

# Snohomish County Executive **AARON REARDON**



*Priorities in Action*



Latest News & Upcoming Events

Friday, February 11, 2011

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## **Reardon: County stands on strong financial footing**

While negative economic factors still plague many parts of Washington, Reardon highlighted again the steps Snohomish County officials have taken to return to positive financial footing during his eighth annual State of the County address Wednesday.

Once again, without the need for a tax increase in the county budget, Reardon told community and business leaders that Snohomish County will end the year with a surplus.

“We are poised unlike any other government in our region – including the state of Washington itself – to be a productive partner, not a burden, in the private sector’s future growth,” Reardon said, reiterating that one of his main focuses for the year is the creation of new jobs.

“During these harsh economic times, we cannot depend on others to create our opportunities, and we cannot wait for a general economic rebound or fix,” he continued. “To create opportunities for business and jobs, we must actively create and seek out new opportunities.”

For 2011, Reardon says residents only need to look at the soon-to-be constructed farmers’ market, commercial kitchen and processing center for proof that public/private partnerships can benefit the region. Also, the short-term, targeted use of permitting resources – under the name Project Catalyst – will allow contractors to work on more than 70 additional projects during the 2011 building season.

One project moving forward is the construction of a 100,000-square-foot bottling facility that will begin shipping more than 15 million bottles per month to Asian markets before the end of the year.

Evergreen Bottling will initially hire 50 to 60 employees, expanding that number to more than 100 within two years. Company officials have cited Snohomish County’s recruitment efforts as a main reason

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### How are we doing?

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for locating here.

“We are marching forward, with each elected official doing their part to pinpoint priorities and to build a sustainable governing model,” Reardon said.

Efforts such as the Washington Aerospace Training & Research Center, spearheaded by Snohomish County and located at Paine Field, already are paying huge dividends. The training facility, which opened last summer, is preparing workers with the advanced skills needed to build today’s and tomorrow’s airplanes.

Boeing officials say they have hired 92 percent of the graduates they’ve interviewed, and Tect Aerospace recently hired for five new positions – all of their selections were training center graduates.

To view Reardon’s full state of the county remarks, [click here](#).



***Snohomish County Executive Aaron Reardon talks with Andrew Ballard, chief marketing strategist at Marketing Solutions in Mill Creek.***

performance goals?

The SnoStat system tracks how well the County is delivering services, the costs of those services, and the efficiency and effectiveness of service delivery.

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Sincerely,

Aaron Reardon

## Swedish Medical Center opens new options for south Snohomish County residents

Snohomish County Executive Aaron Reardon joined medical and community leaders for the opening of Swedish Medical Center's new Mill Creek Campus, a significant investment in not only the health-care needs of South Snohomish County, but also the local economy.

"I am excited that Swedish Medical Center's innovative and award winning health services organization is joining the Snohomish County community," Reardon said. "Their new care center will be a tremendous benefit to our residents. This is a world-class facility equipped with a broad spectrum of services ready to deliver an excellent patient experience."

The Mill Creek campus created nearly 230 construction jobs and offers 130 permanent family-wage earning jobs. The facility is also staffed by board-certified emergency physicians and is open 24 hours a day, seven days a week.



## Reardon welcomes news of iconic American Girl store at Alderwood Mall

Calling the store "iconic," Snohomish County Executive Aaron Reardon said Thursday he welcomed news of an American Girl store coming to Alderwood Mall.

With fewer than 10 nationwide, the store related to a highly popular line of dolls, clothes and accessories, will be a popular addition to

Snohomish County and the region.

"If you're a dad of a daughter like I am, you're going to care because your daughter is going to spend a lot of time there," Reardon told KOMO TV. "It's an iconic store."

As reported by KOMO TV, American Girl isn't the only business expanding in the area. Costco is reportedly moving to the old Lynnwood High School site, and Whole Foods has announced a new store at the former Circuit City site.

"We're the fastest growing area in the state of Washington, but also Snohomish County is a very smart business climate," Reardon said. "It's one of the lowest cost areas in the Puget Sound and it's the fastest jurisdictions to get your projects completed."

To view the full KOMO TV story, [click here](#).

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