

## **EXHIBIT 2**

## Gun Safety Measures Talking Points for Councilmembers Harrell and Burgess

### Gun Violence Tax

- In 2014, more than \$17 million was spent on the direct medical costs for 253 victims of gun violence at Harborview Medical Center, our region's trauma center. That's \$68,000 per victim.
- Taxpayers covered more than \$12 million of this amount. It's time for the gun industry to chip in to help defray these costs.
- Gun violence is a public health epidemic, but we can alleviate it with focused research and prevention funded by this new revenue source. Basic research can save lives.
- Gun violence caused more than 33,000 deaths in the United States in 2013 – why wouldn't we ask doctors to research a major cause of death?
- In 2013, Seattle became the **first city** in the nation to fund basic research on gun safety. It led to a groundbreaking study and promising hospital-based intervention program for victims of gun violence.
- We want to keep doing this research and developing these prevention programs. A gun violence tax on the sellers of firearms and ammunition allows us to do that with a dedicated revenue source.
- Under the gun violence tax, firearms dealers would pay \$25 for every firearm sold and \$0.05 for every round of ammunition sold.
- City tax authorities have estimated the gun violence tax will raise between \$300,000 and \$500,000 a year.
- And let's be honest: it's not like the gun industry can't spare the change. From 2008 to 2012, the number of new firearms produced in or exported into the U.S. each year increased by 91%.
- Washington State levies other taxes that similarly mitigate public health impacts, like current taxes on the sale of cigarettes, alcohol, and wood-burning stoves. Why not guns and ammunition?
- From tobacco to seatbelts, using a public health lens of research and prevention has saved lives in countless other areas. We can do the same for gun safety and Seattle can lead the way.

## **Mandatory Firearms Loss or Theft Reporting**

- Illegal guns cause serious harm in our neighborhoods. Crime statistics show guns play a significant role in many crimes against persons in Seattle: 69% of homicides, 17% of robbery incidents and 8% of aggravated assaults since 2012.
- This simple requirement will help law enforcement trace crime guns and solve more crimes. It is a straightforward and important step for gun safety.
- Seattle Police Officers have taken 2,657 firearms into their possession since January 2012 through the course of their regular duties.
- National polls show that the general public and gun owners strongly support mandatory reporting.
- Federal law currently requires firearms businesses with a federal license to report lost or stolen guns, but the law does not extend to individual gun owners.
- Nine states, the District of Columbia and other local jurisdictions around the country have implemented this common sense requirement.
- Mandatory reporting will aid in the tracing of crime guns and help police solve crimes. It will also return lost guns to their rightful owners and protect gun owners from being falsely implicated in crimes.
- When it comes to gun safety, the general public is clearly ready for common sense measures like this.