

Snohomish County Executive
AARON REARDON



Priorities in Action



Latest News & Upcoming Events

Friday, November 19, 2010

www.snoco.org

 **Be prepared for winter weather**

The weekend promises this winter's first threat of cold-weather conditions, meaning Snohomish County crews are ready to tackle snow and ice on roads, especially during Monday morning commutes.

During the major snow and ice storms of 2008, Snohomish County Public Works' crews worked around the clock successfully keeping main roads open for safe travel. They're prepared to do the same again this year if necessary.

You can help by reporting icy roads to our Public Works Department by calling 425-388-7500 or emailing Contact.PWRM@snoco.org during normal work hours.

Should circumstances require you or someone you know to need additional help, such as a cold-weather shelter, please call 211, where people are ready to assist.

The way we make it through times such as these is by working together and looking out after one another.

Have a great weekend.

- Aaron

 **Public Works to replace four bridges**

Snohomish County's Public Works Department will use \$10.7 million in federal funds to replace four bridges deemed structurally deficient.

In this issue:

Be prepared for winter weather

Public Works to replace four bridges

Snohomish County joins "Buy Local for Transit" campaign

Land purchase benefits county residents using Reiter Foothills area

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How are we doing?

Did you know that you can track how well the County is meeting its performance goals?

The SnoStat system tracks how well the County is delivering services, the costs of

The funds, which can only be used for bridge repairs, will cover as much as 80 percent of the total cost of building four new bridges. Snohomish County will add \$2.7 million in road fund dollars.

Bridge design and permitting will begin in 2011 with construction on the first bridge likely in 2013, with the last of the four bridges completed by 2015.

"Since 2008, we've replaced five other bridges and made repairs to another 80, keeping our roads safe and passable," said County Executive Aaron Reardon. "We'll continue locating funds for future road work that keeps traffic moving and people safe."

With an estimated cost of \$2.4 million, Swamp Creek Bridge #504 in Bothell will likely be the first under construction. Built in 1958, Swamp Creek Bridge on Locust Way is a heavily traveled north-south route between Snohomish and King counties.

Pilchuck River Bridge #581, southwest of Granite Falls off of State Route 92, was built in 1960 and will be replaced for \$4.5 million. Howard Creek Bridge #496, built in 1976 and located on Index-Galena Road, is about 7.5 miles east of Index. The 61-foot-long bridge will cost close to \$2.4 million to replace.

Finally, Bridge #540, spanning the South Fork of the Sauk River, is about 33 miles east of Granite Falls. Built in 1986, it is 203 feet in length. Replacement will cost about \$4.1 million.

The three bridges over the South Fork of the Sauk River, the Pilchuck River and Howard Creek are primarily made of timber. Two of these bridges also provide sole access to neighboring homes.

The county inspects bridges annually to maintain safety.

Snohomish County joins "Buy Local for Transit" campaign

Snohomish County has joined Community Transit in an effort designed to encourage people to shop within their communities this holiday season and beyond.

Called "Buy Local for Transit," the campaign will further strengthen local businesses while increasing local tax revenues during these difficult economic times. Snohomish County Executive Aaron Reardon joined the kickoff Thursday at

those services, and the efficiency and effectiveness of service delivery.

Simply visit our [SnoStat website](#).

Contact me:

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Or, [send me an email](#).

Sincerely,



Aaron Reardon

Alderwood Mall.

“This reminds residents that doing your holiday shopping right here in Snohomish County is an easy way to support local business and valuable services like Community Transit,” Reardon said. “We all have the power to re-energize the local economy, support transit and make a few holiday wishes come true at the same time.”

Community Transit is funded primarily through a portion of retail sales taxes generated in its service district, which is most of Snohomish County. The majority of its funding comes from a voter-approved 0.9 percent sales tax – or nine cents on a \$10 purchase – within its service district.

With consumer spending down, Community Transit’s sales tax revenues have fallen about \$20 million a year. The result has been major service cuts, including eliminating all Sunday service.

To learn more about the program and participating businesses offering discounts, [click here](#).

Land purchase benefits county residents using Reiter Foothills area

Snohomish County’s Parks & Recreation Department has purchased 8 acres near Wallace Falls State Park to serve as a primary access point to the adjacent Washington State Reiter Foothills Recreation Area.

In coming months, nonprofits and community organizations will work with the county and state Department of Natural Resources to develop a new parking area while increasing access to Reiter Foothill trails from the site.

“This purchase provides increased access to a popular recreation destination as well as new economic opportunities for the cities of Sultan and Gold Bar,” Snohomish County Executive Aaron Reardon said.

Snohomish County Parks is working with DNR, the Washington State Parks Commission, the Sky Valley Chamber of Commerce, and the cities of Gold Bar and Sultan to promote outdoor recreation as part of East Snohomish County’s economic development plan.

“Sharing resources and partnering in today’s economy makes a lot of sense,” said Debbie Copple, Sky Valley Chamber director and County Parks Advisory Board member. “Bringing these agencies together makes them better stewards of the land and our financial resources.”

Purchase price was about \$287,000. Funding came from Snohomish County’s Conservation Futures Fund, which can only be used to purchase property or development rights for the preservation of open space, farmland or timber land.

Thank you very much for taking the time to read my electronic newsletter.

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You may also contact me directly by phone at 425.388.3460.