

Business groups which opposed county growth management plan file appeal

As they did throughout the last several months of hearings during the development of Clark County's Comprehensive Growth Management Plan update, the county's major business organizations are continuing their opposition by filing a formal appeal with the Western Washington Growth Management Hearings Board.

The four organizations claim a combined membership of 4,000. They are the Building Industry Association of Clark County, Greater Vancouver Chamber of Commerce, Clark County Association of Realtors, and the Responsible Growth Forum.

The sense of the argument is that the updated plan does not realistically plan for future growth.

When the management plan update was approved by county commissioners in September, it was by a split vote, with chair of the board of commissioners **Betty Sue Morris** dissenting. The majority, **Craig Pridemore** and **Judie Stanton**, voted for the update.

The state hearings board is expected to hear the appeal early next year.

Local investors buy Port of Ridgefield site for mixed retail and office project

Ridgefield residents **Nanette** and **Ned Walker**, and **Weldon** and **Carol Burton**, Vancouver, have acquired a 1.3-acre site at the Port of Ridgefield's 75-acre industrial site southwest of the Ridgefield junction on I-5. A 20,000-square-foot, two-story retail and office building is planned, according to port executive director **Brent Grening**. Groundbreaking is expected in the spring of 2005.

According to Grening, only a three-acre parcel of the original 75 acres acquired in the 1980s remains to be sold.

More than 700 are employed in the industrial park, including those working for Corwin Beverage, Pacific Detroit Diesel, Cascade Container and US Foodservice.

The port currently is completing its master plan for another 75-acre industrial park, on the northeast corner of the junction, to be called Discovery Pointe Corporate Park. The port and other property owners have petitioned Ridgefield to annex the site, according to Grening.

The two industrial parks make up the heart of Discovery Corridor, Grening says. The Ridgefield area is quickly becoming one of the hottest development areas in the Portland-Vancouver metropolitan area, according to Grening and **Scott Fraser**, senior vice president of Kidder Mathews, who represented the port in the sale.

"The Ridgefield area offers some of the best land values in the region and has tremendous visibility and transportation advantages by being located directly on I-5. Those factors, coupled with the expedited permitting and planning services being managed by the City of Ridgefield, make it incredibly attractive," Fraser added.

Jeanne Lipton asks to be considered for county commissioner position

Former Vancouver city council member **Jeanne Lipton** today entered her name in the running for the Clark County Board of Commission position being vacated by **Craig Pridemore**, successful Democratic candidate for the state senate.

Lipton served a four-year term on the council, twice running for mayor. She lost both times to incumbent **Royce Pollard**.

A committee of three Democrats, **Dan Ogden**, **Carleen Pagni** and **Norman Banks**, will select three names that will be forwarded to the board of county commissioners, which is to name a successor to Pridemore. The appointed term will continue until the 2005.

Mayor getting major league to help light Christmas tree

Two of Vancouver's world champion major league pitchers, **Randy Meyers** and **Alan Embree**, will join Vancouver's champion mayor **Royce Pollard** at 6 p.m. Friday, Nov. 26, in Esther Short Park to light the city's official Christmas tree. Meyers, a 1980 graduate of Evergreen High School, was a member of the 1986 New York Mets and 1990 Cincinnati Reds World Series champions. Embree, who graduated from Prairie High School, pitched this year for the World Series champions, Boston Red Sox.

The tree lighting is part of the three-day Festival of the Trees celebration that opens the day after Thanksgiving in the Red Lion Hotel at the Quay. Thirty-eight decorated Christmas trees will be on view at the Quay 9 a.m. to 10 p.m. Friday, Nov. 26, 9 a.m. to 2:30 p.m. Saturday, Nov. 27, and 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Sunday, Nov. 28. General admission is \$4.

Gingerbread houses, being judged at Westfield Shoppingtown through Wednesday, Nov. 24, will be on display at the Quay Friday and Saturday, where judging continues. The public is encouraged to vote for favorites at a dollar a vote.

The gala event of the festival is the \$100 dinner and oral auction of the Christmas trees and wreaths, also in the Quay. It begins at 5 p.m. A Teddy Bear Tea for children and mothers is at 9 a.m. until noon, Saturday, Nov. 27, in the Quay. Admission is \$3. A Senior Tea in the Quay is 1:30 to 3 p.m. Sunday, Nov. 28, and is \$5 per person.

For more information, call **750-0409**.

People

Jim Rogers has been appointed to a three-year term on the Clark County Mental Health Advisory Board.

News briefs

The Vancouver City Council meets in workshop session at 4 p.m. today. ☞ Clark Public Utilities' commissioners meet at 9 a.m. Tuesday, Nov. 23, to continue discussion on the 2005 budgets for the electric, water, and waste water utilities. ☞ Port of Vancouver

commissioners meet in regular session at 9:30 a.m. Tuesday, Nov. 23. 🗳️ Clark County commissioners meet in regular session at 10 a.m. Tuesday, Nov. 23.

Monday headlines at home and from around the world:

[Parker House restaurant project in jeopardy--Columbian](#), [Gretchen Fehrenbacher](#)

[County governor's race recount began today--Oregonian](#)

[USA deeply divided, poll says--USA TODAY](#), [Jim Drinkard](#)

[Senior U.S. commanders say they will need a further increase in combat forces to put down remaining areas of resistance in Iraq--Washington Post](#), [Bradley Graham](#)

Monday on the air

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

Vancouver City Council (11/15)—7 p.m. CVTV

Town Tabloids and the weather

Bert Coffman tuning up to open the season. 🗳️ **Allison Schultz** making triple sure. 🗳️ **Maria Cantwell** first in line. 🗳️ **Casey O'Dell** is ready for holidays. 🗳️ **Corey Sines** coming out on top. 🗳️ **Alan Cohen** saying it best. 🗳️ **Monday**, gray, cloudy and rainy, possible sun-break, 52. **Tuesday**, cloudy, but mostly dry, 48. **Wednesday**, gray, possible light precipitation, 50.