

For Immediate Release – August 30, 2006

Contact: Donna Ambrose, 425.388.3883; 206.755.9823

Snohomish County seeks citizens for Housing and Community Development Technical Advisory Committee

Executive Reardon seeks persons who share in his commitment to support housing and community development projects in Snohomish County

Snohomish County Executive Aaron Reardon today announced that the County is seeking eligible citizen volunteers to serve on its Housing and Community Development Technical Advisory Committee (TAC).

Executive Reardon is seeking people for the TAC who have a strong interest in issues of affordable housing and neighborhood public and community facility improvements in Snohomish County.

“We want people on the Housing and Community Development Technical Advisory Committee who share in our commitment to support the housing needs of our most vulnerable citizens—seniors, families with young children, and those with mental and physical disabilities,” Executive Reardon said.

Persons serving on the TAC will review project plans and make recommendations on applications from organizations seeking financing for development of affordable housing and public facilities projects. Funds are made available to Snohomish County for these projects through the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD). The total amount available for disbursement by TAC is \$5,442,688. HUD requires that all housing and facility development plans benefit people who are of low or moderate income.

Executive Reardon is seeking eight persons to represent Snohomish County on the larger 30 person TAC. The TAC also includes 1 volunteer representative from each

of 19 cities in Snohomish County, 2 representatives appointed by the County Executive and a representative of the Housing Authority of Snohomish County.

Eligibility to the TAC is limited to individuals who are either members or who represent the interests of the following groups: persons of low-income, persons with disabilities, members of ethnic/minority communities, senior citizens.

Individuals or agency representatives of eligible groups may submit letters of interest. Include your name, address, home phone, work phone, category represented, your area of experience and reasons for wanting to serve. Current and previous members of the TAC may apply.

Send letters of interest by Thursday, September 14, 2006 to:

Melanie Gillespie, Supervisor
Office of Housing, Homelessness and Community Development
Human Services Department
3000 Rockefeller Ave M/S 305
Everett, WA 98201
Phone: (425) 388-3605

Background on other affordable housing and homeless initiatives

First, as a State Representative and Senator and now as Snohomish County Executive, Reardon is a long time advocate of affordable housing and services for homeless individuals and families. In his role as County Executive, he has taken a strong leadership role in the development and participation of Snohomish County's Homeless Policy Task Force.

On June 1, 2006, "Everyone At Home Now," a 10-year plan to end homelessness and provide safe and affordable housing, was released in coordination with the Homeless Policy Task Force. The plan calls for the creation of 2500 new units of affordable housing for the homeless, increased permanent housing coupled with the support services necessary to sustain housing long-term, more services to prevent homelessness and the political will at every level of government to champion the need for every person to have safe, affordable and appropriate housing.

Executive Reardon will continue his leadership role with the Homeless Policy Task Force as co-chair to provide oversight to the plan's implementation. "Safe, secure housing offers people of low income, hope and opportunity to achieve beyond what is possible if left homeless," says Executive Reardon.

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