

**PRESS RELEASE**

**April 1, 2003**

**MASON COUNTY ADMINISTRATOR  
411 NORTH 5<sup>TH</sup> ST  
SHELTON, WA 98584  
(360) 427-9670 EXT. 263**

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

**RE: County Commissioners ask for Citizen Support of Mason General Hospital and  
North Mason Clinic Bond**

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A primary goal of Mason County is to maintain and enhance the quality of life for our citizens. Health care is a key component which touches all our lives. Given the many amenities Mason County affords, it is not surprising that almost 30 percent of our population is over 55 years old, a time when health care needs are a serious concern.

Total hospital occasions of service have nearly doubled in the past 10 years and as we look in to the future, the demand for health care services is forecasted to continue to increase. The existing facilities will no longer address the needs of patients.

Support of the Mason General Hospital and North Mason Clinic bond will:

- ❖ More than double the size of the hospital and enable remodeling of existing facilities, including provisions for private rooms.
- ❖ Provide North Mason with a new clinic and urgent care services.
- ❖ Acquire state of the art medical equipment, including dialysis services and surgery units.
- ❖ Enable the hospital to attract and retain the highest quality and trained staff.
- ❖ Improve the overall delivery of services to all citizens in need.

With interest rates at their lowest level in decades, it is a financially opportune time to invest in facilities which will benefit the whole community for a lifetime. Quality health care serves citizens and contributes to making a community a more desirable place to live.

The Mason County Commissioners ask citizens to consider support for the proposed bond by voting yes on the mail-in ballot that is due by May 20, 2003.

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Herb Baze,  
Chairperson

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Wesley Johnson,  
Commissioner

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Jayni Kamin,  
Commissioner