



**Snohomish County  
County Executive's Office**

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**Aaron Reardon**

*County Executive*

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## Grants help ready 'Future of Flight' for October take-off, Reardon says

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*County Executive says public, private contribution of \$65,000 will help  
launch futurist aviation center grand opening*

PAINE FIELD - Snohomish County Executive Aaron Reardon today announced that the Future of Flight Aviation Center and Boeing Tour is receiving \$65,000 in public and private grants – money that will be used to help promote the futuristic facility's grand opening in October.

"The 'Future of Flight' is going to be one of the nation's premier aviation attractions," Reardon said. "It will bring more visitors to Snohomish County and is spurring additional development around Paine Field. The center is already a driver in the local economy."

The Future of Flight Foundation is receiving \$25,000 from the Snohomish County Hotel/Motel Tax Fund for a marketing campaign to promote grand opening events. The grant attracted an additional \$40,000 in matching private money from the Belo Corp., which owns KING-TV and Northwest Cable News. The grant was made possible through a partnership between the Washington State Office of Tourism and Belo Corp.

"These grants make it possible for us to reach people across Western Washington to let them know about the grand opening of the Future of Flight Aviation Center," said Dave Waggoner, Director of the Snohomish County Airport at Paine Field.

Reardon said, "The Future of Flight Aviation Center is going to bring tens of thousands of visitors to Snohomish County for years to come. Combined with tours

of The Boeing Company's assembly plant that includes the 777 and 787 lines, we're creating a dynamic attraction that lets you see tomorrow's aviation today."

The Boeing Tour is already one of Snohomish County's most popular tourist attractions, drawing 100,000 visitors annually, including 60 percent from outside the region and 40 percent outside the United States.

The experience will be enhanced when the 73,000 square-foot Future of Flight Aviation Center opens its doors on October 28 (go to <http://www.futureofflight.org> and click on the Paine Field link for a look at the center's site plan.). When the Future of Flight opens, Boeing jumbo jet assembly facility tours will be conducted year-round except Thanksgiving, Christmas and New Year's Day.

While the Future of Flight officially opens to the public on Friday, October 28, grand opening festivities will take place every weekend through the Thanksgiving weekend. It will be the first time that visitors can look at exhibits in the aviation gallery and conference center.

The center includes a Future of Flight gift shop, The Boeing Store, a visitor information center, café and Boeing Tour Center. Next door to the Future of Flight Aviation Center is the 102-room Hilton Garden Inn, which will also open its doors in October.

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