

PRESS RELEASE

FEBRUARY 18, 2003

**MASON COUNTY ADMINISTRATOR
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TO: KMAS, KRXY, MASON COUNTY JOURNAL, SHELTON CHAMBER OF COMMERCE, NORTH MASON CHAMBER OF COMMERCE, CITY OF SHELTON, ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT COUNCIL

RE: County to review feasibility of using existing North Bay Sewer Collection System to serve Belfair

Since the early 90's Mason County has been working on the implementation of the recently completed water reclamation and sewer collection system serving the Allyn area. In the planning and design phase of the project, time was spent gathering information related to projected capacity, number of connections and associated costs. In the late 90's Mason County completed the Belfair/Lower Hood Canal Water Reclamation Facility Plan. Approval of the plan has been granted by the Department of Ecology and money has been made available to move forward with design and specifications. The plan envisioned a separate, new facility located in Belfair.

However, over the past few months further review based on more current information suggests it may be more cost effective to utilize the existing facility to serve Belfair.

To provide for public input and review, the Department of Utilities and Waste Management is proposing to meet with the communities and the State Department of Ecology to explore possible amendment of the plan.

Ron Henrickson, Mason County Administrator