

## **Outstanding County Volunteer Named**

At the February 8, 2010 Board of County Commissioners meeting, Lou Foritano was honored as an Outstanding County Government Volunteer. Lou was nominated by David Tucker, Assistant Director of Public Works.

Lou Foritano provided leadership as Chair of the Planning Commission and the Surface and Stormwater Management Program Advisory Committee during 2009. "Lou's biggest contribution to both committees has been his unique ability to listen to a myriad of opinions and points of view and focus participants on points of mutual agreement rather than on points of contention. This skill keeps discussions on emotionally charged issues civil and professional as well as productive. Lou ensures that all have a voice at the table, but no single participant or group dominates or drowns out another."

Both volunteer boards require substantial dedication to review complex and often dense material prior to meetings in order to be able to actively participate in the meeting discussions and decision processes. Serving on two committees requires quite a dedication of time and energy. Serving simultaneously as the leader of two committees shows Lou's devotion to his community.

As the chair of the Surface and Stormwater Management Program Advisory Committee he was key in articulating and forming the guiding principles that became the foundation for the county's Water is a Resource Policy. His ability to listen to many points of view and center the group's attention on shared values was instrumental in keeping the committee and county staff on target.

Lou received a certificate and his name has proudly been added to the Outstanding County Government Volunteer plaque which is on display in the Kitsap County Administration Building.