

The Daily Insider

Southern Washington Edition

Hilton says OK



The downtown Vancouver conference center and hotel development moved another step forward as Hilton Hotels Corporation's Finance Committee confirmed its

commitment to the project today.

"Hilton's confirmation solidifies what we have already known," says FaulknerUSA Development Division president **Greg Williams**. "Hilton is committed to this project and appreciates its financial feasibility."

"This project and the economic impact it will bring has been a long time coming," says **Steve Burdick**, the city's economic development manager. "The momentum is building and we are very close to making this project a reality for Vancouver."

The \$70-plus million project would put a 225-room seven-story hotel and conference center south of Esther Short Park on facing Columbia Street.

Although the major decision—Hilton's agreement to operate the hotel and convention center once built—was the last major hurdle, there are a few hoops to go through before the project is a done deal.

Approvals are required of the city's Public Facilities District and the Clark County Public Facilities district, which has tentatively agreed to earmark \$500,000 a year from the county's share of state tax rebates for public facilities, and resolution of a law suit filed by a local group of hotel operators which could block the project entirely.

And, finally, construction must begin before the end of this year for the city's PFD to realize the city's share of state tax rebates.

Without Hilton's agreement to proceed the downtown project, nearly eight years in the making would have died.

County's final recommendations on Comp Plan to be discussed in open houses

The Clark County Long Range Planning Division will present draft recommendations for updating the county Comprehensive Growth Plan with three open houses, the first at 6 p.m. Wednesday, Sept. 10.

The draft plan attempts to guide growth and land use in the county and its seven cities over the next 20 years. Completion of the revised plan is expected by the end of the year.

The first open house is in the Public Service Center. The second, at 6 p.m. Thursday, Sept. 11 is in the Old Camas High School, 1612 NE Garfield Street, Camas. The final open house is at 6 p.m. Tuesday, Sept. 16, p.m. the Battle Ground Senior Citizen Center, 116 NE 3rd Avenue, Battle Ground.

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MONDAY

Sept. 8, 2003

Barbara Roberts headlines Hospice benefit

Barbara Roberts, former Oregon governor and author of *Death Without Denial*, *Grief Without Apology*, is the featured speaker of the Friends of Hospice fund raising luncheon at 11:30 a.m. Monday, Sept. 15, in the Heathman Lodge.

Pre-luncheon activities begin at 10:30 a.m. with a silent auction, sale of theme baskets and raffle ticket sales. Roberts will be introduced by **Joe Kortum**, president and CEO of Southwest Washington Medical Center, and **Karla Rowe**, director of the SWMC Cancer Center.

Friends of Hospice, a volunteer group, raises funds to pay for medications, equipment and services for terminally ill patients, and their families.

To reserve \$30 tickets, call **696-5056**.

People

Lee Goeke has been appointed by Gov. **Gary Locke** to the House and Senate Select Committee on Pension Policy. Goeke is associate superintendent for human resources and management for the Vancouver School District.

News briefs

The Vancouver City Council's 4 p.m. workshop session will be followed by a regular council meeting at 7 p.m. tonight. ~~SES~~ The Neighborhood Associations Council of Clark County meets at 7 p.m. tonight in the county Public Works conference room, 4700 NE 78th Street. ~~SES~~ Clark Public Utilities' commissioners meet in regular session at 9 a.m. Tuesday. ~~SES~~ Port of Vancouver commissioners meet in regular session at 9:30 a.m. Tuesday. ~~SES~~ The board of Clark County commissioners meets at 10 a.m. Tuesday.

Monday on the air

Vancouver City Council Workshop (live)—4 p.m. CVTV
Vancouver City Council (live)—7 p.m. CVTV

Stocks of local interest at 4 p.m. EDT Monday, Sept. 8, 2003

Alaska Air Group	29.37	+12	Linear Technology	40.34	+81
Alcoa	28.20	+21	Microsoft	28.84	+46
Amazon.com	47.28	+76	Nautilus	12.25	+35
Bank of America	76.98	+83	Nike	56.85	+56
Bank of Clark County	15.00	unch	Nordstrom	25.23	-26
Bemis	45.43	-01	PepsiCo	44.83	+50
Boeing	36.96	-20	Precision Cast	36.36	+87
Boise Cascade	27.88	+62	RLRN	25.74	+11
CenturyTel	34.61	-1.02	Starbucks	28.99	+18
Costco	31.77	-43	TSM	12.92	+63
Expeditors Intl.	37.98	+16	Tektronix	24.53	+23
Georgia Pacific	24.43	+33	US Bancorp	24.10	+08
HPQ	20.50	+27	Wash. Mutual	39.70	+49
Intel	29.18	+47	W. Coast Bancorp	19.81	+61
Kvocera	66.94	+09	Weverhaeuser	61.30	+106
DOW: 9586.29 +82.95 SES NASDAQ: 1888.62 +30.38 SES S&P: 1031.64 +10.25					

Town Tabloids and The Weather

Claralee Williams getting connected.	Acapulco	95/75
SES Janet Irwin getting hooked in the tapestry room. SES Pam Small collecting by-lines. SES Diane Weber accepting bookings. SES Elaine Sumrill getting happy day-after Birthday. SES Monday , clouds turn soggy late in the day, 72. Tuesday , cloudy and possible showers, 68. Wednesday , clouds and showers continue, 68.	Athens	74/57
	Chicago	84/64
	Dallas	88/70
	Hong Kong	86/78
	Los Angeles	78/62
	London	61/53
	New Orleans	88/72
	New York	76/61
	Orlando	90/74
	Paris	62/40
	Phoenix	102/80
	Rome	75/56
	Seattle	68/52
	Sydney	64/40
	Tokyo	79/69
	Washington	82/66