

## Pike Place Market Preservation & Development Authority (PDA)

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### For Immediate Release

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# Pike Place Market Farmers Market Opens June 20

New PPM Express at Virginia Mason brings fresh, local produce to First Hill June 16

**SEATTLE (May 13, 2014)** – Celebrate the longest day of the year and the first day of summer on Friday, June 20, 2014, with the opening of the Pike Place Market farmers market. The farmers market continues the century-old "Meet the Producer" tradition, providing shoppers the opportunity to select and purchase just-picked produce, value-added products such as cider, honey, jams and preserves, and bountiful bouquets for their table directly from local farmers. The designated farmers market will be open beginning June 20 through September 28, on Pike Place between Pine St. and Stewart St., Friday through Sunday from 9-6 p.m.

In addition to the city's original farmers market that Seattleites know and love, Pike Place Market operates weekly Express markets at City Hall, Pioneer Square and South Lake Union. The Express markets bring the Market's fresh, local produce to Seattle residents and workers via "pop-up" markets once a week from June to the first week of October. Shoppers may recognize many faces at the Express markets, including farmers and artisan producers at the Express markets who also sell at Pike Place Market year-round.

Beginning in June, the Market will operate an additional Express market at Virginia Mason Hospital & Seattle Medical Center on First Hill. The Pike Place Market Preservation and Development Authority (PDA) entered into an agreement with Virginia Mason to manage the First Hill market, which was under the direction of the medical center for several years.

"We are excited about our new partnership with Virginia Mason, which brings fresh, locally grown, seasonal produce from Market farmers to a community and neighborhood that can benefit from it," said Pike Place Market Preservation and Development Authority Executive Director Ben Franz-Knight. "We look forward to bringing our 'Meet the Producer' tradition to First Hill."

Under PDA administration, the Express market will also offer greater access to low-income customers by accepting EBT, and WIC/Senior FMNP benefits, as well as offering EBT matching through the City of Seattle's Fresh Bucks program. The PDA farm staff will work to ensure the market has a good variety of produce and products to serve Virginia Mason team members and the surrounding First Hill neighborhood.

"By partnering with Pike Place Market on an Express market, we give our patients, team members and the First Hill neighborhood access to healthy, local food," said Brenna Davis, sustainability

director at Virginia Mason. "Supporting Washington farmers protects our vital farmlands for future generations."

#### Hours and locations of Pike Place Market farmers markets

Pike Place Market
Farmers Market on the cobblestones
Pike Place at Pine St.
June 20-September 26
Friday-Sunday, 9 am-5 pm

Chefs on the Cobblestones cooking demonstrations by Seattle's favorite chefs Every Sunday at 12 p.m. and 2 p.m. www.pikeplacemarket.org/farmers-market

# **Pike Place Market Express**

Bringing our farmers to you
June 16-October 2, 10 a.m.-2 p.m.
www.pikeplacemarket.org/express-markets

First Hill
Virginia Mason Lindeman Pavilion
Mondays
Seneca St. between 9th Ave. and Terry Ave.

City Hall Plaza
Tuesdays
600 4th Ave, Seattle, WA 98104

Pioneer Square, Occidental Park
Wednesdays
S Main St & Occidental Ave S, Seattle, WA 98104

South Lake Union Thursdays 410 Terry Ave. North, Seattle, WA 98109

**The Pike Place Market** is one of the oldest continuously operating public markets in the U.S. It is a Historic District with 250 commercial businesses, 80 farmers, 225 craftspeople, 400 street performers, and 500 residents. In addition, there are social services to help downtown's low-income residents. It is often called the "Soul of Seattle." <a href="www.pikeplacemarket.org">www.pikeplacemarket.org</a>

**The Pike Place Market Preservation & Development Authority (PDA)** is a not-for-profit, public corporation chartered by the City of Seattle in 1973 to manage the properties in the nine-acre Market Historic District. The PDA is required to preserve, rehabilitate and protect the Market's buildings, increase opportunities for farm and food retailing in the Market, incubate and support small and

marginal businesses, and provide services for low-income people. <a href="http://www.pikeplacemarket.org/pda-council-committees">http://www.pikeplacemarket.org/pda-council-committees</a>

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