TRUMP PROOF SEATTLE
MEDIA STATEMENT

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Mayor Ed Murray’s support for a city tax on high-income households has grabbed headlines. He is the latest in a growing list of public figures to endorse the idea in response to the efforts of the Trump Proof Seattle Coalition, which has proposed a city-wide tax of 1.5% on income in excess of $250,000. The Economic Opportunity Institute estimates that this would raise over $125 million per year in the City of Seattle.

The Trump Proof Seattle Coalition, which began to form shortly after the November elections, first presented the idea to the city council at a lunch-and-learn on March 1st. Since then, the coalition has organized town halls around the city and garnered the public support of Councilmembers Lisa Herbold, Kshama Sawant, Mike O’Brien, Rob Johnson and Bruce Harrell.

In case you’re counting at home, that means in addition to the Mayor, a majority of City Council members publicly support the idea. A progressive income tax also has strong popular support in our city; in 2010, a 63% majority of Seattle voters supported statewide income tax Initiative 1098.

The coalition intends to work with elected officials and legal counsel to craft an ordinance to be passed by the City Council before the end of August.

The Trump Proof Seattle Coalition comprises 40+ Seattle-based community, labor, environmental and social justice organizations. The coalition is thrilled to see city leaders stepping up to challenge Washington State’s upside-down tax system. By pioneering a path to equitable taxation, Seattle can raise revenue to address unmet needs without relying on sales tax, property taxes, flat car tab fees and other regressive taxes that disproportionately burden the poor, communities of color, and lower- and middle-income families that are working hard to make the City of Seattle a great place to live.

We invite those who support the march toward a just tax system to the following future town halls:

District 1 with Lisa Herbold, May 4th, 6pm, South Seattle Community College, 6000 16th Ave SW
District 7, May 12th, 6pm, SEIU 775 Auditorium at 215 Columbia St (between 2nd and 3rd St and Columbia St.)

For more information, visit www.trumpproofseattle.org

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