



Press Release

City of Edmonds

Mayor Gary Haakenson

June 2, 2010

For Immediate Release

Mayor Haakenson accepts Deputy County Executive position

(Edmonds - WA) Edmonds Mayor Gary Haakenson will leave his position as mayor on July 2 to fill the role of Deputy County Executive with Snohomish County.

County Executive Aaron Reardon made the offer on May 28, and Gary will begin with the County on July 6. Gary made the announcement last night at the Edmonds City Council meeting.

“This is an exciting opportunity to work with the County Executive and County employees,” Gary said. “I’m grateful to Executive Reardon for the offer and look forward to working with him to meet the countywide challenges.”

Gary has served as Edmonds mayor for 11 years. He became mayor in January 2000 and was re-elected to a second term beginning in 2004 and a third term beginning in 2008. Prior to that he served on the Edmonds City Council for four years, from 1996 through 1999.

“I’ve thoroughly enjoyed my 15 years of association with the City of Edmonds,” Gary said. “My heartfelt thanks to City employees for their hard work and dedication to Edmonds residents. I also want to thank the citizens for their overwhelming support to me as mayor these past 11 years.”

In addition to his position as mayor, Gary also serves as chair of the SNOCOM board and the Snohomish Emergency Radio System (SERS) board. He is on the executive board as the mayor-at-large for Snohomish County Cities.

“I look forward to continuing working with all the Snohomish County elected officials as we strive to move the County forward in these challenging economic times,” Gary said.

Gary spent most of his career in the retail field. He managed several departments for JC Penney, and later co-founded Everett-based Zumiez, a national retail clothing chain that currently has 389 stores.

Gary is a Northwest native, having grown up in the Seattle area. He attended Blanchet High School and Seattle University, where he received a degree in business administration. He is married to Dolly, and they have two married sons, Brett and Bryan. Gary and Dolly became

grandparents in 2006. Brett and his wife Mandy have two daughters, Matea and Dahlia. Bryan and his wife Jenn have two sons, Alex and Sam.

Gary is 62 years old and has been an Edmonds resident for 25 years.

The City Council will appoint an individual to complete the remaining 18 months of Gary's term, through December 2011. Any Edmonds resident who is a registered voter and has lived in Edmonds for one year or more is eligible to apply. Details, deadline information, and an application will be available soon on the City's website at www.ci.edmonds.wa.us.

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