



Press Release

City of Edmonds

Mayor David O. Earling

For Immediate Release: Wednesday, October 31, 2012

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City Council approves Voluntary Separation Program, Saves City \$575,491 in ongoing salaries and benefits.

(Edmonds – WA) Last night at the Edmonds City Council meeting, one of Mayor Earling initiatives was unanimously voted positively by the City Council, the Voluntary Separation Incentive Program (VSIP).

In an effort to accommodate budgetary constraints, the Mayor announced a one-time, non-precedent-setting offer for employees to voluntarily separate from the city in exchange for a small incentive (Voluntary Separation Incentive Program, or VSIP). The goal of the VSIP was to reduce the City's overall salary costs by reducing FTE levels, while minimizing impacts on service level to citizens. This program offered incentives to employees to voluntarily separate from employment, either through retirement or resignation.

There were nine employees that applied for the program, and six that were accepted given the program criteria originally outlined by the Mayor. After the initial acceptance, one member revoked his application. The ongoing savings for these five positions that will be eliminated is \$575,491.

There has been numerous reorganizing city-wide to accommodate the separations of these individuals. This will create some efficiencies, significant ongoing savings to the general fund, and the ability to minimize impacts on service level to citizens.