



City of Edmonds Media Release

Mayor David O. Earling

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EDMONDS WATERFRONT PROJECTS RECEIVE STRONG SUPPORT IN NEWLY RELEASED STATE CAPITAL AND TRANSPORTATION BUDGETS

State Budgets Release \$6 Million for Edmonds Street Waterfront Connector Project and \$500,000 each for Edmonds Waterfront Center and Waterfront Park Redevelopment Project

(Edmonds, WA) - The City of Edmonds has much to celebrate in the newly released 2018 State Capital and Transportation Budgets, including \$6 million for the Edmonds Street Waterfront Connector Project, a \$500,000 grant for the new Edmonds Waterfront Center (currently the Edmonds Senior Center), and a \$500,000 grant for the waterfront redevelopment and beach restoration in conjunction with the new Waterfront Center.

The State Transportation Budget released \$6 million to the Edmonds Street Waterfront Connector project in the 2019-2021 biennium. The project is designed to implement near-term and long-term solutions to at-grade railroad crossing conflicts on the Edmonds waterfront that affect freight and passenger rail, a state highway and ferry terminal, transit, and local vehicle, pedestrian, and bicycle traffic. The estimated cost of the project is \$30 million. In August 2017, Mayor Earling announced receipt of a \$700,000 state appropriation to support Phase II of this important project: initial design, environmental work, and permitting. The state money was joined by \$295,000 in local matching funds from the City of Edmonds, the Port of Edmonds,

Burlington Northern Santa Fe Railroad (BNSF), Sound Transit and Community Transit. The Phase II work began as of January of this year, with a public Open House held last week on 2/28/18.

The waterfront park redevelopment will include removing the aged creosote parking pier, connecting the walkway along the waterfront, reintroducing beach habitat, adding access to the beach, reconfiguring the parking lot and adding a raingarden and bioswale to treat the runoff from the parking lot.

“This is amazing news for our waterfront project,” says City of Edmonds Parks, Recreation and Cultural Services Director Carrie Hite. “Our representatives in Olympia did some heavy lifting on this, and it will benefit both the entire community of Edmonds and the surrounding region.”

“This has been an extremely rewarding two days,” says Mayor Dave Earling. “These newly released state budgets provide additional critical support for our waterfront projects which will greatly benefit the entire region. We are deeply grateful to our Legislators in the 21st and 32nd Districts, as well the two chairs of the House and Senate Transportation committees, who were instrumental in this process.”

Today’s announcement comes on the heels of the State Legislature passing a delayed 2017 Capital Budget in January of this year that included substantial funding for several major projects in and near Edmonds, including:

- \$2.25 million for the Edmonds Waterfront Center;
- \$500,00 for the waterfront redevelopment and beach restoration;
- \$391,000 for the Frances Anderson Center Roofing Project; and
- \$37.8 million for the Edmonds Community College Science, Engineering, Technology Building;

For more information about the newly planned Edmonds Waterfront Center, as well as the Edmonds Street Waterfront Connector, please visit the City of Edmonds website at <http://www.edmondswa.gov/>

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