



Snohomish County Council News

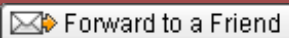
Councilmember Terry Ryan

February, 2015



Terry's February Newsletter

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Snohomish County Council



Courthouse Update

The County Council has decided to put the courthouse project on hold until new issues are resolved. I will give you an update next month.

Marijuana Ordinance Update

The Snohomish County Council Planning Committee will be discussing the Planning Commission and Planning Dept. recommendations at the February 9 meeting, 3:00 - 4:30 p.m. in the Council Chambers. This is a council discussion only and no action will be taken. While public comment is allowed, there will be a full public hearing later this spring before the council takes action. Comments can be submitted to the entire council at contact.council@snoco.org.

Community Transit plans for Victory

Community Transit is already pre-planning for an all-hands effort to support the anticipated overload crowds (as was the case last year) to attend the Seahawk Super Bowl parade in Seattle on Wednesday, February 4.

The parade is in the planning stages for 11 a.m. - 2 p.m. Second Avenue will be closed after 9 a.m.

"We are not wasting our time preplanning for the possibility of a loss because we all agreed, that WON'T HAPPEN!," said Emmett Heath, Acting Chief Executive Officer. "We will have all buses and operators available to serve overloads and they will be supported by an all-hands effort to support them."

Go Hawks!

Ryan appointed to National Association of Counties Organization Transportation Steering Committee.

NACo President Riki Hokama has appointed Snohomish Council Councilman Terry Ryan to the Transportation Steering Committee.

The Transportation Steering Committee sets policy on all matters pertaining to federal transportation legislation, funding and regulations and their impacts on county government, including highway and bridge development, finance and safety, public transit development and finance, transportation planning, airport development and service, passenger and freight railroads, ports and waterways, freight movement, and research and development of new modes of transportation.

I am honored to have been appointed to this board. It will work well with my positions on the Puget Sound Regional Council Transportation Policy Board and Community Transit Board. Transportation is a key component to our County's economic growth and quality of life.

Congratulations to Brian Holtzclaw and Vincent Cavaleri

The Mill Creek City Council unanimously selected Councilman Brian Holtzclaw to replace Mark Harmsworth as Mayor Pro Tem. Holtzclaw is a local attorney.

Vincent Cavaleri was selected to fill the vacancy created by Harmsworth's resignation. Cavaleri is a corrections officer for Snohomish County.

Harmsworth is now a legislator in Olympia. He joins Sen. Steve Hobbs and Rep. Hans Dunshee in representing the 44th Legislative District.

Welcome to Meg Winch

The County Council unanimously appointed Meg Winch to the Performance Audit Committee. Meg put in countless hours as Chair of the Snohomish County Human Rights

Commission. She is a small business owner based in Mill Creek. Meg will be representing District 4.

Comprehensive Plan Update

Courtesy of Planning and Development Services

The 2025 Comprehensive Plan was adopted by Snohomish County in 2005. The Comprehensive Plan serves as a complete policy document that guides County decisions and services on a wide range of topics, including: land use, transportation, parks, polices, and more. Every ten years, Washington State's Growth Management Act requires that cities and counties update their Comprehensive Plans. Less extensive revisions are allowed on annual basis through the [docketing process](#). Snohomish County is currently evaluating alternatives to the Comprehensive Plan through its update process for the [2015 Update](#).

The Comprehensive Plan consists of five parts:

- The [General Policy Plan](#) consisting of goals and policies serves as a guide to the county's growth and development from the present through 2025. The [FEIS](#) includes the environmental review documents for the 10 Year Update of the comprehensive plan.
- The [Future Land Use Map](#) shows planned land uses and densities, urban growth area boundaries, and urban, rural, commercial agricultural and timber lands adequate for the expected population and employment growth through 2025. Zoning and development regulations implement these designations.
- The [Transportation Element](#) describes the County's transportation system and provides policy direction for the development of roads and other transportation to serve the needs of the projected 2025 population.
- The [Capital Facilities Plan](#) contains an inventory of the county's public facilities, establishes level of service standards necessary to support development, and prioritizes facilities needed to support the projected 2025 population.
- The [Park and Recreation Comprehensive Plan](#) provides goals and an action plan for providing park services through 2025.

The County Council began discussion of the 2015 Update in January during a meeting of the Planning and Community Development Committee. No decision making happens during these committee meetings. County staff will be giving briefings to the Council and answering questions from the Council. The agenda allows for general public comment, but formal public testimony will not be taken by council until public hearings are scheduled later in the spring.

The County Council meetings are open to the public and take place at the Council chambers located at 3000 Rockefeller Avenue in Everett. Meeting agendas and videos of the meetings are available on the [Council website](#).

Citizen input and participation is critical to a successful process and Plan. For more information, please visit the County web site at www.snoco.org.

Lynnwood Public Facilities District

The Council is currently processing a request by the Lynnwood Public Facilities District to allow it to refinance the Convention Center bonds to a lower rate. The

District is expected to save approximately 1.5% on the interest rate or \$3 million after refinancing.

In October 2003, Snohomish County and the City of Lynnwood entered into an Interlocal Agreement (ILA) to fund the Multi-jurisdictional Convention Center Facility. The County's assistance is in the form of a portion of the County's Countywide Hotel-Motel tax receipts through 2027.

That ILA was amended in 2004 to extend the commitment of tax receipts through 2034.

The Lodging Tax Advisory Committee that I chair recommends appropriations from the Hotel Motel Tax Fund to the County Council. The committee has unanimously recommended approval of this refinancing. Final council action is expected in early February.

2014 was a great year for Snohomish County Parks & Recreation

Courtesy of Snohomish County Parks & Recreation

In 2014, your Snohomish County Parks system hosted nearly 5 million visitors and celebrated the opening of Lake Stickney and Miner's Corner county parks, and initiated the Pack-it-In/Pack-it-Out campaign to encourage our park users to take their recyclables and garbage home.

Improvements were made to the trails at Kayak Point county park, the Whitehorse Trail, Kayak Point Golf Course, the floating boardwalk at North Creek county park, the entry road to River Meadows County Park, Squire Creek campground, Whitehorse Community Park and Backman county park.

The Conservation Futures Fund authorized the parks department to purchase several properties and add property to several parks, including Heybrook Ridge, Flowing Lake, Esperance, Lake Stickney and Steelhead county parks, O'Reilly Acres and Eastside Rail. We hope to have acquisitions completed by the end of 2015.

Over 43,000 volunteer hours were logged in 2014. Special volunteer efforts included cleanup days at Lake Stickney, Kayak Point, and Steelhead county parks as well as the Centennial Trail. Sundquist Homes sponsored the "Movies in the Park" series for the 8th year, along with Bridge City Church who provided pre-movie entertainment and music.

Thrasher's Corner Sports Grill sponsored its 12th annual benefit golf tournament to fund youth activities, raising over \$3,000. Willis Tucker Park also hosted the 4th annual Friday afternoon Farmer's Market and the National Night Out event in August.

Lake Goodwin stocked with rainbow trout

The department of fish & wildlife stocked Lake Goodwin via the Wenberg boat launch with 5,000 lbs of "catchable" rainbow trout on December 23rd.



It's not too early ...

As more families choose economical vacations closer to home but still want the full outdoor experience, Snohomish County campsites and rentals are more popular than ever. Reservations are already being taken for this spring, summer and fall. You can visit the Snohomish County Parks and Recreation web site (www.snoco.org) to look at available campsites, cottages and yurts. Have less time? "Day-cation" facilities are also available. Don't forget Snohomish County Parks for your recreational needs: Less travel and more fun.

Immerse Yourself in Puget Sound - Join WSU Snohomish County Extension Beach Watchers! - Courtesy of the Marine Resources Committee

Do you love to spend time at the beach? Do you want to craft your own volunteer experience? Then become a WSU Snohomish County Extension Beach Watcher. Receive in-depth training and help protect Puget Sound's waters, wildlife and landscape through education, research and stewardship.

Receive 80 hours of intensive core training by local experts in classrooms and in field locations and 20 hours of experiential training. Then, continue learning while volunteering at least 100 hours over two years on education, research or restoration projects that you select. Projects range from doing low-tide education at beaches to fish egg sampling to newsletter article writing. You can join a team or work on your own. You are also welcome to bring your own ideas!

The core training will be offered every Friday between April 3 - May 15 AND September 11 - October 16 from 9 AM - 3:30 PM. The training is based out of McCollum Park, 600 128th St. SE, Everett and there is a \$35 materials fee (waivers available).

Applications are due on March 13, however we will begin reviewing them as they are received, so don't wait to get your applications in!

For more information, please contact Chrys Bertolotto at chrys@wsu.edu or (425)-357-6020, or check our website at <http://www.beachwatchers.wsu.edu/snohomish/training/index.htm>.

The WSU Snohomish County Extension Beach Watcher training is jointly funded by Snohomish County, the City of Mukilteo and Washington Department of Ecology.

Only five more months until 2015 Sundquist Movies in the Park

It's only five months until we will once again enjoy a beautiful summer evening at Willis Tucker Community Park and a fun outdoor movie on Thursday evenings. Seating is on the grass. You may bring low-back lawn chairs and blankets for comfort. Popcorn and soda are available for purchase. Pre-movie entertainment, provided by BridgeCity Church. Mill Creek Lions Club's snacks include popcorn, candy, soda, water, and similar snacks. The Sno-Isle Library's Bookmobile will be on hand with books related to the movies shown on screen available. My family attended several of the movies last year and we had a great time. I hope to see you at the movies this coming summer!

Have a fantastic February!

Terry

I hope you found this eNEWSLETTER 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 Terry.Ryan@sno.co.org. If you would like to share this newsletter, select the **Forward email** link below.

Sincerely,

Terry Ryan, Snohomish County Council