

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

## Proposition 1 Ballot Measure

This November, the citizens of the City of Mount Vernon will decide how to address a dilemma that is increasing in magnitude. Funding for our weakening transportation infrastructure has been inadequate in recent years. As we move forward, out of the economic downturn, we have to face the reality of what deferred maintenance has meant for the 274 lane miles of streets, the 150 miles of sidewalks, 12 bridges, 31 traffic signals and 5,000 signs that the City has to care for.

Deferring these maintenance needs has caught up with us, and it is time to make a decision. The City is unable to even maintain the transportation assets that it currently has, let alone to make improvements that are necessary for continued growth.

The Mount Vernon City Council has provided citizens with an opportunity to decide how we turn away from this trend of deferring maintenance, and on to what we like to call "future funding."

Proposition 1 is a ballot measure to increase local sales and use tax within Mount Vernon city limits by .2%. That would equate to two pennies on a \$10 purchase. Doesn't seem like much, but the result would generate approximately \$1.3 million, annually; 100% of which would be restricted to our transportation system, allowing the City to eventually catch-up on its deferred maintenance, as well as build for future growth. Should Prop 1 pass this November, it would go into effect on April 1st of 2017, and then expire after 10 years, allowing the voters to again assess whether there remains an urgent need for this funding.

More information can be found by clicking the "Proposition 1" button on our homepage at: <http://www.mountvernonwa.gov/>



## Police K9 Vektor

Vektor, a 4 year old German Shepherd, has worked Mount Vernon streets since May 2015 as a "generalist patrol dog," meaning he was used mainly to locate suspects and evidence.

Now, Vektor is fully trained and deploying as a "dual purpose" K9, which means he is also trained and deploying for narcotics detection, making him the City's first narcotics detection K9. He is already enjoying success in sniffing out illegal drugs and has helped officers obtain multiple search warrants by alerting to the presence of the odor of illegal narcotics. In only a short time he has been used extensively and has been responsible for locating drugs and money officers would otherwise have missed (including that seen in the photo at right). Vektor loves both jobs, and is extremely enthusiastic about his work!



### City of Mount Vernon Veterans Recognition Ceremony

Saturday, November 12  
St. Joseph Center - 215 N. 15th Street

1pm: Complimentary lunch for Veterans & their families  
2pm: Special Program with Color Guard, Guest Speakers, Music, and Recognition of all Veterans in attendance.



Swearing in (and welcoming back) Police Officer Jerrad Ely on September 19th

## Mayor's Coffee Hour

Friday, October 28  
10:00 - 11:00am

Mount Vernon City Hall  
910 Cleveland Avenue  
2nd Floor Conference Room

## Downtown Trick-or-Treat & Costume Contest

Monday, October 31  
3 - 5pm

1st Street, Downtown Mount Vernon

Skagit County residents are invited to participate in a safe trick-or-treating event on 1st Street. At 5pm, kids are also invited to join in the annual costume contest at the Lincoln Theatre. Prizes will be awarded in age categories 0-4, 5-8, 9+, and Young at Heart (18+).

## City Council Meetings

Police/Court Campus  
1908 Continental Place

Regular Council Meetings are held on the 2nd and 4th Wednesdays of each month and Study Sessions take place on 1st and 3rd Wednesdays at 7pm.

The public is invited to address City Council on non-agenda items at the beginning of each meeting.

**Mayor Jill Boudreau**  
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## Sanitary & Storm Sewer Lining Project

In the next few weeks Michels Corporation of Salem, Oregon will begin restoring 1.5 miles of sewer and storm drain pipe throughout the City.

For the last 8 years the City has been restoring the sewer system using a trenchless rehabilitation process called cured in place pipe (CIPP) system.

The process includes installation of a resin saturated fiberglass cloth that is pulled into the existing pipe. The resin is then cured using either hot water or pressurized steam to form a tight fitting replacement pipe. Pipe restoration reduces ground water infiltration, prevents roots intrusion, and restores the pipe structure.

One of the greatest advantages to the public is that a pipe can be restored without requiring excavation of the roadway, which reduces traffic delay.



## Winter Coat Drive

With temperatures already hitting the 40s at night, the need for a warm winter coat has arrived. Many families in our community turn to Community Action of Skagit County to fill this need as financial hardships still abound.

For the past five years the Mount Vernon Police Department has partnered with Community Action to organize an annual Coat Drive. This year Skagit Rotary Club will also be a partner on this project.



This year's goal is to collect 3,000 new (or gently used) fleece, down, or waterproof winter jackets for all ages. The drive will run from **October 1 - November 30** and all donated coats will go to Community Action to be distributed in November and December for protection during our coldest months. You can find drop off bins at the Police Department and City Hall, or visit [www.mountvernonwa.gov](http://www.mountvernonwa.gov) to view the complete list of drop off locations throughout the community.

## Thank You, Skagit 911 Dispatchers

Have you ever answered a frantic phone call from a loved one? Experienced the initial confusion that comes with emotional voices on the other end of the line? That glimpse of intensity is why I'd like to thank Skagit 911 staff.

In any given year, these 41.5 first responder dispatchers answer on average 25,000 calls per month. The service they provide is invaluable, and never has their skill and expertise been more apparent than during the Cascade Mall tragedy, when they handled 675 difficult and emotional calls and coordinated responses of all the agencies involved. Thank you to all our 911 dispatchers for the tremendous job they do.

