



# NEWS RELEASE

## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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## Mayor Franklin delivers annual State of Everett address

EVERETT, WA – Mayor Cassie Franklin delivered her 2020 [State of Everett address](#) at the Economic Alliance Snohomish County’s annual event on Thursday, Jan. 16.

Franklin provided an update on major 2019 accomplishments, including progress on youth, gun and gang violence and programs to address the challenges of homelessness, addiction and mental illness. She also discussed the City’s work to address housing affordability and responsible growth.

The majority of the Mayor’s remarks focused on four key areas:

- A better future for all
- Collaboration and partnership
- Economic and cultural vitality
- Sustainable and effective government

“I am committed to ensuring this city is welcoming, inclusive, safe” said Franklin. “That we are a city that cultivates opportunities for everyone - especially our youth - to rise, thrive and succeed.”

Franklin shared the successes of youth-centered programs, including the [Everett Career Link](#) internship partnership with Everett Public Schools, and announced it will expand to Everett students in the Mukilteo School District.

The address included updates on major employers and institutions in Everett that contribute to Everett’s economy, create career paths for students, and attract new investment in the region. The Mayor recognized several small businesses as well as the Workforce Development Center, which provides hands-on training for at-risk and disadvantaged high school juniors and seniors.

She also highlighted her vision for establishing Everett as “the destination of choice” for businesses, residents and tourists. Her vision includes attracting new businesses, visitors and

residents, and certifying Everett as a Creative District to help turn cultural activities into economic growth.

In discussing sustainable and effective government, the mayor shared the City's work to address climate change and reduce its carbon footprint, including replacing fleet vehicles with more fuel-efficient or all-electric models. Everett Transit has nine all-electric buses with more on the way in 2020. Additionally, the City will present a Climate Action Plan to Everett City Council in the coming weeks.

Franklin closed by announcing plans for four initiatives:

- Adding 24 officers to Everett's police force by 2022
- Forming a task force to solve student homelessness in Everett
- Revisiting plans to improve recreation opportunities and pathways around Silver Lake
- And forming a stakeholder committee to explore fiscal options and address revenue challenges

"Our vision for Everett is one of strength, security and equity," said Franklin. "If we work together as a community, we will realize that vision."

Read the [full text](#) of the State of Everett address or [watch the video](#) of the event. To learn more about Mayor Franklin, visit [everettwa.gov/sotc](http://everettwa.gov/sotc).

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