



## City of Edmonds Media Release

Office of the Mayor ~ 121 5<sup>th</sup> Avenue North, Edmonds

***FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE: 7 December 2016***

To: Media

Contact: Contact: Carolyn LaFave | 425.771.0247 | [carolyn.lafave@edmondswa.gov](mailto:carolyn.lafave@edmondswa.gov)

### **Edmonds City Council Unanimously Approves 2017 Budget**

***City Budget Addresses Community, School and Pedestrian Safety Needs, Homelessness, and Pressing Infrastructure Demands***

**(Edmonds, WA)** – The Edmonds City Council unanimously approved the City of Edmonds 2017 Budget at the December 6<sup>th</sup> city council meeting, which emphasizes public safety and community health and well-being. The \$97,603,398 budget includes funding for a part-time parking enforcement officer, a school resource officer at Edmonds-Woodway High School, lighting at Pine Street and Highway 104, pedestrian safety training, and funding for critical infrastructure projects.

“Assembling the annual budget is always a tough task, but I feel this budget, with its emphasis on public safety and critical community issues like homelessness and affordable housing, truly is a win for us all,” says Mayor Dave Earling. “I would like to thank all of our staff who worked tirelessly to craft a budget that reflects the pressing needs of our community, while also acting as wise stewards of our public resources.”

“This is a budget we can all be proud of,” says City of Edmonds Finance Director Scott James. “It reflects the Mayor’s, Council’s and staff’s priorities to protect our citizens, promote their well-being, enhance our community and maintain our cherished parks.””

Specific highlights of these priorities include:

Investing in additional Public Safety. The budget adds funding for a Police Department School Resource Officer to work at Edmonds Woodway High School to help keep students safe and a Parking Enforcement Officer to help decrease parking congestion. The budget also adds funding for several Pedestrian Safety initiatives, including replacing crosswalk lights at Edmonds Woodway High School, installing Audible Pedestrian Signals at signalized intersections, constructing a missing sidewalk link on 15<sup>th</sup> Street, and continued upgrading of curb ramps to meet the Americans with Disabilities Act as part of a multi-year program. In an effort to encourage commuters to honor speed limits, the City is also adding another Radar Speed Indicator Trailer and will install Traffic Calming devices on city streets.

The budget also funds critical Health & Wellness initiatives by investing \$30,000 to develop a Housing Strategy that will address affordable housing and special needs of seniors, veterans and the homeless.

The budget calls for the City to continue investing in the maintenance of its infrastructure by allocating \$1.1 million towards the annual street preservation program and allocating \$400,000 for building programs.

Additionally, the budget adds one full-time Parks employee to help maintain the City's extensive parks system. To view the complete budget, please visit <http://www.edmondswa.gov/administrative-services.html>.

###