



City of Edmonds Media Release

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT ~ 121 5th Ave N, Edmonds, WA

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NARROWED LIST OF ALTERNATIVES FOR EDMONDS WATERFRONT ACCESS STUDY TO BE PRESENTED AT MAY 12 OPEN HOUSE

Attend Online or In Person at Edmonds Library, 6:00pm-8:00pm

(Edmonds, WA) - Join City of Edmonds representatives and the Edmonds Waterfront Access study team for an open house at the Edmonds Library on **Thursday, May 12, from 6:00pm-8:00pm**, to learn about the progress and next steps of the Edmonds Waterfront Access Study and offer comments. The Open House will commence at 6:00pm, with a formal presentation at 6:15pm for approximately 30 minutes, after which the Open House format will reopen to view displays, talk with the project team and provide comments. The Open House will be held at the Plaza Room atop the Edmonds Library located at 650 Main Street. Alternatively, the public can access an online open house from May 9 to May 23, 2016, at <http://edmondswaterfrontaccess.publicmeeting.info>.

The City of Edmonds is working with the study team to analyze different ways to improve access to and from the waterfront, including access for emergency responders. The team has received a great deal of feedback on waterfront access concerns and potential solutions through its first rounds of public engagement in late 2015 and early 2016. Public input to date has yielded an initial list of potential alternatives numbering over forty, plus input into the Level 1 screening criteria. After applying those Level 1 screening criteria to the initial set of potential alternatives, a more narrowed list of thirteen alternatives has emerged as the highest-scoring concepts. As a result, at the upcoming Open House the study team proposes to:

- Share the current, narrowed list of alternatives being considered to improve waterfront access

- Share the proposed list of Level 2 screening criteria to be applied to these alternatives to help determine the final preferred alternative(s)
- Gather comments from the community on the current alternatives and Level 2 screening criteria
- Explain the next steps in the study process.

“We have received valuable public input during the first stages of this process,” says Edmonds City Councilmember Mike Nelson, Co-Chair of the Mayor’s Advisory Task Force to help oversee the study process. “And we continue to look forward to engaging members of the community to provide additional input in the next steps in this important study intended ultimately to identify final, preferred alternatives to improve critical access to the Edmonds waterfront.”

A total of \$680,000 has been contributed to the Edmonds Waterfront Access Alternatives Analysis study by the State Legislature, the City of Edmonds, the Port of Edmonds and Burlington Northern Santa Fe (BNSF) Railway in response to the growing problems resulting from increasing train volumes blocking vehicle, pedestrian and emergency access to and from the Edmonds waterfront. The study aims to determine the best feasible alternatives to at-grade railroad crossings at Dayton and Main Streets, which are currently blocked by 35-40 trains each day along the city’s waterfront and could eventually be blocked by up to 100 trains a day by 2030.

Free parking is available on-site at the Edmonds Library and on nearby streets for the May 12 open house. The venue is accessible via Community Transit routes 116, 130, 196 and 416. For more information, go to www.edmondswaterfrontaccess.org , email info@edmondswaterfrontaccess.org , or call 425-771-0235

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