Reardon talks strong budget, sound finances in Comcast interview

In a recent interview with Comcast Newsmakers, Executive Aaron Reardon was asked to discuss how Snohomish County has kept a balanced budget while other governments continue to struggle with impacts of the Great Recession.

Reardon noted that Snohomish County responded early to the recession. As a result, Snohomish County has been able to keep a balanced budget and grow reserves beyond targeted levels - without raising general property taxes.

He also highlighted that during the past five years, no major county in the United States had a greater increase in personal income growth than Snohomish County. Personal income expanded in Snohomish County by 40 percent as a result of the County's commitment to competitiveness, low taxes and attracting high-wage jobs.
To view the interview with host Sabrina Register, watch Headline News at 2:20 p.m. Saturday; 3:20 p.m. Monday; 6:50 a.m. Thursday; 7:50 a.m. May 7; 8:50 a.m. May 9; 10:50 a.m. May 11; 11:20 a.m. May 13; 12:50 p.m. May 15; 2:20 p.m. May 17; or click here.

Save the date! Future of Rail summit, June 7

Snohomish County Executive Aaron Reardon and other key government and industry leaders will discuss the future of rail service in Snohomish County during a half-day summit on June 7, at the Edward D. Hansen Conference Center in Everett.

"On Track" will present the issues and opportunities involved in integrating rail into the County's evolving multimodal transportation network. The goal is to develop a strategy and support for including innovative rail elements into the County's evolving transportation network.

Presentations will focus on the future of Sound Transit's light rail system, the success of rail in other parts of the country as well as opportunities for interstate passenger rail. The presentations will be followed by a moderated panel discussion.

"We have a great opportunity to advance the discussion of rail now so that when opportunities arise, we'll be prepared to move," Reardon said.

The summit will run from 9 a.m. until noon, followed by a complimentary lunch program hosted by the Cascadia Center with additional discussion and information on Sonoma Marin Area Rail Transit.

The summit is free and open to the public. An RSVP to Isaiah Billingsley at ibillingsley@discovery.org or 206-292-0401 is required for the lunch.

Reardon addresses crowd at solemn Workers' Memorial Ceremony

Snohomish County Executive Aaron Reardon joined local leaders Wednesday for the annual Workers' Memorial Ceremony in front of the County Courthouse.

The annual memorial honors those who “went to work but never
returned home." Despite rain, as many as 50 people gathered around the county's Worker Safety Memorial.

While much of the focus was on those killed last year at the Tesoro Corp. refinery in Anacortes, speakers also addressed the death of Jayme Biendl, a corrections officer who was killed in January while on duty at the Monroe Correctional Complex.

"We cannot forget these men and women who died in their line of work," Reardon said. "We must continue to improve worker safety and provide the necessary training women and men need in their respective jobs."

Executive Reardon addresses those present during the annual Workers' Memorial Ceremony in front of the Snohomish County Courthouse.

County joins YWCA in "Stand Against Racism"

Snohomish County Executive Aaron Reardon was joined Friday by members of Snohomish County's Diversity Council to show support for the YWCA's second annual "Stand Against Racism."

Snohomish County was one of only a handful of local governments signing on to the movement, created with the goal to help eradicate racism nationwide.

"Racism is never acceptable, nor do we condone it in any way here at Snohomish County," Reardon said. "With an ever-growing ethnic population, we must continually look for new ways to improve how..."
we interact and assist our multicultural population."

Reardon signed a proclamation naming Friday, April 29, "Stand Against Racism" day in Snohomish County.

More than 350,000 people joined the YWCA's "Stand Against Racism" last year and even more were expected across the United States this year.

To learn more about the YWCA's "Stand Against Racism, click here.

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You may also contact me directly by phone at 425.388.3460.