

Snohomish County Executive
AARON REARDON



Priorities in Action



Latest News & Upcoming Events

Wednesday, November 21, 2007

www.snoco.org

 **Happy Thanksgiving!**

Thanksgiving has traditionally signaled the close of the harvest season, a time to celebrate and the opportunity to enjoy the company of family, friends and food.

Snohomish County is fortunate to boast a wealth of locally grown foods. This holiday I encourage you to give thanks to our farmers by including locally grown produce in your holiday meals.

I would also like you to join me and my family by taking a moment to remember those who are serving overseas in our armed forces and their loved ones waiting at home. It is important that we not forget the sacrifices that our military men and women and their families, have made so that we may enjoy this time at home with our loved ones.

I wish you and your family a safe and happy Thanksgiving Holiday.

Sincerely,

Aaron Reardon
County Executive

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Happy Thanksgiving!

County wins grant to improve 20th Street

**Register now:
Snohomish County
Focus on Farming
Conference IV**

**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](#).



County wins grant to improve 20th Street

Snohomish County will begin making much-needed improvements to 20th Street SE in the Lake Stevens area in 2008, thanks in part to a recent \$1.5 million grant awarded by the Washington State Transportation Improvement Board (TIB).

“The 20th Street SE improvements will include pedestrian and transit-oriented elements,” County Executive Aaron Reardon said. “The project will reduce traffic congestion, increase future capacity and improve mobility and safety for pedestrians and bicyclists.”

The 20th Street SE improvements include peak hour High Occupancy Vehicle (HOV) Lanes on certain segments, bus pullouts, sidewalks, bike lanes, illumination, planted medians and several new traffic lights.

Snohomish County Public Works Director Steve Thomsen said, “The construction will occur in two phases. The first phase beginning in 2008 will be on the portion of 20th Street SE between South Lake Stevens Road and 91st Avenue SE. The 2nd and final stage, between 91st SE and the US2 Trestle, will begin construction in 2009 using the new grant money from TIB.”

The Washington State Legislature created the Transportation Improvement Board (TIB) to foster state investment in quality local transportation projects and distributes revenue generated by a portion of the statewide gas tax to cities and counties for qualifying local projects. Thirty-four projects in the Puget Sound region competed for TIB’s Urban Corridor Program funds. Snohomish County’s project was one of only four selected to receive funding.

To be awarded funding by the TIB, the application had to demonstrate, among other things, how the project will support and revitalize urban development and fit with the Comprehensive Plan; how it will promote multimodal transportation, including bicycle and pedestrian facilities; and how it will improve safety and mobility along the corridor.

continued

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

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

Sincerely,

Aaron Reardon

Funding for the project was also included in the Enhanced Community Infrastructure Development Initiative introduced by Executive Reardon and approved by the County Council in 2006, developer mitigation fees, and the county road fund.

Project information is available by visiting the County's website, www.snoco.org; enter "20th St" in the search box, or contact Snohomish County Public Works Project Manager, Matt Ojala, 425.388.6647.

 **Register now: Snohomish County Focus on Farming Conference IV**

"From Soils to Sales," the fourth annual Snohomish County Focus on Farming conference gets underway at 8 a.m. **Thursday, November 29, 2007, at the Lynnwood Convention Center.**

The conference will feature nationally recognized agricultural leaders, and a broad range of subject-specific breakout sessions that encompass issues that farmers and growers all face: from livestock to crops, from nursery stock to landscaping, water rights, tracking consumer trends and more.

Click here for a recent Seattle Times article on the conference.

Cost: \$30 prior to November 15; \$40 after November 15 and at the door

Cost includes two keynote addresses, workshops, lunch and a wine & cheese tasting

For information, contact Laura McLeod, Snohomish County, 425.388.6465 or visit www.focusonfarming.org.

The Focus on Farming Conference, launched by Executive Reardon in 2004, is a project of Snohomish County's Office of Economic Development. Presenters and key sponsors include King County, Washington State University Snohomish County Extension, Northwest Agriculture Business Center, Flower World, Inc. and Northwest Farm

Credit Services.

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.

