

October 3, 2012 For Immediate Release

To: Edmonds City Council

The Edmonds Beacon edmondseditor@yourbeacon.com

The Everett Herald <u>sheets@heraldnet.com</u>; <u>newstips@heraldnet.com</u>

The Seattle Times newstips@seattletimes.com
My Edmonds News teresa@myedmondsnews.com

Edmonds Patch <u>riffzy@comcast.net</u>

Edmonds KOMO susieberesford@hotmail.com

Contact: Cindi Cruz, Executive Assistant

cruz@ci.edmonds.wa.us 425.775.7724

MAIN STREET IS OPEN FOR BUSINESS!

(Edmonds – WA) By now, most of us are aware of a project the City of Edmonds has undertaken on Main Street between 5th and 6th. The project is going well and yes, as of this writing, we are on schedule. The weather has been perfect. Do what you can to keep the rain away, because wet weather could slow the project. The workers are working four, ten hour days, giving us three days of quiet.

Here is the most important item for us to remember. ALL OF THE BUSINESSES ARE OPEN. The city had four or five meetings with the business community before the project began to let them know about the scope of the project, get their support, and make them aware of the schedule. The businesses have been terrific because they know by having the street completely rejuvenated; they will have new 12 foot sidewalks, new lighting, a mid-block pedestrian crossing, new street amenities as well as new underground utilities. We will only lose two parking places and maintain two-way traffic.

But more than ever, they need us to patronize their businesses, NOW! I have spoken to many of the business owners and business is down. While they knew that would happen, comments have run the gamut of "we are fine" to "it has been very slow". We need to support these good folks. We have fabulous storefront businesses, restaurants and offices in that block that take a little more work to get to, but well worth the effort.

We started the project the day after the car show and are committed to finish by November 19th, going into the heavy Christmas shopping season. In the meantime, come and be a supervising engineer for the project, but most importantly patronize these important businesses.