## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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## City of Renton mourns the passing of former City Councilmember King Parker

**RENTON, WA --** The city is mourning the death of former Renton councilmember King Parker, who passed away last evening. Mr. Parker served three terms on the Renton City Council since 1995 and also ran for mayor in 2003.

"Renton has lost one of the finest leaders to ever serve this community," said Mayor Denis Law. "King Parker epitomized the meaning of public service and giving back to the community. As a successful businessman and dedicated elected official, King devoted his life to helping others, both financially and with his time. He served on numerous boards and commissions and rarely missed any meetings."

"As a fellow business owner, his generosity inspired me; as a city leader, his tireless concern for our community amazed me," said Armondo Pavone, Renton City Council President. "King truly was a Renton treasure who made our city a better place to live."

Mr. Parker, owner of King and Bunnys Appliances, was very active in the Renton community over four decades. He served on countless boards and commissions and was active with Renton Chamber of Commerce, Renton Rotary, Kiwanis Club of Renton, Salvation Army, and PTA, as well as many government-related committees during his time in office. He was a mentor with Communities In Schools of Renton and a founding member of the Renton Community Foundation. Mr. Parker was honored as Renton's Citizen of the Year in 1999, and December 12, 2011, was proclaimed King Parker Day in Renton.

"King loved Renton and its residents and Renton residents loved King," Mayor Law continued. "He worked tirelessly to promote new development and quality of life initiatives for this city and his fingerprints are on nearly every good thing that has happened in this community over several decades. He was an ambassador and a cheerleader who would strive for positive outcomes to any challenge.

"King earned the love and respect from the Renton community. He will truly be missed."

## 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 (<u>rentonwa.gov</u>), Facebook page (<u>CityofRenton</u>) and Twitter (@CityofRenton).