County Budget deliberations begin

The County Executive presented his 2017 budget on September 23rd, one week early as requested by the County Council. I appreciate the Executive working in a collaborative manner with the Council.

The Snohomish County budget process is simple: The Executive presents his proposed budget to the County Council. The Council can pass the budget as is, amend it or rewrite its own budget.

The General Fund portion of the budget is approximately $238 million. This will be a difficult budget year as we are dealing with a budget deficit of $7 million. The Executive has proposed a 1% property tax increase, which generates approximately $855,000. The remaining deficit would be slightly over $6 million. Each department has been asked to decrease their budgets by specific amounts.

All Councilmembers and our analysts will use most of October and November to review the Executive’s budget line by line. We will also meet with each department to discuss their proposed budgets and needs as well.

Please note approximately 75% of the general fund goes to Public Safety and the Criminal Justice system. The Sheriff’s
department was originally facing a $3.5 million cut, but that has been adjusted downward to approximately $2.4 million. These are real cuts which will impact services and people.

Our job is much more difficult this year with Proposition 1 having failed in the August primary election. The proposition was going to fund 35 additional Deputy Sheriffs for more community policing and improved response times. Also, more social workers would have been hired to work with our Office of Neighborhoods to help address the heroin epidemic and the growing homeless population. Unfortunately, the county will not be able to fund these positions now. Some valuable services will actually be cut.

These are the facts as we know them now. No final decisions have been made.

The County Council is committed to work closely with the County Executive and our other elected officials to develop a final budget.

We are all in this together and we are going to solve it together. We are committed to come up with the best possible outcome for Snohomish County within the financial constraints of available funds.

We want to hear from you! There will be three public hearings and one public forum on the budget. These will be in the Council Chambers located on the 8th floor at 3000 Rockefeller at 6:30 p.m. on Monday, October 10th; 10:30 a.m. and 6:30 p.m. on Wednesday, October 26 and a final hearing is currently scheduled on Monday, November 14. You are invited to come to the public hearings for the presentation and you will have the opportunity to speak to the council. You can also share your opinions via email to contact.council@snoco.org. Or you can mail your comments to me at Councilman Terry Ryan, 3000 Rockefeller M/S 609, Everett, WA 98201. I hope to hear from you!

40th Anniversary: Oct. 6 Gov. Inslee Visit

When Community Transit began service on Oct. 4, 1976, there were no defined bus routes. Drivers were told to head out to shopping centers and other gathering areas and look for people who needed a ride.

Public transportation in Snohomish County has evolved greatly since that day.
Gov. Jay Inslee will visit the agency's south Everett headquarters to thank past and present board members, community leaders and Community Transit employees for their work providing four decades of transit service.

In addition, former State Senator Gary Nelson will recall the early days of the agency. Nelson wrote the legislation creating Community Transit and all state Public Transportation Benefit Areas (PTBAs), and also served as a Community Transit board member from 1995-2007. The agency's first Executive Director, Vic Sood, will be on hand, as will 20-year CEO Joyce Eleanor.

"There is so much to celebrate in our agency's history, it will be great to thank our customers, employees and policymakers for a great 40-year ride," said Community Transit CEO Emmett Heath. "The best news is that we're expanding now to meet demands for the next 40 years!"

**Unemployed vet hiring program for employers takes effect on October 1**

*Courtesy of the Economic Alliance of Snohomish County*

Starting October 1, a new program for Washington employers went into effect to encourage the hiring of unemployed veterans. The State legislature created the program with the goal of reducing veteran unemployment by 30%.

The state has over 340,000 working-age vets, including 56,000 in Snohomish Co. The statewide unemployment rate veterans is 6.3%, higher than the county's 4.4% overall unemployment rate.

The legislation provides a credit of 20 percent of the hired veteran's total wages and benefits on an employer's business-and-occupation or public-utilities tax.

To qualify the veteran must have been honorably discharged, unemployed for more than 30 days and hired into a full-time position held for at least six months. The program runs between Oct. 1, 2016 and June 30, 2022.

**Boeing/Xiamen Airlines Event**

At Seattle Day in Shenzhen, Xiamen Airlines first announced their new non-stop service to Seattle. I was honored to be
asked to share two invitations to celebrate Xiamen Airlines inaugural nonstop flight! First was a presentation at Sea-Tac followed by a dinner at the Future of Flight.

Xiamen Airlines is proud to fly 100% Boeing airplanes. As the only Chinese airline featuring an all-Boeing fleet, Xiamen Airlines has a fleet of 123 aircraft with a total of 20,555 seats as of September, 2015. Xiamen Airlines operates more than 220 domestic routes, and almost 50 international and regional routes, and flies more than 3,200 flights each week.

County Executive Dave Somers, Chairman and CEO Xiamen Airlines Che Shang lun and County Council Chair Terry Ryan

Check presentation ceremony

The Snohomish County Council was able to help three deserving schools in the Everett School District purchase new playground equipment.

Like me, you may have read about Hawthorne Elementary School on the front page of the Everett Herald. The PTA had been trying for years to raise money to replace dangerous playground equipment. I called Superintendent Dr. Gary Cohn to see if we could help with our Small Capital Projects grant program. A grant of $16,000, put the Hawthorne project over the top.

We were also able to provide Lowell Elementary School with $5,000 toward their fund for new playground equipment.

Cedar Wood Elementary School received $8,507 for outdoor musical equipment for its playground.

Schools also receiving funds in our district were Glacier Peak High School ($4,013 for new soccer goals), and Lockwood Elementary School ($10,000 for a new playground fence).
Two other projects approved in my district include Friends of North Creek Forest/City of Bothell Parks & Recreation ($10,000 for development of a forest master plan) and Girl Scout Troop 43752/City of Mountlake Terrace Parks & Recreation (Phase II of Matt Hirvela Bicentennial Park Trail).

As a youth soccer coach for 25 years, I love working with kids. I am proud to be able to help the students at these schools and in the various projects.

38th Annual Arts of the Terrace Juried Art Show

The 38th Annual Arts of the Terrace Juried Art Show sponsored by the Mountlake Terrace Arts Commission and the Friends of the Arts, "Arts of the Terrace" is one of the major juried art shows held in the Pacific Northwest and attracts top artists from throughout the region.

As a juried art show, artists compete for more than $4,000 in cash awards and art merchandise and the quality and caliber of art submissions has increased the competition for acceptance into the show. Artists from as far away as Arkansas, British Columbia, Ellensburg and Bellingham have entered the show, thus increasing its notoriety as a regional and now as a national and international show.
The show is free and open to the public through October 9, 2016, Monday through Thursday, 12 noon to 6:00 p.m., Fridays and Saturdays, 12 to 5:00 p.m. and Sundays, September 25 and October 2 1:00-5:00 p.m. and closing day of October 9 from 1:00-3:00 p.m. The Mountlake Terrace Library is located at 23300 58th Avenue W.

District Events:

BOTHELL

Witches Night Out At Country Village October 13, 2016 6:00 PM - 8:00 PM

Don your capes and bring your brooms for screaming specials around the Village. Ladies, bring your girlfriends and come in costume (optional) on Thursday night, October 13th from 6pm-8pm for drawings, refreshments, fantastic finds & haunting discounts.

For more information, please call 425-483-2250 or visit our website at www.countryvillagebothell.com. Country Village is located just two miles north of Bothell or one mile south of
Canyon Park, on the Bothell-Everett Highway, or take exit #26 off I-405 and go South one mile.

Bothell-Chick N’ Coop Crafts Fall Bazaar & Holiday Bazaar October 14 & 15, 2016 9:00 AM - 6:00 PM

The Chick n’ Coop Crafts Fall Bazaar connects shoppers with over 50 northwest crafters for a unique, one-of-a-kind shopping experience. Shop local vendors featuring handcrafted seasonal home décor, confections, bling, jewelry, beauty & bath, master crafted wood, goodies for pets, shabby chic, scarves and hats, vintage and collectibles, quilts, crochet, gifts galore and so much more. A great place to get a head start on your holiday shopping! Wheelchair access and friends of all ages are welcome!

- 24323 Bothell Everett Hwy., Bothell, WA 98021
- 206-542-6055

BRIER
Brier - Dog-O-Ween October 29, 2016 2:00 PM - 4:00 PM

Calling all Dogs!
Brier's 8th Annual DOG-O-WEEN!
BOBCAT PARK becomes BOBDOG BARK
3140 236th St. SW

Saturday
October 29
2:00 - 4:00 PM
PRIZES FUN
CANINE CAPERS

We're making Bobcat Park an Off Leash Park - For A Day. Dress up your dog and yourself - Costume parade and judging is at 3:00 pm

Dogs dressed like people / People dressed like dogs
PARKING IS AVAILABLE BY JASON'S JAVA and along Brier Road. Don't forget to grab a Latte, or some juice and a snack at Brier Grocery. Special thanks to Bow Wow Fun Towne and Pet Adventure for their support.

MILL CREEK

Mill Creek-Treats on Main Street October 31, 2016 4:30 PM - 6:30 PM

Trick or Treat along Main Street in the Mill Creek Town Center! Sponsored by the Mill Creek Town Center Merchants. After Treats on Main Street, head one block south to the Trunk or Treat event at City Hall for more Halloween fun!

- Main Street, Mill Creek, WA 98012
Mill Creek-Trunk or Treat October 31, 2016
6:00 PM - 8:00 PM
This event features a parking lot full of cars (35 - 40) whose trunks will be decorated along with their owners and filled with tons of candy. Children go from car to car "trunk or treating." This event provides a safe environment for children and their families who wish to trick or treat. A great community event for families with children 12 years-and-under. City Hall Annex Building parking lot.

- 15728 Main St., Mill Creek , WA 98012
- 425-745-1891

MOUNTLAKE TERRACE

Annual Arts of the Terrace Juried Art Show
September 24 - October 9, 2016
Enjoy paintings, prints, calligraphy, drawings, miniatures, photography, 3-dimensional and artisans' works by top local and regional artists. This is one of the best art shows in the region and attracts over 200 guests each year. The Mountlake Terrace Arts Commission and the Friends of the Arts sponsor the Arts of the Terrace. This event is happening at the Mountlake Terrace Library.
Mountlake Terrace High School Holiday Bazaar November 5, 2016 9:00 AM - 4:00 PM

Join us to start your holiday shopping! Our 16th annual Holiday Bazaar is the first Saturday of November. We will have over 70 vendors selling handmade gifts & items. You will find something for everyone! Free admission and parking make our Bazaar a must visit on your list. We are open from 9am-4pm, Saturday November 5th at Mountlake Terrace High School.

Join us to start your holiday shopping!

- 23300 58th Avenue West, Mountlake Terrace, WA 98043
- 425-640-3101

Mountlake Terrace High School Holiday Bazaar November 5, 2016 9:00 AM - 4:00 PM

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Join us to start your holiday shopping!

- 21801 44th Ave W, Mountlake Terrace, WA 98043
- 425-431-7776
below.
Sincerely,

Terry Ryan, Snohomish County Council