

SNOHOMISH COUNTY COUNCIL
Snohomish County, Washington

ORDINANCE NO. 26-040

RELATING TO ANIMAL CONTROL; AMENDING CHAPTERS 9.01 AND 9.16 OF SCC

BE IT ORDAINED:

Section 1. Snohomish County Code Section 9.01.040, adopted by Ordinance No. 06-135 on February 28, 2007, is amended to read:

9.01.040 Authority and duties of the animal control agency.

(1) The animal control agency shall be a division of the Snohomish county auditor. The duly elected auditor of Snohomish county shall be the director of the animal control agency.

(2) The animal control agency is authorized to enforce the provisions of the Snohomish County Code and the laws of the State of Washington as they pertain to animals. The animal control agency shall be considered the county's "animal care and control agency" as that phrase is defined in RCW 16.52.011 as now enacted or hereinafter amended.

(3) ~~((All animal control officers must be special deputies commissioned by the Snohomish county sheriff.))~~In addition to any other powers provided by the laws of the State of Washington, the director and animal control officers have the following powers:

(a) To investigate alleged or suspected violations of this title;

(b) To refer alleged criminal violations of this title to the prosecuting attorney;

(c) To request a law enforcement officer to arrest and take into custody any person the animal control officer has probable cause to believe has committed or is committing a criminal violation of this title. Animal control officers may make an oral complaint to a law enforcement officer to initiate arrest. The animal control officer causing the arrest shall file with the arresting agency a written complaint within 24 hours of the arrest, excluding Sundays and legal holidays, stating the alleged act or acts constituting a violation;

(d) To carry nonfirearm protective devices for personal protection, in accordance policies adopted by the director; and

(e) To prepare affidavits in support of search warrants and to execute search warrants when accompanied by law enforcement officers to investigate violations of this title and to seize evidence of those violations.

Section 2. Snohomish County Code Section 9.16.020, last amended by Ordinance 06-132 on February 28, 2007, is amended to read:

1 In the event any animal control officer or the sheriff of Snohomish county or
2 ~~((his))the sheriff's~~ regularly or specially appointed deputy shall impound any livestock of
3 any kind including but not limited to horses, mules, donkeys, cattle, goats, sheep and
4 swine within Snohomish county pursuant to chapter 16.24 RCW and SCC 9.16.010,
5 said animals shall not be released to the owner thereof or any purchaser of said animal
6 or animals at a sale conducted pursuant to RCW 16.24.~~((070))~~140 until there is paid to
7 Snohomish county a transportation fee based on the direct cost to the County as
8 determined by the director of the animal control agency.

9
10 This fee shall be considered as a portion of the expense allowable by RCW
11 16.24.~~((070))~~140 and not as payment in lieu of other costs allowable by statute.

12
13 Section 3. This ordinance shall take effect on January 1, 2027.

14
15 PASSED this ____ day of _____, 2026.

16
17 SNOHOMISH COUNTY COUNCIL
18 Snohomish County, Washington

19
20 _____
21 Chairperson

22
23 ATTEST:

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25 _____
26 Clerk of the Council

27
28 () APPROVED

29
30 () EMERGENCY

31
32 () VETOED

33
34 DATE: _____

35
36 _____
37 County Executive

38
39 ATTEST:

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41 _____
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1 Approved as to form only:

2 Witenberg, Alex Digitally signed by Witenberg, Alex
Date: 2026.07.31 08:45:18 -07'00'

3 Deputy Prosecuting Attorney