



Snohomish County Council News

NEWS from
Councilmember John Koster

December 20, 2013

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John Koster's eNewsletter

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[Barbara Chapman](#), Legislative Aide

MERRY CHRISTMAS & HAPPY NEW YEAR

Councilman Koster Farewell

Due to term limits, after 12 years I am cleaning out my Council Office. As I am taking down pictures, awards and election certificates from the walls of my office and packing up files, I've had a little time to reflect on the things we were able to accomplish and the things I will leave unfinished. I suppose that no matter when one leaves, not of their own accord, he or she will always leave some things undone. In my role as a councilman, I have been honored to have served on several Boards representing Snohomish County and I am able to say we did accomplish some things to improve the lives of our county citizens. While there is always room for more improvement, I am happy to say we made strides in addressing Mental Health and Substance Abuse, were able to initiate the Veterans Network of Care for Snohomish County, as well as streamlining the permitting process to mention a few. In an effort to save farmland, the Transfer of Development Rights program was initiated under my leadership. As a member and eventually President of the Washington Association of Counties, we were able to effect change, working with the legislature to benefit all state counties, including Snohomish County. There are many other accomplishments but I am most proud of the work my office has done on behalf of our constituents. Meeting regularly with the mayors of the cities in District 1 and offering the Business Roundtable for business and government to share ideas has also been rewarding. We were never able to accomplish these things alone; I realize I could never effectively do this job without the many who helped me get elected, the love and support of my lovely wife

and family and of course, the many dedicated employees who work hard to serve the citizens of Snohomish County.

To all of you, I owe my deepest and heartfelt gratitude. I wish you all a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year.

I hope you found this eNEWSLETTER to be informative and useful. You can make it even more valuable by suggesting topics and issues for future newsletters. Please contact me at 425-388-3494, or e-mail John.Koster@snoco.org. If you would like to share this newsletter, select the **Forward email** link below.

Sincerely,

John Koster
Snohomish County Council