



City of Edmonds Media Release

Office of the Mayor ~ 121 5th Ave N, Edmonds, WA 98020

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To: Media

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HAZEL MILLER FOUNDATION ANNOUNCES HOLIDAY GIFT TO EDMONDS: \$1.5 MILLION TO REDEVELOP CIVIC FIELD

Mayor Earling Also Requests \$2 Million in City Budget to Support Civic Field Redevelopment

(Edmonds, WA) – Just in time for the holidays, the Hazel Miller Foundation has announced a historic gift to the Edmonds community: a \$1.5 million grant to support the redevelopment of Civic Field. The announcement was made by the Foundation’s Board of Directors, who presented a ceremonial check for the grant funds at Civic Field today to City of Edmonds Mayor Dave Earling and the City’s Parks, Recreation and Cultural Services Department.

“This is wonderful news for our entire community that deserves to be celebrated,” says City of Edmonds Parks Director Carrie Hite. “Acquiring this beloved property in the heart of downtown Edmonds and securing it for our community’s use has been a top priority for the City and a part of this City’s Comprehensive Plan since the 1980’s. This historic gift from the Hazel Miller Foundation, along with the requested \$2 million in City funds, provides the beginning critical support to achieving this community goal.”

Established as a trust by Edmonds philanthropist Hazel Miller, the Hazel Miller Foundation is a private, nonprofit foundation dedicated to serving the citizens of Edmonds and South Snohomish County. “The Hazel Miller Board is pleased to partner with the city to create something truly special in the heart of Edmonds,” says Hazel Miller Board of Director Member

Dick Ellis. “Hazel Miller loved Edmonds. The vision for a new Civic Park would be something she’d be proud of.”

“The City of Edmonds is incredibly grateful for the generous support of the Hazel Miller Foundation in supporting the Civic Field project and so many others in our community,” says Edmonds Mayor Dave Earling. “We hope this impressive gift, as well as my requested \$2 million in the City budget for Civic Field's redevelopment, will inspire others in our community to also step forward and support this legacy project for our city and region.” The City would like to invite any citizens who wish to contribute to this park to contact Carrie Hite at the Parks, Recreation and Cultural Services Department.

Next steps in the Civic Field redevelopment process include pursuing state and county grants as well as private donations to support what is anticipated to be an approximately \$10-12 million project. In 2018 the City has plans to demolish the stadium stands in January and begin the design development process. The City hopes to begin constructing the new community space by 2019-2020.

By way of background on the project, under the ownership of the Edmonds School District, the City had permission to use the Civic Field property for more than 40 years. The School District approached the City in 2015 with its intent to sell the property, leading to negotiations for a sale and purchase agreement with the City. Under the purchase and sales agreement approved by City Council and signed by Mayor Earling, the City of Edmonds agreed to purchase Civic Field for \$1.9 million from the Edmonds School District in 2016 with the help of state and county funding. Together with a 50 percent matching grant from the Washington State Recreation Conservation Office for up to \$1 million, and a \$500,000 grant from Snohomish Conservation Futures, the City budgeted \$400,000 for the acquisition. The City then initiated a community planning process to develop a long-term plan for the Civic Field property, with members of the community providing significant input into the design of a Master Plan for the 8-acre property.

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