The Highline Forum
City of Federal Way Update
January 25, 2023

Welcome to the
City of Federal Way
The Highline Forum Federal Way Update

2023 State of the City

• Thursday, February 16
• Doors at 5:30pm, speech at 6pm
• Federal Way Performing and Events Center
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Enhancements to the City “team”

• Brian Davis, City Administrator
• Tanja Carter, Economic Development Director
• Kevin Pelley, Emergency Management Director
• Keith Niven, Community Development Director
After an 8-month planning process, the City Council approved the release of a Request for Proposals (RFP) for developers interested in the City-owned TC-3 properties.
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Budget 2023/24

- $1.5 million for 13 new police officers, plus support positions
- $680,000 increased Jail costs
- $600,000 increased insurance costs
- $330,000 for increased ValleyComm 911 costs
- $300,000 Replacement funding, starting immediately, for the 28 police vehicles that were purchased using onetime ARPA funds
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Budget 2023/24

• $280,000 for increased Lakehaven hydrant maintenance costs
• New positions such as addition of a new city administrator and records clerk to handle public records requests, Increased winter operations staffing and increased parks maintenance workers
• Increased funding for neighborhood traffic safety program
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Catalyzing Development in our Downtown

The Goal of the planning process was to develop a plan for TC-3 that was informed by conversations with the community and the economic realities of the development market in Federal Way.
Catalyzing Development in our Downtown

The RFP invites developers to submit a proposal for either all or a portion of the City’s property. The City will begin the review of the submittals in early February.
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Catalyzing Development in our Downtown

Potential Public Investments:

• Public Parking Garage
• 320th Street “Dip” to improve walkability
• Infrastructure Improvements
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.
Light Rail on the Horizon

• Sound Transit had planned to open the Federal Way route in fall or winter of 2024 but that date has been pushed into 2025.

• Unstable soils south of where S. 259th Pl. passes under I-5 in Kent need to be addressed.
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New Businesses

• Dick’s Drive-in
• All City Fence
• Pape Kenworth
• Smith Brothers
• Commons Mall
• -- Dick’s Drive-in
• -- Harborstone Credit Union
• Burlington is the new retail tenant east of Amazon Fresh
• Sleep Number
• The opening of the HUB is benefiting our community
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- The 2nd floor of the former “Sears” building is being remodeled for offices.
- The Sears auto center is being remodeled for multi-tenant retail.
- A new pet shop is taking over one of the tenant spaces.
- Three multi-tenant buildings for retail and restaurant uses.
- At the SE of 1st Ave South and South 348th Street, the Federal Way Mixed Use project is constructing a 10-building development consisting of 230 residential units, 7,500 sq. ft. of commercial space, 450 parking spaces, and improvements.
Public Safety

• Public safety is our #1, #2, and #3 priority.
• $1.5 million for 13 new police officers, plus support positions.
• FWPD continues expanding the Safe City Program, with an expanded number of surveillance cameras throughout our city to more than 460 views. This technology helps us reduce and solve crimes in our community.
• Continuing efforts to prevent retail crime.
• Special Operations Unit (SOU) working with homelessness.
• Shopping cart ordinance implemented.
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Recent Events
Airport Issues and StART

We continue on focused actions on behalf of our residents:

• Involving our entire community’s involvement in the upcoming Sustainable Airport Master Plan process in 2025
• This includes the raising of the descent angle for landings on runway 34 right from 2.75 degrees to 3 degrees
• An increased focus on noise abatement for homes and businesses
• Actions on emissions, including Ultrafine particles
Questions?

Thank you for visiting Federal Way!