Dear Council Members

I stand in support of Ordinance No. 24-047 regarding criminal justice sales tax. In addition, I support both Amendments No. 1 and 2.

Thanks

Dale Kaemingk Mayor City of Brier

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June 18, 2024

Snohomish County Council 3000 Rockefeller Ave M/S 609 Everett, WA 98201

RE: City of Granite Falls support for Amendment #1 & #2 of Ordinance 24-047

Members of Snohomish County Council,

The City of Granite Falls acknowledges the benefits that the Snohomish County Sheriff's Office, Prosecuting Attorney's office, and various other County wide first responder units as well as social/mental health services provides to our community. We are also aware of the desperate need for increased funding to support these critical services within our City and County wide. It is critical that the monies being generated by this proposed county wide sales tax increase are deliberately and specifically targeted at the areas where the need for increased funding is the greatest and where the overwhelming majority of the public wants this funding to be applied if voted into use. As such, we are sending this letter to support Councilmember Nate Nehring's proposed amendments #1 & #2 to Ordinance #24-047.

Sincerely,

Brent Kirk City Manager City of Granite Falls

Matt Hartman Mayor City of Granite Falls

From:	Cummings, Jason
To:	Contact Council
Cc:	Johnson, Susanna; Parks, Eric; Klein, Ken; Gorle, Nicole
Subject:	Public Safety Sales Tax Proposal
Date:	Tuesday, July 2, 2024 8:40:00 AM
Attachments:	image001.png

Dear Councilmembers,

We write in support of the proposal to present to the voters of Snohomish County a Public Safety Health and Criminal Justice Sales Tax. As indicated in last fall's budget presentation, both the Sheriff's and the Prosecuting Attorney's offices face significant staffing needs in the 2024 budget. These staffing needs impact public safety by limiting the services that our citizens expect and demand. Compounding this public safety crunch is the 2025-26 Budget pro forma from the County Executive, calling for a 3% cut for General Fund departments. Such cuts result in further drastic reductions of critical programs by both our offices.

Simply put, the County's law and justice system requires additional resources. We recently reviewed proposed amendments offered by Councilmember Nehring that would increase the prioritization of funding to the traditional law and justice agencies and cap the amount that could be used to supplant existing funding. We support these amendments as they would make clear to the voters that their support could help restore and enhance critical law and justice services that have been reduced over the years by budget reductions, while at the same time support new, innovative programs directly addressing the impacts of behavioral health and substance use disorder in our county.

We are happy to answer any questions you may have of our respective offices. Thank you in advance for your consideration.



## Jason J. Cummings

Prosecuting Attorney Snohomish County Prosecuting Attorney's Office 3000 Rockefeller Avenue, M/S 504 Everett,WA 98201-4046 phone: (425) 388-6332 fax: (425) 388-6333 email: jcummings@co.snohomish.wa.us

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