

Pete von Reichbauer
King County Councilmember



District 7 Summer 2026 Update



The background features a close-up of the American flag's stars and stripes, overlaid with a semi-transparent image of the United States Constitution. The date "JULY 4, 1776" is clearly visible on the document.

250
Years

Happy
Independence
Day

Land of the free • Home of the brave

Freedom is not free.



Dear Friends,

Happy Summer and Happy 250th Independence Day!

As we mark the 250th anniversary of our nation's independence, with the excitement of the World Cup still building across our region, a point I often make is as clear as ever: sports brings people together. Sports also creates jobs, spurs our economic recovery, advances regional priorities, improves transportation, and builds the kind of collaboration our region depends on. If these past months have reminded me of anything, it is that our greatest strength is our people, and that there is no substitute for sitting down together, listening, and learning.

Please take a moment to review some highlights from the second quarter of this year.

With best wishes,

A blue ink handwritten signature of Pete von Reichbauer.

Pete von Reichbauer
King County Councilmember



King County Emergency Preparedness Guide

Emergencies can happen at any time, often without warning, and their impact can be reduced with the right preparation. This Emergency Preparedness Guide is designed to help individuals, families, and communities take practical steps to stay safe before, during, and after a crisis. From natural disasters to unexpected disruptions, being prepared means knowing what to do, having essential supplies ready, and staying informed. By planning ahead, you can protect yourself, support others, and respond with confidence when it matters most.

Read the [Emergency Preparedness Guide](#) compiled by my office.

Senior Property Tax Town Hall

Please join me and King County Deputy Assessor Al Dams on Thursday, July 16, from 4 to 6 p.m. at KO-AM TV (32008 32nd Ave S) in Federal Way for a Senior Property Tax Town Hall. This is a great opportunity to ask questions and seek assistance regarding property taxes and tax relief programs, especially for seniors and persons with disabilities.

SENIOR PROPERTY TAX TOWN HALL

Join the discussion and Q&A about available property tax relief & deferral programs for eligible senior citizens, persons with disabilities, and disabled veterans



WITH
AL DAMS

KING COUNTY DEPUTY ASSESSOR



FOR MORE INFORMATION

206-477-1007

JULY 16 2026

4:00 PM to 6:00 PM

KO-AM TV
32008 32ND AVE S,
FEDERAL WAY, WA 98001

King County WaterWorks Grant Program

The WaterWorks Grant Program offers about \$6 million biennially for water quality improvement projects in King County's wastewater service area. There are two application tracks: the competitive track and the council-allocated track, both with the same eligibility and reporting requirements but differing review processes. Applications for the council-allocated track for District 7 are open from June 15 to July 20, 2026.

For additional information, please visit the [WaterWorks Grant Program website](#).

**WaterWorks
Grant Program**
KING COUNTY DISTRICT 7

Do you have an idea for a project to improve water quality in King County District 7?

Apply for grant funding! Applications will be live June 15 – July 20, 2026.

EMAIL PETE.VONREICHBAUER@KINGCOUNTY.GOV FOR INFO

The graphic features a dark blue circular background with white text, set against a background of rippling water. The text is centered and reads: 'WaterWorks Grant Program KING COUNTY DISTRICT 7'. Below this, it asks 'Do you have an idea for a project to improve water quality in King County District 7?' and 'Apply for grant funding! Applications will be live June 15 – July 20, 2026.' At the bottom, it says 'EMAIL PETE.VONREICHBAUER@KINGCOUNTY.GOV FOR INFO'.

Annual Shredding Event

It's that time of year again to get ready for our live shredding event! Gather your old bank records, letters, and documents for Saturday, August 8, from 8 a.m. to 11 a.m. Key Works (previously known as Seadrunar) will have a mobile shredding unit in the parking lot of the Federal Way Performing Arts and Event Center. Attendees will have the opportunity to see their documents shredded right on-site.

A promotional poster for a shredding event. The background is a pile of shredded paper. At the top, the word "CONFIDENTIAL" is written in large, bold, black letters. Below this, there's a green banner with "FREE MOBILE" in white. A large orange shield contains the text "SATURDAY AUG 8 2026" in white. To the right of the shield, a blue banner says "SHREDDING EVENT" in white. Below the blue banner, a light green box contains a list of items to be shredded, each preceded by a green checkmark: "OLD BANK RECORDS", "OLD LETTERS", "OLD CREDIT CARD REPORTS", and "CORRESPONDENCE WITH SENSITIVE INFORMATION".

8:00 AM - 11:00 AM

PERFORMING ARTS AND EVENT CENTER

**31510 PETE VON REICHBAUER WAY S
FEDERAL WAY, WA, 98003**



Note: Commercial or for-profit shredding is not permitted. Individuals or businesses attempting to shred documents for customers for a fee will be strictly prohibited. For questions, please call 206-477-1007.

King County Proclamations & Recognitions

Rainier Beach Vikings Boys Basketball Team

On April 7, King County recognized the Rainier Beach High School Boys Basketball Team for winning their 11th Class 3A Washington State Championship on March 7.

This victory is the 10th under Coach Mike Bethea, with key wins against O’Dea, Bellarmine Prep, and Lincoln. The team finished the season with an impressive record of 29 wins and one loss, achieving a 97% winning percentage.



With King County Executive Girmay Zahilay, King County Council colleagues, Coach Mike Bethea, and the Washington State Champion 2026 Rainier Beach High School Boys Basketball Team

Vaisakhi Day

Vaisakhi Day marks the 1699 founding of the Khalsa by Guru Gobind Singh and serves as a significant celebration for the more than 50,000 Sikhs residing in King County, including those at the Khalsa Gurmat Center in Federal Way.

King County Councilmember Steffanie Fain and I co-sponsored a proclamation honoring this important holiday. Thank you to Kent Councilmember Satwinder Kaur, as well as David Malik, Vijay Beniwal, Kuldip Singh, Jaskaran Singh Sarao, and the Sikh community members who were present to receive this proclamation.



With King County Councilmembers Rhonda Lewis, Teresa Mosqueda, Rod Dembowski, Jorge Barón, Steffanie Fain, Sarah Perry, Reagan Dunn and Claudia Balducci, Kent Councilmember Satwinder Kaur, David Malik, Vijay Beniwal, Kuldip Singh, Jaskaran Singh Sarao, and Sikh community members

51st Anniversary of the Khmer Rouge Genocide & Sexual Assault Awareness and Prevention Month

The King County Council recognized April 14, 2026, as the 51st Anniversary of the Khmer Rouge Genocide. Additionally, the Council proclaimed April 2026 as Sexual Assault Awareness and Prevention Month. This initiative honors community members and encourages collective action to prevent sexual violence and supports Khmer Americans in their efforts to rebuild their lives and preserve their cultural identity.



With King County Council colleagues Rhonda Lewis, Teresa Mosqueda, Rod Dembowski, Jorge Barón, Sarah Perry, Claudia Balducci, and Steffanie Fain, along with community leaders and members

AANHPI Heritage Month

The King County Council proclaimed May 2026 as Asian American and Native Hawaiian/Pacific Islander Heritage Month. This proclamation honors the achievements and legacies of these communities and invites all residents to engage in learning from and celebrating alongside our Asian American and Native Hawaiian/Pacific Islander neighbors and community members.



With King County Councilmembers Jorge Barón, Rhonda Lewis, Steffanie Fain, Rod Dembowski, and Sarah Perry, as well as members of the AANHPI community

Your Money Matters

How do you get young individuals in South King County to understand the finances of life and build better money habits? Thanks to Clinton Taylor, we have a valuable mentorship opportunity through Your Money Matters! I had the pleasure of joining its annual fundraiser at Junior Achievement of Washington in Auburn. Thanks to KD Hall for her inspiring remarks.



With Auburn Mayor Nancy Backus, Councilmembers Tracy Taylor-Turner, Hanan Amer, and Clinton Taylor, KD Hall, and young community members

Carpinito Brothers Farm Tour

As summer arrives and the valley comes alive with blooming flowers and produce, residents, local businesses, and farmers in South King County, including Mike Carpinito, continue to face the impacts of the December 2025 flood event.



Recently, my fellow King County Councilmember and Flood Control District Supervisor, Steffanie Fain, and I had the chance to visit Mike Carpinito and the facilities affected by the flooding. Together with King County Control District Deputy Director, Steven Schauer, we engaged in meaningful discussions about flood preparedness, recovery efforts, and prevention strategies.

In Memoriam

Jim Whittaker

On May 1, 1963, Jim Whittaker made history as the first American to reach the summit of Mt. Everest, and on July 14, 1980, I achieved a personal milestone by becoming the first von Reichbauer to summit Mt. Rainier, thanks to Jim’s nephew, Win Whittaker. The recent passing of Jim (and his twin brother Lou in 2024) marks the passing of the founders of America’s first family of mountaineering. All Class! “Because it’s there.”

IN MEMORIAM *Jim Whittaker*



Government Accountability & Oversight Committee Discusses Inspector General Legislation

Fraud is crushing on two levels: for taxpayers who trusted that programs they paid for would help those in need, and for those in need who trusted resources would reach them. In response to ongoing fraud allegations against Department of Community and Human Services (DCHS) grantees, I co-sponsored legislation to establish an Inspector General Division within the Office of Public Complaints and Tax Advisor.

On May 12, the Government Accountability & Oversight (GAO) committee discussed this proposed legislation, which seeks to improve fraud prevention and oversight of DCHS grants, following an audit that revealed oversight failures. It will investigate financial fraud, issue subpoenas, and recover misspent funds under an appointed Inspector General Director. Additionally, a centralized King County Fraud Hotline will be created for reporting suspected fraud, and the legislation will clarify fraud definitions while aligning county practices with federal standards.



GOVERNMENT ACCOUNTABILITY AND OVERSIGHT COMMITTEE

05/12/26

Ordinance 2026-0101: Relating to the prevention, detection, and response to fraud, waste, and abuse of county-administered moneys & creating an inspector general division

kingcounty.gov/council

This is just the first step on our road to restoring trust and accountability across all local public programs. [Click here to watch the meeting.](#)

White River Tour

Whether it's an "Atmospheric River" or a storm, the December floods are still having an impact on the city of Pacific. King County Executive Girmay Zahilay and I met with Pacific Mayor Vic Kave to discuss recovery efforts after touring the persistent flood damage along the White River. Mayor Kave shared a thoughtful history of the river's growth. The residents of Pacific showed great strength during and after the longest-lasting storm in Puget Sound history.

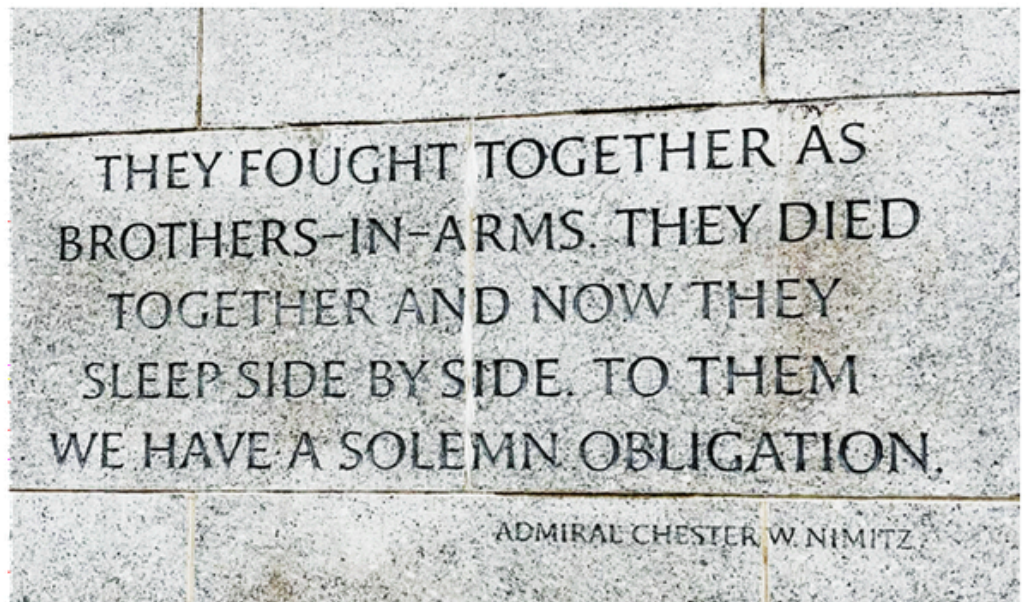
While it is essential to have a collective effort among federal, state, and local governments, it is also reassuring that King County, with a population of 2.4 million, has a leader who goes out to listen. Girmay's father, Hadish, and I had the perfect opportunity to take a photo in front of the Senior Center alongside the 39-year-old county executive!



With King County Executive Girmay Zahilay, his father Hadish, and Pacific Mayor Vic Kave

Memorial Day

Memorial Day is a National Day of Honoring those who served, but on my visits to Washington, D.C., I am drawn to the Vietnam Wall, specifically to the name of a grade school friend who was offered Officer Candidate School (OCS,) but went in as a patriotic private. He got married shortly before his tour but never returned home and never had the opportunity to hold his child. Freedom has never been free. Thank you EVERY day to those who served, and my appreciation and prayers to their families.



“Good Eggs” Breakfast with Pierce County Executive Ryan Mello

Public issues do not recognize borders, so it is important that we work regionally across city and county lines to address challenges such as homelessness, transportation, law enforcement, and other public issues. In light of this, I invited Pierce County Executive Ryan Mello to be our speaker at the May “Good Eggs” breakfast meeting at Emerald Downs, alongside local leaders from South King County. TOGETHER, we can!!



With Federal Way Mayor Jim Ferrell, Renton Mayor Armondo Pavone, Muckleshoot Tribal Council Vice Chair John Daniels Jr., Auburn Mayor Nancy Backus, and Pierce County Executive Ryan Mello

2026 Martin Luther King Jr. Medal of Distinguished Service Award

Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. often asked the question, “What are you doing for others?” Each year since 2016, King County Councilmembers take the opportunity to recognize community members who exemplify this spirit through exceptional and selfless service. This year's award recipients for District 7 are Ken and Jesse Johnson.

Congratulations



KEN & JESSE JOHNSON

Ken and Jesse Johnson have responded to Dr. King’s question by dedicating themselves to advocating for high school pre-apprenticeship trades programs in the Federal Way School District, which is giving students access to family-wage jobs.

Ken Johnson, the seventh of 13 siblings from Kirkland, Washington, learned hard work in his family's landscaping and scrap metal business. After graduating from Interlake High School in 1978 and attending Bellevue Community College, he began his career as an apprentice painter in 1979, progressing to various roles at Washington Commercial Painters, including foreman and operations manager, until June 2022. Ken contributed to the Construction Industry Training Council (CITC) Apprenticeship Program and founded Transformers Painting and Pressure Washing LLC, employing three of his children.

Former State Representative Jesse Johnson, the eldest of Ken and Lucrecia Johnson, grew up in Federal Way and was student body president at Federal Way High School. He earned a bachelor’s degree in political science and a master’s in education from the University of Washington. At 27, he became the youngest Federal Way City Councilmember and later the youngest Washington State Legislator. Currently, he is the Director of Outreach and Community Engagement for the Office of the State Treasurer. Inspired by his family's experiences with skilled trades, he started a pre-apprenticeship program in the Federal Way School District to help the youth gain early exposure to trades. Jesse is married to Epiphany, a Family Medicine doctor, and they have two sons, Elijah and Ezra.



With Lu, Ken, Jesse, and Epi Johnson

Previous MLK Awardees: El Centro de la Raza Executive Director Estela Ortega (2025), Unleash The Brilliance Founder Terrell Dorsey (2024), Looking Out Foundation Executive Director Catherine Carlile (2023), Muckleshoot Tribal Council Vice Chair John Daniels Jr. (2022), Overcomer Covenant Church Pastor Gordon Banks (2021), Café Pacific Owners Amy and John Hatcher (2020), FUSION Founder Peggy LaPorte (2019), Former Federal Way Mayor Mike Park (2018), Thomas Jefferson High School Baseball & Girls Bowling Coach Joseph Townsend (2017), and The Auburn Food Bank Executive Director Debbie Christian (2016).

Gun Violence Awareness Day

The King County Council and King County Executive Girmay Zahilay unanimously proclaimed June 5th as Gun Violence Awareness Day in King County. This proclamation acknowledges the collaborative efforts aimed at tackling gun violence through a public health approach, emphasizing the shared responsibility to create safer communities for everyone.



With King County Councilmembers Rod Dembowski, Jorge Barón, Reagan Dunn, Sarah Perry, Steffanie Fain, Claudia Balducci, Rhonda Lewis, Teresa Mosqueda, along with representatives from the Public Health Office of Regional Gun Violence Prevention.

Juneteenth

The King County Council and King County Executive jointly proclaimed June 19, 2026, as Juneteenth, commemorating its 161st anniversary and highlighting its historical importance. On November 17, 2020, the King County Council declared Juneteenth an official holiday for its employees, making Washington the first local government to take this step. In 2021, Juneteenth was recognized as a federal holiday, 158 years after the Emancipation Proclamation.



With King County Councilmembers Claudia Balducci, Jorge Barón, Reagan Dunn, Sarah Perry, Rhonda Lewis, Teresa Mosqueda, Rod Dembowksi and Steffanie Fain, alongside Sherry Williams and Eric Greer from the Northwest African American Museum.

State of the County Address

Building a More Connected King County: What better way to emphasize your theme of connecting the 2.4 million people of King County than bringing your first State of the County Address out of the King County Courthouse and down to South King County. Thank you to King County Executive Girmay Zahilay for bringing your message and family to Federal Way and LISTENING to the people! Read the Executive's [press release](#), watch the [event recording](#), and view the [full transcript](#) of the address.



Counterclockwise: With King County Executive Girmay Zahilay, his father Hadish, 41st Legislative District Rep. Janice Zahn, King County Councilmembers Steffanie Fain and Teresa Mosqueda, Maple Valley Mayor Sean Kelly, Federal Way Mayor Jim Ferrell, Renton Mayor Armondo Pavone and Councilmember Ed Prince, Algona Mayor Pro Tem David White, El Centro de la Raza Executive Director Estela Ortega, Renton Council President Ruth Pérez, Mission Africa Executive Director Ndudi Chuku, Kent Mayor Dana Ralph, Muckleshoot Tribal Chair Donny Stevenson, and Suquamish Tribal Chair Leonard Forsman

“Good Eggs” Breakfast with State Insurance Commissioner Patty Kuderer

What is the similarity between a parachute and insurance? If it does not work the first time you need it, it is useless! During the June “Good Eggs” meeting, we were joined by Patty Kuderer, our state Insurance Commissioner, who provided local elected officials and community leaders from South King County with updates on current insurance policies and addressed a wide range of questions. Patty is committed to reforming the office and strengthening its consumer support.



Counterclockwise: With State Insurance Commissioner Patty Kuderer, King County Councilmember Steffanie Fain, Auburn Mayor Nancy Backus, Business Leader Jeff Stock, Eisenhower Carlson Associate Todd Blodgett, Kent Mayor Dana Ralph, Federal Way Mayor Jim Ferrell, Municipal Court Judge Danielle Havens, Councilmember Linda Kochmar, Algona Mayor Pro Tem David White, Lakehaven Commissioner Juan Juarez-Ramos, Algona Councilmember Jessica Parker, Auburn Councilmember Hanan Amer, Algona Mayor Troy Linnell, Auburn Deputy Mayor Tracy Taylor-Turner, 47th Legislative District Rep. Chris Stearns, Federal Way Councilmember Jack Walsh, Kent Councilmembers Zandria Michaud and Toni Troutner

SEATTLE MARINERS 2026 SCHEDULE

HOME

AWAY

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
	1 NYM 6:40	2 NYM 6:40	3 NYM 12:40	4	5 DET 3:40	6 DET 10:10
7 DET 10:40	8 BAL 3:35	9 BAL 3:35	10 BAL 3:35	11 BAL 4:05	12 WSH 3:45	13 WSH 1:05
14 WSH 10:35	15	16 BAL 6:40	17 BAL 6:40	18 BAL 1:10	19 BOS 7:10	20 BOS 7:10
21 BOS 1:10	22	23 PIT 3:40	24 PIT 3:40	25 PIT 9:35	26 CLE 4:10	27 CLE 4:10
28 CLE 10:40	29 LAA 6:40	30 LAA 6:40				
JUNE						

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
JULY			1	2 LAA 6:40	3 TOR 7:10	4 TOR 1:10
5 TOR 2:00	6	7 MIA 3:40	8 MIA 3:40	9 MIA 3:40	10 TB 4:10	11 TB 1:10
12 TB 10:40	13	14 ALL-STAR GAME	15	16	17 SF 7:10	18 SF 5:08
19 SF 1:10	20 CIN 6:40	21 CIN 6:40	22 CIN 12:40	23	24 TEX 5:05	25 TEX 4:15
26 TEX 11:35	27 TEX 11:35	28 LAD 7:10	29 LAD 7:10	30 LAD 7:10	31 MIN 7:10	

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
AUGUST						1 MIN 1:10
2 MIN 1:10	3	4 DET 6:40	5 DET 6:40	6 DET 1:10	7 TB 7:10	8 TB 6:50
9 TB 1:10	10	11 NYY 4:05	12 NYY 4:05	13 NYY 10:35	14 HOU 5:10	15 HOU 4:10
16 HOU 4:20	17	18 MIL 4:40	19 MIL 4:40	20 MIL 11:10	21 CHC 7:10	22 CHC 6:40
23 CHC 1:10	24 PHI 6:40	25 PHI 6:40	26 PHI 1:10	27	28 TOR 4:07	29 TOR 12:07
30 TOR 10:37	31 BOS 3:45					

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
		1 BOS 3:45	2 BOS 1:10	3 ATH 6:40	4 ATH 7:10	5 ATH 6:40
6 ATH 1:10	7	8 TEX 6:40	9 TEX 6:40	10 TEX 1:10	11 ATH 6:40	12 ATH 6:40
13 ATH 1:05	14 LAA 6:38	15 LAA 6:38	16 LAA 6:38	17	18 COL 5:10	19 COL 5:10
20 COL 12:10	21	22 HOU 6:40	23 HOU 7:10	24 LAA 6:40	25 LAA 7:10	26 LAA 6:40
27 LAA 12:10	28	29	30			
SEPTEMBER						

ALL TIMES PACIFIC • SCHEDULE SUBJECT TO CHANGE

[Click here to see the Seattle Mariners 2026 Schedule](#)


MATCH SCHEDULE

ROUND OF 16

MATCH 94 | JULY 6, 2026 (5:00 PM PT)

USA 

17:00

 Belgium

[Click here to see the Seattle FIFA World Cup 2026™ Schedule](#)



[Visit the Seattle FIFA World Cup 26™ website for transportation options.](#)

[Visit kingcounty.gov/metro/SEA26 for Metro rider tools.](http://kingcounty.gov/metro/SEA26)

Councilmember Pete von Reichbauer

Email me at pete.vonreichbauer@kingcounty.gov

Call me at (206) 477-1007 or (800) 325-6165

TTY/TDD: Relay 711 Fax: (206) 296-0198

Find me on the web at www.kingcounty.gov/vonReichbauer

Find us on Facebook www.facebook.com/pete.vonreichbauer