

## 5.0 EXHIBITS

CORRESPONDENCE, COMMENTS,  
TESTIMONY

---

**From:** mr e <mreenterprises1@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, September 27, 2023 11:14 AM  
**To:** Somers, Dave J; Contact Council  
**Subject:** RE: 2024 Budget

Greetings,

Rather Season's Greetings because it must be Christmas at the County !

Inflation is hitting hard and residents are struggling with costs. Increasing property taxes and other costs just makes affordable housing more unattainable.

General Fund - up nearly \$7.5 million !

Human Services - up \$23 million !

Housing & Behavioral Health Capital funds - \$114.5 million !

Road Dept - up \$14 million ! (our county road does need resurfacing)

Solid Waste - up \$12 million !

Paine Field - \$81 million !

Special Revenue - up nearly \$2 million !

Health Dept Fund - up \$7.4 million !

Emergency Comm Systems & Facilities - up \$7.5 million ! ( sales tax revenue?)

Evergreen Fair Reserve - up nearly \$1 million !

Auditor's O&M - up \$1 million !

Public Works Facility Construction - up \$41+ million ! (line 188)

Community Development - up \$1 million !

Fair Sponsorships & Donations - up \$2 million !

Capital Projects Fund - up nearly \$1.5 million !

Public Works Construction Fund - up \$40 million ! (line 306)

Airport Operation & Maintenance - up \$1.7 million !

Surface Water Management - up \$5.5 million !

Equipment Rental & Revolving - up \$3.2 million !

Information Systems - up \$3.5 million !

Sno County Insurance - up \$1.7 million !

Employee Benefits - up nearly \$2.2 million !

Quote from Executive Dave Somers: " Not one county leader proposed frivolous or wasteful spending " (Everett Herald).

Apologize in advance for any input errors or duplicates.

Thanks

Jeff Estes

Ordinance 23-121

EXHIBIT 5.2

General Legislative Session Meeting – 10/11/23

[Minutes](#) and [Video](#)

**From:** Brenda Bolanos-Ivory <bolanosivory@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Thursday, October 19, 2023 9:42 AM  
**To:** CFranklin; DL-Council; Somers, Dave J; Contact Council  
**Subject:** SnoCo Consultant can triple SnoCo results helping homelessness and addiction/mental illness

Hi Executive Dave, Mayor Cassie, County and City Council members, *(current programs proof attached)*

We have the power and the plan to help more people experiencing homelessness and addiction and lower crime. Let's do it!

We're Failing in this area of people experiencing homelessness and addiction. Crime has increased, businesses and residents are terrorized. I'm passionate about reducing crime, which my program did by 20%. Do you want less crime?

This is fixable. I've helped hundreds of people experiencing homelessness and addiction in Snohomish County get 1. Health, 2. Housing and 3. Jobs/Disability including achieving WA Best Practices.

Don't Seattle our Snohomish County! That's what these programs are doing. Clare's place uses a same program as LiHi in Seattle. Motel and Pallets, too. I found a better method using global research and field success customizing it for us.

With the same budget, we can get 35%-50% of people healthy, housed, and jobs/disability. It's 2%-5% now. Human Services Staff need to Stop saying its a learning curve when it's already been solved. I want you to use my research and experience.

Since, I reported Robert Smiley asking me to do fraud, Sonny and Esther replaced me and then Days Inn email reported they committed fraud (FOIA emails), MJ has iced me out.

I also reported client dangers trying to prevent 2 allegedly preventable deaths! Clients, Pebbles and Forrest, both weren't found for up to 3 days! Twice! They were NOT included At All in Esther's data reports to County.

These people, Robert, Sonny and Esther, providing proven false data, breaking the county contract and are still allegedly supported by MJ under their new name Advocates for Recovery. It's the same people.

False data IS a breach of contract isn't it?. Esther didn't include the two clients who died. Other clients "just vanished" from the data report. Where did they go? Are they in trouble somewhere? Did they die too?

Can Council members require the funds for this demographic's programs not be given to organizations that these people associate with?

Can we require 35% results from the program that gets funded or change the program and people for lack of performance? 35% was done by my team in SnoCo. 50% is the National average.

We can do this if Electeds stand up for our most vulnerable adults. Healthy, housed and jobs/social security is success not filling low barrier beds long term/permanently. Drugs go around and around those programs. That's a proven Fact.

That's on the police reports! Esther's responsibility saying clients had well checks twice daily. Proof is .

Two Dead Clients weren't found for 1-3 days. Would that be acceptable at Cocoon house? People die in programs or motels but are ALL found within hours. This is breach of contract requirement to check on client welfare twice a day as well as false data. (Crosscut)

Contract requirements broken are listed in the Crosscut article. Sonny arrested for insurance fraud is also attached. I'm fighting for our sick adults who are homeless suffering from addiction and mental illnesses. We owe them the best program that exists not Seattle part 2. (Lynnwood news article Sonny not Robert)

Everett Gospel Mission report on Sept 6 stated that their goal is to stay full of people enabling using drugs and make them comfortable to stay permanently there. That is cruel.

<https://m.youtube.com/watch?v=7TIPWUF0XMU&t=1779s&pp=ygUVUGFsbGV0IHhlcHQgNiBlbmVyZXRO>

This report looks great if you didn't know they could be moving people FAST into treatment, housing, and jobs.

THERE'S HOUSING AND JOBS FOR SINGLE ADULTS TOO. FELON JOBS, TOO. Don't keep these people trapped in a shelter using drugs and probably stealing which is a common symptom of addiction.

These people need help to get their lives back. Custody of their children! They can't get healthy in low barrier programs too long. It should be a FEMA level crisis first step to health, jobs and independence. I've done it. I'm doing it. I'm frustrated and angry. The community is too.

2 people were successful getting sober, housing and jobs in the County AND City PALLET in 2 years. I placed 75 people these same two years. Let me consult your existing programs!

This is my community and I love the people. I guarantee RESULTS because it's my passion and purpose. I've done it and do it now. It's possible!

It's budget time. I'm asking for your consideration for me to serve an oversight consultant for this demographic. Get in, train, and guarantee best results in the state of Washington. I guarantee and 50-100 per year, but believe it'll be much more. There will be a net tax savings as well. Guaranteed.

It's budget time. Can you please add to the program funding that MJ cannot give county contracts to any person who has breached the contract with false data. They changed the nonprofit name and MJ allegedly continues an alleged ineffective and unsafe program because the individuals are the same people who breached the contract and she knows this.

I mention MJ because this demographic isn't her strength, her icy and scolding demeanor towards me and allegedly ignoring the program facts(email proof), and we need success. Do this because it's right and not politically pleasing anyone because lives are being lost! If it's a choice to either make a friend angry or save a human life what's your choice?

How much money is it worth to you to get people off our streets permanently FAST? How important is it to you to get people permanently healthy, housed and jobs/disability?

We must do better, the situation's getting worse.

Can we please meet again to discuss this problem? It's budget time, so even a phone call works.

This issue is a priority for ALL of US.

Brenda  
6195491657

THIS WAS PREVENTABLE  
THIS WILL CONTINUE TO HAPPEN  
UNDER THE EXISTING PROGRAM -WE OWE OUR COMMUNITY TO IMPROVE IT

NEWS- Clares place program is exactly a Seattle program that's not working!

Drug contamination causes uncertainty for 'Clare's Place' - YouTube

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=yehf-zVFGhw>

<https://m.youtube.com/watch?v=yehf-zVFGhw>

<https://crosscut.com/investigations/2023/05/everett-shelter-got-3m-covid-relief-despite-complaints>

<https://www.heraldnet.com/news/amid-lynnwood-nonprofits-tumult-hand-up-project-leader-charged-with-theft/>

**From:** Christopher Marsh <vintagedirtbiker32@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Thursday, October 19, 2023 11:49 AM  
**To:** Contact Council  
**Subject:** 2024 budget

Dear Members of the Snohomish County Council,

After reviewing the proposed budget, I would like to request that 2 million from the Roads Maintenance budget, and 1 million from the Solid Waste budget be transferred to the Parks Construction budget.

This extra money could be used to update the Evergreen Fairgrounds to make winter use of the recreation center safer for all who use the facilities. This money could also be used towards new construction of outdoor recreational facilities for motorized recreation that the council concluded that had a place in Snohomish County's vision for its citizens and their children.

I believe cutting out deicing chemicals and using salt on our roads would greatly reduce the financial impact of winter snow and ice removal. There are not any long term studies of the effects of these products to our environment to tell us if it is safe, these products promote corrosion of vehicles that leave deposits of harmful pollutants on our roads and stormwater systems. These products also force water to run off in times that we need that water to slowly infiltrate back into our struggling aquifers. All this runoff flows untreated into our Salish Sea and raises the salinity that causes major changes to the acidity and makes it hard for native species to survive. By only using sand or wood products seems like the most practical way. They are environmentally safer while pollutants bond to the material that is later cleaned up and disposed of by sweepers, Vector trucks and ditch cleaning equipment.

The maintenance nightmare for Snohomish County Fleet will also improve because Road Maintenance equipment will not be failing due to the corrosion and break down of the structural equipment used to spread these chemicals and drive on them. Brake systems on everyone's vehicles are being compromised and could cause potentially devastating fires from brake linings getting too hot and catching on fire.

I also believe Solid Waste has some room to give a little to the Parks Construction fund. I was advised today by a staff member at the Arlington Transfer Station, "that since it was the government, that the safety issue that I addressed, would never get fixed." Clearly if Solid Waste isn't going to fix their facilities to keep ratepayers safe, they could use that part of the budget to help promote safe motorized recreation.

There is standing water where the public has to stand and dispose of their garbage, this is caused because of drop box trucks slamming their boxes on the ground to shake the load out of the drop boxes. This is breaking the concrete up and has created a 1 inch deep hole that collects water and creates a potential slip hazard. Apparently the drivers are not supposed to do this but it has become standard practice that causes damage to our facilities. I witnessed an elderly gentleman trying to scoop the water out of the way, with a stick, so he didn't have to stand in it. I grabbed a broom and swept the water out for him. He thanked me and said he didn't like standing in water, I agreed and then brought the issue up to the employee.

I believe placing a steel plate in this location would fix the problem, if they cannot stop drivers from breaking Solid Waste policy.

Thank you for all your hard work,

Sincerely,

Christopher Marsh

425-238-4359

504 N Granite Ave

Granite Falls, Washington 98252



**From:** LakeStevensRider <lakestevensrider@yahoo.com>  
**Sent:** Thursday, October 12, 2023 12:03 PM  
**To:** Contact Council  
**Subject:** Lord Hill Park

I am really appalled that the park would use funds so irresponsibly. Parking for rigs in the old area is going to mean some of the regular users of the equestrian trails would be unable to do so due to parking restraints for their rigs.

There is Park land next to the current horse parking lot, wouldn't be easier and cheaper to create more single vehicle parking there?

The horse camping in the Darrington area with no way to access horse trails safely from camp is enough waste of money.

There is no reason why all users cannot co-exist. Some feel their rights outweigh others. This should not be recognized and rewarded.

This issue with users is nothing new sadly, but other areas have been able to mostly work it out. If some monitoring and punishment (ticket or citation) was given possibly those wanting it all one way would get the point.

Thank you, Penny Booker, Equestrian

**From:** Morrigan Lola <morgayne15@yahoo.com>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, October 17, 2023 2:38 PM  
**To:** Contact Council  
**Subject:** Lords Hill Equestrian parking swap

To whom it may concern

I am writing in concern for the Equestrian to Pedestrian/bicyclist parking lot swap. First and foremost 2 million dollars of wasted taxpayers money. There is no reason to spend this kind of money. If anything you should expand the upper lot for more parking. Second as a long time rider of lords hill as an equestrian before the bicycles were invited in and ruined the quiet nature of seeing deer and other wildlife. The equestrian parking lot was built specifically for us. The parking lot is wide and it works for all types of trailer drivers from novice to experienced and it is a safe place to tack up our horses away from pedestrians and Bicyclists. I have had numerous run ins with bicyclists slamming their breaks on behind my horse and now with the even faster electric bicycles riding up on my horses. There are also pedestrians that walk through our lot and walk up behind my horse to pet them. If we are to share a lot it will only get worse. There are ample places for bikes to ride in Snohomish County but none for horses. If you change this and put us at the bottom of your decisions within the park for safe parking we will lose a lot of people who won't come to the park because of parking challenges. This parking lot works for us there is no reason to change it.

Sincerely

Morgan Sullivan

**From:** Cheryl Rucks <cjru@yahoo.com>  
**Sent:** Thursday, October 19, 2023 5:30 PM  
**To:** Contact Council  
**Subject:** Please Don't Swap Parking Lots at Lord Hill

We are Snohomish County residents. Our priority is in improving safety on the trails at Lord Hill Regional Park for all users, and we ask that the County not fund the Lord Hill - Parking Lot Improvements project that moves equestrian parking to the upper lot.

### **It's not a parking lot problem — it's a parkwide problem.**

The problem is on the trails. High speed mountain bikes and e-bikes travel on the multi-use trails and off-leash dogs often harass and occasionally attack park users. There is no plan to address these serious issues.

Parks has no real data on the extent of the ongoing problems. Most of the incidents go unreported because there's no information in the park or on the website about how to report an incident.

### **Recent improvements**

Parks has done a good job improving safety on the trails at Lord Hill Regional Park with low-cost measures like signs and other approaches that help slow down high-speed bikers at intersections.

The situation has improved in the equestrian parking lot where some high-speed bikers ignore "No bike" signs and speed through, posing hazards to equestrians.

The numbers of incidents have greatly decreased.

Swapping lots will not solve safety problems and will only create more hazards for equestrians. Mitigation can't solve the steep grade at the drive up to the upper lot. The location of the lot next to two paved roads where horses that get loose can easily get out into traffic and escape poses a problem.

### **A lot swap would not provide safety, separation and direct access to horse/hiker trails.**

The swap does not provide separation from bikes as equestrians still would use the multi-use pipeline to get to their trails.

It does not provide direct access to horse/hiker trails.

The new route places equestrians farther away from the horse/hiker trails.

The plan also prevents equestrians from making a loop and forces them to return to the parking lot by backtracking the way they came. This longer route means that many riders who come for just an hour or so don't have time to ride the horse/hiker trails.

### **Swapping lots will do nothing to fix the real problem — the lack of ranger presence and enforcement — and is a colossal waste of taxpayer money.**

Don't waste money on a solution to a problem that doesn't exist.

Stop ignoring problems that exist.

The cost seems to have ballooned from around \$400,000 to \$2 million, and that makes it go from a large waste of money to an astronomical waste of money.

**Do not swap parking lots.** Keep the lots as they currently are. The lower lot meets all equestrian parking safety standards.

### **Better suggested uses of funding**

Scheduling a ranger patrol at high-peak times would significantly reduce the incidents of high-speed mountain bikers, e-bikes and off-leash dogs.

Reconfiguring the upper lot would accommodate more cars. Or creating parking for bikers near bike trails would eliminate bike traffic through the lower lot and reduce it on a section of the main trail.

Shifting some of this funding and accelerating construction of a dedicated mountain bike park would help to eventually reduce high-speed bike conflicts at Lord Hill.

Thank you,  
Cheryl Rucks and Robert Dickey

**From:** Angela Farnsworth <acmfarnsworth@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Monday, October 23, 2023 12:17 PM  
**To:** Contact Council  
**Subject:** Lord Hill Parking Lot Swap

To whom it may concern;

I'm a Snohomish County resident living in Lake Stevens. My priority is to improve the safety of the trails at Lord Hill Regional Park for all users, and I ask that the County not fund the Lord Hill - Parking Lot Improvements project that moves equestrian parking to the upper lot.

It's not a parking lot problem — it's a parkwide problem.

The problem is on the trails. High-speed mountain bikes and e-bikes travel on the multi-use trails, and off-leash dogs often harass and occasionally attack park users. I have heard some horror stories from my fellow equestrians. There has been no plan to address these serious issues that I have heard of yet.

The parks have no real data on the extent of the ongoing problems. Most of the incidents go unreported because there's no information in the park or on the website on how to report an incident. I have personally had a friend nearly seriously hurt by users not following rules. This is unacceptable and unsafe.

#### ***Recent improvements***

Parks has done a good job improving safety on the trails at Lord Hill Regional Park with low-cost measures like signs and other approaches that help slow down high-speed bikers at intersections. The situation has improved in the equestrian parking lot, where some high-speed bikers ignore "No bike" signs and speed through, posing serious hazards to equestrians.

The number of incidents has greatly decreased.

However, swapping lots will not solve these safety problems and will only create more hazards for equestrians. Mitigation can't solve the steep grade at the drive up to the upper lot. The location of the lot, besides the steep grade, also poses a hazard to local traffic should a horse get loose. The worst-case scenario is that a horse could run into the road and cause an accident.

A lot swap would also not provide the safety separation and direct access to horse and hiker trails. The swap does not provide separation from bikes, as equestrians would still have to use the multi-use pipeline to get to their trails. It does not provide direct access to horse/hiker trails like the current one does now. The new route places equestrians much farther away from the horse/hiker trails.

The plan also prevents equestrians from making a loop on the trail and forces them to return to the parking lot by backtracking the way they came. This longer route means that many riders who come for just an hour or so don't have time to ride the horse/hiker trails like they would have before.

Swapping lots will do nothing to fix the real problem which is the lack of ranger presence and enforcement, and is a colossal waste of taxpayer's money.

Don't waste money on a solution to a problem that doesn't exist

Stop ignoring problems that exist.

The cost seems to have ballooned from around \$400,000 to \$2 million, and that makes it go from a large waste of money to an astronomical waste of money! Especially when it's only going to screw up an already good setup.

Do not swap parking lots. Keep the lots as they currently are. The lower lot meets all equestrian parking safety standards!

***Better suggested uses of funding***

Scheduling a ranger patrol at high-peak times would significantly reduce the incidents of high-speed mountain bikers, e-bikes, and off-leash dogs.

Reconfiguring the upper lot would accommodate more cars. Creating parking for bikers near bike trails would eliminate bike traffic through the lower lot and reduce it on a main trail section.

Shifting some of this funding and accelerating the construction of a dedicated mountain bike park would help to reduce high-speed bike conflicts at Lord Hill eventually.

Thank you,

Angela Farnsworth  
Lake Stevens, WA  
206-920-1666

**From:** markains@mindspring.com  
**Sent:** Monday, October 23, 2023 12:52 PM  
**To:** Contact Council; Low, Sam  
**Subject:** \$2M for lot swap at Lord Hill Park

Hello Snohomish County Council,

I understand that there's a proposal to spend \$2M on a parking lot swap at the north end of Lord Hill Park.

I live in District 5, in unincorporated Snohomish County near the Lord Hill Park south entrance. I'm an avid hiker; I walk in the park almost every day, and have done so for years. I've probably walked every trail in the park multiple times – I know the park very well. I'm also a member of the Washington Trails Association (WTA) and the Pacific Crest Trail Association (PCTA), and I'm a steward for a portion of the PCT. I know a thing or two about trail construction and maintenance.

I think spending \$2M for a parking lot swap is an unnecessary waste of money. If you have \$2M to spend on the park, please use it for trail improvements instead. Or a restroom at the south parking lot. Anything but the parking lot swap – there's so many better things to do instead!

Thanks and regards,

Mark Ainsworth  
17723 Tester Rd.  
Snohomish, WA 98290  
425-760-1966

**From:** Pam N <pam4trails@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Monday, October 23, 2023 11:37 PM  
**To:** Contact Council  
**Subject:** Reg; Opposing Parking Lot Switch

I oppose the parking lot switch

I am really upset over the proposed parking lot switch.

Over 80% of the horse trailers will not be able to even park in North lot. There are trailers well over 25-30 feet long, that does not even include the trucks pulling them.

And going up that hill into the North parking lot is ridiculous. Cars, SUVs etc can make it up there and back in really easy and the gravel area beyond that is still geared towards vehicles NOT trucks with horse trailers.

Then you would also have to work on the bridges to make them for horses. Spending \$\$\$ Why? Why change this??? It will cost \$\$\$ to make these changes and we equestrians won't be able to really use that parking lot.

Why don't you please spend less \$\$\$ and just expand the North parking lot for the hikers and bikers.

We are very upset with the board.

You do not listen to us equestrians at all.

Pam Nielsen



**From:** Susan <s3b13@comcast.net>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, October 24, 2023 7:01 AM  
**To:** Contact Council  
**Subject:** Lords hill parking lot

I ride up at Lords Hill at least 2 times a week. I have been riding up there for 20 plus years. So I have been at both parking lots.

The idea of spending 2 million dollars switching the parking lots is crazy . Yes some days when I am there , might be only 2-4 trailers but most days there are 4-7 . I do not usually go on weekends most times but the weekends I have been up there the lot is full of horse trailers .

So my question to you is why would take away the parking for the equestrian users ?making it impossible for big horse trailers to get in ? I have a dually and a 3 horse trailer how are you going to make that easy to get up there and turn around and have places for more then 4 rigs ? Years ago I had an old 2 horse straight load with a regular size truck and there was hardly enough room if there was more then 2 trucks with trailers all ready up there . So what is the benefit of taking away parking and spending money on something that won't work for a big part of park use age ?

There are so many different ways this money could be used for improving the park but parking lot swap is not one of them. It feels like away to run the horse people out of the park.

Susan Johnson

425-870-1197

Sent from my iPhone

---

**From:** Jodi York <jlyork12@yahoo.com>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, October 24, 2023 7:10 AM  
**To:** Contact Council  
**Subject:** Lord Hill

email

I'm a Snohomish County resident living in <<WHERE>>. My priority is in improving safety on the trails at Lord Hill Regional Park for all users, and I ask that the County not fund the Lord Hill - Parking Lot Improvements project that moves equestrian parking to the upper lot.

There's not a parking lot problem — there's a parkwide problem.

The problem is on the trails. High-speed mountain bikes and e-bikes travel on the multi-use trails and off-leash dogs often harass and occasionally attack park users. There is no plan to address these serious issues.

Swapping lots will do nothing to fix the real problem — the lack of ranger presence and enforcement — and is an astronomical waste of taxpayer money.

Recent improvements

Parks has done a good job improving safety on the trails at Lord Hill Regional Park with low-cost measures like signs and other approaches that help slow down high-speed bikers at intersections.

The situation has improved in the equestrian parking lot where some high-speed bikers ignore "No bike" signs and speed through, posing hazards to equestrians. The numbers of incidents in the lot have greatly decreased.

Swapping lots will not solve safety problems and will only create more hazards for equestrians. Mitigation can't solve the steep grade at the drive up to the upper lot.

A lot swap would not provide safety, separation and direct access to horse/hiker trails as the Parks plan has claimed.

The swap does not provide separation from bikes as equestrians still would have to use the multi-use pipeline to get to their trails.

It does not provide direct access to horse/hiker trails.

The new route places equestrians farther away from the horse/hiker trails.

The plan also prevents equestrians from making a loop and forces them to return to the parking lot by backtracking the way they came.


Don't waste money trying to solve a problem that doesn't exist.

Stop ignoring problems that exist.

Parks has no real data on the extent of the ongoing problems. Most of the incidents go unreported to Parks because there's no information in the park or on the website about how to report an incident.

Do not swap parking lots. Keep the lots as they currently are. The lower lot meets all equestrian parking safety standards.

Better suggested uses of funding

 Scheduling a ranger patrol at high-peak times would significantly reduce the incidents of high-speed mountain bikers, e-bikes and off-leash dogs.

Reconfiguring the upper lot would accommodate more cars. Or creating parking for bikers near bike trails would eliminate bike traffic through the lower lot and reduce it on a section of the main trail.

Shifting some of this funding and accelerating construction of a dedicated mountain bike park would help to eventually reduce high-speed bike conflicts at Lord Hill.

Thank you,

Jodi York [Sent from Yahoo Mail for iPhone](#)

---

**From:** linda quimby <lsqlovinglife@icloud.com>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, October 24, 2023 7:27 AM  
**To:** Contact Council  
**Subject:** Lords Hill Park

I'm a Snohomish County resident living in Snohomish. My priority is in improving safety on the trails at Lord Hill Regional Park for all users, and I ask that the County not fund the Lord Hill - Parking Lot Improvements project that moves equestrian parking to the upper lot.

There's not a parking lot problem — there's a parkwide problem.

The problem is on the trails. High-speed mountain bikes and e-bikes travel on the multi-use trails and off-leash dogs often harass and occasionally attack park users. There is no plan to address these serious issues.

Swapping lots will do nothing to fix the real problem — the lack of ranger presence and enforcement — and is an astronomical waste of taxpayer money.

Recent improvements

Parks has done a good job improving safety on the trails at Lord Hill Regional Park with low-cost measures like signs and other approaches that help slow down high-speed bikers at intersections.

The situation has improved in the equestrian parking lot where some high-speed bikers ignore “No bike” signs and speed through, posing hazards to equestrians. The numbers of incidents in the lot have greatly decreased.

Swapping lots will not solve safety problems and will only create more hazards for equestrians. Mitigation can't solve the steep grade at the drive up to the upper lot.

A lot swap would not provide safety, separation and direct access to horse/hiker trails as the Parks plan has claimed.

The swap does not provide separation from bikes as equestrians still would have to use the multi-use pipeline to get to their trails.

It does not provide direct access to horse/hiker trails.

The new route places equestrians farther away from the horse/hiker trails.

The plan also prevents equestrians from making a loop and forces them to return to the parking lot by backtracking the way they came.

Don't waste money trying to solve a problem that doesn't exist.

Stop ignoring problems that exist.

Parks has no real data on the extent of the ongoing problems. Most of the incidents go unreported to Parks because there's no information in the park or on the website about how to report an incident.

Do not swap parking lots. Keep the lots as they currently are. The lower lot meets all equestrian parking safety standards.

Better suggested uses of funding

Scheduling a ranger patrol at high-peak times would significantly reduce the incidents of high-speed mountain bikers, e-bikes and off-leash dogs.

Reconfiguring the upper lot would accommodate more cars. Or creating parking for bikers near bike trails would eliminate bike traffic through the lower lot and reduce it on a section of the main trail.

Shifting some of this funding and accelerating construction of a dedicated mountain bike park would help to eventually reduce high-speed bike conflicts at Lord Hill.

Thank you,

Linda Quimby

Sent from my iPhone

---

**From:** Ken Johnson <k11s19j10@comcast.net>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, October 24, 2023 9:14 AM  
**To:** Contact Council  
**Subject:** Lords Hill parking lot swap

I'm a Snohomish County resident living in <<WHERE>>. My priority is in improving safety on the trails at Lord Hill Regional Park for all users, and I ask that the County not fund the Lord Hill - Parking Lot Improvements project that moves equestrian parking to the upper lot.

There's not a parking lot problem — there's a parkwide problem.

The problem is on the trails. High-speed mountain bikes and e-bikes travel on the multi-use trails and off-leash dogs often harass and occasionally attack park users. There is no plan to address these serious issues.

Swapping lots will do nothing to fix the real problem — the lack of ranger presence and enforcement — and is an astronomical waste of taxpayer money.

Recent improvements

Parks has done a good job improving safety on the trails at Lord Hill Regional Park with low-cost measures like signs and other approaches that help slow down high-speed bikers at intersections.

The situation has improved in the equestrian parking lot where some high-speed bikers ignore “No bike” signs and speed through, posing hazards to equestrians. The numbers of incidents in the lot have greatly decreased.

Swapping lots will not solve safety problems and will only create more hazards for equestrians. Mitigation can't solve the steep grade at the drive up to the upper lot.

A lot swap would not provide safety, separation and direct access to horse/hiker trails as the Parks plan has claimed.

The swap does not provide separation from bikes as equestrians still would have to use the multi-use pipeline to get to their trails.

It does not provide direct access to horse/hiker trails.

The new route places equestrians farther away from the horse/hiker trails.

The plan also prevents equestrians from making a loop and forces them to return to the parking lot by backtracking the way they came.

Don't waste money trying to solve a problem that doesn't exist.

Stop ignoring problems that exist.

Parks has no real data on the extent of the ongoing problems. Most of the incidents go unreported to Parks because there's no information in the park or on the website about how to report an incident.

Do not swap parking lots. Keep the lots as they currently are. The lower lot meets all equestrian parking safety standards.

Better suggested uses of funding

Scheduling a ranger patrol at high-peak times would significantly reduce the incidents of high-speed mountain bikers, e-bikes and off-leash dogs.

Reconfiguring the upper lot would accommodate more cars. Or creating parking for bikers near bike trails would eliminate bike traffic through the lower lot and reduce it on a section of the main trail.

Shifting some of this funding and accelerating construction of a dedicated mountain bike park would help to eventually reduce high-speed bike conflicts at Lord Hill.

Thank you, Ken Johnson

Sent from my iPhone

**From:** Silver Wing <scapegoatslandscaping@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, October 24, 2023 9:22 AM  
**To:** Contact Council  
**Subject:** Lord hill parking lot swap

Deer council members, as an equestrian who uses lord hill regularly , I deeply oppose the parking lot swap. I have been riding at lord hill for years, the equestrian parking lot was made for equestrians, lord hill itself was made for equestrians. I deeply advise against this waste of money! There are two parking lots that hikers and bikers get to use, I don't understand why taking away equestrian lot makes any sense at all. Equestrian parks are diminished to very few .. I think we ought to owe horses much more respect than is given. Thank this reality of life and existence, society to horse power. Please don't take the parking lot away from them. Horses deserve to get out and enjoy trail riding just as much or even more than people complaining about horse poop on trails. Washington is an equestrian state, I grew up around horses my entire life and it's such a shame I can't legally even ride my horses around town anymore.. please be the change horses deserve. That hill is wayyy too steep for horse trailers to use regularly.. it is going to destroy breaks and transmissions ! And if it becomes icy while riding.. it will be great risk to everyone involved. Why can hikers park anywhere they want but equestrians can only park in one lot? There's cars who park in equestrian lot already as it is.. what happens when hikers and bikers park in the new equestrian lot up above? There's not enough spaces for equestrians to park up there .. what about people who have larger trailers that 2 horse trailers ???

Thank you for considering equestrians



---

**From:** Charlene Marley <gaitnfool@hotmail.com>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, October 24, 2023 10:09 AM  
**To:** Contact Council  
**Subject:** Budget Meeting regarding Lord Hill Park

I'm a Snohomish County resident living in Monroe. My priority is in improving safety on the trails at Lord Hill Regional Park for all users, and I ask that the County not fund the Lord Hill - Parking Lot Improvements project that moves equestrian parking to the upper lot.

There's not a parking lot problem — there's a parkwide problem.

The problem is on the trails. High-speed mountain bikes and e-bikes travel on the multi-use trails and off-leash dogs often harass and occasionally attack park users. There is no plan to address these serious issues.

Swapping lots will do nothing to fix the real problem — the lack of ranger presence and enforcement — and is an astronomical waste of taxpayer money.

Recent improvements:

Parks has done a good job improving safety on the trails at Lord Hill Regional Park with low-cost measures like signs and other approaches that help slow down high-speed bikers at intersections.

The situation has improved in the equestrian parking lot where some high-speed bikers ignore "No bike" signs and speed through, posing hazards to equestrians. The numbers of incidents in the lot have greatly decreased.

Swapping lots will not solve safety problems and will only create more hazards for equestrians. Mitigation can't solve the steep grade at the drive up to the upper lot. This change will limit equestrians from adequate space available to accommodate access to park easily and safely. The spacing in the upper lot does not allow equestrians to properly tie their horses to the side of the horse trailers since the spacing between vehicles is too close.

A lot swap would not provide safety, separation and direct access to horse/hiker trails as the Parks plan has claimed.

The swap does not provide separation from bikes as equestrians still would have to use the multi-use pipeline to get to their trails.

It does not provide direct access to horse/hiker trails.

The new route places equestrians farther away from the horse/hiker trails.

The plan also prevents equestrians from making a loop and forces them to return to the parking lot by backtracking the way they came.

Don't waste money trying to solve a problem that doesn't exist.

Stop ignoring problems that exist.

Parks has no real data on the extent of the ongoing problems. Most of the incidents go unreported to Parks because there's no information in the park or on the website about how to report an incident.

Do not swap parking lots. Keep the lots as they currently are. The lower lot meets all equestrian parking safety standards.

Better suggested uses of funding:

Scheduling a ranger patrol at high-peak times would significantly reduce the incidents of high-speed mountain bikers, e-bikes and off-leash dogs.

Reconfiguring the upper lot would accommodate more cars. Or creating parking for bikers near bike trails would eliminate bike traffic through the lower lot and reduce it on a section of the main trail.

Shifting some of this funding and accelerating construction of a dedicated mountain bike park would help to eventually reduce high-speed bike conflicts at Lord Hill.

Thank you,

Charlene Marley

---

**From:** Candy Dysart <candydysart@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, October 24, 2023 1:07 PM  
**To:** Contact Council; Low, Sam; Mead, Jared; Peterson, Strom; Dunn, Megan; Nehring, Nate  
**Cc:** friendslordhill@aol.com  
**Subject:** Objection to Budget Proposal for Parking Lot Swap at Lord Hill Park Recreational Park

Hello Snohomish County Council Member and to Whom it may Concern,

Thank you for providing me with the opportunity to express my opinion regarding the upcoming budget proposal for the intended parking lot swap at Lord Hill Recreational Park. My name is Candy Dysart and I have lived in Snohomish County on Lord Hill near the park entrance since 2004. I have resided in and through property taxes, have financially supported Unincorporated Snohomish County for over 45 years.

I feel the need to voice my opinion about the proposal of spending \$2,000,000. on parking improvements. I am asking the council to reject this unfair spending designed entirely to convert the park for Speed Bike usage and forcing less for Equestrian usage for the following reasons:

1. The lower parking lot is already perfect for the current usage required for horse trailers and the safety of parking, safety for possibility of loose horses, and not a steep grade like the upper lot. The upper lot could be easily modified to accommodate additional general use car parking along most of the entryway where the play area remains. I do not feel the expense is justified on something so frivolous and unfair as swapping the parking lots. It seems this effort is for the purpose of satisfying one group of cyclists who have taken over some of the trails that used to be all purpose. The converted trails are not for anyone but speed bikes and make the connecting all purpose trails unsafe for everyone. All park users, including bikes, are supposed to yield and that doesn't always happen. It is very evident that the growing popularity of fast mountain bikes has taken precedence over every other user of the park and squeezing out equestrian usage by limiting park access. The proof of this is the willingness to spend \$2,000,000 to swap parking lots to make it happen.
2. There is no better design that works in the Equestrian lot that incorporates the lay of the land without ruining the current environment. It is sloped, it drains well, and there is a proper turning radius for larger horse trailers, so it's best to just leave it alone!
3. With the cramped small area of the upper lot, I would never be able to maneuver or safely park my extended crew cab truck with an extra large 3 horse trailer. Even if there were no other trailers in the lot, the turning radius for me is too tight. Not to mention driving too close to horses preparing to ride that are tied to trailers. I won't even try because it is way too dangerous. If this swap takes place, you will have forced me out. Even if I drove all the way around the park to the other lot off Tester Road, it would not accommodate larger trailers either, especially while people are fishing.
4. There is a huge problem with safety on the trails with High Speed Mountain Bikes, E-bikes and loose dogs. A collision of a Speed Bike and a horse with a rider or a hiker is a substantial risk of death or serious injury supporting reckless endangerment. What is going to be done to avoid this from happening? This is much more important than unnecessarily spending 2 mil on a parking lot. How is

Snohomish County going to keep users safe throughout the park without massively increasing Ranger enforcement?

5. Let's first improve safety on the trails and **abandon all speed traffic** from the park entirely. The **speed in the park should not be faster than a person can jog**. This does not mean to abandon the current traffic rules in the park to yield to Equestrian traffic and stop until you get an 'OK to proceed' from the equestrian rider acknowledging they have their horse under control. The slower speed would be safe for everyone using the park. This would alleviate accidents, mishaps, arguments between users and make the park a peaceful place instead of a potential crash course. I feel unprotected with the current looseness of rule enforcement and am forced to use the park at off hours in an effort to avoid careless Speed Bike traffic.

6. The signage for Speed Bikes Rules in intersections and 'no bike' areas was intended to be followed, but they are ignored. I have had personal dangerous experiences and near mishaps. I was dumped when a bike came from behind some trees at an intersection and my horse spooked. I understand the necessity to have a place where Speed Bikes can race. It should be another location other than Lord Hill Rec Park where they can go as fast as they want, when they want and not have to worry about injuring other park users. There are hardly enough close by safe places that people can go to enjoy the solitude and peace like Lord Hill Park without the worry of someone coming around the corner at full speed.

7. Another point is that I would rather see funds spent on security in the parking lots as well as the entire park. This would certainly deter destruction of property and encourage following the rules. If that means to require a parking permit, then maybe that might be in order. How much would it cost to have a security guard at the street entrance? There should be better signage with park rules posted also. I wonder why Bridle Trails State Park works so well? There are no bikes allowed in the park at all. There is also part time security at the entrance and park officials seen throughout the park. Currently there is no show of force at Lord Hill Park. Portable toilets are vandalized, garbage is dropped in the lots anywhere and dog poop bags are left on the trails. I often see tire scratch marks in the dirt where someone is doing donuts in the gravel and leaving ruts. More signage is needed to not leave horse poop behind also in the trailer parking area. It seems like the Ranger position could use a lot more show of authority and assistance throughout the park and punish offenders with a citation.

8. Logically and with safety in mind, it will NEVER work out having Speed Bikes on any path with pedestrians and horses especially with population growth and more users to the park. For that reason, Speed Bikes and E-Bikes should be excluded from the park and relocated to a more suitable area. The majority of the funds available could go to support a 'SPEED' cycle park at another location.

I totally understand that there are people that ride bikes, instead of horses, that just want to casually enjoy the tranquility of the trails along with hikers, joggers, dog walkers, and visitors that like to take the family out for a stroll. This slower moving group, for the most part, have learned to yield to horses and to be respectful of each other with posted information and friendly encounters.

Thank you for reading this and taking these points into consideration. I am looking forward to a peaceful and safe outcome where I can be safe and room to park my truck and horse trailer.

Record of Objection Respectfully Submitted,

Candy Dysart  
Resident of Lord Hill, Snohomish

**From:** Laura Miles <lcyork84@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, October 24, 2023 4:14 PM  
**To:** Contact Council  
**Subject:** Lord hills

I'm a Snohomish County resident living in Snohomish. My priority is in improving safety on the trails at Lord Hill Regional Park for all users, and I ask that the County not fund the Lord Hill - Parking Lot Improvements project that moves equestrian parking to the upper lot. There's not a parking lot problem — there's a parkwide problem. The problem is on the trails. High-speed mountain bikes and e-bikes travel on the multi-use trails and off-leash dogs often harass and occasionally attack park users. There is no plan to address these serious issues. Swapping lots will do nothing to fix the real problem — the lack of ranger presence and enforcement — and is an astronomical waste of taxpayer money. Recent improvements Parks has done a good job improving safety on the trails at Lord Hill Regional Park with low-cost measures like signs and other approaches that help slow down high-speed bikers at intersections. The situation has improved in the equestrian parking lot where some high-speed bikers ignore "No bike" signs and speed through, posing hazards to equestrians. The numbers of incidents in the lot have greatly decreased. Swapping lots will not solve safety problems and will only create more hazards for equestrians. Mitigation can't solve the steep grade at the drive up to the upper lot. A lot swap would not provide safety, separation and direct access to horse/hiker trails as the Parks plan has claimed. The swap does not provide separation from bikes as equestrians still would have to use the multi-use pipeline to get to their trails. It does not provide direct access to horse/hiker trails. The new route places equestrians farther away from the horse/hiker trails. The plan also prevents equestrians from making a loop and forces them to return to the parking lot by backtracking the way they came. Don't waste money trying to solve a problem that doesn't exist. Stop ignoring problems that exist. Parks has no real data on the extent of the ongoing problems. Most of the incidents go unreported to Parks because there's no information in the park or on the website about how to report an incident. Do not swap parking lots. Keep the lots as they currently are. The lower lot meets all equestrian parking safety standards. Better suggested uses of funding Scheduling a ranger patrol at high-peak times would significantly reduce the incidents of high-speed mountain bikers, e-bikes and off-leash dogs. Reconfiguring the upper lot would accommodate more cars. Or creating parking for bikers near bike trails would eliminate bike traffic through the lower lot and reduce it on a section of the main trail. Shifting some of this funding and accelerating construction of a dedicated mountain bike park would help to eventually reduce high-speed bike conflicts at Lord Hill. Thank you,  
Laura Miles

**From:** Sara Jane Johnson <sarajane10@comcast.net>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, October 24, 2023 4:46 PM  
**To:** Contact Council  
**Subject:** Lord hill parking lot swap

Hello. We equestrians have attended meetings and voiced our concerns for quite some time now. I am apposed of switching the parking lots between equestrians and hiker/bikers. Unless you can promise us with a large parking lot for easy access and maneuverability, I'm not convinced that will happen. The equestrian parking lot as it stands has worked quite well. It wasn't until the Covid era that there was a terrible overflow of hikers/bikers into our parking lot. I strongly feel that the upper parking lot should be enlarged for the hiker/bikers. Even if it means purchasing nearby land. 2 million dollars is a substantial amount of money for this project. I hope you can work something out to preserve our existing Equestrian parking lot. Sincerely, Sara Jane Johnson.  
Sent from my iPad

**From:** friendslordhill@aol.com  
**Sent:** Tuesday, October 24, 2023 9:35 PM  
**To:** Contact Council  
**Subject:** Comment on budget for Lord Hill parking-lot swap

As a longtime Snohomish resident and frequent hiker and equestrian at Lord Hill Regional Park, my interests are in improving safety on the trails for all users. I urge the County not to fund the project that moves equestrian parking to the upper lot.

**There's not a parking lot problem — there's a parkwide problem.**

The problem is on the trails — not in the parking lot. High-speed mountain bikes and e-bikes travel on the multi-use trails, and off-leash dogs often harass and occasionally attack park users -- children, adults, horses and other dogs. There is no plan to address these serious issues.

**Swapping lots will do nothing to fix the real problem — the lack of ranger presence and enforcement — and is an astronomical waste of taxpayer money.**

The situation has improved in the equestrian parking lot even though some high-speed bikers still ignore “No bike” signs and speed through, posing hazards to equestrians. The numbers of incidents in the lot have greatly decreased while the incidents on the trails are frequent.

Swapping lots will not solve safety problems and will only create more hazards for equestrians. Mitigation can't solve the steep grade at the drive up to the upper lot.

**A lot swap would not provide safety, separation and direct access to horse/hiker trails as the Parks plan has claimed.**

The swap does not provide separation from bikes as equestrians still would have to use the multi-use pipeline to get to their trails.

It does not provide direct access to horse/hiker trails.

The new route places equestrians farther away from the horse/hiker trails.

The plan also prevents equestrians from making a loop and forces them to return to the parking lot by backtracking the way they came.

**Don't waste money trying to solve a problem that doesn't exist.**

**Stop ignoring problems that exist.**

Parks has no real data on the extent of the ongoing problems. Most of the incidents go unreported to Parks because there's no information in the park or on the website about how to report an incident.

**Do not swap parking lots.** Keep the lots as they currently are. The lower lot meets all equestrian parking safety standards.

**Better suggested uses of funding**

Scheduling a ranger to enforce park rules would significantly reduce the incidents of high-speed mountain bikers, e-bikes and off-leash dogs.

Reconfiguring the upper lot would accommodate more cars. Or creating parking for bikers near bike trails would eliminate bike traffic through the lower lot and reduce it on a section of the main trail.

Shifting some of this funding and accelerating construction of a dedicated mountain bike park would help to eventually reduce high-speed bike conflicts at Lord Hill.

Thank you,  
Joan Deutsch

Ordinance 23-121

EXHIBIT 5.21

Budget Public Hearing – 10/24/23 @ 10:30 a.m.

[Minutes](#) and [Video](#)



Ordinance 23-121

EXHIBIT 5.22

Budget Public Hearing – 10/24/23 @ 6:00 p.m.

[Minutes](#) and [Video](#)

# SIGN IN

Snohomish County Council

SNOHOMISH COUNTY COUNCIL

2024 Budget

EXHIBIT # 5.22.A

Public Hearing

FILE ORD 23-121

October 24, 2023 @ ~~10:30~~ a.m.

6:00 PM

**PLEASE PRINT CLEARLY**

**\*Sign-In Sheets are subject to RCW 42.30/Open Public Meetings Act and are posted on the Council webpage(s)**

NAME:	CITY OF RESIDENCE:
1. <u>Rod Reed</u>	<u>MARSHVILLE</u>
2. <u>Tim Roff</u>	<u>Snohomish</u>
3. <u>Kelly K</u>	<u>Arlington</u>
4. <u>Jan T</u>	<u>STANWOOD</u>
5. <u>Brad Wright</u>	<u>Everett</u>
6. <u>Tyler Verd</u>	<u>Everett</u>
7.	
8.	
9.	
10.	
11.	
12.	
13.	
14.	
15.	

Ordinance 23-121

EXHIBIT 5.23

General Legislative Session Meeting – 10/25/23

[Minutes](#) and [Video](#)

**From:** Michael Kozak <lhillmike@yahoo.com>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, October 25, 2023 12:06 PM  
**To:** Contact Council  
**Subject:** Don't fund Lord Hill parking-lot swap

To: The Snohomish County Council

I've been hiking and horseback riding in Lord Hill Regional Park since it opened in 1995. I've seen the park go from a serene nature haven where hikers, equestrians and bikers shared the trails respectfully -- to the Wild West -- where high-speed bikers, e-bikes (which are not allowed) and off-leash dogs ignore posted etiquette and rules, posing hazards to other users.

I ask the County Council not to fund the project that moves equestrians out of their current lot that was purchased for them in 2009 to solve the safety problems in the steep upper lot.

Swapping lots will do nothing to fix the real problem — the lack of ranger presence and enforcement — and is an astronomical waste of taxpayer money.

The equestrian community has repeatedly asked Parks to leave horses in the current parking lot. **Below is the list of 127 names of equestrians who signed an email in January 2023 urging Parks to leave parking as is.**

**There's not a parking lot problem — there's a parkwide problem.** The problem is on the trails — not in the parking lot.

**A lot swap would not provide safety, separation and direct access to horse/hiker trails as the Parks plan has claimed.**

The swap does not provide separation from bikes because equestrians still would have to use the multi-use pipeline to get to their trails.

It does not provide direct access to horse/hiker trails.

The new route places equestrians farther away from the horse/hiker trails.

The plan also prevents equestrians from making a loop and forces them to return to the parking lot by backtracking the way they came.

**Parks has no real data on the extent of the ongoing problems.** Most of the incidents go unreported to Parks because there's no information in the park or on the website about how to report an incident.

#### **Better suggested uses of funding**

Scheduling a ranger to enforce park rules would significantly reduce the incidents of high-speed mountain bikers, e-bikes and off-leash dogs.

Reconfiguring the upper lot would accommodate more cars. Or creating parking for bikers near bike trails would eliminate bike traffic through the lower lot and reduce it on a section of the main trail.

Shifting some of this funding and accelerating construction of a dedicated mountain bike park would help to eventually reduce high-speed bike conflicts at Lord Hill.

Thank you,

Mike Kozak  
Snohomish

Below are the names of equestrians who signed an email in January 2023 asking Parks to leave equestrians in their current parking lot:

Deborah Chase,  
Monroe/Sultan  
Chuck McArthur, Snohomish  
Barb Berg, Snohomish  
Kim Head, Snohomish  
Connie Noll, Snohomish  
Elva Van Donge, Snohomish  
Joan Deutsch, Snohomish  
Rhonda Schlupp, Snohomish  
Mike Kozak, Snohomish  
Jerry Van Donge, Snohomish  
Tracey Goddard, Stanwood  
Doug Barber, Snohomish  
Laarin Lee Barber,  
Snohomish  
Kristina Moody, Monroe  
Diane Nawfel, Snohomish  
Laura Cole, Kirkland  
Jennifer Anderson, Mill Creek  
Jennifer Laible, Snohomish  
Henry Lailbe, Snohomish  
Susan Lessley, Tulalip  
Jeff Klein, Snohomish  
Elizabeth Klein, Snohomish  
Alynn Prins, Snohomish  
Beth Carey, Redmond  
Jeannette Ford, Stanwood  
Rachael Woods, Everett  
Jay Holzer, Mill Creek  
Scott Holzer, Marysville  
Jodi York, Snohomish  
Cassie Roemer, Snohomish  
Troy Jones, Monroe  
Kendall Johnson, Monroe  
Lisa Smith, Monroe  
Stacy Griesmer, Monroe  
Linda Riley, Bow  
Tim Riley, Bow  
Julie Riley, Burlington  
Sheila Keller, Arlington  
Allan Weed, Arlington  
Ginger Kunz, Snohomish  
Elaina Kunz, Snohomish  
Alicia Lampers, Snohomish

Beth Ferris, Arlington  
Ron Schlupp, Snohomish  
Dr. Rich Guthrie DVM,  
Snohomish  
Bonnie Davis, Snohomish  
Maureen Polcuch, Snohomish  
Marylou Nakonecznyj,  
Snohomish  
Louise Guthrie, Snohomish  
Wendy Kondo, Edmonds  
Gail Blaske, Snohomish  
Charlene Marley, Monroe  
Angela Farnsworth, Lake  
Stevens  
Marla Lucas, Snohomish  
David Barron, Snohomish  
Alexandra Barron, Snohomish  
Patti Reid, Monroe/Sultan  
Mary Shank, Snohomish  
Stephen Crawford, Snohomish  
Karen Crawford, Snohomish  
Lorri Michael, Snohomish  
Jim Michael, Snohomish  
Harmony Hunter, Mill Creek  
Karen Pooley, Snohomish  
Cheryl DeShon, Kenmore  
Dan DeShon, Kenmore  
Cleo Bishop, Snohomish  
Dan Bishop, Snohomish  
Georgene Williams, Snohomish  
Doug Williams, Snohomish  
Sarah Johnston, Snohomish  
Barb Peterson, Snohomish  
Laura Miles, Snohomish  
Melinda Rinaldi, Lake Stevens  
Alicia Lampers, Snohomish  
Cheryl Kearney, Snohomish  
Becky Jackson, Snohomish  
Jane Millar, Woodinville  
Janet Anthony, Everett  
Laurie Westvang, Marysville  
Michael Kee, Marysville  
Randi Ramsey, Arlington  
Marianne Honeycutt, Arlington  
Roberta Crosby, Camano  
Island

Cathy Nelson, Snohomish  
Pat Pehling, Snohomish  
Dave Lucas, Snohomish  
Suzy Hannus, Snohomish  
Janelle Wilton, Lake  
Stevens  
Mary K Kraus, Snohomish  
Robert Hannus,  
Snohomish  
Jerry Lenz, Snohomish  
Candy Dysart, Snohomish  
Penny Booker, Lake  
Stevens  
Paula Holzer, Mill Creek  
Ronn Holzer, Mill Creek  
Lois Johnson, Snohomish  
Dianna Davis, Snohomish  
BJ Lee, Snohomish  
Sue Bell, Sultan  
Richard Sears, Monroe  
Mary Kay Els, Arlington  
Theresa Moran,  
Snohomish  
Mike Reid, Bothell  
Tamara King, Snohomish  
Eric Leung, Snohomish  
Jenny McCall, Snohomish  
Linda Quimby,  
Snohomish  
Sara Jane Johnson,  
Monroe  
Cindy Woods, Snohomish  
Susan Johnson, Monroe  
Lauren Rudnick, Machias  
Bobbi Criswell,  
Snohomish  
Stacy Criswell,  
Snohomish  
Craig Hertz, Monroe  
Dave Rinaldi, Lake  
Stevens  
Donna Breske,  
Snohomish  
Roz Kingman, Sultan  
Tina Price, Lake Stevens  
Piper Fecht, Snohomish  
Lori Orcutt, Alger

Peggy O'Harrow Lynch,  
Redmond

Fred Honeycutt, Arlington  
Vicky Lawson, Duvall  
Dean Odegard, Duvall  
Becky Jackson,  
Snohomish  
Cheryl Kearney,  
Snohomish

**From:** LakeStevensRider <lakestevensrider@yahoo.com>  
**Sent:** Thursday, October 26, 2023 2:49 PM  
**To:** Contact Council  
**Subject:** Lord Hill Park

Dear Councilmembers,

I strongly feel that spending the money to switch the Equestrian Parking lot is being wasteful with resources. Possibly putting those funds to completing the Mountain Bike Park that can create a better atmosphere for mountain bikers would be a much better use of those funds. Parking in the upper lot will be hard for a lot of folks that have larger rigs. There are equestrians that have moved to the area of the Park solely to ride there and a lot of others that haul in from other areas to ride at Lord Hill. The Snohomish 4-H have used it for 4-H events and most likely would do so again if the existing equestrian parking lot remains.

The Park has many others that recreate on the trails and having a peaceful outing at the park is their primary goal.

Everyone should have a place to go that they enjoy and building a Mountain Bike area with the appropriate challenges would serve to make outings more enjoyable for all users.

Thank you,

Penny Booker

---

**From:** friendslordhill@aol.com  
**Sent:** Friday, October 27, 2023 3:12 PM  
**To:** Dunn, Megan; Contact Council  
**Subject:** Re: Your block of Low's proposal

Council Member Dunn,

Thank you for your explanation. I appreciate the clarity as I'm not familiar with the budget process. The word "block" came from another Council Member's response.

Hikers and equestrians have been raising these ongoing safety issues for a decade with Parks, but our reports of incidents and concerns have fallen on deaf ears.

There was no public process in the decision to swap parking lots. Parks is only addressing the parking lot which doesn't solve the real problems on the trails and creates even more safety issues.

I'm aware that it would be unusual to schedule a ranger at Lord Hill, but Lord Hill is a unique situation. At 1,463 acres and nearly 30 miles of trails, it's the largest park in the county system. The extreme sport of high-speed, downhill biking is mixed in with other slow users. Many parents come with small children running back and forth across trails. There often are other parents with baby strollers. A few years ago, a high-speed bike rider came within an inch of hitting a baby stroller.

These extreme bikers need a dedicated downhill bike location.

We have requested a ranger be scheduled at various times to provide a presence and enforcement. This would solve the bulk of the problems. Any rangers added for Lord Hill could also be used across other parks. Signs play an important role, but a large percent of park users ignore them. If these bad actors thought they might see a ranger on the trail, many folks would clean up their acts. Right now it's common knowledge that rangers are not scheduled in the park.

Just today we encountered four women with five large off-leash dogs. The dogs were out of control and charged at our horses about 9 am and again about 10:30 am. It was an intense and difficult situation to handle and could have ended very badly. We know of other people, dogs and horses that have been injured in off-leash dog attacks in the park.

We hope we have your support to craft an amendment that blocks funding for the parking-lot swap and improves safety throughout the park now — not in three to five years — and is cost effective.

I would welcome an opportunity to talk with you about my perspective if more history would be useful.

Joan Deutsch  
425-417-9028

On Thursday, October 26, 2023 at 02:36:35 PM PDT, Dunn, Megan <megan.dunn@co.snohomish.wa.us> wrote:

Dear Joan,

Thank you for continuing to be engaged with matters regarding Lord Hill Park and taking the time to write in and share your concerns.

As you know, Council has been reviewing and deliberating the Executive's Proposed 2024 Budget, and at our October 25 council meeting, councilmembers had our first discussion about Council-proposed amendments and Budget Conditions/Notes. The purpose of this meeting was to take a first look at the totality of councilmembers' proposals and



determine which items already have consensus from the full council. These items with no concerns or requests for further information are then moved to a consensus slate and will be voted on all at once at the final budget hearing. If a councilmember had a question, concerns, or requests for more information then an item was flagged for more clarification from staff before the item comes back before council for a final vote at the final budget hearing.

CM Nehring did not support the two Park Ranger positions because they did not have new revenue associated with them. I asked for continued conversations on the two items regarding Lord Hill Park because the amendments and notes as written were ambiguous and necessitate further information from our Parks Department before implementing. My analysis didn't show that they are ready for a final vote as-is and I wouldn't support a poorly written amendment. One amendment would add two park rangers, one of which would be assigned full-time at Lord Hill Park. Snohomish County has a large parks system and manages 12,000 acres of parks across 121 park properties and adding a Ranger at just one park is not in line with department practices.

The Budget Condition that was proposed stated that the money appropriated for the Lord Hill Parking Lot improvements would be conditional "until a community supported construction plan has been presented to Council". I asked that before we move this to a final vote, there was further clarity on what a "community supported construction plan" is, how that would be agreed upon, and who would do the work to put this together. If there was opposition from one sector, such as bicyclist or equestrian groups, this poorly written condition would prevent any improvements from happening.

Councilmember Peterson also shared my concerns asking if there is necessary staff time and cost from our Parks Department to do that work, and Councilmember Low also agreed and supported that it would be pulled for further discussions and analysis. It's also not clear if the funding source for capital improvements could be used for community outreach.

Sharing concerns on items at this week's budget meeting was not a "block"; it was calling out an opportunity to make sure we get things right before setting a ball in motion that has unintended consequences or a financial requirement of the county that we can't meet. I hope Councilmember Low is willing to work with the Department and council to find consensus.

I listened closely to the testimony that you and many of your fellow trail users shared at council meetings and am hopeful that we can get to a decision that meets your needs and works well for everyone, but to get there, we need further discussions.

If you have any further comments or concerns, I encourage you to write to the full council at [contact.council@snoco.org](mailto:contact.council@snoco.org) so that all councilmembers are aware of your input as we continue through budget deliberations.

Sincerely,

**Megan Dunn** | *Snohomish County Councilmember, District 2*

O: (425) 388-3494 | [megan.dunn@snoco.org](mailto:megan.dunn@snoco.org)

Pronouns: she/her/hers

NOTICE: All emails and attachments sent to and from Snohomish County are public records and may be subject to disclosure pursuant to the Public Records Act (RCW 42.56).

---

**From:** friendlordhill@aol.com <friendlordhill@aol.com>  
**Sent:** Thursday, October 26, 2023 9:41 AM  
**To:** Dunn, Megan <Megan.Dunn@co.snohomish.wa.us>  
**Subject:** Your block of Low's proposal



CAUTION. This email originated from outside of this organization. Please exercise caution with links and attachments.

Good morning, Council Member Dunn:

I'm writing because I understand Council Member Sam Low presented a proposal to the Snohomish County Council on Wednesday Oct. 25, 2023, for more Park Rangers at Lord Hill Park and to block funding for the parking-lot swap unless the equestrian community is engaged for support, and that you blocked it.

What are your concerns about Council Member Low's proposal for improving safety within Lord Hill Park for all users — hikers, equestrians, bikers, etc.?

Are you willing to support improving safety for all users, including the equestrian community?

I'm surprised that any candidate endorsed by the Washington Conservation Action and Sierra Club would oppose a project that preserves Lord Hill as the slow, quiet, serene haven it was created to be for all users — hikers, equestrians and bikers. The Land Conservancy also was involved with enhancing this nature park with a large addition to the park about 2000.

In the last 10 years, after bikers installed 7 miles of unauthorized high-speed, downhill bike trails, there have been an increasing number of dangerous high-speed bike encounters and accidents with children, hikers and equestrians. E-bikes which are allowed at other appropriate trail systems are not allowed at Lord Hill because of the many narrow winding trails and large number of other park users. Without enforcement, the number of e-bikes is proliferating. The incidents of off-leash dog problems and attacks also has skyrocketed.

Scheduling a ranger on the trails would solve these problems.

We are not anti-bike. Low-speed bikers have done a good job of sharing the trails. The \$2 million proposed for the lot swap could go toward escalating the search and purchase of a dedicated high-speed, downhill biking park. This type of extreme biking deserves its own location where bikers don't have to worry about other users. The Lord Hill biking community is extremely enthusiastic about the search for a new county bike location. They likely would be thrilled with \$2 million for that project.

There also are several other locations at Lord Hill where a parking lot for bikers could be created near their trail system, minimizing their travel on the multi-use entrance trail, greatly reducing conflicts.

I urge you to either support Council Member Low's proposal or provide another solution for final budget adoption in November that improves safety for all users, including equestrians, at Lord Hill now and doesn't cost millions of dollars.

Joan Deutsch  
Snohomish

**Below is the list of 127 names of equestrians who signed an email in January 2023 urging Parks to leave equestrians in their current parking lot.**

Deborah Chase,  
Monroe/Sultan  
Chuck McArthur, Snohomish  
Barb Berg, Snohomish  
Kim Head, Snohomish  
Connie Noll, Snohomish  
Elva Van Donge, Snohomish  
Joan Deutsch, Snohomish  
Rhonda Schlupp, Snohomish  
Mike Kozak, Snohomish  
Jerry Van Donge, Snohomish  
Tracey Goddard, Stanwood  
Doug Barber, Snohomish  
Laarin Lee Barber,  
Snohomish  
Kristina Moody, Monroe  
Diane Nawfel, Snohomish  
Laura Cole, Kirkland  
Jennifer Anderson, Mill Creek  
Jennifer Laible, Snohomish  
Henry Lailbe, Snohomish  
Susan Lessley, Tulalip  
Jeff Klein, Snohomish  
Elizabeth Klein, Snohomish  
Alynn Prins, Snohomish  
Beth Carey, Redmond  
Jeannette Ford, Stanwood  
Rachael Woods, Everett  
Jay Holzer, Mill Creek  
Scott Holzer, Marysville  
Jodi York, Snohomish  
Cassie Roemer, Snohomish  
Troy Jones, Monroe  
Kendall Johnson, Monroe  
Lisa Smith, Monroe  
Stacy Griesmer, Monroe  
Linda Riley, Bow  
Tim Riley, Bow

Beth Ferris, Arlington  
Ron Schlupp, Snohomish  
Dr. Rich Guthrie DVM,  
Snohomish  
Bonnie Davis, Snohomish  
Maureen Polcuch, Snohomish  
Marylou Nakonecznyj,  
Snohomish  
Louise Guthrie, Snohomish  
Wendy Kondo, Edmonds  
Gail Blaske, Snohomish  
Charlene Marley, Monroe  
Angela Farnsworth, Lake  
Stevens  
Marla Lucas, Snohomish  
David Barron, Snohomish  
Alexandra Barron, Snohomish  
Patti Reid, Monroe/Sultan  
Mary Shank, Snohomish  
Stephen Crawford, Snohomish  
Karen Crawford, Snohomish  
Lorri Michael, Snohomish  
Jim Michael, Snohomish  
Harmony Hunter, Mill Creek  
Karen Pooley, Snohomish  
Cheryl DeShon, Kenmore  
Dan DeShon, Kenmore  
Cleo Bishop, Snohomish  
Dan Bishop, Snohomish  
Georgene Williams, Snohomish  
Doug Williams, Snohomish  
Sarah Johnston, Snohomish  
Barb Peterson, Snohomish  
Laura Miles, Snohomish  
Melinda Rinaldi, Lake Stevens  
Alicia Lampers, Snohomish  
Cheryl Kearney, Snohomish  
Becky Jackson, Snohomish

Cathy Nelson, Snohomish  
Pat Pehling, Snohomish  
Dave Lucas, Snohomish  
Suzy Hannus, Snohomish  
Janelle Wilton, Lake  
Stevens  
Mary K Kraus, Snohomish  
Robert Hannus,  
Snohomish  
Jerry Lenz, Snohomish  
Candy Dysart, Snohomish  
Penny Booker, Lake  
Stevens  
Paula Holzer, Mill Creek  
Ronn Holzer, Mill Creek  
Lois Johnson, Snohomish  
Dianna Davis, Snohomish  
BJ Lee, Snohomish  
Sue Bell, Sultan  
Richard Sears, Monroe  
Mary Kay Els, Arlington  
Theresa Moran,  
Snohomish  
Mike Reid, Bothell  
Tamara King, Snohomish  
Eric Leung, Snohomish  
Jenny McCall, Snohomish  
Linda Quimby,  
Snohomish  
Sara Jane Johnson,  
Monroe  
Cindy Woods, Snohomish  
Susan Johnson, Monroe  
Lauren Rudnick, Machias  
Bobbi Criswell,  
Snohomish  
Stacy Criswell,  
Snohomish

Julie Riley, Burlington  
Sheila Keller, Arlington  
Allan Weed, Arlington  
Ginger Kunz, Snohomish  
Elaina Kunz, Snohomish  
Alicia Lampers, Snohomish

Jane Millar, Woodinville  
Janet Anthony, Everett  
Laurie Westvang, Marysville  
Michael Kee, Marysville  
Randi Ramsey, Arlington  
Marianne Honeycutt, Arlington  
Roberta Crosby, Camano  
Island  
Peggy O'Harrow Lynch,  
Redmond

Craig Hertz, Monroe  
Dave Rinaldi, Lake  
Stevens  
Donna Breske,  
Snohomish  
Roz Kingman, Sultan  
Tina Price, Lake Stevens  
Piper Fecht, Snohomish  
Lori Orcutt, Alger  
Fred Honeycutt, Arlington  
Vicky Lawson, Duvall  
Dean Odegard, Duvall  
Becky Jackson,  
Snohomish  
Cheryl Kearney,  
Snohomish

**From:** friendlordhill@aol.com  
**Sent:** Monday, October 30, 2023 12:12 PM  
**To:** Low, Sam; Contact Council  
**Subject:** Proposal for Lord Hill safety

Council Member Low,

We are grateful for your efforts to solve safety problems at Lord Hill Regional Park.

We hope the Council will be able to work together and also with Parks to solve the safety issues at Lord Hill by not funding the lot swap and by adding some ranger enforcement at Lord Hill.

On the proposal to block \$2 million for a parking-lot swap, I have a question about the reference to the "community supported construction plan." Does that mean that Parks needs to get the equestrians on board for the lot swap? The vast majority of the equestrian community does not want a lot swap regardless of how Parks can mitigate. We hope the final language does not require equestrians to get on board with the swap. Please just stop the swap.

**Parks reasons for swapping lots are flawed.**

**The Pressure Point** shown on the Parks graphic for the lot swap is actually a point that equestrians pointed out in 2018 when they asked Parks to install No Bike signs because bikes were riding through the horse lot at high speed. Parks did add No Bike signs and that helped tremendously.

All park users do not need to be funneled through that spot marked as Pressure Point. The new entrance trail from the upper lot could be connected with the main trail 20 feet or more to the northeast away from the site marked as Pressure Point. That would separate horses and bikers without swapping lots.

**A lot swap would not provide safety, separation and direct access to horse/hiker trails as the Parks plan has claimed.**

**Not safe:** Swapping lots will not solve safety problems and will only create more hazards for equestrians. Mitigation can't solve the steep grade at the drive up to the upper lot or other problems.

**No separation:** The swap does not provide separation from bikes as equestrians still would have to use the multi-use pipeline to get to their trails.

**No direct access:** It does not provide direct access to horse/hiker trails. The new route places equestrians farther away from the horse/hiker trails.

The plan also prevents equestrians from making a loop and forces them to return to the parking lot by backtracking the way they came. This is especially a problem for riders who are only out for an hour or so.

**Do not swap parking lots.** Keep the lots as they currently are. The lower lot meets all equestrian parking safety standards.

A ranger presence on the trails at various times would help solve most safety issues.

Sincerely,

Joan Deutsch  
425-417-9028

**From:** Marcia Miller <marcia@thorntoncreek.com>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, October 31, 2023 1:49 PM  
**To:** Contact Council  
**Subject:** We need the Office of Social Justice

Dear County Council Members,

I am a lifelong resident of Snohomish County. I am also a member of the NAACP Snohomish County and am opposed to any decrease in funding for the Office of Social Justice. The office does important work on behalf of communities of color in our county and has never been adequately staffed. Communities of color are already underserved in this county. Please do no more harm. Thank you for your public service.

Sincerely,

Marcia Miller  
Edmonds

**From:** Bill Reed <bill@billreedconsulting.com>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, October 31, 2023 2:43 PM  
**To:** Contact Council  
**Cc:** Somers, Dave J; Bill Reed  
**Subject:** SnoCo Office for Social Justice

Dear Council Members,

I am a member of the NAACP Snohomish County and am opposed to any decrease in funding for the Office of Social Justice. The office does important work on behalf of communities of color in our county and has never been adequately staffed. Communities of color are already underserved in Snohomish county. The Office of Social Justice is severely understaffed, and it is concerning that this situation may be self-perpetuating because of the lack of staffing. The demand for services and inclusion for communities of color and immigrants is steadily increasing in our county. The considered action of diverting funding away from this needed service is wrongheaded. Please do no more harm. Thank you for your public service.

Sincerely,

Bill Reed

---

**From:** Deborah Chase <DeborahChase@msn.com>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, November 1, 2023 12:21 AM  
**To:** Contact Council  
**Cc:** Nehring, Nate; Dunn, Megan; Peterson, Strom; Mead, Jared; Low, Sam  
**Subject:** Budget Comments Regarding Lord Hill Park CIP Projects  
**Attachments:** AttachA\_LHRP\_ParkwideConflicts.pdf; AttachB\_PkgLotComparisons.pdf; AttachC\_10-20-22\_EquestrianPkgLotSwapLetter2Parks.pdf

***First, let me introduce myself.***

- My name is Deborah Chase and I am a former and current elected official as well as a retired Project Manager. I helped incorporate the City of Kenmore in 1997, served on the interim and first full Kenmore councils, ending the last 2 years of my full council term as Mayor from 2001-2003.
- I am currently serving as a Commissioner for Snohomish County Fire District 5.
- My 30-year project management experience began in telecommunications at US West Cellular (merging to AirTouch then Verizon Wireless) and ended at HDR Engineering where I was a multi-discipline civil engineering project manager. I managed budgets ranging from individual projects of up to \$6 million to full department budgets of \$60 million.
- As a side note: while Mayor of Kenmore, then Council Member Dave Somers and I attended a community officials meeting with Senator Patty Murray, my junior high and high school classmate.

I highly respect the work of local elected officials, especially when it is done well. But doing it well requires balancing citizen wants with needs, focused toward finding the common good.

***So why am I writing to you?***

I'm submitting additional comments beyond my 3-minute testimony via Zoom at the October 24<sup>th</sup> 10:30 am budget hearing as 3 minutes is a woefully small amount of time to give a robust argument for or against a budget item. Conversely, I fully understand the need to keep in-person comments short to allow all comers a chance to speak.

As a fellow elected official, I'm astounded that neither Parks, the County Executive, nor the majority of this Council see the need to take a step back and listen to the equestrian community's safety concerns about moving them to the upper parking lot. This isn't a "you're not listening to what I want" or "how dare you take something away from me" moment. It is instead an "I can't believe Parks can't see how unsafe the upper lot is for me and my horse, no matter how much grading or mitigation Parks tries to add, and how much it screams to equestrians – GO AWAY. Your safety doesn't matter to us".



If Parks had studied and gathered data about where the conflict points producing accidents and near misses actually occur, there would be good data to start planning how to ensure safety throughout the park. That hasn't happened, and just because Parks is "unaware" of problems doesn't mean they don't exist. Instead, Parks with the Executive's support is plowing forward with a solution to address safety concerns conceived in a consultant-led charette attended only by Parks personnel where neither the consultant nor the personnel had any demonstrable experience with equestrian design or guidelines. That exercise appears to have completely ignored safety concerns throughout the park except in the equestrian parking lot and the main trail entrance from that lot.

There are far more conflict areas in the park than the equestrian parking lot. **See Attachment A**, a map with notes showing the many points of conflict (both incidents and near misses) throughout the park.

To be clear, moving equestrians to the upper lot has serious flaws, making the parking area and trailhead inherently dangerous for equestrians every time they come to the park, and does nothing to improve safety parkwide. Please **see Attachment B** shared with Parks with details of how the upper lot does not and cannot comply with *Equestrian Design Guidebook for Trails, Trailheads and Campgrounds, 2007* (developed with US Forest Service and Federal Highway Administration) guidelines.

***Equestrians have opposed the parking lot swap since it was unilaterally imposed by Parks***

In July 2022 Parks issued the Lord Hill Regional Park Final Preferred Plan in a Zoom meeting that included significant unilateral changes from the March 2022 Draft Preferred Plan, none of which were vetted with the public prior to addition. Those changes included:

- a parking lot swap,
- a new equestrian and hiker trail from the north lot,
- making a long section of the Main Trail hiker/biker only so equestrians no longer have a full loop at the north section of the park,
- reversing the slow park concept,
- dropping the plan to create equal mileage for equestrians and bikers and disallowing building of previously approved equestrian/hiker trails, and
- adding back biker-only trail designations that exclude hikers and retain most high-speed flow trails built without approval.

Equestrian stakeholders were not given any opportunity for review or input. In response, Parks stated the process was going on 6 years and Parks needed to make the plan happen now.

On October 20, 2022, members of the greater equestrian community (127 via grassroots outreach in 3 days) requested a clarification from the Parks October 2022 Park Updates newsletter regarding the timing for the parking lot swap versus the 10/10/22 meeting agreement with the Lord Hill project manager and notified Parks they oppose the parking lot swap. **See Attachment C** for a copy of the letter.

### ***Let's talk budget numbers . . .***

The 2023-2028 CIP adopted by Council included \$1,351,844 for the Lord Hill Preferred Plan Updates. Now, a year later, the total for Lord Hill projects (now 3) in the 2024-2029 CIP is \$3,249,414, an increase of 240% or 2.4 times higher than the prior year.

The newly separated Lord Hill Parking Lot Improvement project is now estimated to be \$2,179,690, a three- to four-fold increase over the 2023-2028 CIP.

If you approve the Executive Recommended 2004-2029 CIP with the LHRP Parking Lot Improvement project as is, you are approving spending a minimum of \$2 million to do almost nothing to improve safety at the park. And you'll be rewarding the bullying behavior of a small number of mountain bikers.

In my view of good government, it is incumbent on you, the council, to ask in-depth questions before approving CIP elements your citizens express concerns about. For example:

- How does the parking lot swap improve safety throughout the park?
- What additional data was collected and compiled (e.g., observations, trail camera video footage, park user input and comments, outreach questionnaires) to determine the full extent of safety issues and/or concerns throughout the park?
- What experts in mitigating conflicts between park user groups were consulted before deciding to implement a parking lot swap?
- What was done to engage the affected user groups in a public process related to a parking lot swap before it was included in the Preferred Plan?

### ***In case you haven't heard:***

1. Parks worked with a consultant to develop the conceptual parking lots once swapped – this consultant has only one equestrian project on their resume – an eastern Washington campground where horse trailer parking was included in the campsite design. This does not qualify the consultant to design an equestrian parking lot, especially when neither Parks nor the consultant followed the *Equestrian Design Guidebook for Trails, Trailheads and Campgrounds* guidelines.

2. There have been serious injuries inside the Park, far from the equestrian parking lot, resulting from incidents between speeding mountain bikers and both equestrians and hikers. They range from bruises related to falls to broken arms and concussions.

Parks will say they haven't heard about many of the incidents throughout the park, and that is partially correct.

- There is no reporting system other than calling 911, and recently those calls have only happened a few times for incidents in the equestrian parking lot.
- There are reasons for that – it is difficult to control a spooked horse and get out a cell phone to call 911 on a trail.
- The confrontations in the parking lot are actually safer for equestrians as the parking lot is a large open space where one can more easily dismount and control a horse during a confrontation.
- Many equestrians have reported both concerns and specific details about incidents to Parks, with little to no success. Why? Parks has no internal tracking system for reported incidents, nor any external reporting information available to park users.

3. Parks personnel, specifically a Park Ranger, worked with mountain bikers on unauthorized work parties to build fast downhill mountain bike trails and high-speed berms and jumps between 2017-2022.

- At the same time, a copy of the proposed trail system (with "Proposed" cropped out) was posted on an LHRP mountain biker Facebook page. Many confrontations followed as bikers believed the trails on the proposed map marked biker only were already in effect and Parks only posted a map at the kiosks and on-line showing all trails were open to all users. This map was finally updated by Parks in 2023.
- Wayfinding was a problem for all users as trails did not have signage, prompting an equestrian group to give Parks several thousand dollars to add signs. Instead, Parks used the money to build a kiosk and post the maps showing trails were open to all.

The parking lot swap is just as ill-advised and poorly managed as how Parks has addressed safety concerns from roughly 2015 through today as the unauthorized high-speed downhill bike trails have drawn a huge increase in mountain bikers.

***In closing:***

As council members you bear a fiduciary responsibility to the citizens of Snohomish County to ensure that the budgets and expenditures you approve are both cost effective and appropriate.

The parking lot swap is not cost effective, appropriate, or effective in solving safety issues and concerns throughout the park.

I urge you to remove funding for the portion of the Lord Hill Parking Lot Improvements project related to a parking lot swap from the 2024-2029 CIP budget and apply those 2024 budgeted CIP dollars to either trail cameras with hardened cases and cable locks to allow Parks to compile information about conflict points throughout the park, or to the Mountain Biking Park feasibility study to accelerate its development.

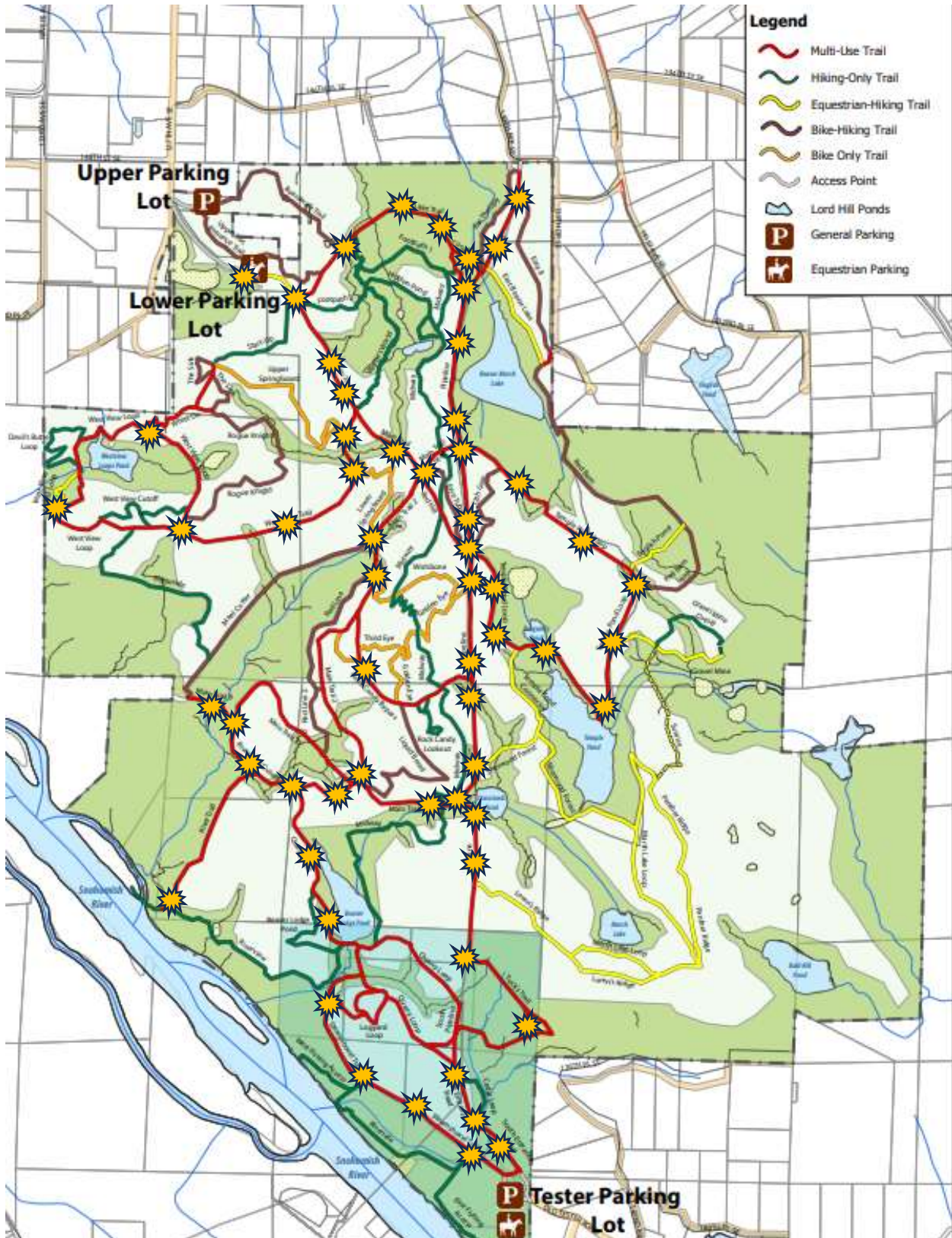
I also urge you to request additional Park Ranger patrols throughout the park, both emphasis and educational, during both peak park usage and various other times to curb the behaviors that make the park unsafe for many users.

Thank you for your attention and consideration.

Deborah Chase

# Points of Conflict in Lord Hill Regional Park

☀ Conflict Points noted include those with speeding mountain bikes and off-leash dogs.  
See Notes on page 2 for additional details.



## Points of Conflict in Lord Hill Regional Park

### Conflict Point Notes:

- The conflict points represent where incidents and near misses regularly occur throughout the park. Most are complete accidents, such as blind corners at trail merge points or riding with ear buds. Only a small number are due to ignoring park rules.
- The parking lot swap will only address the conflict points at the current equestrian parking lot and those along Beaver Lake Trail and a portion of the Main Trail to the point where it is intersected by Wayne's World and the West View Trail. The rest of the park, including where the most serious accidents have occurred, will not be improved with a parking lot swap.
- The West View area, due to its proximity to many of the mountain bike trails, has heavy bike traffic.
- Large/serious incident areas:
  - On the Pipeline just north of the intersection of the north Temple Loop entrance and the Pipeline, there is a steep hill with a blind curve.
  - On the Quarry Trail stretch that's close to the northern finger of the pond there is a cliff and the site of bad incidents.
- Part of the South Pipeline Trail is a steep hill that most equestrians don't ride. Additionally, the south parking lot has a limited number of truck-trailer parking spaces.
- The South End has a large off leash dog area and thus there have been many conflicts with off leash dogs throughout that area. The majority of the conflict areas on the South Entrance Road and nearby trails are with off-leash dogs.

## Lord Hill Regional Park - Parking Lot Comparisons to Equestrian Design Guidebook<sup>(1)</sup>

	Guidebook <sup>(1)</sup>	North Lot	Meets Y/N	Current Lot	Meets Y/N	Comments/Concerns
<b>Road</b>						
Entrance/Exit Road Grade	1-2% pref / 5% max <sup>(2)(a)</sup>	15.5% - 16% <sup>(7)</sup>	N	< 5%	Y	North lot road is >3x max and has public traffic (2 residences, Parks and delivery vehicles) <sup>(4), (8)</sup>
Two Lane Width	18' - 24' <sup>(2)(b)</sup>	20'	Y	18' - 22' (varies)	Y	Note: Average trailer axle is 8'-8.5'
Shoulder Width	1' - 2' <sup>(2)(b)</sup>	<6" north side 2'+ south side	N Y	1-2'	Y	North lot has boulders on north side and drops off on both sides beyond shoulders
<b>Parking Area</b>						
Grade	1% -2% <sup>(2)(c)</sup>	> 2%	N	~ 1% - 2%	Y	North lot grade is currently >5%
Space Design	Open, Back-in, &/or Pull Through <sup>(2)(d)</sup>	Back-in	Y	Open	Y	North lot decreases # of parking spaces by at least 40-50% of current lot
Back-in Specs (single-lane road)	45° - 60° w/turn from driver side <sup>(2)(e)</sup>	45° - 60° turn from passenger side	N	Open design allows Driver Preference	Y	Not all equestrians are proficient at backing trailers into a parking space
Staging Area parking space size	24' - 28' width <sup>(2)(d)</sup> 55' to 78' lengths <sup>(2)(d)</sup>	20' width 55' length only	N N	Open design for all widths and lengths	Y Y	Room needed for safe saddling Room needed for large/long rigs
<b>Securing Horses</b>						
Fencing/Buffer	Perimeter Fence <sup>(3)</sup>	Incomplete	N	~600' tree buffer	~Y	To contain a loose horse
<b>Horse-Friendly Surfaces <sup>(4)</sup></b>						
Parking Area	Crushed Rock w/fines <sup>(5)</sup>	Crushed Rock w/fines	Y	Crushed Rock w/fines	Y	
Access to Trailhead	Traction or Slip-Resistance <sup>(6)</sup>	Across Asphalt <sup>(4)</sup>	N	Crushed Rock w/fines	Y	North lot has asphalt aprons and main trailhead is across the asphalt entry road

**Notes:**

<sup>(1)</sup> Equestrian Design Guidebook for Trails, Trailheads and Campgrounds, 2007 (developed with US Forest Service and Federal Highway Administration)

<sup>(2)</sup> Chapter 8 of Guidebook: <sup>(a)</sup> page 5, Table 8-2; <sup>(b)</sup> page 2; <sup>(c)</sup> page 7; <sup>(d)</sup> pages 7-9; <sup>(e)</sup> page 6

<sup>(3)</sup> Chapter 10 of Guidebook, page 1

<sup>(4)</sup> Chapter 6, page 5 and Chapter 1, page 6 of Guidebook: "Pavement is inherently dangerous for stock" and is "much more dangerous on a slope"

<sup>(5)</sup> Chapter 6 of Guidebook, Table 6-2: Note - Surface must be compacted

<sup>(6)</sup> Chapter 6 of Guidebook, Table 6-1: Excellent & Good surfaces for traction and horse comfort include native soil, wood chips, crushed rock w/fines, & sand

<sup>(7)</sup> Grade formula is (rise/run)\*100 = % grade: Per PDS topographical map, 127th to North lot exit is roughly a 35' rise over a 225' run. (35/225)\*100 = 15.5%

<sup>(8)</sup> Chapter 1 of Guidebook, pages 9 & 10 (horse vision and hearing sections): Unfamiliar objects and sounds can cause a horse to startle or bolt

## Lord Hill Parking Lot Swap

Deborah Chase <DeborahChase@msn.com>

Thu 10/20/2022 10:21 AM

To: Griffith, Emily <Emily.Griffith@co.snohomish.wa.us>

Cc: Sharon.Swan@co.snohomish.wa.us <Sharon.Swan@co.snohomish.wa.us>; Tom.Teigen@co.snohomish.wa.us <Tom.Teigen@co.snohomish.wa.us>; Lacey.Harper@co.snohomish.wa.us <Lacey.Harper@co.snohomish.wa.us>; 'Garrett Pagon' <garry.pagon@gmail.com>; Beth Ferris <highcountryrider@hotmail.com>; tripplenfarm@gmail.com <triplenfarm@gmail.com>; 'Chuck McArthur' <mcarthurchuck@gmail.com>; friendslordhill@aol.com <friendslordhill@aol.com>; 'Ron Schlupp' <rschlupp@yahoo.com>; 'Pat Pehling' <pehling@frontier.com>; seacollins2@gmail.com <seacollins2@gmail.com>

Emily,

We are writing to you for a clarification regarding the announcement in the October 2022 Snohomish County Parks and Recreation Update in the last bullet point of the Lord Hill Regional Park Updates section stating "The parking lot swap will happen later this fall." This timing was as surprising as the addition of the parking lot swap to the final preferred plan. It is also inconsistent with the discussion on October 10, 2022 where there was verbal agreement that a lot swap would not happen until you met with equestrian stakeholders and reached agreement on the interim and final layouts and improvements as well as ensuring the new trail was fully stabilized for equestrian use.

While the October 10, 2022 meeting at the north parking lot appeared productive, many of us are concerned Parks believed the full equestrian community supports the proposed parking lot swap. **To be clear, we do not.** Other alternatives were suggested to resolve the reported conflicts such as:

- providing a minor reroute of the first trail intersection along the Main Trail to connect further from the trail head,
- posting signage,
- updating the trail map both on the park kiosks and the County's Lord Hill webpage, and
- providing educational outreach and emphasis patrols.

Many of the meeting attendees raised concerns and pointed out problems with the proposed lot swap, both logistical and safety related. Parks noted that the work that can be done on the north lot at this time is minimal because of limits on impervious surface additions in order to not trigger permitting. Given Parks decision to introduce the parking lot swap into the final preferred plan without any stakeholder input, and that you responded to a question that the swap was a done deal, the group present suggested many ways to improve on the Parks immediate plans for the mandated lot swap in order to make a bad solution just a poor solution.

**So again, to be clear, we are adamantly opposed to the parking lot swap** that Parks unilaterally mandated in the final preferred plan that was added after the final draft plan review without any opportunity for stakeholder input.

As a reminder, the equestrian parking lot was built in 2009 to address the following problems:

1. To eliminate 911 calls to rescue horses that had fallen from or been injured on the boardwalk bridges. We recognize this risk will be eliminated with the new trail from the north lot, but there are other safety issues for equestrians at the north lot that were raised during the October 10th meeting that need to be addressed before any lot swap.
2. The back-in angle parking spaces were difficult to maneuverer for many equestrians and did not accommodate large trailers.
3. The steep entrance from 127<sup>th</sup> to the lot required starting from close to a dead stop at the turn onto 150<sup>th</sup> from 127<sup>th</sup>. This was hard on tow vehicles and unsettling for many horses.



4. There were not enough equestrian spaces. Overflow parking occurred regularly along 150<sup>th</sup> and sometimes 127<sup>th</sup>. It is highly likely this will occur again with a parking lot swap.
5. Items 2) – 4) turned away many equestrians.

Building the equestrian parking lot in 2009 created a premier equestrian parking experience to match the trail riding experience of Lord Hill. The entrance is via a long, level driveway off 127<sup>th</sup> ending at a large lot that accommodates 12+ equestrian rigs regardless of size. The lot is surrounded by trees, creating a natural barrier if a horse bolts or gets loose, keeping them from reaching 127<sup>th</sup>.

During the October 10, 2022 meeting attendees heard you say Parks didn't feel the parking lot swap was necessary to resolve the conflicts and we agree. Losing the equestrian parking lot is a bitter pill for the equestrian community, especially as it was designed just 13 years ago specifically to welcome equestrians of all levels.

The attendees also heard you say Parks is implementing the swap to show the equestrian community that Parks is doing something to address the conflicts. We disagree that the swap is a solution, let alone the right solution. As noted earlier, we believe minor trail intersection adjustments, signage, updated maps, education and emphasis patrols are a less expensive and much better long-term solution to the reported concerns, as the conflicts that do happen are throughout the park, not just at the equestrian lot or trail head.

**Given all of the above, please note we are asking for an email response verifying Parks will not swap the parking lots at this time.**

We are also interested in a better understanding of how the new trail building and improvements to both parking lots are being funded. We heard from others that ADA grant dollars are being used to build the new trail that will replace the Boardwalk trail from the north parking lot, but recognize that may be incorrect.

Please explain the funding sources by name, whether they be maintenance funds, currently available Lord Hill project dollars, grants, and/or other funding sources.

Thank you,

Deborah Chase, Monroe/Sultan	Beth Ferris, Arlington	Cathy Nelson, Snohomish
Chuck McArthur, Snohomish	Ron Schlupp, Snohomish	Pat Pehling, Snohomish
Barb Berg, Snohomish	Dr. Rich Guthrie DVM, Snohomish	Dave Lucas, Snohomish
Kim Head, Snohomish	Bonnie Davis, Snohomish	Suzy Hannus, Snohomish
Connie Noll, Snohomish	Maureen Polcuch, Snohomish	Janelle Wilton, Lake Stevens
Elva Van Donge, Snohomish	Marylou Nakonecznyj, Snohomish	Mary K Kraus, Snohomish
Joan Deutsch, Snohomish	Louise Guthrie, Snohomish	Robert Hannus, Snohomish
Rhonda Schlupp, Snohomish	Wendy Kondo, Edmonds	Jerry Lenz, Snohomish
Mike Kozak, Snohomish	Gail Blaske, Snohomish	Candy Dysart, Snohomish
Jerry Van Donge, Snohomish	Charlene Marley, Monroe	Penny Booker, Lake Stevens
Tracey Goddard, Stanwood	Angela Farnsworth, Lake Stevens	Paula Holzer, Mill Creek
Doug Barber, Snohomish	Marla Lucas, Snohomish	Ronn Holzer, Mill Creek
Laarin Lee Barber, Snohomish	David Barron, Snohomish	Lois Johnson, Snohomish
Kristina Moody, Monroe	Alexandra Barron, Snohomish	Dianna Davis, Snohomish
Diane Nawfel, Snohomish	Patti Reid, Monroe/Sultan	BJ Lee, Snohomish
Laura Cole, Kirkland	Mary Shank, Snohomish	Sue Bell, Sultan
Jennifer Anderson, Mill Creek	Stephen Crawford, Snohomish	Richard Sears, Monroe
Jennifer Laible, Snohomish	Karen Crawford, Snohomish	Mary Kay Els, Arlington
Henry Lailbe, Snohomish	Lorri Michael, Snohomish	Theresa Moran, Snohomish

Susan Lessley, Tulalip  
Jeff Klein, Snohomish  
Elizabeth Klein, Snohomish  
Alynn Prins, Snohomish  
Beth Carey, Redmond  
Jeannette Ford, Stanwood  
Rachael Woods, Everett  
Jay Holzer, Mill Creek  
Scott Holzer, Marysville  
Jodi York, Snohomish  
Cassie Roemer, Snohomish  
Troy Jones, Monroe  
Kendall Johnson, Monroe  
Lisa Smith, Monroe  
Stacy Griesmer, Monroe  
Linda Riley, Bow  
Tim Riley, Bow  
Julie Riley, Burlington  
Sheila Keller, Arlington  
Allan Weed, Arlington  
Ginger Kunz, Snohomish  
Elaina Kunz, Snohomish  
Alicia Lampers, Snohomish

Jim Michael, Snohomish  
Harmony Hunter, Mill Creek  
Karen Pooley, Snohomish  
Cheryl DeShon, Kenmore  
Dan DeShon, Kenmore  
Cleo Bishop, Snohomish  
Dan Bishop, Snohomish  
Georgene Williams, Snohomish  
Doug Williams, Snohomish  
Sarah Johnston, Snohomish  
Barb Peterson, Snohomish  
Laura Miles, Snohomish  
Melinda Rinaldi, Lake Stevens  
Alicia Lampers, Snohomish  
Cheryl Kearney, Snohomish  
Becky Jackson, Snohomish  
Jane Millar, Woodinville  
Janet Anthony, Everett  
Laurie Westvang, Marysville  
Michael Kee, Marysville  
Randi Ramsey, Arlington  
Marianne Honeycutt, Arlington  
Roberta Crosby, Camano Island  
Peggy O'Harrow Lynch, Redmond

Mike Reid, Bothell  
Tamara King, Snohomish  
Eric Leung, Snohomish  
Jenny McCall, Snohomish  
Linda Quimby, Snohomish  
Sara Jane Johnson, Monroe  
Cindy Woods, Snohomish  
Susan Johnson, Monroe  
Lauren Rudnick, Machias  
Bobbi Criswell, Snohomish  
Stacy Criswell, Snohomish  
Craig Hertz, Monroe  
Dave Rinaldi, Lake Stevens  
Donna Breske, Snohomish  
Roz Kingman, Sultan  
Tina Price, Lake Stevens  
Piper Fecht, Snohomish  
Lori Orcutt, Alger  
Fred Honeycutt, Arlington  
Vicky Lawson, Duvall  
Dean Odegard, Duvall  
Becky Jackson, Snohomish  
Cheryl Kearney, Snohomish

**From:** Kate Lunceford <kurlykate888@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, November 1, 2023 6:17 AM  
**To:** Contact Council  
**Subject:** Funding for the Office for Social Justice

I am a member of the NAACP Snohomish County and am opposed to any decrease in funding for the Office of Social Justice. The office does important work on behalf of communities of color in our county and has never been adequately staffed. Communities of color are already underserved in this county. Please do no more harm. Thank you for your public service.

Regards,  
Kate Lunceford  
Bothell

--

"Do the best you can until you know better. Then when you know better, do better." Maya Angelou

**From:** Barb Berg <nitroberg@hotmail.com>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, November 1, 2023 8:59 AM  
**To:** Contact Council  
**Subject:** Lords Hill proposal

Regards to funding toward a parking lot swap at Lords Hill, I am definitely against the proposal. I'm appealing to the council not to pass this.. It would be a waste of money to put this toward another study. In early 1990's to mid 2000, I was on the parks board. We spent hours visiting offered land provided through private citizens. Some of the parcels were land banked for future use for development, or swapping . My point is there is still land out there to develop for a park whether dog, mountain bike, or multiple use. And now we are wondering why Parks are trying to waste money on something that doesn't need fixing. I have also been involved in DNR swap for Lords Hill which was an excellent idea. I rode with Bob Drewel and was present when this beautiful park was dedicated. Horse people rode this area for years, making trails before parks procured this land. I started I 1970. We are adaptable, please let us kept this parking lot that Tom Tiegan promised us. You by now hopefully have received other talking points as why equestrian's are opposed to the swap. Thank you for reading my recommendation. Barbara Berg

Get [Outlook for Android](#)

Ordinance 23-121

EXHIBIT 5.33

General Legislative Session Meeting – 11/01/23

[Minutes](#) and [Video](#)

**From:** 4254224808@vzwpix.com  
**Sent:** Wednesday, November 1, 2023 8:10 PM  
**To:** Contact Council  
**Attachments:** text\_0.txt

My wife and I have been riding at Lords Hill regional park since we used to have to park in upper parking lot. The parking spots weren't necessarily long enough to park your truck and trailer. Access to the trails was through wood bridges that were sketchy for your horse. Lots of positive improvements have been made at Lords Hill Regional Park for horses, bicyclist, and walkers. Most positive thing was giving horse trailers a larger and easier access parking lot. Keeps non-horse people away from the horses (could be a safety issue) and allows easy parking for truck and trailer. The trails that are set up now with, all use bicycle trails, and horse trails is very enjoyable. Seems like things are working well up there as long as you can keep the delinquents after hours from terrorizing the parking lots. Better investment of money might be to just keep trails maintained and have more Ranger/volunteer presence.

Ken Perrine  
360-805-1480

**From:** ken perrine <kenloraperrine@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Thursday, November 2, 2023 10:22 AM  
**To:** Contact Council  
**Subject:** Lords Hill parking lot

My wife and I have been riding at Lords Hill regional park since we used to have to park in upper parking lot. The parking spots weren't necessarily long enough to park your truck and trailer. Access to the trails was through wood bridges that were sketchy for your horse. Lots of positive improvements have been made at Lords Hill Regional Park for horses, bicyclist, and walkers. Most positive thing was giving horse trailers a larger and easier access parking lot. Keeps non-horse people away from the horses (could be a safety issue) and allows easy parking for truck and trailer. The trails that are set up now with, all use bicycle trails, and horse trails is very enjoyable. Seems like things are working well up there as long as you can keep the delinquents after hours from terrorizing the parking lots. Better investment of money might be to just keep trails maintained and have more Ranger/volunteer presence.

Ken Perrine  
360-805-1480

Sent from Kens Mini MAC



**From:** Diana Shipley <diana\_shipley@hotmail.com>  
**Sent:** Thursday, November 2, 2023 11:41 AM  
**To:** Contact Council  
**Subject:** Lord Hill Regional Park

I'm a Snohomish County resident living in Arlington. My priority is in improving safety on the trails at Lord Hill Regional Park for all users, and I ask that the County not fund the Lord Hill - Parking Lot Improvements project that moves equestrian parking to the upper lot.

**There's not a parking lot problem — there's a parkwide problem.**

The problem is on the trails. High-speed mountain bikes and e-bikes travel on the multi-use trails and off-leash dogs often harass and occasionally attack park users. There is no plan to address these serious issues.

**Swapping lots will do nothing to fix the real problem — the lack of ranger presence and enforcement — and is an astronomical waste of taxpayer money.**

**Recent improvements**

Parks has done a good job improving safety on the trails at Lord Hill Regional Park with low-cost measures like signs and other approaches that help slow down high-speed bikers at intersections.

The situation has improved in the equestrian parking lot where some high-speed bikers ignore “No bike” signs and speed through, posing hazards to equestrians. The numbers of incidents in the lot have greatly decreased.

Swapping lots will not solve safety problems and will only create more hazards for equestrians. Mitigation can't solve the steep grade at the drive up to the upper lot.

**A lot swap would not provide safety, separation and direct access to horse/hiker trails as the Parks plan has claimed.**

The swap does not provide separation from bikes as equestrians still would have to use the multi-use pipeline to get to their trails.

It does not provide direct access to horse/hiker trails.

The new route places equestrians farther away from the horse/hiker trails.

The plan also prevents equestrians from making a loop and forces them to return to the parking lot by backtracking the way they came.

**Don't waste money trying to solve a problem that doesn't exist.**

**Stop ignoring problems that exist.**

Parks has no real data on the extent of the ongoing problems. Most of the incidents go unreported to Parks because there's no information in the park or on the website about how to report an incident.

**Do not swap parking lots.** Keep the lots as they currently are. The lower lot meets all equestrian parking safety standards.

**Better suggested uses of funding**

Scheduling a ranger patrol at high-peak times would significantly reduce the incidents of high-speed mountain bikers, e-bikes and off-leash dogs.

Reconfiguring the upper lot would accommodate more cars. Or creating parking for bikers near bike trails would eliminate bike traffic through the lower lot and reduce it on a section of the main trail.

Shifting some of this funding and accelerating construction of a dedicated mountain bike park would help to eventually reduce high-speed bike conflicts at Lord Hill.

Thank you,

Diana

27809 59th ave NE  
Arlington, WA 98223

**From:** Elizabeth Klein <kleinink007@me.com>  
**Sent:** Thursday, November 2, 2023 1:30 PM  
**To:** Contact Council  
**Subject:** Lord Hill Park Budget Concerns

Dear Council,

We are neighbors who moved to Lord Hill to have access to the park for our horse, hiking, and biking. It is a treasure and we am so glad to live here.

There are three concerns I hope you address as you consider the budget moving forward:

**1. Park Safety and Traffic:**

I am in the park almost every day and see most people behaving in a courteous manner. However, we could really benefit from increased Ranger presence and traffic safety.

There are **drivers I have clocked @ 60 mph on the way down the hill**. There is no shoulder and we have been almost hit at least 5 times. I know of at least 4 incidents where drivers turned around to drive aggressively into riders and horses, in one cause causing the horse to have an injury which resulted in expensive vet bills and 6 months of time off. We need more enforcement or someone will die. I understand there was a preventable accident two years ago where a rider was hit and killed. We cannot risk this happening again. Enforcement could greatly help the safety of all.

**2. Parking Access:**

Moving the parking lot will be a major problem as large horse trailers cannot make or turn around on the top of the hill. There are regularly 5-7 large trailers at a time in the Equestrian parking lot, and none of these can manage the hill. Many of the drivers are seniors, including neighbors who do not feel safe riding up the hill. Changing the lot will block their access and they have no where else to ride. This money would be better spent on a Ranger present and Police being more present in our neighborhood.

**3. Park Education & Trail Access:**

Some bikers from out of the area do not understand that a bike coming up fast on a horse can result in a serious, even fatal injury. We need more signs and education.

The provision to change the trails limits equestrians especially in winter conditions. We ride all year round as do many people in the area, and keeping our access on a loop with good footing is essential to an enjoyable experience.

Thank you for your attention to this issue and your service to our community.

Respectfully,

Dr. E & JM Klein  
Lord Hill



**From:** lat1231@aol.com  
**Sent:** Thursday, November 2, 2023 1:32 PM  
**To:** Contact Council  
**Subject:** Lord Hill Parking Lot Swap

To Whom It May Concern,

I'm a Snohomish County resident living in Lake Stevens. My priority is in improving safety on the trails at Lord Hill Regional Park for all users, and I ask that the County not fund the Lord Hill - Parking Lot Improvements project that moves equestrian parking to the upper lot.

There's not a parking lot problem — there's a parkwide problem.

The problem is on the trails. High-speed mountain bikes and e-bikes travel on the multi-use trails and off-leash dogs often harass and occasionally attack park users. There is no plan to address these serious issues.

Swapping lots will do nothing to fix the real problem; the lack of ranger presence and enforcement and is an astronomical waste of taxpayer money.

Parks has done a good job improving safety on the trails at Lord Hill Regional Park with low-cost measures like signs and other approaches that help slow down high-speed bikers at intersections.

The situation has improved in the equestrian parking lot where some high-speed bikers ignore "No bike" signs and speed through, posing hazards to equestrians. The numbers of incidents in the lot have greatly decreased.

Swapping lots will not solve safety problems and will only create more hazards for equestrians.

Mitigation can't solve the steep grade at the drive up to the upper lot.

A lot swap would not provide safety, separation and direct access to horse/hiker trails as the Parks plan has claimed.

The swap does not provide separation from bikes as equestrians still would have to use the multi-use pipeline to get to their trails.

It does not provide direct access to horse/hiker trails.

The new route places equestrians farther away from the horse/hiker trails.

The plan also prevents equestrians from making a loop and forces them to return to the parking lot by backtracking the way they came.

Don't waste money trying to solve a problem that doesn't exist.

Stop ignoring problems that exist.

Parks has no real data on the extent of the ongoing problems. Most of the incidents go unreported to Parks because there's no information in the park or on the website about how to report an incident.

**Do not swap parking lots.** Keep the lots as they currently are. The lower lot meets all equestrian parking safety standards.

Scheduling a ranger patrol at high-peak times would significantly reduce the incidents of high-speed mountain bikers, e-bikes and off-leash dogs.

Reconfiguring the upper lot would accommodate more cars. Or creating parking for bikers near bike trails would eliminate bike traffic through the lower lot and reduce it on a section of the main trail.

Shifting some of this funding and accelerating construction of a dedicated mountain bike park would help to eventually reduce high-speed bike conflicts at Lord Hill.

Thank you,  
Leigh Troggio

**From:** gretchen miller carpenter <treewoman.gmc@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Thursday, November 2, 2023 9:11 PM  
**To:** Contact Council  
**Subject:** Parking lot swap at Lord Hill

In regards to the parking lot swap at Lord Hill I very much disagree with the swap. I think it's a huge waste of money. Placing a ranger in the park seems like a more prudent use of money.  
Thank you for your time.  
Gretchen

**From:** BChorse <BChorse@comcast.net>  
**Sent:** Friday, November 3, 2023 1:47 PM  
**To:** Contact Council  
**Subject:** Lord's Hill

I just want to be on record stating that what is proposed in the parking lot switch is a waste of taxpayers money.

It appears that everyone making these decisions want job security.

The parking lot works as is, for the horse people.

If you want to make the other parking lot enlarged to suit the bikers and hikers, it is more cost efficient. The trails don't have to change.

The money already spent on the horse parking would have been a waste if you do the job again and change it.

It is a no Brainer.

Quit spending money like it grows on trees.

IT DOESN'T.

It doesn't need to be explained nor fought for again. It was decided years ago, the parking for horses was built. Leave it alone. Adapt the other parking lot for the other groups.

The " new" parking that is proposed will never be able to accommodate the number of trailers that the present one does, right now.

Quit spending my money.

Thank you.

We shouldn't have to keep chewing on this unless you don't want to make a decision so that money is thrown at this controversy over and over with studies and meetings.

Again, make the other parking affordable for bikers and hikers. Less money spent in the long run.

Thank you.

BC

Sent from my Verizon, Samsung Galaxy smartphone

**From:** Wes Plate <wes@plate.net>  
**Sent:** Friday, November 3, 2023 1:51 PM  
**To:** Contact Council  
**Subject:** Lord Hill parking reconfiguration, yes please

I understand that equestrian users at Lord Hill don't want the parking lots swapped, I'm writing to say please don't listen to them.

I run at Lord Hill a lot (over 2030 miles total on Lord Hill since 2014, with more than 1100 of those just since 2021), I'm in that upper lot a lot, and I also run through the equestrian lot a lot. The upper passenger car lot is often full while the most horse trailers I've seen is 3 or 4.

I am all for swapping the lots. Give the smaller lot to the smaller use group. Non equestrians far out-number equestrians, and non equestrian users need more space for parking.

Thanks!

-Wes Plate



---

**From:** Michael Kozak <lhillmike@yahoo.com>  
**Sent:** Friday, November 3, 2023 2:36 PM  
**To:** Contact Council  
**Subject:** Unsafe encounters at Lord Hill

Council Members,

Thank you for addressing safety concerns on the Lord Hill lot swap. I'm grateful for your unanimous support of the amendment.

It's widely known that rangers are not scheduled in Lord Hill Regional Park, creating a bit of a Wild West atmosphere where high-speed bikers ignore trail etiquette on posted signs and many park users let their dogs run loose.

I encountered both types of users last Friday, Oct. 27 when I was in the park from 9:30 till 11 a.m. with my horse, dog and a friend.

We were heading south on the pipeline near the lower Temple Loop entrance and encountered a high speed biker flying through the intersection -- without slowing or looking up and down the pipeline — and into the lower Temple Loop. We were only about 20 feet away and he never saw us. Luckily, my horse is calm and saw him before he crossed our path and didn't spook.

When we got to the top of the pipeline, a biker was off his bike and on his phone in the trail we were headed for. We called out to him to let him know we were behind him in case he was going to ride off. But he was wearing earbuds and couldn't hear us. So we circled around in front of him so he could see us. He was startled but extremely nice. We explained we were going to head into the upper Temple Loop and he said he was going that way so he went first.

On our way back from the lower Temple Loop, we crossed the pipeline into the cutoff trail. As we were about to step out onto the main trail, we were charged by 5 large off-leash dogs. There were four women who tried to call off their dogs with no luck. The dogs swarmed our dog who was on a leash. They then charged my young horse who is training and was being led by my friend. She used her crop to try to keep the dogs back as they tried to reach for his legs. The dog owners finally leashed up the dogs. We were so lucky our horse handled the incident so well because it could have ended badly.

My friend had also encountered the same off-leash dogs and the women at a distance at about 8:30 a.m. when she was in the park with another horse. That horse tensed up at the noisy dogs running toward him, as he had been attacked on the pipeline trail by an off-leash pitbull in 2022. Luckily she was far enough away and was able to change her route to avoid a close encounter with the dogs.

All of this happened during non peak hours. This is why we don't take our horses in the park on weekends when traffic is much higher. Children are always thrilled to get a chance to see and pet a horse. Unfortunately, we don't get to offer that experience when most of the kids are in the park.

Word would spread quickly if a ranger were spotted in the park periodically. Things have gotten out of control throughout the park because of some park users who don't want to follow trail etiquette. The county needs to take responsibility for solving this problem they have been aware of for years.

Mike Kozak  
Snohomish  
425-315-5672

**From:** Deena Jones <revdeena.ret@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Saturday, November 4, 2023 10:27 AM  
**To:** Contact Council  
**Subject:** Office of Social Justice

Dear People:

I am a member of the NAACP Snohomish County and am opposed to any decrease in funding for the Office of Social Justice. The office does important work on behalf of communities of color in our county and has never been adequately staffed. Communities of color are already underserved in this county. Please do no more harm. Thank you for your public service.

Deena Jones

**From:** Roz Kingman <rozwitch@aol.com>  
**Sent:** Saturday, November 4, 2023 2:46 PM  
**To:** Contact Council  
**Subject:** Lord Hill Park

This is regarding the proposed swap of the parking areas at Lord Hill Park moving the horse trailer parking to the smaller lot. There is not adequate room in the smaller lot for more than a few horse trailers to be able to park, unload/load horses and maneuver to get out of the lot. At this time there is no safe access for riders from the smaller lot to the trails and the proposed plan does not seem workable. The proposed amount of 2 million dollars to complete this change is a waste of taxpayer money as the change is not needed.

This proposed change concerns me not only because of parking concerns but also shows a trend by the County to disregard the equestrian community in favor of accommodating bike riders across Parks decisions. Carefully thought out decisions can allow all users access to shared trails. Lord Hill Park was originally built specifically for equestrians and hikers and many equestrian groups in the area have worked for years to establish and maintain the trails. It was not the intended use of the land when it was donated to the County to show favor allowing one group of users (bike riders) to take over the trails and create an unsafe environment for equestrian, family and hiking users. All users must work together to share safely share the trails.

Sincerely,

Roz Kingman  
35811 Sultan Startup Road  
Sultan WA 98294

**From:** Kristina Moody <kristinamoody@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Saturday, November 4, 2023 6:10 PM  
**To:** Dunn, Megan; Contact Council; Low, Sam; Teigen, Tom  
**Subject:** 2 million dollar funding for Lord Hill parking lot swap

Dear Council Members,

While I am relieved to hear of the unanimous decision to amend the current proposal temporarily, I was very disappointed to hear that council member Megan Dunn blocked councilmember Sam Low's proposed solution to employ park rangers at Lord Hill. The conflicts happen mostly on the trails and not in the parking lot. While the occasional biker flying through the Equestrian parking lot screaming obscenities at equestrians is unpleasant, the majority respectfully walk their bikes through the Equestrian parking lot they are not supposed to be using.

The equestrian parking lot was just purchased in 2009 with much input, planning and money spent into creating this space for equestrians. Tom Teigen arranged for the purchase of the lot for equestrians and promised it would always be an equestrian lot the day of the ribbon cutting ceremony.

From the long driveway to keep horses a safe distance from roads and traffic, the complete circle-drive to avoid complicated parking and backing up of horse trailers. The equestrian hitching posts and mounting rocks. The Equestrian kiosk paid for and placed by the Back Country Horsemen. The parking lot is already ideal for equestrians. On Friday 11/3 there were 10 trailers filling every spot and yet nobody was at risk of hitting each other or backing themselves into an impossible situation. The short distance from the lot to the trail is hard footing with no mud to avoid slipping accidents. As someone who has slid down a trail on mud I am very grateful for this. The proposed trail you want us to use in the future is not safe for horse and rider or healthy for horse hooves.

It makes no sense to spend 2 million dollars undoing and re-creating what has already been done. What does make sense is to have 2 rangers in the park Friday through Sunday, the busiest days. I am thinking their salary would not reach an accumulative 2 million dollars in my lifetime and be most effective as keeping the park safe and slow.

Swapping parking lots:

:will not improve the conduct of the minority of rowdy disrespectful mountain bikers.

:will not slow bikers down on the trail or keep them from skidding out in front of hikers and horses. ( which I have experienced multiple times)

:will not enforce that dogs be on leashes

:will not keep bikers from driving trucks into the park and stealing more multi-purpose trails to make bike only trails. (which I have seen multiple times and reported)

:will not stop bikers from creating different exits on popular trails so they don't have to slow down when coming back onto the main road in the park.

: will not keep equestrians from riding on bike-only trails when they get fed up with losing yet another trail that accessed them to the river because it was stolen without permission.

With a 2 million dollar budget you can really improve the bikers parking lot and even create an off leash area for dogs while supplying rangers in the park. I can not think of any good reason to spend 2 million dollars to relocate equestrians when they have the ideal parking lot that is barely 14 years old.

Sincerely

Kristina Moody

--

**Kristina Moody**

---

**From:** Brenda Bolanos-Ivory <bolanosivory@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Saturday, November 4, 2023 7:08 PM  
**To:** CFranklin; DL-Council; Somers, Dave J; Contact Council  
**Cc:** John DeRousse; Robertson, Scott; Fortney, Adam  
**Subject:** Sheriff Fortney Podcast - current LE reforms in progress

Hello Electeds and Friends,

Here's a very important briefing about law enforcement reform current events. I've done law enforcement reform over a decade with League of Women Voters, 1940, WA State task forces, and National of Civilian Oversight of Law Enforcement. I've testified for and against laws in the legislature.

Our community want these kind of changes. Sheriff Fortney is on track. If Cheif Johnson wins, this is the path we hope she takes.

As always Sheriffs need to get most information from the community and make changes that people help you identify.

Maj. Flood says we're getting a jail dog soon, since fentanyl is now too tiny to detect. Urgent. Critical.

Jail now has separate sober cells critical for inmates to get clean. They can't if their dealers and user friends are in the same cell. Many talk incessantly about things to steal and drugs they'll take when they get out.

We need daily medical attention in jail that includes diagnoses for mental illness and addiction. In the past jail could only fill existing prescriptions which most didn't have. This is their chance to get well. Healthy people commit less crime.

We want transparency and accountability that Fortney implemented, on day one, now he's mastered it. We want to see mistakes fixed and understand what they changed to trust.

Presenting a perfect department is closing the blue curtain on us again leading to antagonism and mistrust. We've come a ways now. Let's keep it.

Trust is the most important thing law enforcement needs nationally and it takes intense community engagement and action on their ideas to achieve it.

Sheriff Fortney has answered any questions to any community member with an open mind to hear them too. We must continue this. Only working with the community input can change law enforcement culture in the safest effective ways for Deputies, victims, and suspects.

There are many podcasts. This ONE has the most information on changing Sheriff safety and culture.

Podcast Episode 16: Thurston County Sheriff Derek Sanders. *(In the car it's only 1 hour it's the most current law enforcement changes in Washington.)*

<https://www.audacy.com/podcast/sheriff-adam-fortney-6f001/episodes/podcast-episode-16-thurston-county-sheriff-derek-sanders-38b00>

You know me, I take people off of our streets to jail, treatment, housing and jobs. I'm able to get people, men and women experiencing homelessness and addiction to admit they broke the law Only If the Deputy is professional and doesn't insult or treat them rough. If not all they can remember is police name calling and wrongdoing. It doesn't work.

Professional behavior by law enforcement even encouraging health talking about possibilities increases our safety and gets more people healthy and working again. Everett PD hired MATRIX who stated that's one of the biggest results they found ... it was from me.

Any questions let me know. I bring field feedback when I can to help you. I hope you use the information to make more law enforcement progress in our county.

As long as we continue to create long term low barrier shelters allowing permanent drug use - drug related crimes will stay high. There's a way to get people in treatment, housing and jobs fast with the same budget. That would lower crime, increase our tax income, and improve our quality of life.

I placed around 35 people in 2021 and 35 people in 2022 and 6 in 2023. Your Pallet shelter placed 2 people in two years. Mine was 81. Can we make a few changes I made that helps people get their lives back? I'm here to help. It's a couple of changes. Double results possibly. Interested?

By the way, Clares place could use my help too. They've tried to place 2 people in a whole year they can't. They keep reapplying. They're stuck. Their two healthy clients health and life is at stake if they don't get to a sober house.

I'll reach out again later.  
After the election!

Warm regards,  
Brenda

**From:** Olson, Vivian <Vivian.Olson@edmondswa.gov>  
**Sent:** Monday, November 6, 2023 3:20 AM  
**To:** Contact Council  
**Subject:** Snohomish County conservation futures Program

Dear Councilmembers,

We in Edmonds received a preliminary funding award for a wonderful parcel (the Mee Property) that will expand our only neighborhood park in S Edmonds by 55%, expand a trailhead to the Interurban trail, and preserve mature tree canopy. I cannot tell you how excited EVERYONE is about this opportunity. Your support and approval in December is eagerly awaited.

Thank you for this BIG present. It came during a really challenging budget year where there won't be many fun things funded. We are really grateful.

Sincerely,  
Vivian Olson  
Council President Pro Tem,  
City of Edmonds  
(425) 361-8176



---

**From:** Shelly Crosby <shelly.crosby123@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Monday, November 6, 2023 10:49 AM  
**To:** Contact Council  
**Subject:** Lord Hill Parking Lot Swap an ENORMOUS Waste of Taxpayer Money

I'm a Snohomish county resident and an Equestrian. I have been enjoying Lord Hill Park for the past decade or so. Over the years I've witnessed many improvements to the trail system that enhance the experience for all users. These improvements include adding signage that mark a trail for specific users to reduce the chances of dangerous collisions between equestrians and high-speed mountain bikes which could be catastrophic. I believe that improved safety for all park users to be a noble goal of our county park system and for those elected to use our taxpayer dollars wisely for the greatest benefit.

Spending 2 million dollars to swap parking lots does nothing to improve our safety or the quality of our experience in this public space and is an astonishing waste of taxpayers money while adding no real value. It puts equestrians further away from access to the horse trails, and all purpose trails! Not to mention the cost of having to mitigate an incredibly steep grade from it seems ridiculous to even contemplate. The equestrian parking lot meets the needs of the equestrian community and the safety standards for such.

I would support shifting some of this funding towards amending the north lot to accommodate more whiffle traffic and construction of a dedicated mountain bike park that would address the safety of park users by reducing the potential for high-speed bike collisions and conflicts with equestrians within the park.

Let's remember that this land was bequeathed to the county for use as an equestrian park. Mountain bike use is a recent consideration. Many of the trails that were previously available to equestrians have already been closed to horse visitors with little or no consideration to equestrians/hikers for which this park was intended. Mountain bikes contribute to degradation and erosion of the land. These taxpayer dollars will be required to be spent in order to maintain this trail system and to mitigate damage done by mountain bikes degrading the landscape.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Shelly Crosby  
Snohomish county resident and taxpayer

**From:** Rhonda Guilford <cloisonneart2@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Monday, November 6, 2023 12:12 PM  
**To:** Contact Council  
**Subject:** Lord Hill Parking Lot Swap

Hello, as a long time equestrian rider and hiker at Lord Hill, I remember before the equestrian parking lot was built and how tricky it was to park a horse trailer there. The current equestrian parking lot is perfect with its big turn around area, it easily accommodates many horse trailers. It seems that the cost of switching the parking lots is money that could be better spent improving the current car parking area to accommodate more cars? I've attended several of the online meetings about this over the last couple years and I have never felt like I fully understood the reasoning behind this switch of parking lots?

I'm extremely grateful for Lord Hill Regional park and its availability to multi user groups. It's a gem.

Sincerely,  
Rhonda Guilford

**From:** JILLINDA BOSSEN <jrbossen@comcast.net>  
**Sent:** Monday, November 6, 2023 1:06 PM  
**To:** Contact Council  
**Subject:** SnoCo Office of Social Justice

Dear Council Member,

I am a member of the NAACP Snohomish County and am opposed to any decrease in funding for the Office of Social Justice. The office does important work on behalf of communities of color in our county and has never been adequately staffed. Communities of color are already underserved in this county. Please do no more harm. Thank you for your public service.

Blessings,  
Jillinda Bossen (she/her)

***Making sure persons of color or other marginalized people have the same rights as white people does NOT replace or diminish white people. We become partners in the work God has given us to do.***

*Remember you are enough just the way you are and you deserve to be loved and you are!*

*"Mankind must put an end to war before war puts an end to mankind." John F. Kennedy*

**From:** Henry Missel <hmissel@yahoo.com>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, November 7, 2023 10:55 AM  
**To:** Contact Council  
**Subject:** Lord Hill Park reconfiguration  
**Attachments:** EverettDailyHerald (20).pdf

Gentlemen,

You may have read the letter by Pat Pehling, in the Monday Everett Herald, concerning the Snohomish County budget expenditures at Lord Hill Park.

I agree completely with the ideas in the letter.

I recommend you read the attached letter, too!

Why spend money to fix a problem, but make a bigger problem?

Have you ever driven a horse trailer to that Park? If you had, you would never propose to change those parking lots.

Lord Hill Park is a wonderful place for all to enjoy nature. Everyone can enjoy it. Leave the configuration of the Park to people that understand it.

Thank you for your consideration,

Henry Missel, former Snohomish resident

---

---

## LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

### ■ LORD HILL PARKING

## Swap of lots is a waste of money

The Snohomish County executive's 2024 budget has recommended \$2 million to swap parking lots at Lord Hill Regional Park.

The upper parking lot at Lord Hill Regional Park will need extensive regrading to reconfigure it for horse trailers. Even though right next door is the equestrian parking lot that was created for horse trailers in 2009 when they were moved from the upper lot. It has easy access on a level road and adequate space for up to 12 trailers.

Equestrians were promised many times by the former park director that it would "always be an equestrian lot."

As a taxpayer, I am appalled at this waste of funds that could better be used elsewhere, hire more park personnel or develop other park property or build a more suitable mountain bike park.

As a long time user of the equestrian parking lot and a longer time user of Lord Hill (50-plus years of riding my horses there starting when it was state land), I am angered by the broken promise. Every time I would share with former Park Director Tom Teigen that an equestrian was told by a biker

that "they would get our parking lot," he assured me repeatedly that it would never happen.

I read that the purpose of changing lots is to separate out user groups, horses and mountain bikers. However, the "plan" routes all equestrian use to a multi-use trail (including bikes) that has steep hills (think speeding bikes) and blind corners. Horses are flight animals, and the sudden appearance of a bike can cause them to spook and possibly whirl and run. I know several riders who have had mountain bikes nearly run into their horses.

Fortunately, there are opportunities to voice concerns about the budget in person and on Zoom. There is a hearing set for 10:30 a.m. Wednesday, Nov. 8.

The hearing will be held in the Henry H. Jackson Board Room, eighth floor, Administration Building at 3000 Rockefeller Ave, in Everett. Zoom meeting link: <https://zoom.us/j/94846850772>

We also can voice opinions to the County Council at [contact.council@snoco.org](mailto:council@snoco.org) but must be done by Nov. 8.

**Pat Pehling**  
Snohomish

### ■ REVIEWING CANDIDATES

## Party at least tells us something

Regarding Herald columnist Alicia Crank's latest piece ("Election's present another problematic 'n' word," The

**From:** LakeStevensRider <lakestevensrider@yahoo.com>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, November 7, 2023 11:22 AM  
**To:** Contact Council  
**Subject:** Lord Hill Parking Lot Swap

Swapping the lots will not make the trails and park safer as the mountain bikers cause issues on the trails as well as in the horse parking lot. More so on the trails. Not all mountain bikers are rude but it seems more and more they are endangering not only equestrians but people out walking.

Putting that money towards completing a place with the types of trails they like and want will ensure Lord Hill to be a much safer place for other users. Not all Mountain Bikers want to go fast or have challenges, the ones that do need a place where they will not endanger others that are just trying to enjoy some time out.

I truly feel it is a huge misuse of money and resources to switch the parking lots at Lord Hill. By doing so you are showing favoritism to one user group and causing issues with other users in the park.

Thank you,

Penny Booker

**From:** Karen Crowley <karenacrowley@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, November 7, 2023 12:39 PM  
**To:** Contact Council  
**Subject:** Funding for the Office of Social Justice

Dear Council President Mead and Council Members:

I am writing as a member of the NAACP Snohomish County. It is my understanding that you are considering a decrease in funding for the Office of Social Justice. Please sustain funding at the current level. The office does important work on behalf of communities of color in our county and has never been adequately staffed. This should be a full time position. Communities of color are already underserved in this county. We are experiencing growing incidents of hate and violence. This is a time to do more, not less.

Thank you for your consideration.

Karen Crowley  
602 Avenue A  
Snohomish, WA

**From:** katjones <katjones@frontier.com>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, November 7, 2023 1:47 PM  
**To:** Dunn, Megan  
**Cc:** Contact Council  
**Subject:** Support Council Member Sam Low; Block funding for Lord Hill "Parking-lot Swap"

Dear Council Member Dunn;

Please reconsider your previous vote blocking Sam Low's proposal to Council on October 25 for more Park Rangers at Lord Hill Park for the following reasons;

**Budget:** \$2 million to swap parking lots is a huge waste of taxpayer hard earned dollars. The equestrian community has been very clear in expressing their non-support of being booted out of the current parking lot that was purchased for equestrian parking (big rigs/safety!) in 2009.

Swapping parking lots will do nothing to fix the real problem; the lack of ranger presence and enforcement.

Thank you,  
Kathy Jones  
Arlington, WA 982234



**From:** John Lindstrom <johnaxelindstrom@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, November 7, 2023 4:45 PM  
**To:** Contact Council  
**Subject:** Lord Hill parking

Hello Councilors,

I am in favor of keeping the parking lots at Lord Hill as they are now. The greatly enhanced and new pedestrian/bike entrance to the Park solves the problem of the steep, winding, sloppy old trail for peds and bikes.

Thank you, John Lindstrom  
1211 Rucker  
Everett WA  
98201

---

**From:** Davis, Rep. Lauren <Lauren.Davis@leg.wa.gov>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, November 8, 2023 9:18 AM  
**To:** Contact Council  
**Subject:** Support for Ricky's Law facility in SnoCo

Good morning friends and colleagues!

I just wanted to chime in and offer support for Councilmember Nehring's effort to bring a Ricky's Law facility to Snohomish County. Civil commitment / involuntary treatment is a highly effective, last resort intervention for individuals with severe and debilitating substance use disorder (SUD). We have seen very positive outcomes for those who have received services under Ricky's Law, though the law remains wildly underutilized statewide. At the Ricky's Law facility in King County, 95% of patients transition to continued SUD treatment.

If the jail were to be converted into a secure withdrawal management and stabilization (SWMS) aka a Ricky's Law facility, it would require significant retrofitting such that it in no way resembles a correctional facility and instead is a highly therapeutic setting. I know the county has successfully transitioned the former Denney juvenile detention facility into voluntary adult SUD treatment, so there is some precedent here.

If I may, I would also recommend the county consider a small allocation (even \$50K) to cover ambulance transportation for Snohomish County Ricky's Law patients to existing SWMS facilities around the state. We should not wait to treat Snohomish County residents with profound and life-threatening SUD until we have our own facility some years from now.

Thanks very much for all you do!  
Lauren

---

**Lauren Davis**

**State Representative, 32<sup>nd</sup> District**

Appropriations

Community Safety, Justice, & Reentry

Health Care & Wellness

Rules