FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE



September 20, 2016

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City of Renton Accepting Tourism Promotion Grants for 2017

Deadline for applications is October 7, 2016

Renton, WA - The City of Renton is now accepting applications for 2017 tourism promotion grants. These grants support tourism marketing and operations in Renton and are available to convention and visitors' bureaus, destination marketing organizations, non-profits such as chambers of commerce and lodging associations and municipalities.

Hotels, motels, private campgrounds and similar businesses collect added sales tax from their customers, a portion of which goes to the city. The Renton City Council has appointed a Lodging Tax Advisory Committee (LTAC) and tasked it with distributing these funds. Committee members include representatives of the city, Renton Chamber of Commerce and local hotels. Councilmember Armondo Pavone chairs the committee.

A workshop for interested applicants will be held on Tuesday, September 27, at 10 a.m. in the 7th Floor Conferencing Center at Renton City Hall. Copies of the application form and related materials are available online at <u>www.rentonwa.gov/lodgingtax</u> or by contacting <u>Cliff Long</u>, Economic Development Director for the City of Renton at 425-430-6591.

Applications from qualifying entities are due by 5 p.m. on Friday, October 7, 2016. Applications will be reviewed and finalists will be invited to present before the LTAC in late October. The committee will make its final recommendations for funding to the Renton City Council in November.

For more information, please contact:

Cliff Long Economic Development Director City of Renton 425-430-6591

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 <u>rentonwa.gov</u>.