



City of Edmonds Media Release

Economic Development ~ 121 5th Ave N, Edmonds, WA 98020

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CIVIC PARK LEADS AMONG EDMONDS PROJECTS RECEIVING FUNDS FROM STATE LEGISLATURE

*Civic Park, Dayton Street Pump Station, Highway 99 and Waterfront Connector Receive Funds
from the Capital and Transportation Budgets*

(Edmonds, WA) - After pronouncing “Sine Die” only moments before midnight Sunday, the 2019 Legislative Session adjourned on time and yet again with some good funding news for Edmonds.

Funding for Civic Park leads the way with up to \$1,350,000 in State monies teed up for the development of this signature downtown park in Edmonds. Funding would funnel through the Recreation Conservation Office under three parks and recreation programs: \$500,000 from the Washington Wildlife and Recreation Program (WWRP), “Local Parks” category; \$500,000 from the Land and Water Conservation Fund (pending likely allocation of federal dollars that fund the program); and, \$350,000 from the Youth Athletic Field Fund.

With these funds lined up, the \$12-million project’s funding package is taking shape. With City Council-approved funds from City Real Estate Excise Tax (REET) dollars and park impact fees, as well as a Hazel Miller Foundation grant, this new State funding brings the cumulative total up to \$9 million.

Parks and Recreation Director Carrie Hite states that she hopes to discuss with City Council later this year potential options for filling the remaining \$3 million gap in order to meet the

project's scheduled ground-breaking in the April-May timeframe of 2020, with subsequent park construction expected to finalize some 10 to 12 months later.

"Developing Civic Park has been a long-standing goal for the City of Edmonds and our community," stated Hite. "We are so grateful for the State capital budget appropriations for helping fund this signature Downtown Edmonds park. We are now even closer to our goal."

Likewise from the Capital Budget, the Legislature has allocated \$515,000 for the Dayton Street Pump Station, a project intended to stem the flooding in the area of Dayton Street and SR 104 and the ferry holding lanes. "This project has a double benefit," stated Public Works Director Phil Williams, "in that it will also help stem the influx of excessive fresh water into the Edmonds Marsh, which is a necessary precursor to restoring that saltwater marsh."

From the Transportation Budget, two important transportation projects in Edmonds will see financial assistance. Recognizing the successful planning and concept-design steps the City has taken on the planned improvements to the Highway 99 Corridor, the State has moved forward \$300,000 from the remaining \$9,000,000 of a \$10,000,000 appropriation that was initially approved for the 2021-23 biennium (\$1,000,000 was pulled forward in last year's transportation budget for use over the past year). Making these funds available this year will help the City continue its design efforts to make projects on Highway 99 ready in 2021 to utilize the remaining \$8,700,000, especially as leverage to seek federal matching dollars.

And lastly, the Edmonds Street Waterfront Connector, a project intended to provide unimpeded emergency-response access, as well as continuous pedestrian and bicycle access, to and from the Waterfront, was awarded another \$1,050,000, for a total State contribution of \$7,050,000. Together with \$1,500,000 from the Port of Edmonds, the initial \$8,550,000 amassed so far is a significant local match to seek federal funds for this approximately \$27.5 million project.

"I'm delighted that the State continues to see the vital importance of this project to Edmonds by awarding us these additional funds," remarked Mayor Dave Earling. "While some have yet to appreciate the crucial need for this project, it's clear the Legislature understands that mounting train volumes will soon create a truly unsafe condition for the hundreds of thousands of visitors and residents along our Waterfront. With Main and Dayton Streets blocked more frequently and for longer periods, response to life-threatening emergencies will be increasingly delayed. The Connector will solve this critical problem."

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