



SCOTT W. LINDQUIST, MD, MPH, DIRECTOR
345 6TH STREET, SUITE 300
BREMERTON, WA 98337-1866
(360) 337-5235

News Release

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
July 14, 2009

CONTACT: Scott Daniels
(360) 337-5287
(360) 271-9230

Health District Implements Monthly Office Closures Due to Budget Shortfalls

BREMERTON, WA — Effective Monday July 20, 2009, and continuing through the remainder of 2009, the Health District will close one day each month due to a shortfall in revenues caused by current economic conditions. This cost-saving measure will save the District approximately \$150,000, and will help the District meet its financial obligations through the end of the year.

These closure days were negotiated with the District's union --- International Federation of Professional and Technical Engineers, AFL-CIO, Local 17 --- and will affect both union and non-union staff.

The District will close its main offices on the following days in 2009. All affected employees will be required to take unpaid leave (furloughs) on these days:

Office Closure Days:

Monday July 20, 2009
Monday August 17, 2009
Friday September 4, 2009
Monday October 12, 2009
Wednesday November 25, 2009
Thursday December 24, 2009

Factors that have contributed to the shortfall include less than anticipated Environmental Health Division permit fee revenues, higher than anticipated draws from District reserves, and a lack of certainty about future revenues.

If finances improve later this year, the District may cancel any remaining mandated furloughs in 2009. Depending on the District's cash situation later this year, additional furloughs may be proposed for 2010.

--- MORE Health District Implements Monthly Office Closures Due to Budget Shortfalls

--- Page 2

The District's office hours of 8:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Monday through Friday will remain in effect on non-closure days. Additionally, the District's 24/7 Regional Duty Officer System will enable the District to respond to any public health emergencies on office closure days, or anytime after hours.

For additional information, contact Scott Daniels, Deputy Director, at (360) 337-5287 (office) or (360) 271-9230 (cell).

###