
Snohomish County Year 2002 Press Releases

December 20, 2002

County Completes Major Study Of Fixes For Urban Flooding

A major report on stormwater drainage problems and solutions in the county's rapidly growing urban growth areas was completed and presented this week to the Snohomish County Council. The Drainage Needs Report (DNR) caps an intensive, two-year effort to map and analyze natural and human stormwater drainage systems in unincorporated portions of the county's major population centers to identify drainage problems and potential projects to fix them.

[See original Press Release](#)

[See Drainage Needs Report Project homepage](#)

17 December 2002

[County seeks public input on proposed new website design](#)

Snohomish County is in the process of redesigning its website and wants to know what you think. A draft of the new design can be viewed at the County's homepage at www.co.snohomish.wa.us. Visitors are encouraged to comment on the design using the e-mail link provided.

Dec. 16, 2002

[Board Conserving County Parkland Needs New Citizen Representatives](#)

Snohomish County Executive Bob Drewel is recruiting for persons interested in helping to allocate limited funding resources for the conservation of county parks, open space or conserved agricultural uses. Deadline for nominations to the Snohomish County Conservation Futures Program Advisory Board is Dec. 31, 2002.

December 12, 2002

[Executive Drewel Seeks Applicants To Serve On Boundary Review Board](#)

Persons interested in serving on the Snohomish County Boundary Review Board are urged to apply for consideration with Snohomish County Executive Bob Drewel's office. Deadline for nominations is Dec. 31, 2002.

December 2, 2002

[Efficiency in the Snohomish County Law & Justice System](#)

By Councilman Jeff Sax

In June of 2002 the Snohomish County Law and Justice Task Force recommended a system wide efficiency study of the criminal justice system in our county. The Council approved the commissioning of the study because we wanted a fresh, objective and professional outside perspective on how to make our criminal justice system more cost effective without compromising Public Safety. Our outside contractor, The Institute for Law & Policy Planning (ILPP), issued its draft report "Opportunities For Improving Cost-Effectiveness In Snohomish County's Criminal Justice System" on October 24th.

Nov. 5, 2002

[Got A Nose For Books?](#)

[Sno-Isle Library Seeks New North County Board Member](#)

Residents of north Snohomish County with a desire to serve public libraries are encouraged to apply for an upcoming vacancy on the Sno-Isle Regional Library Board of Trustees. Sno-Isle Regional Library is an inter-county library district serving most of Snohomish and Island Counties. The library district is governed by a seven-member board, five from Snohomish County and two from Island County. Recruitment is underway for nominees to serve a seven-year term beginning Jan. 1, 2003.

Nov. 4, 2002

[Candidate With Law Enforcement Background Sought For County's Civil Service Commission](#)

Persons who have lived in Snohomish County for at least two years and who have a background in law enforcement are invited to apply for nomination to the county's Civil Service Commission, Snohomish County Executive Bob Drewel has announced. Deadline for nominations is Nov. 20, 2002.

November 1, 2002

[County eases regulatory burden for small developments](#)

Developers of small residential parcels within Urban Growth Areas (UGAs) of up to nine lots will face fewer regulatory and financial hurdles following county code changes approved by the Snohomish County Council on Oct. 30, 2002.

... In the future, nine-lot developments will be treated essentially the same as five-lot short plats that do not require public hearings and more expensive permit fees. The changes are part of the county's Economic Stimulus Plan, a joint project of the county council and County Executive Bob Drewel...

October 31, 2002

[Computers and Televisions Contain Hazardous Materials, No Longer Accepted for Disposal, New Recycling Options Available Nov. 15th](#)

Recent studies have determined computers, computer monitors, televisions, other electronics that contain CRTs (cathode ray tubes), and separated computer circuit boards contain hazardous materials such as lead, cadmium and mercury and cannot be disposed in landfills. These materials do not pose a risk to the users of computers and televisions, but they do pose an environmental risk when disposed. Therefore, in response to Federal, State and local rules, Snohomish County can no longer accept these materials as garbage at its solid waste facilities. These items must now be recycled.

[New Marysville walkway uses innovative 'green' material](#)

A new pedestrian walkway just outside the Marysville city limits may pave the way for other environmentally friendly paths and sidewalks in Snohomish County...

Oct. 23, 2002

[County Seeks Edmonds Ferry Rider For Service On State Committee](#)

Snohomish County residents who regularly use the Edmonds ferry are invited to apply for service on a state ferry advisory committee, Snohomish County Executive Bob Drewel has announced. Deadline for nominations is Nov. 20, 2002.

October 21, 2002

[Snohomish County Tomorrow Retreat to Discuss Next Wave of Growth](#)

City and County elected representatives will meet this **Saturday, October 26**, at **Everett Station** to discuss managing the next wave of population and employment growth using the Snohomish County Tomorrow (SCT) forum. The public and media are invited to observe this discussion...

October 21, 2002

['Surround The Sound' Halloween Festivities Emphasis Patrol This Weekend](#)

This weekend, officers in Snohomish County will be joining their counterparts from the ten counties surrounding Puget Sound to conduct the fourth annual "Surround the Sound" law enforcement emphasis patrol.

October 17, 2002

[Drewel calls for positive leadership, new thinking and broad partnerships to meet regional economic challenges](#)

at Greater Seattle Chamber of Commerce's Vancouver Leadership Conference...

October 18, 2002

[Granite Falls Alternate Route public meeting set for October 29th](#)

The public is invited to attend an October 29 open house scoping meeting to learn more about the proposed Granite Falls Alternate Route project. Snohomish County Public Works and the City of Granite Falls, in conjunction with the Federal Highway Administration and the Washington State Department of Transportation (WSDOT), are proposing to build the new, 2.1-mile SR 92 alternate route to divert truck traffic away from downtown Granite Falls...

October 15, 2002

[County Seeks Citizen Views on Road Improvements for 196th St. SW](#)

Snohomish County is seeking citizen views on a major road project to improve the busy thoroughfare between the City of Lynnwood and the cities of Bothell and Mill Creek. An Open House will be held to

explain the project and hear citizen's opinions on the proposed plan to improve the section of 196th St. SW / Filbert Road / SR 524 between 24th Avenue West and SR 527. The Open House is scheduled for Monday, October 28, from 6:30 until 8:30 p.m. at the Lynnwood High School Cafeteria, 3001 – 184th St. SW.

October 14, 2002

[County Seeks Members for Fair Advisory Board](#)

Snohomish County residents with experience and interest in the Evergreen State Fair are encouraged to apply for nomination to the county's Fair Advisory Board. Nomination forms are due by Friday, Nov. 15. Four new appointments will be made to four-year terms beginning Jan. 1, 2003.

October 1, 2002

[Advocates For Elderly And Disabled Adults Sought](#)

The Snohomish County Long Term Care Ombudsman program announces a challenging volunteer opportunity where people can put their problem solving skills to work. Volunteer Ombudsmen visit area nursing homes, boarding homes, and adult family homes and assist residents in resolving problems concerning their care and treatment. Volunteers also work to promote and protect the rights of residents living in long term care facilities.

September 29, 2002

[Snohomish County Historical Commission to Meet](#)

On October 9th nine citizens will meet as Snohomish County's first Historic Preservation Commission. The meeting takes place at 7:00 p.m. in conference room A on the 4th floor of the Snohomish County Administration Building, 3000 Rockefeller, in Everett. The citizens represent all five County Council districts. Formation of the commission allows the County to begin carrying out the mandates of the historic preservation ordinance, adopted in April....

Sept. 25, 2002

[132nd Street SE road improvements ahead of schedule](#)

[At least three lanes of traffic to remain open through the winter](#)

Crews from Snohomish County's contractor, TriState Construction, have been making rapid progress on the 132nd Street SE Improvements and Extension project. In fact, crews could begin final paving of the roadway as soon as weather permits next year. The entire five-lane roadway between Seattle Hill Road and SR 9 could be completed and open to traffic as early as June 2003...

Sept. 18, 2002

[Drewel Says County Will Continue Public Safety Campaign, Ask Voters Again To Support Jail Sales Tax Request](#)

"We will be back because it's the right thing to do," said County Executive Bob Drewel, the day after voters narrowly turned down a small increase in the sales tax that would have helped fund the daily operation of County's new jail addition. Drewel said he strongly favors providing more information and giving voters another opportunity to support the measure.

Sept. 18, 2002

[Snohomish County Appeals Ecology's Industrial Stormwater Pollution Permit](#)

Snohomish County today announced its intent to appeal the Washington State Department of Ecology's newly issued National Pollution Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) Industrial Stormwater General Permit citing concerns about the permit's inclusion of illegal stormwater standards and vague requirements to meet pollution limits that don't yet exist.

Sept. 10, 2002

[35th Ave. SE road construction ends 23 days early Road closure and detour route finished for the year](#)

Crews from TriState Construction completed paving operations Saturday along 35th Avenue SE between 136th Drive SE (Silver Crest Drive) and 144th Street SE, east of Mill Creek...

September 6, 2002

[Courthouse Ceremony to Commemorate 9/11 Heroes](#)

The Central Memorial Committee of Snohomish County is inviting county residents to join together to commemorate the heroes of the tragic events of September 11, 2001 at an anniversary observance on Wednesday, Sept. 11, 2002 at 11 a.m. at the County Courthouse in Everett. Music by the Naval Station Everett Band will precede the ceremony, beginning at 10:30 a.m. ...

September 6, 2002

[Open house set for Puget Park Drive extension](#)

[Sept. 18th event also a chance to see plans for Willis D. Tucker Park](#)

The public is invited to attend an open house on September 18, 2002 to learn more about Snohomish County's Willis D. Tucker Community Park and Puget Park Drive Extension project. The event will be held from 6:30-8 p.m. in the Totem Falls Elementary School Cafeteria...

September 5, 2002

[Reality Based Growth Management](#)

By Snohomish County Council members **Gary Nelson, John Koster, and Jeff Sax**

If you were making an important decision, would you use the latest information, or someone's ten-year old estimate?

That question is at the heart of the current controversy regarding Snohomish County's Buildable Lands Report. A majority of the county council wants to use today's population numbers, while planners would like to use numbers that are ten years old, even though those numbers have proven to be wrong...

September 4, 2002

[Councilmember Calls for No Property Tax Increase Budget](#)

Snohomish County Councilmember John Koster has asked the county executive to propose a budget that holds the line on the county portion of the property tax. Koster, who represents the first council district in north Snohomish County, said, "In my opinion, the citizens are overtaxed. We should hold the line on the property tax." ...

August 27, 2002

[County Executive Says Council Proposal Jeopardizes Relations With Cities, Sets Stage For](#)

Sprawl

Last week, three County Council members unveiled their own version of a Buildable Lands Report. The Council majority made public their proposal after hearing verbal public testimony on the draft Buildable Lands Report prepared by Snohomish County Tomorrow, a coalition of the county's 20 cities and the Tulalip Tribes, together with the County Executive and county staff. The alternative proposed on a narrow 3-2 margin by Councilmembers Jeff Sax, John Koster and Gary Nelson would replace the SCT report.

With this action, the Council majority signaled its intent to provide for additional population growth within cities and surrounding neighborhoods in 2012. The Council's version of the Report also would artificially constrain the availability of land within existing urban growth areas (UGAs), setting the stage to expand those UGAs and possibly leading to sprawl. The Council majority's new factor would support the addition of some 31 square miles of historically rural lands to the existing UGA's...

August 23, 2002

35th Ave. SE road construction ahead of schedule ... Access to Pacific Topsoils to change as crews move south

Crews are ahead of schedule on Snohomish County's 35th Avenue SE Road Improvement project, just east of Mill Creek. As a result, the current road closure in effect between 136th Drive SE (Silver Crest Drive) and 144th Street SE that started July 29 could be concluded well before mid-October, as previously announced...

August 8, 2002

Mountain Loop Highway Travel Advisory:

Silverton Bridge #56 to be closed until October - Two-month rehabilitation project will delay traffic to Big Four, Monte Cristo

A bridge rehabilitation project at Silverton will cause some traffic delays for travelers along the Mountain Loop Highway, Snohomish County Public Works has announced. Bridge #56, which crosses the Stillaguamish River 22 miles east of Granite Falls, was built in the 1920s. It is narrow (only 8 feet wide at its narrowest point) and has been unable to accommodate heavy loads because of a 5-ton weight limit...

August 2, 2002

County to replace Little Pilchuck Creek Br. #426 -- Project includes full road closure on 16th Street NE, east of Lake Stevens

Snohomish County Public Works will begin replacing Little Pilchuck Creek Bridge #426 in mid-August 2002. The bridge is located just east of Lake Stevens on 16th Street NE where it crosses Little Pilchuck Creek, near the Bonneville Ball Field and N. Machias Road.

August 2, 2002

100th Street NE Walkway construction to start

Snohomish County will start construction this month on a new paved walkway along the south side of 100th Street NE between 48th Drive NE and 51st Avenue NE, just outside the Marysville city limits. The project is scheduled to be completed by late September 2002.

July 29, 2002

[COUNTY EXTENDS DEADLINE FOR NORTH COUNTY NOMINEE TO COUNTY PARKS](#)

[ADVISORY BOARD](#)

Want to help plan the future of county parks? Residents of County Council District #1 (north Snohomish County, generally from Marysville north to the Skagit County line) are invited to apply to serve on the Snohomish County Parks Advisory Board. Deadline for nominations has been extended to Aug. 20.

July 23, 2002

[Snohomish County Homeownership Program Given Big Boost](#)

The Neighbor Reinvestment Corporation (NRC) has announced a special \$400,000 award to non-profit community developer Homesight to get low-income families off public assistance and into homeownership. The grant will support the Snohomish County "Section 8 to Homeownership Program". This program is a unique partnership between, the Snohomish County Housing Authority, the Everett Housing Authority and Homesight.

July 19, 2002

[LED conversion gives green light to traffic signal savings](#)

Charlie Mathison used to see red—or at least yellow—every time he had to send out one of his signal maintenance crews to replace a traffic light. The Signal Operations Supervisor had known for years that Snohomish County could save considerable time and money if it converted from the old incandescent bulbs to state-of-the-art Light-Emitting Diode (LED) technology...

July 19, 2002

[35th Ave. SE road closure postponed until July 29](#) -- *Arterial to be closed to all through-traffic for about 10 weeks*

The start date for a planned road closure on 35th Avenue SE between 136th Drive SE (Silver Crest Drive) and 144th Street SE has been postponed by two weeks. Originally scheduled for "mid-July," the full road closure now will start July 29. It will be in effect until mid-October, as previously announced.

July 3, 2002

[35th Ave. SE road widening to continue in mid-July](#)

Arterial to be closed to all through-traffic for about 12 weeks

Snohomish County will begin constructing road improvements this summer along a 2-mile stretch of 35th Avenue SE from 120th Place SE to just north of Seattle Hill Road. When it is completed in fall 2003, the work will complete the overall, \$7.9-million project to widen 3.9 miles of 35th Avenue SE from 100th Street SE to Seattle Hill Road, which was started in 1999. The northern phase, 100th Street SE to 120th Place SE, was completed last year.

July 2, 2002

[County, State team up on new Road Construction Hotline](#)

Citizens may call toll-free 1-866-SNO-ROAD for project updates

This is an unusually busy summer for road construction in Snohomish County. The Washington State Department of Transportation (WSDOT) has major projects on SR 529, US 2 and SR 525.

Snohomish County Public Works is making improvements to a number of arterials...

To help citizens keep informed on all these projects and their traffic impacts, the County and State have teamed up to launch the new, toll-free Snohomish County **Road Construction Hotline**. For up-to-date information on all major road projects in the county, citizens now can call the hotline at **1-866-SNO-ROAD (866-766-7623)**.

June 20, 2002

[County Executive Seeks North County Nominee To County Parks Board](#)

Want to help plan the future of county parks? Residents of County Council District #1 (north Snohomish County, generally from Marysville north to the Skagit County line) are invited to apply to serve on the Snohomish County Parks Advisory Board. Deadline for nominations is June 10, 2002.

June 18, 2002

[County Confirms First Two Appointments, Seeks Third For Lake Stevens Area Park Board](#)

Snohomish County Executive Bob Drewel is recruiting for a third nominee to the Lake Stevens Park & Recreation Area Governing Advisory Board. Residents who live within the Lake Stevens School District and outside the city limits may apply for nomination to a two-year term. Deadline for nominations is Monday, July 8, 2002. [Download and mail in a application form.](#)

June 13, 2002

[County Executive Signs Land Use Plan for Mill Creek East: Creates Village Centers and Open Space/Trail Network](#)

Snohomish County Executive Bob Drewel today signed ordinances adopting an Urban Growth Area (UGA) Plan and a unified community vision for the Mill Creek East area.

May 23, 2002

[County Employees Spring Into Action To Donate 383k Pounds To Local Food Banks](#)

A spirited competition among Snohomish County government employees resulted in a total donation equivalent to 382,897 pounds of food for 19 local community food banks. This was nearly four times the 100,000-pound challenge that County Executive Bob Drewel issued when the food drive began.

June 7, 2002

[BNSF to close 156th Street NE railroad crossing](#)

On June 24th, 2002 the Burlington Northern and Santa Fe Railway Company (BNSF) will permanently close the railroad crossing located at 156th Street NE near Twin Lakes County Park north of Marysville.

May 31, 2002

[Paving work to take place on 132nd St. SE June 4-7](#)

Work is progressing rapidly on the 132nd Street SE Improvements and Extension project, Snohomish County Public Works has announced. Starting next Tuesday, June 4, sub-contractor Watson Asphalt Paving will begin paving the northern lanes of the major east-west arterial between Seattle Hill Road and "The Falls" housing development.

May 10, 2002

[**DREWEL SEEKS CANDIDATES
FOR MUKILTEO FERRY COMMITTEE**](#)

Snohomish County residents with an interest in the Mukilteo ferry are invited to apply for service on a Washington State ferry advisory committee, Snohomish County Executive Bob Drewel has announced. Deadline for nominations is May 31...

May 6, 2002

[**Citizen Committee Overseeing County Campus Redevelopment Re-Elects Janice Ellis As Chair**](#)

Janice Ellis, an attorney from Snohomish, has been re-elected chair of the citizen advisory committee for Snohomish County's Campus Redevelopment Initiative. Ed Morrow of Everett, representing the city and the Everett Historical Commission, is the new vice chair...

May 3, 2002

[**County Salary Commission Elects New Leaders, Reviews Potential Independence**](#)

Earl Dutton of Everett has been elected chair of the county's Citizens' Commission of Salaries of Elected Officials. Barbara Earl of Mill Creek is the new vice chair.

May 3, 2002

[**Tri-County Executives Propose Regional Transportation Measure**](#)

Since the Legislature adjourned in mid-March, the executives of the tri-county region have been working hard to put together a balanced regional transportation package that helps this region deal with its transportation crisis.

April 26, 2002

[**Marine Drive road improvements
set to begin this summer**](#)

Snohomish County Public Works plans to begin road construction this summer on a 2-mile-long section of Marine Drive NE/NW between 19th Ave. NE and 7th Dr. NW...

April 5, 2002

[**County Launches 132nd Street SE Construction Hotline** \(pdf\)](#)

This summer will be an unusually busy time for construction in and around Mill Creek ... 132nd St. extension to Highway 9 begins...

[See detailed 132nd St. SE Newsletter](#) (pdf)

February 4, 2002

[**Bob Drewel Appoints Susan Neely to Head Public Safety Program**](#)

Snohomish County Executive Bob Drewel today announced that Susan Neely will head a new program aimed at improving efficiencies within the county's criminal justice system.

February 1, 2002

[**Technology Expert to Lead County's Department of Information Services**](#)

County Executive Bob Drewel has appointed Bob von Wolffradt, an acknowledged technology manager, to direct Snohomish County's Department of Information Services. Von Wolffradt's

appointment is subject to confirmation by the county council.

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December 20, 2002

County Completes Major Study Of Fixes For Urban Flooding

A major report on stormwater drainage problems and solutions in the county's rapidly growing urban growth areas was completed and presented this week to the Snohomish County Council. The Drainage Needs Report (DNR) caps an intensive, two-year effort to map and analyze natural and human stormwater drainage systems in unincorporated portions of the county's major population centers to identify drainage problems and potential projects to fix them.

“The Drainage Needs Report improves the county’s ability to manage drainage systems and equips us to prioritize the projects most important to solving urban drainage problems,” said County Executive Bob Drewel.

For the first time, the county has mapped its urban drainage systems, identifying more than 1,000 drainage problem spots, and preparing initial designs for 378 projects to fix them. The study builds on a similar pilot effort around Lake Stevens. It focuses on 11 key urban drainage basins covering 73 square miles of the county’s unincorporated urban growth areas. The DNR covers the southwestern corner of the county below Everett; north county near Stanwood, Arlington, Marysville, Darrington, and Granite Falls; and eastern areas along SR 2 near Monroe, Sultan and Gold Bar.

“The DNR study represents an enormous amount of technical work performed in a remarkably short time,” said County Council Chair Gary Nelson. “The Council's action to issue bonds to fund this project in the 2001 budget has allowed the county to accomplish in just under two years what we originally thought would take at least ten.”

The report models today’s stormwater flows and then forecasts how drainage systems will perform in the future, as planned growth and development add new impervious surface. The report focuses on flooding, but also identifies opportunities to protect aquatic habitat and reduce pollution and erosion from runoff. The DNR estimates that if the county tried to build all 378 projects, it would cost \$123 million. Instead, the DNR recommends that the county rank the top projects, add up available funding and develop a practical construction schedule that is affordable.

In addition to helping the county manage stormwater, the DNR also helps private property owners.

“The DNR maps and flow models are a tremendous resource for property owners wishing to develop their land and who must estimate and take care of potential drainage impacts on downstream properties,” said Nelson. “This information helps protect downstream properties and the environment, while allowing urban areas to continue to support economic growth,” he said.

The Drainage Needs Report will be made available to the public by posting it on the county’s website and offering CD copies for purchase in the near future.

The DNR analysis was conducted by the county’s Surface Water Management Division with consultant teams from R.W. Beck and CH2MHill. Total Report costs were \$12 million.

The DNR merges computer modeling with information collected directly in the field. Precise drainage maps were created using Global Positioning System (GPS) and Geographic Information System (GIS) mapping technologies. By overlaying detailed geographic information with data generated by sophisticated hydrologic and hydraulic computer models, engineers can predict where flooding is likely to occur under a variety of scenarios. They then can calculate both upstream and downstream effects of changes within the drainage system.

“The DNR study is a powerful new tool that will help county government plan drainage-system investments more cost-effectively, sustain the quality and economy of our urban areas, and help property owners successfully address potential drainage impacts of new development,” said Drewel.

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17 December 2002

County seeks public input on proposed new website design

Snohomish County is in the process of redesigning its website and wants to know what you think.

A draft of the new design can be viewed at the County's homepage at www.co.snohomish.wa.us. Visitors are encouraged to comment on the design using the e-mail link provided.

"Our goal is to create a simple and compelling website for Snohomish County that provides greater convenience, better service, and more information to residents and businesses," said County Executive Bob Drewel. "We are on a fast track. We expect to launch the new design in 2003, and we are eager to hear what people think of the proposed design.

"The web is a cost-effective and convenient way for government to deliver information and services," said Drewel. "Over 4,500 people visit our web site every day, often saving them from lengthy phone calls or time-consuming trips to the courthouse complex in Everett."

Design firms Sierra Systems Inc. and Wovie design studios have been engaged to assist the redesign effort, under the supervision of the County's Department of Information Services. Both firms have extensive experience in web design and the presentation of online government information and services.

The County's website design objectives include:

- Improve usability with better information search and navigation capabilities
- Increase the opportunity for citizens to conduct County business over the Internet
- Illustrate the County's natural beauty and cultural diversity
- Increase accessibility for the benefit of all website visitors

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CONTACT: Dave Hopkins, *Internet Coordinator*, at 425-388-3465
or e-mail to dhopkins@co.snohomish.wa.us

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Monday, Dec. 16, 2002

Board Conserving County Parkland Needs New Citizen Representatives

Snohomish County Executive Bob Drewel is recruiting for persons interested in helping to allocate limited funding resources for the conservation of county parks, open space or conserved agricultural uses. Deadline for nominations to the Snohomish County Conservation Futures Program Advisory Board is Dec. 31, 2002.

Snohomish County coordinates the Conservation Futures program, which provides funding to the county and cities to acquire properties that meet local conservation goals or represent a unique natural feature and are threatened by development.

“The Conservation Futures program helps us to preserve some of the unique natural places that help make Snohomish County special,” Drewel said.

The program advisory board helps determine funding allocations through its periodic review of project proposals. Board recommendations are advisory to the Snohomish County Council.

The board is made up of seven members: two County Councilmembers, Deputy County Executive Gary Weikel, two city representatives, and two residents of Snohomish County. The citizen representative vacancies are for four-year terms beginning in early 2003. Nominations are recommended by Executive Drewel and confirmed by the County Council.

Nomination forms must be completed and filed with the County Executive Office by Dec. 31. To receive a nomination form, contact Connie Mennie at 425-388-3876 or connie.mennie@co.snohomish.wa.us. The application form also can be accessed on line at <http://www.co.snohomish.wa.us/Volunteers/Nomform.pdf>.

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**CONTACT: Connie Mennie, County Executive Office, 425-388-3876
Marc Krandel, Parks & Recreation, 425-388-6621**

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Executive Drewel Seeks Applicants To Serve On Boundary Review Board

Persons interested in serving on the Snohomish County Boundary Review Board are urged to apply for consideration with Snohomish County Executive Bob Drewel's office. Deadline for nominations is Dec. 31, 2002.

Boundary Review Boards were created by the state legislature in 1987 to help more populous counties guide and control "growth of municipalities in metropolitan areas" so that land use, municipal services, financial integrity of cities and towns, and consistency of regulations are addressed. The board reviews proposed annexations for consistency with applicable laws and to address impacts on the surrounding communities.

"As Snohomish County continues to feel the impacts of growth, the importance of the Boundary Review Board's work cannot be understated," Drewel said.

The board is made up of five members: two appointed by the Governor, one by Snohomish County, one by the mayors of Snohomish County's cities and towns, and one by the board from nominees of special purpose districts in the county. The pending vacancy is for the Snohomish County appointment, which is recommended by Executive Drewel and confirmed by the County Council. That four-year term will begin Feb. 1, 2003.

Nomination forms must be completed and filed with the County Executive Office by Dec. 31. To receive a nomination form, contact Connie Mennie at 425-388-3876 or connie.mennie@co.snohomish.wa.us. The application form also can be accessed on line at <http://www.co.snohomish.wa.us/Volunteers/Nomform.pdf>.

[See All County Press Releases](#)

December 2, 2002

Efficiency in the Snohomish County Law & Justice System

By Councilman Jeff Sax, Chair, Law & Justice/Human Services Committee
Snohomish County Council, District 5

In June of 2002 the Snohomish County Law and Justice Task Force recommended a system wide efficiency study of the criminal justice system in our county. The Council approved the commissioning of the study because we wanted a fresh, objective and professional outside perspective on how to make our criminal justice system more cost effective without compromising Public Safety. Our outside contractor, The Institute for Law & Policy Planning (ILPP), issued its draft report "Opportunities For Improving Cost-Effectiveness In Snohomish County's Criminal Justice System" on October 24th.

This report contains 67 findings covering the Prosecutor's Office, the Sheriff's Office, the Superior and District Courts, the Human Services Department, the Office of Public Defense, the Public Defenders Association, the Clerk's Office and the Department of Corrections. The draft is just that, a draft. These agencies have just completed the process of responding to the findings to add data, clarify any errors and fill in any holes in the information. That said, several important findings are already clear.

The report indicates several ways that our criminal justice system can be greatly improved by saving taxpayer's money, improving services and raising the morale of our employees. These conclusions are buffeted by ILPP's opening remarks at the oral presentation of the draft report: "A system wide lack of management exists in the Snohomish County Law & Justice system".

This finding in no way diminishes the quality of work that is provided each and every day by the folks who work in this system. What it does point out is these hard working employees have been let down by a lack of clear leadership at Council and Executive levels. The report says that our county has not had a comprehensive vision for the administration of law and justice and this has led to inefficiency and waste. This is the critical finding. We as leaders need to do a much better job of understanding and managing the criminal justice system as a whole to provide the "Public Safety" that the residents of Snohomish County deserve and do so in a fiscally prudent manner.

Reports such as this one are not without controversy. Some in the criminal justice system naturally

resent having “outsiders” evaluate the manner in which they provide services. But we cannot let the fact that none of us will ever agree on every detail make us lose sight of the opportunity this report represents. Although the hard work of improving our criminal justice systems lies ahead, the County Council has already taken some important steps **this year** to improve efficiency and enhance Public Safety, including:

1) **Improve efficiency in our corrections system through a review of overtime staffing.** We will spend in excess of \$2,000,000 in 2002 on overtime, which is hard on our employees and the county’s bottom line. We understand the importance of solving this problem and have already started the process.

2) **Hire 20 more full time corrections staff in 2003.** 20 employees will be added to our corrections department in 2003 to help keep criminals locked up. We have empowered the Executive to adjust these positions mid stream based on the results of the staffing efficiency review. All of these positions will be funded from overtime savings.

3) **Data base modernization.** Each agency in the system operates on separate databases. This forces redundant data entry as a person in custody moves from the patrol car to booking, through the offices of the prosecutor and public defender and onto the courts and finally to jail. Linking these separate databases eliminates the need to enter data multiple times and will quickly save the County many millions of dollars.

4) **Make the shift structure within the Sheriff’s Office more efficient** by moving toward 8-hour shifts. Currently, our deputies work 12.5-hour shifts. While this provides a better day off schedule for our deputies, the nature of the job does not allow the County the funds nor the schedule to allow this practice to continue. Crime happens all week but particularly on weekends. The Sheriff needs the flexibility to schedule the deputies when and where the community needs them in order to promote the Public Safety that Snohomish County resident expect.

5) **Hire a policy analyst who will help coordinate our County’s approach to criminal justice.** This analyst will staff the yet to be formed internal county "L&J Cabinet". This “Cabinet” will be assembled with the leaders of the County Council members, the Executive, Judges, the Sheriff, the Prosecutor, the Clerk, the Director of Corrections, the Human Services Department, the Office of Public Defense, the Public Defenders Association and the Director of Information Systems will direct the work plan of this analyst to look at the system as a whole and seek system-wide solutions to reduce costs and streamline processes.

6) **Oversight by the Law & Justice committee in 2003.** I am committed to understanding the budget of each agency, from the bottom up, to arrive at a 2004 budget that is leaner and more reflective of the efficiency I know we can achieve.

Providing for and implementing a system to promote Public Safety is an expensive part of government. It is also our most important duty. The County asked for more money to operate the system through public vote in September and you the voters told us no. Many of you don’t have faith that the money

currently allocated to criminal justice is being well spent. This report is a response to your answer. We hear you and understand the need to streamline our system, reduce costs and find efficiencies. Once we have done this it is conceivable that more tax dollars are required. Perhaps we will be back to present our case again. Until then, educate yourselves on your Law & Justice System; it is not simple, and not a law and order versus liberal debate, it is about management. We understand what you expect and intend to do our best to provide it to you.

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Contact: Susan Banel, 5th District Legislative Aide, (425) 388-3494

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Nov. 5, 2002

Got A Nose For Books?

Sno-Isle Library Seeks New North County Board Member

Residents of north Snohomish County with a desire to serve public libraries are encouraged to apply for an upcoming vacancy on the Sno-Isle Regional Library Board of Trustees.

Sno-Isle Regional Library is an inter-county library district serving most of Snohomish and Island Counties. The library district is governed by a seven-member board, five from Snohomish County and two from Island County. Recruitment is underway for nominees to serve a seven-year term beginning Jan. 1, 2003.

“Public libraries are one of the great equalizers in our society,” said County Executive Bob Drewel. “They serve all dimensions of the public, from toddlers to elderly, rich or poor, urban or rural, healthy or physically challenged. I am convinced that good libraries are an important element of strong communities.”

Snohomish County residents who do not live within the Everett or Woodway city limits are eligible for nomination. To ensure geographic representation, preference may be given to candidates who live in north Snohomish County. Board appointments are nominated by the County Executive and confirmed by the County Council.

Monthly meetings are held on the fourth Monday of each month beginning at 1 p.m., usually at the Library District’s Service Center in Marysville. Meetings also are held at libraries in the two-county service area.

Nomination forms should be completed and filed by Nov. 22. For more information on the board or its duties, contact Sno-Isle Director Jonalyn Woolf-Ivory at 360-651-7008. To receive a nomination form, contact Connie Mennie in Drewel’s office at 425-388-3876 or connie.mennie@co.snohomish.wa.us. Information and application forms are also available on line at www.sno-isle.org.

In addition to library books, Sno-Isle library patrons have free access to magazines, audio and video tapes, artwork, computers with word processing and Internet service, and a host of other public media. Public meeting rooms, community events, and a Bookmobile serving rural areas and housebound residents also are offered by the library system. Sno-Isle has 15 libraries located throughout Snohomish County, as well as five in Island County.

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Nov. 4, 2002

Candidate With Law Enforcement Background Sought For County's Civil Service Commission

Persons who have lived in Snohomish County for at least two years and who have a background in law enforcement are invited to apply for nomination to the county's Civil Service Commission, Snohomish County Executive Bob Drewel has announced. Deadline for nominations is Nov. 20, 2002.

"Recent events throughout the country have helped to underscore just how important law enforcement officers are to the health and safety of our communities," Drewel said. "This is an opportunity to help support our uniformed personnel."

The commission, made up of three persons, was created "to establish a merit system of employment for county deputy sheriffs ... thereby raising the standards and efficiency of such offices and law enforcement in general." No more than two commissioners may be from the same political party at the time of their appointment. The incumbents are a Democrat and a political independent. Current Snohomish County employees are not eligible for appointment.

The current vacancy is for a six-year term beginning Jan. 1, 2003. Nomination forms must be completed and filed with the County Executive Office by Nov. 20, 2002. Appointments are recommended by County Executive Drewel and confirmed by the County Council. To receive a nomination form, contact Connie Mennie at 425-388-3876 or connie.mennie@co.snohomish.wa.us. The application form also can be accessed on line at <http://www.co.snohomish.wa.us/Volunteers/Nomform.pdf>.

[See All County Press Releases](#)

November 1, 2002

County eases regulatory burden for small developments

Developers of small residential parcels within Urban Growth Areas (UGAs) of up to nine lots will face fewer regulatory and financial hurdles following county code changes approved by the Snohomish County Council on Oct. 30, 2002.

In the future, nine-lot developments will be treated essentially the same as five-lot short plats that do not require public hearings and more expensive permit fees. The changes are part of the county's Economic Stimulus Plan, a joint project of the county council and County Executive Bob Drewel.

"It's going to be simpler and less expensive for small property owners to develop their land," said County Council Chair Gary Nelson. "The state's counties had been seeking this authority for 10 years and the legislature finally gave their approval this spring."

"These are tough economic times," said Drewel, "and this effort is just one of a number of regulatory reforms we plan to make to reduce the cost and time it takes to process permits. These changes won't reduce environmental protections and administrative decisions can still be appealed," he said.

In the past, plat applications containing over five lots had to go through the often lengthy and more costly hearing examiner review process. Administratively approved nine-lot developments will only be allowed within the unincorporated Urban Growth Area boundaries that border existing cities. UGAs are, for the most part, already heavily urbanized and likely to be annexed into a city.

###

Contact: Faith Lumsden, Planning and Development Services Director, at 425-388-3424.

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October 31, 2002

Computers and Televisions Contain Hazardous Materials

No Longer Accepted for Disposal
New Recycling Options Available Nov. 15th

Recent studies have determined computers, computer monitors, televisions, other electronics that contain CRTs (cathode ray tubes), and separated computer circuit boards contain hazardous materials such as lead, cadmium and mercury and cannot be disposed in landfills. These materials do not pose a risk to the users of computers and televisions, but they do pose an environmental risk when disposed. Therefore, in response to Federal, State and local rules,

Snohomish County can no longer accept these materials as garbage at its solid waste facilities. These items must now be recycled.

To provide residents and businesses with recycling options, Snohomish County and other local governments are developing a network of local private businesses to provide recycling services for computers, computer monitors, peripherals, and televisions. This network is in the early stages of development and is called the Take It Back Network.

Solid Waste Director, Jeff Kelley-Clarke says: "We are pleased that a number of local businesses are stepping forward to provide collection sites for Snohomish County customers to recycle these used electronic products. This is an important community service that we believe will be beneficial to these businesses as well. We will also continue to work on a national level to help resolve the many issues surrounding electronics recycling, including asking that national manufacturers make their products less toxic and more recyclable and assist in establishing local recycling options that are paid for in the price of their products."

Snohomish County is working with national manufacturers and retailers, other governments, recyclers and non-profit groups, to develop plans for a future national recycling system for

these materials, paid for in the purchase price of new electronic products. If successful, this endeavor, referred to as the National Electronic Product Stewardship Initiative, could eliminate the need to charge fees for computers and televisions when brought in for recycling. However, it will take several years to put such a system in place state-wide or nationally.

As well as the local businesses that are providing collection services, the North County Recycling and Transfer Station in Arlington will offer collection services to residents and businesses (limit of 3 televisions and computer monitors per load).

Due to associated expenses in the collection, transport, disassembly and processing of these electronic products, a recycling fee will be charged at the private businesses as well as at the North County Transfer Station. (See price list below for NCRTS program. Customers should call businesses providing recycling service to check their prices and terms.)

Local recycling options will be in place by November 15th at North County Transfer Station and a number of businesses participating in the Take It Back Network. Additional businesses will be joining the Take it Back Network soon and customers should frequently check the County's new electronics recycling website (operable on Nov. 15th) to see current participating businesses and options. The site's URL will be www.co.snohomish.wa.us/takeitback

Snohomish County North County Recycling and Transfer Station

Recycling Price List

- \$10 Computers (CPUs), laptops
- \$14 Computer monitors, other devices with cathode ray tubes
- \$20 Standard televisions
- \$27 Console & big screen TVs, other large electronics such as photocopiers

\$10 Other desktop electronics (printers*, scanners*, copiers, fax machines, VCRs, stereos, DVD players)

N/C Cell phones, PDAs, circuit boards, and desktop computer peripherals (mouse, keyboard, cables, printer*, scanner*, speakers)

*no charge if paying for computer or computer monitor.
(Limit 3 computer monitors or TVs per load)

Local Recycling Options

(always call first for instructions and prices)

- n **Accepts small quantities**
- x **Accepts large quantities**

nNW Computer Resources
Everett, WA

425-267-9772
(computers only)

nTLC Computer Care
Snohomish, WA
360-862-1337
(computers only)

n× Smart Appliance
Attn: Ron Hogan
Everett, WA
425-335-3535

n× Total Reclaim Inc
Attn: Craig Lorch
Seattle, WA
(206) 343-7443

× PC Salvage
Attn: Mark Bracking
Tacoma, WA
253-460-8322

n× Philip Services Corp
Attn: Marc McReynolds
Renton, WA
(800) 547-2436

× Recycle America
Attn: Cly Lewis
Seattle, WA
206-505-9060

× MSE
Attn: Sean DeHan
Seattle, WA 98101
(206) 767-7990

n× Trash Busters
Attn: Tyler Kornelius
Seattle, WA
206-545-1100

Manufacturer Programs

Some manufacturers provide mail-it-back or other reuse and recycling programs. These can be found on the Electronic Industry Alliance's website at http://www.eiae.org/reuse_recycle/national_index.cfm

Dell: <http://www.dellexchange.com>

Dell offers consumers a number of services for reusing or recycling computers and related hardware. Consumers can trade in select used systems for the current wholesale value, auction used equipment, donate select equipment to the National Christina foundation, or send in any brand PC, mouse, keyboard, printer and monitor for recycling. Consumers pay only the cost of shipping for the recycling service. Go to the website for details or call 1-800-915-3355. (Note: Dell uses prison labor in the US to recycle computer equipment. If this is unacceptable to you, please select a different recycling option.)

Gateway: <http://www.gateway.com/home/programs/recycle.shtml>

The Gateway Recycling Benefit is a rebate program that awards you up to \$50 when you purchase a new Gateway PC and recycle or donate your old PC. If you are donating your computer, you choose the charity. If you are recycling, it is up to you to contact a recycling center.

For more information: contact 1-800-GATEWAY, e-mail sales@gateway.com, or stop by a Gateway Store.

Hewlett-Packard: <http://warp1.external.hp.com/recycle/>

HP's computer hardware recycling service is a simple and environmentally sound take-back program that offers consumers and business customers the ability to return any piece of computer hardware from any manufacturer. The cost of the automated, on-line service ranges from \$13 to \$34 per item, depending upon the type and quantity of hardware to be returned. Custom price quotes are also available. You can use an on-line recycling service [order entry tool](#) to approximate the cost of your order beforehand.

IBM: <http://www.ibm.com/shop>

Through the IBM PC Recycling Service, consumers and small businesses can recycle any manufacturer's PCs, including system units, monitors, printers and optional attachments for \$29.99 which includes shipping. IBM PC Recycling Service will either recycle the equipment or refurbish the system and arrange for its donation to Gifts in Kind International (GIKI). If the computer meets the criteria for donation, the donor will receive a receipt for potential deduction on their annual federal tax return up to the amount allowed by law. Customers may purchase the PC Recycling Service when buying any new IBM PC system at <http://www.ibm.com/shop>,

or purchase the service separately by calling 1-888-SHOP-IBM (746-7426). Quick reference part number 06P7513.

For more information: contact Snohomish County Solid Waste at 425-388-3425.

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November 1, 2002

New Marysville walkway uses innovative ‘green’ material

Pervious concrete treats water, saves space, reduces costs

A new pedestrian walkway just outside the Marysville city limits may pave the way for other environmentally friendly paths and sidewalks in Snohomish County. The 5-foot-wide walkway, which stretches along the south side of 100th Street NE between 48th Drive NE and 51st Avenue NE, is made of pervious concrete, an innovative construction material that provides a strong, hard surface yet lets water percolate through it into the ground.

The Snohomish County Public Works project was built this summer to provide a much-needed pedestrian link for area residents to walk, jog, use wheelchairs and push baby strollers. The 900-foot roadway segment connects a growing business center to the west with a developed residential area and Cascade Elementary School to the east. The road’s south shoulder carries a large number of pedestrians, many of whom are children. Now that path is wider, drier and safer.

The project originally was designed to use traditional concrete. Because the material is impervious, though—that is, water runs off it—the design called for additional right-of-way purchase to construct off-site water detention ponds as well as curbs, gutters, swales and underground catchbasins. Engineering Supervisor Darrell Ash and Project Manager Vladimir Malinsky saw an opportunity to use pervious concrete, a material that, to their knowledge, has so far been used in only one other sidewalk in the area (in Seattle).

The material, which looks somewhat like gray popcorn or a Rice Krispies Treat, eliminates those additional right-of-way and water-treatment requirements. In addition, by letting the water percolate down through the pathway into the soil, water will reach nearby streams naturally, instead of the discharge being concentrated at one point. This can greatly reduce such problems as erosion, flooding and habitat damage.

“This project was an ideal candidate for the pervious concrete because the underlying

soils are sandy, with very high water-infiltration rates, and the ground is relatively flat,” explains Malinsky.

“It eliminated a headache, and it saved money,” says Ash. “The final construction cost was around \$130,000—some \$114,000 less than the original budget.” The savings would have been even greater, he says, except that labor costs were a little higher than usual because the drier concrete mix takes somewhat longer to lay and level due to its unique texture. Those labor costs should come down in the future, he says.

The County team also is studying the possibility of using pervious concrete to build the curb alongside the roadway. Instead of directing road runoff into catchbasins, as do normal

curbs, the material would allow the water to seep through the curb into the 6-foot-wide planting strip that separates the walkway from the road. If the application is feasible, it could be used in other future projects.

The only drawbacks, according to Ash and Malinsky, are that the pervious material is not as strong as traditional concrete—which explains why it hasn’t been used for roadways or other load-bearing areas—and it creates a slightly rougher walking surface.

Will the County use the pervious concrete for other projects? “We hope so!” says County Engineer Steve Thomsen. “First we have to see how it works on the 100th Street site. If it performs like we expect it to, though, we could end up using it for any number of future applications. We’re excited about the potential benefits, both fiscal and environmental.”

Try the SNO-ROAD Hotline! For up-to-date information on major road projects in Snohomish County, citizens may call the toll-free Snohomish County Road Construction Hotline at 866-SNO-ROAD (866-766-7623). (TDD/TTY users may call WA Relay Center at 1-800-833-6388.) They also can click on the “Roads Central” icon on the County’s homepage (<http://www.co.snohomish.wa.us/>).

#

Contact: Vladimir Malinsky, Project Manager (425) 388-3488, ext. 4237
Wayne Lee, Public Involvement Coordinator (425) 388-3789

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Oct. 23, 2002

County Seeks Edmonds Ferry Rider For Service On State Committee

Snohomish County residents who regularly use the Edmonds ferry are invited to apply for service on a state ferry advisory committee, Snohomish County Executive Bob Drewel has announced. Deadline for nominations is Nov. 20, 2002.

“This is an excellent opportunity for people to become involved in an issue that affects their community, and to help effect change at the state and local level,” Drewel said.

A vacancy on the Central Ferry Advisory Committee, which serves the Edmonds ferry run, currently exists. The committee is made up of three persons, no more than two of whom may be from the same political party at the time of their appointment. The incumbents are a Republican and a Democrat.

Applicants should have an active interest in issues related to ferry service. Ferry commuters or people with businesses affected by terminal locations and schedules are especially valuable committee members.

Advisory committees meet quarterly within their own regions to provide local recommendations and perspectives to the Washington State Department of Transportation. Additionally, each local committee chair also serves on an executive committee that meets monthly with state officials.

Nomination forms must be completed and filed with the County Executive Office by Nov. 20. Appointments are recommended by County Executive Drewel and confirmed by the County Council. To receive a nomination form, contact Connie Mennie at 425-388-3876 or connie.mennie@co.snohomish.wa.us. The application form also can be accessed on line at <http://www.co.snohomish.wa.us/Volunteers/Nomform.pdf>.

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21 October 2002

Snohomish County Tomorrow Retreat to Discuss Next Wave of Growth

City and County elected representatives will meet this **Saturday, October 26**, at **Everett Station** to discuss managing the next wave of population and employment growth using the Snohomish County Tomorrow (SCT) forum. The public and media are invited to observe this discussion.

The purpose of the day-long retreat is to provide a place where city and county elected officials can share information and perspectives on the direction of growth, discuss how they can work together to manage the growth, and develop the building blocks to help update the Countywide Planning Policies and to guide development of each jurisdiction's comprehensive plan.

Michael McCormick, who has 30+ years of experience with growth management issues, will be the facilitator.

The retreat will begin at **7:45 a.m.** and conclude at 4:00 p.m. The Everett Station is located at 3201 Smith Avenue, Everett.

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For further information, please contact: *Charla Robinson*, Coordinator, Snohomish County Tomorrow, 425-388-**3880**, charla.robinson@co.snohomish.wa.us

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October 21, 2002

‘Surround The Sound’ Halloween Festivities Emphasis Patrol This Weekend

This weekend, officers in Snohomish County will be joining their counterparts from the ten counties surrounding Puget Sound to conduct the fourth annual “Surround the Sound” law enforcement emphasis patrol.

People who are out celebrating the weekend before Halloween can expect officers to pay particular attention to drinking drivers. They will also be looking for drivers who exceed the speed limit, fail to wear safety belts or commit other traffic violations.

Officers conducting the emphasis patrol are also urging drivers to be particularly careful on the evening of Halloween when many small children are out trick-or-treating.

Last year’s activity resulted in 115 people being charged with Driving Under the Influence.

“Surround the Sound” emphasis patrols will be conducted in Whatcom, Skagit, Snohomish, King, Pierce, Thurston, Mason, Kitsap, Jefferson and Clallam counties. This activity is coordinated by the Community DUI/Traffic Safety Task Forces and is supported by the Washington Traffic Safety Commission.

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October 18, 2002

Granite Falls Alternate Route public meeting set for October 29th

The public is invited to attend an October 29 open house scoping meeting to learn more about the proposed Granite Falls Alternate Route project. Snohomish County Public Works and the City of Granite Falls, in conjunction with the Federal Highway Administration and the Washington State Department of Transportation (WSDOT), are proposing to build the new, 2.1-mile SR 92 alternate route to divert truck traffic away from downtown Granite Falls.

The event will be held Tuesday, October 29, from 6-8 p.m. at the Granite Falls Community Center, 101 E. Pioneer Street. The open house is a chance for the public to look at maps, plans and other graphics. The City will make a brief presentation at 6:30 p.m., followed by a question-and-answer period.

The scoping meeting begins the environmental review process for this project and is the public's opportunity to let staff know what issues (air quality, land use, noise, geology, archaeology, traffic, etc.) should be addressed in the Environmental Assessment (EA). Attendees also can ask questions and comment on the potential alternate route. The City, County and State are studying environmental impacts associated with constructing the project and preparing the EA as part of the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) requirements for the project. ("Scoping" refers to the scope of the issues and alternatives to be examined in the EA document.)

The meeting site is accessible to persons with disabilities. Accommodations for persons with

disabilities will be made on request. To make arrangements in advance, or for more information on the meeting, please call Tina Hokanson at 425-388-3488, ext. 4514. (TDD users may call WA Relay Center at 1-800-6388.)

WSDOT ensures full compliance with Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964, the Civil Rights Restoration Act of 1987 and related statutes by prohibiting discrimination based on race, color, national origin and sex in the provision of benefits and services. For more information about Title VI, please call the WSDOT Title VI Coordinator at (360) 705-7098.

For more information on the project, contact Crilly Ritz, Senior Environmental Planner, Snohomish County Public Works at 425-388-3488, ext. 4586, or 1-800-562-4367, or call the Granite Falls City Hall at 360-691-6441 (TTY: 425-388-3700).

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October 15, 2002

County Seeks Citizen Views on Road Improvements for 196th St. SW

Snohomish County is seeking citizen views on a major road project to improve the busy thoroughfare between the City of Lynnwood and the cities of Bothell and Mill Creek.

An Open House will be held to explain the project and hear citizen's opinions on the proposed plan to improve the section of 196th St. SW / Filbert Road / SR 524 between 24th Avenue West and SR 527. The Open House is scheduled for Monday, October 28, from 6:30 until 8:30 p.m. at the Lynnwood High School Cafeteria, 3001 – 184th St. SW.

A brief presentation covering the goals, background and description of the project will be given by project managers at 7:00 p.m. Snohomish County and Washington State Department of Transportation (WSDOT) staff members will be available to answer questions about road design, environmental issues, traffic, right-of-way, and other concerns.

The County and WSDOT are working together on the road improvement plan. The proposed road improvements include:

- Widening the existing road from two lanes up to five lanes for most of the distance, which will reduce traffic congestion;
- Adding bicycle lanes, curbs, gutters, sidewalks and street lights at intersections to improve pedestrian and bicycle safety; and
- Realigning a section of road near the west end of the project.

Construction for this large project is expected to occur in two phases. The first phase of the project will improve the western segment, from 24th Avenue West to Larch Way, and the eastern segment, from Royal Ann Road to SR 527. The second phase will connect the remaining roadway.

The County, in partnership with the City of Bothell, is working with WSDOT to seek state and

federal funds to allow the proposed construction of the first phase of improvements to 196th to begin. At the same time, an Environmental Assessment is being prepared to meet the requirements of the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA), and will be an update to the environmental analysis done under the State Environmental Policy Act (SEPA) in 1997.

Construction could begin by 2005, depending upon funding availability and completion of the environmental processes.

#

Contact: Tony Stigall, Sr. Environmental Planner, 425-388-3488, ext. 4511
Sam Filetti, Project Manager, 425-388-6698
Mary Hurner, Public Involvement Coordinator, 425-388-6430

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October 14, 2002

COUNTY SEEKS MEMBERS FOR FAIR ADVISORY BOARD

Snohomish County residents with experience and interest in the Evergreen State Fair are encouraged to apply for nomination to the county's Fair Advisory Board. Nomination forms are due by Friday, Nov. 15. Four new appointments will be made to four-year terms beginning Jan. 1, 2003.

The board advises and makes recommendations to county officials on operations of the annual Evergreen State Fair, fair fee schedules, participant relations, and other fair matters as requested. It is made up of 11 members, one from each of the five County Council districts and six at-large positions. The board should represent a broad range of interests and possess a strong willingness to be involved. The board meets monthly, normally on the second Tuesday of each month at 7:30 p.m. at the fairgrounds in Monroe.

"In addition to being my own favorite county activity, the Evergreen State Fair has been a jewel in Snohomish County's cap for nearly a century," said County Executive Bob Drewel. "We count on our fair board to help us bring quality entertainment and education to the community, while maintaining our historic and agricultural roots." Board appointments are nominated by Drewel and confirmed by the County Council.

For more information about the Fair Advisory Board or its duties, contact Fairgrounds Manager Mark Campbell at 360-805-6700. To request a nomination form, contact Connie Mennie at 425-388-3876 or connie.mennie@co.snohomish.wa.us. The nomination form also is available on-line at <http://www.co.snohomish.wa.us/Volunteers/Nomform.pdf>.

The 2003 Evergreen State Fair is scheduled from Aug. 21 through Sept. 1 in Monroe.

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October 1, 2002

Advocates For Elderly And Disabled Adults Sought

The Snohomish County Long Term Care Ombudsman program announces a challenging volunteer opportunity where people can put their problem solving skills to work. Volunteer Ombudsmen visit area nursing homes, boarding homes, and adult family homes and assist residents in resolving problems concerning their care and treatment. Volunteers also work to promote and protect the rights of residents living in long term care facilities.

Volunteers are the foundation of the Long Term Care Ombudsman program in Washington State. All volunteers receive 40 hours of free training to become Certified Ombudsmen. The 4-day training covers a broad range of topics including residents' rights, complaint handling skills, legal issues, community resources, and other pertinent topics.

Winter training is scheduled for early December in Everett. If you are interested in becoming a Volunteer Ombudsman, or if you would like to learn more about the program, call (425) 388-7393.

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September 29, 2002

Snohomish County Historical Commission to Meet

On October 9th nine citizens will meet as Snohomish County's first Historic Preservation Commission. The meeting takes place at 7:00 p.m. in conference room A on the 4th floor of the Snohomish County Administration Building, 3000 Rockefeller, in Everett. The citizens represent all five County Council districts. Formation of the commission allows the County to begin carrying out the mandates of the historic preservation ordinance, adopted in April.

The Commission will take the first steps toward a process to create a Local Register of Historic Places for the county. It welcomes public participation at its meetings. All listings on the register will be with voluntary owner consent. The commission will also advise owners of register sites and buildings regarding appropriate actions for the preservation of such register properties. It will serve as the design review board for the State's special valuation tax incentive program for properties in unincorporated Snohomish County and create educational programs to enhance and encourage historic preservation.

For further information, contact Louise Lindgren of Snohomish County Planning and Development Services at (425) 388-3311 ext. 2372 or e-mail l.lindgren@co.snohomish.wa.us.

[See All County Press Releases](#)

Sept. 25, 2002

132nd Street SE road improvements ahead of schedule

At least three lanes of traffic to remain open through the winter

Crews from Snohomish County's contractor, TriState Construction, have been making rapid progress on the 132nd Street SE Improvements and Extension project. In fact, crews could begin final paving of the roadway as soon as weather permits next year. The entire five-lane roadway between Seattle Hill Road and SR 9 could be completed and open to traffic as early as June 2003.

Construction Engineer Bob Morrison attributes the rapid progress to "excellent weather, an excellent contractor and an excellent design and construction team from the County."

Throughout the winter months between construction seasons, at least three lanes of traffic will be open on 132nd Street SE from Seattle Hill Road to Snohomish Cascade Drive. This will greatly enhance traffic flow through the area this winter, although drivers should expect some delays and short-term lane closures. Crews will be working along the outer edges of the project area, installing sidewalks, streetlights, signage and landscaping.

Crews will be working from 7 a.m. to 4 p.m., Monday through Friday. In addition, signal crews will be working at the intersections six days a week to be ready for the early opening. All intersections along this section of road will be accessible.

Motorists, cyclists and pedestrians are urged to use extreme caution in the construction zone. Snohomish County thanks you for your patience.

Construction also is underway on a new, one-mile section of 132nd Street SE between the Thomas Creek Bridge and State Route 9. This section, which will be called Cathcart Way, will provide a new east-west through-route to SR 9 when it is completed in 2003.

Contacts:

- For day-to-day concerns during construction, contact Construction Engineer Bob Morrison at 425-379-9485.
- For more information about the overall project, call Project Manager Sam Filetti at 425-388-6698.
- TDD/TTY users call WA Relay Center at 1-800-833-6388.
- For information on other major road projects in the county, call the Snohomish County Road Construction Hotline at **866-SNO-ROAD (1-866-766-7623)**.

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September 18, 2002

Drewel Says County Will Continue Public Safety Campaign, Ask Voters Again To Support Jail Sales Tax Request

“We will be back because it’s the right thing to do,” said County Executive Bob Drewel, the day after voters narrowly turned down a small increase in the sales tax that would have helped fund the daily operation of County’s new jail addition. Drewel said he strongly favors providing more information and giving voters another opportunity to support the measure.

“The vote was very close, and the unusually low turnout for the election could have been a factor in the loss,” said Drewel. “The problem of how to pay for running the new jail without sacrificing other public services isn’t going to go away. The services families rely on, like parks, human services and crime prevention program, courts and sheriff deputies, should not be cut to pay for guarding criminals,” said Drewel.

“In a low turnout election, with little publicity on this issue, Tuesday’s close election results give us great hope for the future,” he said. “Our efforts to explain the public safety challenges we face were remarkably successful. We just need to do more of that, and we will.”

“I have already conveyed to the County Council our desire to work with them to bring this issue to the voters again at the earliest possible opportunity, probably first thing next year,” he said.

The County was asking for a one-tenth of one percent increase in the sales tax that would have raised \$9 million annually to help operate the new jail addition, scheduled to begin construction in several weeks and open in 2005. “The jail will operate,” said Drewel, “the question is how we are going to pay for it.”

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[See All County Press Releases](#)

September 18, 2002

Snohomish County Appeals Ecology's Industrial Stormwater Pollution Permit

Snohomish County today announced its intent to appeal the Washington State Department of Ecology's newly issued National Pollution Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) Industrial Stormwater General Permit citing concerns about the permit's inclusion of illegal stormwater standards and vague requirements to meet pollution limits that don't yet exist.

The county council authorized the appeal at its meeting today. Snohomish County Council Chairman Gary Nelson said, "The county has a strong history of responsible stewardship of the environment. We do not take this decision to appeal lightly." He continued, "We simply can not agree to abide by standards that have not yet been developed, nor to agree to new state regulations that have not been subject to a public, rule-making process."

Snohomish County has a long commitment to complying with both national and statewide standards to keep our local waters clean. However, this permit would require the county, private citizens, and businesses to submit to stormwater regulations created by Ecology staff and placed into its Stormwater Manual, that have never been made into law or regulation. This sort of backroom regulating does not afford the public or the community a fair and open process in which to participate. The Legislature created the Administrative Procedures Act to stop state agencies from engaging in such activities. However, Ecology has chosen to ignore the County's requests since 1996 to submit the standards and requirements of the stormwater manual to the rulemaking process.

Additionally, this permit would have the county, private citizens, and businesses agree today to comply with pollution standards known as Total Maximum Daily Loads or "TMDLs" that do not yet exist. By agreeing to such a requirement today, the county, private citizens, and businesses would waive any opportunity to object to these later-enacted requirements, if they found the regulations were overly burdensome, incorrectly imposed, or impossible to achieve through current technology. The county believes it is fundamental to interests of our citizens and the economic viability of this county to preserve such due process rights.

The NPDES industrial stormwater general permit was first issued by Ecology in 1992. It was reissued

in 1995, and again in 2000. The 2000 permit was appealed by a coalition of environmental groups. The permit was issued again in September 2002, with changes intended to satisfy a settlement agreement reached between the appellants and Ecology.

The industrial permit applies to properties at which the main activity or activities are described by one or more Standard Industrial Classification (SIC) codes set forth in the permit. Ecology also has the authority to require coverage for any site that it determines to be a significant potential source of stormwater pollution.

The Snohomish County facilities that are categorically covered by the permit are Public Works Department solid waste facilities and the Paine Field Airport.

- END -

Contact: Council Chair Gary Nelson (425) 388-3494

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Sept. 10, 2002

35th Ave. SE road construction ends 23 days early

Road closure and detour route finished for the year

Crews from TriState Construction completed paving operations Saturday along 35th Avenue SE between 136th Drive SE (Silver Crest Drive) and 144th Street SE, east of Mill Creek. A full road closure and detour were put in effect July 29 because of the extensive amount of peat soils that had be removed from the roadbed. Placing fill, a temporary surcharge (the weight of extra fill that will compress the remaining peat soils over the winter) and a temporary driving surface was not expected to be finished until mid-October, which means TriState wrapped up the job three weeks and two days early.

Signs advising drivers of the reopened road are being put in place, and the former detour route (along 132nd Street SE and Seattle Hill Road) will be re-signed to serve as an alternate route. "The speed limit in the immediate work zone will be reduced to 25 m.p.h. to improve driver and worker safety," says Construction Supervisor Bill Ryan. "Even though the road is open again to through traffic, it will continue to be a work zone for many months. We need to let people know that the road is a temporary surface and they will need to drive carefully. It will be replaced in the spring with a wider, permanent surface when the excess surcharge is removed."

The roadwork is part of a larger project to construct road improvements along a 2-mile stretch of 35th Avenue SE from 120th Place SE to just north of Seattle Hill Road. When it is completed in fall 2003, the work will complete the overall, \$7.9-million project to widen 3.9 miles of 35th Avenue SE from 100th Street SE to Seattle Hill Road, which was started in 1999. The northern phase, 100th Street SE to 120th Place SE, was completed last year.

The completed configuration of the southern phase of the project will be similar to the northern phase, with one traffic lane in each direction, a center-turn lane, bike lanes, curbs, gutters and sidewalks. Other project features include detention and water quality treatment ponds, including 9 acres of wetlands mitigation and an improved intersection, at 132nd Street SE.

For more information, contact Project Supervisor Bruce DuVall at (425) 388-6404 or Public

Involvement Coordinator Wayne Lee at (425) 388-3789. Hearing/speech-impaired may call the WA Relay Center at 1-800-833-6388. Citizens may call the Road Construction Hotline at 866-SNO-ROAD (866-766-7623) or click on the "Roads Central" icon on the Snohomish County homepage (www.co.snohomish.wa.us).

#

Contact: Bill Ryan, Construction Supervisor, (425) 388-6673
Bruce DuVall, Project Supervisor, (425) 388-6404
Wayne Lee, Public Involvement Specialist, (425) 388-3789

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September 6, 2002

Courthouse Ceremony to Commemorate 9/11 Heroes

The Central Memorial Committee of Snohomish County is inviting county residents to join together to commemorate the heroes of the tragic events of September 11, 2001 at an anniversary observance on Wednesday, Sept. 11, 2002 at 11 a.m. at the County Courthouse in Everett. Music by the Naval Station Everett Band will precede the ceremony, beginning at 10:30 a.m.

Representatives of the Armed Forces, local police and fire personnel, and community leaders will participate. Special guests will be the 19 Snohomish County Red Cross Volunteers who went to the East Coast to assist in the aftermath of the attacks on New York's World Trade Center and the Pentagon in Washington, D.C.

"As we approach the anniversary of a date that tore the heart of America, it is important for many of us to come together for comfort and support, and to remember and honor all the heroes of September 11th," said County Executive Bob Drewel.

The Central Memorial Committee of Snohomish County was founded in 1919 and annually organizes events commemorating Memorial Day, Veterans Day and the anniversary of the attack on Pearl Harbor. Bradford Pilkenton, a veteran of the Marine Corps, is the committee's chairman.

Member organizations of the committee include: WFW Post #2100 & Auxiliary; Everett Elks #479; American Legion Post #6 & Auxiliary; WWI Auxiliary, Barracks #132; Navy League; Navy Mothers; Catholic Daughters of America; Emblem Club #523; Daughters of the Revolution; Fleet Reserve #170; Ladies of the Fleet Reserve #18; Fleet Reserve Assn. #245; Pearl Harbor Survivors #6; American Ex-Prisoners of War, Evergreen Chapter; U.S. Submarine Veterans WWII; and the Snohomish County Chapter of the American Red Cross.

##

Contact: Jim Hammond, County Executive Office, 425-388-3142.

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September 6, 2002

Open house set for Puget Park Drive extension

Sept. 18th event also a chance to see plans for Willis D. Tucker Park

The public is invited to attend an open house on September 18, 2002 to learn more about Snohomish County's Willis D. Tucker Community Park and Puget Park Drive Extension project. The event will be held from 6:30-8 p.m. in the Totem Falls Elementary School Cafeteria, 14211 Snohomish-Cascade Drive SE. Citizens can look at the park Master Plan, talk to County staff about the project and submit comments and concerns to be addressed in the forthcoming draft Environmental Impact Statement (EIS).

Those unable to attend the meeting may submit written comments by September 30, 2002 to Mary Auld, Snohomish County Public Works, 2930 Wetmore, Everett, WA 98201-4044, or by email to mary.auld@co.snohomish.wa.us.

Accommodations for persons with disabilities will be made on request. To make arrangements in advance, or for more information on the meeting or project, please call Tina Hokanson at 425-388-3800, ext. 4514. (TDD users may call WA Relay Center at 1-800-6388.)

What is Proposed?

Snohomish County Parks and Recreation Department is proposing a new community park in the Snohomish Cascade/Silver Firs neighborhood to be known as Willis D. Tucker Community Park. The 84-acre park is planned to include both active and passive recreational features including soccer fields, baseball fields, a community center, picnicking areas and walking trails.

Other features could include a climbing wall, an amphitheater, a skate park and an off-leash dog area. A full time caretaker would live on the grounds. The Parks Department headquarters also may be relocated to the park.

To provide access to the new park, Snohomish County Public Works would extend Puget Park Drive from its current dead end at 67th Avenue SE along the southern edge of the new park to Cathcart Way (the extension of 132nd Street SE that currently is under construction).

The preliminary design for the new Puget Park Drive extension calls for a gently curving, tree-lined street with one travel lane in each direction. Left-turn pockets and a planted median are also under consideration in the design. The roadway would be enhanced by

planter strips, bicycle lanes and sidewalks. Buffer plantings are proposed between the new street and the immediate neighbors south of the proposed park.

Master Plan Process

The Parks Department has prepared a preliminary Master Plan for the park with the help of an Ad Hoc committee and Steve Worthy and Associates landscape architects. The committee met several times and two public meetings were held in June 2002 to introduce the Master Plan to the neighboring community and to solicit ideas for the park. The Master Plan is a conceptual design showing potential elements of the park. At a third public meeting in July, the plan was further refined. (The plan is available on the Parks website at co.snohomish.wa.us/parks/tucker/)

The Master Plan was presented to the Park Board in July. Based on their recommendation, the County Council will review the plan this fall. The next steps will be to complete the environmental review and begin the more-detailed design drawings.

EIS to be Prepared

Snohomish County is preparing an Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) to consider the environmental impacts of constructing Tucker Park and the new section of Puget Park Drive. This EIS will consider potential impacts of the project to streams and wetlands, wildlife habitat, soils, traffic, air quality, noise, and land use.

The County currently is taking comments from agencies and residents concerning this project. All written comments received during the comment period will be considered in the EIS. (Through the master planning process, a number of issues already have been identified by neighbors, including safety, noise and increased traffic.)

The County currently is taking comments from agencies and residents concerning this park/road project. **Concerned parties must submit comments by September 30, 2002** to Mary Auld, Snohomish County Public Works, 2930 Wetmore, Everett, WA 98201-4044, or by email to mary.auld@co.snohomish.wa.us. All written comments received during the comment period will be considered for review in the EIS. Through the master planning process, a number of issues already have been identified by neighbors, including safety, noise and increased traffic.

The draft EIS will be issued later this year, followed by a 30-day comment period. Comments on the draft document and the project also can be submitted at that time. Following the comment period, a final EIS will be issued. A Record of Decision then will be issued stating the County's final decision. Notice of that decision will be published in *The Herald* and mailed to residents and agencies. The final decision can be appealed in Snohomish County Superior Court.

Tentative Project Schedule

Tucker Park and the extension of Puget Park Drive likely will be constructed in phases as funding becomes available. The first phase of the park could begin as early as fall

2003 and likely would include the community center and a parking area, as well as a portion of the road to access the park. Construction of the through road could begin as early as 2004, pending funding, permitting, County Council action and other approvals.

Master Plan to County Council	Fall 2002
Draft EIS issued	Winter 2002
Final EIS issued	Spring 2003
Final plans developed	2002 – 2003
Park construction begins (Phase 1)	Fall 2003
Road construction begins	Spring 2004

For More Information

- EIS Contact: Senior Environmental Planner Mary Auld, 425-388-3488, ext. 4510.
- Park Contact: Park Planning Supervisor, Marc Krandel, 425-388-6621.
- Puget Park Drive Ext. Contact: Project Manager Larry Brewer, 425-388-3488, ext. 4219.
- For information on other major road projects in Snohomish County or to leave a message, call the toll-free Snohomish County Road Construction Hotline at 866-SNO-ROAD (866-766-7623). (TDD/TTY users may call WA Relay Center at 1-800-833-6388.) A County representative will respond within the next working day.

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September 5, 2002

Reality Based Growth Management

By Snohomish County Council members Gary Nelson, John Koster, and Jeff Sax

If you were making an important decision, would you use the latest information, or someone's ten-year old estimate?

That question is at the heart of the current controversy regarding Snohomish County's Buildable Lands Report. A majority of the county council wants to use today's population numbers, while planners would like to use numbers that are ten years old, even though those numbers have proven to be wrong.

The Buildable Lands report is about assuring that cities have an adequate land supply to accommodate their population growth over the next ten years. Without an adequate land supply the cities will be forced to tighten development to ever-increasing population densities far beyond the density in which most people want to live.

Snohomish County has engaged a highly collaborative process in the preparation of this report. We've taken public testimony, consulted regularly with cities, and had multiple public briefings in our council chambers. Not surprisingly, this collaborative process is not without controversy.

A draft report by planners was carefully crafted to prohibit every city in the county from including new lands in its urban growth area. To achieve this end the buildable lands report is replete with questionable assumptions. This report overstates the amount of land available for development, and understates the population projection for the year 2012. By taking public testimony, we learned that hundreds of acres of land which their report treated as buildable were not. The planners' report also presumes that almost everyone who owns property is going to develop it at the maximum density allowed for their land. For example, if you now live in a home on a half-acre, but the zoning would allow an additional home or multi-family development, the planners presume you are 85% likely to build an additional home or multi-family dwelling on your property over the next ten years!

In addition, the planners' report bases its population projection for 2012 on the state's 1992 data, rather than on the state's 2002 data. Of course the more recent data are more accurate because they are based on the year 2000 census. But the 1992 data are more attractive to the planners because the old data forecast for 2012 is lower than the current forecast. It is a classic case of choosing data to justify a desired conclusion.

We, the three council Republicans, believe planning should be based on reality, should build-in flexibility for cities, and should be managed as locally as possible. To do that, our reports must be as accurate as we can get.

An accurate look at planning data will provide our cities the flexibility they need to manage growth. The council's revised report does not force any city to expand its Urban Growth Area. It gives cities the opportunity to choose from a variety of densities and types of development. The report proposed by planners mandates higher and higher densities – densities far above and beyond that required by the Growth Management Act. But not everyone wants to live in condos and apartments.

The claim has been made that our action of last week was a surprise. The true surprise is that claim itself! Last week's action was merely the latest chapter in a conversation stretching back over four months, in which we have repeatedly told the planners they were overstating buildable land and understating population. Their persistent refusal to listen compelled our action of last week.

Our opponents know we're right. That's why they are arguing process. The purpose of Snohomish County Tomorrow is to institutionalize a forum in which the county can consult with the cities. This is important and worthwhile, and it requires that the cities' elected officials engage themselves in the process. If the elected officials are inattentive to the process, the SCT will become merely an alter ego for those planners who serve the extreme environmentalist agenda. But this agenda -- the quest for ever-higher city densities -- denies our cities, our county, and our citizens -- that range of options and choices in local land use which is a hallmark of a free society.

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September 4, 2002

Councilmember Calls for No Property Tax Increase Budget

Snohomish County Councilmember John Koster has asked the county executive to propose a budget that holds the line on the county portion of the property tax. Koster, who represents the first council district in north Snohomish County, said, "In my opinion, the citizens are overtaxed. We should hold the line on the property tax."

The setting of the county's property tax affects about 17% of an individual property owner's tax bill. The rest of an individual's property tax assessment comes from other taxing districts or voter-approved measures. Not taking a one-percent increase would save county property owners more than \$566,000 based on 2002 calculations. The amount of tax saving to the individual would depend on whether the property is in a city or unincorporated area and on the latest valuation of the property by the Assessor.

Koster said, "In tough economic times people are forced to tighten their belts. Government should also live within its means." He added, "By not increasing our share of the property tax by the maximum allowed by law, we can provide real tax relief and show citizens we are prioritizing."

Initiative 747 limited governments to an increase of one percent in property tax collections in a year. Instead of collecting that one percent increase, Koster said the county should prioritize its budget without collecting more revenue. Last week, Koster sent the Executive a request that he hold the line on property tax increases when he proposes his budget on September 27th.

- END-

Contact: Councilmember John Koster (425) 388-3494

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August 27, 2002

County Executive Says Council Proposal Jeopardizes Relations With Cities, Sets Stage For Sprawl

Last week, three County Council members unveiled their own version of a Buildable Lands Report. The Council majority made public their proposal after hearing verbal public testimony on the draft Buildable Lands Report prepared by Snohomish County Tomorrow, a coalition of the county's 20 cities and the Tulalip Tribes together with the County Executive and county staff. The alternative proposed on a narrow 3-2 margin by Councilmembers Jeff Sax, John Koster and Gary Nelson would replace the SCT report.

With this action, the Council majority signaled its intent to provide for additional population growth within cities and surrounding neighborhoods in 2012. The Council's version of the Report also would artificially constrain the availability of land within existing urban growth areas (UGAs), setting the stage to expand those UGAs and possibly leading to sprawl. The Council majority's new factor would support the addition of some 31 square miles of historically rural lands to the existing UGA's.

The Council is scheduled to take official action on the Buildable Lands Report at a public hearing at 10 a.m. Thursday, Aug. 29, in the Jackson Board Room, 6th floor of the County Administration Building.

"It is unfortunate that these Councilmembers have chosen to depart from a legacy of collaboration between the county and its cities," said County Executive Bob Drewel, co-chair of Snohomish County Tomorrow. "The importance of open public participation, where all citizens and stakeholders have a voice in Growth Management decisions, cannot be ignored."

Drewel said he is concerned that the Council-version report "literally fabricates new numbers in order to change the report's conclusions and open the door to our county for costly sprawl."

The Buildable Lands Report is required by the state Growth Management Act to review the actual densities of development under adopted county and city growth management plans and inventory developable land within each jurisdiction. This factual information is used to review whether existing county and city urban growth areas are able to accommodate the growth targets adopted in their plans

for 2012.

The Buildable Lands Report by SCT was produced using a collaborative process among stakeholders, 20 cities, the Tulalip Tribes and Snohomish County, in accordance with adopted County Code. SCT adopted a Procedures Report two years ago that established the methodology for preparing the report. A Technical Advisory Committee reviewed data collection and methodology issues. A Planning Advisory Committee, made up of the professional planning staff from each jurisdiction, reviewed and approved the draft report.

The version proposed by the three Council members contains several key changes:

- The Council would replace adopted growth targets for 2012 for the county and each city's UGA, and instead allocate larger population projections to those jurisdictions.
- A discount factor reflecting that some parcels of vacant lands within a UGA will never become available is more than tripled by the Council, from 15% to 50%.
- A discount for partially used and redevelopable lands is doubled, from 30% to 60%.
- A reduction for lands restricted from development is doubled, from 5% to 10%.
- An additional 25% safety factor is applied to the entire population, not just new residents in 2012 who will require housing. Since 506,783 people already live in the UGAs today, this amounts to requiring extra space for more than 125,000 people already living in the UGAs. This safety factor applied to existing population effectively raises the 1992-2012 UGA growth target from 186,284 to 377,789.

The cumulative impact of these changes is to more than double the growth projected for the UGAs, while cutting by 40% the amount of land available to accommodate this growth. Accommodating these changes would require adding 31 square miles of rural lands to urban growth areas.

“This administration has worked hard to build trust and partnership with our cities. Sadly, this proposal turns its back on city participation, placing our relationship with the cities and the future of growth management in jeopardy,” said Drewel.

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CONTACT: Stephen Holt, Executive Director (425) 388-3123

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August 23, 2002

35th Ave. SE road construction ahead of schedule

Access to Pacific Topsoils to change as crews move south

Crews are ahead of schedule on Snohomish County's 35th Avenue SE Road Improvement project, just east of Mill Creek. As a result, the current road closure in effect between 136th Drive SE (Silver Crest Drive) and 144th Street SE that started July 29 could be concluded well before mid-October, as previously announced.

"Crews are finished excavating and filling the northern third of this segment of the project," says Construction Manager Bill Ryan. "They expect to be paving that section on Saturday." Traffic should be able to drive on the northern roadway starting Tuesday. Crews then will move to the southern two-thirds of this segment of the project to begin excavation.

The change means that access to Pacific Topsoils will be available only from the north from Tuesday through the remainder of the road closure. Flaggers and signage will continue to direct traffic to the detour route along Seattle Hill Road and 132nd Street SE. The closure and detour are necessary because of the extensive amount of peat soils that must be removed from the roadbed in the area.

To minimize traffic impacts, the County has coordinated its construction schedule with school districts and the Washington State Department of Transportation (which may work on SR 527 in 2003). Traffic flow will be facilitated along the detour route because of improvements completed earlier this summer to the Seattle Hill Road intersections at 35th Avenue SE and at 132nd Street SE.

Drivers should expect frequent delays through the area and are encouraged to take alternate routes. Snohomish County thanks the public for their patience and

cooperation during this busy construction season. Please drive carefully through all construction zones!

The closure is part of a larger project to construct road improvements along a 2-mile stretch of 35th Avenue SE from 120th Place SE to just north of Seattle Hill Road. When it is completed in fall 2003, the work will complete the overall, \$7.9-million project to widen 3.9 miles of 35th Avenue SE from 100th Street SE to Seattle Hill Road, which was started in 1999. The northern phase, 100th Street SE to 120th Place SE, was completed last year.

The completed configuration of the southern phase of the project will be similar to the northern phase, with one traffic lane in each direction, a center-turn lane, bike lanes, curbs, gutters and sidewalks. Other project features include:

- Detention ponds, water quality treatment ponds and utility vaults will be constructed near 144th Street SE and the 35th Avenue SE/132nd Street SE intersection.

- Nine acres of the property located at the southeast corner of the 132nd

Street SE and 35th Avenue SE intersection (formerly known as the Buffalo Farm) will be used as the mitigation site for wetland impacts.

- The intersection at 132nd and 35th will be widened to include additional turn lanes.

Project Schedule

Road Closure Start	July 29, 2002
Access Changes to Pacific Topsoils	August 27
Road Closure End	October
Project Completion	Fall 2003

Questions? Contact:

- Bill Ryan, Construction Manager, 425-388-6673
- Bruce DuVall, Project Supervisor, 425-388-6404
- Wayne Lee, Public Involvement Specialist, 425-388-3789
- Hearing/speech-impaired call WA Relay Center at 1-800-833-6388.

Try the New SNO-ROAD Hotline!

For up-to-date information on major road projects in Snohomish County, citizens may call the new, toll-free Snohomish County Road Construction Hotline at 866-SNO-ROAD (866-766-7623). (TDD/TTY users may call WA Relay Center at 1-800-833-6388.) This inter-agency service is co-sponsored by Snohomish County and the Washington State

Department of Transportation. Callers may listen to a recorded announcement and leave a message. A representative from the appropriate agency will respond within the next working day.

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August 8, 2002

Mountain Loop Highway Travel Advisory:

Silverton Bridge #56 to be closed until October

Two-month rehabilitation project will delay traffic to Big Four, Monte Cristo

A bridge rehabilitation project at Silverton will cause some traffic delays for travelers along the Mountain Loop Highway, Snohomish County Public Works has announced. Bridge #56, which crosses the Stillaguamish River 22 miles east of Granite Falls, was built in the 1920s. It is narrow (only 8 feet wide at its narrowest point) and has been unable to accommodate heavy loads because of a 5-ton weight limit.

“Work will get underway on August 19,” says Project Manager Chuck Seyler. “The residents of Silverton are glad to be getting their old, wooden bridge fixed up but this project will cause some traffic delays on the Mountain Loop Highway. Motorists will have to take a short, single-lane, gravel bypass road around the work zone whenever construction activities make it necessary, which will be on and off throughout the project.”

Hurlen Construction of Seattle is replacing the existing log stringers (girders) with steel girders supported on steel pilings. The 274-foot-long by 16-foot-wide bridge will be entirely re-decked, and the railing system will be upgraded to current standards.

During construction, the bridge will be closed to all vehicles. Pedestrians will have access at most times. The project is expected to be completed by late October. For more information, call Project Engineer Chuck Seyler at 425-388-3488, ext. 4225, or County Bridge Engineer Darrell Ash at 425-388-6688.

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Contact: Chuck Seyler, Project Manager, 425-388-3488, ext. 4225
Wayne Lee, Public Involvement Coordinator, 425-388-3789

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August 2, 2002

County to replace Little Pilchuck Creek Br. #426

Project includes full road closure on 16th Street NE, east of Lake Stevens

Snohomish County Public Works will begin replacing Little Pilchuck Creek Bridge #426 in mid-August 2002. The bridge is located just east of Lake Stevens on 16th Street NE where it crosses Little Pilchuck Creek, near the Bonnevile Ball Field and N. Machias Road.

The project will require a total road closure and detour. Bridge traffic will be detoured along 127th Avenue NE and 20th Street NE. Drivers also may cross Little Pilchuck Creek at N. Machias Road to the south. Signage will direct motorists along the detour route and flaggers will be on-site when necessary. The \$1.1-million structure is expected to be completed by early 2003.

The existing bridge is a 20-foot-wide, two-lane, three-span wooden structure approximately 57 feet long. The County's contractor, Arlington-based Pacific Road and Bridge, will demolish the old bridge and replace it with a two-lane, pre-cast concrete bridge in essentially the same location. The new bridge will be a 95-foot-long single span that will be widened to meet current standards.

"The existing bridge was constructed in 1931 and partially rebuilt in 1964," says Project Manager Kim McCool. "The increased maintenance needs on the structure have resulted in the County's decision to replace the bridge. A new bridge will safely serve the County's needs for many years to come."

For more information, contact Project Manager Kim McCool at 425-388-3488, ext.4221. For County road construction information, call 1-866-SNO-ROAD (766-7623).

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August 2, 2002

100th Street NE Walkway construction set to start

Snohomish County will start construction this month on a new paved walkway along the south side of 100th Street NE between 48th Drive NE and 51st Avenue NE, just outside the Marysville city limits. The project is scheduled to be completed by late September 2002.

This 900-foot roadway segment connects a growing business center to the west with a developed residential area and Cascade Elementary School to the east. The road's narrow south shoulder carries a large number of pedestrians, many of whom are children.

The new, 5-foot-wide walkway will provide a much-needed pedestrian link for area residents to walk, jog, use wheelchairs and push baby strollers. The walkway, which will be separated from the roadway by approximately 6-7 feet, will be built of "pervious concrete," an environmentally friendly paving material.

Although 100th Street NE will remain open at all times during construction, there will be temporary lane closures as needed. In addition, parking will be temporarily limited and driveway access will be briefly interrupted on occasion.

For project information, call Project Manager Vladimir Malinsky at 425-388-3488, ext. 4237. (TDD/TTY users call WA Relay Center at 1-800-833-6388.)

Try the New SNO-ROAD Hotline!

For up-to-date information on major road projects in Snohomish County, citizens may call the new, toll-free Snohomish County Road Construction Hotline at 866-SNO-ROAD (866-766-7623). (TDD/TTY users may call WA Relay Center at 1-800-833-6388.) This new service is co-sponsored by Snohomish County and the Washington State Department of Transportation.

Callers may listen to a recorded announcement and leave a message. A representative will respond within the next working day.

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Monday, July 29, 2002

COUNTY EXTENDS DEADLINE FOR NORTH COUNTY NOMINEE TO COUNTY PARKS ADVISORY BOARD

Want to help plan the future of county parks? Residents of County Council District #1 (north Snohomish County, generally from Marysville north to the Skagit County line) are invited to apply to serve on the Snohomish County Parks Advisory Board. Deadline for nominations has been extended to Aug. 20.

“This is an excellent opportunity for citizens to use their interests and skills in a way that benefits our communities, both now and into the future,” said County Executive Bob Drewel.

The Parks Board is charged with “reviewing and recommending policies relating to parks, playgrounds or other recreational facilities.” It is made up of 11 members with a broad range of interests from throughout the county. The board meets monthly, works with the county parks staff, and makes recommendations to the Council and Executive. Board members serve four-year terms and may not serve on any other county board or commission.

The current vacancy, caused by the resignation of former board member Joseph Jones, is for a term expiring Jan. 15, 2003. Interested persons should complete and file a nomination form by Tuesday, Aug. 20. Nominations are reviewed by County Executive Bob Drewel, who then forwards his recommendations to the County Council for approval. For more information or to receive a nomination form, contact Connie Mennie at 425-388-3876 or Marcie Allen at 425-388-6611.

July 23, 2002

Snohomish County Homeownership Program Given Big Boost

The Neighbor Reinvestment Corporation (NRC) has announced a special \$400,000 award to non-profit community developer Homesight to get low-income families off public assistance and into homeownership. The grant will support the Snohomish County "Section 8 to Homeownership Program". This program is a unique partnership between, the Snohomish County Housing Authority, the Everett Housing Authority and Homesight.

The program helps low-income working and disabled families receiving monthly rent assistance from the government through the "Section 8" program to purchase their first home. Homesight provides education, counseling, underwriting and loan servicing for qualified families. NRC is a public, nonprofit organization chartered by Congress to help revitalize communities.

"We know that homeownership improves our community and provides stability and builds assets for families," said Snohomish County Executive Bob Drewel. "Our history working with Homesight as a partner in providing affordable housing opportunities to the citizens of Snohomish County has been very successful. Homesight has helped 210 families become new homeowners in Snohomish County.

"We are pleased to continue working with Homesight, the Snohomish County Housing Authority and the Everett Housing Authority on this much needed project that helps federally assisted low income renters become home owning members of the community," said Drewel.

Homesight's nationally recognized education program teaches buyers about predatory lending tactics, real estate documents, mortgage default prevention, budgeting, credit repair, investing and home maintenance.

Homesight works with a select group of lenders to provide clients with a competitively priced first mortgage. Clients receive low interest second mortgages through Homesight's Puget Sound Revolving Loan Fund. The NRC grant will be added to dollars provided by the City of

Everett and Snohomish County when the fund was created. Federal Section 8 housing assistance that is currently helping tenants to pay their rent will repay these loans.

“The Section 8 to Homeownership Program” was launched in 2001 to help hard working low income families and individuals make the leap from renter to homeowner,” said Dorothy Lengyel, Executive Director of Homesight. “The NRC grant brings much needed financial support to our unique partnership with the Snohomish County Housing Authority, the Everett Housing Authority and lenders such as HomeStreet Bank, US Bank, Seattle Mortgage and Fannie Mae.”

Homesight’s mission is to promote the revitalization of neighborhoods through affordable homeownership strategies. Homesight provides homebuyer education and counseling, new housing development and loan assistance to neighborhoods in Seattle, South King County and Snohomish County. To date Homesight has built 240 affordable homes and assisted 714 households in becoming homeowners through its programs.

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Contact: Kelly Evans, Homesight at 206-790-0276

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July 19, 2002

LED conversion gives green light to traffic signal savings

Charlie Mathison used to see red—or at least yellow—every time he had to send out one of his signal maintenance crews to replace a traffic light. The Signal Operations Supervisor had known for years that Snohomish County could save considerable time and money if it converted from the old incandescent bulbs to state-of-the-art Light-Emitting Diode (LED) technology. After all, LEDs consume up to 90 percent less energy than incandescents, they last years longer and require less maintenance.

It wasn't until the newest-generation LEDs came out, though, that Mathison was convinced it was time to make the switch. "We knew it was a good thing to do, but the time wasn't right and, until recently, only red LED indications had been approved for use in traffic signals," he recalls. "By last year, though, the technology had matured and there were some good products out there." So Mathison submitted a proposal entitled "LED Retrofit: An Opportunity to Reduce Power Use."

In the proposal, Mathison predicted that conversion of the County's existing 1,300 traffic lights (at 52 different intersections) would cost \$198,771.31 and provide tremendous long-term benefits.

Mathison was wrong about the cost. As of May 10 of this year, when his Signal Shop crews finished replacing the last incandescent bulb with an LED device, the actual cost of the conversion was only \$197,300, or \$1,471 less than expected.

He was right about the long-term benefits, though. The will include "increased worker safety, increased public convenience and continued cost savings" through a combination of reduced power consumption and maintenance costs:

- By using some 475,000 fewer kilowatts per year than the old lights, the LED signals will save taxpayers about \$33,500 per year.

- Crews used to have to replace every red, yellow and green traffic bulb once a year as a precautionary measure, plus individual lights as they burned out. Since LEDs last up to 10 times longer than incandescent bulbs, periodic and emergency maintenance costs will be reduced by about \$51,500 annually.
- All total, the conversion should save more than \$85,000 a year, Mathison says. At that rate, it should pay for itself within two years.
- The County received an electrical energy savings incentive payment of \$66,000 from the Snohomish County PUD for the retrofit project.

Those aren't the only benefits, though. The conversion also:

- Increases worker safety, since crews won't have to perform the dangerous work of replacing lights at each intersection each year.
- Increases motorist and pedestrian safety because of the less-frequent presence of maintenance crews at intersections. Also, the LEDs emit a brighter light, allow a wider viewing angle and provide more reliable operation.
- Helps improve air quality, since LEDs emit less air pollution than incandescent bulbs.

Traffic Signal Operations maintains all the County's traffic signals and street illumination. They also maintain signals for a number of cities in Snohomish County. The LED conversion will free up County crews to devote more time to taking care of these other existing signals, plus the new signals that will be coming on-line as the county continues to grow.

"We're building new signals all the time," Mathison says. "We expect to add at least two or three new signalized intersections per year in coming years. Now we'll be able to take on more work, make additional signal upgrades and take better care of all our customers—especially the public."

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Contact: Charles Mathison, 425-388-3119
Wayne Lee, Public Involvement Coordinator, 425-388-3789

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July 19, 2002

35th Ave. SE road closure postponed until July 29

Arterial to be closed to all through-traffic for about 10 weeks

The start date for a planned road closure on 35th Avenue SE between 136th Drive SE (Silver Crest Drive) and 144th Street SE has been postponed by two weeks. Originally scheduled for "mid-July," the full road closure now will start July 29. It will be in effect until mid-October, as previously announced.

The closure is necessary because of the extensive amount of peat soils that must be removed from the roadbed in the area. Flaggers and signage will direct traffic to the detour route along Seattle Hill Road and 132nd Street SE.

To minimize traffic impacts, the County has coordinated its construction schedule with school districts and the Washington State Department of Transportation (which may work on SR 527 in 2003). Traffic flow will be facilitated along the detour route because of improvements completed earlier this summer to the Seattle Hill Road intersections at 35th Avenue SE and at 132nd Street SE.

Drivers should expect frequent delays through the area and are encouraged to take alternate routes. Snohomish County thanks the public for their patience and cooperation during this busy construction season. Please drive carefully through all construction zones!

The closure is part of a larger project to construct road improvements along a 2-mile stretch of 35th Avenue SE from 120th Place SE to just north of Seattle Hill Road. When it is completed in fall 2003, the work will complete the overall, \$7.9-million project to widen 3.9 miles of 35th Avenue SE from 100th Street SE to Seattle Hill Road, which was started in 1999. The northern phase, 100th Street SE to 120th Place SE, was completed last year.

The completed configuration of the southern phase of the project will be similar to the northern phase, with one traffic lane in each direction, a center-turn lane, bike lanes, curbs, gutters and

sidewalks. Other project features include:

- Detention ponds, water quality treatment ponds and utility vaults will be constructed near 144th Street SE and the 35th Avenue SE/132nd Street SE intersection.
- Nine acres of the property located at the southeast corner of the 132nd Street SE and 35th Avenue SE intersection (formerly known as the Buffalo Farm) will be used as the mitigation site for wetland impacts.
- The intersection at 132nd and 35th will be widened to include additional turn lanes.

Project Schedule

Road Closure Start	July 29, 2002
Road Closure End	Mid-Oct. 2002
Project Completion	Fall 2003

Questions? Contact:

- Bill Ryan, Construction Manager, 425-388-6673
- Bruce DuVall, Project Supervisor, 425-388-6404
- Wayne Lee, Public Involvement Specialist, 425-388-3789
- Hearing/speech-impaired call WA Relay Center at 1-800-833-6388.

Try the New SNO-ROAD Hotline!

For up-to-date information on major road projects in Snohomish County, citizens may call the new, toll-free Snohomish County Road Construction Hotline at 866-SNO-ROAD (866-766-7623). (TDD/TTY users may call WA Relay Center at 1-800-833-6388.) This inter-agency service is co-sponsored by Snohomish County and the Washington State Department of Transportation. Callers may listen to a recorded announcement and leave a message. A representative from the appropriate agency will respond within the next working day.

A Coordinated Effort

Snohomish County is working closely with all public agencies and private companies in the area to help coordinate construction impacts and communications activities surrounding these projects. Besides updating the Road Construction Hotline regularly, we'll send out newsletters and news releases as often as needed to be sure the public gets the latest information. We'll also post project and road construction information regularly on our website at <http://www.co.snohomish.wa.us>.

Other Construction in the Area

In addition to the 35th Avenue SE project, the following work also will take place this summer:

- **132nd Street SE:** This 3-mile, \$10.6-million project is the last stage in the County's long-term effort to provide a new east-west travel route by widening and extending 132nd Street SE between Seattle Hill Road and SR 9. The existing section between Seattle Hill Road and Snohomish Cascade Drive is being widened to five lanes, including two lanes in each direction, a continuous center-turn lane, bike lanes, enclosed drainage, planter strips, sidewalks and illumination.

Construction also will begin this summer on a new one-mile section of 132nd Street SE, which will complete the existing gap between the Thomas Creek Bridge and SR 9. This section, which will be known as Cathcart Way, will have a similar configuration except that in place of a center-turn lane, there will be a 4-foot-wide median with rumble strips, except where left-turn pockets are needed. A traffic signal will be installed at the intersection of 132nd Street SE and SR 9. The opening of 132nd Street SE through to SR 9 will happen only after all the improvements to the existing section are complete.

The existing roadway will remain open during construction, although motorists should expect some delays. This project could take two construction seasons to complete and the extension through to SR 9 should be open to traffic in 2003. The contractor is Bellevue-based Tri-State Construction. Contact: Sam Filetti, Project Manager, 425-388-6698, or Wayne Lee, Public Involvement Coordinator, 425-388-3789. Citizens also may call the **132nd Street SE Road Construction Hotline** at **425-388-3993** (TDD/TTY users call WA Relay Center at 1-800-833-6388).

- **Snohomish Cascade Drive:** The County's contractor, Wilder Construction, will repave Snohomish Cascade Drive between 134th Place SE and Puget Park Drive this summer. The project will involve grinding along the curbs and gutters, as well as some pulverization around the two planter medians. Contact: Dennis Lubchuk, Project Engineer, 425-388-3488, x4224, or Ingrid Earle, Pavement Management Engineer, 425-388-3488, x4523.
- **Mill Creek Road:** The City of Mill Creek is planning to overlay Mill Creek Road between the Bothell-Everett Highway and Village Green Drive in late July or early August. Contact: City of Mill Creek, 425-745-1891.
- **Clearview Water Supply Project:** The Clearview Group (comprised of water districts from Alderwood Water, Silver Lake and Cross Valley) is constructing a water pumping station west of the City of Snohomish. It also is installing 8 miles of water transmission line from the corner of Bickford Avenue and 52nd Street SE, northwest of the City of Snohomish, to storage reservoirs in the Clearview area. Construction is expected to be completed by late summer 2002. Contact: Alderwood Water District, 425-743-4605.

There also will be other construction work by various developers and utilities in the area.

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Contact: Bill Ryan, Construction Manager, (425) 388-6673
Bruce DuVall, Project Supervisor, (425) 388-6404
Wayne Lee, Public Involvement Specialist, (425) 388-3789

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For release: July 3, 2002

35th Ave. SE road widening to continue in mid-July

Arterial to be closed to all through-traffic for about 12 weeks

[See [35th Ave Road Construction Newsletter \(pdf\)](#)]

Snohomish County will begin constructing road improvements this summer along a 2-mile stretch of 35th Avenue SE from 120th Place SE to just north of Seattle Hill Road. When it is completed in fall 2003, the work will complete the overall, \$7.9-million project to widen 3.9 miles of 35th Avenue SE from 100th Street SE to Seattle Hill Road, which was started in 1999. The northern phase, 100th Street SE to 120th Place SE, was completed last year.

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- Nine acres of the property located at the southeast corner of the 132nd Street SE and 35th Avenue SE intersection (formerly known as the Buffalo Farm) will be used as the mitigation site for wetland impacts.
- The intersection at 132nd and 35th will be widened to include additional turn lanes.

Full Road Closure July-October

Because of the extensive amount of peat soils that must be removed from the roadbed south of 120th Place SE, it will be necessary to close 35th Avenue SE in that area to all through-traffic for approximately 12 weeks. The closure will start in mid-July and extend into October. Flaggers and signage will direct traffic to the detour route along Seattle Hill Road and 132nd

Street SE.

To minimize traffic impacts, the County has coordinated its construction schedule with school districts and the Washington State Department of Transportation (which may work on SR 527 in 2003). This Traffic flow will be facilitated along the detour route because of improvements completed earlier this summer to the Seattle Hill Road intersections at 35th Avenue SE and at 132nd Street SE.

Drivers should expect frequent delays through the area and are encouraged to take alternate routes. Snohomish County thanks the public for their patience and cooperation during this busy construction season. Please drive carefully through all construction zones!

Project Schedule

- Road Closure Start Mid-July 2002
- Road Closure End Mid-Oct. 2002
- Project Completion Fall 2003

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station west of the City of Snohomish. It also is installing 8 miles of water transmission line from the corner of Bickford Avenue and 52nd Street SE, northwest of the City of Snohomish, to storage reservoirs in the Clearview area. Construction is expected to be completed by late summer 2002. Contact: Alderwood Water District, 425-743-4605.

There also will be other construction work by various developers and utilities in the area.

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[See [35th Ave Road Construction Newsletter](#) ([pdf](#))]

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NEWS



For release: July 2, 2002

County, State team up on new Road Construction Hotline

Citizens may call toll-free 1-866-SNO-ROAD for project updates

This is an unusually busy summer for road construction in Snohomish County. The Washington State Department of Transportation (WSDOT) has major projects on SR 529, US 2 and SR 525. Snohomish County Public Works is making improvements to a number of arterials, including Marine Drive, 132nd Street SE, 35th Avenue SE, 112th Street SW/SE and 164th Street SW, along with its annual resurfacing and chip seal programs. In addition, there are many other projects by cities, utilities, contractors and developers.

To help citizens keep informed on all these projects and their traffic impacts, the County and State have teamed up to launch the new, toll-free Snohomish County **Road Construction Hotline**. For up-to-date information on all major road projects in the county, citizens now can call the hotline at **1-866-SNO-ROAD (866-766-7623)**. (TDD/TTY users call WA Relay Center at 1-800-833-6388.) Callers can listen to recorded announcements on major projects and leave a message if they like. A representative from the appropriate agency will respond within the next working day.

"It's going to be hard for drivers to get around this summer, so we thought it would be a good public service to create a central phone number for people to call," says Wayne Lee, a Public Involvement Specialist with Snohomish County Public Works who initiated the inter-agency

effort. "Snohomish County is working closely with all public agencies and private companies in the area to help coordinate construction impacts and communications activities surrounding these high-impact projects."

Fortunately, WSDOT was more than willing to help with the effort. Victoria Tobin, a Public Information Officer in the agency's Northwest Region, has worked closely with Lee over the past few months to help implement the innovative service. "The State already has our own toll-free number (1-800-695-ROAD) for WSDOT projects statewide. But we thought it was a terrific idea to have a special toll-free number for people in Snohomish County to call for all major road construction project information in their region."

The two agencies also will be coordinating more online in the future, with increasing linkage between their respective websites (co.Snohomish.wa.us and wsdot.wa.gov). (The County's website is in the midst of a major overhaul and will provide considerably more information online later this summer.)

For more information on the SNO-ROAD hotline, contact

Wayne Lee at 425-388-3789 or wayne.lee@co.snohomish.wa.us, or Victoria Tobin at 206-440-4699 or TobinV@wsdot.wa.gov.

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June 20, 2002

County Executive Seeks North County Nominee To County Parks Board

Want to help plan the future of county parks? Residents of County Council District #1 (north Snohomish County, generally from Marysville north to the Skagit County line) are invited to apply to serve on the Snohomish County Parks Advisory Board. Deadline for nominations is June 10, 2002.

“This is an excellent opportunity for citizens to use their interests and skills in a way that benefits our communities, both now and into the future,” said County Executive Bob Drewel.

The Parks Board is charged with “reviewing and recommending policies relating to parks, playgrounds or other recreational facilities.” It is made up of 11 members with a broad range of interests from throughout the county. The board meets monthly, works with the county parks staff, and makes recommendations to the Council and Executive. Board members serve four-year terms and may not serve on any other county board or commission.

The current vacancy, caused by the resignation of former board member Joseph Jones, is for a term expiring Jan. 15, 2003. Interested persons should complete and file a nomination form by Wednesday, June 10. Nominations are reviewed by County Executive Bob Drewel, who then forwards his recommendations to the County Council for approval. For more information or to receive a nomination form, contact Connie Mennie at 425-388-3876 or Marcie Allen at 425-388-6611.

[Download application form \(pdf\)](#)

###

CONTACT: Connie Mennie, County Executive Office, 425-388-3876
Marcie Allen, Parks & Recreation Department, 425-388-6611

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Tuesday, June 18, 2002

County Confirms First Two Appointments, Seeks Third For Lake Stevens Area Park Board

Snohomish County Executive Bob Drewel is recruiting for a third nominee to the Lake Stevens Park & Recreation Area Governing Advisory Board. Residents who live within the Lake Stevens School District and outside the city limits may apply for nomination to a two-year term. Deadline for nominations is Monday, July 8, 2002.

Creation of the Lake Stevens area park board was approved by area voters in March 2002. It is governed by a four-member board, three residents of the unincorporated area appointed by the county, and the fourth a city resident appointed by the City of Lake Stevens. The county's first two appointments, Terry Marsh and Kevin Quigley, were confirmed by the County Council at the Executive's recommendation on June 12. The Executive's third nominee, Therese Quinn, was formally rejected by Council in a 3-2 vote on June 18, 2002.

"This is a great opportunity for residents of the Lake Stevens area to contribute to the quality of their community, both for present and future generations," Drewel said. "I look forward to talking with people who are involved and interested in making a positive contribution."

Nomination forms must be completed and filed with the County Executive by Monday, July 8. Appointments are recommended by County Executive Drewel and confirmed by the County Council. [Download and mail in a application form \(pdf\)](#), or contact the Executive office at 425-388-3460.

##

**SNOHOMISH COUNTY BOARDS & COMMISSIONS
NOMINATION FORM FOR
Lake Stevens Park & Recreation Area Governing Advisory Board**

DEADLINE: Monday, July 8, 2002

INSTRUCTIONS: Please fill out this form and return to

Connie Mennie

Executive Admin. Asst.

Snohomish County Executive Office

3000 Rockefeller Avenue, MS 407

Everett, WA 98201-4046

(425) 388-3876

(425) 388-3434 fax

connie.mennie@co.snohomish.wa.us

INITIATOR

County department/agency County Executive Office

Contact person/phone Connie Mennie 425-388-3876 or Charla Robinson 425-388-3880

Name of Board/Commission Lake Stevens Park & Recreation Area Governing Advisory Board

Advisory XX Governing _____ Ad Hoc _____ Ongoing _____

Term of Appointment 2 years Commencing upon appointment

Mandated Requirements for Appointment* County resident within district, interest in parks & recreation

NOMINEE: PLEASE FILL IN BELOW

Date: _____

County Council District _____

New appointment _____ Reappointment 1st _____ 2nd: _____ Ex Officio _____

Name _____

Home Address _____

Mailing Address (if different) _____

City _____ State _____ (zip) _____

Telephone (Home) _____ (Work) _____

E-mail (if applicable) _____

Employer _____

Occupation _____

Education _____

Licenses Held (if applicable) _____

Professional experience relevant to Board/Commission _____

Community involvement _____

Do you serve on any other Snohomish County Board or Commission?* _____

Reasons for serving/other comments _____

Applicant Requirements:

*2.03.060SCC - Candidates for appointment to county boards or commission must meet the following requirements:

- (1) Possess qualifications for the appointment sought, as shown by the candidate's written documentation and any hearing testimony;
- (2) If a reappointment, demonstrate the continuing benefits of retaining the board member as discussed in the executive's recommendation and a satisfactory attendance record, as determined by adopted criteria of the particular board;
- (3) Reside or work in Snohomish County, or show evidence of special interest in Snohomish County, PROVIDED That a candidate may not be a County employee;
- (4) Membership is limited to one position at a time on a board or commission, PROVIDED That a member of a board may simultaneously serve on one ad hoc or advisory committee. (Ord. 82-037 § 1, adopted June 9, 1982).

Signature: _____

Date _____

PLEASE ATTACH RESUME, IF AVAILABLE, AND RETURN BY MONDAY, JULY 8, 2002, TO:

Connie Mennie
Executive Admin. Asst.
Snohomish County Executive Office
3000 Rockefeller Avenue, MS 407
Everett, WA 98201-4046

(425) 388-3876
(425) 388-3434 fax
connie.mennie@co.snohomish.wa.us

Thursday, June 13, 2002

County Executive Signs Land Use Plan for Mill Creek East: Creates Village Centers and Open Space/Trail Network

Snohomish County Executive Bob Drewel today signed ordinances adopting an Urban Growth Area (UGA) Plan and a unified community vision for the Mill Creek East area.

The new plan is a roadmap for private development and public facilities within a 2.6 square mile area between the city of Mill Creek and Silver Firs to the east, stretching from 132nd Street SE south to 185th Street SE. The plan was a joint planning partnership by the county with the City of Mill Creek, and had extensive involvement from property owners and the public. "This effort listened to disparate views to reach broad community consensus on a single vision for the area," said County Executive Drewel.

In signing the Mill Creek East Plan into law, Drewel noted, "this plan establishes a vision that includes quality urban amenities in two new Village Centers, while also providing special incentives for a network of open space and trails." The plan will guide future land use throughout the area, and proposes how transportation, parks, surface water and other public facilities should accompany development.

The County Council adopted the Executive's recommended Plan on May 30 with amendments. Drewel thanked the Council for strengthening the plan's reliance on positive incentives to achieve the plan's vision.

The plan designates two Village Centers (one at the intersection of 148th Street SE and 41st Avenue SE, and another on 132nd Street SE near Seattle Hill Road), providing an opportunity to combine quality commercial development with high density residential uses in a pedestrian and transit-oriented setting. This is the first time the county has adopted such a detailed centers vision along with specific design guidelines for achieving it.

"With the help of the County Council, this plan harnesses the positive power of incentives to achieve broad public goals through non-regulatory means," said Drewel. The plan encourages incentives such as density bonuses be used to preserve a network of trail and open space corridors along Tambark Creek, Penny Creek and Thomas Lake, to connect neighborhoods,

parks and the two Village Centers. This is the first time the county has gone beyond regional facilities to design a local network of trails and open space to serve one specific community.

"The Mill Creek East Plan also identifies transportation improvements that will enhance mobility within the entire Mill Creek Urban Growth Area," noted Drewel. The Plan proposes 41 local and state projects, encompassing 44 miles of roadway, at an estimated cost of \$154 million. "This is a big step forward," Drewel said.

The plan also recommends surface water management projects to help prevent future development from worsening flooding, water quality, and fish habitat within the area. While applauding progress in identifying the drainage projects needed in Mill Creek East, Drewel said, "addressing the impact of development on surface water and drainage is an important concern in urbanizing areas throughout the county." He noted that the county's Drainage Needs Report project, scheduled for completion at year's end, will identify future urban drainage needs elsewhere in the county. "Our work is not done. I look forward to working with the County Council in the coming months to set a comprehensive level of service and approach for providing drainage facilities and services to growing areas. As we urbanize, we must do so in an environmentally responsible and affordable way."

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CONTACT: Steve Holt, Executive Director, 425-388-3460

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County Employees Spring Into Action To Donate 383k Pounds To Local Food Banks

A spirited competition among Snohomish County government employees resulted in a total donation equivalent to 382,897 pounds of food for 19 local community food banks. This was nearly four times the 100,000-pound challenge that County Executive Bob Drewel issued when the food drive began.

“Time and again, county employees prove that their hearts are generous,” Drewel said. “This is an amazing achievement and I am so proud that we are good neighbors in the community.”

The *Greatest Personal Sacrifice* award was given to Bill Higley, a Public Works employee whose co-workers donated \$1,518 when he agreed to shave his flowing tresses; Higley donated the resulting foot-long braid to Locks of Love, an organization that provides human hair wigs to cancer patients.

Most Supportive Administration was the Auditor’s office. Auditor Bob Terwilliger and his senior staff members agreed to take pies in the face after employees bid more than \$1,000 on the chance to throw pies.

Greatest Community Involvement went to the Evergreen State Fairgrounds, whose employees delivered food directly to the Sultan food bank. When volunteers there described the need and how much the donation would mean to local hungry families, Fairgrounds employees committed to filling a barrel each month for the Sultan food bank.

Donating the greatest number of pounds of food per employee were the departments of Auditor (124.89), Fairgrounds (86.67) and Treasurer (70.9). Departments raising the most dollars per employee were the Executive (\$96.11), Treasurer (\$94.43), Facilities Management (\$32.27) and Planning & Development Services (\$31.03).

This was the fifth annual county employees food drive. It was the brainchild of the late Valarie Davis-Butler, a Treasurer’s employee with a heart for those less fortunate. An award in her honor, the *Valarie Davis-Butler Spirit Award*, was given this year to Debbie DelPozo of the

Treasurer's office and Hillary Greenwell of the Auditor's office. Both put in dozens of extra volunteer hours on behalf of their departments to make this year's food drive a success.

Snohomish County food banks estimate they serve about 90,000 clients, who average five food bank visits per year. Ninety percent of food bank consumers are employed or on fixed incomes (seniors and people with disabilities). A weakened economy and increasing unemployment means more people are seeking food assistance. When food bank inventory is down, most food banks can provide only enough food for two to three meals at a time.

For more information on the Volunteers of America Food Bank Distribution Center, contact Virginia Sprague at 425-259-3192.

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June 7, 2002

BNSF to close 156th Street NE railroad crossing

On June 24th, 2002 the Burlington Northern and Santa Fe Railway Company (BNSF) will permanently close the railroad crossing located at 156th Street NE near Twin Lakes County Park north of Marysville.

The Washington Utilities and Transportation Commission granted the at-grade crossing closure per Docket TR-010194 after the BNSF announced plans to construct a railroad siding near the crossing that will allow trains to pass one another. The track accommodates BNSF freight trains as well as Amtrak Cascades passenger trains. The siding construction is part of the Pacific Northwest High Speed Passenger Rail Program sponsored by the Rail Division of the Washington Department of Transportation.

“Without closure of the at-grade crossing, the new siding would cause frequent delays to vehicle traffic and create a potential safety hazard”, says BNSF spokesman Gus Melonas.

Following the closure, motorists will need to cross the tracks either at 172nd Street NE to the north or at 136th Street NE to the south.

“We wanted to accommodate BNSF’s plans to build this new siding,” said Snohomish County Project Manager Max Phan. “We will provide appropriate improvements in the area to successfully redirect traffic and ensure the public’s safety.”

In conjunction with the siding project, the County is rehabilitating the 172nd Street NE at-grade railroad crossing. To accommodate this rehabilitation, the crossing will be temporarily closed. During the closure, traffic will be detoured to 156th Street NE or 136th Street NE. Actual dates and times will be announced.

For more information, contact Snohomish County Project Manager Max Phan at (425)

388-3109.

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Paving work to take place on 132nd St. SE June 4-7

Drivers should expect frequent delays through the area

Work is progressing rapidly on the 132nd Street SE Improvements and Extension project, Snohomish County Public Works has announced. Starting next Tuesday, June 4, sub-contractor Watson Asphalt Paving will begin paving the northern lanes of the major east-west arterial between Seattle Hill Road and "The Falls" housing development.

“This area has already been widened and there is no pavement on the northern lanes right now,” says Construction Engineer Bill Ryan. “The new temporary pavement will be striped and traffic will be diverted to the northern half right away. Work can then proceed on the southern half, where traffic is now running.”

Paving crews will work daily from approximately 7 a.m. to 4 p.m., starting at Seattle Hill Road and working eastward. Paving is weather-dependent, however, so work could be postponed if cold or wet conditions occur. Crews also may extend their hours on any given day to avoid bad weather. **Drivers should expect frequent delays through the area and are encouraged to take alternate routes** such as Puget Park Drive and 148th Street SE.

For up-to-date information on 132nd Street SE and other projects in the area, citizens may call the **132nd Street SE Road Construction Hotline** at **425-388-3993** (TDD/TTY users call WA Relay Center at 1-800-833-6388). A recorded message will give the latest project information. Callers also may leave messages. A County representative will respond within the next working day.

Work is progressing well along other parts of the 132nd Street SE project area between Seattle Hill Road and SR 9. Once completed, the road will be widened to five lanes, including two lanes in each direction, a continuous center-turn lane (or rumble strip, depending on the area), bike lanes, enclosed drainage, planter strips, sidewalks and illumination. The road will be opened to SR 9 only after all the improvements to the existing sections are complete.

“Considerable effort is being spent on connecting 132nd to SR 9 along the southern edge of the County’s Cathcart property,” says Ryan. “The entire route has been cleared, and grading and excavation are ongoing. All areas of the job are being worked simultaneously, with drainage and signal work going ahead on the east end. Tri-State Construction [the primary contractor] is working as hard as they can on this job, and they are making remarkable progress. All of us on the construction team appreciate the public’s patience with the unavoidable inconvenience we are creating.”

Contact: Bob Morrison, Resident Engineer, (425) 379-9485
Wayne Lee, Public Involvement Coordinator, 425-388-3789

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Friday, May 10, 2002

DREWEL SEEKS CANDIDATES FOR MUKILTEO FERRY COMMITTEE

Snohomish County residents with an interest in the Mukilteo ferry are invited to apply for service on a Washington State ferry advisory committee, Snohomish County Executive Bob Drewel has announced. Deadline for nominations is May 31.

The available vacancy on the North Central Ferry Advisory Committee, which includes the Mukilteo service area, will complete a term expiring in 2005. Applicants should have an active interest in issues pertaining to ferry service. Ferry commuters or people with businesses affected by ferry terminal locations and schedules are especially valuable board members.

“Clearly this is a great opportunity for citizen involvement on behalf of Snohomish County residents and interests. We really need your help,” Drewel said.

Each local committee is made up of three persons, no more than two of whom may be from the same political party at the time of their appointment. The other committee members are David Hoogerwerf, a Republican, and William Barlow, an independent.

The local advisory committee meets quarterly in the Mukilteo area to provide local recommendations and perspectives to the state Department of Transportation. The committee chair also serves on an state executive committee, which meets monthly with state officials.

Nomination forms must be completed and filed with the County Executive by Friday, May 31. Appointments are recommended by County Executive Drewel and confirmed by the County Council. To receive a nomination form, contact Connie Mennie in the Executive office at 425-388-3876.

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CONTACT: Connie Mennie, Executive Office, 425-388-3876

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May 6, 2002

Citizen Committee Overseeing County Campus Redevelopment Re-Elects Janice Ellis As Chair

Janice Ellis, an attorney from Snohomish, has been re-elected chair of the citizen advisory committee for Snohomish County's Campus Redevelopment Initiative. Ed Morrow of Everett, representing the city and the Everett Historical Commission, is the new vice chair.

The committee was created by County Executive Bob Drewel "to review, discuss and analyze" the County's assumptions related to the campus master planning efforts of a new jail, administration building, and parking facility.

Other committee members are Jim H. Brown, Jr., of Marysville; Shawn Hoban and Brent Stewart of Everett; Patrick Kolanda and Julie Toothaker of Edmonds; Patrick McMahan and Marge Wood of Mountlake Terrace; Fred Owyen of Lakewood; Peter Stitt of Snohomish; and Richard Wright of Lynnwood.

The committee meets monthly and its recommendations are advisory to Executive Drewel. For more information, contact Connie Mennie at 425-388-3876.

###

CONTACT:

Connie Mennie, Committee Staff, 425-388-3876
Janice Ellis, Committee Chair, 360-862-1475
Connie Lewis, CRI Communications Coordinator, 425-388-3972
Dale Moses, CRI Project Manager, 425-388-3118

May 3, 2002

County Salary Commission Elects New Leaders, Reviews Potential Independence

Earl Dutton of Everett has been elected chair of the county's Citizens' Commission of Salaries of Elected Officials. Barbara Earl of Mill Creek is the new vice chair.

The salary commission was created in 1997 "to study the relationship of salaries to the duties of all elected officials and ... recommend the salary for each position." It is comprised of seven members appointed by the County Council and County Executive Bob Drewel.

Other committee members are Dan Chavis of Arlington; Mike Conrad and Walter Hall of Everett; Bob Shonka of Monroe; and Donn Wells of Edmonds.

The commission is charged with meeting every two years to review and make salary recommendations, and made its last recommendations in April 2001. The commission has chosen to meet this year to review new state legislation authorizing local independent salary commissions. Current county salary commission recommendations are advisory only to the County Council, which has ultimate authority over the salaries of county officials and employees.

The commission's next meeting is scheduled for 1:30 p.m. Tuesday, May 21, in the Willis Tucker Conference Room, 3rd Floor, County Administration Building. For more information on the county salary commission, contact Connie Mennie at 425-388-3876.

###

CONTACT:

Connie Mennie, Commission Staff, 425-388-3876
Earl Dutton, Commission Chair, 425-258-1108

For release: April 26, 2002

Marine Drive road improvements set to begin this summer

Snohomish County Public Works plans to begin road construction this summer on a 2-mile-long section of Marine Drive NE/NW between 19th Ave. NE and 7th Dr. NW. The road will be widened to include a center-turn lane, bike lanes, curbs, gutters, enclosed drainage, sidewalks, stormwater detention and water quality ponds, and retaining walls. The \$9-million project, which has been developed in partnership with the Tulalip Tribes, is scheduled to be completed in late 2003 to coincide with the completion of Tulalip projects also planned or already started.

These improvements were proposed as the result of a study conducted by Public Works during 1996-1997. The study team included representatives from the Tulalip Tribes and County staff. The study looked at existing road conditions, current levels of traffic, safety issues and potential environmental impacts. The improvements were recommended primarily to address the following traffic safety concerns on this section of Marine Drive:

- Numerous driveways and pull-offs, requiring a great many turns onto and off the road;
- A high percentage of accidents as a result of all those turns; and
- Inadequate shoulders in most places for the large number of pedestrians and bicyclists.

The first construction activities (trimming trees and moving power poles) already have been started by Snohomish County PUD crews. The next step is to begin construction of the four stormwater detention/water quality ponds. These will be built next to the road and need to be in place before roadwork begins in summer 2003. The road will remain open during construction, however there may be some brief delays.

An Environmental Assessment (EA) was prepared for this project and made available for public review in 1999. Also included was an assessment of potential impacts to historical or cultural resources. The EA concluded that the project will have no significant environmental impacts. A Finding of No Significant Impact (FONSI) was issued on January 3, 2000. Minor unavoidable impacts to existing streams and wetlands will be mitigated by constructing stormwater retention and detention facilities, creating new wetlands and planting riparian plants.

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For More Information:

- Project issues: Sam Filetti, Project Manager, 425-388-6698 or sam.filetti@co.snohomish.wa.us.
- Environmental Issues: Mary Auld, Senior Planner, at 425-388-3488 ext.4510 or mary.auld@co.snohomish.wa.us.

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February 4, 2002

Drewel Appoints Neely to Head Public Safety Program

Snohomish County Executive Bob Drewel today announced that Susan Neely will head a new program aimed at improving efficiencies within the county's criminal justice system. Neely was recently hired as an Executive Director in the Executive Office after serving eight years as a Legislative Analyst with the County Council.

"An overloaded and understaffed criminal justice system is currently the biggest public safety problem facing Snohomish County," said Drewel. "Law and justice services -- enforcement, courts, jails and prevention programs -- now consume nearly 68 percent of the county's General Fund. We can't afford to take a piecemeal approach to this. We must balance funding priorities and find ways to operate the whole system more efficiently. I have complete confidence in Susan's abilities to lead us in that direction."

In her capacity as the county's Public Safety Program Manager, Neely will facilitate communications between the various departments and offices that provide public safety services, including the Sheriff's Office, the Department of Corrections, the courts, and other jurisdictions within the county.

"My job," says Neely, "is to make sure the right hand always knows what the left hand is doing and to be on the lookout for new ways to deliver public safety services more efficiently."

Neely says the most serious public safety challenge facing the county is to balance the need for more law enforcement personnel with the need for funds to operate the county's new jail facility scheduled to begin construction this fall.

In the long term, increased prevention programs and changes in sentencing laws may help reduce perennial overcrowding problems in the jail, according to Neely. In the short term, however, Neely says that until the county catches up with matching its jail capacity to the rising number of arrests, "We are likely to have people on the streets who should be serving time."

CONTACT: Susan Neely, 425/388-3297

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Feb. 1, 2002

Technology Expert to Lead County's Department of Information Services

County Executive Bob Drewel has appointed Bob von Wolfradt, an acknowledged technology manager, to direct Snohomish County's Department of Information Services. Von Wolfradt's appointment is subject to confirmation by the county council.

Information Services is responsible for developing and supporting county government's technological infrastructure, including computers, geographic information mapping services, Internet and e-mail, records management, a print shop and mail services.

"Bob von Wolfradt brings to this important position impeccable credentials and extensive experience in the critical field of information services," said Drewel. "I firmly believe he is the right person at the right time to continue leading us in this technological age.

"We went to great lengths to find the best person to fill this job," said Drewel, "starting with a national search that was conducted by the state Department of Personnel's Executive Search Service."

Most recently, von Wolfradt, a resident of Lake Stevens, led two Internet start-up companies through the tough economic conditions of 2000 and 2001. Previously, he was executive director of the Washington School Information Processing Cooperative (WSIPC).

At WSIPC, he led the nation's largest school technology cooperative delivering sophisticated systems that managed a \$2.8 billion dollar payroll, 39 million transactions and \$5.5 billion in financial transactions annually. These achievements were acknowledged by a state House of Representatives resolution, the first in WSIPC's 30-year history.

Prior to WSIPC, von Wolfradt was a highly decorated Air Force veteran, where he was responsible for strategic planning and the implementation of sophisticated logistics networks and computer systems.

The five finalists, three of whom were from out of state, said Drewel, went through a multi-tiered interview process that began with individual presentations to the department's employees. Three separate panels made up of key department heads, elected officials and employees then interviewed each

candidate, and all three recommended von Wolfradt for the job.

Von Wolfradt received a Master's Degree in Computer Resources and Information Management from Webster University and a Bachelor's Degree in Computer Science from the University of Maryland.

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For more information, contact Roger Neumaier at 425-388-3862.

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