

OREGON

August 2022

The Dallas Digest

The Mayor's Space

Mayor Brian Dalton



As mayor, local folks don't seem shy about sharing their thoughts about life here in Dallas with me. Of course, they all express love, but they often frame their adoration with the caveat that they want us to remain the same – small. This is elucidated in various ways, like the desire that we stop building new houses, a moratorium on growth by limiting the water supply or that we install speed bumps around town as revenge against traffic.

Here's a thought. When a dark mood strikes that bemoans the flood of new neighbors, reflect that visiting our historic downtown might be curative. Drive, walk or bicycle down there and soak in the late 19th Century ambiance, a gathering place to hear music, attend live theater, visit the local pub, take art classes, hear a lecture, see a movie in a 1930s Art Deco cinema, buy artisan coffee and sit outside enjoying the charm – I'll wager even more fun than a trip to Costco on the weekend.

Otherwise, I guess we could conjure up ways to make life here undesirable to quell growth, but such thinking makes my head hurt – and might be illegal. Better, we can embrace our popularity and our new neighbors – we are practiced at it – doubling down on what makes life here beautiful, like this vibrant downtown of ours described above and the "crick" flowing through it.

So, here's the vision. Let's all work together to enhance the people-friendly aspects of our downtown, doubling down on making it <u>the</u> place to be. Continue restoring the buildings, bring in new businesses like wine tasting, collaborative workspaces, a microbrewery, an art gallery, and welcome food pods, more music, summertime parklets, more second story housing, events and so on. We can all play a part to bring joy and life to our town, keeping it small in our hearts. Why not?

Upcoming Fall Events - Dallas Public Library



Storyteller **Alton Chung**

will present a collection of fascinating and seldom-told Japanese American World War II stories



Friday, Sep. 16 7:00pm

at the Dallas Event Center 939 Main St.

Presented by The Dallas Public Library 503.623.2633



