

CITYWIDE NEWS

SIX NEW FEDERAL WAY POLICE OFFICERS SWORN IN AT CITY COUNCIL MEETING



We welcome our new officers to the Federal Way Police Department! From left to right: Catrina Fletcher, Laine McCann, Alejandra Jacobo, Trevor Funk, William Mann, and Jail Transport Officer Amber Matlock.

Back row: Councilmember Lydia Assefa-Dawson, Councilmember Paul McDaniel, Deputy Mayor Susan Honda, Mayor Jim Ferrell, Council President Linda Kochmar, and Councilmember Hoang Tran.

We are pleased to announce the latest addition of Federal Way Police Department officers, who were officially introduced by **Chief Andy Hwang** and sworn in by **Mayor Jim Ferrell** on **September 19**.

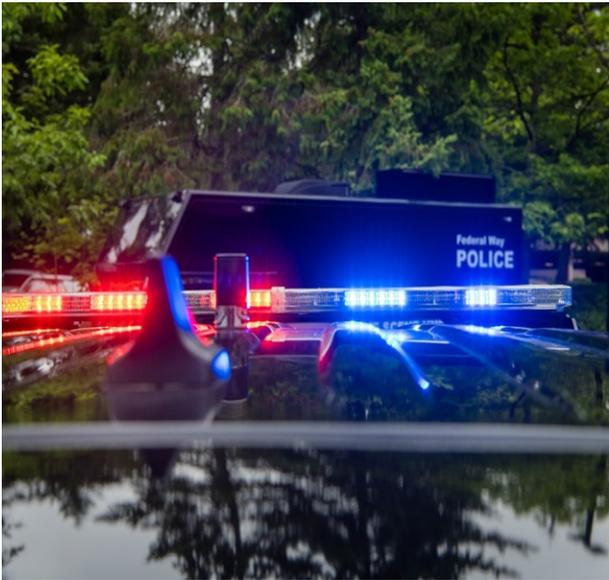
The City of Federal Way congratulates **officers Laine McCann, Catrina Fletcher, William Mann, Alejandra Jacobo, Trevor Funk, and Jail Transport Officer Amber Matlock** on their achievements.

It's significant progress towards achieving a record-high number of police officers, with an allocated budget of 150.



The Mayor administered the Oath of Office during the City Council meeting on September 19, while their family and friends watched with admiration.

FWPD HAS ESTABLISHED THE PEER SUPPORT TEAM MENTAL HEALTH PROGRAM



The Federal Way Police Department (FWPD) officers are not forgetful; they take their investigations seriously and keep track of all the cases they handle.

FWPD recognizes that police work brings stress and exposes officers to uniquely dynamic and profound situations daily.

In the interest of the officer's well-being, **FWPD utilizes a Peer Support Program** to help guide members through traumatic experiences, like line-of-duty shootings, high-speed pursuits, and personal tragedies.

The Peer Support Team consists of officers nominated by their peers and receive specialized training to support their colleagues during and after stressful situations. The training consists of recognizing the effects of acute and accumulative stress on their peers and how to help their fellow officers. The Peer Support team utilizes officers with firsthand experience of daily stress on the job who can relate to their fellow officers' problems.



Peer Support Officers help officers shoulder post-incident stress, anxiety, and depression. Through structured group/individual discussions, the Department's Peer Support Team guides members after these stressful situations. Peer Support Officers are not counselors; they're trained to recognize signs of stress and provide resources for specialized care if needed.

More often than not, the officer experiencing the stress needs someone to listen to that they trust. For this reason, the communication between a trained Peer Support Officer and the person is confidential and supports one another.



PUBLIC WORKS & ANIMAL SERVICES UNIT TEAM UP TO SAVE AN INJURED OWL



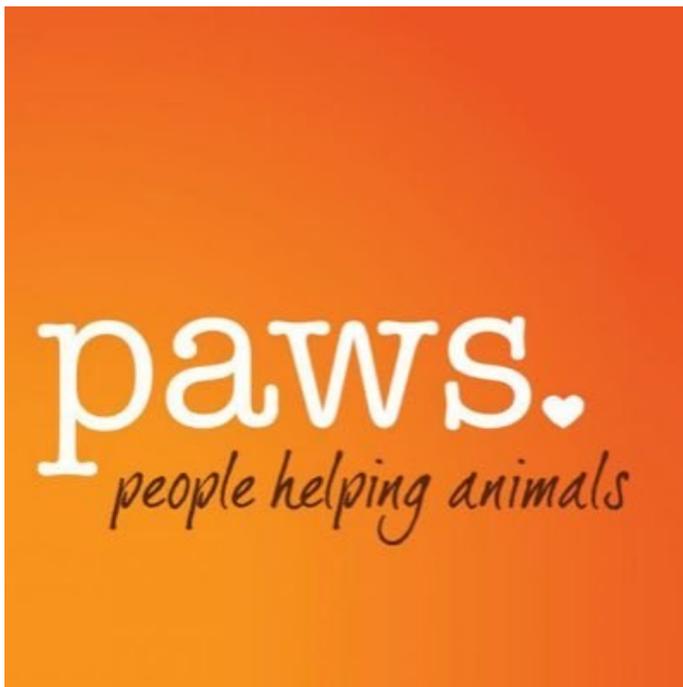
The City of Federal Way wants to acknowledge the immediate action taken to help an injured owl found on Dash Point Road in the aftermath of a car collision on August 9.

The maintenance staff from Public Works quickly rescued the owl and brought it to the safety of their maintenance shop.

The owl received the necessary care and rehabilitation with the help of our Federal Way Police Department (FWPD) Animal Services Unit.

According to the PAWS Wildlife Center in Lynnwood, the owl had a minor head injury, eye issues, and generalized weakness. After receiving anti-inflammatory treatment and being closely observed, the owl was released back into its natural habitat!

It's a heartwarming story about doing the right thing by rescuing a wounded owl. We thank Public Works, Dayna Larson, Animal Services Officer, and our friends at the PAWS Wildlife Center in Lynnwood for making it happen to save the owl!



CITYWIDE NEWS

FEDERAL WAY, YOU ASKED, WE LISTENED AND TOOK ACTION AT STEEL LAKE



We are working for you at Steel Lake! From left to right: Mayor Ferrell, EJ Walsh, Public Works Director, and Kevin Du, Surface Water Quality Program Supervisor, took a boat ride on September 21 at Steel Lake. They were happy to find the lake in good health!

After receiving feedback about Steel Lake’s well-being at our City Council meeting on September 19, we are pleased to report that everything looks great! We test Steel Lake from May through October annually. The City of Federal Way administers the Steel Lake Management District (LMD). The LMD has a dedicated Board of Directors who decides how to treat the lake.

The City of Federal Way will have an update on the health of Steel Lake at our next **City Council regular meeting on Tuesday, October 3.**



THE ANNUAL TASTE OF FEDERAL WAY AT THE COMMONS IS A GREAT SUCCESS!



Sampling The Local Cuisine! Mayor Ferrell showcases the delicious food at the Taste of Federal Way, drawing early morning crowds.

Mayor Ferrell and our City Councilmembers visited the **5th Annual Taste of Federal Way** on September 23. The event featured the theme “Island Flavas.” The City of Federal Way thanks everyone who supported our local restaurants during the weekend!



Supporting our local businesses! From left to right: Councilmembers Paul McDaniel, Lydia Asefa-Dawson, Deputy Mayor Susan Honda, Councilmember Jack Walsh, and Mayor Ferrell.



LEVI LUFT COLLABORATIVELY LEADS OUR CITYWIDE DEAI INITIATIVES & GOALS



We want to introduce you to Levi Luft, our Diversity, Equity, Accessibility, and Inclusion (DEAI) Analyst recently hired at the City of Federal Way!

Levi, who previously worked at the Washington State Department of Social and Health Services in its Developmental Disabilities Administration (DDA), brings a wealth of DEAI-related knowledge and expertise to Federal Way.

Levi's dedication to fostering inclusivity and connection in our diverse community is truly inspiring.

"I'm passionate and dedicated to DEAI work, especially at local and material levels. It's in alignment with my intrinsic values and guiding philosophy," said Levi.

Levi's perspective and approach is to center and empower historically marginalized communities, ensuring their experiences, truths, and needs are incorporated into the design and implementation of our work.

For example, collaborating with the Federal Way Diversity Commission has been instrumental in helping us gain a more profound understanding of cultural traditions, customs, and values.

Welcome aboard! Levi Luft, who grew up in Tacoma, said the goal for the position is to act as a liaison and advocate to advance the needs and wants of our diverse community.

"The Diversity Commission is responsible for advising City leadership and event planning. They coordinate, organize, and facilitate significant cultural events, including the annual MLK Event," said Levi. "They're also responsible for planning the Federal Way Community Festival and Representative Roger Freeman Award. They honor him and his legacy of Justice, Diversity, Compassion, and Integrity each year through awarding scholarships to local high school students."

Levi said it's an honor to staff and serve the Diversity Commission because "they're passionate and courageous leaders of their communities."

Levi's work to improve accessibility standards demonstrates the organization's commitment to inclusivity.

"If we were to think of DEAI as a continuum, it would begin with accessibility," said Levi. "Without accessibility, for instance, an organization or governing body can't realize true inclusion and equity. Thus, we're committed to increasing accessibility by providing equal access to meaningful opportunities and resources to communities that have been historically excluded.

"From there, we focus on realizing equity, which is a matter of empowering said communities and attempting to eliminate inequitable barriers and outcomes."

With Levi leading our DEAI initiatives, the City of Federal Way has established itself as an example of a community that embraces and celebrates diversity.

"I would love for the City of Federal Way to be a leader of DEAI initiatives and goals in local government," said Levi. "As these initiatives and goals advance, I hope our community can recognize and feel the positive material impacts as informed and guided by them."

CITYWIDE NEWS

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT SHARES SMALL BUSINESS GRANTS TO APPLY FOR THIS MONTH



Attention Federal Way business owners — take advantage of small business grants in September 2023!

Spread the word to eligible out-of-state business owners, you know, too.

[Lowe's High Five Grantor Moms program offers \\$1K to \\$10K grants](#), mentoring, and shopping credits to moms who own at least 50 percent of their business. Any mother from any industry can apply, as long as their business earned revenue in the last year—**deadline: September 30**.



DoorDash is offering \$10,000 grants to restaurants affected by natural disasters. Eligible restaurants must have a physical location, fewer than 50 employees, be open for at least six months, and have less than \$3 million in revenue. [The Restaurant Disaster Relief Fund will award 100 grants in 2023](#).

Incfile is awarding a Fresh Start Business Grant of \$2,500 to help cover startup costs. Winners get a free Incfile “gold plan” package for a year.

To enter, submit a sample business plan and a short video. You must be 21 or older, a U.S. resident, and planning to start or grow a business. [Apply here by September 30](#).



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Local
Fed Way.com

**—Shop local. Eat local.
Keep Federal Way Strong!**

ShopLocalFedWay.com

CITYWIDE NEWS

OUR ALL-CITY STAFF MEETING HELD IN OUR COUNCIL CHAMBERS LAST WEEK



Mayor Ferrell shared his excitement with employees about the FWCC leisure pool re-grand opening news, which has received over 116,000 views on our official City of Federal Way Facebook page!

Mayor Ferrell kicked off the citywide meeting with employees on September 21, who enjoyed a fantastic breakfast. **Thanks to Autumn Gressett for organizing!**

We appreciate you, Autumn!

The City of Federal Way employees were recognized for their exceptional service and dedication.

5-Year Service Awards:

- Abigail Rupert
- Autumn Gressett
- Brian Vandiver
- Christopher Cabrera
- Katey Hobbs
- Mario Flores-Murillo
- Natalie Kamieniecki



10-Year Service Awards:

- Jason Moorman



15-Year Service Awards:

- Jennifer Castleton
- Ramon Franco
- Robert Guillermo
- Ryan Call



SPIRIT Award-Individual Winner:

- John Cole

SPIRIT Award-Individual Honorable Mention:

- Kim Ledyard
- Kathy Davis
- Sarah Butts
- Stacey Welsh



Kevin Pelley, Emergency Manager, presented earthquake preparedness best practices for employees before The Great Washington Shakeout at City Hall on October 19 at 10:19 a.m. Pelley said the goal is to prevent a major earthquake from becoming a catastrophe for Federal Way employees and our community.

PARKS & RECREATION



Preschool education classes kicked off for the 2023-2024 school year!

The theme for September is 'All About Me,' getting to know classmates, gaining confidence, creating a classroom community, and developing positive relationships with each other!

Each preschooler received an about me bag to fill and share with their new friends. Each bag included a picture of themselves as a baby, a drawing of their family, something they like to play or do, their favorite food, and something unique!

"Play And Learn With Us" is a new 2-hour (weekly drop-in) program for kids ages 10 months – 5 years in an open play gym setting. Kids can play on tumbling mats, build an imaginative town with our Giant Blocks, play make-believe, and socialize with other children.

The first day was a success with 17 kids who met new friends and 20 adults!



COUNCIL'S CORNER



*By Amy Glandon
Executive Assistant to City Council*

Federal Way's Citizen Advisory Bodies provide its citizens with a wide range of opportunities for civic engagement. These Boards, Commissions, and Committees consist of members that the City Council appoints after an interview process. One of these Commissions is the Federal Way Parks & Recreation Commission.

The Parks & Recreation Commission went into effect on April 24, 1991, with the intent to work with City Staff in an advisory capacity on matters about parks, open space, natural areas, trails, and recreational facilities & programs to inform, advise, or to recommend actions to the City Council.

They are responsible for:

- Reviewing & making recommendations on matters regarding policies & goals of the adopted Parks, Recreation, & Open Space Comprehensive Plan
- Reviewing & making recommendations on capital improvement program planning & related agreements
- Providing input on recreation programs, facility use policies and other matters
- Preparing & presenting an annual report to the City Council on its work

Meet Your Parks & Recreation Commission!

Currently, the Parks & Recreation Commission has eight members, with availability for one more voting position and two alternate positions. The current Commissioners are:

- Position 1 - Sabrina Ettinger
- Position 2 - David Berger
- Position 3 - Montgomery Stewart
- Position 4 - Gerald Knutzen
- Position 6 - Michael Campsmith, Chair
- Position 7 - Karen Brugato
- Position 8 - Rayna Ross
- Position 9 - George Vadino, Vice-Chair



Photo Credit: Bruce Honda

The Parks & Recreation Commission meets on the first Thursday of each month at 5 p.m. at City Hall. Their meetings are open to the public, and all are welcome!

This week's Council happenings:

- **Finance, Economic Development, Regional Affairs Committee Meeting**, September 26 at City Hall, 5 p.m.
- **Federal Way Farmers Market**, September 30 at The Commons, at 9 a.m.
- **Rhody Garden Fall Flash Sale**, September 30 at the Rhododendron Species Botanical Garden, at 10 a.m.



PAEC UPDATES!

As we approach fall, the Performing Arts & Event Center (PAEC) becomes increasingly busy with our shows and rentals!



Let Kids Be Kids: A New Approach to Youth Safety and Success

Thursday, Sept 12th 6-7:30 pm
Federal Way Performing Arts Center

ACLU
WA

On September 12, the PAEC was honored to host the American Civil Liberties Union (ACLU) of Washington.

They hosted a meeting discussing reimagining accountability for youth.

One of the big talking points was regarding the school-to-prison pipeline and how it's becoming increasingly common to use harsher punishment in response to public safety.

The number of minors prosecuted for offenses is increasing, which raises questions about whether this response promotes our youth's safety and success. The goal was to help people reimagine ways to support children and encourage accountability.



On September 16, our friends at the PAEC welcomed S.N.F. entertainment for its "The Official Virgo Vibe Day: Paint, Party, and Sip" event with Dominique Hammons.

The PAEC had a large turnout; attendees enjoyed live music, dancing, and painting!



This week, we also added a new event to our calendar.

Tickets are on sale now for Federal Way Chorale's annual holiday event — "Yuletide: A Celebration of the Season in Song 2023."

This group's holiday show is always a favorite, featuring incredibly moving performances!

Purchase your tickets by visiting the [PAEC website](#) for the December 16 show!

CITYWIDE NEWS



As a long established non-profit community organization, our mission is to advance and enrich the arts, to build a creative, inclusive and equitable community

PLEASE JOIN US AT

Enchante

Celebration of the Arts

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 14, 2023
6:00 PM

EXPERIENCE A FESTIVE FUNDRAISING RECEPTION AT THE FEDERAL WAY PERFORMING ARTS AND EVENT CENTER (PAEC), FOLLOWED BY A SENSATIONAL PERFORMANCE OF THE TONY AWARD® WINNING "FORBIDDEN BROADWAY: THE SECOND GENERATION", INSIDE THE PAEC'S BEAUTIFUL THEATER.

\$100 PER PERSON
(INCLUDES FEES)



FOR MORE INFORMATION AND TO PURCHASE TICKETS, SCAN THE QR CODE OR VISIT
WWW.ARTSFOUNDATIONFW.ORG

Save the date!

MSC helps
LUNCHEON



Oct 19, 2023
11:30am
Federal Way
PAEC



Keynote Speaker

Doug Baldwin
Philanthropist and
Former Seahawk

PAEC

PERFORMING ARTS
AND
EVENT CENTER