

## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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### City of Renton to host first Unity March

*Residents are invited to gather at Piazza Park and march to City Hall with city staff, police, Renton African-American Pastoral group and community members*

**Renton, WA** – The City of Renton along with the Renton Police Department and the African American Pastoral Group (RAAP) will hold a Unity March in downtown Renton on Wednesday, October 12, 2016.

“Today, more than ever, our message of friendship, partnership and solidarity is critical,” said Mayor Denis Law. “I hope you will join us as we unite and send a message to our community that we march together for peace, trust and unity.”

The march will form at Piazza Park at 3 p.m. After an invocation from Pastor George Houston of Living Hope Fellowship and a musical performance by Samajesty Starr, attendees will hear from Mayor Law and co-chairs of the African-American Pastoral Group, Police Chief Kevin Milosevich and Rev. Dr. Linda Smith, Executive Director and Pastor, SKY Empowerment Center. Celestine Ezinkwo, Executive Director of CryOut!, will serve as the master of ceremonies.

At 3:30 p.m. attendees will march to City Hall. At approximately 4:15, Pastor Mike Thomas, Founder and Lead Pastor of the Radiant Church, will lead the group in a commitment to unity. Damien Pattenaude, Assistant Superintendent of the Renton School District, will join Mayor Law, Chief Milosevich, and Dr. Smith as they pledge unity.

### ***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 at [rentonwa.gov](http://rentonwa.gov).

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