



**Snohomish County  
County Executive's Office**

*For immediate release – Monday, October 24, 2005*

**Aaron Reardon**

*County Executive*

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## Reardon Vetoes Elected County Official Raises

Snohomish County Executive Aaron Reardon has made good on his promise to veto a salary hike for elected County officials. The County Council approved the pay raises at the October 19 meeting.

“In my opinion,” said Reardon, “approving pay raises that equate to, on average, a more than 17 percent increase over the next three years for our elected officials undermines what we have worked so hard to achieve – sustained fiscal health of this County and the public’s confidence in their government.”

Reardon in his letter to the Snohomish County Council thanked the Council for their partnership in 2004 in working with him to close a \$13.4 million shortfall and regain fiscal health. However, he stated that the county continues to face a demand for services greater than revenues allow.

“As I stated in my August 15, 2005 memo to the County Council, in order to achieve long-term fiscal solvency we must maintain fiscal discipline,” said Reardon.

The total cost of the County official raises is \$329,078 through 2008.

Reardon praised the hard work of the Citizens’ Commission on Salaries of Elected Officials. However, he stated that pay raises of elected officials should be more in-line with the level of pay raises offered to Snohomish County’s 2,700 employees.

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