

# City of Edmonds Media Release

DEVELOPMENT SERVICES ~ 121 5<sup>TH</sup> AVENUE NORTH, EDMONDS

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To: Media

Contact: Shane Hope, | shane.hope@edmondswa.gov | 425.771.0220

## Housing Commission Appointed

**Edmonds, WA** – From 135 applications for the new Citizens’ Housing Commission, 15 members and 8 alternates have been appointed. The Commission’s task is to develop housing policy options for City Council consideration.

Housing Commission appointees by district are listed below:

District 1 (by Council member Kristiana Johnson): James Ogonowski and Karen Herrick (with Leif Warren, alternate);

District 2 (by Council member Dave Teitzel): Keith Soltner and Weija (Vicky) Wu (with Wendy Wyatt, alternate);

District 3 (by Council member Adrienne Fraley-Monillas): George Keefe and John Reed (with Eva-Denise Miller, alternate);

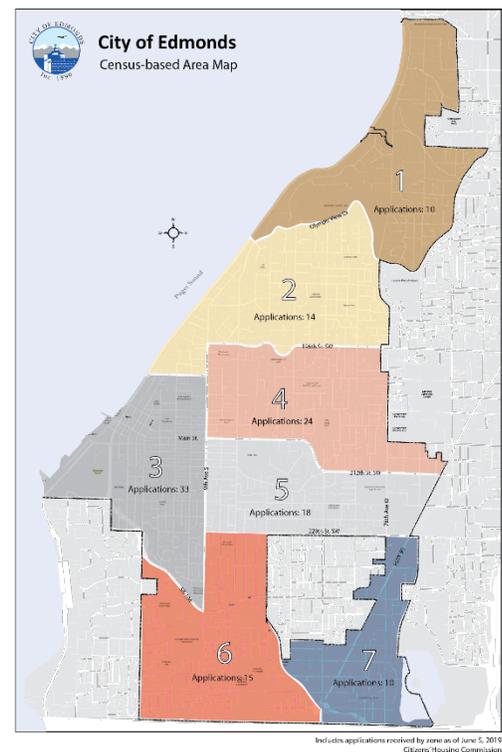
District 4 (by Council member Mike Nelson): Nichole Franko and Mike McMurray (with Kenneth Sund, alternate);

District 5 (by Council member Tom Mesaros); Greg Long and Tanya Kataria (with Shirley Havenga, alternate);

District 6 (by Council member Diane Buckshnis): Jess Blanch and Alena Nelson-Vietmeir (with Rick Nishino, alternate);

District 7 (by Council member Neil Tibbott): Judi Gladstone and William Chen (with Jean Salls, alternate).

The Mayor’s appointment is “at-large” (not district-based): Bob Throndsen (with Tana Axtelle, alternate).



The Housing Commission was established by a resolution earlier this year. Under the resolution, the Commission is charged with developing, by the end of 2020, “diverse housing policy options for Council consideration designed to expand the range of housing (including rental and owned) available in Edmonds: options that are irrespective of age, gender, race, religious affiliation, physical disability or sexual orientation.”

The seven districts in Edmonds are based on U.S. Census areas, with roughly equal populations among them. The intent of this approach was to have representation from all parts of the city. This is the first time a district-based approach to commission appointments has been used in Edmonds.

All meetings of the Housing Commission will be open to the public. A date for the first meeting is being determined to allow as many of the new Commissioners to attend as possible. The meeting date and place will be announced ahead. Monthly meetings will be scheduled after that.

To encourage more opportunities for local involvement, additional public events (such as open houses or town halls) will be scheduled and announced too. The events will vary in location and occur at least once per quarter. A broader community outreach strategy is being developed.

More information about the Housing Commission effort is online at:

<https://www.citizenshousingcommission.org/>.

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