



Snohomish County Council

Public Hearings

Meeting Minutes

Stephanie Wright, Council Chair
Megan Dunn, Council Vice-Chair
Councilmembers: Sam Low, Nate Nehring, Jared Mead

Wednesday, December 15, 2021

10:30 AM

Remote Meeting via Zoom

CALL TO ORDER

Council Chair Wright called the public hearing to order at 10:30 a.m.

ROLL CALL

The clerk called the roll and stated that all five members were present.

ACTION ITEMS

PRESENT:

Council Chair Wright
Council Vice-Chair Dunn
Councilmember Low
Councilmember Nehring
Councilmember Mead
Nicole Gorle, Council Staff
Elena Lao, Asst. Clerk of the Council

1. Ordinance 21-097, creating a Commercial Property Assessed Clean Energy and Resiliency (C-PACER) Program in Snohomish County

[2021-0977](#)

Council Chair Wright opened the hearing and the clerk read the ordinance title into the record.

Nicole Gorle, Senior Legislative Analyst, provided a staff report.

Council Chair Wright opened the hearing for public testimony and provided instructions for remote participation in the Zoom meeting. There being no persons present wishing to provide public testimony, she closed the testimony portion of the hearing calling for a motion or discussion of the Council.

ACTION: Council Vice-Chair Dunn made a motion to approve Ordinance 21-097. Councilmember Mead seconded the motion. The clerk called the roll and the motion to approve Ordinance 21-097 carried unanimously.

PRESENT:

Council Chair Wright
Council Vice-Chair Dunn
Councilmember Low
Councilmember Nehring
Councilmember Mead
Heidi Beazizo, Council Staff
Lacey Harper, Executive Director
Mary Jane Brell-Vujovic, Human Services Director
Elena Lao, Asst. Clerk of the Council

**See names listed below of individuals providing public testimony.*

2. Ordinance 21-098, authorizing a sales and use tax for affordable housing and behavioral health; providing for administration of the tax [2021-1012](#)

Council Chair Wright opened the hearing and the clerk read the ordinance title into the record.

Heidi Beazizo, Senior Legislative Analyst, provided a staff report.

Councilmembers provided brief explanations of each of the proposed amendments and proposed resolution that they introduced.

Lengthy discussion ensued as Lacey Harper, Executive Director, and Mary Jane Brell-Vujovic, Human Services Director, responded to Councilmembers' questions on various issues, including the following:

- Transparency
- Timeline for introducing legislation
- Funding for housing and housing services
- Information from Housing Affordability Regional Taskforce (HART)
- Acquisition and construction of housing facilities
- Financial assistance for housing
- Process and metrics for measuring success
- Use of proceeds from increased recording fees

Council Chair Wright opened the hearing for public testimony and provided instructions for remote participation in the Zoom meeting. The following individuals provided public testimony:

1. Rep. Emily Wicks, resident of Everett, testified in support of the ordinance.
2. Rep. Cindy Ryu, resident of Shoreline, testified in support of the ordinance.
3. Jess Blanch, resident of Edmonds, testified in support of the ordinance.
4. Pam Hurst, resident of Lynnwood, testified in support of the ordinance.
5. Ronald Vivion, resident of Mill Creek, testified in support of the ordinance.
6. Steve Abramowicz, resident of Mill Creek, testified in opposition of the ordinance.
7. George Hurst, City of Lynnwood Council President, testified in opposition of the ordinance.
8. Linda Redmon, City of Snohomish Mayor-Elect, testified in support of the ordinance.
9. Chris Davis, resident of Marysville, testified in support of the ordinance.
10. Carolyn Strong, resident of Edmonds, testified in opposition of the ordinance.
11. Demi Chatters, resident of Everett, testified in support of the ordinance.
12. Karen Whelan, resident of Mill Creek, testified in opposition of the ordinance.
13. Karen Schilde, resident of Everett, testified in support of the ordinance.
14. Kathleen Kyle, resident of Everett, testified in support of the ordinance.
15. Luke Distelhorst, resident of Edmonds, testified in support of the ordinance.
16. Joseph Nagel, resident of Stanwood, testified in support of the ordinance.
17. Gay-Lynn Beighton, resident of Edmonds, testified in support of the ordinance.
18. Steven Franke, resident of Bothell, testified in opposition of the ordinance.
19. Carol Ann Fish, resident of Snohomish, testified in opposition of the ordinance.
20. Jim Bloss, resident of Monroe, testified in support of the ordinance.
21. Paula Townsell, resident of Everett, testified in support of the ordinance.
22. Jennifer Bereskin, resident of Snohomish County, testified in support of the ordinance.
23. Kathleen Fitzpatrick, resident of Everett, testified in opposition of the ordinance.
24. Galina Volchkova, resident of Everett, testified in support of the ordinance.

25. Donna Rudiger, resident of Snohomish County, testified in opposition of the ordinance.
26. Lori Ellis, resident of Everett, testified in opposition of the ordinance.
27. James Harrigan, resident of Everett, testified in opposition of the ordinance.
28. Alexis Votteler, resident of Marysville, testified in support of the ordinance.
29. Carol Jensen, resident of Everett, testified in support of the ordinance.
30. Rachel Downes, on behalf of Fred Safstrom, resident of Everett, testified in support of the ordinance.
31. Ben Young, resident of Everett, testified in support of the ordinance.
32. Duane Leonard, Housing Authority of Snohomish County, testified in support of the ordinance.
33. Katya Bautista, resident of Bothell, testified in opposition of the ordinance.
34. Laura Reed, resident of Everett, testified in support of the ordinance.
35. Bob Colinas, resident of Brier, testified in opposition of the ordinance.
36. Mark Smith, resident of Lynnwood, testified in support of the ordinance.
37. Alex Lark, resident of Everett, testified in support of the ordinance.
38. Merritt Weese, resident of Snohomish, testified in support of the ordinance.
39. Mindy Woods, resident of Snohomish County, testified in support of the ordinance.
40. Billye Brooks-Sebastiani, resident of Arlington, testified in opposition of the ordinance.
41. Tony Balk, resident of Monroe, testified in support of the ordinance.
42. Jeanette Sumpter, resident of Bothell, testified in opposition of the ordinance.
43. Susan H, resident of Snohomish County, testified in opposition of the ordinance.
44. Julie Barrett, resident of Bothell, testified in opposition of the ordinance.
45. Rick Canning, resident of Edmonds, testified in opposition of the ordinance.

There being no further persons present wishing to provide public testimony, Council Chair Wright closed the testimony portion of the hearing calling for a motion or discussion of the Council.

At 2:00 p.m., Council Chair Wright called for a five-minute recess. The hearing was reconvened at 2:05 p.m.

Additional discussion continued as the Council debated the merits of the proposed ordinance.

ACTION: Councilmember Mead made a motion to approve Ordinance 21-098. Council Vice-Chair Dunn seconded the motion.

Councilmember Low made a motion to approve Amendment 1. Councilmember Nehring seconded the motion and it failed by a vote of two to three, with Councilmember Mead, Council Vice-Chair Dunn, and Council Chair Wright opposing.

Councilmember Nehring made a motion to approve Amendment 2. Councilmember Low seconded the motion and it failed by a vote of two to three, with Councilmember Mead, Council Vice-Chair Dunn, and Council Chair Wright opposing.

Councilmember Low made a motion to approve Amendment 3. Councilmember Nehring seconded the motion and it failed by a vote of two to three, with Councilmember Mead, Council Vice-Chair Dunn, and Council Chair Wright opposing.

Councilmember Low made a motion to approve Amendment 4. Councilmember Nehring seconded the motion and it failed by a vote of two to three, with Councilmember Mead, Council Vice-Chair Dunn, and Council Chair Wright opposing.

Councilmember Mead made a motion to approve Amendment 5. Council Chair Wright seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.

Councilmember Low explained that since Amendment 1 failed, the proposed resolution is moot.

Councilmembers provided closing comments and expressed their stand on the issue for and against the proposed ordinance.

The vote was called and the clerk called the roll. The motion to approve Ordinance 21-098, as amended, carried by a vote of three to two, with Councilmember Low and Councilmember Nehring opposing.

ADJOURN

At 2:52 p.m., Council Chair Wright recessed the meeting until the 3:00 p.m. Council Meeting (appointment to fill 44th Legislative District vacancy).