



# District 7 Summer 2022 Update



**Dear Friends:**

**Summer has arrived!**

**Spring of 2022 was eventful as some normalcy to our every-day lives, and in-person events safely resumed. In District 7, I had the opportunity to host my first in-person events since the pandemic and meet constituents and local leaders as well.**

**Please take a moment to review some of the highlights of the second quarter of 2022.**

**With best wishes,**

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to be 'P. von Reichbauer', with a large, stylized 'P' and a smaller 'von Reichbauer' written below it.

**Pete von Reichbauer  
King County Councilmember**

## Regional Leadership Conference

While the Regional Leadership Conference brought together the private and public sectors in formal meetings, I appreciated the informal opportunity to meet with new Port of Seattle Commissioner Hamdi Mohamed and catch up with local leaders from Kent, Auburn, Renton and Redmond. The suburban mayors are leading the way!



*With Hamdi Mohamed (left) and Kent Mayor Dana Ralph, Auburn Mayor Nancy Backus, Renton Councilmember Ed Prince and Redmond Mayor Angela Birney (right)*



## Auburn High School boys basketball team wins 3A Championship

All basketball roads now go through Auburn. Congratulations to the Auburn High School Trojans for winning their first state boys basketball title against Rainier Beach 58-48 at the 3A Championship! Thanks to Superintendent Dr. Alan Spicciati, Coach Ryan Hansen and Athletic Director John Price for letting me hold the state trophy. School sports help build and show character.



*With Superintendent Dr. Spicciati, Coach Hansen and Athletic Director Price*

## Auburn Councilmember Yolanda Trout appointed to the King County Children and Youth Advisory Board

I was pleased to sponsor the appointment of Auburn resident and city councilmember Yolanda Trout to the King County Children and Youth Advisory Board. The Children and Youth Advisory Board assists policymakers in considering outcomes, policies, and investments for children, families, youth and young adults, and serves as the Best Starts for Kids (BSK) strategies oversight and advisory body providing recommendations on the distributions of the levy proceeds.

Yolanda's degree in early childhood education and her experience running a bilingual preschool will provide a valuable perspective on how King County can better serve children and families for whom English is their second language, and I am looking forward to working with her in this capacity.



*With Auburn Councilmember Yolanda Trout*



## Dick's Drive-in comes to Federal Way

Dick Spady was a man of ideas and ideals. In April, I was proud to be at my second groundbreaking of a Dick's Drive-In, joining his granddaughter Jasmine and grandson Saul. Whether a first-generation immigrant or Bill Gates, we have all stood in line for a burger at the iconic orange sign. Dick's is family-based and family-oriented. Welcome to South King County, Spady family! The heritage lives on!



## From Ukraine to King County

The media pictures from Ukraine cannot compare with the personal stories of the refugees of this tragedy. Tetiana Ponochozna told me of her journey from Bucha, Ukraine to King County with her husband and three daughters, one day ahead of the Russian tanks. King County cannot send howitzers, but we can help with housing for refugees. Thank you, Hon. Consul General Valeriy V. Goloborodko, for your commitment to peace and all you do for those in need.



*At the King County Council Chambers with Councilmembers Reagan Dunn, Rod Dembowski, Girmay Zahilay, Sarah Perry, Joe McDermott, Sheriff Patti Cole-Tindall, Hon. Consul General Valeriy Goloborodko, and Tetiana Ponochozna and her family*



## Meeting with South King County leaders

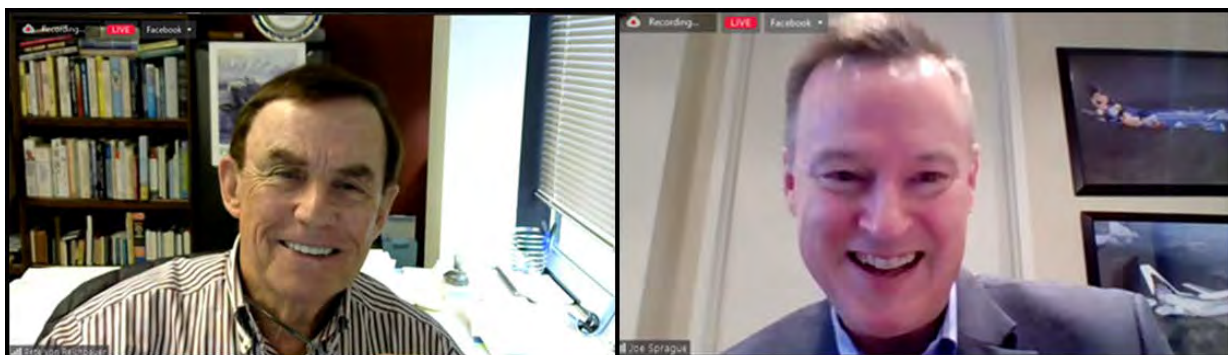
Local government works best when we can meet around the table and talk about our region in person. I welcomed catching up with South King Fire & Rescue Commissioner David Berger and Federal Way Councilmember Lydia Assefa-Dawson. I was lucky to be in Ethiopia in my 20s after serving in the US Army; I got to know Lydia and one of her remarkable sons because of my travels to east Africa in the 1970's. Lydia's life story is the story of American emigration as hoped for by our founders. She lights up any room with her energy, interests, and commitment to others.



*With SKFR Commissioner David Berger and Federal Way Councilmember Lydia Assefa-Dawson*

## Virtual "Good Eggs" Community Forum with Horizon Air President Joe Sprague

On April 27th, I had the opportunity to host our monthly "Good Eggs" community forum with Horizon Air President Joe Sprague as the speaker. Joe provided his insights on the state of the airline industry post-COVID, as well as his outlook on summer air travel. He candidly shared the challenges the airline industry continues to face, as well as their efforts to mitigate these issues. You can watch the recorded version of this forum on my [Facebook page](#).



*With Horizon Air President Joe Sprague*



## South King County Scholar Athlete Lunch with Lenny Wilkens

In May, I had a great time hosting my third brunch for South King County scholar athletes with the voice of the Seahawks, **Steve Raible**, and NBA legend and three-time Hall of Famer, **Lenny Wilkens**. Congratulations to all our local boys and girls basketball teams, and thanks to Kent Mayor Dana Ralph and Auburn Mayor Nancy Backus! Special appreciation to Pastor Gordon Banks and Ukrainian Consul General, Hon. Valeriy Goloborodko. SKC rules!



*(Clockwise) With Federal Way High School boys basketball team, Pastor Gordon Banks, Lenny Wilkens and Hon. Consul General Valeriy Goloborodko, Auburn Mayor Nancy Backus and Steve Raible, Kent Mayor Dana Ralph and Councilmember Toni Troutner, and Auburn High School boys basketball team 3A champion*

## Virtual “Good Eggs” Community Forum with outgoing Sound Transit CEO Peter Rogoff

On May 25th, I had the opportunity to host outgoing Sound Transit CEO Peter Rogoff at my virtual “Good Eggs” community forum. Peter provided an update on the Federal Way Link Extension and the state of Sound Transit as he ends his tenure. South King County community leaders engaged with Peter in a dialogue and thanked him for his service throughout his past 6 years at Sound Transit. You can watch the recorded version of the forum on my [Facebook page](#).



*With outgoing Sound Transit CEO Peter Rogoff*

## Meeting with South King County leader Mike Park

Mike Park has served our region on many levels, from presiding as Federal Way Mayor to parenting two successful daughters with his wife Jin, to establishing a school to educate students of all ages and backgrounds about the Korean Peninsula. We recently caught up at a local Panera Bread to discuss his plans to complete Hanwoori Garden to commemorate the Korean culture and the special relationship between the Republic of Korea and the United States of America.



*With former Federal Way Mayor Mike Park*



## 87th Sports Star Banquet

Sports bring people together - it was nice to see this in practice as Jim Whittaker, Lenny Wilkens, Shawn Kemp, and many others gathered at the 87th Sports Star Banquet at the Westin. On May 1, 1963, Jim Whittaker became the first American to summit Everest; his nephew "Win" guided me to summit Mt. Rainier on July 14, 1980. Shawn Kemp and Lenny Wilkens aren't into climbing mountains, but they have summited more than their fair share of obstacles on and off the basketball court.



*(Left) With Shawn Kemp and Lenny Wilkens; (Right) With Jim Whittaker*

## Martin Luther King Jr. Medal of Distinguished Service

On June 14th, each King County Councilmember had the opportunity to present the Martin Luther King Jr. Medal of Distinguished Service to a chosen recipient who has answered Dr. King's question, *"What are you doing for others?"*

It was an honor to present the District 7 MLK Medal of Distinguished Service to John Daniels Jr. for his advocacy for, and work within, the Muckleshoot Tribe. With his help, the Muckleshoot Tribe has created an economic, educational, and social services portfolio that includes the hotel & resort, a tribal school and college, child development center, medical center, and community health program. As a member of the Tribal Council, John has worked to build long-term relationships with non-tribal governments and agencies, and to provide services to both tribal members and the surrounding community.



*We recognized John Daniels Jr. for his decades of service and dedication to improving the lives of the members of Muckleshoot Tribe and surrounding communities. John accepted the award with his wife Amalia and their four children by his side.*



## George H. Weyerhaeuser

Rest in peace to the man and the legend, George H. Weyerhaeuser. To know George was to know someone who, in his 95 years, cared deeply about his family, his workers and his values. Look no further than George giving the then recently released prisoner Harmon Waley a job at one of his Oregon mills in 1963, a man who kidnapped George in 1935 when he was only 9 years old.



*I was proud to be honored along with George and David Sabey for our collective work in building the Weyerhaeuser King County Aquatic Center in Federal Way. It would not be the Weyerhaeuser King County Aquatic Center without George Weyerhaeuser's commitment.*

## Auburn Noon Lions Glasses Donation

Every year, in partnership with King County Metro, I donate over a thousand glasses to local organizations like the Auburn Noon Lions and Federal Way Lions Club, who distribute them to various charities. These unclaimed glasses lost on Metro buses are donated to organizations in South King County to support the needs of community members who cannot afford the cost of new glasses. As someone who has used glasses for a long time, I know how expensive they are. It is such a great opportunity to work with Metro and the Auburn Noon Lions in providing a new purpose to these glasses.



*With Auburn Councilmember and Auburn Noon Lions Club President Bob Baggett, Former Auburn Mayor Pete Lewis, and other members of the Auburn Noon Lions Club*



## Cricket Recognition: Seattle Thunderbolts

On June 21st, I was honored to offer a recognition honoring the Seattle Thunderbolts and their kick-off of the minor-league cricket season in King County. With a worldwide audience of over 2.5 billion fans, cricket is a sport that has been growing in popularity in King County as our region has diversified with new residents from South Asia, the United Kingdom, and Oceania.

At a time when so many things are challenging, sports bring people together and give us something to celebrate. Our region is blessed to have many sports options — football, basketball, baseball, soccer, hockey and now, cricket.



*With King County Executive Dow Constantine, business leader David Malik, Kent Mayor Dana Ralph, Azeem Khan, and King County Sheriff Patti Cole-Tindall*



*At the Council Chambers with King County Executive Dow Constantine, Councilmembers Rod Dembowski, Claudia Balducci, Jeanne Kohl-Welles and Joe McDermott, Kent Mayor Dana Ralph, Cricket Co-owner Vijay Beniwal, business leader David Malik, and members of the Seattle Thunderbolts Cricket team*

## Mission Africa receives retired King County van

It's that time of the year! The King County Council has once again approved the allocation of retired Metro surplus vans to eligible non-profit organizations and local governments. One of the recipients in District 7 is Mission Africa, a non-profit organization that serves African immigrants and low-income families in South King County communities for the past 16 years.



*Handing the keys to Mission Africa Executive Director Ndudi Chuku and Anthony Chibueze as they use this former transit van to deliver goods and services to African families throughout Auburn and South King County.*







*Mission Africa Executive Director Ndudi Chuku, Donation Faith Center Director Anthony Chibeuze, African Working Group Executive Director Wakocco Kamnah, Pro Se Potential Director of Operations Kechi Amaefule, and African Community Alliance Member Emmanuel Dolo showed me the QR code on the back of their "new" van, which people can easily scan to learn more information about their mission in South King County.*

## **"Good Eggs" breakfast with newly appointed King County Sheriff Patti Cole-Tindall**

After 27 months, my "Good Eggs" breakfast meetings returned in-person, with newly appointed King County Sheriff Patti Cole-Tindall as the guest speaker. South King County community leaders, elected officials, and members of law enforcement had the opportunity to meet and engage in a dialogue with Sheriff Cole-Tindall as she takes on the role of Sheriff.



*With Jeff Stock Jr., Debbie Christian, Jeff Stock Sr., King County Sheriff Patti Cole-Tindall, Federal Way Police Chief Andy Hwang, Kent Police Chief Rafael Padilla and Jason Fiorito*

## **Councilmember Pete von Reichbauer**

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