



# City Manager's Friday Newsletter

## **Snohomish Receives Grants to Improve Pedestrian Safety For Three Local Elementary Schools**

City of Snohomish grant applications have been funded for three schools to install posted flashing beacon light systems in school zones. Central Primary School, Emerson Elementary School, and Cascade View Elementary School will have these safety upgrades installed at the beginning of the 2009-2010 school year.

The beacon light system will be installed on the posted speed limit signs which mark the school zones. The beacon lights are designed and timed to flash while children are commuting to and from school. Research has shown these systems decrease the average speed of vehicles traveling through the school zones while children are present and increase the safety of pedestrians. Each beacon light system will cost approximately \$4,200.00 and will operate on solar power.

In all, ten of the lights will be installed at the three schools, all funded by the grant except for a \$4,000 matching contribution from the Snohomish School District. The City's Public Works Department will provide labor for all of the installations.

The grant was offered by Washington Traffic Safety Commission (WTSC). The WTSC had 1.5 million dollars in grant money which was available for competition from all of the elementary schools within Washington State.

WTSC grant director Brian Jones made the following comment regarding the applications he received for this grant, "the response to this RFP was overwhelming, as we received proposals from over 150 schools." A partnership was created between the Snohomish School District, City of Snohomish Public Works Department, and the Snohomish Police Department to develop a competitive grant application.

Each agency has given or committed resources which have led to the success of the grant application. The application asked for funding for these systems in each of the three elementary school zones and the application was fully approved. The future safety of elementary school children in school zones has been substantially increased because of these efforts.

## **Maple Avenue Fire Station Has 24-hour Staffing**

Fire District 4 recently announced it has begun staffing the Maple Avenue fire station on a round-the-clock basis. The decision to start staffing this fire station was made to improve response time to the citizens that live south of the City of Snohomish. The fire station located at Fifth Street and Maple Avenue is central to all of the Fire District. Its primary response area is the south end of the City and the Fire District. By staffing the two fire stations within the City of Snohomish, the Fire District can better serve the district as a whole and help ensure that at least one unit is available within the City. Staffing is a cooperative effort between the career, part-time, and volunteer staff. The on-duty paramedic rotates between the Maple Avenue and the Avenue D station based on assignment. Please stop by and visit the Maple Street fire station. Visitors are always welcome.

## **Electronic Home Monitoring Program**

In September 2008, Snohomish Police Commander George Perillo was tasked to research and implement ways of reducing the rising costs of incarceration at the Snohomish County Jail. The current Jail budget accounts for approximately 6.3% of the total Police Department budget.

Decreasing sales tax revenues in the fourth quarter of 2008 and in the first and second quarter of 2009 mandated that, when possible, alternatives to incarceration be implemented as quickly as possible.

June 19, 2009

[www.ci.snohomish.wa.us](http://www.ci.snohomish.wa.us)

One effective alternative to incarceration is Electronic Home Monitoring (EHM). EHM has been an effective tool in reducing jail costs for a number of years in the cities of Renton, Marysville, Mountlake Terrace and Lynnwood.

After consulting with several neighboring cities that have successfully implemented EHM for low level offenders, it became evident that EHM would not only work but would be successful if implemented in the City of Snohomish. The benefits of EHM are:

- Savings of daily incarceration and booking fees.
- Offenders continue to receive medical treatment or special dietary needs while at home.
- Offenders can stay at home thus preserving the family units.
- Low level offenders can work and be a productive part of the community while serving out their sentence.

During this time, Commander Perillo worked closely with the Washington Association of Sheriffs and Police Chiefs (WASPC), City of Renton, Snohomish County District Court Evergreen Division, as well as the City of Snohomish Prosecuting Attorney's Office in implementing EHM.

Under contract with the City of Snohomish, WASPC provided employee training, equipment and monitoring for the program at a fraction of the cost of incarceration. On April 1, 2009, the City of Snohomish adopted EHM as an alternative to incarceration. Since that time, the City has saved approximately \$16,479.00 in jail fees. The EHM program is supervised by Commander Perillo. Administrative Assistant Sheri Spainhower is currently assigned as the program's facilitator. The program accepts EHM clients from the City of Snohomish, as well as neighboring jurisdictions on recommendation from the Prosecuting Attorney and the court of jurisdiction.

## **Historic Downtown Snohomish Seeks Program Manager**

Historic Downtown Snohomish (HDS) is currently accepting applications for the position of Program Manager. Visit [www.ci.snohomish.wa.us](http://www.ci.snohomish.wa.us) for a complete job description and application procedures. Deadline for application is June 30, 2009.

## **Western Washington University Library Recognizes Snohomish 150<sup>th</sup>**

Thank you to Tamara Belts of the Western Washington University Library for preparing an exhibit recognizing the City of Snohomish's 150<sup>th</sup> Anniversary.

If you are in the Bellingham area stop by and see the exhibit. For a preview of the exhibit go to <http://www.library.wvu.edu/info/exhibits/exhibit1.s.html>

## **SBA ARC Loan Program**

Small Business Administration's *America's Recovery Capital Loan Program* can provide up to \$35,000 in short-term relief for viable small businesses facing immediate financial hardship. ARC loans are interest-free to the borrower and carry a 100 percent guaranty from the SBA to the lender, no fee to SBA. Loan proceeds are provided over a six-month period and repayment of the ARC loan principal is deferred for 12 months after the last disbursement of the proceeds. Repayment can extend up to five years. Each small business is limited to one ARC loan.

### **ARC Loan Eligibility:**

ARC loans are available to viable, for-profit small businesses in the U.S. that have qualifying small business loans and are experiencing immediate financial hardship. Your small business must be an established business, have financial statements demonstrating it was profitable in one of the past three years, and be able to project sufficient cash flow to meet current and future loan payments over a two-year period from loan approval. If your business does not meet these criteria, you can discuss your eligibility with your lender. **ARC loans are not designed for start-up businesses.**

Examples of qualifying loans may include credit card obligations for your business, capital leases, notes payable to vendors/suppliers, Development Company Loan Program (504) first lien loans, other loans to small businesses made without an SBA guaranty, and loans made by or with an SBA guaranty on or after Feb. 17, 2009. ARC loans are designed to help businesses experiencing immediate financial hardship for reasons such as:

- Loss/reduction of customer base
- Increase in cost of doing business
- Loss/reduction of working capital and/or loss/reduction of short term credit facilities
- Inability to restructure existing debts due to credit restrictions
- Loss/reduction of employees (intellectual capital)
- Loss/reduction of major suppliers (major suppliers out of business)

Borrowers whose loans are already severely delinquent or whose past performance or future cash flow indicates that the business is not viable are not good candidates for an ARC loan.

For complete information visit:  
[http://www.sba.gov/recovery/arcloanprogram/REC\\_WHATISARCLOAN.html](http://www.sba.gov/recovery/arcloanprogram/REC_WHATISARCLOAN.html)

✧ ✧ **Calendar 2009** ✧ ✧

***Economic Development Committee***

Tuesday, June 23 - 4 p.m.

Carnegie Building

105 Cedar Avenue

***(please note different location)***

***Parks and Recreation Board***

Wednesday, June 24 - 7 p.m.

City Hall Conference Room

116 Union Avenue

## **Applicants Sought for Snohomish Planning Commission**

Applicants are being sought to fill a vacancy on the City of Snohomish Planning Commission. The applications are due to be received by 4:00 p.m. on June 26, 2009, at City Hall, 116 Union Avenue in Snohomish.

The term runs for six years, and the Commission considers and reviews land-use, regional and comprehensive plan issues, and makes recommendations to the City Council regarding both code and policy matters related to land use and community planning. The Planning Commission may recommend moratoria and/or interim land-use controls and hold public hearings as deemed necessary by the City Council.

Members of the Planning Commission must live within the existing City limits or within the City's urban growth boundary as defined by the most current adopted Community Development Plan Map. All City board and commission members are volunteers serving without compensation.

The vacancy was created by the retirement from the Commission by Kathleen Lince, who served as a Board Member for five years.

Applications are available at City Hall and may also be downloaded from the City web site: [www.ci.snohomish.wa.us](http://www.ci.snohomish.wa.us).

## **New County Solid Waste Schedule**

Due to the economic downturn affecting the region and the resulting decline in waste received at County facilities, the Solid Waste Division has conducted an analysis of current service levels and hours of operation.

As a result, and in response to the decline in business, the following adjustments are being made and are scheduled to take effect June 28, 2009.

Airport Road, Mountlake Terrace,  
and North County Transfer Stations

Transfer Station: 7 a.m. – 5 p.m. Mon – Fri  
8 a.m. – 4 p.m. Sat – Sun

Recycle Area: 10 a.m. – 5 p.m. Mon – Fri  
8 a.m. – 4 p.m. Sat – Sun

Neighborhood Recycling and  
Disposal Centers

Gold Bar **Closed**  
Oso **Closed**  
Dubuque Road: 9 a.m. – 4 p.m. Fri., Sat., Sun.,  
Mon  
Sultan: 9 a.m. – 4 p.m. Thurs., Fri., Sat.,  
Sun., Mon  
Granite Falls 9 a.m. – 4 p.m. Sat., Sun., Tues.,  
Wed

County Transfer Stations are no longer accepting electronics (monitors, televisions, computers) in the Recycle Area. We would like to see a robust private sector handling waste electronics and by withdrawing from providing the service, we can encourage private sector initiatives. There are a number of private sector collection locations available within the county and a listing may be requested at any Solid Waste facility, or call (425) 388-3425, or at [www.ecyclewashington.org](http://www.ecyclewashington.org).

The Moderate Risk Waste Facility will no longer accept latex paint for recycling. Solid Waste Facilities do not accept liquid waste for recycling or disposal. Residents should dry out their latex paint using kitty litter or a paint hardener (available at hardware and paint stores) and put it in the garbage with the lid off. The Moderate Risk Waste Facility will continue to accept other hazardous waste for free from households and for a fee from small businesses by appointment.