



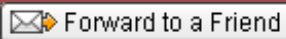
# Snohomish County Council News

Councilmember Terry Ryan

November, 2015



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## Terry's November Newsletter

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**Snohomish County Council**



## Thanksgiving

Despite the difficult economic times that we are all going through, we have so much to be thankful for- Our families, friends and living in the most beautiful part of our country. These are some of our greatest blessings. Have fun during the upcoming holidays starting with Thanksgiving.

Spend time with your families! Plan on having family movie nights! The Hallmark Channel has already started showing their Christmas movies 24/7. Later this month, every Saturday and Sunday night beginning at 8:00 p.m., Hallmark will premiere a new movie. These are well made family friendly movies! Turn off the cell phones, fire up the popcorn maker and gather around the television. Enjoy the movies and cherish the time with your family. It is a great way to start the holidays! Best wishes this Thanksgiving from our family to yours!

## Budget Update

Our Snohomish County Council analysts continue to evaluate the Executive's proposed 2016 budget. One thing is clear- the proposed budget is not sustainable. If the council approved the budget as proposed, there would be an even bigger hole to fill in 2017- with no money to pay for those

expenses. The former County Financial Director personally visited the Council to express his concerns with the Executives proposed budget.

Some highlights from the latest staff report to council:

- 1) Reserves remain too low for the liquidity we need. The County had to borrow money from other county funds eight times in 2015 just to meet general fund obligations. The \$34.5 million borrowed is the highest amount since the worst of the recession in 2010.
- 2) There is nowhere to go for additional revenues if departments are unable to meet the \$6.5 million in cuts required in 2016 or if revenues fall short of projections as they have in recent years (plus unexpected expenses).
- 3) The Executive's budget includes a transfer of \$845,000 from the County Road Fund. This would be the largest ever transfer increase from the Road Fund. The Road Fund is money intended for road construction, bridge replacements, safety improvements and similar projects. As Chair of the Public Works committee, I find this particularly disturbing.

We are working on new revenue such as jail contracts with new jurisdictions and FEMA reimbursements that may happen which could help shore up the county's reserves. However even if these revenues come in, it's not enough to fill all of the gaps in the 2016 budget, nor will it restore reserves to acceptable levels.

One of the most troubling aspects of the proposed budget is that it does nothing to correct a structural imbalance in the county budget where expenditures routinely exceed revenues.

In summary, the county is facing daunting fiscal challenges in 2016 and beyond. Past experience tells us; 1) We are unlikely to fully achieve the projected level of revenues; 2) Departments are unlikely to achieve the required level of savings necessary to avoid reducing our already strained reserves; and 3) Using one-time revenues to pay for ongoing expenses is not a sustainable strategy.

We are working diligently to come up with a reasonable budget that we can all support. The council is scheduled to adopt a final budget in late November or possibly early December. I will keep you posted on our progress.

### **Nice Job Steve!**

Congratulations to Snohomish County's Director of Public Works, Steve Thomsen for winning the Roy Morse award for the Public Works Leader of the Year by the Washington State chapter of the American Public Works Association. This award recognizes outstanding technical or professional accomplishments in Public Works. The winner of this award may be forwarded by the Chapter President as a nominee

for the National Top 10 Public Works Leaders of the Year Award. Well done, Steve!

### **Presidential Declaration Received**

Director John Pennington, Department of Emergency Services, told the council Snohomish County has received the Presidential Declaration necessary for cities and Snohomish County to receive reimbursement for expenses related to the wind storm last month.

To qualify, costs had to exceed \$2,500,000 for Snohomish County and cities within the county and a state threshold of \$9,500,000. The federal reimbursement rate is 75% of the allowed expenses. The state typically reimburses the next 12.5%. The county and cities are responsible for 12.5%.

The damage assessment period is closed. The County will be able to submit the bills it paid attributable to the windstorm. According to Jason Bierman, Deputy Director of the Department of Emergency Management, reimbursements typically take 2 - 3 months.

### **MLT Lakeview Trail Grand Opening**

Thank you to Mayor Jerry Smith and the Mountlake Terrace City Council for inviting me to the Lakeview Trail Grand Opening and Ribbon Cutting on Saturday, October 17.

Lacey Harper, Deputy Director of External Affairs was there to represent the Governor. As a U. S. Congressman, Jay Inslee helped secure federal funding for the Lakeview Trail.

The Lakeview Trail provides safe, convenient, and strategically located bicycle and pedestrian facilities that offer an east-west link across the city. The trail connects the Interurban Trail at 228th Street SW with the Mountlake Terrace Transit Center and Freeway Station via Lakeview Drive.

Neighbors from nearby apartments, condominiums and homes attended several planning meetings and provided valuable input for the trail project. "The city appreciates all of the input from the neighbors that influenced design changes moving the trail from the east to the west side of Lakeview Drive," said Public Works Director Chad Schulhauser.

The Lakeview Trail includes approximately one mile of non-motorized trail from the Interurban Trail at 228th Street SW to the west end of the 236th Street SW bridge over Interstate 5.

The improvements are funded, in part, by a Congestion Mitigation and Air Quality Improvement grant of up to \$2,080,280.

Federal funding is providing the majority of the design and construction costs of the project. Additionally, city funding was provided by real estate excise taxes and the Stormwater Utility Fund. The total cost of the project is approximately \$3,400,000.



## **Congratulations to Bothell**

Congratulations to Bothell on the completion of their new City Hall. Everyone is invited to the Grand Opening on Saturday, November 7 from 10 am - 12 pm at 18415 101st Ave NE.



## **District Events:**

### **Bothell**

Bothell-Sons of Norway Annual Bazaar, Bake Sale & Luncheon

November 7, 2015 9:00 AM - 3:00 PM



Sons of Norway Annual Bazaar, Bake Sale and Luncheon, 9:00am-3:00pm, free admission and free parking. Selling mostly Norwegian crafts, wreaths, table arrangements and handmade items.

A taste of the holidays and evening wine walk:

**Date:** November 14

**Time:** 6:00 PM - 8:00 PM

**Price:** \$20 presale/\$25 at the door

**Location:** Country Village

23718 Bothell Everett Highway

Bothell, WA 98021



**Gingerbread House Day:** Enjoy a day of sweet holiday favorites at [Bothell Country Village's 2nd Annual Gingerbread House Day](http://www.countryvillagebothell.com) November 21st! Create a unique and festive house to take home or enter in the Gingerbread House contest. Sign up early for a workshop. Gingerbread houses will be on display from 10:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m. View and vote for your favorite. Take a photo with the gingerbread man and woman who will roam around the Village. Santa's reindeer will camp out in the grass. Also, take the kiddos on pony and train rides in the decorated Village, weather permitting.



## Mill Creek

### Veteran's Day Events on November 11, 2015

The City of Mill Creek is pleased to announce its Veteran's Day activities for 2015. In addition to the traditional gathering at Veteran's Monument, this year's festivities will also include a parade. Another new feature of this year's activities will be the recognition of City employees who are also veterans.

The City's Veteran's Day events are open to the public at no charge.

The schedule of events is as follows:

#### Day of Honor Gathering:

The City of Mill Creek will begin the Veteran's Day festivities with a gathering at the Veteran's Monument at Library Park on Wednesday, November 11, 2015. The event will begin at 9:00 a.m.

9:00 a.m. Opening remarks

9:10 a.m. Raising the flag

9:15 a.m. Laying the wreath

9:20 a.m. Chaplin prayer

9:25 a.m. Mill Creek Chorale

#### Parade:

Following the gathering, there will be a parade beginning at 11:00 a.m. The parade will start at LA Fitness on Main Street and march down to Starbucks in Town Center.

Commander Daniel Limberg, United States Navy (Retired) will be emceeding the event. The Everett Naval Station Color Guard will be joined by the Marysville Pilchuck High School Marching Band and the Grand Marshal will be Retired Brigadier General William G. Hathaway.

The scheduled parade participants are:

Everett Naval Station Color Guard

Fire District 7 Color Guard

Fire District 7 Firetruck

Fire District Bagpipes and marching Fireman

Boy Scouts of America (30)

Girl Scout of America (30)

Marysville Pilchuck High School Marching Band

Mill Creek Police Chief & vehicle

Grand Marshal - Retired Brigadier General William G. Hathaway

Road Closure Notification: Main Street will be closed from the 14900 block of Main Street through the 15600 block. The closure will begin at 10:45 a.m. until the parade concludes.

The City will continue to post event details as they develop at [www.cityofmillcreek.com](http://www.cityofmillcreek.com).

### **Family Trivia/Bingo Night**

November 13, 6:00 PM - 8:00 PM at Heatherwood Middle School

Fun for the whole family! The \$2.00 admission gets each person a bingo card (please bring your own bingo marker) additional cards are available for purchase at the door. Pizza and soft drinks are also available for purchase.



### **Everett-The Mill Creek Lions Club Holiday Bazaar**

November 14, 2015 9:00 AM - 5:00 PM



The Mill Creek Lions Club Holiday Bazaar returns to the Penny Creek Elementary School, 4117 132nd St., Everett. Featuring 50+ crafters, lots of parking, yummy food: hot dogs, chili, soup, popcorn, soda pop, coffee, cider, really BIG cookies and more in the Cafeteria! Free admission and everyone gets 1 FREE Raffle ticket for hourly drawings! Extra tickets \$1.00 each.

- Penny Creek Elementary School, 4117 132nd St., Everett, WA

### **Mountlake Terrace**

## The Carrie Miller Painting Exhibit Opens November 1

The Mountlake Terrace Arts Advisory Commission presents The Carrie Miller Exhibit at the Mountlake Terrace Library, 23300 58th Avenue West.

The Mountlake Terrace Arts Advisory Commission oversees the library exhibits as part of its mission to promote cultural events in the community. The show runs through November 30 at the Mountlake Terrace Library, Mondays through Thursdays, 10 a.m. to 9 p.m., Fridays, 10 a.m. to 6 p.m., Saturdays, 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. and Sundays 1 to 5 p.m.

### Holiday Bazaar

Kick off the holidays on November 7th at the [Mountlake Terrace Holiday Bazaar](#) at Mountlake Terrace High School. Enjoy holiday shopping for handcrafted items and holiday gifts by local vendors. 21801 44<sup>th</sup> Ave W, MLT, (206)795-2669.



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Sincerely,

Terry Ryan, Snohomish County Council