



SNOHOMISH COUNTY COUNCIL
Snohomish County, Washington

RESOLUTION NO. 22-069

RESOLUTION CONDEMNING ANTISEMITISM AND REAFFIRMING SNOHOMISH COUNTY'S COMMITMENT TO NONDISCRIMINATION AND HUMAN RIGHTS

WHEREAS, Snohomish County is one of the most diverse counties in Washington, and our local Jewish community is an important part of the County's fabric, with individuals and families at Temple Beth Or, Chabad Jewish Center of Snohomish County, and other forms of worship and celebration for the Jewish faith community contributing to our community in countless ways; and

WHEREAS, the United States Holocaust Memorial Museum defines antisemitism as prejudice or hatred of Jews. The Holocaust, the state-sponsored persecution and murder of European Jews by Nazi Germany and its collaborators between 1933 and 1945, is history's most extreme example of antisemitism; and

WHEREAS, according to the Holocaust Memorial Museum, the specific hatred of Jews preceded the modern era and the coining of the term antisemitism. Among the most common manifestations of antisemitism throughout history were pogroms, violent riots launched against Jews and frequently encouraged by government authorities; and

WHEREAS, according to the Anti-Defamation League, in 2018, reports of antisemitic incidents were up 60% in Washington state from the previous year. And, in Seattle, reports of hate crimes and incidents were up nearly 400% from 2012 to 2018; and

WHEREAS, antisemitism is found across the ideological spectrum. Particularly alarming is the extent to which expressions of antisemitism move from the political fringe into the mainstream as a result of license to perpetrate this hatred with impunity; and

WHEREAS, hate and bias are not acceptable in any form in our community. The Snohomish County Charter declares a commitment to nondiscrimination and the promotion of human rights that reflects our diverse community and our commitment to mutual respect and shared opportunity to live, work, and thrive together; and

WHEREAS, Snohomish County respects the infinite value of every human being; and

WHEREAS, any victims of antisemitism in Snohomish County are urged to report any incidents – as hate crimes or bias-related events – so that local law enforcement can respond, track such incidents, and bring perpetrators to justice;

***NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED,** Snohomish County Council does hereby proclaim Snohomish County's condemnation of antisemitism as supporters and allies of our Jewish community. Snohomish County strongly stands against hate, bias or violence based on identity and remains committed to the principles of nondiscrimination and human rights expressed in the Snohomish County Charter.*

APPROVED this 7th day of December, 2022.

Megan Dunn
Council Chair

Jared Mead
Council Vice-Chair

Sam Low
Councilmember

Nate Nehring
Councilmember

Strom Peterson
Councilmember

ATTEST:
Elena Lao, CMC
Asst. Clerk of the Council