



Snohomish County Council

Committee: Public Infrastructure and Conservation
ECAF: 2023-0679
Proposal: Ord. 23-067

Analyst: Deb Evison Bell

Date: July 18, 2023

Consideration:

The proposed ordinance relates to Parks and the Evergreen State Fair and Fairgrounds and includes proposed language with regards to licenses and sponsorship, amending Chapter 2.32 and adding new sections to Chapters [2.16](#) and [2.32](#) of the Snohomish County Code.

Background:

In 2021, by [Ordinance 20-081](#), the County created the Department of Conservation and Natural Resources, which combined the following existing county departments under one umbrella: Parks, Recreation and Tourism, Agriculture, Energy and Sustainability and Surface Water Management. The reorganization was to provide greater opportunities for collaboration, synergy and efficiency, allowing for enhanced use and conservation of natural resources in the county. The realignment of the Parks Department included the Evergreen State Fair and Fairgrounds.

The Snohomish County Park and Recreation Element and General Policy Plan both encourage and promote innovative funding methods to help support individual parks and the Evergreen State Fair and Fair Park. Specific code to facilitate the method of fund acceptance however has not been provided and accepting funding has required processing through the Executive Office, or Council, depending on the amount.

Current Proposal:

Scope: Ordinance 23-067 contains three primary proposed changes:

1. Adds two new Sections to County Code (2.16.025 and 3.32.160) to allow for sponsorship agreements for contributions for improvements to park properties, maintenance, and operation of park properties or for entertainment, activities, and events, provided they follow approved conditions. The proposed language outlines conditions, timing, review, and approval processes.
2. Amends Section 2.32.140 to include updated language regarding the County's budget cycle and to submit a proposed budget for operations of the fair and fairgrounds to the director of the division of parks and recreation.
3. Amends Section 2.32.150 to include the department director and the risk manager (or designee) to approve and/or extend licensing agreements for additional terms for up to no more than four years.

Duration: Upon adoption until future amendments.

Fiscal Implications: There is not a specific fiscal impact associated with this action.

2023 Budget: NA

Future Budget Impacts: It is anticipated that future agreements will provide revenues.

Handling: NORMAL

Approved-as-to-form: YES (6/9/2023)

Risk Management: YES (6/9/2023)

Executive Recommendation: Approve

Analysis

Council has the legislative authority to adopt this ordinance amending county code, per SCC 2.48. The proposed ordinance is to facilitate a variety of funding methods, including, but not limited to, sponsorships, agreements with vendors and public and private partnerships.

Request: Move to GLS on July 19, 2023, to consider scheduling a public hearing (August 16th 2023, at 10:30 am is recommended). Following receipt of public testimony, consider taking action on the proposed Ordinance 23-067 or provide other direction to staff.