

SNOHOMISH COUNTY COUNCIL
Snohomish County, Washington

MOTION NO. 21-121

APPROVING A 2020 BUDGET TRANSFER BETWEEN
PROGRAMS IN FUND 130 GRANT CONTROL

WHEREAS, on January 21, 2020, the Washington State Department of Health confirmed the first reported case of the novel coronavirus (COVID-19) in the United States in Snohomish County, Washington. COVID-19, a respiratory disease that can result in serious illness or death, is caused by the SARS-CoV-2 virus, which is a new strain of coronavirus that had not been previously identified in humans and can easily spread from person to person; and

WHEREAS, since January 21, 2020, the disease has spread throughout the United States. On January 31, 2020, the United States Department of Health and Human Services secretary Alex Azar declared a public health emergency for COVID-19, beginning January 27, 2020. On February 29, 2020, Washington State Governor Jay Inslee proclaimed a public health emergency for COVID-19. On March 4, 2020, the Snohomish County Health Officer proclaimed a countywide public health emergency for COVID-19. On March 4, 2020, Executive Dave Somers issued a "Local Proclamation of Emergency Snohomish County" for COVID-19 (the "Emergency"). On March 13, 2020, the President of the United States of America declared COVID-19 a National Emergency; and

WHEREAS, throughout March 2020, in order to combat the spread of COVID-19, Governor Jay Inslee increased limitations on public gatherings, encouraged tele-working, closed schools, and ultimately issued the "Stay Home, Stay Healthy" order on March 23, 2020; and

WHEREAS, the "Stay Home, Stay Healthy" required that all people in Washington State immediately cease from leaving their home or place of residence except to participate in essential activities or for employment in essential business activities. The "Stay Home, Stay Healthy" also required all non-essential business operations in Washington State cease operations except for basic minimum operations; and

WHEREAS, during the month of March, 12,301 people within Snohomish County lost their jobs, and job losses are expected to increase substantially in April and May of 2020, demonstrating an economic crisis not seen since the Great Depression; and

WHEREAS, on March 27, 2020, the United States Congress passed the Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security Act of 2020 ("CARES Act"), providing direct relief to units of local government through the United States Department of Treasury; and

WHEREAS, the U.S. Department of Treasury (Treasury) has issued Coronavirus Relief Fund (CRF) Guidance for State, Territorial, Local, and Tribal Governments for the allowable uses of the direct relief funds. Allowable uses include, but are not limited to, expenses related to facilitating compliance with COVID-19-related public health measures; expenses related to the provision of economic support in connection with the COVID-19 public health emergency, payroll expenses for certain employees whose services are substantially dedicated to mitigating or responding to the COVID-19 public health emergency; and

WHEREAS, on September 2, 2020, Treasury released new guidance that expressly permits the County to presume that work performed by public safety employees is substantially dedicated to addressing the COVID-19 public health emergency and therefore are of a substantially different use than accounted for in the most recently approved budget as of March 27, 2020. All costs of such employees may be covered using payments from the Fund for services provided during the period that begins on March 1, 2020, and ends on December 30, 2020; and

WHEREAS, public safety employees would include sheriffs and deputy sheriffs, correctional and detention officers, and those who directly support such employees such as supervisory personnel; and

WHEREAS, the County Council has determined that it is necessary for the support of county government and its existing institutions as well as necessary for the immediate preservation of the public peace, health or safety to appropriate these funds in the speediest manner possible; and

WHEREAS, on May 21, 2020, Snohomish County Council adopted Amended Emergency Ordinance 20-031, relating to the 2020 budget, and making a supplemental appropriation in Grant Control Fund 130 to provide expenditure authority for CARES Act funds; and

WHEREAS, Amended Emergency Ordinance 20-031 appropriated \$143,447,144; and

WHEREAS, Motion 21-087, approved March 17, 2021, transferred \$7,000,000 of expenditure authority to the Sheriff's Office to pay for the salary and benefit costs associated with its law enforcement deputies and Corrections deputies services provided in mitigating or responding to the COVID-19 public health emergency; and

WHEREAS, this action will transfer an additional \$1,500,000 of expenditure authority to the Sheriff's Office to pay for the salary and benefit costs associated with its Corrections deputies services provided in mitigating or responding to the COVID-19 public health emergency; and

WHEREAS, this action moves the expenditure authority within the Disaster Relief Program 156 in Fund 130 with no net change to the total 2020 budget;

NOW, THEREFORE, ON MOTION, the Snohomish County Council takes the following actions pursuant to SCC 4.26.130.

1. The County Council approves a budget transfer as set out below:

DAC	DESCRIPTION	AMOUNT
130.574 16 156 4102	Nondepartmental	(\$ 1,500,000)
130.574 38 50856 1011	Corrections CARES Relief Sal.	\$ 1,200,000
130.574 38 50856 2013	Corrections CARES Relief Ben.	\$ 300,000
	Net Change to Fund 130	\$ 0

2. In this action the County Council did not increase or reduce the amount of a budget transfer within the meaning of SCC 4.26.130(7). Accordingly, this motion shall take effect immediately.

PASSED this ____ day of _____, 2021.

SNOHOMISH COUNTY COUNCIL
Snohomish County, Washington

Council Chair

ATTEST:

Asst. Clerk of the Council