

Snohomish County Executive
AARON REARDON



Priorities in Action



Latest News & Upcoming Events

Friday, February 16, 2007

www.snoco.org

 **Executive Reardon responds to citizen mandate for better budgeting**

In November of 2006, voters approved a proposition to adopt a biennial budget process in Snohomish County. This week Executive Reardon forwarded to the County Council the code changes necessary to implement implement biennial budgeting without delay beginning with the 2008-2009 biennium.

“In the past three years, we have used Priority Based Budgeting to bring accountability to County government,” says Executive Reardon. “The twenty-four month cycle of a biennial budget will allow us to further our effort to streamline the budget process, improve efficiency and provide greater predictability.”

The proposal, sent to the County Council on Thursday, is similar to the biennial budget approach employed by Washington State. The proposed model is straightforward and efficient, and responsive to the intent of the voters in the passage of the charter amendment.

Executive Reardon says, “I will continue my efforts to streamline the budget process and improve the efficiency in which we deliver services and utilize the tax dollars of our citizens.”

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Weigh in on major a regional “Roads & Transit” proposal affecting Snohomish County

On February 15, the Regional Transportation Investment District (RTID) and Sound Transit announced a series of open houses to be held around the region to discuss the comprehensive proposal for reducing freeway congestion and improving mass transit service. The open houses will gather final public input on the “Roads & Transit” package before it goes to voters in November 2007.

The draft Roads & Transit plan calls for dramatic new investments to extend light rail and make significant freeway, HOV and bridge improvements, to build more park and ride lots, and to add express bus service.

The public is invited to provide feedback on the draft plan at five open houses that will take between February 22 and March 20 (see below for details). People can also visit Sound Transit and RTID’s websites to comment: www.soundtransit.org or www.rtid.org.

The Roads and Transit plan is a combined effort by the Regional Transportation Investment District Board (RTID) and Sound Transit. Both agencies are governed by local elected officials in King, Pierce and Snohomish counties.

After the road projects are finalized by RTID in April, they will be advanced for Snohomish, Pierce and King county councils’ approval. With their endorsements, they will be placed on the ballot for voters to consider in November 2007. Sound Transit will adopt final transit projects in April and in June will vote to place them on the November ballot.

continued

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 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

Open Houses

All open houses are from 4:30 p.m. to 7:30 p.m. with a presentation at 6 p.m.

February 22

Union Station, 401 S. Jackson St., Seattle

February 28

Bellevue High School, 10416 SE Wolverine Way, Bellevue

March 5

Washington State History Museum, 1911 Pacific Ave., Tacoma

National Patriotism Week

On February 16, Snohomish County Executive Aaron Reardon and County Council Chair Dave Gossett jointly signed a proclamation recognizing February 19-25 as National Patriotism Week in Snohomish County.

“It is important to take this time to reflect on the sacrifices that have been made by many brave men and women to protect and ensure the freedoms and liberties we may otherwise take for granted,” says Executive Reardon.

Snohomish County joins with the BPO Elks in this observance and celebration.

Continued

 **Reminder: Executive Reardon to give State of the County address**

Snohomish County Executive Aaron Reardon will deliver the 2007 State of the County Address on Tuesday, February 20. The Everett Area Chamber of Commerce will host the Address at the Everett Holiday Inn, located at 3105 Pine Street.

For your convenience, an audio link of the speech will be posted on the [Executive's Website](#) and a transcript will also be available online.

For more information about attending the State of the County address please visit the [Everett Area Chamber of Commerce](#)

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.