

Around the Area

VANCOUVER Road extension to open after dedication event

The city of Vancouver and community partners will have a dedication ceremony at 11 a.m. Thursday for the new waterfront extension of Columbia Way.

The public is invited to the event, which will take place at the newly built intersection of Columbia Way and Grant Street on the south side of the railroad tracks. Vancouver Mayor Tim Leavitt and Granor Development President Barry Cain will speak, and artists' renderings of the future development and park will be posted along the street. Restored Ford Model A cars will make the first official public drive of the road, which will open to traffic afterward, according to a city press release.

The Columbia Way waterfront extension was built as part of Granor Development's 32-acre private commercial/retail

and housing project called The Waterfront. The road also will connect downtown Vancouver with the formerly industrial stretch of the Columbia River for the first time in 100 years through the construction of a new city park and the extension of the Waterfront Renaissance Trail.

Aside from construction of the 7-acre public park, the street work wraps up the city's portion of the project, which is expected to create new jobs and housing. The city's \$4.7 million street project was funded through state and federal grants and Columbia Waterfront LLC, a private investors group led by Granor Development.

For more information about the waterfront redevelopment effort, go to www.cityofvancouver.us/waterfront.

CLARK COUNTY

County parks plan unanimously adopted

After months of work, the Clark County council on Tuesday unanimously approved the county's comprehensive park plan. The plan, which will

direct county planning policy for parks and trails for the next 20 years, will now be adopted as a chapter of the Clark County Comprehensive Growth Management Plan. The plan also recommends ways to fund maintenance and the creation of new parks, such as levies, park impact fees and grants.

It does not, however, change current parks policy, and it's to be used as a road map for future planning.

Adopting the plans makes the county eligible for state funding for parks, Public Works staff told the council.

BATTLE GROUND

Public safety complex named for councilor

The headquarters for police and firefighters in Battle Ground are getting a new name in honor of Councilor Bill Ganley, a longtime public servant to the city.

On Monday, the council unanimously approved a proposal to rename the city's public safety complex — two separate police and fire buildings near Main Street and Southwest Fifth