

Pete von Reichbauer
King County Councilmember

District 7 Spring 2021 Update



Dear Friends:

As we begin to see the light at the end of the COVID-19 tunnel exactly a year after this pandemic hit our region, I cannot express enough sympathy to those who have lost their loved ones, as well as my gratitude to the frontline workers who have sacrificed and served their community throughout the pandemic.

King County remains hard at work to prevent the spread of COVID-19 as we begin to enter the recovery phase. I hope you take a moment to see some of the highlights of the first few months of 2021, particularly the recent events in South King County.

King County COVID-19 Data Dashboards



Daily
Summary
Dashboard



Key Indicators
of COVID-19
activity



COVID
vaccination
among King
County
residents



COVID-19
Outbreaks
Tables



Economic,
Social and
Overall Health
Impacts



Race/Ethnicity
Dashboard



Long Term
Care Facility



Syndromic
Surveillance



Case
investigation
and contact
tracing



Homelessness
Dashboard

COVID-19 Vaccine

Eligible for Phase 1A:

All workers at risk of acquisition or transmission of COVID-19 in healthcare settings; long-term care facility staff and residents; and home health and care aides.

Eligible for Phase 1B1:

- Age 65 years and older
- Age 50 years and older if they live in a household where two or more generations live (e.g. an elder and a grandchild), and meet these qualifications:
 - Cannot live independently and receive support from a relative or caregiver (paid or unpaid) or someone who works outside the home.
 - Lives with and cares for a young child (e.g. a grandparent with a grandchild).
- PreK-12 educators and school staff
- Childcare workers, including:
 - Licensed family home childcare providers, and family members living in their home.
 - License-exempt family, friends, and neighbor providers that accept Working Connections Child Care subsidy. These in-home providers can serve up to 6 children.
 - ECEAP, Washington's state-funded preschool providers. This is similar to the national Head Start program.
 - License-exempt school-age and youth development providers who have been providing care to school-age children since the pandemic began and schools were closed and moved to online or hybrid teaching.

Eligible for Phase 1B2:

- People 16 years or older who are pregnant or have a disability that puts them at high risk for severe COVID-19 illness
- High-risk critical workers* in the following industries will be eligible for COVID-19 vaccine:
 - Agriculture, fishing vessel crews, food processing, grocery store/food bank, corrections (detention centers, jails, prisons), court of law, public transit, and all remaining first responders.

**Work in an enclosed space around other people and cannot maintain physical distance*

Eligible for Phase 1B3 and 1B4 (Effective March 31st):

- People with two or more comorbidities*
- People age 60-64 years
- Other critical workers in congregate settings (restaurants and food service workers, manufacturing, construction)
- People living in congregate settings (correctional facilities, group homes for those with disabilities, those experiencing homelessness, etc.)

For more information, visit www.kingcounty.gov/covid/vaccine.

How to Get Vaccinated

Phase Finder and Vaccine Locator

To assess your eligibility to receive COVID-19 vaccine, please visit the Washington Department of Health [Phase Finder web form](#). To find COVID-19 vaccine appointments, visit [Vaccine Locator](#).

For Eligible South King County Residents:

While vaccine supplies are very limited, Public Health is ensuring equitable access for eligible South King County residents who live in areas with the most COVID-19 cases. King County is providing high-volume vaccination sites with two locations in Auburn and Kent. [Register here](#).

Auburn

Auburn Outlet Collection

1101 Outlet Collection Way, Auburn, WA 98001

Park, walk, or arrive by transit

Monday - Saturday | 8:30 AM - 5:30 PM

By appointment only

Kent

Kent Accesso ShoWare Center

625 W James St., Kent, WA 98032

Park, walk, or arrive by transit

Monday - Saturday | 8:30 AM - 5:30 PM

By appointment only

For K-12 School Employees

The Washington Office of Superintendent of Public Instruction (OSPI) has [information for how K-12 school employees \(teachers and staff\) can schedule vaccine appointments here](#).

For Veterans

Veterans Affairs (VA) Puget Sound is offering vaccines to veterans at its clinics in Silverlake, Seattle, American Lake, and Mount Vernon. All ages are eligible, and appointments are required (no walk-in vaccines). For more information, call 1-800-698-2411 and press 8 for COVID information or visit www.va.gov/health-care/covid-19-vaccine and [VA Coronavirus Vaccine FAQs](#).

Register By Phone

Call King County Public Health Call Center at (206) 477-3977 or Washington COVID-19 Assistance Hotline at 1-800-525-0127, then press #.

Free COVID-19 Testing

Public Health – Seattle & King County urges anyone with mild COVID-19 symptoms or who has been in close contact with someone ill with COVID-19, to contact a healthcare provider to discuss testing. There are several [no-cost testing sites](#) in King County that are open to anyone who cannot access COVID-19 testing through their regular health care provider. For more information please visit the [interactive map](#) or call the King County COVID-19 Call Center (open 7 days a week, 8 AM – 7 PM), at 206-477-3977.

Auburn

Public Health – Seattle and King County

Auburn Drive-thru, GSA Complex
2701 C St. SW, Auburn, WA 98001
Monday - Saturday 9:30AM – 5:30PM
206-477-3977 | [Make an appointment online](#)

Federal Way

Federal Way Weyerhaeuser Aquatic Center

650 SW Campus Dr, Federal Way, WA 98023
Monday to Saturday 9:30 AM – 5:30 PM
<https://www.chifranciscan.org/freetesting>

SeaMar Community Health Center

31405 18th Ave S, Federal Way, WA 98003
Tuesdays 12:00 PM - 4:00 PM
253-681-6600

Kent/Des Moines

Highline College (South Parking Lot)

2402 S 240th St, Des Moines, WA 98198
Monday to Saturday 9:30 AM – 5:30 PM
[Make an appointment online](#)

SeaMar Community Health Center

233 2nd Ave S, Kent, WA 98032
Mondays 9:00 AM - 1:00 PM
206-436-6380

By mail (SCAN)

The Greater Seattle Coronavirus Assessment Network (SCAN) study is working to understand how COVID-19 is spreading throughout King County, and offers free, confidential, at-home tests. Enroll at scanpublichealth.org/screener.

Seattle Sports Commission Grant

Congratulations to the Seattle Sports Commission for receiving a \$50,000 grant from King County for event bidding such as national, NCAA and Pac-12 championships. I was joined by Seattle Sports Commission President Beth Knox to discuss how the sports commission will utilize the grant to host these events and generate jobs in the hotel and restaurant industry in South King County.



With Beth Knox, Seattle Sports Commission President, at the King County Weyerhaeuser Aquatic Center in Federal Way

Partnering with the Auburn Food Bank to Fight Food Insecurity

Although the impacts of the COVID-19 pandemic have added to the challenges that the Auburn Food Bank is already facing, Executive Director Debbie Christian refuses to give up and carries on with courage and commitment to continue helping her neighbors.

King County has partnered with food banks across the region to fight food insecurity throughout the pandemic and I was pleased to present a \$20,000 grant from King County to the Auburn Food Bank.



With Karen Thordarson-Hassen and Debbie Christian at the Auburn Food Bank, who is wearing a transparent face shield

Supporting Mental Health Programs at the Ukrainian Community Center of WA

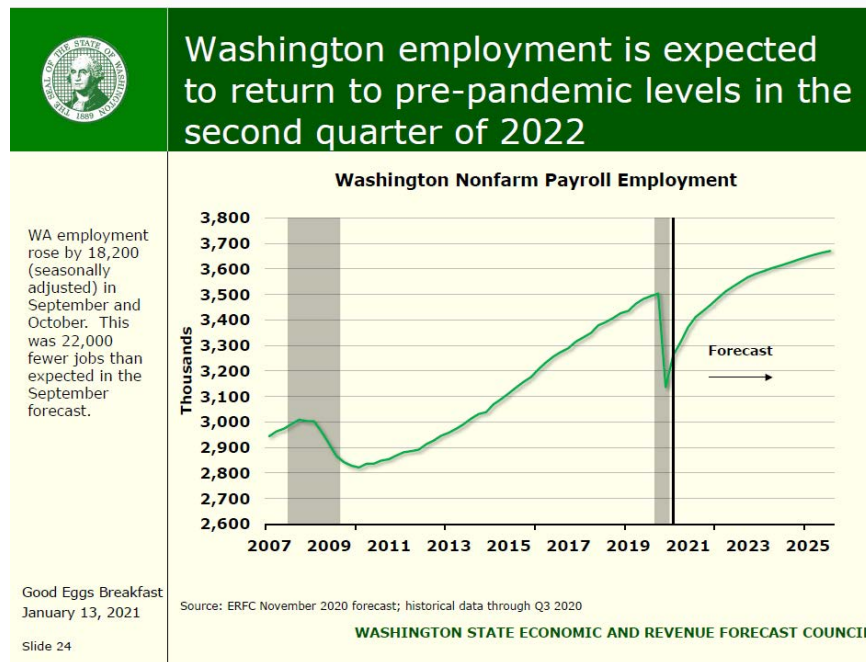
I appreciated the opportunity to meet with Ukraine Consul General Dmytro Kushneruk, Honorary Consul Valeriy Goloborodko, Bishop Viktor Prokhor and Ukrainian Community Center Deputy Director Iryna Pylypchuk to present a \$20,000 grant from King County to assist with mental health programs and services provided at the Ukrainian Community Center of Washington. The unprecedented challenges brought by the COVID-19 pandemic have overwhelmed many in our community and these programs and services are critical to those struggling during this difficult situation.



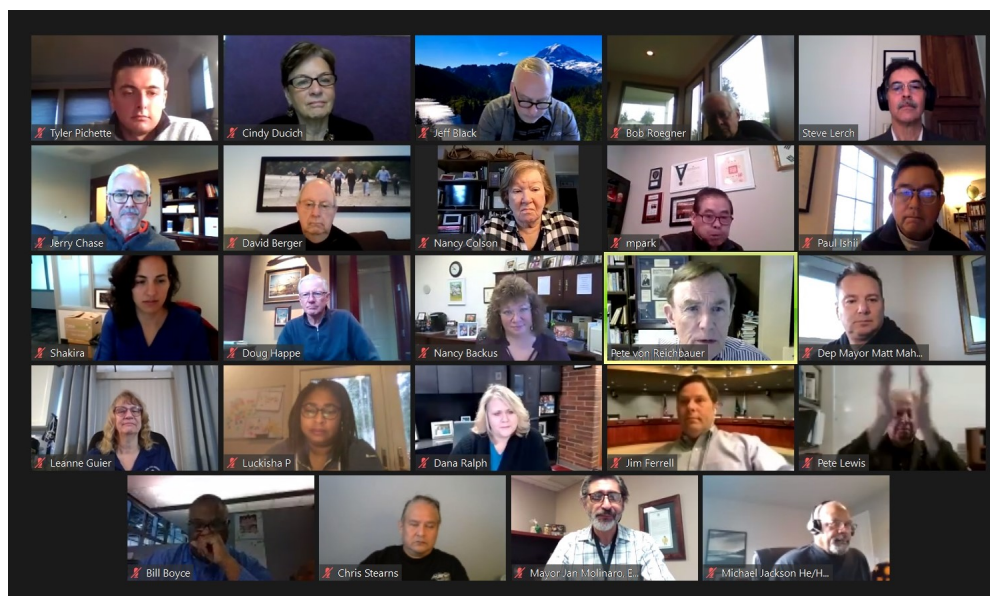
With Honorary Consul of Ukraine Valeriy Goloborodko, Bishop Viktor Prokhor, Ukrainian Community Center Deputy Director Iryna Pylypchuk, and Consul General of Ukraine Dmytro Kushneruk

Regional Economic Outlook Discussed at Virtual “Good Eggs”

On January 13th, I was joined by Chief Economist and Executive Director Stephen Lerch from the Washington State Economic and Revenue Forecast Council for a virtual Good Eggs meeting. We discussed how COVID-19 has impacted state revenue, our region’s continued recovery, and the economic outlook forecast for the years following this pandemic.



While we still have further to go, the news regarding vaccines gives us hope that we will recover faster and stronger than expected. You may watch the recorded version of the meeting on my [Facebook page](#).



With South King County community leaders

Federal Way Community Center Childcare Program Grant

Congratulations to the Federal Way Community Center for receiving a \$20,000 grant from King County to help support its childcare program. I recently met with Recreation Manager Cody Geddes to discuss the importance of this program, which provides a fun and safe environment for children to play while their parents work out at the center.



*With Federal Way Community Center Recreation
Manager Cody Geddes*

Meeting with Auburn Mayor Nancy Backus in "New" Outdoor Office

With the King County Courthouse and Auburn City Hall restricted, it was great to get outside during a sun break and share ideas of county/city cooperation with Auburn Mayor Nancy Backus on the suspension bridge between Isaac Evans and Dykstra Parks.



With Auburn Mayor Nancy Backus

Federal Way Transit Projects Update

In January, I met with Federal Way Mayor Jim Ferrell to check on the future location of the Federal Way Link Light Rail and discuss the updated Federal Way Transit Center that would include not only the light rail station, but also additional bus facilities and more parking to be added via an extension to the existing garage.

At the Federal Way Transit Center, clearing work was completed last fall to prepare the site for construction activities in the coming months. As of this visit, over 170,000 labor hours have been expended on the Federal Way Link Extension project, which is approximately 820 jobs for members of our community. Additionally, Sound Transit launched its "Loyal to the Local" program in early February to provide opportunities to support Federal Way businesses directly impacted by the construction. For more information on the Federal Way Link Extension and to sign up for project updates, visit www.soundtransit.org/fwlink



With Federal Way Mayor Jim Ferrell looking over the future site of the Federal Way Link Light Rail Station from the Federal Way Transit Center parking structure

New Vaccination Site Opens in Auburn

On February 1st, we opened the new vaccination site in Auburn. Congratulations to Auburn Mayor Nancy Backus and King County Executive Dow Constantine for bringing together federal, state, and local governments to open this needed site at the General Services Administration Complex in Auburn. The decision to locate this site in Auburn is data driven. We are in Auburn because when it comes to COVID-19, South King County is the belly of the beast. If we want to conquer this virus we must start here. This site will help us reach the end zone in our fight to defeat this virus. You can view my remarks at [this link](#).

**As of March 29th, this location has moved to the Auburn Outlet Collection located at 1101 Outlet Collection Way, Auburn, WA 98001*



**Auburn General Services
Administration Complex (GSA)**
Drive-through Site
2701 C St SW, Auburn, WA 98001
Open Monday through Saturday
From 8:30 AM to 5:30 PM



With Auburn Mayor Nancy Backus and King County Executive Dow Constantine at the opening of the General Services Administration Complex vaccination site in Auburn

Judge Moi Masaniai Appointed to King County District Court

I was proud to sponsor his nomination and enjoyed meeting with our newest King County District Court Judge, Federal Way resident Fa'amomoi Masaniai (Moi), at a local Panera Bread. Moi's life story is one of determination, from walking onto the WSU football team to pursuing his legal education through the state's Rule 6 program. I was equally happy that his proud father (Chief Pulesa Masaniai) was able to join us. Congratulations, Moi, on being the first Samoan Judge to serve on the bench of a court in Washington state!



With Judge Moi Masaniai and his father, Chief Pulesa Masaniai

Service Industry Gets Long Awaited Relief as We Return Safely to "In-Person" Dining

Over the last several months, I have visited many local South King County "takeout" restaurants and am now enjoying supporting "dine-in" restaurants because of the number of service jobs at stake. On February 9th, I met with longtime friend and Red Robin founder Gerry Kingen of Salty's about the hospitality industry in Seattle. Salty's has been a mainstay in the Redondo Beach area and I'm looking forward to visiting them again for dinner indoors--great servers, great food!



Eating lunch outside on the deck with Gerry Kingen

Virtual "Good Eggs" Community Forum with King County Executive Dow Constantine

On February 24th, South King County community leaders had the opportunity to hear from King County Executive Dow Constantine at a virtual Good Eggs meeting. Dow took questions on a number of issues, from COVID-19 vaccinations to homeless housing and the region's evolving transit needs. The only way to solve local problems is by coming together. You can watch the recorded version of the meeting on my [Facebook page](#).



With King County Executive Dow Constantine



With South King County community leaders

It's That Time of Year!



Put the diet on hold and support a great cause. The Girl Scouts movement was started to prepare "girls to meet the world with courage, confidence, and character." In 1917, cookies slipped into the formula. Buy the cookies, share the cookies!

King County Grant Aims to Help Students Succeed During Virtual Learning

Although business as usual includes masks and social distancing, we are still able to support our school districts. I met with Principal Adrienne Chacon to discuss a \$20,000 grant that I was able to secure for Thomas Jefferson High School, which loaned students virtual learning resources such as iPads, headphones, wi-fi extenders, blue light glasses, webcams and more.



With Thomas Jefferson High School Principal Adrienne Chacon



Funding Secured to Maintain and Improve Bingaman Pond Natural Area

On March 1st, I met with King County Director of Parks Warren Jimenez at Bingaman Pond Natural Area. As new houses and apartments are built in South King County, it is important for people of all ages to have a place of solace and relief. We discussed how the \$50,000 I secured in King County funding will be used for maintenance and improvements.



King County Director of Parks Warren Jimenez and me at Bingaman Pond in South King County

PAEC Receives Funding for Operations and Cultural Program Expansion

The Federal Way Performing Arts and Event Center (PAEC) has been a place to enjoy and learn about the arts. I recently met with the Chair of the PAEC Foundation, Mary Gates, and PAEC General Manager Brian Hoffman to discuss how \$25,000 in King County funding will be used to maintain operations and expand cultural programs. As our region starts to reopen, I am looking forward to small and large shows in 2021 at the PAEC.



With Mary Gates and Brian Hoffman at PAEC in Federal Way

Spring Plan for Local Student Athletes

People may argue whether sports teaches or shows character, but I know that school sports and activities play an important role in developing our future leaders. What our student athletes gain from participating in these programs goes far beyond just wins and losses. Coach Joseph Townsend, who coaches the boy's baseball and girl's bowling teams at Thomas Jefferson High School, is someone who mentors and leads by example. Recently, I had the chance to catch up with Coach Townsend to discuss the upcoming opportunities for our local student athletes to get back to competition.



With baseball and bowling Coach Townsend at Thomas Jefferson High School

Councilmember Pete von Reichbauer

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