

PRESS RELEASE
November 4, 2003

MASON COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
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(360) 427-9670 EXT. 747

TO: KMAS, KRXY, SHELTON-MASON COUNTY JOURNAL, THE OLYMPIAN,
SHELTON CHAMBER OF COMMERCE, NORTH MASON CHAMBER OF
COMMERCE, CITY OF SHELTON, ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT COUNCIL,
THE SUN

RE: Adoption of Special Road Project in Belfair

In 2002 the county completed the construction of the North Bay-Case Inlet sewer project which presently serves approximately 900 residences and businesses in the Allyn-Victor area. This important project cost more than 20 million dollars and spanned nearly a decade from inception to completion. Growth in the service area is now proceeding rapidly, based on the availability of public infrastructure.

The county, with the adoption of the Belfair-SR3 Special Road Project (SRP), is now embarking on an equally ambitious and exciting project. This effort will bring sanitary sewer, major road improvements to SR-3 and storm water improvements to the heart of Belfair. Combined with a pedestrian plan and landscaping, this project will dramatically impact the face of Belfair.

This multi-faceted project will be equivalent to the investment in the Allyn area and will enable the community to undertake marked growth in both commercial and residential development, while at the same time, improving local transportation and enhancing the environment. The work of the Belfair Sub-Area Planning Committee has laid the groundwork for the immense effort ahead and the county envisions a partnership with the community to design and implement the array of changes. The county also intends to closely work with the North Mason Chamber of Commerce to host public information meetings as the project unfolds over the next few years.

Success of this project will eventually rely on the willingness of private investors to undertake projects in the community, similar to what is happening in the Allyn area with development of new construction. While much remains to be done and this project is just in the beginning stages, the county hopes to have the project completed within four to five years. This project is important to Belfair and the county as a whole as we strive to diversify our economic base and provide for more intense growth centers.

The county is also seeking volunteers who would be willing to serve on a citizen committee to support the implementation of this project after the Belfair Sub-Area Planning committee has completed their work. To be a volunteer for the committee you must reside in, own property, operate a business or work within the Belfair Urban Growth Area (UGA). Please contact the Commissioners office at (360)275-4467, ext. 419 for an application. The completed application must be returned by December 4, 2003.

MASON COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

Herb Baze
Chairperson

Wesley Johnson
Commissioner

Jayni Kamin
Commissioner