

The Highline Forum
City of Federal Way Update
May 26, 2021

Mayor Jim Ferrell

The Highline Forum City of Federal Way Update

The State Of Our City--Highlights

Reopening our City in the post-COVID World:
“This is not a challenge—this is an opportunity.”

The Highline Forum

City of Federal Way Update

Proud of our COVID-19 Response

- Working with the Multi-Service Center, Senior Center food bank and other local partners, we were able to help ensure food banks were stocked for our neighbors in need.
- Rental assistance was crucial and we were able to help with \$500,000 in direct payments for families who were unable to pay their rent. We did this in partnership with El Cento De La Raza. Eighty percent of this critical lifeline of rental assistance went to historically marginalized communities.

The Highline Forum

City of Federal Way Update

- Using CARES Act funds we distributed \$4.4 million in vital resources including cash payments to approximately 638 businesses devastated by the COVID caused closures.
- When the second round of restaurant closures hit, we were able to send individual \$5,000 in grants out to 82 local establishments in one week to help stay in business through the holiday season!

The Highline Forum

City of Federal Way Update

- Shop Local Federal Way was launched with website, social media, signage, and events were activated on Thanksgiving in partnership with local small business owners and the Chamber.
- We are now analyzing the details of the American Rescue Plan of 2021 to leverage on behalf of our community an allocation of 19 million for the reopening of our city in the post-COVID environment.

The Highline Forum

City of Federal Way Update

Economic Development

- Federal Way is welcoming the expansion of *DaVita Integrated Kidney Care*, the country's largest kidney care provider. DaVita is adding hundreds of well paying jobs to our City and will become the largest private employer in the City of Federal Way. As exciting as this development is
- We are in the processes of bringing *Smith Brothers Dairy* to Federal Way, and *Pape' Kenworth* is building a new facility in town. *All City Fence*, a regional fencing company, is opening their third location here.

The Highline Forum

City of Federal Way Update

- We have welcomed the return of *Old Navy* to Federal Way.
- *Sketchers* has chosen our city for one of their retail stores.
- *Azteca* relocated across the street from their prior location due to Light Rail construction.
- Red Robin will open at their new facility in the Gateway Plaza.
- Coming soon: an innovative grocery retailer at the Commons.
- Continue to monitor progress with the IRG property.

The Highline Forum

City of Federal Way Update

Light Rail on the Horizon

- The Link Light Rail Federal Way extension is now over 25% complete and will begin serving our downtown in 3 short years.
- Combined with the investments we have made with the Town Center Project, Light Rail will bring nearly unlimited potential for new business, jobs, growth, and investment in our community.

The Highline Forum

City of Federal Way Update

Eyes on Federal Way App

- Keeping the city clean, safe, and functioning is a crucial function of local government.
- We have implemented the “Eyes on Federal Way” Application.
- Our new app lets us “see, click and fix’ problem areas around our city.
- We are now able to identify, track, and prioritize projects to enhance our city.

The Highline Forum

City of Federal Way Update

Hazard Pay for Grocery Workers

- Our new ordinance applies to grocery stores with more than 2,500 square feet of retail space and that have 25% or more of their floor space dedicated to selling groceries.
- Stores between 2,500--25,000 square feet can apply to receive a grant under the yet-to-be established “City of Federal Way Small Grocery Hazard Pay Grant” program.
- The hazard pay is set at \$3.00 per hour.
- The ending date will be August 10.

The Highline Forum

City of Federal Way Update

Airport Issues and StART

- As we have resumed involvement in StART--we are focused on action on behalf of our residents:
- The raising of the descent angle for landings on runway 34 right from 2.75 degrees to 3.1 degrees.
- Requiring incentives to make the voluntary late night noise program more effective in reducing landings.
- Focus on further noise abatement and emissions, including Ultrafine particles research through Federal and local efforts.

The Highline Forum

City of Federal Way Update

Climate Action Planning

- Climate Action Planning Process has begun, in collaboration with resident members of the League of Womens Voters.
- There will be extensive involvement of our residents.
- We will be joining the efforts of the King County-Cities Climate Collaboration (K4C).
- This will help us build on our continuing efforts to lower carbon emissions including our biennial savings through the conversion to LED lighting—savings has been \$700,000.

The Highline Forum

City of Federal Way Update

Upcoming:

- Pride Flag raising ceremony on June 1
- The Second Annual Juneteenth Flag Raising.
- New this year is a Juneteenth Community Celebration at the Federal Way Farmers Market on June 19th.

The Highline Forum

City of Federal Way Update

Veterans

- On the anniversary of 9/11, we will dedicate a Veterans Monument and Flag Pole at the top of Town Center Steps.
- Federal Way has a sizeable veteran population. We want to thank King County Councilmember Pete von Reichbauer and our local VFW for their work on this project.

The Highline Forum

City of Federal Way Update

Questions?