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Renton Mayor Dedicates New Community Garden, Applauds Sustainable Efforts

Renton: On Monday, May 2, Mayor Denis Law participated in a ceremony to dedicate the new community garden in the Earlington Hill neighborhood of Renton. Launched as a partnership between the neighborhood and Sustainable Renton, the project will convert an open plot of property owned by Seattle City Light and City View Church into a community garden. The garden was named Little Mountain, the original name of the site when it was part of the Duwamish Tribe, and Honorable Chair of the Duwamish Tribe Cecile Hanson and Mayor Law lead the dedication.

“The Earlington Hill residents have created a model for seeking sustainable opportunities in their community to make their neighborhood better,” said Mayor Law at the dedication. “We are pleased to have partnered with the community. Working together we can each make a difference and our neighborhoods a better place.”

Previously the vacant area attracted vagrants and the neighborhood struggled with people loitering, car traffic and even criminal activity. The City of Renton responded to the concerns of the Earlington Hill community by installing a gate that dramatically reduced the illegal activity. Rhoda Green, a local resident, took the initiative and began the revitalization project in 2007. Her plan was to landscape the neighborhood entrance with low maintenance native plants and a new neighborhood identification sign. She got a grant from the City of Renton and approached Sustainable Renton and Seattle City Light with a proposal to install a community garden under the power lines located on SW Langston Road.

Following Monday’s dedication and blessing ceremony by the Duwamish Tribe, Sustainable Renton will begin installing garden beds for community use as well as a food forest where residents can forage. The project is expected to be completed by fall 2017.

About the City of Renton

The City of Renton, Washington is located on the southeast shore of Lake Washington with a population just under 99,000. Renton's strong economic base, diverse marketplace and favorable business climate have attracted the attention of nationally recognized companies that are looking to provide employees and their families with an outstanding quality of life. It is the home of Boeing, IKEA, the Seattle Seahawks, and the eternal resting place of Jimi Hendrix. More information can be found at rentonwa.gov.

About Sustainable Renton

Sustainable Renton is a group of people who live and/or work in Renton that care greatly about building a sustainable community – one that fosters connections between people, protects natural resources, and treads as lightly as possible on the Earth. More information can be found at sustainablerenton.org.

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