

NEWS RELEASE

March 24, 2009

**MASON COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
411 NORTH 5TH ST
SHELTON, WA 98584**

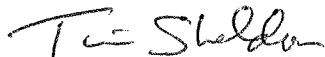
TO: KMAS, KRXY, SHELTON-MASON COUNTY JOURNAL, THE OLYMPIAN, SHELTON CHAMBER OF COMMERCE, NORTH MASON CHAMBER OF COMMERCE, CITY OF SHELTON, ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT COUNCIL, THE SUN

RE: Current Economic Conditions within Mason County

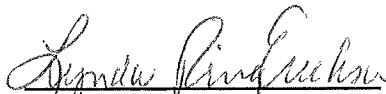
The Mason County Board of Commissioners are aware and deeply concerned about the current, national economic crisis and its severe impact it is having on Mason County. The Board of Commissioners, despite the present economic downturn, remains committed to meeting and fulfilling the state-mandated requirements as well as providing continuing public services to the residents of Mason County.

Among the list of state-mandated requirements and priorities the Board of Commissioners intend to comply with include; Providing Constitutional and state-mandated court services, state-mandated elections services, state-mandated property assessment services, and state-mandated tax collection. Secondly, the County's mission also includes the maintenance of County roadways as provided by the County Road Fund. After these state-mandated requirements, the Board of County Commissioners next priorities include maintaining a commitment to delivering continuing public services such a public safety and public health.

The Board of County Commissioners understand and realize the difficult challenges which lie ahead as a part of weathering the present economic storm that doesn't appear to be letting up. The Board intends to review all incoming revenue and to scrutinize all out-going expenditures in order to determine how best to keep the County functioning at the highest level while still keeping within the County's limited resources. The Board also realizes the great challenges ahead and the sacrifices necessary to provide continuing services in this declining economy. The Board would like to express its appreciation to its residents during this difficult time.



Tim Sheldon
Chair



Lynda Ring Erickson
Commissioner



Ross Gallagher
Commissioner