



SAFESTREETS

March 10, 2017

NBC Nightly News covers Everett's lawsuit against Purdue Pharma

EVERETT – The City's lawsuit against Purdue Pharma was a [featured story](#) on Thursday's NBC Nightly News with Lester Holt. Correspondent Stephanie Gosk visited Everett to speak with Mayor Ray Stephanson and to learn more about [what the City is doing](#) to respond to the epidemic of addiction on our streets.

The City in January [filed the lawsuit](#) against Purdue for allowing OxyContin to be funneled through the black market, causing the current opioid crisis in Everett.

"There is clear evidence that Purdue ignored their responsibility to stop the diversion of OxyContin into the black market, directly leading to the heroin crisis on our streets today," the Mayor said at the time. "Their drive for profit caused this epidemic, which has overwhelmed our treatment and emergency systems. We are taking a stand, and holding Purdue accountable for their actions."

OxyContin is recognized as a gateway drug for heroin, and in addition to OxyContin abuse, Everett is also dealing with a current heroin crisis throughout the community.

Learn more about addiction at upcoming forum

Join Mayor Stephanson and an expert panel on Thursday, March 23, to learn more about the complexities of drug addiction and how our community can respond. The [free public forum](#) will include a panel discussion featuring:

- Penny LeGate, former news anchor and founder of [The Marah Project](#)
- Randy Humphrey, co-founder, [Bella Monte Recovery Center](#)
- Dr. Richard Ries, associate director, [University of Washington Addiction Psychiatry Residency Program](#)
- Wendy Grove, executive director, [Everett Recovery Café](#)

Learn more:

For more information on the Community Streets Initiative, visit www.everettwa.gov/streetsinitiative.
For more information on the Safe Streets Plan, visit www.everettwa.gov/safestreets.
Sign up for email updates at www.everettwa.gov/notifyme.

Learn more about the [Everett Safe Streets Plan](#).

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