

Snohomish County Executive
AARON REARDON



Priorities in Action



Latest News & Upcoming Events

Friday, February 22, 2008

www.snoco.org

 **Town hall meeting, Wednesday Feb. 27**

On Feb. 27 in Sultan, County Executive Aaron Reardon, Sheriff John Lovick and Council Chairman Dave Somers will host a town hall meeting on public-safety.

The town hall, which will take place from 6:30 to 8:30 p.m. at Sultan High School, 13715 310th Ave. SE, is an opportunity for officials to gather input on public-safety issues facing Snohomish County residents.

Public-safety topics likely to be discussed include efforts to reduce local crime and graffiti, preparation for emergencies and safety resources available to residents.

Reardon is planning future town halls, which will focus on various topics and include other county officials and agency representatives.

 **Citizen-driven priorities Web site gets upgrade**

Snohomish County citizens looking to track how well their government is achieving goals and spending money can do so online with the latest upgrades to SnoStat.

The county unveiled Friday its newest Web launch of SnoStat, a citizen-based accountability and transparency system created by County Executive Aaron Reardon in 2004.

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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 efficiency and effectiveness of service delivery.

Simply visit our [SnoStat website](#).

“SnoStat is guided by the principle that Snohomish County must measure, evaluate and communicate the effectiveness of services and programs to the residents for whom we work,” County Executive Aaron Reardon said. “Most municipal measurements are written for government, but we’re basing our measures on the public’s priorities. That’s the way government should be run.”

The county uses SnoStat to report on the public aspects of policy, government performance, daily management and long-term planning. Among the measures that residents can track on the Internet are transportation, public safety, health, community development, public utilities and infrastructure.

In addition, visitors to the site can offer their feedback, helping Snohomish County stay connected to the needs of its taxpayers.

“From the outset, Executive Reardon has said accountability to the public is absolutely critical,” said County Finance Director Roger Neumaier, who helped oversee the project. “Now, citizen priorities are linked to the budget so that people can understand what we’re doing with their tax dollars.”

Since the program’s inception in 2004, SnoStat has continually been enhanced to better illustrate the work being done by county departments. Today, Snostat performance measures are aligned with the same citizen priorities used to develop the county executive’s recommended budget.

While older, departmental values are still available for review, the highlight of the new launch is the citizen-based measurements in easy-to-read and understandable language.

“We’re not finished improving how we stay accountable to the public, but this is a positive step forward” Reardon said. “We’ll continue reviewing what we do in terms of what the public wants.”

To view Snohomish County’s SnoStat measures, [click here](#).

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

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

Sincerely,



Aaron Reardon

Reardon advocates for federal public-safety funding

On Thursday, Feb. 21, Executive Aaron Reardon met with U.S. Sen. Patty Murray and public-safety officials from around the county to discuss proposed cuts to federal grant programs in the president's 2009 budget. Considerable reductions to homeland security, justice and public-safety grant programs could hamper efforts by Snohomish County law enforcement and firefighters to keep communities safe.

Programs such as the Snohomish County Drug Task Force, Snohomish County Drug Court, training for first responders and technology for counterterrorism are all at risk of losing considerable funding. Executive Reardon strongly opposes any cuts to these important programs, particularly as the region expects hundreds of thousands of people to travel through Snohomish County on their way to British Columbia for the 2010 Olympics and Paralympics.

Reardon will continue to work closely with Murray to ensure that critical emergency management and public-safety programs are funded in Snohomish County.

Snohomish County Agricultural Advisory Board seeks members

Ever thought about volunteering on a Snohomish County Board or Commission? Are you interested in the agricultural issues and concerns in the county? The Snohomish County Agricultural Advisory Board is looking for six new members.

Members of this board serve four-year terms and meet monthly. Members assist the county in recommending actions concerning agricultural lands and issues in Snohomish County. They provide advice and make recommendations for goals, policies, programs, incentives and regulations related to agriculture and agricultural conservation.

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Board members must reside in Snohomish County, be engaged in commercial agricultural activities within the county and fulfill the requirements of the specific position to which they are being appointed.

[See more](#) details on which positions are available and the requirements for each position.

Applications must be received by March 10, 2008.

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.