

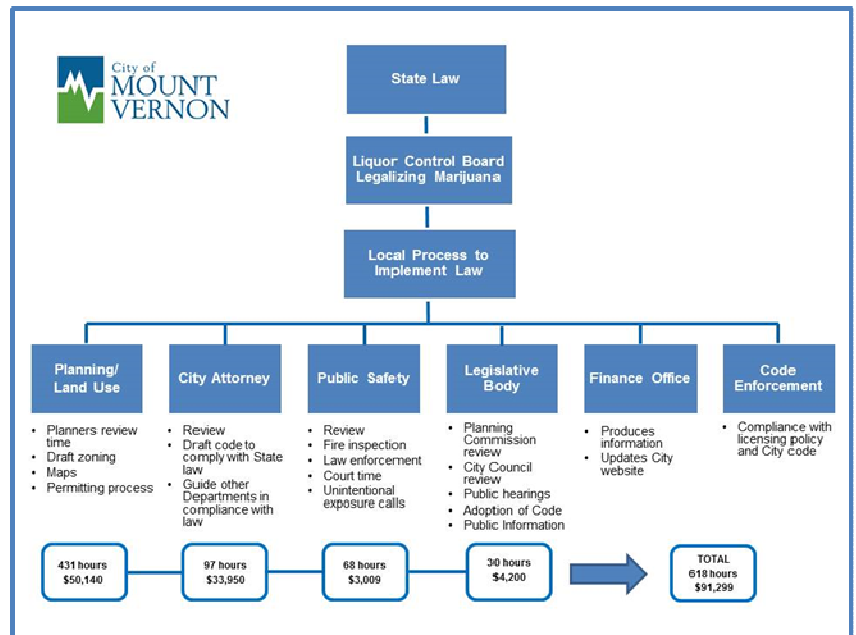
We provide professional, efficient services to create a lifetime positive difference for our Community.

2015 Legislative Session - City Advocacy

The Washington State Legislature is in session until April 26th this year, and as always, is extremely busy with proposed legislation and hearings right now. On December 17th the Mount Vernon City Council adopted a legislative agenda that was shared with our public. Mayor Boudreau and City Councilmembers Fiedler, Ragan, and Molenaar visited Olympia in February to meet with our elected representatives from the 10th and 40th Districts. We also attended sessions of the Association of Washington Cities legislative conference. The City's legislative priorities are posted on the City website under News and Announcements.

One of the priorities that has been at the forefront for the past few years is protecting shared revenue and ensuring our State representatives understand the close relationship with local governments.

This year our example involved the time/cost the City of Mount Vernon has dedicated to following the legalization of marijuana. The graphic to the right illustrates the process and work time from each City department. Our estimate is that the City spent just **over \$91,000 SO FAR in implementing this new law**, all without any sharing of marijuana tax revenue from the State. We have actively supported legislation to share a percentage of marijuana profits, similar to liquor revenue sharing.



The City has also made a State Capital Budget request for \$2 million to complete the funding of Phase 3 of the Waterfront Revitalization and Flood Protection Project.

Mayor's Coffee Hour

Friday, March 20, 3:00 - 4:00 pm
ACE Hardware
1420 Riverside Avenue

Saturday, March 28, 9:30 - 10:30 am
Mount Vernon Police/Court Campus
1805 Continental Place



Councilmembers Molenaar, Fiedler and Ragan at AWC City Action Days in Olympia

Skagit Valley Tulip Festival

April 1-30
www.tulipfestival.org

Library Spring Book Sale

April 17, 3pm - 6pm
April 18, 10am - 4pm
Fire Station 1, 901 S. 2nd Street
(directly behind the library at the corner of Broadway and 2nd Streets)

Come support the Friends of the Mount Vernon Library at their semi-annual book sale

Downtown Mount Vernon Street Fair

April 17-19
S. 1st Street
Fri & Sat 10am - 6pm
Sun 10am - 5pm

31st Annual Tulip Festival Street Fair, presented by the Mount Vernon Downtown Association. Hundreds of juried arts and crafts vendors, delicious food court offerings, live entertainment and fun for the whole family.

Kiwanis Salmon Barbecue

April 4-26, 11am - 7pm
Hillcrest Lodge, 1717 S. 13th Street

Wild Salmon barbecued over Alder, with baked potato, slaw, garlic bread & ice cream. Two serving sizes - \$10 or \$12.

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K-9 Luther Retires

After nine years of service, K-9 "Luther" has been retired from the Mount Vernon Police Department. The City acquired Luther in 2005 and he was a certified canine generalist.

During his career, Luther had over 1,500 hours of maintenance training, was deployed 1,136 times, was responsible for 301 arrests, made 200 evidence finds, and he was called out to 160 agency assists as well as numerous community demonstrations and presentations.

Luther is a valued contributor and is truly a Community Hero! Luther will get to enjoy his retirement with Officer Wright and family.



New Police Officer

Chris Carlson has been sworn in as Mount Vernon's newest police officer. Chris was hired on February 11, 2015. For the past year and a half he worked for the Skagit County Sheriff's Office as a Corrections Deputy. Chris attended Lindbergh High School in Renton and went on to attend Bellevue College and Western Washington University where he studied Business Marketing. Chris and his family live in Bellingham and he will attend the Basic Law Enforcement Academy in the coming months.



Winter Wellness Week a Success

THANK YOU for the wonderful participation in Winter Wellness Week! My favorite event was the "luminary" night – sponsored by TriDee Arts, The Mount Vernon Downtown Association, Ristretto and artist Richelle Potter.

About 175 people participated in a magical winter evening walk on the Waterfront with our luminaires! Beautiful birds, suns, jellyfish, and decorated bags illuminated the night. Look for more luminary events this year!

