

STEVE LAEVASTU & ROGER TURNER ARE YOUR RAVENNA REALTORS

NEW WEB SITE OPENS CITY DATA TO THE PUBLIC <http://data.seattle.gov>

SEATTLE -- Sixty city of Seattle datasets are now accessible online at <http://data.seattle.gov>, which is part of Seattle's municipal web site. The new site holds significant amounts of information about operations and infrastructure, such as locations of city facilities, schools, and food banks.

"The launch of data.seattle.gov is the first of four new major web services being launched this year to enhance transparency, improve access to public city information, and streamline customer service reporting and tracking," said Councilmember Bruce Harrell.

[Data.seattle.gov](http://data.seattle.gov) is a first step in making data publicly available to meet the city of Seattle's goals for an open, transparent and accountable government. The site initially posts datasets from My Neighborhood Map, which is a feature on the city's website, www.seattle.gov. It will add data managed by city departments, beginning with data which is commonly requested through the public disclosure process. Some of this data is already available on department websites, but data.seattle.gov will centralize the information on a single site.

"The launch of this web site represents the first step in an ongoing effort that we hope will make the work of city government more open and accessible to residents," said Mayor Mike McGinn. "In the course of our work, we gather a great deal of data on the state of the city and on our performance. We believe that information belongs to the people of Seattle. The Department of Information Technology is doing excellent work toward realizing this goal and all city departments are committed to working together on this project. Councilmember Harrell's leadership has been invaluable and we look forward to his continued efforts on this project."

"Data.Seattle.Gov transforms the way the city provides public city data to the people of Seattle. This is a key step in our initiative to engage the public in the process of creating new applications for public use and involve them in analyzing city data to improve service to our residents," said Council President Richard Conlin.

"I'm looking forward to seeing people interpret and apply this data to improving our city services for their neighborhoods and businesses. I expect to see a more responsive and cost efficient city government as a result," said Councilmember Nick Licata.

The site will grow as city departments build an inventory of datasets that can be added. Information such as business licenses, redacted police reports, and police 911 calls are scheduled for implementation, and more datasets are being readied. The web site includes a contact email address so users can provide comments and suggestions.

[Data.seattle.gov](http://data.seattle.gov) provides information in a standard format, easily downloadable and usable by the public. The site is powered by software from Socrata (www.socrata.com), a Seattle company that supports a number of federal government agencies.

TESTIMONIALS

Dear Roger,

Just a quick note to say thanks for all of your hard work in selling our old home and finding one we love! All within a week's time. Impressive!

You never missed a beat! Your concern for what we needed and wanted was a priority and very much appreciated. I hope to see you and Steve at our open house on the 23rd.

Thanks again.

Sincerely,
Glen & Anita Arnesor

To Prospective Home Buyers/Sellers:

I'm writing to offer you my highest recommendation of Windermere realtor Steve Laevastu. Steve recently sold my home in the Greenlake area. I had interviewed a couple of realtors before selecting Steve. I can say that decision was based not simply on his thorough knowledge of the market, and realtor experience, but on his "bullish" attitude toward my home. Steve saw the qualities in my home that I had loved, in fact, I've owned this home twice now in my life. The other realtor saw the challenges in selling my home. Steve saw the strengths and I went with him.

You will find Steve is very responsive to your situation, and works seven days a week at your beck and call. His enthusiasm and professionalism are exemplary. If you go with Steve know you'll be in good hands, best of luck with your sale or purchase!

Sincerely,
Greg Walsh

<http://www.ravennahouse.com>

*Need help buying or selling your home?
Contact Us!*



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Stairway into Ravenna Trails

SOLD HOMES

The following is a list of the homes that sold in our Ravenna Neighborhood over the last month. Do you wonder what your house is worth? The décor, the features and condition all have a bearing on the price a house will command. We have seen the interiors of most of the homes in this list. If you are selling your home, please let us help you. We would be happy to view your home, prepare a market analysis and discuss the details with you. We can provide you with useful information, such as a sales price that might be realistically expected in today's market.

Address	Bed	Bath	Year	Style	Price
810 NE Ravenna Blvd	2	1	1921	1 Story w/Bsmnt.	\$309,000
1600 NE 75th St	3	1	1910	1 1/2 Story	\$328,300
1324 NE 68th St	4	2	1915	2 Story	\$385,000
7343 Ravenna Ave NE	3	1.75	1942	1 Story w/Bsmnt.	\$420,000
7346 20th Ave NE	3	2	1941	1 Story w/Bsmnt.	\$434,000
6540 19th Ave NE	3	2.5	1910	1 1/2 Stry w/Bsmt	\$541,500
6330 17th Ave NE	5	2.25	1909	2 Stories w/Bsmnt	\$576,000

RAVENNA MONTHLY HOME SALES E-MAILED DIRECTLY TO YOU!

Sign up now for a free monthly service. You can have Ravenna home sales e-mailed to you every month. The e-mail will contain all of the homes that sold in Ravenna for that month. With this e-mail you can see interior pictures of the homes that sold as well as get data on each home such as the price it sold for, BR, BTH, SQ FOOTAGE, ETC.

You will not receive any other junk e-mail. And your e-mail address will NOT be given to anybody else.

To sign up for this free service just send an e-mail to Steve Laevastu stating that you want to get Ravenna home sales e-mailed to you.. Steve's e-mail address is sold@windermere.com

This service has been very popular and received numerous compliments from a number of Ravenna residents.

NEW HUD BOOKLET HELPS CONSUMERS SHOP FOR MORTGAGES

House hunters can arm themselves with a comprehensive new booklet from the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) to help them shop for the mortgage that best meets their needs.

The 49-page booklet outlines the various stages of the home buying process and helps prospective owners decide if they are ready to buy a home and determine how much home they can afford. The booklet also explains interest rates, points, balloon payments and how prepayment penalties can affect monthly payments.

One section of the booklet discusses the loan after settlement, including how to resolve loan servicing problems with a lender, and steps to take to avoid foreclosure.

Readers will also learn about the sales agreement, how to use HUD's new standard Good Faith Estimate to shop for the best loan, required settlement services, and the HUD-1 Settlement Statement they will receive at closing.

Along with a Glossary of Terms, the booklet includes contact information for consumers who have questions after reading the booklet.

The booklet, available in English or Spanish, may be downloaded as a Word document or PDF at the HUD site, <http://www.hud.gov/offices/hsg/ramh/res/sfhrestc.cfm>.



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Seattle Events Calendar

DAFFODIL FESTIVAL GRAND FLORAL PARADE

APRIL 10, 2010 - TACOMA WASHINGTON

The famous Daffodil Festival will be celebrating it's 77th Year in 2010 and takes pride in calling the grand State of Washington it's home. The Daffodil Festival is an annual event that culminates in April with a Grand Floral Street Parade, traveling through the cities of Tacoma... Puyallup... Sumner... and Orting - all in one day.

CHERRY BLOSSOM & JAPANESE CULTURAL FESTIVAL

APRIL 16-18, 2010 - SEATTLE CENTER -

Held at Seattle Center in April... this annual Event celebrates Japanese Culture and the USA's relationship with Japan.

There's a lot for you to experience during these 3 Days: watch a Go Tournament, visit Arts & Crafts Booths, dine on traditional Cuisine. You'll even be able to see Exhibits and Performances.

All Events are free... and take place at the Center House and Flag Pavilion.

STG PRESENTS A PRAIRIE HOME COMPANION AT THE PARAMOUNT THEATRE IN SEATTLE ON SATURDAY,

MARCH 27, 2010 & APRIL 3, 2010.

See "A Prairie Home Companion" with Garrison Keillor live at The Paramount Theatre for a live national radio broadcast. The show is heard weekly by more than 4 million listeners on some 590 public radio stations, and abroad on America One and the Armed Forces Networks in Europe and the Far East. "A Prairie Home Companion" is produced by Prairie Home Productions, and distributed nationwide by American Public Media.

STG PRESENTS DREAMGIRLS AT THE PARAMOUNT THEATRE IN SEATTLE, TUESDAY - SUNDAY, APRIL 6 - 11, 2010.

CATCH THE DREAM! Direct from Harlem's world famous Apollo Theater in New York City, a sensational new stage production of DREAMGIRLS comes to Seattle at The Paramount Theatre on April 6 through 11! Full of onstage joy and backstage drama, DREAMGIRLS tells the story of an up-and-coming, 1960s singing girl group, and the triumphs and tribulations that come with fame and fortune. With music



Windermere Real Estate / Oak Tree Inc

CITY PROPOSES LOCAL, FEDERALLY-OWNED FACILITIES FOR NOAA

SEATTLE – Seattle's elected leadership, with support from the maritime industry and neighborhood leaders, has forwarded a proposal to the Department of Commerce to retain NOAA's Marine Operations Center-Pacific in Seattle. In a letter sent today to U.S. Commerce Secretary Gary Locke and Under Secretary Jane Lubchenco, Mayor Mike McGinn and the Seattle City Council argued that consolidating NOAA's operations in Seattle at existing federal facilities is the best option for NOAA to achieve its mission and the best deal for federal taxpayers.

"The Department of Commerce should carefully consider this proposal," Mayor McGinn said. "Our local maritime industry, elected officials and neighborhood leaders have all worked together, forwarding a new solution that could keep a great organization and valuable jobs in Seattle."

The proposal is the latest effort of a years-long program, led by the city, to retain the marine center in Seattle, where it has made its home for more than 50 years. In August, NOAA announced its decision to move from Seattle, awarding a 20-year lease to the Port of Newport, Ore. That decision was appealed to the Government Accountability Office (GAO) and sustained because NOAA violated its own solicitation rules by proposing a facility in a floodplain.

"Our proposal gives NOAA the chance to build on its rich history with Seattle, and it further realizes the vision of Senator Warren Magnuson to establish a true NOAA regional center at Sandpoint. This not only a good opportunity for Seattle, it's good for the region," said Councilmember Jean Godden.

The City of Seattle proposal requests that the Department of Commerce and NOAA include the Western Regional Center at Sand Point and Federal Center South in their evaluation of potential sites that are not located in a floodplain. The city's proposal meets GAO's guidance and would save tens of millions of taxpayer dollars.

"The Laurelhurst Community Club has worked for over two years to keep NOAA's marine operations in Seattle," said Jeannie Hale, president of the Laurelhurst Community Club. "NOAA has been a good neighbor. NOAA benefits from Seattle's thriving maritime community, access to research partners, and an exceptional quality of life for its employees. No other location can compete with all Seattle has to offer. We appreciate the work of the Mayor and City Council to make this happen."

Retaining the marine center in Seattle would preserve approximately 1,200 well paid direct and indirect jobs and \$180 million in economic activity in the area.

"Our company employs many skilled tradesmen, members of the International Association of Machinist Local 160. We support any effort to keep NOAA in Seattle. If they leave, it would have a devastating impact on our employees and their families," said Jason Walker, owner of Federal Marine and Defense Services in Seattle and Tacoma.

MAYOR MIKE MCGINN'S STATEMENT ON CITY GUN LAW RULING

SEATTLE – Mayor Mike McGinn issued the following statement:

"I am disappointed in today's ruling. Cities should have the right to restrict guns in playgrounds, pools and community centers where children are present. The court's ruling was based on a state law, RCW 9.41.290, which preempts Seattle from regulating the possession of firearms. It's time for the state Legislature to change that law.

SEATTLE CITY COUNCIL ANNOUNCES 2010 PRIORITIES

Major emphasis on the economy, education and energy

SEATTLE –The Seattle City Council today announced their vision for Seattle and key efforts for 2010. The Council developed these priorities to support building a livable city, foster safe, just and healthy communities and invest public resources fairly and effectively.

The council highlighted their priorities in a full council session, placing particular emphasis on economic recovery, transportation choices, smart land use and development, clean energy and carbon neutrality, and education.

"These priorities reflect our commitment to the people of Seattle. Residents need to know what specific initiatives we plan to work on and what the Council should be helped accountable for accomplishing," said Council President Richard Conlin.

Conlin added, "Economic recovery is at the head of our list. We know that getting people job training and jobs and getting business activity back on track are imperative for our community and for everything else we do as a City – including our key task of putting together a budget that is balanced and meets the needs of our citizens."

Councilmember Tim Burgess, chair of the Council's Public Safety and Education Committee, said the City's relationship with the Seattle Public Schools would be a major area of focus this year. Burgess explained that the Council would begin consideration of renewal of the Families and Education Levy nearly a year earlier than in previous renewal cycles because of continued low high school graduation rates.

"The fact is that more than one-third of our students are not graduating from high school and this failure has gone on for years. It's time we take bold steps to change our school results. The long term success of our city is inextricably linked to the success of our public schools," said Councilmember Burgess.

Councilmember Bruce Harrell said today, "Our priorities recognize that all people matter, irrespective of socio-economic status or background. Our energy policies, conservation strategies and technology initiatives are designed to improve the circumstances for our residents and businesses and bring about sustainable change."

"In tough economic times it's important to keep our heads up and look for ways to be poised for the next growth cycle. Healthy cities are always growing," said Councilmember Sally J. Clark. "City government can help by updating our land-use laws to reflect the goals of the 21st century. This year Council will look at the neighborhoods in South Downtown and our multi-family code. Our plan is to help these parts of the city grow the way they want to."

Councilmember Mike O'Brien stated, "Addressing climate changes is the most pressing moral issue we face as a society. Seattle has an opportunity to shape what a carbon neutral society can look like in a way that is both economically sustainable and socially just."

"We have a long list of projects that need our attention and our focus should be on fostering relationships so we can get these things done! We are a much greater force when we work together," Councilmember Sally Bagshaw added this afternoon. "Participation is crucial to this effort, and we'll be striving to reach out to our neighborhoods, businesses, labor, environmentalists, and the many groups that are such assets to our city. It's no longer about us versus them; it is about us, all of us."

"Seattle is at a unique point in its history," Councilmember Tom Rasmussen said. "It is time to break ground and to build the projects that we have debated so long, to rebuild public confidence in the leadership of the Seattle Department of Transportation and to plan to meet the ever increasing demands for more sidewalks, bikeways and public transportation."

"As Budget Chair, I will look to these priorities to guide our discussion and make decisions. These are tough times, but by working together we will be able to make smart choices, keep our local business climate strong, and still protect vital services," said Councilmember Jean Godden.

by Academy® Award nominee Henry Krieger and book and lyrics by Tony® and Grammy®-Award winner Tom Eyer, DREAMGIRLS features the unforgettable hits: "And I Am Telling You I'm Not Going," "One Night Only" and "Listen." Broadway director and choreographer Robert Longbottom (Bye Bye Birdie Broadway

SEATTLE CENTER PRODUCTIONS WHIRLIGIG!

MARCH 26 - APRIL 11, 2010

Bounce with abandon at Seattle Center Whirligig!, March 26 - April 11, featuring two lively weeks of affordable activities, riveting inflatable rides, whimsical escapades and dynamic performances. This collection of children's entertainment is presented by Seattle Center with support from Radio Disney AM 1250, Seattle Center Foundation and the City of Seattle.

EMERALD CITY FEIS IRISH DANCE COMPETITION

SUNDAY, APRIL 25, 2010

8:00AM

The Emerald City Feis will be host to more than 500 dancers and their families from dancing schools throughout the Western United States and Canada. There will be two full days of beginner through championship level Irish step dancers competing to live music on four stages.

ON THE TOWN

APRIL 11 - MAY 2, 2010

THE 5TH AVENUE THEATER

Paint the Big Apple RED with three sailors as they try to cram a lifetime of romance and excitement into a day-long adventure in the city that never sleeps! Inspired by Jerome Robbins' ballet "Fancy Free," this is a classic valentine to New York City and a delightful musical treat from the composer of West Side Story and the writers of Singin' In The Rain. Start spreadin' the news – this is one helluva show!

SEATTLE SPORTS SCHEDULE

MARINERS MLB HOME GAME

<http://seattle.mariners.mlb.com/>

4/12	OAK	3:40PM
4/13	OAK	7:10PM
4/14	OAK	7:10PM
4/16	DET	7:10PM
4/17	DET	6:10PM
4/18	DET	1:10PM
4/19	BAL	7:10PM
4/20	BAL	7:10PM
4/21	BAL	7:10PM
4/30	TEX	7:10PM