



# Planning and Community Development

Ryan Countryman

Council Initiated:

Yes

No

**ECAF:** 2023-1035

**Motion:** 23-383

**Committee Briefing:**

September 19, 2023

**Type:**

Contract

Board Appt.

Code Amendment

Budget Action

Other

**Requested**

**Handling:**

Normal

Expedite

Urgent

**Fund Source:**

General Fund

Other

N/A

**Executive Rec:**

Approve

Do Not Approve

N/A

**Approved as to**

**Form:**

Yes

No

N/A

**Subject:** Board Appointment – Community Services Advisory Council.

**Scope:** Motion 23-383 would appoint Joan Penney to the Community Services Advisory Council (CSAC) for a first term.

**Duration:** Passage to August 30, 2027.

**Fiscal Impact:**  Current Year  Multi-Year  N/A

**Authority Granted:** N/A

**Background:**

*This nominee:* Joan Penney works for Housing Hope in Council District 2 and is eligible to serve as a Community Representative on the CSAC. She is active with the Jerry Walton Foundation and the Skagit County Civil Service Commission. She writes that she has been “an active housing advocate for the last six years across the region” and that “ending homelessness requires a collaborative, informed perspective, and a desire to keep learning about solutions.” She is well qualified to serve on the CSAC. The County Executive has nominated her to a first term.

*The Board:* Snohomish County created the CSAC in 1986 to advise the County Executive and County Council on causes and potential solutions to poverty (SCC 2.420). It is a volunteer body comprised of between 12 to 24 members with representation from relevant stakeholder groups (community/private sector, low-income representatives, and public elected officials). Efforts are made to ensure each district is represented; however, it is contingent on the pool of applicants. Appointments are to a four-year term and members may not serve more than two consecutive terms.

CSAC is responsible for engaging with the Snohomish County community to address needs and address causes of poverty. Additionally, CSAC oversees administration of the Community Services Block Grant (CSBG), a federal program that provides funds to “alleviate the causes and conditions of poverty and remove obstacles to self-sufficiency in communities.” CSAC Mission: “The Advisory Council’s mission is to make Snohomish County more responsive to the needs and interests of the poor by mobilizing both government and non-government resources, and creating greater institutional sensitivity through education and advocacy.”

**Request:** Move to General Legislative Session on September 27, 2023, for consideration.