



Snohomish County and City of Arlington Celebrate Groundbreaking at Bill Quake Memorial Park

Snohomish County and the City of Arlington will celebrate a ground breaking at Bill Quake Memorial Park this afternoon at 1:00 pm to mark the beginning stages of the Stilly Valley Youth Project. The Project includes upgrades to Quake Field, renovation and additions to the Arlington Boys and Girls Club, a new Skate Park in Darrington, upgrades to Old School Park and the completion of the Whitehorse Trail.

Following the tragic SR530 Slide, Governor Jay Inslee visited the Arlington Boys and Girls Club and asked what could be done to assist youth in the Stilly Valley. There is a great need for upgrades and repairs to youth oriented facilities in the Valley and I was able to highlight many of them for Governor Inslee. The Governor responded by asking me for a grant proposal to consider in his 2015 budget.

The project was fully funded in the Governor's 2015 budget and the legislature granted \$3.24 million for the project with the help of Senator Kirk Pearson, Representative Dan Kristiansen and Representative Elizabeth Scott. Additionally, \$350,000 was secured during the Snohomish County Council's 2015 and 2016 budgets.

Snohomish County Executive Dave Somers was also incredibly supportive of the project while serving on the County Council with me and has continued to support the project as County Executive. Executive Somers said, "It's an honor to partner with County Councilmember Ken Klein and the Arlington community on the expansion of Quake Field. The more recreation opportunities we can provide for our residents, the stronger and healthier our communities become. I'm sure there will be many memories of success, effort, sportsmanship, and fun right here on Quake Field."

The community also played a critical role in helping to make the project a success. Over 1,600 Stilly Valley residents signed a petition for funding which was delivered to Governor Inslee and the State legislature. Many others called and wrote to their legislators, visited Olympia and volunteered countless hours to assist in completing the project. I am tremendously proud of our community and look forward to years of happiness Quake Field will bring to kids in the Stilly Valley.

All the best,

Ken Klein

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