

Snohomish County Executive
AARON REARDON



Priorities in Action



Latest News & Upcoming Events

Friday, May 7, 2010

www.snoco.org

 **Reardon to hold “community conversations” over budget**

Beginning Monday in Lynnwood, I and members of my staff will host a series of “community conversations” to collect public input on 2011 budget priorities.

Snohomish County must become leaner to manage a continued decrease in revenues, but our constituents should be the ones that lead the discussion as to what services should be protected, eliminated or essential to their quality of life.

Just as Snohomish County residents must watch what they spend and how they spend it, Snohomish County is no different. Government also must follow the same rules of money management and good spending habits.

Each meeting will feature a brief overview of the current financial crisis impacting Snohomish County followed by an opportunity for community comment on what services they believe are important and how we can properly fund them.

Meetings will be held from 6 to 8 p.m. on the following dates and at the following locations:

May 10 – Lynnwood
Lynnwood Fire Station
18800 – 44th Ave. W

May 11 – Arlington
Arlington Council Chambers
110 E. Third Street

May 12 – Mill Creek
Mill Creek Council Chambers

In this issue:

Reardon to hold "community conversations" over budget

Increased awareness keeps motorcyclists safe

County solicits proposals to operate fairgrounds' speedway

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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 those services, and the

15728 Main Street

May 13 – Monroe
Monroe Fire Station
163 Village Court

May 17 – Everett
Snohomish County Campus
Robert J. Drewel Building
3000 Rockefeller Ave.

I hope to see you there.



Aaron



**Increased awareness keeps
motorcyclists safe** *May proclaimed Motorcycle Safety
Awareness Month*

Motorcyclist fatalities have steadily increased during the past decade, which is why the Snohomish County DUI and Target Zero Traffic Safety Task Force is joining with other federal, state and local highway safety, law enforcement, and motorcycle organizations in proclaiming May as “Motorcycle Safety Awareness Month.”

All motorists and other road users are reminded to safely “share the road” with motorcycles and to be extra alert to help keep motorcyclists safe. Motorcyclists are reminded to make themselves visible to other motorists.

Motorcycles can be difficult to see on busy roads, requiring all motorists to aggressively look for them. Motorists and bicyclists should always make visual checks for motorcycles by checking mirrors and blind spots before entering or leaving a lane of traffic and at intersections. Pedestrians should scan for motorcyclists who might be hidden by other traffic.

Lowell Porter, director of the Washington Traffic Safety Commission, says a motorcyclist is much more vulnerable than a vehicle passenger in the event of a crash. National Highway Traffic Safety Administration research shows that per vehicle mile traveled, motorcyclists are about 37 times more likely than passenger car occupants to die in traffic crashes.

efficiency and effectiveness of service delivery.

Simply visit our [SnoStat website](#).

Contact me:

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

And please be sure to [visit me on the web!](#)

Sincerely,



Aaron Reardon

Between 2004 and 2008, there were 48 motorcycle fatalities in Snohomish County and 820 serious or evident injuries. More than half of all Washington state motorcycle rider fatalities occur in King, Pierce and Snohomish Counties. The majority of riders killed are older than 40. In 2009, there were 11 motorcycle fatalities, up from eight in 2008.

Motorcyclists can increase their safety by:

- Avoiding riding in poor weather conditions;
- Wearing brightly colored protective gear and a DOT-compliant helmet;
- Using turn signals for every turn or lane change, even if the rider thinks no one will see it;
- Combining hand signals and turn signals to draw more attention to themselves;
- Using reflective tape and stickers to increase conspicuity;
- Positioning themselves in the lane where they will be most visible to other drivers;
- Never driving while impaired.

For more information, please stop by the county's traffic safety booth at the Sky Valley Antique and Classic Motorcycle Show in downtown Everett on Sunday, May 16, or contact Tracy McMillan at 425-388-7229 or Tracy.McMillan@co.snohomish.wa.us.

County solicits proposals to operate fairgrounds' speedway

The Snohomish County Citizens Commission on Salaries of Elected Officials agreed Wednesday not to change elected officials pay for 2011 and 2012.

Members met during the months of March and April, charged with reviewing the salary schedule for elected officials for 2011 and 2012. Most members agreed Wednesday that current fiscal challenges prevented them from increasing elected officials pay during the next two-year cycle.

"I want to thank our salary commission members for their dedicated service to this process and the serious manner with which they conducted their work on behalf of our citizens,"

Snohomish County Executive Aaron Reardon said. “None of them took the task lightly and they were very cognizant of the challenges facing our county residents.”

The commission is an independent group that meets every two years to set the salaries of elected officials in Snohomish County. Elected officials whose salaries are determined by the commission are the members of the county council, the executive, assessor, auditor, clerk, prosecuting attorney, sheriff and treasurer.

By law, salary recommendations must be made by May 1 for the next two-year period. A 2006 amendment to the county charter eliminated the need for council and executive approval of the salary changes.

The commission is made up of 10 members, nominated by the county executive and confirmed by the county council. Six members of the commission are selected by lot by the county auditor from among all registered voters in Snohomish County.

The remaining four members are required to have experience in the field of personnel management and come from four sectors: business, professional personnel management, legal profession and organized labor. Commissioners serve two-year terms.

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

If you would like to send me your comments and feedback, or if you would like to unsubscribe, simply reply to this message.

You may also contact me directly by phone at 425.388.3460.