

SNOHOMISH COUNTY COUNCIL
Snohomish County, Washington

SUBSTITUTE ORDINANCE NO. 21-034

RELATING TO THE 2021 BUDGET; MAKING A SUPPLEMENTAL APPROPRIATION IN
GRANT CONTROL FUND 130 TO PROVIDE EXPENDITURE AUTHORITY FOR
AMERICAN RESCUE PLAN ACT FUNDS

WHEREAS, on January 21, 2020, the Washington State Department of Health confirmed the first reported case of the novel coronavirus (COVID-19) in the United States in Snohomish County, Washington. COVID-19, a respiratory disease that can result in serious illness or death, is caused by the SARS-CoV-2 virus, which is a new strain of coronavirus that had not been previously identified in humans and can easily spread from person to person; and

WHEREAS, since January 21, 2020, the disease has spread throughout the United States. On January 31, 2020, the United States Department of Health and Human Services secretary Alex Azar declared a public health emergency for COVID-19, beginning January 27, 2020. On February 29, 2020, Washington State Governor Jay Inslee proclaimed a public health emergency for COVID-19. On March 4, 2020, the Snohomish County Health Officer proclaimed a countywide public health emergency for COVID-19. On March 4, 2020, Executive Dave Somers issued a “Local Proclamation of Emergency Snohomish County” for COVID-19 (the “Emergency”). On March 13, 2020, the President of the United States of America declared COVID-19 a National Emergency; and

WHEREAS, since March 2020, the County has been responding to the pandemic, providing funds for public health and medical response, economic stabilization, human services, and essential government services; and

WHEREAS, on March 10, 2021, the United States Congress passed the American Rescue Plan Act of 2021 (“ARPA”), providing direct relief to units of local government through the United States Department of Treasury; and

WHEREAS, grocery employees have been supporting grocery businesses’ operations and facilitating community access to food during the pandemic, despite facing a clear and present danger of workplace exposure to COVID-19 and receiving limited or inconsistent additional pay in recognition of this hazard; and

WHEREAS, establishing a requirement for grocery employees to receive hazard pay for work performed in unincorporated Snohomish County during the COVID-19 emergency will promote job retention, compensate them for the risks of working on the frontlines of a global pandemic, improve their financial ability to access resources for protecting themselves and their families from catching or spreading the virus or coping with illness caused by the virus, and support the welfare of the greater community that depends on grocery employees for safe and reliable access to food; and

1 WHEREAS, the State of Washington plans to fully reopen on June 30th, lifting mask
2 requirements and making mask wearing optional for all, including those that are not vaccinated,
3 thereby continuing the risk faced by frontline grocery workers; and
4

5 WHEREAS, the Department of Treasury has issued guidance for the allowable uses of the
6 direct relief funds, and one permissible use of ARPA funds is to provide hazard pay to those
7 performing essential work; and
8

9 WHEREAS, the County Council has determined that it is necessary for the support of
10 county government and its existing institutions as well as necessary for the immediate preservation
11 of the public peace, health or safety to appropriate these funds in the speediest manner possible.
12

13 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT ORDAINED:
14

15 **Section 1.** The County Council makes the following findings of fact: a supplemental
16 appropriation in the amount of \$2,500,000.00 is necessary in the Grant Control Fund 130 for
17 budget year 2021 to provide expenditure authority for direct aid provided to Snohomish County
18 from the United States Department of Treasury pursuant to Section 9901 of ARPA.
19

20 **Section 2.** The unit and allocation detail for the supplemental appropriation described in
21 Section 1 are as follows:
22

23 EXPENDITURE:
24

25 130 Grant Control Fund
26

27 130 57516218781011 Salaries \$2,500,000.00
28

29 **Total Supplemental Appropriation: \$2,500,000.00**
30

31 REVENUE:
32

33 130 Grant Control Fund
34

35 130 37516218781027 ARPA Fed Direct 21.027 \$2,500,000.00
36

37 **Total Revenue: \$ 2,500,000.00**
38

39 **Section 3. Uses of Funds.** Amounts appropriated by this ordinance shall be used solely for
40 permissible expenditures pursuant to Section 9901 of the Rescue Act, as subsequently amended,
41 and pursuant to guidance and FAQs issued by the United States Department of Treasury.
42
43

1
2 **Section 4. Unanticipated Funds.** The County Council finds that there is a need for such
3 supplemental appropriation authorized by this ordinance because the funds that support them were
4 unanticipated at the time of the adoption of the 2021 budget and have not been previously
5 appropriated. Based on the foregoing, the Council hereby authorizes this appropriation.
6

7 **Section 5. Budget Notes & Conditions**
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9 A. **Budget Conditions.** Pursuant to Section 6.50 of the Snohomish County
10 Charter, the 2021 budget is subject to the following conditions, restrictions,
11 and limitations:

12 (1) **Hazard Pay for Grocery Workers.** Council requests that the Executive
13 Office develop a grant program that will provide grocery workers hazard
14 pay in the amount of four dollars (\$4.00) per hour for work performed in
15 grocery stores located in unincorporated Snohomish County between
16 March 10, 2021 and December 31, 2021. Funds allocated to Grant Control
17 Fund 130 through this ordinance are to be used to fund this program.
18
19

20 PASSED this ___ day of _____, 2021.
21

22 SNOHOMISH COUNTY COUNCIL
23 Snohomish County, Washington
24

25 _____
26 Chairperson
27

28 ATTEST:
29

30 _____
31 Asst. Clerk of the Council
32

33 () APPROVED
34

35 () EMERGENCY
36

37 () VETOED
38

38 DATE: _____
39

40 _____
41 County Executive
42

43 ATTEST:
44
45 _____
46

1
2 Approved as to form only:
3
4 Rebecca J. Guadamud 06-18-2021
5 Deputy Prosecuting Attorney