Executive Reardon proposes anti-graffiti ordinance

Executive Aaron Reardon this week proposed to the County Council an ordinance to give law enforcement and code enforcement officers new tools to combat graffiti.

The ordinance would specifically criminalize graffiti vandalism, prohibit the possession of graffiti implements in and around areas often targeted for graffiti and provide a mechanism for code enforcement officers to deal with graffiti nuisance properties.

“Graffiti is a growing crime that is degrading our community,” said Executive Reardon. “It’s time to show vandals that graffiti won’t be tolerated in Snohomish County.”

The proposed ordinance is the latest in a series of actions initiated to track and eliminate graffiti in Snohomish County. Along with the tougher laws, Executive Reardon announced that he will be holding a graffiti summit later in the month with local community and law enforcement leaders to work together to stop graffiti in the County.

“Graffiti vandalism is a crime costing property owners, businesses and government across the state millions of dollars annually,” Reardon said. “By working together we can develop new tools to stop graffiti in its tracks.”

continued
Last year the County prioritized eliminating graffiti on public property. Studies have shown that quickly eliminating graffiti dramatically reduces repeat incidents. Snohomish County has a goal of eliminating graffiti on public property within 24 hours of detection. To report graffiti on public property the public may use an online form or contact Snohomish County Code Enforcement officers.

Citizens who observe graffiti-in-progress should call 911 immediately. To report graffiti on public property (parks, bridges, roadways buildings and facilities), call Snohomish County Code Enforcement: 425.388.3311 or use the Graffiti Report Form on the County web site: www.snoco.org, search for “graffiti.”

If you are a victim of graffiti, contact your local police department to file a report. Photograph the graffiti to aid law enforcement investigation and remove the graffiti immediately.

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. Thursday, July 19 will mark the first in a series of outdoor movies with a showing of The Sand Lot.

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!

continued
Movie line-up:
July 19, 9:40pm - The Sand Lot, PG
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

Snohomish County Parks seeks partnerships to improve local parks

This week, Snohomish County Parks launched a new effort to use public/private partnerships to improve local parks.

Snohomish County Parks has issued a Solicitation for Ideas and Proposals (SIP) to identify potential public/private ventures to help provide quality facilities and cost-effective operations.

Through the SIP, Snohomish County Parks hopes to receive ideas for potential enhancements to County parks from private companies, not-for-profit organizations, community based recreation clubs and park users.

Examples of public/private ventures cited in the SIP include: promotion of park amenities, naming rights, sponsorships, and marketing opportunities; development of park amenities such as restaurants and cafes, sports and active recreation amenities, retail facilities and specialty facilities; and, development of youth and adult programs and classes.

“The Solicitation for Ideas and Proposals creates a forum for sharing new and innovative ideas in building public/private partnerships,” says Executive Reardon. “By partnering with the private sector we will expand our capacity to meet growing demands on County park facilities.”

continued
Submittal requirements and evaluation criteria are included in the Solicitation document as well as an invitation to a pre-submittal conference scheduled for Wednesday, July 11, 2007, at 3:30 p.m. in the Gary Weikel Room at Willis Tucker Community Park, 6705 Puget Park Drive, Snohomish, WA.

Parks has posted a .PDF version of the Solicitation on Snohomish County’s web site: [www.snoco.org](http://www.snoco.org), search “parks” and select SIP 2007-1. The site includes submittal requirements, contact information and directions for the pre-submittal conference.

Snohomish County Parks boasts nearly 10,000 acres, more than 100 parks, 34 miles of trails and the Evergreen State Fairgrounds and has more than 3,000,000 visitors annually.

County wants your input on residential design

Your neighborhood – what should it look like?

Please join us for a discussion of how Snohomish County should improve the design of residential development in subdivisions

Snohomish County is looking for feedback to help define the priorities for both single family and multi-family design standards. Some of the issues include landscaping and open space; building size (height, scale) and separation (density); tree and stormwater retention; walls, fences and parking; and width and function of roads.

“Community input is vital to ensure county standards protect neighborhood character and the quality of life we expect in Snohomish County,” said Executive Reardon.

Current guidelines affect how much land on one lot can be used to build a home, the physical look, height and style of the home, and how close a home can be to its neighbor or the street (setbacks).

continued
Codes affecting both single family and multi-family (townhouses, cottages, condominiums) suburban homes are being reviewed and assessed for how well they lead to well-designed, livable homes that become assets to their neighborhoods. These codes are referred to as the Unified Development Code (UDC).

A public meeting on revisions to County design standards will be held on Thursday, July 12, 2007; 6 – 9 p.m. at the Snohomish County Campus, Administration Building East, Meeting Room 1, 3000 Rockefeller Avenue, Everett.

For more information go to www.snoco.org and search “UDC update.”

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.