

## **Parting Words from Outgoing Interim District Manager Jeff Butzlaff 9/21/2017**

### That's All, Folks!!

With my impending departure following an overlap and transitional period with the new permanent District Manager, this will be the final monthly Interim District Manager's Report hopefully for many years to come. During a tenure that has now surprisingly extended over a nearly 4-year period, it has been at the very least an extremely interesting and consequential journey.

I will always treasure the confidence and trust I consistently received from the Board, the chances and risks they allowed me to take - and their willingness to serve as "accomplices" in them - and the sometimes hard fought for support and appreciation from the community (especially when we endeavored to strike out in bold new directions, to go where even angels fear to tread, that were perhaps initially unsettling to the community but ultimately somehow worked out great, opened up exciting new prospects for Bethel Island's future, and gave me a lot to look back on with a great deal of pride, and not a little amazement.)

Thanks so much to so many – BIMID Board, staff and professional consultants, Bethel Island community residents, property owners and businesses - for the opportunity to make a difference to BIMID and Bethel Island, and for the help, inspiration and support from so many of you who enabled me to do so! If truth be told (and it is), it made this one of the most meaningful and fulfilling professional experiences of my 5-decade local government career. At this sorta kinda retired old guy stage of my career, I frankly never saw BIMID coming, but will very much regret leaving it, Bethel Island, and all of you behind, hopefully somewhat the better for my having passed through town for awhile!

And please continue to give BIMID the increased trust, confidence and support it has most certainly earned and unquestionably needs to continue to be increasingly successful moving forward, all the more so with the extremely capable management and leadership of your new District Manager Regina Espinoza! The BIMID team we now have, especially with her soon to become such a critical part of it, won't let you down, I can assure you of that!

And finally, I can also assure you that we wouldn't have been able to make it through the tough times and arrive at such a much better place for BIMID's future without the adept legal guidance, professionalism, creativity, tenacity, values, inherent decency, commitment, and downright "gumption" of our former District Counsel in facilitating the success of our sometimes ornery Board, the late James Maynard, who was tragically killed in a car accident just shortly after our Assessment District was passed, and when BIMID's and Bethel Island's more promising future was just beginning to emerge. Both a close friend and highly respected colleague, and a crucial and integral member of BIMID's professional team, his legacy will live on and he also should never be forgotten.