are envisioned as part of Town Center, that would make developing Town Center more affordable?

12:15 Lunch

- Lunch will be provided.

12:45 Transportation

COUNCIL, PUBLIC WORKS DIRECTOR DON VONDRAN, AND SALINA

The City's transportation system is a key contributor to the quality of life in Covington and the success of economic development efforts, such as the development of the Town Center. The Council is interested in improving the system for both residents and businesses, and seeks to identify revenue options and the pros and cons of each.

- Is the current plan meeting the Council's expectations? Will it advance the Council's vision for the future of the City's transportation system?
- What resources are we currently relying on to fund them? Are there other resources we should consider?
 - a. Would joining the Regional Transportation Authority (RTA, i.e., Sound Transit) provide additional funding for transportation improvements?
 - b. Should the City consider raising the car tab fee?
 - c. Are there other options?

1:30 For the Love of Covington

COUNCIL AND REGAN

The leadership team is interested in making sure that there is an element of fun in everything we do.

- View "For the Love of Cities," the video produced by the Association of Washington Cities (AWC).
- What potential fun ideas could Council and staff incorporate into our work?
- What are the Council's reactions and thoughts?

1:55 Community Events and Appreciating Volunteers

COUNCIL, KARLA, PERSONNEL MANAGER NOREEN BEAUFRERE, AND PARKS AND RECREATION DIRECTOR ETHAN NEWTON

2017 is a celebratory year for Covington as it commemorates twenty years of cityhood and the fortieth anniversary of the Aquatics Center.

The Council has three primary interests in events: a) engage enough people to make them worthwhile and cost-effective; b) volunteers participate in the events honoring them; and c) staff has sufficient support to produce events and do not become “burned out.”

- What is planned to celebrate the City’s 20th anniversary?
- Is anything planned to commemorate the 40th anniversary of the Aquatics Center?
- What are our interests in honoring volunteers?
- Based on our current experiences, how do volunteers appear to feel about the events that are held to recognize them?
- If they are not fulfilling the Council’s expectations or the volunteers’ needs, what other ways could appropriately and sufficiently honor and celebrate volunteers?
- What resources would staff need to produce events, celebrations, or other means of recognizing them?

2:40 Break

2:50 Communitywide Strategic Plan

COUNCIL, REGAN, AND LEADERSHIP TEAM

One of the major discussions at last year’s summit was the communitywide strategic plan. The development of the plan is underway. Some Councilmembers are interested in briefly reviewing the timeline and process to ensure that the full Council and leadership team are on the same page in terms of the plan’s importance to both the community and City government.

- What is the schedule for finishing and adopting the strategic plan?
- How does the Council intend to use it once it has been adopted?
- What lessons have we already learned while developing the plan?

3:10 Community and Regional Relationships

COUNCIL

- What are our interests and expectations as we work with community and regional partners in 2017?

3:30 Other Issues on the Horizon

COUNCIL

- What are other issues of interest for possible future Council discussions?

3:40 Wrap-up: Final Thoughts

COUNCIL AND LEADERSHIP TEAM

- What are we taking away from today's meeting?

3:45 Adjourn