



# Committee of the Whole

Cynthia Foley

Council Initiated:

☐ Yes

☒ No

**ECAF:** 2024-1052

**Motion:** 24-271

**Type:**

- ☒ Contract  
☐ Board Appt.  
☐ Code Amendment  
☐ Budget Action  
☐ Other

**Requested Handling:**

- ☐ Normal  
☒ Expedite –  
☐ Urgent

**Fund Source:**

- ☒ General Fund  
☐ Other  
☐ N/A

**Executive Rec:**

- ☒ Approve  
☐ Do Not Approve  
☐ N/A

**Approved as to**

**Form:**

- ☒ Yes  
☐ No  
☐ N/A

**Subject:** Professional Services Agreement with Dziezic Public Affairs

**Scope:** The Executive's Office is seeking to enter into a contract with Erin Dziezic of Dziezic Public Affairs (DZPA) for behavioral health lobbying. The contract not to exceed amount is \$72,000. This is paid as a flat fee of \$6,000 per month.

The contractor agrees to perform the following activities at the direction of Snohomish County:

- Expanding access to behavioral health care including substance use disorder (SUD) treatment.
- Strengthening existing behavioral health laws.
- Supporting policies that strengthen the behavioral health and crisis response systems.
- Increasing funding for behavioral health including community behavioral health, crisis response, and SUD treatment.
- Supporting behavioral health prevention efforts including in schools.
- Develop strategies to advance and lobby in support of the identified legislative priorities.
- Increase Snohomish County's engagement with legislators, the Governor's office, and key state agencies on issues related to behavioral health.
- Identify and engage with behavioral health stakeholders.
- Serve as day-to-day contact for legislators and other lobbyists on behalf of Snohomish County for issues relating to behavioral health.

The following communications will be provided:

- Talk weekly (or more frequently as needed) with Snohomish County staff during legislative session about legislative priorities and strategy.
- Provide updates to the Snohomish County Executive and the Snohomish County Council, as requested by the County.
- Assist with development of advocacy materials for use in session (one pagers, etc.).
- Provide DZPA weekly session reports that provide updates on activities of the legislature and key issues.
- Provide a final report at the end of session with outcomes on priority issues.

**Duration:** From execution through June 30, 2025. The agreement governs services beginning on July 1, 2024.

**Fiscal Impact:** ☒ Current Year ☒ Future-Year ☐ N/A

Expenditures	Current Year	2025	2026	2027	2028	Total
General Fund	\$36,000	\$36,000				\$72,000
						0
Totals	\$36,000	\$36,000	0	0	0	\$72,000

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Revenue	Current Year	2025	2026	2027	2028	Total
						0
						0
Totals	0	0	0	0	0	0

**Authority Granted:** Motion 24-271 authorizes the County Executive to execute a professional services agreement with DZPA through June 30, 2025.

**Background:** Snohomish County contracted with Erin Dziedzic of DZPA from January through March of 2024, for a monthly fee of \$6,000 for lobbying services. The contract not to exceed amount was \$18,000.

On May 22, 2024, Council passed Motion 24-194<sup>1</sup>, approving Amendment No. 1 to a contract with Gordon Thomas Honeywell for lobbying services. The amended contract increased by \$125,008, bringing the contract total to \$360,024. The contract with Gordon Thomas Honeywell expires on July 31, 2025.

**Requested Action:** Move to GLS for Council consideration.

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<sup>1</sup> [Snohomish County Council - File #: 2024-0183 \(legistar.com\)](#)