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City of Renton Contacts

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City Attorney Larry Warren to Retire

RENTON, WA – City Attorney Larry Warren has announced that he will retire from his position with the city effective April 15. He joined the city as a part-time prosecutor in 1974 and has been a city attorney since 1977. He has worked for seven mayors.

"Larry has provided an immeasurable service to the city and the greater Renton community," said Mayor Denis Law. "His dedication and leadership, not only as the city attorney but all his other contributions, have made Renton a better place."

Larry Warren was the lead counsel in Renton v Playtime Theaters, a landmark decision by the U.S. Supreme Court that protected the city's right to prohibit adult theaters from operating in certain areas. Warren was instrumental in the decision to keep the Brightwater Sewage treatment out of Renton, citing the impact to the center of town if a second sewer main was built through Renton to serve Snohomish County. Over the years he has defended all litigation against the city, specializing in municipal and civil law including contract law, zoning and public works cases.

Warren received his engineering degree from the University of Washington and his law degree from South Texas College of Law in Houston. He graduated Magna Cum Laude and was a member of the bar in Texas and Washington.

He was the recipient of the 2013 Ernest Campbell Award for Excellence in the practice of municipal law, the highest distinction conferred by the Washington State Association of Municipal Attorneys (WSAMA). This award is the equivalent of a lifetime achievement award in the practice of municipal law. He has also been recognized as a Washington Super Lawyer three times by the Washington Law & Politics magazine. This is a peer evaluation and is the result of a rigorous multi-step selection process.

"It has been a fun and rewarding ride," said City Attorney Larry Warren. "I have played a part in the tremendous growth and revitalization of Renton–from acquiring property such as City Hall and parks to working on the development of The Landing and Sunset area. I feel very fortunate that I had the opportunity to give back to the community."

Looking toward the future, Warren plans to travel, work on his yard and spend time with his family—his wife, three adult children and a large extended family.

Mayor Law plans to appoint Shane Moloney as the next city attorney, who is expected to assume his new responsibilities following Warren's retirement on April 15. Moloney formerly served as the city attorney for the city of Mill Creek and the assistant city attorney for Mercer Island. He is currently an assistant city attorney in Renton.

About the City of Renton

The City of Renton, Washington, with a population of 101,300 (2016), is located on the southeast shore of Lake Washington, just south of Seattle. Renton's strong economic base, diverse marketplace and favorable business climate have attracted the attention of nationally recognized companies that are providing employees and their families an outstanding quality of life. Renton is the home of Boeing, PACCAR, IKEA, the Seattle Seahawks, and the eternal resting place of Jimi Hendrix. More information can be found on our website (rentonwa.gov), Facebook page (CityofRenton) and Twitter (@CityofRenton).

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