



Snohomish County
County Executive's Office
Aaron Reardon
County Executive

NEWS RELEASE – Monday, March 13, 2006

Contact: Donna Ambrose, (cell) 206.755.9823, (w) 425.388.3883

Executive Reardon Today Signed County Apprenticeship Ordinance into Law at Everett Labor Temple

--

Apprenticeship Ordinance aims to grow Snohomish County's construction trade workforce; build skills for better paying jobs

Snohomish County Executive Aaron Reardon today signed into law the County's first Apprenticeship Ordinance. The ceremonial signing took place at 10 a.m. this morning at an event held at the Everett Labor Temple in downtown Everett.

The Apprenticeship Ordinance sets County goals for apprentice labor at 15 to 20 percent on County construction projects costing more than \$1 million, including roadwork.

"Construction activity in Snohomish County will continue to grow over the next decade," says Reardon. "We want those good family-wage construction jobs to stay in the County."

Construction trade labor union representatives were on-hand for the historic occasion. They included:

- District Council of Laborers Everett Local #292 representatives, Doug Scott, Dan O'Connor, Dan Christofferson;
- Snohomish County Labor Council AFL-CIO, Mike Sells, secretary treasurer;
- International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers (IBEW) Local 191, president, Darrell Chapman;
- Snohomish County Carpenters Union #562, Al Lansing, Robert Elliott, Charles Vana, Ed Triezenberg, John Noble, Lew Wasicki, Dean Running.

Studies show that the percentage of skilled workers in the construction trades is declining due to attrition and retirement. Executive Reardon's apprenticeship program aims to build a well trained, highly skilled workforce of good family-wage jobs in Snohomish County.

Executive Reardon's decision to introduce the proposed ordinance to the County Council was based in part on the successful outcome of an apprentice pilot program utilized for the County Campus Redevelopment Initiative (CRI). From October 2002 to November 2005, 17 percent of total labor hours on this project were from approved state apprentice training programs. The original goal was set at 15 percent.

The apprenticeship program requires contractors to hire apprentices enrolled in training programs approved or recognized by the Washington State Apprenticeship and Training Council.

###

Attached Photo, Left to right:

Al Lansing, Doug Scott, Robert Elliott, Lew Wasicki, Dean Running, Mike Sells (Secretary Treasurer, Snohomish County Labor Council), Charles Vana, Dan O'Connor, Darrell Chapman (President, IBEW), Dan Christofferson, Ed Triezenberg, John Noble

