

Celebrating the Career of Mike Todd

A Legacy of Leadership, Service, and Community in Mill Creek

After more than four decades of service to his community, and more than 20 years in formal leadership roles, Mike Todd is retiring from the City of Mill Creek.

When Mike moved to Mill Creek in 1983, the City was just beginning. Over the next four decades, he would play a significant role in shaping what it would become. He will leave behind a legacy that has significantly influenced not only the city but also the surrounding region.

A Foundation Built on Service and Leadership

Long before holding an elected office, Mike was already deeply engaged in Mill Creek through volunteerism, education, and youth programs.

He served on the City's **Parks and Recreation Board**, contributing to long-range planning and community investment in parks and recreation. He also participated in county park master planning advisory committees, regional advisory groups, and state grant evaluation committees, helping guide funding decisions for youth athletic facilities and parks across Washington State.

In local schools, Mike served on the **Everett School District Capital Facilities Advisory Committee**, authored a Mill Creek Elementary School Technology Plan that was implemented with district and PTSA support, and volunteered extensively in classrooms and programs. He taught Junior Achievement, mentored students, and helped develop STEM learning experiences that earned him the **Golden Acorn Award**.

His passion for youth development is most evident in his decades-long involvement in youth soccer. Mike served the **Silver Lake Soccer Club** for more than 15 years in many roles, including on the fields, in operations, and as president. He was a referee and coach who mentored countless players and served as the **District 1 Commissioner on the Washington State Youth Soccer Association Board**, supporting more than 25,000 youth athletes across the region. His contributions earned him a Washington Youth Soccer Lifetime Service Award.

At the center of that commitment was his dedication to his own family. Mike has always been a deeply involved father to his two children, Ben and Micaela—coaching their teams, supporting their activities, and showing up consistently in the ways that matter most. That same dedication has continued into his role as a grandfather, where he brings the same steady presence, encouragement, and pride to the next generation.

Private Sector Foundation

Before his work in public service, Mike built a successful career in the private sector, bringing a strong analytical and leadership foundation to his later roles. He spent more than a decade at Fluke Corporation, serving in senior management roles across marketing, product development, and business strategy, including seven years on the Senior Management Team.

Earlier in his career, Mike worked at Tektronix as a Research Engineer and Program Manager, focusing on human-machine interfaces and product innovation including pioneering work on touch screens and color displays. He holds both a Bachelor of Science in Electrical Engineering and a Master of Science in Mechanical Engineering from Stanford University, as well as advanced certifications in municipal leadership and low-impact development.

City Council Leadership

In May 2005, Mike was appointed to **Mill Creek City Council**, where he served for more than 15 years, including two terms as Mayor.

During his tenure, Mike became known for his thoughtful, pragmatic approach to governance, and he was widely respected for his ability to balance policy, budget realities, and community expectations, bringing both analytical rigor and practical decision-making to the Council.

Local, Regional and Statewide Leadership

Mike's influence extended far beyond Mill Creek through significant leadership roles across Snohomish County, Puget Sound, and Washington State.

He served ten years on the **Community Transit Board**, including two years as Chairman, helping guide long-term transit planning, budgets, and major infrastructure investments.

He also held key leadership positions, including:

- **Mill Creek Business Association Board** City Council Representative
- **Puget Sound Regional Council (PSRC)** – Executive Board, Operations Committee, and Transportation Policy Board
- **Snohomish County Cities Group Board** – President (2 years)
- **Sno-Isle Strategic Planning Committee**
- **South County Fire Board**
- **Association of Washington Cities (AWC) Education Committee**
- **Washington State Transportation Improvement Board**
- **Snohomish County Committee for Improved Transportation**
- **WSDOT I-5 System Partnership representative**

In each of these roles, Mike was known for his focus on process improvement and mentoring, working collaboratively to strengthen organizations and support the people behind them, well beyond the interest of any single jurisdiction.

Big Changes

In September 2020, Mike transitioned from elected office to the City's **Director of Public Works & Development Services** while the City was working through COVID/pandemic impacts, major turnover in the Public Works Department, and looming retirements in the Community Development and Planning Department.

In this position, he brought together his technical background, private-sector experience, and deep knowledge of Mill Creek to oversee infrastructure, capital projects, development services, and the City's stormwater utility.

His leadership helped guide the City through complex infrastructure and development challenges during the pandemic and beyond, while maintaining a high standard of service for residents.

A Philosophy Rooted in Community

Mike often jokes that he has lived in Mill Creek longer than Mill Creek has been a city. He moved here in July, just a couple of months before incorporation that September, and from the beginning he has been deeply committed to preserving and strengthening the community he chose to call home.

Throughout his career, Mike has continued to champion what makes Mill Creek unique: a city large enough to provide essential services yet small enough to foster strong personal connections. He believes in honoring the character of the community while thoughtfully planning for its future, recognizing that while growth is inevitable, a city's success lies in how it chooses to guide and manage that growth.

A Lasting Legacy

Mike Todd's impact is both visible and lasting, and his greatest legacy is the example he set:

A leader who combined technical expertise with community values.

A public servant who approached every role with integrity and purpose.

A trusted friend who built lasting relationships through kindness and genuine care for others.

And a devoted father and grandfather, whose commitment to family mirrored his commitment to community.

As Mike steps into retirement, he looks forward to completing many projects and spending more time with his family, especially his grandson, Theo. And, in true Mike fashion, he has already signed up for his next role: volunteering to battle weeds as part of the Noxious Weed Committee in Mill Creek.

Thank you, Mike, for 40 years of service, and for helping to create a Mill Creek that is stronger, more connected, and well-positioned for what comes next!

Mike Todd Timeline of Service

