

City's legislative agenda includes continued Riverwest funding

The City of Vancouver is taking its agenda for the upcoming session of the Washington State Legislature to the local lawmakers this week, reports Vancouver's legislative consultant **Mark O. Brown**.

The city's top priority will be a change in current law to ensure that state funding for the downtown Riverwest Project is protected. This is the Killian Pacific project that includes the projected Vancouver Community Library.

It has longer than expected to relocate the CARR auto dealership off of the project site and, as a result, state funding for the Riverwest project could be reduced, according to Brown.

The city is also asking state lawmakers to support the Columbia River Crossing Project and legislation that would allow CTRAN to create a new transit district within their existing boundaries, which may be a necessary step in support of light rail.

The city is also hoping for passage of several bills dealing with annexation.

Roy Johnson hired to head Vancouver Housing Authority

Roy A. Johnson, for the past five years head of the Spartanburg, S.C., Housing Authority, has been hired as executive director of the Vancouver Housing Authority, reports housing authority commission chairman **Ron Kawamoto**.

Johnson succeeds **Kurt Creager**, former chief executive officer who resigned earlier this year.

Johnson is expected to take over the reins of the 65-year-old housing authority in February.

"Throughout my research and after meeting with the VHA board of commissioners, I have been very impressed with the organization. I look forward to enhancing collaboration in the community, meeting our many partners and getting to work," Johnson said today.

Johnson has worked in programs administering public housing in Kansas, Iowa and Nebraska. He is a graduate of the University of Nebraska, where he also earned a masters degree in public administration.

Through partnerships with federal, state and local governments, as well as nonprofit organizations and the private sector, the Vancouver Housing Authority provides housing for over 12,000 people in Clark County.

Vancouver holding summit on public spaces

The public is invited to participate in a discussion of future public spaces in Vancouver led by noted public space planner, **Fred Kent**. The meeting sponsored by Vancouver Planning and Economic Development and the Vancouver-Clark Parks and Recreation, begins at 6 p.m. Wednesday, Jan. 9, in the Red Cross Building, 605 Barnes Road, in Vancouver Barracks.

Kent, founder and president the Project for Public Spaces, will spend two days prior to the meeting discussing future public spaces in Vancouver with city staff.

Public space locations under consideration are the Riverwest development downtown and the proposed Boise Cascade riverfront project on the Columbia River south of the city. For further information, call **487-7060**.

News brief

"Vancouver Uncovered," an exhibit at the Clark County Historical Society Museum, 1511 Main Street, commemorating the 150th anniversary of the incorporation of the City of Vancouver, concludes a two-month run Saturday, Dec. 29. The exhibit includes hundreds of artifacts and photographs of the city's first 150 years. People

A slew of awards honoring persons who have made significant advances in traffic safety were presented during the Clark County Traffic Safety Task Force's recent 17th annual Night of 1,000 Stars.

Winners include the following: Perpetual Plaques, **Darvin J. Zimmerman, Tim Dickerson, Ryan Taylor, Doris Girt and Matt Hughes**; Lifetime Achievement Awards, **Arian McMullen and Mike Kesler**; Above and Beyond Awards, **Shaun Holahan and Jeff Starks**; Engineering Award, **Rob Charles**; Community Leadership Awards, **Doug Harada and Alex Schoening**; Community Education Awards, **Biniam Afenegus and Stephanie van Veen**; Seat Belt Enforcement Award, **Brian Forsberg**; Speed Enforcement Award, **Bryan Ensley**; DUI Enforcement Awards, **Richard Thompson, David Bone, Lindsay Schultz and Ryan Taylor**, Traffic Enforcement Awards, **Barry Ching, Mike Wells and Brett Nielson**; and Certificates of Achievement, **Scott**

Raedel, Mike Johnson, Bill Clack, Andrey N. Liksakav, Jennifer Ortiz and Forest Shuler.

Calendar

The annual Kids Christmas Party sponsored by the NE Hazel Dell Neighborhood Association and the Sarah J. Anderson PTA is 6 to 8 p.m. this evening in the Sarah J. Anderson Elementary School, 2215 NE 104th Street.

Thursday on the air

Northwest Indian News—4 p.m. FVTV

Community Inspiration Awards (12/18)—4 p.m. CVTV

Clark County Planning Commission (11/15)—6 p.m. CVTV

Cooking With Class—6 p.m. FVTV

Gonzaga vs. Oklahoma (live)—6:30 p.m. ESPN2

Clark College Orchestra: South of the Border—7 p.m. CVTV

WSU vs. The Citadel (live)—7:30 p.m. FSN

Festival of Trees (11/23)—8:45 p.m. CVTV

Leadership Clark County: Two Mayors Speak (12/14)—10 p.m. CVTV

Town Tabloids and the Weather

Alex Meinig bearing gifts. <> **Pat McDonnell** getting invitation. <> **LaVon Holden** handling interim duties with aplomb. <> **Tim Schauer** finding success in strange places. <> **Steve Towell** providing the facts. <> **Thursday**, showers, sunbreaks, 34-43. **Friday**, mostly cloudy, possible late showers, 34-42. **Saturday**, mostly rainy, 40-45.