



# City of Edmonds Media Release

Parks, Recreation and Cultural Services

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To: Edmonds Media

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## **Face Coverings are REQUIRED on Edmonds Fishing Pier**

*The City begins outreach campaign to increase compliance*

(Edmonds, WA) Concerned residents continue to contact the Edmonds Parks, Recreation and Cultural Services team about the Edmonds Fishing Pier. They report that few people are wearing face coverings and it is putting pier visitors at risk. Residents have turned to the City to help.

The City has determined that unless more people mask up, the City will have no choice but to close the fishing pier to all visitors to meet state standards to reduce the spread of COVID-19. Today, the City begins a week-long outreach campaign to increase the number of masked visitors.

“We have significant concern for the community’s safety,” said Angie Feser, Edmonds Parks, Recreation and Cultural Services Director. “There needs to be a much higher compliance rate of wearing masks while within six feet of another person. We see too many people standing too closely together without masks. We know some use the pier for subsistence fishing so we want to get the word out to everyone in as many languages as possible.”

Starting today, visitors will see more signs in more languages that outline the real consequences of no mask: wear a face covering or close the pier. A decision whether to keep the pier open or close it will be made within the next 10 days.

Edmonds is not the first government organization to consider this. The State, King County Parks and some cities have closed facilities due to low mask compliance rates.

“We don’t want to have to close the pier,” said Feser. “We know how much people love and use the pier. We need folks to love it enough to mask up when they use it.”

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