



# This Week in Renton

Mayor Armando Pavone



Send story ideas or comments to [communications@rentonwa.gov](mailto:communications@rentonwa.gov).

Translation of the newsletter is available on the City of Renton's website. For additional translation services contact [communications@rentonwa.gov](mailto:communications@rentonwa.gov).

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**Friday, Dec. 3, 2021 | Vol. VI | Issue 42**



## Winter Weather Plans

Get an inside look as our public works street maintenance crew prepares for winter weather

### CITY COUNCIL

Carmen Rivera takes oath for position two

### COMMUNITY

Free lunch pop-ups return on Dec. 7 & 14

### HOLIDAY EVENTS

Dec. 4: Santa House  
Dec. 5: K9 Fun Run  
Dec. 9: Gift Drive

We've seen more severe weather moving in over the past month. While it's primarily been wind and rain, snow is now forecast for next week.

The city divisions responsible for our preparations and winter weather response have already put their plans and people in place. This is what you can expect in response from the city.

- [Winter Preparations video](#)

### Our response

Preparation for the winter weather season began back in October with Public Works street maintenance crews outfitting their fleet of 11 dump trucks with snowplows and sanders. In addition, they outfitted three more trucks with deicer tanks. They tested the equipment and made necessary repairs. Then plow drivers took their rigs to the street to review their routes.

Once there's freezing weather in the forecast, these crews hit the roads early in the morning to apply deicer. That's the thin lines of liquid you may have seen on the crown of the road, and vehicle tires spread the solution across the lanes. Deicer helps prevent snow and ice from sticking, making it easier to plow.

When snow falls, plow trucks are [dispatched to specific areas across the city](#). The trucks plow around the clock with the drivers working 12-hour shifts. These four overlapping shifts ensure plows are always on the road. Depending on road conditions, sand or a 50/50 mix of sand/salt is also applied. The trucks are linked to their base by GPS tracking, allowing supervisors to monitor their progress. The drivers are also in radio contact with their base and with each other to continually relay weather and road conditions.

[NE 4th, Sunset, Benson, Talbot, and Carr; school and Metro bus routes](#); and the main [access roads to Renton Hill and West Hill](#) are high volume arterials and a priority for pre-treating, plowing, and sanding. During peak commute hours, these streets receive the most attention because sand dissipates quickly on well-traveled roads.

Secondary arterials, including [Union Avenue SE and Duvall Avenue NE](#), are plowed and sanded next. High priority areas are sanded approximately four times in 24-hours during severe weather conditions. Once these primary and secondary routes are clear, the plows move to residential areas.

### How you can help

You can help our crews do their job safely and efficiently if you would:

- Only drive if necessary. Any vehicles abandoned in traffic lanes will be towed.
- Treat our plows as you would an emergency vehicle; please pull over and allow them to pass.

- Put the snow shoveled from your driveway and sidewalks onto your yard, not the street. Our drivers do the best they can, but they are very limited in plowing the snow.

We cannot pull our trucks off their priority routes except in emergency/life safety situations. Also, our drivers cannot clear private driveways, private streets, businesses, or apartment complexes. Please note that there are Renton addresses outside our city limits. Those roadways are the responsibility of King County.

### Use Renton Responds to report issues

Residents can also use [Renton Responds](#), is the city's quick and easy way for residents to report non-emergency services requests directly to city staff. During inclement weather requests will be prioritized to address safety hazards and traffic flow. Residents can also call Renton Police Department's non-emergency number, 425-235-2121, to report non-life safety issues. If it's an emergency, including downed power lines and trees, please immediately call 911.

Winter weather may also impact garbage and recycling collections. If the weather allows, all missed pickups will be the following Saturday. For more information or to contact customer services, please visit [Republic Services](#).

### Online Resources

Our website has more tips and emergency information:

- [Cold weather street maintenance](#)
- [Snowplow route maps](#)
- [Preparing for winter weather](#)
- [Power outages](#)

We hope you'll keep this information handy. In the coming weeks and months, as situations require, we'll keep you informed of the city's winter weather response.

## Carmen Rivera fills vacant city council position two

On Tuesday, [Carmen Rivera](#) took the oath of office to fill vacant position two on the [city council](#).

- [Swearing-in video](#)



Councilmember Carmen Rivera

Elected to the seat in the November 2021 General Election, she will first serve the remainder of Angelina Benedetti's term, which ended on Nov. 22. She will start her four-year term on Jan. 1, 2022.

Ms. Rivera was born and raised in Renton and graduated from Lindbergh High School. She attended Seattle University, earning a Bachelor of Science in Criminal Justice specializing in Forensic Psychology. In addition, she earned a Master's in Forensic Psychology from the University of Liverpool (England).

She currently works as a full-time lecturer at Seattle University's Criminal Justice Department.

## Holiday Events

Holiday events on tap this weekend and next week:

- **Santa House:** Presented by [Renton Downtown Partnership](#) and Renton Civic Theatre (507 S. Third St. 98057). [Santa House](#) is open on Saturday, Dec. 4, 11, and 18, from 1 to 4 p.m. and on Sunday, Dec. 19, from 5 to 7 p.m. Have your holiday photo taken, and then download it for free.
- **K9 Candy Cane 5K Fun Run and Walk:** Sunday, Dec. 5, 9:15 a.m., [Renton Community Center](#) (1715 Maple Valley Hwy. 98057). All levels are invited. [Registration is \\$33 and closes at 3 p.m. on Dec. 4.](#)
- **Holiday Gift Drive:** Thursday, Dec. 9, 12:30-6:30 p.m., [Renton Community Center](#) (1715 Maple Valley Hwy. 98057). Drop off new unwrapped toys or clothes (jackets, hats, gloves, and socks). We will donate your gift to our local red cross or a group in partnership with them.

## In the news this week

A recap of news posted on the city's social media accounts. You can find us (@cityofrenton) on [Facebook](#), [Instagram](#), & [Twitter](#). Renton residents can also find us on [Nextdoor](#).

[City Council update](#)

[COVID-19 resources](#)

[Holiday Events](#)

[In-person services at city hall](#)

[Keep storm drains clear](#)

[Recreation programs](#) for December

[Renton History Museum: Life on the Rivers](#) exhibit

[Traffic Projects](#)

## Upcoming

**Mondays, 5:30-7:30 p.m., Free. Sustainable Renton** [drive-thru grocery store, St. Matthew's Lutheran Church.](#)

**Wednesdays, 6 p.m., Renton Live!** Online connection promoting business, non-profits, and activities within the Renton community. Find the weekly link on their [Renton Live Facebook page.](#)

**Daily, King County Libraries.** Resources and events. Filter by [event, program, and location.](#)