



Media Advisory – May 1, 2008

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Reardon appoints economic development director

Snohomish County Executive Aaron Reardon has appointed Donna Ambrose as his new director of economic development.

Beginning May 6, Ambrose will oversee the county's economic development division. The division was moved into the Executive Office by the County Council in the 2008 budget. Ambrose first worked for Snohomish County as an executive management analyst in Reardon's office between October 2005 and December 2006.

"I'm pleased to have Donna back working for Snohomish County," Reardon said. "Her leadership and community connections will allow us to expand this county's job base and to provide new employment opportunities for folks who call Snohomish County home."

Ambrose has more than 20 years experience as a senior manager. Prior to working in the Snohomish County Executive's Office, Ambrose worked for Everett Transit for more than four years as a governmental affairs and information manager as well as an economic development and new business recruiter. She was executive director of the Greater Redmond Transportation Management Association from 1996-2001 and has held positions with other public and private entities since 1988.

She will be tasked with creating new, family-wage job opportunities that keep Snohomish County this state's overall job-growth leader.

Specifically, she will continue working relationships with partners such as the Economic Development Council of Snohomish County, the Workforce Development Council of Snohomish County and the various chambers of commerce located here.

Ambrose will improve Snohomish County branding by actively participating in development of Olympic tourism and business development through SnoGold 2010. As directed by the county executive, she and her employees also will continue to find innovative ways of promoting farming while preserving open farmland.

"The task before our new economic development director may sound daunting, but Donna is one in whom I have complete confidence," Reardon said.

Said Ambrose: “I’m thrilled about having the opportunity to come back and work on economic development for Snohomish County. It’s certainly an issue of great importance right now, and one that I feel very comfortable tackling.”

Ambrose graduated from Caldwell College in 1987 with a bachelor’s degree in business administration. She earned her master’s degree in policy studies from the University of Washington in 2003 and attended the University of Washington’s Daniel Evans School of Public Affairs’ Leadership Academy in 2005.

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