



Press Release

City of Edmonds

Mayor David O. Earling

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Sound Transit Representative Joins Mayor's Advisory Task Force on At-Grade Railway Crossing Alternatives Analysis

Regional Transit Agency Brings Additional \$10,000 to the Effort

Edmonds, WA - Sound Transit has joined Mayor Dave Earling's Advisory Task Force to help guide the at-grade rail crossings alternatives analysis in Edmonds. Jodi Mitchell, Project Manager in Sound Transit's Business and Construction Services Division, has been named to the Task Force. Moreover, the regional transit agency has contributed \$10,000 to the alternatives analysis project, bringing the total in state, regional and local contributions to \$690,000.

"Ms. Mitchell's experience with complex construction projects will be of definite value on this Task Force," remarked Mayor Earling, "and Sound Transit's financial contribution to the effort speaks volumes about the importance this issue is to the transit agency as well."

The now ten-member Advisory Task Force is co-chaired by Port of Edmonds Commissioner Jim Orvis and Edmonds City Councilmember Mike Nelson. Other members include: Kirk Greiner (Edmonds resident), Cadence Kerr (Edmonds resident), Phil Lovell (Edmonds resident), Joy Munkers (Community Transit), Rick Wagner (BNSF), Lynn Griffiths (WSDOT – Ferries Division), Lorena Eng (WSDOT). City staff members Rob English (City Engineer) and Patrick Doherty (Director of Economic Development and Community Services) will join to facilitate the Advisory Task Force.

According to Mayor Earling, the Task Force's objective is to listen, study, and make recommendations to the consultant who will be hired to conduct the Alternatives Analysis and help guide the community through the process.

After forming the Advisory Task Force, the City will begin the process of selecting a consultant to conduct the Alternatives Analysis and formulate a process for community involvement in the study. The City will issue a report in December to update State Legislators on the study's progress. The Alternatives Analysis is expected to take approximately 14-18 months to complete and will include extensive public outreach and involvement. Once the study is complete, the City will be in position to seek funding to complete an environmental review, detailed design and construction of the preferred alternative.

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