

M E M O R A N D U M

DATE:

TO: Megan Dunn, Chair, Snohomish County Council

FROM: Dave Somers, Snohomish County Executive

RE: North Sound Behavioral Health Administrative Services Organization
Advisory Board

I am pleased to recommend the appointment of Cassandra Thorpe to serve her first three-year term on the North Sound Behavioral Health Administration Organization Advisory Board (NSBHASO).

The State Legislature enacted SSB 5400 in 1989, which allows interested counties to form a regional support network for certain mental health services. Five counties of Northwestern Washington coinciding with DSHS Region 3 (Island, San Juan, Skagit, Snohomish, and Whatcom) comprise the North Sound Regional Support Network, which is now known as North Sound Behavioral Health Administrative Services Organization or NSBHASO. The NSBHASO Advisory Board advocates for the interests of mentally ill persons and their families and substance use disorder persons, and provides recommendations to the NSBHASO Board of Directors, which is made up of elected officials from the five counties. The Advisory Board is comprised of 26 members; 9 from Snohomish County. Board members serve three-year terms and are appointed by Council on recommendation of the Executive.

Cassandra Thorpe, residing in Council District 2, is seeking appointment for her first three-year term on the North Sound Behavioral Health Administration Organization Advisory Board. Ms. Thorpe has been a community health advocate and working in behavioral health since 2017 and currently works as the Senior Clinical Manager for Sound Behavioral Health. Her appointment will add diversity to the County's representation on the NSBHASO Advisory Board.

Pursuant to SCC 2.03.030, I hereby urge Council confirmation of Cassandra Thorpe to be appointed to the North Sound Behavioral Health Administration Organization Advisory Board to serve a three-year term ending April 7, 2029.

Thank you for your consideration.