



City of Edmonds Media Release

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT & COMMUNITY SERVICES ~

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Edmonds Diversity Commission Launches First Year of Activity

First Action is to Invite Public to Attend Local Martin Luther King, Jr. Day Presentations

(Edmonds - WA) The newly formed Edmonds Diversity Commission launches its first full year of activity in time to issue an invitation to all Edmonds residents to come together on January 18th, the day our country has set aside to commemorate the life, works and legacy of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.

Appointed in October, the Commission has drafted their first-year work plan to be presented to City Council on January 26. In 2016, the Diversity Commission will focus on engaging the community in order to better understand these issues, and to develop strong partnerships to help fulfill its mission of promoting and embracing diversity in our community. "The Diversity Commission is excited to officially launch in conjunction with the celebration of Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. When we remember Dr. King, we remember the work that it took to move this country forward on equality," offers newly elected Chair, Mario Brown. "That work continues to this day. Our goal as a commission is to shine a light on discrimination in any form while bringing our community together around our common humanity."

In these challenging times, the Edmonds Diversity Commission would like to remind the community that Martin Luther King, Jr. Day is a not just a day to celebrate the memory of a great national leader, but also to celebrate his dream. The Commission urges everyone to take time to reflect on what it means to live in a community with dignity and equity for all, as well as to recognize that there is still work to be done.

To participate in South Snohomish County celebrations of Martin Luther King, Jr. Day, the Commission suggests attending the presentation by Dr. Michael Eric Dyson at Edmonds Community College on

January 14, <http://www.edcc.edu/news/2015/12-15-15-mlk-celebration.html>; joining Global Peace Foundation USA for a day of service, usyouth@globalpeace.org; or United Way of Snohomish County's Day of Service for Teens, <http://www.uwsc.org/mlkday.php>.