

**Pete von Reichbauer**  
King County Councilmember

## District 7 Spring 2018 Update





## Happy Spring!

The first 3 months of 2018 were very busy as I visited with and listened to constituents, and worked on local, regional and federal issues.

Please read this report for some of the highlights.

Also, please save the date for my upcoming **Town Hall on Flood and Emergency Preparedness**. This meeting will be a timely opportunity to discuss flood preparedness as the year's snowpack begins to melt. Panelists will also answer many questions including who to call, what happens when a disaster occurs and what you need to have in your home or business to be prepared.



King County Councilmember Pete von Reichbauer invites you to attend a

# FLOOD AND EMERGENCY PREPAREDNESS TOWN HALL MEETING

**Wednesday, April 18**  
**7:00 p.m. - 8:30 p.m.**

**Thomas Jefferson High School**  
4248 S. 288th Street, Auburn, WA 98001

**Join Councilmember Pete von Reichbauer**  
for a community conversation about natural disaster preparation, with special guests:

<b>Michelle Clark</b> , Executive Director King County Flood Control District	<b>Chris Utzinger</b> , Response Section Manager Emergency Management Division, Washington Military Department
<b>Barnaby Dow</b> , Governmental Affairs King County Emergency Management	<b>Doug Weber</b> , Chief of Emergency Management US Army Corps of Engineers - Seattle District

**On January 8,** I was reappointed to the Sound Transit Board, making me the longest serving current member. My service allows me to strongly advocate for the often forgotten areas within the Regional Transit Authority. As someone who grew up in Pierce County and has represented the South King County region on the King County Council, I will continue to fight for the interests of south sound commuters to ensure they receive the funding and attention they deserve.



*With Sound Transit CEO Peter Rogoff.*



*Left to right: Auburn Mayor Nancy Backus, Senator Joe Fain, Representative Pat Sullivan and Federal Way Mayor Jim Ferrell.*

**On January 10,** State Senator Joe Fain and State Representative Pat Sullivan shared their insights and expectations for the 2018 session of the Washington State Legislature, as well as their thoughts on how the political shift in the State Senate would impact South King County communities.

**On Martin Luther King, Jr. Day,** I recalled the words of Dr. Bernice King when I met her at the Ebenezer Baptist Church in Atlanta. She carried her mother's and father's commitment to reconciliation by saying, "Forgiveness is not an occasional act. It is a permanent attitude."



*With Dr. Bernice King.*



**On January 16**, former Governor John Spellman passed away. He was not only my County Executive and Governor, but also my friend. We fished together, shared Irish stories, and cheered on our favorite teams. While many today only know of the Kingdome from pictures, the Kingdome was the launching pad for both Safeco Field and CenturyLink Field. Without the determination of John Spellman, the Kingdome would never have existed.



*With Governor John Spellman in Olympia.*



*Left to right: Former University of Washington Coach Don James and Governor John Spellman.*

**On January 22**, members of the King County Council joined me in welcoming the new Korean Consul General Hyung-jong Lee to King County and recognized Pyeongchang, South Korea, for hosting the 2018 Winter Olympics. It is often said that the 20th century was the century of the Atlantic Ocean, but that the 21st will be the century of the Pacific Ocean. In this spirit we celebrated continued strong relations between our two nations.



*With Korean Consul General Hyung-jong Lee.*



*Left to right: Councilmember Reagan Dunn, Councilmember Rod Dembowski, Korean Consul General Hyung-jong Lee, Councilmember Claudia Balducci, King County Executive Dow Constantine, Councilmember Larry Gossett, Councilmember Dave Upthegrove, Councilmember Kathy Lambert, and Councilmember Joe McDermott.*

**On January 29,** I hosted my annual South King County Public Leadership Reception. The event brought together more than 70 local public officials and community leaders, as well as King County Executive Dow Constantine, Sheriff Mitzi Johanknecht, Director of Elections Julie Wise, and Assessor John Wilson to promote regional cooperation. Special thanks to Shelley Ko and KO-AM TV for hosting this event and all they do for the communities they serve.



*Left to right: Nexus Youth and Families Development Director Michael Jackson, King County Executive Dow Constantine, Auburn Food Bank Executive Director Debbie Christian and Auburn Valley YMCA Executive Director Jason Berry.*



*With King County Executive Dow Constantine and Kent City Councilmember Brenda Fincher.*

*At right, with King County Assessor John Wilson, Federal Way Mayor Jim Ferrell, King County Executive Dow Constantine and Federal Way Deputy Mayor Susan Honda.*



*Left to right: Shelley Ko with KO-AM TV and King County Executive Dow Constantine.*



*With Overcomer Covenant Pastor Gordon Banks.*





**On February 5,** youth and amateur sports programs in District 7 received grants from the King County Parks Youth and Amateur Sports Fund program. They will be funding projects for the Auburn School District, city of Auburn and the Washington Youth Soccer Association. Keeping our youth engaged and physically active helps build stronger neighborhoods and promotes community health.



**On February 7,** King County Parks awarded community service grants to four non-profit organizations in District 7 to expand volunteer driven volunteer projects and events. This includes groups from the Kings Grove HOA, Green Valley Lake Holm Association, Heather Highlands HOA and Soos Creek Area Response. I am pleased to see neighbors in South King County come together to enhance their neighborhoods through a variety of creative activities. These volunteer-driven projects help strengthen our communities as neighbors engage with other neighbors.



**On Saturday, February 17,** the jersey for Husky legend Isaiah Thomas was retired. Who would have thought in 2009 that this 5' 9" University of Washington basketball player would have his jersey retired in less than 10 years?



*With Isaiah Thomas.*



**On February 20,** the King County Council appointed James Schunke to represent District 7 on the County's WaterWorks Grant Ranking Committee. James serves as the Drinking and Stormwater Manager for the city of Pacific, and is a resident of Algona. The WaterWorks Grant Ranking Committee provides funding for projects that improve water quality in the service area for King County's regional wastewater system. Congratulations, James!

**On February 21,** Public Lands Commissioner Hilary Franz joined our “Good Eggs” breakfast to talk recreation, emergency preparedness and wildfire prevention. In her role, Hilary manages 3 million acres of land and 2.6 million acres of aquatic land, providing needed revenue for our state.

*Left to right: Auburn City Councilmember Yolanda Trout-Manuel, Public Lands Commissioner Hilary Franz, and Auburn City Councilmember Larry Brown.*



**On March 1,** I had the privilege of welcoming the PAC-12 Men’s Swimming Championship to Federal Way and thank taxpayers who took a chance financing this facility more than 25 years ago. Today, the investment has paid off. The King County Aquatic Center is now a staple in our community that brings future Olympians to Federal Way and generates economic activity across South King County.



*With Assistant PAC-12 Commissioner Cheryl Wong.*



**On March 7,** Sound Transit CEO Peter Rogoff discussed the implementation of the \$54 billion ST3 plan and the current status of projects in the south sound region at my March “Good Eggs” breakfast. Rogoff and his staff gave an overview of the future projects coming to South King County in both ST2 and ST3, currently the largest transit expansion in the United States. In 2023-2024, Sound Transit will be opening 17 new stations across 3 separate lines, including stations in Kent and Federal Way. The Tacoma Dome Link Extension will bring more light rail stations to the south sound (South Federal Way, Fife, East Tacoma, and Tacoma Dome) in 2030.



*Photo left to right: Federal Way Public Schools Superintendent Dr. Tammy Campbell, Sound Transit CEO Peter Rogoff and Auburn Mayor Nancy Backus.*



**On March 9,** we learned that Richard Sherman's presence in our community was coming to an end. He helped make the dream of a Super Bowl win a reality and made a significant philanthropic impact in our region. As a Stanford prof used to say, "the only constant in this world is change!"



*With Richard Sherman.*



*With Pacific Mayor Leanne Guier.*

**On March 19,** the King County Council appointed Pacific Mayor Leanne Guier to the King County Flood Control District Advisory Committee. The role of the Advisory Committee is to review an annual work program and budget for the District, including capital improvement program projects and funding levels. I have worked closely with Leanne on flooding issues that affect our region, especially those in South King County, and her experience will be an asset to the Committee.

**On March 19,** the King County Council appointed Rosella Mosby, co-owner of Mosby Farms, to the King County Agriculture Commission. The volunteer commission works with citizens, agricultural producers and public officials to preserve and enhance agricultural land, support and promote a viable agricultural community and educate the public about the benefits of local agricultural products. Thank you for your service!

*At right, Mosby Farm, Upper Green River Valley.*





**On March 27,** the Seattle Mariners announced an important partnership with Sound Transit making it easier—and free—for fans to use Link Light Rail to get to and from games. Courtesy of the Mariners, all fans holding a game ticket can ride Link for free on game days through June 3. Learn more at <https://www.soundtransit.org/About-Sound-Transit/News-and-events/News-releases/mariners-and-sound-transit-partner-use-game-0>

*At right, with Ken Griffey, Jr.*



**On March 29,** I joined Seahawk Quarterback Emeritus Jim Zorn, Mariner Chairman Emeritus John Ellis, and Seattle Mayor Jenny Durkan at Opening Day for the Mariners. Who says sports don't bring people together?

*Left to right: Jim Zorn, John Ellis and Mayor Jenny Durkan.*

**On Friday, March 30,** I had the opportunity to tour Decatur High School's horticulture and agriculture program with their teacher, Jordan Lybeck and Rose Ehl of the Federal Way Farmers Market. The program is very popular, and allows students to learn about agriculture by growing food and raising animals. How can anyone resist Ellie Mae, the goat?



*With Rose Ehl, Ellie Mae and Jordan Lybeck.*



**On April 3,** I began serving on the newly formed Planning, Rural Services and Environment Committee. The new committee focuses on communities where King County is the local government. By serving on the committee, I will continue my efforts to proactively serve unincorporated areas in South King County. The committee meets twice a month at 9:30 a.m. on the 1st and 3rd Tuesdays.

## **Councilmember Pete von Reichbauer**

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