

From: Phyllis Woodward <outlook_495C4B4ADDD310E3@outlook.com>
Sent: Monday, October 11, 2021 5:01 PM
To: Contact Council

CAUTION : This email originated from outside of this organization. Please exercise caution with links and attachments.

I understand Dave Somers wants to raise property tax in Snohomish County 2.5%. That would be a giant "hell no." Isn't the county already collecting increased property tax because of the craze real estate market and inflated property values? As a retired senior citizen the current tax is way too high. Do not pass this property tax increase.

Sent from [Mail](#) for Windows

From: ed_edp <ed_edp@yahoo.com>
Sent: Friday, October 22, 2021 1:50 PM
To: Contact Council; Nehring, Nate; Dunn, Megan; Wright, Stephanie; Mead, Jared; Low, Sam; Somers, Dave J
Subject: Tax increase

CAUTION : This email originated from outside of this organization. Please exercise caution with links and attachments.

Before you get in a big rush to increase taxes, can you at least get your employees in various departments I have dealt with the last few years, to just do their job! Also this working from home does not seem to be suited for the level/quality of people that have been hired. None of them seem to have any skill sets for the dept they are working in! The nonsense they spew at me is not worthy, of me agreeing that I am getting any service for what I already pay for!!

Then there are this group of council members, if my info is correct, none of you reside outside of a city limits, so you do not have to rely on the county for your services like some of these older neighborhoods still do! You were unwilling to listen to a very large neighborhood group, who are trying to prevent situations from occurring again, so you the county aren't flushing more money out the door for something that is soo preventable. We don't know who you are listening to, but they are not giving you the facts, just bad intel. I have attended meetings that were presented to all of you with all the facts, yet you vote to go along with it! Want details on all of this, feel free to contact me! Your ears will be on fire when we are done.

So that is a Big Fat NO on raising taxes!

If you do raise them, I will campaign for your opponent no matter where in the county you represent! We are done with nothing happening for way too much money being taken. Stop wasteful spending! Learn to run this county within your means!!! We have not had our moneys worth in my neighborhood for decades!!

Shelley Droz

resident since the 19's

All of my neighbors have been bcc, we can hope they will speak up in an email and not feel defeated again!

ORDINANCE NO. 21-083 5 6 AUTHORIZING AN INCREASE IN GENERAL TAX REVENUES 7 FOR PROPERTY TAXES COLLECTED IN 2022 *increase of 2.5 (two and one-half) percent from the previous year*

<https://snohomish.legistar.com/View.ashx?M=F&ID=9847773&GUID=E5ED7425-17CC-4E84-8A84-37B08158C912>

ORDINANCE NO. 21-085 AUTHORIZING AN INCREASE IN ROAD TAX REVENUES 7 FOR PROPERTY TAXES COLLECTED IN 2022

increase of one (1) percent from the previous year.

<https://snohomish.legistar.com/View.ashx?M=F&ID=9847919&GUID=4A2AE8CE-11B2-471B-8BC4-AEBA2F14F552>

From: 1patriot@frontier.com
Sent: Friday, October 22, 2021 4:35 PM
To: Somers, Dave J; Contact Council; Nehring, Nate; Dunn, Megan; Wright, Stephanie; Mead, Jared; Low, Sam
Subject: Tax Proposals

SNOHOMISH COUNTY COUNCIL

EXHIBIT # 5

FILE ORD 21-083

CAUTION : This email originated from outside of this organization. Please exercise caution with links and attachments.

Dear Snohomish County Executive and County Council Members,

Please reject any and all tax increases proposed. It's outrageous at this time in history when thousands of citizens have lost their jobs due to the governor and business mandates for no fault of their own for whatever reason they've chosen; it's their body, their health and their choice. On top of that there are shortages due to the collapse of our Supply Chains perpetrated by the failure of leadership in D.C. where they believe it's more important to pay people to stay home than work, transport goods across the country and in so doing, strengthen the economy.

We've already seen higher prices for goods and services; expected to rise for energy (gas, oil, electric) this winter, so the households that haven't suffered the loss of employment are still having to make ends meet with less than this time last year.

It's not like the County is suffering with revenues for Home Prices are up over 18.5% over last year at this time and gas prices on average in 2020 were \$2.73 per gallon and they're now up to around \$3.85 per gallon in 2021, with the expectations of going higher. All of this translates to the County higher tax revenues when homes are selling and transportation revenue increases are a given.

This is the worst time to consider raising taxes when our economy is hitting a buzz-saw with inflation, higher unemployment, prices and great uncertainty. The public at large need leaders that work within their means and not look to make it harder for the taxpayers, *i.e. your constituents*, to make ends meet, put food on the table, fuel in their vehicles, pay their bills to keep the lights and heat on at their home which are all basic necessities.

In fact a just released Zogby poll revealed that *3 in 10 are Missing Meals due to the current economic status*. <https://zogbyanalytics.com/news/1050-the-zogby-poll-because-of-the-biden-administration-s-inability-to-control-inflation-has-the-increased-cost-of-food-resulted-in-you-or-your-family-having-to-skip-meals>

In September 2021, Snohomish County home prices were up 18.5% compared to last year, selling for a median price of \$640K. On average, homes in Snohomish County sell after 6 days on the market compared to 7 days last year. There were 1,671 homes sold in September this year, up from 1,643 last year

<https://www.redfin.com/county/2/WA/Snohomish-County/housing-market>

ORDINANCE NO. 21-083 5 6 AUTHORIZING AN INCREASE IN GENERAL TAX REVENUES 7 FOR PROPERTY TAXES COLLECTED IN 2022 *increase of 2.5 (two and one-half) percent from the previous year*
<https://snohomish.legistar.com/View.ashx?M=F&ID=9847773&GUID=E5ED7425-17CC-4E84-8A84-37B08158C912>

ORDINANCE NO. 21-085 AUTHORIZING AN INCREASE IN ROAD TAX REVENUES 7 FOR PROPERTY TAXES COLLECTED IN 2022
increase of one (1) percent from the previous year.
<https://snohomish.legistar.com/View.ashx?M=F&ID=9847919&GUID=4A2AE8CE-11B2-471B-8BC4-AEBA2F14F552>

Please reject any tax, fee or rate increases across the board; our economy and the public at large are suffering immense pressures to deal with the ever changing uncertainties placed upon them by the governor, the administration and the health officials who are always moving the goal posts on the public which is just trying to survive.

Sincerely,

Dan Kessler

From: Lori Vaaga <irishlori63@gmail.com>
Sent: Monday, October 25, 2021 6:22 PM
To: Contact Council
Subject: Property Tax increase

SNOHOMISH COUNTY COUNCIL

EXHIBIT # 6

FILE ORD 21-083

CAUTION : This email originated from outside of this organization. Please exercise caution with links and attachments.

Hello,

I am unable to attend your Zoom meeting tonight but wanted to give my input as to the proposed tax increase that you will be discussing. As retirees on a fixed income (just above the level necessary for a reduction in taxes, which really is very low considering the cost of living in this area) my husband and I are absolutely opposed to this increase.

Our property values have increased significantly over the past couple of years, which may be great news for the people selling their homes, but it is making life very difficult for those of us who are simply trying to stay in our homes! The funds you are receiving are already higher, simply because of the valuations, and adding an even higher burden is just too much for many of us to absorb!

Please find other ways to either increase your revenue or decrease your costs!

Sincerely,

Mrs. Lori Vaaga
19803 30th Dr SE
Bothell, WA 98012
Sent from [Mail](#) for Windows

From: Deborah McPherson <dmcpherson50@hotmail.com>
Sent: Monday, November 1, 2021 5:48 PM
To: Contact Council
Subject: Proposed tax increases

SNOHOMISH COUNTY COUNCIL

EXHIBIT # 7

FILE ORD 21-083

CAUTION : This email originated from outside of this organization. Please exercise caution with links and attachments.

Hello.

When do taxes ever decrease? This same old story gets very, very old. As I know you are aware, right now in real time our citizens and small businesses are dealing with inflation big time and it looks like that will continue upwards. The price increases on food and energy, price increases due to supply chain issues and other Washington taxes going up as well as property tax increases are enough to deal with. Thank you very much. The right thing to do by us would be to not increase county taxes on top of what we are already dealing with.

Sincerely,

Deborah McPherson

Sent from [Mail](#) for Windows

From: Fred Sirianni <FSirianni@dadco.com>
Sent: Monday, November 1, 2021 2:45 PM
To: Contact Council
Subject: fiscal prudence

SNOHOMISH COUNTY COUNCIL

EXHIBIT # 8

FILE ORD 21-083

CAUTION : This email originated from outside of this organization. Please exercise caution with links and attachments.

I respectfully request that the Snohomish County Council **not enact** a property tax increase. Families have been hit enough by higher prices in many areas. Our county has received hundreds of millions in COVID assistance, and property values have risen dramatically. It begs the question: *Do we have more of an income problem ... or a spending problem?* Please exercise fiscal prudence.

Thank you for the work you do.

Best –
Fred Sirianni

FRED S. SIRIANNI | Vice President, Financial Advisor
fsirianni@dadco.com | 425.388.8498
D.A. Davidson & Co.

[My website and intro video](#)
[The Power of Planning video](#)



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From: Mary J Allred <mallred@farmersagent.com>
Sent: Tuesday, November 2, 2021 9:33 AM
To: Contact Council

SNOHOMISH COUNTY COUNCIL

EXHIBIT # 9

FILE ORD 21-083

CAUTION : This email originated from outside of this organization. Please exercise caution with links and attachments.

Tue 11/2/2021 9:03 AM

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To the Snohomish County Council:

I'd like to express my appreciation for the work you do in governing on our behalf, and attempting to keep our interests in mind.

I'd also like to express my concern about the current tax situation in Snohomish County. I've been made aware of the County's consideration of **increasing taxes** in the near future.

I do not believe Snohomish County citizens can handle a **tax increase** for the following reasons:

1. Consumer Price Index (CPI) has increased 5.5% for food and 24.6% for energy (i.e., gas, propane, etc.).
2. Supply chain problems have driven up prices across the board.
3. Unemployment is currently at 5.6% compared to a pre-Covid 2.3%
4. The County budget shows a huge increase in spending 20.0% (per page 13 of the 2022 Budget-Executive) with **Taxes increasing by 12.5%** and a **proposed property tax increase of 2.5%**.
5. Property values have dramatically increased, and with it Property tax income has increased naturally without a percentage increase.
6. **It hurts senior on fixed incomes.**
7. People are losing their employment over vaccine mandates.
8. We are still in the middle of a Covid pandemic crisis.
9. State and Federal taxes are already increasing.

Please consider NOT increasing County taxes at this time.

Yours truly,

Mary Allred, Insurance Agent
Farmers Insurance of Washington

Thank you so much for your business and referrals. Please keep us in mind for your life insurance needs.

We are always available via phone, text and email.

Mary Allred, LUTCF

President, Allred Insurance Agency Inc.

909 SE Everett Mall Way #C318

Everett, WA 98208

Office:425-513-6204 Text:425-954-3289

E-mail: mallred@farmersagent.com

Website:www.farmersagent.com/mallred

Farmers 24/7 toll free billing/customer service:

[1-888-FAR-MERS](tel:1-888-FAR-MERS), farmers.com or with our mobile app.

From: Mike D <mfdeacy@yahoo.com>
Sent: Tuesday, November 2, 2021 12:17 PM
To: Contact Council
Subject: Tax Increases

SNOHOMISH COUNTY COUNCIL

EXHIBIT # 10

FILE ORD 21-083

CAUTION : This email originated from outside of this organization. Please exercise caution with links and attachments.

Dear Snohomish County Council,

We are awash in debt out here and scrambling to make ends meet. How does an economy recover under the weight of an onerous government? It doesn't. Look around you to see how high tax rates affect the populace. You need to tighten your own belts just like we the people have to do. NO TAX INCREASE.

Sincerely,

Michael Deacy
Mill Creek

[Sent from Yahoo Mail on Android](#)

From: Beverly Heuer <beverlyheuer16@gmail.com>
Sent: Tuesday, November 2, 2021 9:49 AM
To: Contact Council
Subject: Proposed Property Tax Increase

SNOHOMISH COUNTY COUNCIL

EXHIBIT # 11

FILE ORD 21-083

CAUTION : This email originated from outside of this organization. Please exercise caution with links and attachments.

Dear Council Members:

I'm contacting you regarding the 2.5% increase in property tax.

Since the county has more than adequate revenue that has exceeded projections, I find this increase to be absolutely unnecessary and unacceptable. Consider the high rise of unemployment and people on fixed incomes like myself. Food and energy prices have risen dramatically.

State and federal taxes are rising. Taxes are increasing by 12.5%.

The County budget shows a 20% increase in spending. There is no need for an additional tax amount since you have more than adequate revenue as it is.

I would appreciate your consideration of my request to not increase our property tax.

Beverly Heuer
Registered Voter
Snohomish County

From: Robert Jordan <rjordan@puroclean.com>
Sent: Tuesday, November 2, 2021 10:08 AM
To: Contact Council
Subject: Bob Jordan 425-268-8072

EXHIBIT # 12
FILE ORD 21-083

CAUTION : This email originated from outside of this organization. Please exercise caution with links and attachments.

Greetings Snohomish County Council:

I'd like to express my appreciation for the work you do in governing on our behalf, and attempting to keep our interests in mind.

I am a small business owner, with staff, payroll, materials and supplies and equipment and vehicle costs, none of which are decreasing.

I'd also like to express my concern about the current tax situation in Snohomish County. I've been made aware of the County's consideration of **increasing taxes** in the near future.

I do not believe Snohomish County citizens can handle a **tax increase** for the following reasons:

1. Consumer Price Index (CPI) has increased 5.5% for food and 24.6% for energy (i.e., gas, propane, etc.).
2. Supply chain problems have driven up prices across the board.
3. Unemployment is currently at 5.6% compared to a pre-Covid 2.3%
4. The County budget shows a huge increase in spending 20.0% (per page 13 of the 2022 Budget-Executive) with **Taxes increasing by 12.5%** and a **proposed property tax increase of 2.5%**.
5. Property values have dramatically increased, and with it Property tax income has increased naturally without a percentage increase.
6. **It hurts seniors on fixed incomes.**
7. People are losing their employment over vaccine mandates.
8. We are still in the midst of a Covid pandemic crisis.
9. State and Federal taxes are increasing.

Please do NOT increase County taxes at this time.

Thank you,

-Bob

Robert F. "Bob" Jordan, PE
WRT, ASD, AMRT, FSRT, CDS, TSC, RRP
Certified Forensic Operator, Subrogation
Owner/President | **PuroClean Northwest**
rjordan@puroclean.com | www.PuroCleanNW.com
24/7: 425.616.1717 | Cell: 425.268.8072

PuroClean On The Move!





From: Kathleen Powell Associates <kathleenpowell@windermere.com>
Sent: Tuesday, November 2, 2021 9:05 AM
To: Contact Council
Subject: Kathleen Powell 206-940-8777

SNOHOMISH COUNTY COUNCIL

EXHIBIT # 13

FILE ORD 21-083

CAUTION : This email originated from outside of this organization. Please exercise caution with links and attachments.

To the Snohomish County Council:

I'd like to express my appreciation for the work you do in governing on our behalf, and attempting to keep our interests in mind.

I'd also like to express my concern about the current tax situation in Snohomish County. I've been made aware of the County's consideration of **increasing taxes** in the near future.

I do not believe Snohomish County citizens can handle a **tax increase** for the following reasons:

1. Consumer Price Index (CPI) has increased 5.5% for food and 24.6% for energy (i.e., gas, propane, etc.).
2. Supply chain problems have driven up prices across the board.
3. Unemployment is currently at 5.6% compared to a pre-Covid 2.3%
4. The County budget shows a huge increase in spending 20.0% (per page 13 of the 2022 Budget-Executive) with **Taxes increasing by 12.5%** and a **proposed property tax increase of 2.5%**.
5. Property values have dramatically increased, and with it Property tax income has increased naturally without a percentage increase.
6. **It hurts senior on fixed incomes.**
7. People are losing their employment over vaccine mandates.
8. We are still in the middle of a Covid pandemic crisis.
9. State and Federal taxes are already increasing.

Please consider NOT increasing County taxes at this time.

Yours truly,

Kathleen Powell, CRS® ABR® SRES® | (206) 940-8777
Managing Broker | Windermere Real Estate/East, Inc.

From: Larry Powell <larrypowell@windermere.com>
Sent: Tuesday, November 2, 2021 9:03 AM
To: Contact Council
Subject: Larry Powell 206-660-6025

SNOHOMISH COUNTY COUNCIL

EXHIBIT # 14

FILE ORD 21-083

CAUTION : This email originated from outside of this organization. Please exercise caution with links and attachments.

To the Snohomish County Council:

I'd like to express my appreciation for the work you do in governing on our behalf, and attempting to keep our interests in mind.

I'd also like to express my concern about the current tax situation in Snohomish County. I've been made aware of the County's consideration of **increasing taxes** in the near future.

I do not believe Snohomish County citizens can handle a **tax increase** for the following reasons:

1. Consumer Price Index (CPI) has increased 5.5% for food and 24.6% for energy (i.e., gas, propane, etc.).
2. Supply chain problems have driven up prices across the board.
3. Unemployment is currently at 5.6% compared to a pre-Covid 2.3%
4. The County budget shows a huge increase in spending 20.0% (per page 13 of the 2022 Budget-Executive) with **Taxes increasing by 12.5%** and a **proposed property tax increase of 2.5%**.
5. Property values have dramatically increased, and with it Property tax income has increased naturally without a percentage increase.
6. **It hurts senior on fixed incomes.**
7. People are losing their employment over vaccine mandates.
8. We are still in the middle of a Covid pandemic crisis.
9. State and Federal taxes are already increasing.

Please consider NOT increasing County taxes at this time.

Yours truly,

Larry Powell | REALTOR®



Windermere Real Estate/East, Inc.

From: Thor McIlrath <thor@mcilratheck.com>
Sent: Tuesday, November 2, 2021 9:13 AM
To: Larry Powell; Contact Council
Subject: RE: Larry Powell 206-660-6025

SNOHOMISH COUNTY COUNCIL

EXHIBIT # 15

FILE ORD 21-083

CAUTION : This email originated from outside of this organization. Please exercise caution with links and attachments.
Great point!

Sent via the Samsung Galaxy Note20 Ultra 5G, an AT&T 5G smartphone

----- Original message -----

From: Larry Powell <larrypowell@windermere.com>
Date: 11/2/21 9:03 AM (GMT-08:00)
To: contact.council@snoco.org
Subject: Larry Powell 206-660-6025

To the Snohomish County Council:

I'd like to express my appreciation for the work you do in governing on our behalf, and attempting to keep our interests in mind.

I'd also like to express my concern about the current tax situation in Snohomish County. I've been made aware of the County's consideration of **increasing taxes** in the near future.

I do not believe Snohomish County citizens can handle a **tax increase** for the following reasons:

1. Consumer Price Index (CPI) has increased 5.5% for food and 24.6% for energy (i.e., gas, propane, etc.).
2. Supply chain problems have driven up prices across the board.
3. Unemployment is currently at 5.6% compared to a pre-Covid 2.3%
4. The County budget shows a huge increase in spending 20.0% (per page 13 of the 2022 Budget-Executive) with **Taxes increasing by 12.5%** and a **proposed property tax increase of 2.5%**.
5. Property values have dramatically increased, and with it Property tax income has increased naturally without a percentage increase.
6. **It hurts senior on fixed incomes.**
7. People are losing their employment over vaccine mandates.
8. We are still in the middle of a Covid pandemic crisis.
9. State and Federal taxes are already increasing.

Please consider NOT increasing County taxes at this time.

Yours truly,

Larry Powell | REALTOR®



Windermere Real Estate/East, Inc.

From: Jeannette Sumpter <sumpter@proaxis.com>
Sent: Tuesday, November 2, 2021 10:27 AM
To: Somers, Dave J; Wright, Stephanie; Nehring, Nate; Mead, Jared; Dunn, Megan; Low, Sam; Contact Council
Subject: Please Reject Proposed Property Tax Increase

CAUTION : This email originated from outside of this organization. Please exercise caution with links and attachments.

Dear Elected Officials;

I implore you to reject the Proposed Property Tax Increase which is currently being considered.

Many of us are burdened already by rising taxes and rising prices, due to increased home values and inflation. The current supply chain issues will only drive prices up further.

My property tax has increased by 82% over a 10-year period (2010-2020– whether due to increased taxes or increased home value, this has resulted in the need for me to search for part-time work, which is a challenge at my age. Seniors will absolutely be harmed by any tax increase, along with all renters!

This is definitely not the time for increased spending! In fact, the timing of this could not be worse, since our citizens are still reeling from a mandated shut-down.

To add insult to injury, if what I have heard is true, the county doesn't need additional revenue! Can this be true!?

We the People must "tighten our belts!" So must our government!

Thank you in advance for doing the right thing, for being fiscally responsible, and for rejecting the Proposed Property Tax Increase!

Respectfully,
Jeannette Sumpter

17321 31st DR SE
Bothell, WA 98012
425-486-9541

From: Rob Koves <rkoves@gmail.com>
Sent: Tuesday, November 2, 2021 5:34 PM
To: Contact Council
Subject: Fwd: Larry Powell 206-660-6025

SNOHOMISH COUNTY COUNCIL

EXHIBIT # 17
FILE ORD 21-083

CAUTION : This email originated from outside of this organization. Please exercise caution with links and attachments.

As a longtime resident of Mill Creek, I concur with Larry Powell. Thank you.

On Tue, Nov 2, 2021 at 9:03 AM Larry Powell <larrypowell@windermere.com> wrote:

To the Snohomish County Council:

I'd like to express my appreciation for the work you do in governing on our behalf, and attempting to keep our interests in mind.

I'd also like to express my concern about the current tax situation in Snohomish County. I've been made aware of the County's consideration of **increasing taxes** in the near future.

I do not believe Snohomish County citizens can handle a **tax increase** for the following reasons:

1. Consumer Price Index (CPI) has increased 5.5% for food and 24.6% for energy (i.e., gas, propane, etc.).
2. Supply chain problems have driven up prices across the board.
3. Unemployment is currently at 5.6% compared to a pre-Covid 2.3%
4. The County budget shows a huge increase in spending 20.0% (per page 13 of the 2022 Budget-Executive) with **Taxes increasing by 12.5%** and a **proposed property tax increase of 2.5%**.
5. Property values have dramatically increased, and with it Property tax income has increased naturally without a percentage increase.
6. **It hurts senior on fixed incomes.**
7. People are losing their employment over vaccine mandates.
8. We are still in the middle of a Covid pandemic crisis.
9. State and Federal taxes are already increasing.

Please consider NOT increasing County taxes at this time.

Yours truly,

Larry Powell | REALTOR®

<image001.png>

Windermere Real Estate/East, Inc.

From: Andrea Lowden <ajlowden@me.com>
Sent: Tuesday, November 2, 2021 9:23 PM
To: Contact Council
Subject: Taxes

SNOHOMISH COUNTY COUNCIL

EXHIBIT # 18

FILE ORD 21-083

CAUTION : This email originated from outside of this organization. Please exercise caution with links and attachments.

To Whom it May Concern

Do not raise taxes! Our property taxes are already some of the highest in the state and the country.

Beyond that, inflation has doubled in the last 11 months. We are paying more for food and gas than I can recall in my lifetime.

You've already crippled some businesses with your mandated \$4 hazard pay. This has cost my company over a half million dollars in the last two months of the fiscal year. The point was to stimulate the workforce. It has done nothing to stimulate the workforce. Unemployment is higher now than at the beginning of the pandemic.

Do not make another fiscally irresponsible decision or you will certainly be voted out of your positions by the people paying your wages; the hard-working TAX-PAYERS!

No more taxes!
Andrea Lowden

Sent from my iPhone

From: Deb Matthews <DebAuthor@msn.com>
Sent: Wednesday, November 3, 2021 9:08 PM
To: Somers, Dave J; Wright, Stephanie; Nehring, Nate; Mead, Jared; Dunn, Megan; Low, Sam; Contact Council
Subject: Proposed Snohomish County Council 2.5% Property Tax Increase

SNOHOMISH COUNTY COUNCIL

EXHIBIT # 19

FILE ORD 21-083

CAUTION : This email originated from outside of this organization. Please exercise caution with links and attachments.

I am writing to the council regarding your proposed Property Tax increase, asking you to please not raise property taxes at this time.

My own small 832-square foot house on less than a tenth of an acre of land has doubled in taxes since I first moved up here. It has been appraised for next year for more than I can sell it for, just so the county can get even more tax money.

This is a difficult time for most Snohomish County residents as the pandemic continues. With the federal government and Washington State raising taxes even higher, many so-called middle-class people are having to struggle to make ends meet during this pandemic.

Please consider these statistics that have been shared by some of your own members recently:

- Consumer Price Index (CPI) has increased 5.5% for food and 24.6% for energy (gas, propane, etc.)
- Supply chain problems continue to drive up prices
- County budget shows a huge increase in spending 20.0% (pg 13-2022 Budget-Executive) with general taxes increasing by 12.5%, and the proposed property tax increase 2.5%
- People, including those who have had severe reactions to the first vaccine, are getting fired due to vaccine mandates, sometimes even though they are in outdoor jobs where they have no contact with others
- We are still in the middle of a pandemic
- Unemployment is 5.6% as compared to 2.3% pre-pandemic
- Older Americans in the county aren't being hired, even when managers want them (the HR people won't hire them) when we supposedly can't get enough workers already.
-

As some of your own members have said, "The county is doing fine without asking for more money".

Americans have to live in a budget; good county government can, too. If you will roll up your sleeves and dig into *how* you run your business -- the way the rest of us have to -- you might be amazed just how much you can accomplish on the dollars you already have.

Please don't raise taxes at all.

Respectfully,
Deb Matthews

From: kels.gordon <kels.gordon@protonmail.com>
Sent: Thursday, November 4, 2021 8:10 AM
To: Contact Council
Subject: 2.5% Property Tax Increase

SNOHOMISH COUNTY COUNCIL

EXHIBIT # 20

FILE ORD 21-083

CAUTION : This email originated from outside of this organization. Please exercise caution with links and attachments.

Hello Snohomish County Council,

My name is Kelsey and I live with my daughter and husband in Snohomish County. I am writing you today in regards to the proposed 2.5% property tax increase. This increase impacts our family in several ways and we oppose it. Consumer prices have increased and with another baby on the way this will impact us further. Energy prices have increased and will impact us this winter and next year. With the new mandates coming from Inslee, my husbands job is at risk.

The county seems to be doing fine and taxes do not need to be raised and the county budget shows spending has increased by 20%.

Please do not raise our property taxes, we are already struggling as a family financially with the current taxes increases and cannot afford this 2.5% increase coming.

Thank you for your time,

Kelsey Koester

Sent with [ProtonMail](#) Secure Email.

From: Elizabeth Fleming <flemingbird@gmail.com>
Sent: Thursday, November 4, 2021 10:55 AM
To: Contact Council
Subject: Vote NO on Snohomish County Property Tax

CAUTION : This email originated from outside of this organization. Please exercise caution with links and attachments.

Snohomish County Council:

I am writing to express my unequivocal resistance to the proposed Property Tax hike being considered for the 2022 budget /Snohomish county.

This money is not needed based on the sales tax surplus and Federal funds the county has received- from the people. In addition, high inflation a struggling economy, higher gas prices, and recovering from the pandemic are putting people in a tough spot financially already- why would anyone think a higher property tax is a good idea at this point?

Property values are already higher than last year (by far!!) so the County will already take in more \$\$ based on the existing property tax rate.

It creates even more housing insecurity for the elderly & retirees as well as making it harder for those trying to buy their first home. Renters will pay more.

Budgeting requires all of us prioritize our expenditures and that is what the County should be doing. Trim back the "nice to haves" and focus on securing the "must haves:"

- Economic Health
- Public Safety
- Actual Infrastructure
- Education: school choice!!

Focus on those issues please.

Don't grow government- we don't need any more of it in our lives.

Please don't let us down.

Beth Fleming
Edmonds, WA

Sent from my iPhone

From: [G Hamilton](#)
To: [Contact Council](#)
Subject: 2.5% PROPOSED PROPERTY TAX INCREASE
Date: Thursday, November 4, 2021 12:14:01 PM

EXHIBIT # 22
FILE ORD 21-083

CAUTION : This email originated from outside of this organization. Please exercise caution with links and attachments.

Dear County Council Members:

The mere idea of raising property taxes when businesses are closing, people are out of work, and inflation has increased and will continue to do so at a fast pace, will cause many more to fall into the poverty level.

Property taxes have already increased as the cost of homes sell higher. The valuation of said homes is passed onto the homeowner as you know. It is unnecessary to increase it even more.

According to The Herald back in July of 2020:

"Countywide, property value grew 5.5% overall. Residential property values increased 5.4% and commercial properties saw a 5.7% bump. Assessed-value notices were mailed by the county assessor to property owners on Tuesday. They are used in calculating next year's taxes."

According to Redfin real estate:

"IN OCTOBER 2021, SNOHOMISH COUNTY HOME PRICES WERE UP 20.79% COMPARED TO LAST YEAR, SELLING FOR A MEDIAN PRICE OF \$659K. ON AVERAGE, HOMES IN SNOHOMISH COUNTY SELL AFTER 7 DAYS ON THE MARKET COMPARED TO 10 DAYS LAST YEAR."

It is unfair to tax people out of their homes and would hope that issue weighs heavily in your decision.

Thank you for your time.
Ginette Hamilton
Snohomish County resident

From: craigmc55@comcast.net
Sent: Thursday, November 4, 2021 1:43 PM
To: Contact Council
Subject: 20% Increased taxes? Not a good time.

CAUTION : This email originated from outside of this organization. Please exercise caution with links and attachments.
Larry shared his learnings that the county is considering significant raises to taxes.

To the Snohomish County Council:

I find it hard to believe that the county would be increasing spending by 20%. I did see that the budget for this year was 50M less than 2020 but still, the increase is much to large and with property values going up so much over the last several years, there should already be more money to spend without a tax increase.

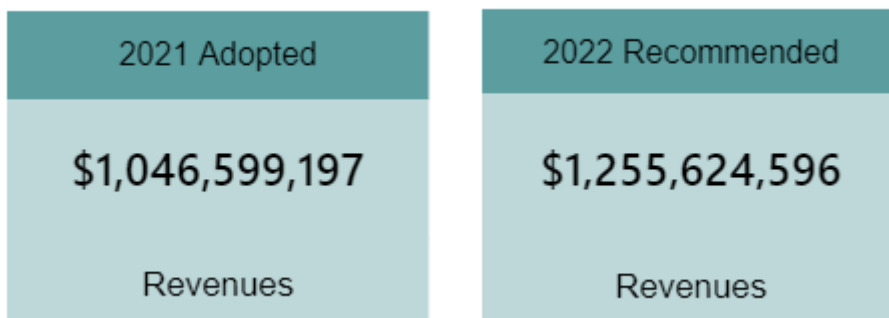
As a retiree in the county, my income is not increasing like that.

Seems that we always add to the budget but rarely do I see we cancel anything to reroute the funds.

Please reconsider.

Craig McCormick
425-238-4478

From your website...



From: Larry Powell <larrypowell@windermere.com>
Sent: Tuesday, November 02, 2021 9:03 AM
To: contact.council@snoco.org
Subject: Larry Powell 206-660-6025

To the Snohomish County Council:

I'd like to express my appreciation for the work you do in governing on our behalf, and attempting to keep our interests in mind.

I'd also like to express my concern about the current tax situation in Snohomish County. I've been made aware of the County's consideration of **increasing taxes** in the near future.

I do not believe Snohomish County citizens can handle a **tax increase** for the following reasons:

1. Consumer Price Index (CPI) has increased 5.5% for food and 24.6% for energy (i.e., gas, propane, etc.).
2. Supply chain problems have driven up prices across the board.
3. Unemployment is currently at 5.6% compared to a pre-Covid 2.3%
4. The County budget shows a huge increase in spending 20.0% (per page 13 of the 2022 Budget-Executive) with **Taxes increasing by 12.5%** and a **proposed property tax increase of 2.5%**.
5. Property values have dramatically increased, and with it Property tax income has increased naturally without a percentage increase.
6. **It hurts senior on fixed incomes.**
7. People are losing their employment over vaccine mandates.
8. We are still in the middle of a Covid pandemic crisis.
9. State and Federal taxes are already increasing.

Please consider NOT increasing County taxes at this time.

Yours truly,

Larry Powell | REALTOR®



Windermere Real Estate/East, Inc.

From: Margaret Fast <margaret@margaretfast.com>
Sent: Friday, November 5, 2021 7:06 AM
To: Contact Council
Subject: Tax increase

SNOHOMISH COUNTY COUNCIL

EXHIBIT # 24

FILE ORD 21-083

CAUTION : This email originated from outside of this organization. Please exercise caution with links and attachments.

Hello,

I was informed that the council is considering raising property taxes even when there is no real need to do so. People's eyes are being opened to what's happening with the Democrats in WA DC pushing a mind boggling, bloated bill which will push our national debt up and send inflation even higher. (And that's only the fiscal irresponsibility, say nothing about the social engineering that would very negatively change our country.) Our dollar is worth less every day, and that's something all of us should be concerned about. Your job is to represent the people in Snohomish Country well – which is to realize every time taxes go higher, it is hard on so many people.

Stay strong against the temptation to go the way of King County in EVERY way – including raising taxes unnecessarily. WA state is losing a lot of people because of the politics and how expensive it is to live here, and if you as a council work hard to do the best thing for Snohomish County residents, you will draw more people and businesses - which naturally will add to the tax base.

Be the leaders in WA state to bring reason and fiscal responsibility back to our state. Also, please protect individual freedom, unlike what is happening in King County.

Thanks so much for listening and for your service.

Margaret Fast



Margaret Fast

Your Residential Broker

Cell: 425.772.0456

Email: margaret@margaretfast.com

KELLY RIGHT
real estate.



MargaretFast.com / Your Referrals are greatly appreciated!

From: qzpbehnke1@gmail.com
Sent: Friday, November 5, 2021 3:48 PM
To: Somers, Dave J; Wright, Stephanie; Nehring, Nate; Mead, Jared; Dunn, Megan; Low, Sam; Contact Council
Subject: Proposed 2.5% property tax increase, opposed

CAUTION : This email originated from outside of this organization. Please exercise caution with links and attachments.

Dear Snohomish County Council Members,

We are opposed to the proposed property tax increase. My wife and I are retired on a fixed income. The fact is that our cost of living is already going up everywhere we look. Prices have increased with food, gas, propane, home and vehicle insurance due to this pandemic.

We have been informed that the County budget shows a large spending increase of 20% for 2022. We also know that many other State and Federal tax increases are coming soon.

Snohomish County does not need more taxpayer money at this time due to the collection of County revenues. Please do not raise property taxes at this time. Please think about the many County residents that are effected negatively by all these price increases across the board. Many residents have lost jobs or have to limit their employment to take care for family when schools shut down on a moments notice. You don't need the extra tax revenue during this pandemic time. We all need a break. Please do not pass this property tax increase or any other tax increase that we can not vote on.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Paul Behnke

Sharon Behnke

Sent from my iPad

From: Stefan Papp <stefanp@msn.com>
Sent: Friday, November 5, 2021 5:15 PM
To: Contact Council
Subject: No Worse Timing for a Property Tax Hike

CAUTION : This email originated from outside of this organization. Please exercise caution with links and attachments.

Council Members,

My family and I are recent additions to Snohomish County, having moved to Granite Falls from Seattle a little over a year ago. So please bear with me, as I am new to the issues we confront in this area. But I am perplexed (and concerned) by the move to raise property taxes now, given the impact of the events of the last several years:

- *Selective lockdowns* have put tremendous pressure on independent business owners, causing many to have to lay off employees or close doors outright;
- *Inflation* is high and getting worse, impacting everything from groceries to gas and beyond. This is a tangible hit to everyone's pocketbook;
- *Vax Mandates* are forcing people of conscience to make tough choices – introducing financial uncertainty and/or hardship to hosts of families;
- *Supply chain issues* are causing shortages and putting further upward pressure on the costs of everyday necessities;
- *Eviction moratoriums* have impacted individual property owners who may rely on rental income to make ends meet;
- *Proposed Vax "passports"* would divide us into two classes, and depending on how draconian the measures become, may make it difficult for the un-vaccinated to obtain basic necessities. Adding even more uncertainty...

Perhaps you've considered these items and still believe that raising additional funds is a priority right now. But this will add tangible financial burden to families already impacted by current events at a time when we should be allowing the community a reasonable grace period to heal. I admit to not having had an opportunity to understand in detail the county's proposed application for the additional revenue, but from having watched Seattle leadership in action, I would bet that the urgency of those items falls well below the urgency and uncertainty that average families are feeling right now.

I strongly urge you to table any property tax increase. It is detrimental to the well-being of so many families who've been directly impacted by the fallout from the Federal and State reaction to the covid event. At best this appears to be a tone-deaf action at a time when we should be considering the welfare of families our paramount concern.

Respectfully,

Stefan Papp
stefanp@msn.com
206-910-3896

From: Shirley Wilson <wilsaw53@gmail.com>
Sent: Saturday, November 6, 2021 3:45 PM
To: Contact Council
Subject: PLEASE DON'T RAISE TAXES ON US

CAUTION : This email originated from outside of this organization. Please exercise caution with links and attachments.

Dear Council members,

Please don't raise taxes on us. The CPI has increased 5.5% for food and 24.6% for energy. Taxes are increasing by 12.5% and the proposed property tax increase is 2.5%. We are seniors on a fixed income and all these tax increases hurt us badly and are unexceptable. We ask you to please not raise taxes at all. The county is doing fine.

Thank you,
Shirley Wilson
David Wilson

From: Fred Brown <fredbrown1@comcast.net>
Sent: Monday, November 8, 2021 9:21 AM
To: Contact Council
Subject: Tax Increase

CAUTION : This email originated from outside of this organization. Please exercise caution with links and attachments.

RE: PROPOSED TAX INCREASE COUNTY ON PROPERTY TAXES- there are three registered voters, all owning property in the county. We OPPOSE any tax increase. The county has increased tax revenue. Just look at the new Costco & Amazon buildings. And all the new houses and buildings.

Take a drive out Hewitt (20th Street. SE) and see all the new housing and proposed commercial district.

The county always seems to have new equipment and we are not forgetting the bonus county employees got.

Our property taxes keep increasing - our Social Security increase will not even cover inflation.

The Council needs to operate on the current income it gets.

Patricia L. Brown

Ernest F. Brown

Ken N. Brown

15118 OK-Mill Rd.

Snohomish, WA 98290

From: Jeffrey Lowden <lowdenjeffrey@gmail.com>
Sent: Monday, November 8, 2021 11:03 AM
To: Contact Council
Subject: Taxes

CAUTION : This email originated from outside of this organization. Please exercise caution with links and attachments.

To the Snohomish County Council:

I'd like to express my appreciation for the work you do in governing on our behalf, and attempting to keep our interests in mind.

I'd also like to express my concern about the current tax situation in Snohomish County. I've been made aware of the County's consideration of **increasing taxes** in the near future.

I do not believe Snohomish County citizens can handle a **tax increase** for the following reasons:

1. Consumer Price Index (CPI) has increased 5.5% for food and 24.6% for energy (i.e., gas, propane, etc.).
2. Supply chain problems have driven up prices across the board.
3. Unemployment is currently at 5.6% compared to a pre-Covid 2.3%
4. The County budget shows a huge increase in spending 20.0% (per page 13 of the 2022 Budget-Executive) with **Taxes increasing by 12.5%** and a **proposed property tax increase of 2.5%**.
5. Property values have dramatically increased, and with it Property tax income has increased naturally without a percentage increase.
6. **It hurts senior on fixed incomes.**
7. People are losing their employment over vaccine mandates.
8. We are still in the middle of a Covid pandemic crisis.
9. State and Federal taxes are already increasing.

I for one have lost my job due to covid and have applied for hundreds of jobs and for some reason cannot get a job equal to what I had. For the record I have been fully vaccinated.

There are other ways to raise money, ie. sugar soda tax, tobacco tax, alcohol tax, parks tax. Make it a user tax but not property tax or car tab tax.

Please consider NOT increasing County taxes at this time.

Thank you,

Jeff Lowden

From: S Alias <aliasemailaddr@gmail.com>
Sent: Monday, November 8, 2021 4:39 PM
To: Somers, Dave J; Wright, Stephanie; Nehring, Nate; Mead, Jared; Dunn, Megan; Low, Sam; Contact Council
Subject: Property Tax Increase

CAUTION : This email originated from outside of this organization. Please exercise caution with links and attachments.

We are writing this to voice opposition to the proposed property tax increase based the following economic facts lest the property tax increase bring an economic crisis compiled with the other economic events of late..

- Consumer Price Index has increased 5.5% for food 24.6% for energy (gas&propane)
- Supply chain problems continue to drive up prices
- Unemployment 5.6% as compared to 2.3% pre pandemic
- County budget shows a huge increase in spending 20.0% (pg 13-2022 Budget-Executive) with Taxes increasing by 12.5% and the Proposed property tax increase 2.5%
- This hurts seniors on fixed incomes
- People are losing their jobs due to vaccine mandates

- Many are leaving the state due to vaccine mandates, concern for the economy and governmental changes.
 - We are still in the middle of a pandemic
 - State and Federal taxes are rising

Thank you for your service as well as time and thoughtful consideration.

The Ellis'

From: Tyler Verda <tyler.verda@gmail.com>
Sent: Tuesday, November 9, 2021 7:42 AM
To: Contact Council
Subject: Public Testimony Budget

CAUTION : This email originated from outside of this organization. Please exercise caution with links and attachments.

County Council,

As a homeowner and father living in North Everett I am emailing you to please raise my property taxes the \$7.23 per year and make smart investments in human services, public safety, and infrastructure.

I love my neighborhood. I love this piece of land between the Sound and Cascades. And my neighbors and fellow residents aren't so bad either. I think all our worth making some modest investments in to maintain and improve this wonderful community we inherited. Often times we hear public budgets compared to household budgets, "I live within my budget so should you". I get that. I don't want to waste a cent of my household budget and I don't want you to waste a cent of my tax dollars. But I also work hard to invest in my home and my family. From refinishing floors to setting some money aside for my daughter's education. And I would like you to work hard to make smart investments in our community. In my opinion, investing in our community is the responsible thing to do.

Cost effective investments in housing, mental health, early learning, roads, public safety, parks, and preserving our natural amenities are what I would like to see from my County Council. These investments will not only make life better here, but often save us money in the long run.

Please count me in for the \$7.23 per year. And please spend it wisely.

Very much appreciated,

Tyler Verda
1621 Wetmore Ave, Everett

From: Leslie Gregg <leslie.gregg@comcast.net>
Sent: Tuesday, November 9, 2021 10:01 AM
To: Contact Council
Subject: Vote "No" on Property Tax Increases

CAUTION : This email originated from outside of this organization. Please exercise caution with links and attachments.

Good Morning Snohomish County Council Members,

Regarding the November 9, 2021 Agenda:

Vote "no" on property tax increases.

Any and all property tax increases should be stopped. Washingtonians clearly expressed their dissent on tax increases in the November 2, 2021 election when they voted "Repeal" on the tax increases associated with the Advisory Vote Nos. 36, 37, 38. Washingtonians want small government and low taxes. That is the primary reason our state constitution prohibits a state income tax. The fleecing by Democrat politicians of hard-working Washingtonians with ever increasing taxes to pay for Democrat expansionist government agendas has been rejected by the clear majority of voting Washingtonians and U.S. citizens across the country.

Year over year Inflation is out of control due to Democrat policies. Year over year consumer price increases reported for September 2021 are: 1) Gasoline 43.3%; 2) Meat 12.6%; 3) Used Cars 24.4%; 4) Shelter 3.2%; 5) Apparel 3.4%; 6) Transportation 4.4%; 7) Bacon 19.3%; 8) Beef 17.6%; and Eggs 12.6% - to name a few. The year over year wage increase of 4.6% has not kept pace with inflation. Clearly the average income earner and people living on fixed incomes are being dramatically, adversely impacted by the increase in cost of essential elements of life. Another large property tax increase will make housing unaffordable for many. This will increase homelessness and will force more people to exit the county and/or state for counties and/or states with better fiscal management. An exodus of taxpayers will adversely impact revenues at the county and state level. Don't forget that many homeowners are facing property tax increases from city government as well.

Property taxes in terms of real dollars have increased over 100% for many Washingtonians over the last ten years. Property tax increases are out of control, especially when added to all the other tax increases coming from all levels of government. Property tax is only one tax of many. Washingtonians still have to pay increases in Federal, State, and local taxes on top of the county tax increases. Utility taxes and sales taxes have been creeping up to ridiculously high levels over the last ten years.

It is time to pull back on government expansion and stop tax increases.

Leslie Gregg
Mukilteo

From: Linda Gray <lgn899a@gmail.com>
Sent: Tuesday, November 9, 2021 10:02 AM
To: Contact Council; Eco-Parris, Debbie
Subject: Vote no - Proposed Property Tax Increase - ORD 21 083

CAUTION : This email originated from outside of this organization. Please exercise caution with links and attachments.

Dear SnoCo Council Members - I am writing to ask you to please vote against the proposed property tax increase.

1. Our tax rates are higher than King County and even the city of Bellevue.
2. Most single family homes' property tax now comes close to the SALT IRS \$10,000 limit. The Trump tax cut has not been reversed here, so we only get to deduct property tax or sales tax from our tax return if we itemize
3. There is no real relief for those on fixed incomes. Those whose combined incomes do not exceed about \$50K cannot afford a single family home in most of this county. So the current relief threshold does not help. The threshold should be closer to \$100K for qualification for tax relief.
4. Citizens are awash in debt right now with Covid and barely hanging on to their homes
5. I do not feel we as citizens get any value for our taxes. We are ignored to the benefit of campaign donors like - developers/building industry, fireworks industry, etc.
6. Why isn't Snohomish County lobbying the State heavily to get our infrastructure updated - Paradise Lk Rd/SR522/SR524, widening SR522, widening Hwy 9. This has been outstanding since 1991
 - o Instead they are allowing developers who do not want to wait for improvements to apply for high density/dangerous developments on currently gridlocked highways (Paradise Lk Garden Apts 362 apts on Paradise Lk Rd, Moray Village (85 Townhomes behind Maltby Cafe, and Cathcart Crossing (286 Townhomes) Hwy 9/Cathcart Wy in violation of GMA. No one has taken into account the cumulative impact these projects will have on each other - same location, same timing, and all are high intensity.
 - We pay PDS salaries to make sure current GMA/State/SCC laws are adhered to.
 - Then why do citizens have to pay the salaries of SnoCo personnel, lawyers, judges, council members, Executive, PDS and then have to hire their own lawyers to point out where SnoCo is allowing developers to break the law? Why is this OK?
7. Cathcart Crossing is a SnoCo development. Highway 9 is in total gridlock every weekday evening starting at 3pm from Hwy 9/Maltby Rd all the way to the Broadway intersection. So are we fighting our own County again??

These are just a few of my issues. Please pay attention to your constituents, give us some value first and vote no on this increase.

Thank you

Linda Gray
22629-78th Ave SE

Woodinville, WA

Nov 3, 2021

SNOHOMISH COUNTY COUNCIL

EXHIBIT # 34

FILE ORD 21-083

Dear Snohomish County Council,

You will be making important decisions for the budget this week. Please do not consider raising taxes in our county.

We have all been affected by the pandemic this past year and still are being affected by it. The unemployment had been 2.6% and is now at 5.6%. My fixed income has barely kept up with the state and federal taxes rising. Please keep to the basics. Our county has been doing fine. Please keep helping families in Snohomish County by voting no to any tax increase.

Sincerely,
Mr + Mrs Roger Cohen
Gold Bar

SNOHOMISH COUNTY COUNCIL
RECEIVED 11/9 TIME _____

NOV 09 2021

CC'D TO	CF _____	GOT _____
JLM _____	DIST 1 _____	DLE _____
JDG _____	DIST 2 _____	ALC _____
YSW _____	DIST 3 _____	ELL _____
HCB _____	DIST 4 _____	CMF _____
NAG _____	DIST 5 _____	