Reardon Issues Executive Order for Climate Change Action

Snohomish County Executive Aaron Reardon today issued an Executive Order to address climate change in a way that aims to reduce the County’s carbon footprint and greenhouse gas emissions.

“Our initial goal is by the Year 2020 to reduce Snohomish County’s greenhouse gas emissions to 20 percent below the Year 2000 levels,” Executive Reardon said.

Through the Executive Order, Executive Reardon will create a County Staff Climate Change Committee, made up of experts in the field who work for the County, to review the County’s internal operations and make recommendations on how to reduce Snohomish County government’s carbon footprint and greenhouse gas emissions.

“We already know we can achieve considerable reductions in CO2 emissions related to energy-use in buildings by changes in building occupant behavior, cultural patterns and technology,” Executive Reardon said. “More energy efficient buildings will not only reduce carbon emissions considerably, but will provide health benefits by improving air quality and improve security by decreasing demand for energy.”

continued
In addition to the Executive Order, Executive Reardon will also ask stakeholders in the community to serve on the first-ever Green Ribbon Climate Change Task Force to examine the community’s carbon footprint and greenhouse gas emissions and make policy recommendations by December 2008.

“We believe these changes will save taxpayer dollars and help diversify our economy while creating jobs,” Executive Reardon said. “Changes will also improve our air quality, public health as well as our food and energy security. It all comes down to how livable we want our community to be in the future.”

“We know global warming is real,” Executive Reardon said. “It’s time to stop talking and start taking action.”

For more information please click here

County Ranks 5th in the Nation for Technology


Judged on more than 100 measurements and data points about online service delivery, infrastructure, architecture and governance models, the County improved upon its ninth place ranking in 2006.

Online Snohomish County public services include:

• Advanced mapping services
• Property assessment and tax information
• Building and mechanical permits
• Court services and trial calendars
• Registered sex offender information
• Public records search

The awards were presented at the July 13-17 NACo annual conference in Richmond, Virginia.

How are we doing?

Did you know that you can track how well the County is meeting its performance goals?

The SnoStat system tracks how well the County is delivering services, the costs of those services, and the efficiency and effectiveness of service delivery.

Simply visit our SnoStat website.

Contact me:

3000 Rockefeller Ave.
M/S #407
Everett, WA 98201

Phone: 425.388.3460
Fax: 425.388.3434

Or, send me an email.

And please be sure to visit me on the web!

Sincerely,

Aaron Reardon

continued
Executive Reardon Signs Agreement to Preserve Affordable Housing

On Thursday, joined by YWCA CEO Sue Sherbrooke and other organization board members, County Executive Aaron Reardon signed an agreement between the County, the YWCA of Seattle-King County-Snohomish County and the Everett Housing Authority preserving over 200 affordable housing units in Snohomish County.

The agreement provides for the purchase and rehabilitation of three multi-family housing complexes in Everett, Lynnwood and Mountlake Terrace and includes a total of 220 units to serve families at or below 50% of area median income.

Executive Reardon submitted the agreement, negotiated by the County and representatives of the YWCA and the Housing Authority, to the County Council which unanimously approved it on July 11.

The project includes acquisition, construction and rehabilitation of the 90-unit Wear to Live apartment complex in Everett; the 66-unit Victorian Woods apartment complex in Mountlake Terrace and the 64-unit Somerset Village complex.

The agreement provides for the acquisition cost of the three properties is $28.8 million. The County provided no funding to the purchase, but instead partnered with the YWCA and the Housing Authority to provide bond credit for the purchase. The County’s assistance saved approximately $2.4 on the total cost of the project.

continued
Executive Office Participates in Event to Raise Awareness of “Pennies for Puppies and Ponies” Law Enforcement Animals

Executive Reardon spoke on the County campus courtyard on Friday, July 13th to raise awareness of the importance of law enforcements service dogs and horses. Also in attendance were PFPP founder Carole Flynn White, and Deputy Brandon McClure. During the event, Snohomish County’s newest K-9, Lidar, was commissioned into service. Founded in 1996, PFPP is a non-profit organization that provides supplies and training of dogs and horses for the Sheriff’s office.

Third Annual Music on the Plaza

After being rained out on Wednesday, July 18th, the 3rd annual Music on the Plaza Concert series will kick-off on Wednesday, July 25th at the main campus of Snohomish County, 3000 Rockefeller Avenue in downtown Everett.

The concerts feature local artists and are presented by the Office of the County Executive and the Snohomish County Arts Commission. The Music on the Plaza concerts are free and open to the public.

Reardon said, “The concerts play an important role in enhancing the arts in our community and promote a creative vitality that makes Snohomish County attractive to our citizens, businesses and visitors.”

Pocket Change, a funk band, will perform at a concert scheduled for July 25th (beginning at 11:30 a.m.). Other concerts will feature the Latin jazz sounds of Sonando and the Chicago Texas style Blues of David Hudson.

The lunchtime concerts will run through August 22nd at the campus amphitheater located at Rockefeller and Wall.

Music on the Plaza flyer

continued
Movie Nights in Willis Tucker Community Park

Mix the excitement of a big screen movie with the beauty of the great outdoors at Willis Tucker Community Park, courtesy of Sundquist Homes. The next showing featuring “Napoleon Dynamite” will be Thursday, July 26th.

Open seating begins at 7:30, movie start times will vary depending on daylight. Seating is on grass ~ bring low-back lawn chairs and blankets for comfort. Admission is free and popcorn and soda will be available for purchase. For more information visit the Snohomish County Parks Department website. Go to www.snoco.org and search for “parks.”

Bring your blankets and spend a night under the stars with your family!

Movie line-up:

July 26, 9:30pm - Napoleon Dynamite, PG
August 2, 9:20pm - Happy Feet, G
August 9, 9:07pm - Dreamer, PG
August 16, 8:54pm - The Princess Bride, PG
August 23, 8:45pm - Charlotte’s Web, G

Thank you very much for taking the time to read my electronic newsletter.

If you would like to send me your comments and feedback, or if you would like to unsubscribe, simply reply to this message.

You may also contact me directly by phone at 425.388.3460.