



Getting Results for Families in Thurston County

When Governor Gregoire took office in 2004 she inherited a \$2.2 billion deficit, the state had made massive cuts to education and healthcare, unemployment had risen and critical areas like transportation had suffered years of neglect.

The governor took on these and many other challenges and set out to make a difference in the lives of Washington citizens and working families.

But there is still much work to be done, and with Governor Gregoire's leadership, our state can continue to make progress and look forward to four more great years.

Strengthening the Economy

Gov. Gregoire was raised by a single, working mother, and understands what it's like to live through tough times. She is building a stronger economy for our state.

- She inherited a \$2.2 billion deficit four years ago. Since then, she cut red tape and turned the state's deficit into a big surplus. The Pew Center on the States ranks Washington as one of the top-three best managed states in the nation.
- Gov. Gregoire led the effort to create nearly 250,000 new jobs. Forbes Magazine ranks our state in the top-three to do business. Fortune magazine ranks Washington as one of the five-best states for small business.
- Under Gov. Gregoire's leadership, our highways are recovering from a decade of neglect. From 2003 to 2004, only 12 transportation projects were completed. Thanks to Gov. Gregoire's focus on transportation, today we have 165 completed projects with 109 more on the way.
- In Thurston County, Gov. Gregoire is making investments that will improve transportation and reduce congestion. Some of the projects include:
 - Adding lanes to I-5 and improving ramp connections on I-5 between Grant Mound and Maytown.
 - Adding a lane and rebuilding interchanges at several bridges on I-5 from Mellon St. to Grand Mound.
 - Building a new alignment on the SR 510/Yelm loop.
 - Building new crossovers for passenger trains and improving service and transit times
 - Improving support columns of the Mudd Bay bridges on US 101.

Protecting Children and Families

As a mother and tough-on-crime former attorney general, Gov. Chris Gregoire understands what it takes to protect and help our children and families.

- Under her leadership, Washington's crime rate is at a 14-year low. Nobody is tougher on sex offenders: she increased jail sentences for sex offenders, required electronic monitoring of the worst, and expanded the state DNA registry for criminals convicted of sex crimes.
- She hired nearly 2,000 additional corrections and law enforcement officers to help protect our communities.
- Gov. Gregoire increased funding for schools to reduce class sizes, increase teacher pay, and focus on math and science standards, so our children will be prepared for the global economy. In 2008, more than 91 percent of students passed the WASL.
- Gov. Gregoire provided much needed funding to support the following improvements to Thurston County colleges:
 - Construction of a new science complex at South Puget Sound Community College
 - Construction of a new activity building at Evergreen State College
 - Renovation of Building 22 and construction of a Learning Resources Center at South Puget Sound Community College .
 - Expansion of the Longhouse at Evergreen State College.
- As a mother, Gov. Chris Gregoire believes healthcare is a right, not a perk, especially for children. She has expanded healthcare to 84,000 more children with the goal to cover all kids by 2010.
- She signed bills to allocate \$50 million for flood relief and the Chehalis River Project, which included funding to find a basin-wide solution for repairs and to prevent future floods.

Creating a Cleaner Future

Gov. Gregoire believes our environment is our greatest asset and legacy to our children and grandchildren. She is creating a cleaner, greener Washington.

- Gov. Gregoire is leading the nation's fight against global warming. Laws passed under her administration will create real reductions in greenhouse gas emissions.
- Washington is one of the nation's largest producers of renewable energy. Gov. Gregoire put the state on track to create 25,000 green collar jobs by 2020 in areas like renewable energy to continue Washington's leadership.
- She is working with businesses, communities, Tribes and elected officials to clean up Puget Sound, restore fish habitat and leave a legacy for future generations. She provided funds for the phase two renovations to the Skookumchuck Hatchery.
- Gov. Gregoire has provided grants to clean up polluted water in the Port of Olympia. She also provided funds to the Tenino Waste Water Treatment Facility and Collection System.

Gov. Gregoire's Additional Thurston County Investments

Gov. Gregoire is getting results for a cleaner future. In Thurston County, Gov. Gregoire directed investments to:

- Keeping our water clean with a Tenino Waste Water Treatment Facility and Collection System
- Creating a Deschutes Watershed Center
- Cleaning up water pollution in the Port of Olympia
- Renovating the Skookumchuck Hatchery