



## City of Edmonds Media Release

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT ~ 121 5<sup>th</sup> Ave N, Edmonds, WA

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To: Media

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### **GOVERNOR GRANTS CITY-REQUESTED VETO OF LEGISLATURE'S LIMITS ON DISTRIBUTION OF FIRE INSURANCE PREMIUM TAX**

***Saves City Upwards of \$50,000 Annually***

**(Edmonds, WA)** - On Monday April 18<sup>th</sup> Governor Inslee issued his vetoes of portions of the Legislature's 2016 Supplemental Operating Budget, including veto of a section that would have cost the City of Edmonds upwards of \$50,000 in lost tax revenue. In particular, the Legislature's budget would have held back funds from the Fire Insurance Premium Tax, a revenue stream distributed from the state to local municipalities to help defray the costs of firefighter pensions.

On April 8<sup>th</sup> Mayor Dave Earling issued a letter to Governor Inslee requesting veto of this provision in the Legislature's budget, citing concerns over the budgetary burden this would place on the backs of local municipalities such as Edmonds, as well as the lack of process and input surrounding this provision, which was proposed and passed in less than the last 24 hours of the Legislature's special session.

"I'm very pleased that Governor Inslee heeded the request from Edmonds and other municipalities to veto this hasty provision that would've placed an additional burden on us in a

time of increasing costs,” stated Mayor Earling. “If any adjustments to the Fire Insurance Premium Tax distributions should be required, we would hope to be engaged in a more deliberative process to discuss such potential adjustments.”

For more information, feel free to contact Economic Development and Community Services Director Patrick Doherty at [patrick.doherty@edmondswa.gov](mailto:patrick.doherty@edmondswa.gov) or 425-771-0251.

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