



City of Edmonds Media Release

Economic Development ~ 121 5th Avenue North, Edmonds

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Open House Scheduled to Share Results of Recent Community Livability Survey

Public Invited 6:00pm, Wednesday, September 28th

(Edmonds, WA) – Conducted earlier this Summer, the National Citizen Survey generated over 900 responses from Edmonds residents, expressing their opinions on a wide range of issues related to community livability. As reported last month, the National Citizen Survey’s “Community Livability Report” states that almost all residents rated the quality of life in Edmonds as excellent or good. While a summary presentation was made by the Community Services Department to City Council in August, the Department has now scheduled an Open House to share the results with the public in a less formal manner.

The Open House is scheduled from 6:00 to 7:30pm, Wednesday, September 28, 2016 in the Brackett Room on the third floor of City Hall, located at 121 5th Avenue North, which is an ADA-accessible location. A brief presentation will be made, and summary boards will be located around the room with more detailed survey result information for public viewing.

“In recognition of the participation of over 900 of our local residents in this important community survey, we are delighted to be able to take this opportunity to share the survey’s results with the community in a casual setting,” says Economic Development and Community Services Director Patrick Doherty, “which will allow for questions and comments from residents and a bit more in-depth discussion than was able to be presented to City Council last month.”

Among the top findings from the National Citizens Survey (NCS) administered by the National Research Center in Edmonds this July:

- Edmonds is a great place to live, with 9 in 10 residents positively rating overall image, overall appearance and Edmonds as a great place to raise children, among other attributes. Ninety-six percent of respondents rated Edmonds as an excellent or good place to live, much higher than responses in nationwide surveys and those from throughout the Pacific Northwest.
- Safety is an asset and a priority, with 9 in 10 residents stating they feel safe in Edmonds and also identifying safety as a priority to focus on in coming years.
- The economy is important to residents and highly rated in Edmonds. About 8 in 10 residents rated the City's economic health as positive, although it is recognized that more jobs in Edmonds for Edmonds residents would be desirable as only 3 in 10 work in the city.
- The City supports a culture of diversity and opportunities for citizen engagement. At least three-quarters of residents gave excellent/good ratings to opportunities for cultural/arts/events engagement. Also, up to 6 in 10 felt that the City has high levels of community engagement and is open to people of diverse backgrounds.

The National Citizen Survey (NCS) was administered by the National Research Center (NRC) in Edmonds in July 2016. Twenty-two hundred households were randomly selected and mailed the survey. An online version of the survey was also made available to anyone in the community via the City's website and Facebook page. Responses to the randomized survey totaled 586, or 28%, which was well within the 20% to 40% range of normal response rate experienced by the NRC. With the addition of 320 online responses, total response to the survey was 906.

A link to the complete survey report and a summary of its findings can be viewed on the City's website at <http://edmondswa.gov/community-services.html>.

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