

SNOHOMISH COUNTY COUNCIL Snohomish County, Washington

RESOLUTION NO. 24-044

CELEBRATING VOTERS AND ELECTION WORKERS AND ENCOURAGING EARLY VOTING

WHEREAS, our rights and responsibilities of voting in free and fair elections are core principles of our democracy, which are enshrined in our United States Constitution, sustain our self-governed republic, and shine as an inspirational beacon of liberty across the globe; and

WHEREAS, Snohomish County and counties throughout Washington State have become national leaders in voter accessibility by providing vote-by-mail, same-day registration, ongoing updates to voter registration rolls, conveniently located ballot drop boxes, accessible voting sites containing equipment for voters with disabilities, and voter materials translated into other languages; and

WHEREAS, the County Council and Executive reinforced their commitment to elections by authorizing investments in the new Snohomish County Elections Center, enabling secure, accurate ballot counting and enhanced opportunities for the public to observe their democracy in action; and

WHEREAS, the Auditor's Office led by Garth Fell, with the support of the County Council and Executive, makes available to voters factual information on the administration of elections by leveraging community partnerships with non-partisan organizations such as the League of Women Voters of Snohomish County and local, public libraries; and

WHEREAS, Snohomish County's election workers on the frontline of democracy stand ready to demonstrate during the presidential election their tireless commitment to a secure, transparent, and accurate process just as they do for at least four elections every year under the direction of the County Auditor; and

WHEREAS, voter turnout is likely to exceed 80% due to the interest of Snohomish County voters to participate in the Presidential, gubernatorial and other federal, state and local races on the general election ballot; and

WHEREAS, despite ballots being mailed more than two weeks before Election Day, many voters typically wait until the last day to submit their ballots; and

WHEREAS, voting as early as possible allows voters to track and ensure their ballot has been received and counted and enables more complete results to be available on Election Night; and

WHEREAS, there are several voter-related events occurring over the next month including "National Voter Education Week" starting on October 7, "Vote Early Day" on October 29, and "Election Hero Day," November 4, 2024;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Snohomish County Council does hereby recognize October 7 through 11, 2024, as "Voter Education Week" to celebrate the commitment and dedication of our county election workers to conduct fair, accurate elections and to encourage voters to participate and vote early in the upcoming November 5th General Election.

APPROVED this 2nd day of October 2024.

Yared Mead Council Chair

Sam Low
Councilmember

Strom PetersonCouncilmember

Nate Nehring

Megan DunnCouncilmember

Deputy Clerk of the Council