



**Snohomish County  
County Executive's Office**

*For immediate release – Thursday, March 31, 2005*

**Aaron Reardon**  
*County Executive*

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## Highway 9 Community Coalition says *'thanks'* to County Executive and staff

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*County helping to resolve issues of neighborhood next to casino*

LAKE STEVENS – The Highway 9 Community Coalition today recognized Snohomish County Executive Aaron Reardon and his staff for their unwavering efforts to resolve neighborhood issues that surfaced after a casino opened outside Lake Stevens.

“The amount of time, research and meetings needed to resolve this issue – and prevent further such issues from occurring – translates into the value the Snohomish County Executive’s office gives its community members and the issues we face,” said Sonya Hart, a member of the Highway 9 Community Coalition.

“Thank you for your support and the time given to this community issue.”

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### **A plaque given to the Snohomish County Executive staff reads:**

*In recognition of the integrity shown by this office in resolving  
safety issues and improving community relations – Highway 9  
Community Coalition, 2005*

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The Highway Nine Community Coalition recognition took place Thursday during a ceremony celebrating the opening of new office space for Barclay's North. Last year when coalition members learned a casino was to open in a restaurant near their homes, they raised concerns about how the County's land use codes and permit procedures handle such incidental uses.

"This is a quality of life issue for people here," said Executive Reardon. "We want our citizens to have the sort of environment where their kids can play and families can enjoy themselves. This is about livability.

"I appreciate that the Highway 9 Community Coalition recognizes the work my staff is doing on this issue."

After the casino opened, neighbors complained about car alarms going off in the middle of the night, motorcycles revving outside bedroom windows, loud arguments, trash and other concerns. Barclay's North and the casino agreed to help solve problems, adding more street lighting, a new stop sign, additional pedestrian crossings, more fencing and a parking lot security camera.

County codes and permit applications are currently under review within the County's Department of Planning and Development Services. After changes are drafted in cooperation with the Prosecuting Attorney's Office, there will be a review and public hearing before the County Planning Commission. The ordinance will then go to the Snohomish County Council for review and a public hearing before reaching Reardon's desk for a final signature.

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