To the citizens of Edgewood,

As your elected Mayor and City Council, we have an obligation to open our eyes, minds and hearts to the systemic inequities that are reality for some groups in our community. All citizens should feel respected, heard, and valued in our community.

In Edgewood black lives do matter, and we will not turn a blind eye to the inequities that have been disproportionately borne by them. Just as we value the lives of every other member of the community, so too do we value their lives and know they are deserving of dignity, respect, and belonging.

We must condemn the mistreatment and cruelty that has been part of our society for so many for too long. We must embrace the strength that only diversity can bring to our community. As your elected community representatives we must take this opportunity to listen more and talk less. To make our city more inclusive on every level. To be more about belonging and open to involvement of all people who live here. To not just invite, but to reach out with open arms to embrace your participation, your voice, and yes, your anger.

As your elected representatives we are committed to proactively ensuring that our community is a model for others. As such, the city is already or soon will be undertaking the following steps in pursuit of this goal:

- Our staff and police officers participate in ongoing de-escalation training, harassment and bias training.
- The staff, police, and elected representatives will all be participating in diversity, equity, and inclusion training on a regular basis.
- We will work to promote a more diverse and representative composition on our staff, boards, committees, and elected positions
- We have endorsed a letter of support for Pierce County Council Emergency Resolution R2020-43.

These steps are just a beginning, and we will continue to seek ways to improve the inclusiveness of Edgewood.

We hear the members of our community that feel marginalized. We see that as a community we must first listen and try to understand that our individual reality is not the same as another individual’s reality. We know that this will require conscious effort and concrete actions. We hope that all members of our community will feel that Edgewood is a place where they will be treated with dignity, they will be respected, and they will be heard as a member of an inclusive community.

Edgewood City Council -

Mayor Daryl Eidinger
Deputy Mayor Mark Creley
Councilmember Ryan Day
Councilmember Tyron Christopherson
Councilmember Rosanne Tomyn
Councilmember John West
Councilmember Colleen Wise
Councilmember Nate Lowry