

MAYOR'S REPORT MARCH 2018

I implore all who care about the future of The Dalles to work together to continue the economic growth and celebrate the improved vitality of our downtown and renewed success of the Cascade Mall complex.

Businesses are moving into The Dalles and on the Port. The airport is under new management and will celebrate the completion of Life Flight's new hanger. The college is planning an expansion which could have huge, positive implications for the school system and Mid-Columbia area.

MCMC has never been better, Google is celebrating its largest expansion and new state transportation dollars will help bring fixed route bus service to the city in the near future.

The Dalles, in partnership with the Housing Authority, just received a \$400,000 grant to assist in rehabilitating homes. Improved water security will come from completion of the Dog River Pipeline, an aquifer reservoir and updating water lines and existing wells over the next several years.

Downtown apartments will soon exist on Second Street in the Honald Building and the Tokola project, bringing residents who will live, work and shop downtown further improving our core economy.

The Waste Water facility improvement project will soon be completed, ensuring our ability to serve this growth for years to come and all without raising rates. Streets will continue to be the highest priority, as will bicycle routes and pedestrian access.

Tourism is a major component of our economy and must be managed intelligently so that it continues to grow in the best way possible. Our relationship with the American Queen Steamboat Company has just been strengthened by a partnership with the Granada Theatre. The continued impact of 111 scheduled tour boat dockings will help that growth with new opportunities for businesses, museums and non-profits. The enhanced music scene and brew pubs in the downtown area are attracting visitors.

Ask any of the new business owners why they decided to start or move a business here and you will find enthusiasm for the positive growth they see and you will hear their hope for the future.

There is so much to do. Get behind the positive things that are happening. Support the good work that is being done.