



## NEWS RELEASE

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# Snohomish County site preferred for premier motorsports venue

MARYSVILLE, WA – Sept. 27, 2004 – A site in Snohomish County, WA has been selected as the preferred location in the Pacific Northwest for a premier motorsports speedway and family recreation area, according to an announcement today by Snohomish County Executive Aaron Reardon and Marysville Mayor Dennis Kendall.

Lt. Governor Brad Owen has scheduled for Oct. 6 a meeting of the Legislative Committee on Economic Development and International Relations, which he chairs. The committee and legislative leaders have been invited to hear the details of a proposal that Snohomish County and the City of Marysville will present to the Great Western Sports (GWS), a subsidiary of International Speedway Corporation (ISC), to site a major motorsports facility in Marysville.

“We are excited about being selected and look forward to working with Great Western Sports to make our proposal a reality,” said Snohomish County Executive Aaron Reardon. “This is a unique opportunity, but also a major responsibility to ensure that the project is right for the city, county, state and Great Western Sports. I am eager to begin working with state and local officials on the proposed project.”

Reardon, with Mayors Kendall and Margaret Larson of Arlington, said they will be renewing their request to Lt. Governor Owen for a public work session to be held in Snohomish County at a later date.

“We want legislators to be able to hear from proponents and opponents on this issue,” Reardon said.

“We are very thankful that we had several good sites in the Pacific Northwest from which to choose,” said Lee Combs, SVP Corporate Development for ISC. “We appreciate the hard work done by the proponents of all the sites, and we’re looking forward to working with state and local officials on this important project.”

Marysville Mayor Dennis Kendall said that a lot of work needs to be done before construction can begin.

“We’ve offered a very good site, and I’ve seen what ISC facilities have done for other areas,” Kendall said. “I think the project will benefit our city, the county and the entire state of Washington.”

Lt. Gov. Owen said, “This is a unique opportunity for Washington State to gain national recognition and to directly stimulate long-term state and local economic development. The State and local governments now have the green light to work together to bring this major economic development project to our State.”

The preferred site encompasses approximately 850 acres in Marysville and Snohomish County south of 172<sup>nd</sup> Street Northeast; west of the Burlington Northern Santa Fe Railroad tracks; and East of Smokey Point Boulevard. The proposed track will seat approximately 75,000 fans.

It is anticipated that the proposal, and a public/private partnership for its financing, will be before the Legislators beginning this fall and introduced during the regular legislative session in January.

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