



**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

**June 1, 2011**

**Mount Vernon receives State funding of \$1,981,000 for the Downtown Mount Vernon Flood Protection and Revitalization Project, Phase 2.**

MOUNT VERNON – The City of Mount Vernon will receive \$700,000 from the State 2011 – 2013 Biennial Capital Budget, \$781,000 from the Washington Wildlife and Recreation Program and \$500,000 from the Aquatic Lands Enhancement Account, for a grand total of \$1,981,000. These funds will be used to construct the Downtown Mount Vernon Flood Protection and Revitalization Project, Phase 2.

Governor Gregoire championed this project four years ago by allocating \$1,000,000 in her 2007 – 2009 Biennial Capital Budget to get the project started. Now once again, the Governor along with our local state legislators have worked through a tough budget session securing \$700,000 that will be used specifically for the construction of the flood protection measure. The Washington Wildlife and Recreation Program grant of \$781,000 and the Aquatic Lands Enhancement Account grant of \$500,000 will help fund the Skagit Riverwalk Phase 2 project that includes a 24-foot wide pedestrian walkway adjacent to the Skagit River, between the Division Street Bridge and Kincaid Street.

Mayor Bud Norris said “I am extremely appreciative of Governor Gregoire and all our legislators from the 10<sup>th</sup>, 39<sup>th</sup> and 40<sup>th</sup> districts for securing this much needed funding. They all worked diligently on our behalf and found a way to make this happen even in these trying economic times.” Norris further said “I urge all citizens to thank Governor Gregoire and Senator Mary Margaret Haugen, Senator Kevin Ranker, Senator Val Stevens, Representatives Jeff Morris, Kristine Lytton, Kirk Pearson, Norma Smith, Barbara Bailey, and Dan Kristiansen for all their efforts to help protect and revitalize our downtown area.”

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