



Snohomish County Council

Office of Councilmember Mike Cooper
3000 Rockefeller Avenue, M/S 609
Everett, WA 98201
425-388-3494, Cell (425)754-2578
FAX 425-388-3496
TTY/TDD 425-388-3700

September 18, 2009

PRESS RELEASE

County Council Begins Review of 2010 County Budget

Snohomish County Council Chair Mike Cooper announced today that he will continue the process used last year and the Council will build a from-scratch budget for 2010, rather than relying primarily on County Executive Aaron Reardon's suggested budget.

"We appreciate the Executive's suggestions, and his proposal will be given consideration as we focus on our priorities and listen carefully to what the public tells us," Cooper said.

Cooper said the Council will focus on meeting the essential needs of the county, "We have a responsibility to address the needs of our most vulnerable populations, long-term transportation needs, preserve jobs, and essential public services," said Cooper.

The Council will scrutinize every taxpayer dollar they allocate in the county's 2010 budget using a theme of, "*Strengthening Our Economy and Preserving Essential County Services*".

Public Outreach

On Monday October 12, the Council will kick off a series of public hearings seeking input from county residents regarding their priorities for the 2010 budget at the Edmonds City Council Chambers – 250 5th Avenue North, Edmonds.

Additional meetings are scheduled for:

- Tuesday October 13th – Willis Tucker Park, The Gary Weikel Room, 6705 Puget Park, Snohomish, WA
- Thursday October 15th - Stillaguamish Senior Center, 18308 Smokey Point Boulevard, Arlington, WA

All three forums will be held at 6:30 P.M. The public is invited to attend any or all of these meetings to learn more about the recommended budget and to provide comments to the Council.

Other opportunities to provide input on the county budget include the use of e-testimony. Beginning today, those who wish to submit comments for the Council's budget hearing record may do so by utilizing an e-testimony link on the Council's web page. Go to www.snoco.org and click on "County Council Seeks Public's Budget Priorities" to fill out a simple form and submit your comments. A link to the background information relating to the Executive's recommended budget is also available at this site.

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