

# REPORT TO TAXPAYERS



## 2009

### Mission

to provide needed and valued services that promote our sense of community

### Vision

to set the standard of excellence for a progressive small city

### Values

We serve with respect and integrity.

We are responsive and accountable.

We are collaborative and professional.

We are innovative and visionary.

I want to thank you for 2009. If you're a citizen, thank you for your patience in doing without some things. If you're a Councilmember, thank you for keeping our tax rate the second lowest in the entire state. If you're an employee, thank you for doing so much with so little and even giving back with your personal contributions.

Our vision is still to set the standard of excellence, and we did that in 2009. We did not use the economy as an excuse to "make do." If I put rose-colored glasses on for a moment, I think we even made the City stronger. Instead of solving problems by spending more money, we looked to each other for answers. In 2009, we built stronger, more active partnerships with our citizens, our businesses and our neighbors.

If you prune a bush, although you may cut off some lovely blooms, you're forcing the bush to put more of its energy into strong roots. It's the same for us: 2009 established some pretty strong roots that will help us grow and flourish in 2010 and beyond.

*Dave Enslow*  
Mayor Dave Enslow

### Priority: Protection of water, open space and other natural resources.

Arranged for City to donate surplus computer equipment to non-profits.

Initiated power-saving procedures for many desktop PCs.

Successfully applied to be a tour in the New Partners for Smart Growth conference to bring planners and city leaders from across the nation to Sumner as an example.

Coordinated spring and fall clean up events with DM Disposal.

Coordinated multi-day, 24-hour Emergency Operations Center with East Pierce Fire & Rescue to respond to January floods.

Forestry Commission planted trees at the Cemetery for Arbor Day.

Fully implemented police Electronic Records Management System.

Completed the Comprehensive Water System Plan.

Completed chlorine contingency plan to meet requirements of Emergency Planning and Community Right-to-Know Act.

Successfully provided water to customers despite a hot, dry summer.

Conducted a capacity study of the Wastewater Treatment Facility to determine what improvements are required to meet future growth demand.

Continue to offer local gardeners Bonney Good Sumner Grow, a class "A" quality biosolid that eliminates the need to transport and destroy biosolids.

Installed water and sewer lines in the Stewart Road area.

Participated in the Puget Sound Partnership for combined stormwater education campaign, Puget Sound Starts Here.

Participated in the Puyallup River Executive Task Force, a county-wide effort to provide long-term solutions to flooding of the Puyallup River and its tributaries.

### Priority: Safe and efficient transportation system.

Started limited Pierce Transit bus service to the north industrial area.

Arranged joint meeting with the Port of Tacoma to establish better working relations.

Hosted bicycle rodeo at Daffodil Valley Elementary with 90 students completing it.

Participated in regional traffic efforts to reduce speed, remove impaired drivers, and enforce commercial vehicle laws.

Established Stay Out of Areas of Racing to discourage street racing in Sumner.

Began widening project on Stewart Road with Pierce County.

Rated the condition of City streets for Pavement Management program.

Received Community Development Block Grant for Elm Street sidewalks.

Constructed 80% of the sidewalks for Safe Routes to School grant.

Conducted annual repainting of street markings.

Inspected and maintained signs and signals on a regular basis.

Completed more streets under the chip seal program, including crack sealing and preparation.

## Priority: Long-range financial stability to provide a balance of City services.

Arranged four mandatory furlough days with unions and non-represented employees.

Launched FilePro to offer citizens ability to search agenda packets, ordinances, resolutions and Council minutes online.

Helped with the location and opening of Green Mountain Coffee Roasters.

Also welcomed Mud Bay and Jay Lee's Honda of Sumner despite economic recession.

Established a Manufacturing/Industrial Center Plan to establish infrastructure funding for existing industrial business area.

Worked on project plans and permitting, including Winco Foods and Oil Can Henry's.

Worked with Investco on Greenwater, LLC development.

Received a clean annual audit for 2008 from the Washington State Auditor, who reviewed accountability and the City's compliance with state laws and regulations and its own policies and procedures.

Updated City's first biennial budget for changes in economic conditions.

Began accepting credit card payments at City Hall for utility accounts.

Participated in amnesty month to adjudicate delinquent traffic tickets.

Purchased commercial lawn mower to decrease mowing time at Cemetery.

Obtained grants for police department totaling \$452,718.

Introduced the use of electronic ticketing for issuance of civil infractions.

Received \$2,188,593 for Traffic/Fryar/Main interchange and worked with neighboring property owners to make new changes possible.

Received \$130,000 to complete design for resurfacing East Valley Highway.

### have reviews

Sometimes, it takes outsiders to remind us what we have. Here's what we heard in 2009:

"Sumner brews success"

~ C.R. Roberts, *The News Tribune*

"Sumner is complete charm. ...A day spent in Sumner is a happy day for sure." ~ cih630, one of many who voted Sumner one of the best Tiny Towns on KING 5's *Evening Magazine*

"Sumner er navnet..." (A translation is coming!) ~ Søren Thorup, *Fyens Stiftstidende*, a newspaper in Denmark that highlighted Pierce County and Sumner to its 80,000 readers

"At a time when commercial tenants, in any sector, are hard to come by, the Sumner industrial market has attracted more than 500,000 square feet of new tenants in the second half of 2009. An impressive feat..." --Barbara Travers, *Daily Journal of Commerce*

### city or a movie?

A house valued at \$235,000 has a total 2010 property tax bill just over \$2,000. But your city portion, the piece that Sumner receives for police protection, parks, planning, court--basically everything in this report--is only about \$110. That's less than \$10 per month. In other words, these City services cost you less than basic cable, phone or internet service, less than one trip to the movies (minus popcorn), or even a meal at a restaurant. What a deal!

## Priority: Enhance community character.

Launched Rhubarb Pie Capital of the World and corresponding website. Helped tour two food bloggers around Sumner.

Established "pairing city" relationship with Prosser and set up first Sumner traveling booth at their festival.

Coordinated Sumner University.

Held Music Off Main with record-breaking attendance at each performance.

One performance was featured on Seattle Channel television station in King County.

Arts Commission debuted Author's Event, with 35 aspiring and eight published authors.

Arts Commission partnered with Sumner Meadows Golf Links for first-ever Sumner Art & Garden Show at the golf course.

Finalized a public art walking tour available by brochure or online.

Held annual Memorial Day service at Sumner Cemetery.

Installed Tim Hyland memorial bench funded by the community.

Supported the community and businesses by keeping up the grounds and maintenance of sports complex, five parks, City Hall, Senior Center, Sumner City Cemetery, City Shops, and more.

Completed Washington Association of Sheriffs and Police Chiefs standards and Police Department was recognized for reaccreditation.

Assigned police officer to work within Sumner Schools in coordination with school security and administration to provide safe environment for our children. Provided gang and drug resistance education for students.

Launched Block Watch in a Box program to encourage new neighborhoods to meet.

## by the numbers

### POLICE

Responded to 17,261 calls

Arrested 729 suspects

Removed 78 impaired drivers from our roadways

Answered 9,640 emergency 911 calls

Conducted 4,175 traffic stops including emphases on speed and violation of truck routes

Processed evidence for 476 criminal cases & maintain evidence for 1,577 open cases

PLUS Metro Animal Services

Served 24,923 customers at the shelter

Responded to 2,009 calls for service

Reunited 337 lost pets with their Forever Families

Adopted 637 pets

Issued 461 written warnings

### PUBLIC WORKS

78 water service replacements and repairs

237 new meters replaced, some frozen, some worn

823 meter service requests

17 miles of leak detection to finish the city-wide program

2,135 feet of trail installed

1,520 feet of water main &

2,110 of sewer force main for north Sumner

25.07 tons of pothole patch material, one shovel at a time

58 yards of topsoil for planter strip restoration, water service repairs and replacements

60 yards of concrete for sidewalk repairs

809 tons of gravel for utility repair, ditch backfill and repairs to road shoulders

200 tons of sand for sand-bags--yes, one bag at a time

508 requests for services including potholes, water leaks, sewer plugs, sign down, etc.

1,000 requests for utility locates

### SENIOR CENTER

13,200 people served

8,400 meals served by Catholic Community Service

26 trips took 339 seniors around our region