



Mayor's Memo...

Centered on Opportunity!



Here at the City of Federal Way, our official motto is "Centered on Opportunity." I'd like to highlight what this means to us.

First, to better understand what's going on in the City of Federal Way, you can attend a City Council meeting and pick up a copy of our *Citywide News*. Our weekly newsletter contains stories that showcase our mission to capture written narratives with images and tell the community story memorably.

The City of Federal Way is committed to highlighting stories that reflect its dedication to being *Centered on Opportunity*. To review this week's newsletter and previous editions, please visit Federalwaywa.gov on the front page, where you'll see a link. We're not just talking the talk; we're walking the walk.

Investing in Federal Way: We invested \$10 million to purchase the Town Center 3 (TC 3/former Target building) Redevelopment property in Federal Way. When we first started talking about the Town Center Steps, some residents questioned it. But it was a critical linchpin for our community to start turning the dial in downtown. Next week, our City Council will vote on a completed development agreement with One Trent Development that will include investments of hundreds of millions of dollars that will be used for mixed-use, retail, and residential purposes, occupying the space in a productive manner that will provide value for our hardworking residents.

Additionally, we are also working on something called "The Dip" (The Pedestrian Overpass), providing easier access to both sides of 320th Street. The idea is to effectively utilize the City's natural topography to create The Dip, which will provide pedestrian access from Light Rail to The Commons.

Developing and transforming the historic Commons Mall: The Commons Mall is being redeveloped and transformed by its owner, Merlone Geier Partners. The Commons has recently added an office space that will soon accommodate over 300 Federal Government employees. The owner plans to punch two roads through the mall, including Pete von Reichbauer Way South, extending through The Commons Mall to 324th. The concept is to reimagine what a mall can be.

Federal Way's identity: We are a City with one of the most diverse populations in our nation with one of the most remarkable comeback stories in Washington state. We have over 102,000 hardworking and resilient residents who enjoy beautiful

neighborhoods, parks, shopping, and other amenities.

Refusing to be victims: During the latest Legislative session in Olympia, a pursuit law was passed that is worth mentioning. Washington State Legislators passed Initiative 2113, which on Thursday, June 6, will allow police to pursue stolen vehicles and other property crimes in the state. The City of Federal Way will never be a victim of crime; instead, we have always had a "we're fighting back" mindset. Keeping you safe is our top priority. That's why we're hiring more police officers and increasing patrols around the City.

A Health Care Hub: Earlier this week, St. Francis Hospital held the grand opening of its new family birth center, one of the finest medical facilities in South King County. Our Federal Way residents have numerous options for their healthcare providers, including Kaiser Permanente, Virginia Mason, UW Medicine Primary Care at Federal Way, MultiCare Tacoma General Emergency Federal Way, individual practitioners, Seattle Children's Hospital, and Mary Bridge Children's Hospital.

Wholesome family fun and commitment to the arts: We have 32 developed parks that offer wholesome fun for families and kids throughout the year. We are committed to promoting the arts through our state-of-the-art Performing Arts & Event Center (PAEC). This facility will host Federal Way's 2nd annual Arts Festival from May 31 to June 2.

Businesses continue to move in: The next time someone asks what *Centered on Opportunity* means in Federal Way, you can remind them that Amazon, one of the most reputable companies in the world, established its Amazon Fresh store in Federal Way for a reason. In addition, the famous Seattle-based burger joint, Dick's Drive-In, has set up shop in our neighborhood, along with Pet Supplies Plus, Papé Kenworth, Smith Brothers Farms, All City Fence Company, and many other new businesses. We have four Starbucks on 320th, including one inside Target and Safeway stores. Starbucks carefully selects locations in cities with **substantial growth**.

The future looks bright: Light Rail will bring 30,000 people daily to our beautiful City by 2026, increasing the growth and success of Federal Way. Not only are we *Centered on Opportunity* in Federal Way, but we are also poised to be a leader in this region.

Thank you,
Jim Ferrell
Mayor of Federal Way

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