



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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City of Mount Vernon receives grant of \$10,000 to assist with the removal of gang graffiti.

MOUNT VERNON – The Washington Association of Sheriffs and Police Chiefs recently informed the City of Mount Vernon that they had awarded them a grant of \$10,000 to be used for the removal of gang graffiti on public right-of-ways within the City limits. The grant funds will be used to pay for a supervisor who will oversee a group of juvenile offenders on an every other weekend basis. The City’s Park and Police Departments partnered with Skagit County Youth and Family Services Department in completing and submitting the grant application.

Mayor Norris and the City Council are committed to aggressively removing gang graffiti on public and private property as quickly as possible. City staff has been directed to remove graffiti on public right-of-ways as soon as they see it or are notified of its existence. Also, when staff see or are notified that graffiti has been placed on private property; they immediately contact the affected property owner and request that the graffiti be painted over. Additionally, Mayor Norris recently coordinated the organization of a volunteer group from various local churches who paint over gang graffiti on weekends and identify their group as “Clean Slate”. The City donated a truck and equipped it with various colors of paint that the volunteers use to paint over graffiti.

Mayor Norris said “This grant will allow us to be even more aggressive in combating the blight of unsightly graffiti in our business and residential areas. Quickly removing graffiti is one of the best ways to combat this illegal activity.” Norris further said “I urge all citizens to call 911 if they observe someone illegally painting graffiti within our City limits.”

For further information, contact:

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