



## Snohomish County Council

**Committee:** Planning & Community Development      **Analyst:** Ryan Countryman  
**ECAF:** 2021-0677  
**Proposal:** Proposed Ordinance 21-068      **Date:** Sept. 21, 2021

### Consideration

Proposed ordinance 21-068 would authorize the County Executive to sign on behalf of Snohomish County an Interlocal Agreement (ILA) between the Snohomish County Department of Emergency Management (DEM) and Snohomish Health District (SHD) and for incident management assistance in Snohomish County for mass vaccination efforts.

### Background

In July of 2020 the Snohomish County Vaccine Task Force, a joint effort co-led by SHD and DEM, began planning for the distribution of COVID-19 vaccines at mass vaccination sites. SHD focused on its regulatory responsibilities for the vaccine, which range from procurement to distribution. DEM focused on its logistics and planning capabilities to establish the seven sites ultimately used by the Task Force to vaccinate hundreds of thousands of Snohomish County residents. In January of 2021 mass vaccination efforts became reimbursable through FEMA's Public Assistance program. Historically, the Public Assistance program works through the state's emergency management system, managed by the State's Emergency Management Division in conjunction with local emergency management agencies. In this instance, Washington's Department of Health assumed responsibility at the state level and directed local health jurisdictions to be the local entity responsible for distributing the FEMA reimbursement funds. This interlocal between SHD and DEM accounts for DEM's role in, and the associated costs for, establishing the mass vaccination sites. It also provides an agreement by which DEM can provide its expertise to SHD in support of the Public Assistance reimbursement process. This helps ensure that the many partner agencies who supported the mass vaccination efforts will receive their reimbursement as efficiently and effectively as possible.

## **Current Proposal**

An ordinance authorizing signature on an ILA that formalizes the terms of inter-agency work and reimbursement from the SHD to DEM using FEMA grant funds for DEM's participation in vaccination efforts.

*Summary:* An ordinance authorizing the Executive branch to sign an ILA between DEM and SHD

*Effective Date:* TBD

*Fiscal Implications:* \$5m in grant funding to cover DEM's costs associated with vaccination efforts

*Scope:* Authorization to enter into an ILA

**Handling:** NORMAL

**Approved-as-to-form:** YES

**Risk Management:** APPROVE.

**Executive Recommendation:** APPROVE.

## **Request**

Move to General Legislative Session on September 29 to set time and date for a hearing.