

**September 2015**

## **Maple Valley Sheriff's Precinct #3** by Peter Rimbos, Corresponding Secretary

On Monday, September 14, the Area Council held its regular monthly meeting. Guest speaker was King County Sheriff's Office Maple Valley Precinct #3 Commander Major Ron Griffin.

### **Award**

Recently retired Area Council member Les Dawson received a Commemorative Plaque for his 12 years of distinguished service to the community. Les held many positions during his Area Council career including Vice-Chairperson and Recording Secretary. He also served on the Growth Management and Natural Resources & Parks Committees, the latter which he chaired. Les' service is well appreciated by both his fellow Area Council members and the members of the Public he served.

### **Sheriff's Office**

King County recently reopened Sheriff's Precinct 3 located at 22300 SE 231st St in Maple Valley. Precinct Commander Major Ron Griffin, who has worked in every King County precinct over his 35-yr career, provided an overview of the precinct's responsibilities.

Precinct 3 covers ~700 sq mi with I-90 as its the northern boundary, the cities of Renton, Kent, and Auburn bordering the western side, the eastern boundary extending into the Mt. Baker-Snoqualmie National Forest, and the southern boundary the Pierce County line.

The cities of Covington, Maple Valley and Newcastle, and the Muckleshoot Tribal Police hold contracts for police services with the King County Sheriff's Office. Precinct 3 provides school resource officers to the Auburn, Issaquah, Renton, and Tahoma school districts and the Muckleshoot Tribal School.

In response to many questions the Major discussed a variety of local issues including traffic, noise, public safety, budget constraints, training, etc. Several questions were raised related to potential public safety issues for the proposed Marijuana Manufacturing and Processing Facilities for 200th Ave SE. Specifically, concerns were expressed related to the estimated 279 vehicle trips per day to be added by the proposed facilities to a rural neighborhood of ~50 homes along a narrow (necks down to an 18-ft width) dead-end road. The Major is familiar with the area and requested the Area Council send him the most up-to-date information for his review.

### **King County Comprehensive Plan (KCCP) Update**

A total of sixteen Docket Items were proposed by individuals, organizations, etc. by the June 30 deadline to be considered by King County for inclusion in the 2016 KCCP Update. The Area Council reviewed all sixteen and approved a set of Comments on two Docket Items to be submitted to the King County Executive's Office. Docket Item #15: "Eliminate KCCP policy T-224 which allows the purchase of Transfer of Development Rights to satisfy Transportation Concurrency requirements in the Rural Area." The Area Council is in complete agreement with this request and previously had recommended same in its continuing KCCP Update review.

Docket Item #16: "Extend public sewer service into the rural unincorporated area adjacent to the urban growth area to prevent waste water runoff into farmable land and to enable local niche business development." The Area Council strongly opposes this request. Such extension is in direct conflict with long-standing State, Regional, and County policies. The request provided no supporting rationale and no background information. The Area Council recommends this request be summarily rejected.

Citizens can submit comments to: [COMPPLAN@kingcounty.gov](mailto:COMPPLAN@kingcounty.gov); follow the Update:

<http://www.kingcounty.gov/depts/executive/psb/regional-planning/king-county-comprehensive-plan.aspx>; provide comments to the Area Council at its monthly meetings; and see details on the Update on the Area Council's web site: [www.greatermaplevalleyareacouncil.org](http://www.greatermaplevalleyareacouncil.org).

### **Annual Operating Model Train Show**

The 2015 Operating Model Train Show will be held this year on the weekend of October 17 and 18 at the Gracie Hansen Community Center, located at 27132 SE Ravensdale Way in Ravensdale. There will be operating model trains featuring many creative layouts in all gauges. Members of the Public can also bring their own trains to run on tracks that will be laid out. A future article will provide all the details.

## **Next Area Council Meeting**

The Area Council's next monthly meeting will be held on Monday, October 5, from 7:00 - 9:00 PM at the Fire Station on the southeast corner of the intersection of SE 231st St & SR-169. Meetings are held the first non-holiday Monday of each month.

A Public Comment period at the beginning of each meeting provides an opportunity to voice issues of concern to Area Council members and government officials in attendance.