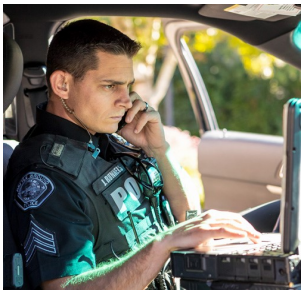
THE CITY OF
Battle Ground
WASHINGTON

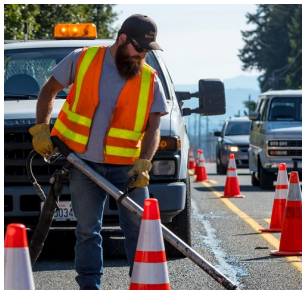
February 2020
NEWSLETTER


Police


Parks & Recreation


Community Development


Fire/Emergency Medical


Public Works

Fire Annexation Update
By Erin Erdman, City Manager



The City of Battle Ground is asking voters to consider annexing to Fire District 3. Ballots were mailed the last week of January and must be postmarked by February 11, 2020 (Election Day) to count.

Battle Ground is the only city in Clark County to contract for fire and emergency medical services. This means you pay the City through its general property tax levy and the City writes a check to the Fire District.

The fire/EMS service contract will exceed the City's property tax collection revenues by 2021. If annexation is not approved, cuts would need to be made to both fire and city services to maintain a balanced budget, which is required by law. The City Council has done the responsible thing and identified a list of cuts, which you can find at www.cityofbg.org/AnnexationImpacts.

I want to focus on the positive, however, and talk about how we can improve Battle Ground if annexation is approved by voters.

First and foremost, annexation means that we can protect the level and quality of emergency services City residents receive. It also would fund capital improvements (such as stations, apparatus and equipment) which the City can't afford and the Fire District won't make because of the temporary nature of a contract.

Other benefits include better police services. Our police department needs additional officers to investigate crimes, and our community wants stronger traffic enforcement and patrols.

Road improvements, street maintenance/preservation and sidewalk projects also would receive additional funding. We can improve City parks and trails and fund some beautification projects, as well.

I want to be clear: Annexation means property owners would pay a fire levy directly to Fire District 3. (The City will reduce its utility tax for water, sewer and stormwater drainage to offset some of this cost.) As part of the Fire District, City residents would be able to vote on fire commissioners, levies, and bonds, which they currently can't do.

I encourage you to visit our website to learn more at www.cityofbg.org/FireAnnexation. You also can contact me (360-342-5005 or erin.erdman@cityofbg.org, or Fire Chief Scott Sorenson (360-892-2331 or scott@fire3.org) with questions anytime. Thank you for considering our request.

Reduced Utility Rates for Seniors with Low Income

Qualifying seniors receive 25% reduction on city utilities

The new program, adopted by City Council to assist senior citizens with low income, launched in January of this year. Customers who qualify for the program will realize an average savings of $24.70 each month.

Qualifying customers must be 62 year of age or older, reside within the City, be head of household with an annual income that, when combined with the annual income of all household members, meets the standard for the program which is based on limits set by the Federal Department of Housing and Urban Development.

An application and more information is available at www.cityofbg.org/UtilityRateReduction.

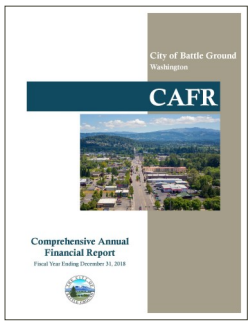
You may also call us at 360-342-5002 or stop by to see us at city hall located at 109 SW 1st Street. We are happy to assist you with the application process or with any questions you may have.

Income Standards	
House-hold Size	**Total Household Income**
1	$30,800
2	$35,200
3	$39,600
4	$43,950

The qualifying income levels continue to increase with additional household members, up to $58,050 for an 8-person household.

City Awarded for Excellence in Financial Reporting

Annual report recognized for demonstrating spirit of full disclosure



The Certificate of Achievement for Excellence in Financial Reporting has been awarded to the City of Battle Ground, recognizing the City for its 2018 Comprehensive Annual Financial Report. The award is the highest form of recognition in the area of governmental accounting and financial reporting.

In announcing the City of Battle Ground as a recipient of the award, the Government Finance Officers Association noted the City "demonstrated a constructive spirit of full disclosure to clearly communicate its financial story."

The CAFR, produced annually, is available on the city's website at www.cityofbg.org/CAFR.

Craft Night at the Community Center

Bringing together fun, friends, and fabulous results!

Visit and subscribe to the City of Battle Ground Parks & Recreation Events Calendar at cityofbg.org/EventsCalendar for scheduled Craft Nights and other events and activities.

Caring. Connecting. Community



City Hall
109 SW 1st Street
Battle Ground, WA 98604
360-342-5000
www.CityofBG.org

City Council

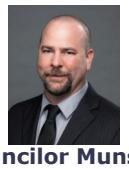
www.cityofbg.org/council



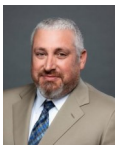
Mayor Cortes
adrian.cortes@cityofbg.org



Deputy Mayor Johnson
philip.johnson@cityofbg.org



Councilor Munson
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Councilor Bowman
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Councilor Walters
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Councilor Dalesandro
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Councilor DesRochers
cherish.desrochers@cityofbg.org

The City of Battle Ground complies with Title VI of the Civil Rights Act and related statues in programs and activities provided. For more information, visit www.cityofbg.org/66/Administrative-Services-City-Clerk.