

What's going on in Jefferson County?

That's a loaded question, but one I'm asked fairly often by neighbors and acquaintances as I go about my day. So I thought I'd take this opportunity to bring you up-to-date on a few items that you might find of interest.

Prospect Road

First and most import to all of you living in Kala Point, Prospect Road has been widened with a new right turn lane onto Highway 19 (Rhody Drive). As you've no doubt discovered for yourself, this provides relief for traffic congestion at that intersection providing a separate lane for traffic turning right as well as a lane for traffic turning left. The \$132,000 project was funded by the Jefferson County road fund.

Port Hadlock UGA Sewer Project Activities

The Port Hadlock Chamber of Commerce held a round table discussion on the UGA sewer project activities as part of their monthly meeting in October. It addressed a project update, the planning vision for the UGA, the draft facility plan status and current sewer planning activities, and a discussion of the UGA boundary with a Comprehensive Plan update. Presenters included: David Sullivan, County Commissioner for District 2; Al Scalf, Director for the Department of Community Development (DCD); Richard Johnson, County Wastewater Manager; and Joel Peterson, Assistant Planner for DCD and myself.

Addressing the financial aspects of the project were Katy Isaksen, the Utility Financial Planner from Katy Isaksen and Associates, who discussed funding programs that target commercial customers as well as what would have to be done to pursue those funds, and Sharon Wylie, a government relations consultant, who talked about legislative funding opportunities. For more information on the UGA Sewer Project or Prospect Road, contact Public Works at 385.9160

Shoreline Master Program Update Open Houses Held in October

Through the month of October there were four SMP Open Houses held throughout Jefferson County to bring residents up-to-date on the activities being done for the comprehensive SMP Update project and to answer questions citizens may have had. Advisory committee meetings continue through November and December. The public is always welcome to attend.

Jefferson County received a grant from the Washington State Department of Ecology to update its Shoreline Master Program in compliance with the State's 1971 Shoreline Management Act and the 2003 SMP Guidelines. All jurisdictions in the State must update their SMPs by 2014. Jefferson County is due to submit a locally-approved SMP to the Department of Ecology by June 2009, well ahead of the 2011 legislative deadline.

More information is available on the website at www.co.jefferson.wa.us/commdevelopment/ShorelinePlanning.htm or by contacting Michelle McConnell at 379.4484 or via e-mail at mmcconnell@co.jefferson.wa.us.

I'd like to extend a personal wish to you and your families for a very Happy Thanksgiving. Please feel free to contact me with any questions you may have at 385-9100 or via e-mail at jfischbach@co.jefferson.wa.us.

--John Fischbach, Jefferson County Administrator