



This Week in Renton

Mayor Armando Pavone



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Willowcrest wins Governor's Award

Innovative townhome project in Sunset neighborhood is first of its kind in King County



Willowcrest wins Governor's Smart Communities Award

The Willowcrest Townhomes project in the Sunset neighborhood has been awarded a [Governor's Smart Communities Award](#) by the Washington State Department of Commerce. The award was presented during Monday's [city council meeting](#).

Willowcrest is the first permanently affordable multifamily homeownership project in King County that features net-zero energy construction. Each of its 12 units has heating and cooling systems that provide a 25% energy savings beyond the state's energy code. A high-efficiency heat pump water heater also reduces energy costs, and WaterSense low-flow fixtures provide water conservation. In addition, the homes provide permanent affordable housing for families making between 60 and 80% of the area median income.

The innovative project is a partnership between Homestead Community Land Trust (sponsor and developer), Renton Housing Authority (land donation), JP Morgan Chase (initial grant contribution), and the City of Renton (grant contribution).

Package safety tips

Online shopping continues to set records: 2.5 billion packages are estimated to be shipped this year including the end of the year bump due to holiday shopping. Packages left outside homes and offices are targets for thieves. So, if you're expecting package deliveries, [please use these tips](#) from Renton Police Department to protect them.

Safe Exchange Zone

Online transactions culminating in a face-to-face meeting are another way of getting that perfect gift. But often, these transactions can go wrong. If you need a safe place for such a meeting, use Renton Police Department's [Safe Exchange Zone](#) at city hall. The zone is just steps from the police station.

Winter preparation tips

In last week's TWIR, we highlighted [our Public Works Department Street Maintenance crew's](#) work to prepare for winter weather.

Our Emergency Management Division has winter prep tips for your home and vehicle this week.

At home:

- Prepare an [emergency kit](#) with non-perishable food, water, flashlight, extra batteries, medical supplies, extra clothes, and blankets.
- If your power is out, dress in layers and stay dry to stay warm. Call your utility to report the outage. [Puget Sound](#)

[Energy](#) and [Seattle City Light](#) have additional information on getting through a power outage. For food safety, avoid opening your refrigerator door unless necessary.

- If using a portable generator, keep it outdoors and at least 20 feet from windows, doors, or vents. Due to carbon monoxide poisoning risk, do not use a gas stove, oven, or a gas or charcoal barbeque to heat your home—[generator safety tips from Puget Sound Energy](#).
- To get the most current emergency instructions for your area, sign up for [ALERT Renton](#).

Driving in the snow:

- Stay home. Only go out if necessary.
- Drive slowly; accelerate and decelerate slowly.
- Increase your following distance to five to six seconds.
- Don't stop if you can avoid it.
- Don't accelerate or stop when going up hills.
- If you become stuck, do not abandon your car.

In your vehicle, you should have:

- Blankets, mittens, socks, and hats.
- Ice scraper and snow brush.
- Flashlight, plus extra batteries (or a hand-crank flashlight).
- Jumper cables.
- First-aid kit (band-aids, adhesive tape, antiseptic wipes, gauze pads, antiseptic cream, medical wrap).
- Bottled water.

Holiday Events

Holiday events on tap this weekend and next week:

- **Battle of the Badges, Holiday Light Edition:** Friday, Dec. 10, 6-7:30 p.m., [Renton Community Center](#) parking lot (1715 Maple Valley Hwy. 98057). Public safety personnel from around the region will decorate their safety vehicles or a 10'x10' tent in the holiday theme of their choice. The community can then drive through and vote for their favorite based on the creative use of lights, overall design, and holiday spirit.
- **Santa House:** Presented by [Renton Downtown Partnership](#) and [Renton Civic Theatre](#) (507 S. Third St. 98057). [Santa House](#) is open on Saturday, Dec. 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.
- **Renton's Holiday Lights:** Holiday lights are on display at [Gene Coulon Memorial Beach Park](#) (1201 Lake Washington Blvd. N. 98056), [Piazza Park](#), and downtown street light poles from 5 to 9 p.m. through Jan. 1, 2022.
- **It's A Wonderful Life:** [Renton Civic Theatre](#) (507 S. Third St.), Dec. 9-12 and Dec. 16-18. [Tickets](#).
- **The Nutcracker:** [Renton IKEA Performing Arts Center](#) (400 S. Second St.), Dec. 17, 18 (2 shows), and 19. [Tickets](#).

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](#).

[Blood Drive: Dec. 28 & 29](#)

[City Council update](#)

[COVID-19 resources](#)

[Holiday Events](#)

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

[Lunch Pop-Up: Dec. 14](#)

Photos: [K9 Candy Cane Fun Run and Walk](#)

[Renton History Museum](#)

[Traffic Projects](#)

Willowcrest Townhomes: [Governor's Smart Communities Award](#)

[Winter Weather Response](#)

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](#).