



# Press Release

## City of Edmonds

Mayor David O. Earling

***For Immediate Release: September 23, 2014***

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### **Mayor Earling Hosts Town Hall on Growing Train Traffic Concerns October 2<sup>nd</sup> at 6:30 pm**

**(Edmonds, WA)** Edmonds Mayor Dave Earling is hosting a Town Hall the evening of October 2<sup>nd</sup> to discuss what experts predict may be an alarming increase in train traffic through Edmonds. The public event begins at 6:30 pm in the Plaza Room of the Edmonds Library. The purpose of the Town Hall is to share information about the substantial projected growth in oil and coal transport by train, as well as the overall continued increase in volumes of train traffic passing through downtown Edmonds, and to discuss the critical impact that increases in train traffic will have on the Edmonds waterfront community and state Ferry system. The meeting will offer the public an opportunity to raise questions, share concerns and provide information.

“The projected increases in train traffic volumes through Edmonds are of particular concern to this community,” stated Mayor Earling, “given that at-grade train crossings cut off our waterfront from the rest of the City for an increasing amount of time every day.” Trains currently block vehicular, pedestrian and emergency access to the Washington State Ferry Terminal, Port of Edmonds, Senior Center and a thriving business community for approximately *one-and-a-half hours per day*, and as train volumes are projected to grow, that blockage could rise to *four hours a day*. “That’s clearly unacceptable and dangerous for our community,” added Mayor Earling.

In addition, the higher volumes of oil and coal trains further compound the risks to the community, and particularly the waterfront area.

“The Town Hall is an opportunity for all sides to be heard,” said the Mayor. “Representatives from industry, the environmental community, regional government, and the State Department of Transportation will participate, in addition to members of the public. We hope to learn from one another.”

The Town Hall will be held at the Plaza Room of the Edmonds Library at 650 Main Street, Edmonds. The facility is ADA accessible.

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