CALL TO ORDER
Mayor Jesse Tanner led the Pledge of Allegiance to the flag and called the meeting of the Renton City Council to order.

ROLL CALL OF COUNCILMEMBERS
KATHY KEOLKER-WHEELER, Council President; TERRI BRIERE; KING PARKER; DON PERSSON; TONI NELSON; DAN CLAWSON. MOVED BY KEOLKER-WHEELER, SECONDED BY NELSON, COUNCIL EXCUSE ABSENT COUNCILMEMBER RANDY CORMAN. CARRIED.

CITY STAFF IN ATTENDANCE
JESSE TANNER, Mayor; JAY COVINGTON, Chief Administrative Officer; ZANETTA FONTES, Assistant City Attorney; BONNIE WALTON, City Clerk; GREGG ZIMMERMAN, Planning/Building/Public Works Administrator; DAVID CHRISTENSEN, Utility Engineering Supervisor; KAREN MCFARLAND, Engineering Specialist; JIM SHEPHERD, Community Services Administrator; KAREN BERGSVIK, Human Services Manager; DEREK TODD, Assistant to the CAO; CHIEF GARRY ANDERSON, COMMANDER ROBERT SEELYE, and SERGEANT MARK DAY, Police Department.

SPECIAL PRESENTATIONS
Community Services: Employee Recognition Awards
Community Services Department 2002 employee recognition awards as follows:
Employee of the First Quarter: Mary Fullerton, Library Supervisor
Employee of the Second Quarter: Diane Wagner, Facilities Secretary
Employee of the Third Quarter: David Perkins, Recreation Specialist
Employee of the Fourth Quarter: Aaron Oesting, Systems Librarian

Mr. Shepherd announced that Aaron Oesting was also chosen as the Community Services Department employee of the year for 2002. Mr. Oesting thanked the entire library team for their assistance and support.

Added
Human Services: Human Services Advisory Member Introduction, Janet Bertagni
Councilwoman Nelson introduced Janet Bertagni, the newest member of the Human Services Advisory Committee.

City Clerk: Comcast Corporation (Cable Provider) Update
City Clerk/Cable Manager Bonnie Walton explained that Renton's current 15-year cable franchise was adopted in 1993 with TCI, Inc., which in 1999 transferred to AT&T Broadband, and then AT&T merged with Comcast Corporation in 2002. She invited Comcast Government Affairs Manager (Northwest Division) Hans Hechtman to give a briefing on Comcast, and cable consultant Lon Hurd with 3-H Cable Communications Consultants to give a briefing on the services he provides for the City.

Stating that Comcast Corporation is the largest cable company in the United States with 21.4 million cable subscribers, Mr. Hechtman detailed the history of the company and its organizational structure, which in Washington State, is divided into three service areas. Mr. Hechtman stated that the transitioning process is still in progress, and upcoming changes include the conversion of high-speed Internet from AT&T to Comcast, changing how franchise fees are collected, and improving customer service. Recent improvements include bill consolidation, the introduction of Dolby Digital 5.1, and the offering of high-definition television (HDTV) on two channels. He concluded by saying that...
Comcast has a solid track record and its future is bright.

Responding to Councilwoman Nelson's inquiry regarding rates, Mr. Hechtman stated that the standard rate increases occur twice a year. In January, the standard tier service rate was increased from $13.75 to $36.99 while the basic tier service rate was reduced from $13.50 to $13.25. He explained that basic is the tier of service that is regulated at the local level, and every year, Comcast issues a rate filing stating what the maximum permitted rate is and what Comcast intends to charge for it. Mr. Hechtman stressed that programming is expensive and is one of the largest factors driving the company's cost of business. He indicated that it is unclear at this time whether Comcast will raise its basic service rate.

In response to Councilman Parker's inquiry, Mr. Hechtman confirmed that a 5% franchise fee is the maximum allowed under Federal law.

3-H Cable Communications consultant Lon Hurd stated that the Federal government has given City's the authority to oversee cable franchises, and the City contracts with his firm for assistance with the administration of the cable franchise. Additionally, Mr. Hurd stated that 3-H Cable Communications handles customer complaints, monitors and audits the collection of the franchise fee payments, and prepares quarterly and annual reports on customer services standards and the technical aspects of the system.

In response to Council President Keolker-Wheeler's inquiry regarding his experience in working with Comcast so far, Mr. Hurd stated that Comcast seems to place more emphasis on government relations and customer service; however, time will tell.

PUBLIC HEARINGS
Vacation: Alley between Whitworth & Morris Aves S, and S 3rd & S 4th Sts, St. Anthony's Parish, VAC-03-001

This being the date set and proper notices having been posted and published in accordance with local and State laws, Mayor Tanner opened the public hearing to consider the street vacation petition submitted by St. Anthony's Parish for a portion of an existing paved alley running north and south between Whitworth and Morris Avenues S. and between S. 3rd and S. 4th Streets (VAC-03-001).

Karen McFarland, Engineering Specialist, explained that a related St. Anthony's Parish street vacation (VAC-00-003), approved by Council in July, 2002, will vacate a 160-foot portion of the subject alley, and this current proposal is for an additional 120 feet. She indicated that the following public benefits will be achieved by the proposed vacation: consolidation of parking, maintenance of internal security within the campus, reduced confusion regarding the location of the parish property, and the absence of liability and maintenance costs for the City, as the property is virtually surrounded by a single property owner.

Ms. McFarland stated that facilities in the alley include an eight-inch sewer main (Renton), aerial and buried utilities (QWEST), and electric utilities (Puget Sound Energy). Upon circulation of the vacation request to various City departments and outside agencies for review, she reported that the petition received no objections. She noted that the City's Utilities Division has requested that the City retain an easement for utilities over the entire alleyway if the vacation is approved. In conclusion, Ms. McFarland stated that staff recommends that Council approve the vacation, subject to the requested utilities easement, and subject to the terms and conditions as set forth in the St. Anthony's Parish development agreement.

Responding to Council President Keolker-Wheeler's inquiry, Ms. McFarland confirmed that St. Anthony's Parish owns all abutting properties with the exception of one property.
Public comment was invited. There being none, it was MOVED BY PARKER, SECONDED BY NELSON, COUNCIL CLOSE THE PUBLIC HEARING. CARRIED.

Police: 2002 Local Law Enforcement Block Grant

This being the date set and proper notices having been posted and published in accordance with local and State laws, Mayor Tanner opened the public hearing to consider the 2002 Local Law Enforcement Block Grant (LLEBG).

Police Sergeant Mark Day stated that the City has been pre-approved for a grant of $50,191 and the City is required to match approximately 10%, or $5,577. He explained that LLEBG funds have been used to fund the Domestic Violence Victim Advocacy program since 1996. During the 2003 budget deliberations, Council agreed to continue providing this program with grant funding, and transferred the management of the program from the Human Services Division to the Police Department.

Reporting that the Police Department responded to 1,909 domestic violence calls in 2002, Sergeant Day emphasized that the need for domestic victim advocacy is significant, and it is a means towards ending abuse by lending support and providing guidance for the victims of domestic violence. He concluded by saying that City staff and the Renton Domestic Violence Task Force Advisory Committee recommended that the LLEBG funds continue to be used for this purpose.

Council President Keolker-Wheeler noted that a domestic violence plan was created a couple of years ago for service providers in South King County, and she inquired as to whether Sergeant Day has noticed any improvement in service. Sergeant Day stated that he has noticed a positive change, and pointed out that there are more resources now available for victims.

Public comment was invited. There being none, it was MOVED BY PARKER, SECONDED BY NELSON, COUNCIL CLOSE THE PUBLIC HEARING. CARRIED.

Administrative Report

Chief Administrative Officer Jay Covington reviewed a written administrative report summarizing the City’s recent progress towards goals and work programs adopted as part of its business plan for 2003 and beyond. Items noted included:

- The new downtown parking garage is anticipated to open to the public in May. The primary structure is now complete, and the contractor will continue to install metal panels and glass windows to the building’s exterior, as well as installing the elevators, security system, and parking pay stations inside the building.

- The Recreation Division's Renton Teen Council sponsored a middle school dance on March 17th, which was a great success with 171 young people in attendance. This is the first of four dances to be offered this year.

Audience Comment

Cabinet Comment: DeMastus – Highlands Community Association

Sandel DeMastus, 1137 Harrington Ave. NE, Renton, 98056, introduced herself as the president of the Highlands Community Association (HCA). She announced that Police Officer John Schuldt with the K9 Unit, Animal Control Officer Mary Ann Pratt, and Elynn Clayton (South Sound off-leash dog park) will speak at the HCA meeting on March 27th.
CONSENT AGENDA

Appeal: Nicholson Short Plat, Brad Nicholson, SHP-02-111
City Clerk reported appeal of Hearing Examiner's decision on the appeal of the Administrative and Environmental Determination for the Nicholson Short Plat, 2300 NE 28th St. (SHP-02-111); appeal filed on 3/6/2003 by Brad Nicholson, accompanied by required fee. The appeal packet included one additional letter from David Parisi as allowed by City Code. Refer to Planning & Development Committee.

Community Services: Golf Cart Lease-Purchase Agreement, CitiCapital Commercial Corporation
Community Services Department recommended approval to replace 40 golf carts through a three-year lease-purchase agreement with CitiCapital Commercial Corporation and to retain 10 golf carts from the existing fleet of 50. Annual expenditure is $26,064. Refer to Community Services Committee.

Development Services: Barbee Mill Preliminary Plat EIS Preparation, Parametrix
Development Services Division recommended approval of the amended agreement with Parametrix to prepare the Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) for the Barbee Mill Preliminary Plat proposal (LUA-02-040). Barbee Mill Company will pay for the EIS preparation. (The agreement was amended to expand the scope of the EIS report to include adequate review of historical and cultural resources as directed by Council on 3/17/2003.) Council concur.

Human Services: 2003 CDBG Housing Stability Program Participation
Human Services Division recommended approval to continue participating in the Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) Consortium Housing Stability Program in 2003, which assists low-to-moderate income families with rent or mortgage payments due to a temporary crisis in their lives. Refer to Community Services Committee.

Airport: Boeing Lease Addendum #20, Fund Transfer to Purchase Boeing Restrooms
Transportation Systems Division recommended approval of Addendum #20 to LAG-65-877, Municipal Airport lease with The Boeing Company, and requested authorization to transfer $80,000 from the Airport Reserve Fund to the Airport Capital Improvement Program (CIP) account for the purchase of the Boeing restroom facilities. Refer to Transportation (Aviation) Committee.

Utility: Water System Plan Update & Highlands Water Distribution Improvements Pre-design, RW Beck
Utility Systems Division recommended approval of a contract with R.W. Beck, Inc. in the amount of $218,051 to update the City's 1998 Water System Plan Analysis, and to pre-design the water distribution improvements for the 565 pressure zone in the Highlands area. Council concur.

MOVED BY KEOLKER-WHEELER, SECONDED BY CLAWSON, COUNCIL APPROVE THE CONSENT AGENDA AS AMENDED TO REMOVE ITEMS 8.a. AND 8.b. FOR SEPARATE CONSIDERATION. CARRIED.

Separate Consideration

Item 7.a.
Council Meeting Minutes of March 17, 2003
Approval of Council meeting minutes of March 17, 2003.
Councilman Persson questioned the way Executive Session was notated in the Council meeting minutes. Mayor Tanner asked Assistant City Attorney Zanetta Fontes to research options for the documentation of Executive Session in the minutes.

MOVED BY KEOLKER-WHEELER, SECONDED BY NELSON, COUNCIL APPROVE ITEM 7.a. AS PRESENTED. CARRIED.

Separate Consideration

Item 7.b.
CAG: 03-005, Pavilion Building Renovation, Edifice
City Clerk reported bid opening on 3/12/2003 for CAG-03-005, Pavilion Building Renovation; ten bids; engineer's estimate $1,800,000; and submitted staff recommendation to award the contract to low bidder, Edifice Construction Company, Inc., in the amount of $2,184,890.47. Refer to Finance Committee.
Const Co
Committee of the Whole for discussion of funding and bid protests.

MOVED BY PARKER, SECONDED BY KEOLKER-WHEELER, COUNCIL REFER ITEM 7.b. TO COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE. CARRIED.

CORRESPONDENCE
Citizen Comment: Carter – Sewer Service Connection Request for Property Outside City Limits
A letter was read from Robert F. Carter, 4515 NE 26th Ct., Renton, 98059, requesting connection to the sanitary sewer on NE 23rd St. in the Summerwind development for his property located outside the City limits, north of Summerwind in Newcastle Terrace, Lot #5. MOVED BY BRIERE, SECONDED BY CLAWSON, COUNCIL REFER THIS CORRESPONDENCE TO THE UTILITIES COMMITTEE. CARRIED.

Added
Citizen Comment: Camerer – Building Permit Fee Waiver for Vision House Children's Village
Council President Keolker-Wheeler reported receipt of a letter from Vision House Executive Director Susan M. Camerer, PO Box 2951, Renton, 98056, requesting the waiver of building permit and development fees for the Vision House Children's Village, and in exchange, Vision House will offer scholarships to low income Renton families in need of childcare assistance. MOVED BY KEOLKER-WHEELER, SECONDED BY NELSON, COUNCIL REFER THIS CORRESPONDENCE TO COMMUNITY SERVICES COMMITTEE AND COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE. CARRIED.

OLD BUSINESS
Utilities Committee
Technical Services: Digital Orthophotography Update, Walker & Associates
Utilities Committee Vice Chair Briere presented a report regarding the agreement to update the City's digital orthophotography. The Committee recommended concurrence in the staff recommendation that Council authorize the Mayor and City Clerk to execute a sole source consulting agreement with Walker & Associates, Inc. for aerial photogrammetric services in the amount of $49,858.75. MOVED BY BRIERE, SECONDED BY CLAWSON, COUNCIL CONCUR IN THE COMMITTEE REPORT. CARRIED.

Finance Committee
Finance: Vouchers
Finance Committee Chair Parker presented a report recommending approval of Claim Vouchers 213231 - 213713 and two wire transfers totaling $2,985,625.36; and approval of Payroll Vouchers 43257 - 43497, one wire transfer and 565 direct deposits totaling $1,740,520.66. MOVED BY PARKER, SECONDED BY CLAWSON, COUNCIL CONCUR IN THE COMMITTEE REPORT. CARRIED.

Transportation (Aviation) Committee
Transportation: Strander Blvd Extension Design, Perteet Engineering
Transportation (Aviation) Committee Chair Persson presented a report regarding the design contract for the Strander Blvd. extension. The Strander Blvd. extension project, from West Valley Hwy (SR-181) to East Valley Rd., is an important east-west trans-south valley connection project targeted at improving access and mobility for the traveling public, freight, and businesses. When constructed, it will provide access to the development at the Boeing Longacres site, Tukwila Transit Center, and provide a grade separated crossing at the Union Pacific Railroad and Burlington Northern Santa Fe railroad tracks.

The contract is for 30% design, covering the Corridor Environmental Impact Statement (EIS), base-mapping, road section, and project phasing. Supplements to this original agreement will be added to cover the final design of each project phase, of which there are expected to be at least three. The contract is in the amount of $2,213,349, to be completed over 26 months from the time of contract execution. The Transportation Systems Division has budgeted $600,000 in 2003; and will request budget approval for $1,400,000 in 2004, and $500,000 in 2005, totaling $2,500,000 for design (including contract and City staff time) of this project in the years 2003, 2004, and 2005.

The Committee recommended that Council authorize the Mayor and City Clerk to execute the consultant agreement with Perteet Engineering, Inc. in the amount of $2,213,349 for the Strander Blvd. Extension – West Valley Hwy.
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Transportation: NE 3rd/4th St Corridor Signal Synchronization, King County Grant

Transportation (Aviation) Committee Chair Persson presented a report regarding the 2003 signal synchronization grant. The City of Renton applied for and was awarded $80,000 for signal synchronization on the NE 3rd and NE 4th St. corridor. The City will be reimbursed $10,400 for work by City forces to implement changes on 13 City of Renton traffic signals. The City will remand $69,600 of the grant to King County for work performed by King County's contractor and/or King County's work force. The grant also includes three traffic signals in King County to be managed by King County. The improvements are expected to reduce congestion along this corridor.

The Committee recommended that Council authorize the Mayor and City Clerk to enter into the agreement with King County to accept grant funding for and to collaborate on the 2003 Signal Synchronization Project on the NE 3rd and 4th St. corridor. The Committee further recommended that the resolution regarding this matter be presented for reading and adoption. MOVED BY PERSSON, SECONDED BY CLAWSON, COUNCIL CONCUR IN THE COMMITTEE REPORT. CARRIED. (See page 115 for resolution.)

Transportation: NE Sunset Blvd & Duvall Ave NE Intersection Improvements, WSDOT Grant

Transportation (Aviation) Committee Chair Persson presented a report regarding the NE Sunset Blvd. and Duvall Ave. NE intersection improvements. The City of Renton applied for and was awarded a Hazard Elimination Safety (HES) Program grant in the amount of $396,000 for intersection improvements at NE Sunset Blvd. and Duvall Ave. NE. This project includes a new eastbound left-turn lane, a drop lane extension, and a signal modification. These improvements are expected to reduce congestion and the number of accidents by providing additional left-turn capacity and extending the drop lane.

The Committee recommended that Council authorize the Mayor and City Clerk to enter into the agreement with the Washington State Department of Transportation (WSDOT) to accept the HES Program grant funding for the design of NE Sunset Blvd. and Duvall Ave. NE intersection improvements, and that Council approve the resolution and all consecutive phases and subsequent elements up to and including construction of the roadway. MOVED BY PERSSON, SECONDED BY CLAWSON, COUNCIL CONCUR IN THE COMMITTEE REPORT. CARRIED. (See page 115 for resolution.)

Public Safety Committee

Police: Renton Transit Center Safety

Public Safety Committee Chair Clawson presented a report regarding Renton Transit Center safety. The Committee was briefed by the Police Department regarding safety at the Renton Transit Center, and concurred in the recommendation of staff that additional staffing in coordination with King County Metro Transit be assigned to this area. The Committee further recommended that it be updated on this issue in two months.*

Councilman Clawson reported that two full-time police officers will be assigned to patrol the Renton Transit Center between 2:00 p.m. and 10:00 p.m. for the next three weeks, and the Police Department will coordinate with King County for future monitoring.

(SR-181) to East Valley Rd. Project.*

Councilman Persson reported that the Committee was concerned whether they were committing future City Councils to this project with a chance that there would not be traffic mitigation funds available to finance it. He stated that there is every indication that the funding will be available, and the Committee was assured that the agreement contains an escape clause in case it is not.

*MOVED BY PERSSON, SECONDED BY CLAWSON, COUNCIL CONCUR IN THE COMMITTEE REPORT. CARRIED.
Police: Criminal Nuisance Abatement

Public Safety Committee Chair Clawson presented a report regarding criminal nuisance abatement. The Committee was briefed by the Police Department regarding criminal nuisance abatement at the West Wind Motel. The Committee concurred with the recommendation of staff that no additional action be taken at this time. **MOVED BY CLAWSON, SECONDED BY NELSON, COUNCIL CONCUR IN THE COMMITTEE REPORT. CARRIED.**

Public Works: Cedar River Sockeye Hatchery Project, City of Seattle

Councilman Clawson reported that the City is continuing its discussions with the City of Seattle regarding the placement of the broodstock facility for its Cedar River Sockeye Hatchery project. He stated that Renton has relayed its concerns regarding the proposed locations within the Renton City limits, and Seattle is reviewing the matter.

**ORDINANCES AND RESOLUTIONS**

The following resolutions were presented for reading and adoption:

**Resolution #3625**
Transportation: NE 3rd/4th St Corridor Signal Synchronization, King County Grant
A resolution was read authorizing the Mayor and City Clerk to enter into an agreement with King County for the City of Renton to receive $80,000 for the signal synchronization project along the NE 3rd and NE 4th St. corridor. **MOVED BY PERSSON, SECONDED BY CLAWSON, COUNCIL ADOPT THE RESOLUTION AS READ. CARRIED.**

**Resolution #3626**
Transportation: NE Sunset Blvd & Duvall Ave NE Intersection Improvements, WSDOT Grant
A resolution was read authorizing the Mayor and City Clerk to enter into an interlocal cooperative agreement with the Washington State Department of Transportation (WSDOT) for grant funding for the traffic signal at NE Sunset Blvd. and Duvall Ave. NE. **MOVED BY PERSSON, SECONDED BY BRIERE, COUNCIL ADOPT THE RESOLUTION AS READ. CARRIED.**

The following ordinances were presented for second and final reading and adoption:

**Ordinance #5004**
Planning: Annual Update of the Zoning Book and Wall Map
An ordinance was read adopting the 2002 amendments to the zoning classifications of properties located within the City of Renton. **MOVED BY BRIERE, SECONDED BY KEOLKER-WHEELER, COUNCIL ADOPT THE ORDINANCE AS READ. ROLL CALL: ALL AYES. CARRIED.**

**Ordinance #5005**
Rezone: Fry Property, Garden Ave N, IH to COR 3 (R-02-149)
An ordinance was read changing the zoning classification of approximately 21.3 acres located at 800 Garden Ave. N. on the east side of the street, between N. 8th St. on the south and N. Park Dr. on the north, from Heavy Industrial (IH) to Center Office Residential 3 (COR 3) zone. **(Fry's Rezone; R-02-149) MOVED BY BRIERE, SECONDED BY KEOLKER-WHEELER, COUNCIL ADOPT THE ORDINANCE AS READ. ROLL CALL: ALL AYES. CARRIED.**

**ADJOURNMENT**

**MOVED BY CLAWSON, SECONDED BY NELSON, COUNCIL ADJOURN. CARRIED.** Time: 8:45 p.m.

Bonnie I. Walton, City Clerk