

5.0 EXHIBITS

CORRESPONDENCE, COMMENTS,
TESTIMONY

From: Paul & Ruth (Bisondalen) <bisondalen@yahoo.com>

Sent: Tuesday, October 22, 2024 1:12 PM

To: Nehring, Nate <nate.nehring@co.snohomish.wa.us>; Dunn, Megan <Megan.Dunn@co.snohomish.wa.us>

Subject: Snohomish County Budget

Dear County Council

(Please share with the full council)

I would like to oppose the proposed budget and tax increases for Snohomish County which is scheduled for hearing later today.

The government is designed to work for the people at the consent of the people. Instead it seems as if governmental agencies are working only for themselves or singling out certain favored population groups by imposing burdensome regulations on the people, and limiting their freedoms, instead of managing agencies to protect everyone's rights and freedoms.

Taxes are a heavy burden on the citizens. Together with the inflation we have experienced in the past few years for basic survival necessities, such as food, housing, and transportation (which has been 30-50% just for those items), people are really struggling to get by.

~~I would recommend severely slashing county departments and programs that provide little to no benefit to the citizens of this county, except a select few, which is unfair. I do not support any type of government support for "illegal immigrants" (often mistaken for "migrants" who come temporarily then return to their homeland) when our US military veterans are left homeless. Our veterans deserve better. Eliminate DEI programs which serve to exacerbate racist attitudes, and promote the use of confusing grammar. (I.e., leave your gender/sexual preferences in the privacy of your bedroom, not flaunt it at work. Just do your assigned job to the best of your ability.)~~

Every family when faced with limited or reduced income must reassess priorities and select areas where they can cut back on expenses to balance their budget. It is past time for the government to do its part and reduce the "luxury" items, eliminate waste, and consolidate in order to reduce the burden on the people of this county.

Respectfully,

Ruth Brandal
1309 Sunnyside Blvd
Lake Stevens WA 98258
425-319-7657

SNOHOMISH COUNTY COUNCIL

EXHIBIT # 5.2

FILE ORD 24-083

From: Bryan Johnson <BryanJ@smw66.org>
Sent: Tuesday, October 22, 2024 4:01 PM
To: Dunn, Megan <Megan.Dunn@co.snohomish.wa.us>
Subject: PLA Budget



Caution. Known Bad Address: Known Spammy Sites and Links. This may be a phishing attempt.

October 22, 2024

Snohomish County Council Members,

My Name is Bryan Johnson, Business Agent for International Association of Sheet Metal, Air, Rail and Transportation Workers (SMART) Local 66, Located here in Everett WA. We represent over 4,600 Sheet Metal Workers and their families working in Western Washington. 646 of our members are proud to call Snohomish County their home.

Thank you for taking the time to read this public comment in support of fully funding the necessary FTE positions for the Amended Ordinance No. 24-040 – Apprentice and Priority Hire Program.

Earlier this year the Snohomish County Council unanimously voted to adopt a policy requiring Project Labor Agreements (PLA) and Priority Hire Requirements for any Snohomish County project over five million dollars.

This is a great step in providing family wage careers in our county. Careers for our youth, not just jobs.

We urge your support of any amendment that provides stable funding for the required positions without eating into the county's general funds.

It's crucial that we fund these positions in the right way so we can begin timely implementation of the Snohomish County PLA ordinance, which will help provide better, more equitable opportunities, wages, benefits, and working conditions for Snohomish County workers now and into the future.

Bryan Johnson
Business Agent
Sheet Metal Workers Local 66

SNOHOMISH COUNTY COUNCIL

EXHIBIT # 5.3

FILE ORD 24-083

From: Wayne Petty <WayneP@smw66.org>

Sent: Tuesday, October 22, 2024 4:02 PM

To: Nehring, Nate <nate.nehring@co.snohomish.wa.us>; Dunn, Megan <Megan.Dunn@co.snohomish.wa.us>; Peterson, Strom <Strom.Peterson@co.snohomish.wa.us>; Mead, Jared <Jared.Mead@co.snohomish.wa.us>; Low, Sam <Sam.Low@co.snohomish.wa.us>

Subject: Snohomish County Testimony for Priority Hire Budget meeting



Caution. Known Bad Address: Known Spammmy Sites and Links. This may be a phishing attempt.

Snohomish County Council Members,

Please see my attached public comments regarding the funding of FTE positions for the Apprentice and Priority Hire Program Ordinance for Snohomish County.

Respectfully,

Wayne Petty

Regional Representative

Sheet Metal Workers Local 66

11831 Beverly Park Rd B-2

Everett, WA 98204

425-725-1263 (Cell)

425-493-5954 (Office)

425-493-5901 (Fax)

waynep@smw66.org

Please visit our website:

<http://www.smw66.org>



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EVERETT
11831 Beverly Park Road B-2
Everett, WA 98204
P 425.493.5900
TF 800.659.5882
F 425.493.5901



DUPONT
2725 Williamson Place Suite 101
DuPont, WA 98327
P 253.617.7909
TF 800.659.5882
F 253.964.1020

wwwsm66.org

October 22, 2024

Snohomish County Council Members,

My name is Wayne Petty, Regional Representative for International Association of Sheet Metal, Air, Rail and Transportation Workers (SMART) Local 66, Located here in Everett WA. We represent Sheet Metal Workers and their families working in Western Washington. Many of our members live and work in Snohomish County.

Thank you for taking the time to read this public comment in support of fully funding the necessary FTE positions for the Amended Ordinance No. 24-040 – Apprentice and Priority Hire Program.

As you know, the Snohomish County Council unanimously voted to adopt a policy requiring Project Labor Agreements (PLA) and Priority Hire Requirements for any Snohomish County project over five million dollars.

While such a vote clearly demonstrates the county's commitment to supporting working families and strong labor standards in our community, we must ensure that the PLA ordinance can be implemented as intended.

We urge your support of any amendment that provides stable funding for the required positions without eating into the county's general funds.

It is of the utmost importance to our Snohomish County membership that they are given opportunities to work in and contribute to the communities they live in.

It's crucial that we fund these positions in the right way so we can begin timely implementation of the Snohomish County PLA ordinance.

Wayne Petty
Regional Representative
Sheet Metal Workers Local 66

From: Ivan Meyen <IvanM@smw66.org>

Sent: Tuesday, October 22, 2024 5:11 PM

To: Nehring, Nate <nate.nehring@co.snohomish.wa.us>; Dunn, Megan <Megan.Dunn@co.snohomish.wa.us>; Peterson, Strom <Strom.Peterson@co.snohomish.wa.us>; Mead, Jared <Jared.Mead@co.snohomish.wa.us>; Low, Sam <Sam.Low@co.snohomish.wa.us>

Subject: Snohomish County Testimony for Priority Hire Budget meeting



Caution. Known Bad Address: Known Spammy Sites and Links. This may be a phishing attempt.

Snohomish County Council Members,

Please see my attached comments for the record in support of Fully funding the necessary FTE positions for the Amended Ordinance No. 24-040 – Apprentice and Priority Hire Program, that was unanimously passed this past June.

Thank you for taking the time to consider these comments

Ivan Meyen
Organizer

Sheet Metal Workers Local 66
11831 Beverly Park Road
Building B-2

Everett WA 98204

425-466-7796 (cell)

ivanm@smw66.org

Please visit our website:

<http://www.smw66.org>



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11831 Beverly Park Road, B-2 · Everett, WA 98204

MAIN OFFICE: P 425.493.5900 · TF 800.659.5882 · F 425.493.5901 **DUPONT:** P 253.617.7909

October 22, 2024

Snohomish County Council Members,

My Name is Ivan Meyen, Organizer for International Association of Sheet Metal, Air, Rail and Transportation Workers (SMART) Local 66, Located here in Everett WA. We represent over 4,600 Sheet Metal Workers and their families working in Western Washington. 646 of our members are proud to call Snohomish County their home. My family makes up 2 of the members. My family is glad we live in the Maltby Community.

Thank you for taking the time to read this public comment in support of fully funding the necessary FTE positions for the Amended Ordinance No. 24-040 – Apprentice and Priority Hire Program.

Earlier this year the Snohomish County Council unanimously voted to adopt a policy requiring Project Labor Agreements (PLA) and Priority Hire Requirements for any Snohomish County project over five million dollars.

While such a vote clearly demonstrates the county's commitment to supporting working families and strong labor standards in our community, we have another step to take to ensure that the PLA ordinance can be implemented as intended.

The proposed 2025-2026 Budget does not include funding for two FTE positions to administer a PLA program.

We urge your support of any amendment that provides stable funding for the required positions without eating into the county's general funds.

It's crucial that we fund these positions in the right way so we can begin timely implementation of the Snohomish County PLA ordinance, which will help provide better, more equitable opportunities, wages, benefits, and working conditions for Snohomish County workers now and into the future.

Ivan Meyen

Organizer

Sheet Metal Workers Local 66

SNOHOMISH COUNTY COUNCIL

EXHIBIT # 5.5

FILE ORD 24-083

From: Tiffany Caulfield <TiffanyC@smw66.org>

Sent: Tuesday, October 22, 2024 3:18 PM

To: Nehring, Nate <nate.nehring@co.snohomish.wa.us>; Dunn, Megan <Megan.Dunn@co.snohomish.wa.us>; Peterson, Strom <Strom.Peterson@co.snohomish.wa.us>; Mead, Jared <Jared.Mead@co.snohomish.wa.us>; Low, Sam <Sam.Low@co.snohomish.wa.us>

Subject: FTE Positions for the Amended Ordinance No. 24-040 – Apprentice and Priority Hire Program



Caution. Known Bad Address: Known Spammy Sites and Links. This may be a phishing attempt.

Dear Snohomish County Council Members,

Attached is my letter of support for full-time employees to maintain Amended Ordinance No. 24-040, regarding the Apprentice and Priority Hire Program.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

Tiffany Caulfield

Regional Representative

Sheet Metal Workers - Local 66

Secretary-Treasurer

Northwest District Council



EVERETT
11831 Beverly Park Road B-2
Everett, WA 98204
P 425.493.5900
TF 800.659.5882
F 425.493.5901



DUPONT
2725 Williamson Place Suite 101
DuPont, WA 98327
P 253.617.7909
TF 800.659.5882
F 253.964.1020

October 22, 2024

Snohomish County Council Members,

My name is Tiffany Caulfield, and I serve as a Regional Representative for the International Association of Sheet Metal, Air, Rail, and Transportation Workers (SMART) Local 66, based within Everett, WA. Our local union represents over 4,600 Sheet Metal Workers and their families across Western Washington. Of those, 646 live in Snohomish County, where we are dedicated to advocating for their well-being and strengthening our local labor force.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide this public comment in support of fully funding the necessary Full-Time Employee (FTE) positions for the Apprentice and Priority Hire Program under Amended Ordinance No. 24-040.

Earlier this year, the Snohomish County Council unanimously passed a policy establishing Project Labor Agreements (PLAs) and Priority Hire requirements for county projects exceeding \$5 million. This decision highlights a strong commitment to supporting local workers and maintaining high labor standards.

However, for the ordinance to be implemented effectively, it's essential to secure funding for two FTE positions to manage the PLA program. Unfortunately, the proposed 2025-2026 budget does not currently include funding for these positions.

I urge the Council to support an amendment that ensures stable funding for these roles without putting additional strain on the county's general funds.

By fully funding these positions, Snohomish County will ensure the timely implementation of the PLA ordinance, creating better opportunities, wages, benefits, and working conditions for local workers. This investment will contribute to a stronger and more equitable future for Snohomish County.

In solidarity,

Tiffany Caulfield

Regional Representative, Sheet Metal Workers Local 66
Secretary-Treasurer, Northwest District Council

SNOHOMISH COUNTY COUNCIL

EXHIBIT # 5.6

FILE ORD 24-083

From: Sam Hem <SamH@smw66.org>

Sent: Tuesday, October 22, 2024 1:32 PM

To: Nehring, Nate <nate.nehring@co.snohomish.wa.us>; Dunn, Megan <Megan.Dunn@co.snohomish.wa.us>; Peterson, Strom <Strom.Peterson@co.snohomish.wa.us>; Mead, Jared <Jared.Mead@co.snohomish.wa.us>; Low, Sam <Sam.Low@co.snohomish.wa.us>

Subject: fully funding the necessary FTE positions for the Amended Ordinance No. 24-040 – Apprentice and Priority Hire Program



Caution. Known Bad Address: Known Spammy Sites and Links. This may be a phishing attempt.

Snohomish County Council Members,

Please see my attached comments for the record in support of Fully funding the necessary FTE positions for the Amended Ordinance No. 24-040 – Apprentice and Priority Hire Program, that was unanimously passed this past June.

Thank you for taking the time to consider these comments

Sam Hem

Assistant Regional Manager, Director of Organizing

Sheet Metal Workers Local 66

425-493-5920 (Office)

360-201-0954 (cell)

Please visit our website: <http://www.smw66.org>

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11831 Beverly Park Road, B-2 · Everett, WA 98204

MAIN OFFICE: P 425.493.5900 · TF 800.659.5882 · F 425.493.5901 **DUPONT:** P 253.617.7909

October 22, 2024

Snohomish County Council Members,

My Name is Sam Hem, Assistant Regional Manager for International Association of Sheet Metal, Air, Rail and Transportation Workers (SMART) Local 66, Located here in Everett WA. We represent over 4,600 Sheet Metal Workers and their families working in Western Washington. 646 of our members are proud to call Snohomish County their home.

Thank you for taking the time to read this public comment in support of fully funding the necessary FTE positions for the Amended Ordinance No. 24-040 – Apprentice and Priority Hire Program.

Earlier this year the Snohomish County Council unanimously voted to adopt a policy requiring Project Labor Agreements (PLA) and Priority Hire Requirements for any Snohomish County project over five million dollars.

While such a vote clearly demonstrates the county's commitment to supporting working families and strong labor standards in our community, we have another step to take to ensure that the PLA ordinance can be implemented as intended.

The proposed 2025-2026 Budget does not include funding for two FTE positions to administer a PLA program.

We urge your support of any amendment that provides stable funding for the required positions without eating into the county's general funds.

It's crucial that we fund these positions in the right way so we can begin timely implementation of the Snohomish County PLA ordinance, which will help provide better, more equitable opportunities, wages, benefits, and working conditions for Snohomish County workers now and into the future.

Sam Hem

*Assistant Regional Manager, Director of Organizing
Sheet Metal Workers Local 66*

From: CHARLES MCMURREY <cmcmurrey@sbcglobal.net>
Sent: Sunday, October 27, 2024 5:19 PM
To: Contact Council
Subject: COUNTY BUDGET COMMENTS

I have serious reservations regarding a 2 year budget plan.

Given the quickly changing economic conditions, I do **not** believe a **2** year budget is realistic. Each fiscal year will require significant budget amendments each year. I am aware that both Washington state and Texas utilize a 2 year budget cycle.

In the 21st century, a 2 year budget appears **efficient** but again it will require substantial yearly amendments. Think COVID, oil embargos, and the dynamic international political/economic circumstances.

I will vote for the *"criminal justice sales tax increase"*.

Most people will support and advocate for more law enforcement officers. I also support more law enforcement officers but also recognize law enforcement is only **1 component** of our criminal justice system.

Without adequate staffing and funding for prosecutors, judges, jails, prisons, adult probation, juvenile probation and a revamped parole system the additional law enforcement officers will be **ineffective**.

The juvenile justice system in Washington, especially the state juvenile facilities, are currently causing additional stress on the county juvenile justice system in all of Washington state.

Charlie McMurrey
12603 18th. DR SE
Everett, WA 98208-6590
281-923-9481, cell#

From: LWVSC <lwvsnohomishcounty@gmail.com>
Sent: Friday, November 1, 2024 10:11 AM
To: Contact Council
Cc: Pedersen, Alex; Fell, Garth
Subject: Please amend the budget to fully fund the Auditor's Office

Chair Mead and Members of the Snohomish County Council,

The League is reaching out to you as a follow up to the testimony given to the Council last week. We strongly advocate for the work of the Elections Office. As you make difficult decisions regarding the upcoming budget, the League respectfully urges you to fully fund Garth Fell and his team.

Our League has been in the unique position of seeing the work of Auditor Fell and his staff in real time. We have observed testing processes, we've attended their training sessions, toured the new and impressive ballot-processing facility, and worked side-by-side with elections staff at voter registration and information events. We have appreciated their commitment to providing clear information for voters. We've been impressed by the creative enhancements to the voter pamphlet, the use of engaging graphics and messaging, and the expanded voter engagement strategies. The recently completed "Elections Explained" series is just one example of the much-needed efforts by this Elections Office to combat growing mis and dis-information.

And there's more. The Elections office is working to increase access to materials for Spanish speakers. Our League has experienced growing demand in this area as well. We've translated resource materials, attended bi-lingual registration events and are exploring additional efforts. Your budgetary support for expanded translation services and outreach matters.

This is great work. This is important work. This is critical work.

You are also aware that the work of the Auditor – beyond elections - is actually a revenue generator for the County. Licensing fees bring in dollars.

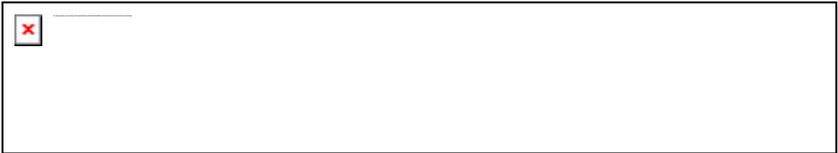
We live in a time of mistrust of so many of our institutions. This is deeply distressing. Sustaining a strong team of professionals to administer our elections is fundamental to rebuilding and sustaining that trust.

It is our understanding that a Councilmember can put forward an amendment to restore the proposed cut. We urge you to take this action.

Our vote is our voice. On behalf of the League, please keep that voice strong by fully funding the Auditor and Elections Office.

Warm regards,
Cathy Liu Scott
President, 2024-25

Karen Crowley
Immediate Past President
LWV Snohomish County www.lwvsnoho.org



*The League of Women Voters is a **nonpartisan political organization that neither supports nor opposes candidates or political parties**. The League encourages informed and active participation in all levels of government, works to increase understanding of major public policy issues, and influences public policy through education and advocacy.*

From: [Jennifer Gregerson](#)
To: [Contact Council](#)
Cc: [CFranklin](#); [Somers, Dave J](#)
Subject: 2025-26 County Budget projects
Date: Monday, November 4, 2024 10:56:19 AM
Attachments: [Outlook-fovyIznq.png](#)
[2024_10 County Budget LOS EverettMayor.pdf](#)

Category 2: Sensitive information

Hello County Councilmembers,
Please find attached a letter from Mayor Franklin supporting several capital projects included in the County Executive Recommended Budget proposal.

Thank you,
Jennifer



Jennifer Gregerson
Government Affairs Director | Administration
Office: 425.257.8671
2930 Wetmore Avenue, Suite 10-A, Everett, WA 98201
everettwa.gov | [Facebook](#)

Category 2: For official use only / disclosure permissible by law.



November 4, 2024

Snohomish County Council
Robert J. Drewel Building, 8th Floor
3000 Rockefeller Ave., M/S 609
Everett, WA 98201
contact.council@snoco.org

Re: Letter of Support for Projects Identified in County Executive Recommended Budget

Dear Snohomish County Councilmembers,

I am writing to support several capital projects that were proposed by County Executive Somers for your consideration in the 2025-26 County Budget process.

- **Outdoor Multipurpose Stadium** capital investment of \$5m from 2027-2030 in REET 2, Non Departmental. Investing in this project will keep Western Washington's only High A minor league team in Everett, protecting this source of affordable family fun, attracting new private investment, creating jobs, encouraging tourism, supporting recreation and strengthening our economy countywide. Depending on the site chosen this December, there may also be opportunities to bring new soccer leagues to the county as well as other entertainment and community events.
- Continued investment in the **10th Street Boat Launch** renovation in REET 2 Regional Parks Program 46
- **Snohomish River Regional Trail** planning, acquisition and development, connecting to Centennial Trail in Snohomish in REET 2 Trail Program 48. This project supports relocation of a major water transmission line, along with the significant recreational benefits to our county, and leverages federal grant funding
- **Airport Capital Improvements**, leveraging \$32.9M in grants in your 2025-26 budget. The continued vibrancy and reliable operation of Paine Field Airport is vital to our economy both for our aerospace industry and those seeking to fly from Everett

These transformational investments represent value to residents and businesses throughout the County, and I urge your support.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Cassie Franklin', is written over a light blue horizontal line.

Cassie Franklin, Mayor
City of Everett

Office of the Mayor
CASSIE FRANKLIN

2930 Wetmore Ave.,
Ste. 10-A
Everett, WA 98201

425.257.7115
425.257.8729 fax

everettwa.gov

From: [Wayne Connell](#)
To: [Low, Sam](#)
Cc: [Contact Council](#)
Subject: DEM Staff Budget
Date: Friday, November 15, 2024 8:05:25 AM

EXHIBIT # 5.10FILE ORD 24-083

Councilman Low,

I have become aware there is a proposed amendment to the 2025 biennial budget to restrict any new county positions, which in one specific case will have a detrimental impact on the county. I am referring to the current Communications Coordinator at the Department of Emergency Management. His position has been funded through a grant that will not be continuing and now needs to be added to the general fund.

The current Communication Coordinator serving the Department of Emergency Management is Scott Honaker. I have personally worked with Scott Honaker for the last ten years as a volunteer and have seen his strong leadership for DEM, partners, and agencies throughout Puget Sound. He is highly regarded as the go-to person for communication strategy, planning and direction throughout Snohomish County and adjacent counties. He also works directly with state and regional personnel to provide a reliable communication network critical to emergency response. Scott has been the leader that built the best emergency management communication resource of any county in the Pacific Northwest.

Scott also spends considerable time formally training, educating, and certifying volunteers to improve the robustness of this emergency response throughout the county and region.

Scott has personally directed several communications projects.

With Scott's vision, creativity, and leadership the department built a robust mobile communications vehicle and Mobile Information Technology Response Unit (MITRU). In addition, his technical ability has directed the interoperation emergency communications capability of Snohomish County agencies and partners.

With Scott's leadership, the Snohomish County Auxiliary Communications Service volunteers, which I am a member, have saved the county more than \$167,000 with 4500 hours worked according to the 2023 Annual Report.

I respectfully request that if this amendment should be adopted by

the Council, that provision be made to fund the position of Communication Coordinator for the Department of Emergency Management. Without this exception, Snohomish County will lose a valuable resource and the ability to maintain the current emergency communication capability.

Wayne Connell, 15422 228th St SE, Snohomish, WA
K7QHQ

EXHIBIT # 5.11

FILE ORD 24-083

From: [David Stewart](#)
To: [Contact Council](#)
Cc: [Mead, Jared](#)
Subject: Amendment 14
Date: Tuesday, November 19, 2024 8:22:27 AM

I highly support amendment 14 which eliminates four management positions at the management level. Please spend our money wisely!

Thank you!, Dave Stewart/ Sno. County Resident

From: [Stephanie Fifield](#)
To: [Contact Council](#)
Subject: Regarding property tax levy and Amendment 14
Date: Tuesday, November 19, 2024 10:00:23 AM

Hello,

I am a resident of snohomish county. After reading Jared Mead's thorough email regarding the levy and alternatives to it, I support the alternatives to the levy. These are efficient changes which will reduce the vagaries currently in place and save homeowners (which we are) another tax burden.

Thank you,
Stephanie Fifield
Snohomish

From: [Ray Thomas](#)
To: [Contact Council](#)
Subject: Response to Council member Mead email on budget cuts
Date: Tuesday, November 19, 2024 10:54:47 AM

Jared,

This looks like a one sided attack on the OSJ. Please detail the discretionary expenditures by OSJ. This money may be funding critical services by small not for profits that otherwise could not deliver their services or the level of services.

OSJ seems like a relatively new department and mission of county government. I'm uncertain that you have fairly presented the impact of your proposed cuts. New and innovative programs need time and talent and, yes, expenditures to develop effective and efficient services. We have seen to many effective programs characterized as ineffective when in fact their funding was cut to unsustainable levels despite evidence of their effectiveness.

I support your efforts to examine all areas of government effectiveness and efficiency.

Thank you for your service.

Ray
98021

Sent from my iPhone
Ray Thomas

From: [Tom Singleton](#)
To: [Contact Council](#)
Cc: [Steve Ramseyer](#)
Subject: Opposed to elimination of Scott Honaker's position at Snohomish Dept of Emergency Management
Date: Tuesday, November 19, 2024 10:59:55 AM

It has come to my attention that consideration is being given to the elimination of Scott Honaker's position at the Snohomish County Department of Emergency Management (DEM).

I very strongly oppose this action.

As a ham radio operator and a member of the Auxiliary Communications Service of DEM, I serve alongside many other individuals to help ensure the safety and welfare of Snohomish County residents in emergency situations. I have served with and observed Scott for several years. I have seen firsthand the industry and wide breadth of technical and organizational knowledge that he brings in service to our community and in particular to the leadership of our county's emergency communication function. The loss of Scott's wide skill set and leadership in this community would be devastating. You just cannot "buy" a better person to lead and coordinate our emergency resources.

As an emergency responder and as a long-time member of this community I ask that this action be dropped from the budget deliberations.

Wm. "Tom" Singleton
K8TOM
Sky Valley Amateur Radio Club PIO
13004 Ingraham Rd, Monroe, WA 98272

From: [Lori](#)
To: [Contact Council](#)
Subject: Amendment 14
Date: Tuesday, November 19, 2024 11:35:09 AM

EXHIBIT # 5.15
FILE ORD 24-083

All,

I wish to express my unequivocal support of Councilmember ead's Amendment 14, which will cut several unnecessary and duplicative positions in the Snohomish County Executive's Office, resulting in a significant savings to the taxpayers.

My husband and I are retirees, on a fixed income, who have lived in Snohomish County for almost 40 years and we cannot keep absorbing these types of increases to our property taxes, especially when all of our other expenses are going up as well. We have to keep tightening our belts and cutting our expenditures in order to live within our means, but it seems like, far too often, our government agencies do not have to do the same!

I hope that you will pass this amendment unanimously and will take your role seriously to serve the people of your county as efficiently and economically as possible!

Sincerely,

Mrs. Lori Vaaga
Bothell, WA
206-999-6722

From: [Connie Y](#)
To: [Contact Council](#)
Subject: Amendment Fourteen
Date: Tuesday, November 19, 2024 11:39:15 AM

Council Members,

Amendment 14 appears to be an appropriate spending reduction based on ending sunseting and duplicate job positions. Reducing discretionary funds is very prudent as any household would do during a crunch. This will have as little as possible harm to services to the community.

An 8% property tax increase is excessive and poorly timed due to the current high cost of living.

--

Connie Young

EXHIBIT # 5.17

FILE ORD 24-083

From: [Kevin Martin](#)
To: [Contact Council](#)
Subject: Amendment 14
Date: Tuesday, November 19, 2024 2:01:42 PM

Dear council,

I ask you all to please vote yes on Amendment 14. Please reduce these duplicate positions and reduce discretionary funds from OSJ. If you are looking to cut even more, cut OSJ fully, and utilize AI to help write policy in OEM (where I worked briefly) and elsewhere. Giving your county a moment to catch their breath on high taxes and cost of living would do everyone some good. Let's do our best to reign in the budget and wait a year for a new administration to help bring down energy cost and inflation; burdensome undocumented immigrants will be reduced as well freeing up social service funds and hopefully the money you allocate to overdose outreach.

Very respectfully,

Kevin Martin

EXHIBIT # 5.18

FILE ORD 24-083

From: [Gregory Oakes](#)
To: [Contact Council](#)
Subject: Amendment 14
Date: Tuesday, November 19, 2024 2:49:27 PM

Asking for your support for Amendment 14 - resist raising taxes!!

Greg Oakes

EXHIBIT # 5.19

FILE ORD 24-083

From: [Xfinity](#)
To: [Contact Council](#)
Subject: Amendment 14
Date: Tuesday, November 19, 2024 3:06:07 PM

We are strongly supporting Amendment 14, an are against the proposed 8.3% tax increase, as our land taxes are already too high!
Sent from my iPhone

From: [Carrie Bossert](#)
To: [Contact Council](#)
Subject: Amendment 14, cost cutting measures support
Date: Tuesday, November 19, 2024 3:12:57 PM

Dear Snohomish County Counsel members,

I am writing you to support cost cutting measures, which proposes the elimination of four management-level positions within the Executive's Office and a significant reduction to a discretionary spending account partially tied to the Office of Social Justice (OSJ). Amendment 14 would result in \$1.3 million in savings—precisely the kind of cuts we need to make before asking residents to pay more in taxes.

As good steward of your constituents, reducing waste should be looked at before going to the people for more taxes. It has gotten so expensive to live in this state - food, taxes, fuel, etc. Many are being forced out or have to sell their homes. these are hardworking people! I, for one, have lived in the same home for over 20 years and grew up in WA state. I've seen changes that I do not like. the reduction of first responders, rising crime with an inability to do anything about it. Criminals are not death with. Why should anyone stay in a state where you have little protection or recourse? I struggle to understand the end game because the signs point away from making it a great place to live with lower cost, reasonable expectation of safety and the city and state government hearing the people and being good stewards of our hard0-earned tax dollars.

I was unable to access the amendment details but if it's for removing duplicative positions that will save \$1M+ annually and not increasing property tax (at least until any spending waste is removed) then I am all for it. Asking for tax increases is a band aide and is often not the solution as there is little to no accountability for monies being spent. If you can point to an increased tax that has actually produced the results being sought after then that's the first step but the people aren't seeing it. It would be great to provide such reports when asking for increases.

I appreciate the work you do but listening to the people that pay the taxes is imperative, especially to gain support.

Thank you for your time.

Best regards,
Carrie Bossert

From: Casey Cannon <cocrotty7@gmail.com>
Sent: Thursday, November 21, 2024 6:41 AM
To: Contact Council
Subject: Concerned citizen

Dear County Council Members,

I am writing to express my strong support for Amendment 14 and to voice my opposition to the proposed 8% property tax increase.

The proposed tax increase is unreasonable, especially in the current economic climate. Instead, I commend the council for introducing Amendment 14 as a good faith effort to ensure responsible fiscal management. By eliminating four management-level positions within the Executive's Office and significantly reducing discretionary spending, this amendment presents a thoughtful approach to addressing budgetary concerns without burdening residents with higher taxes.

The potential savings of \$1.3 million from Amendment 14 not only demonstrate a commitment to efficiency but also prioritize the responsible use of taxpayer dollars. These cuts are necessary before considering any tax increases, and I appreciate the council's dedication to advocating for fiscal accountability.

Thank you for your efforts in prioritizing our community's financial well-being. I urge you to support Amendment 14 and reject the proposed tax increase.

Thank you,
Tyler and Casey Cannon

From: Shannon Michael <rsmich90@gmail.com>
Sent: Thursday, November 21, 2024 8:02 AM
To: Contact Council
Subject: Property Tax and Amendment 14

Dear Snohomish County Council:

When you are presented with a leader like Jared Mead who advocates for compromise rather than stubborn one-sidedness on an issue, I urge you to follow his recommendations regarding the proposed property tax increase and Amendment 14.

Meeting in the middle is how a good government should work. Please be a role model for our county, state, and nation.

Sincerely,

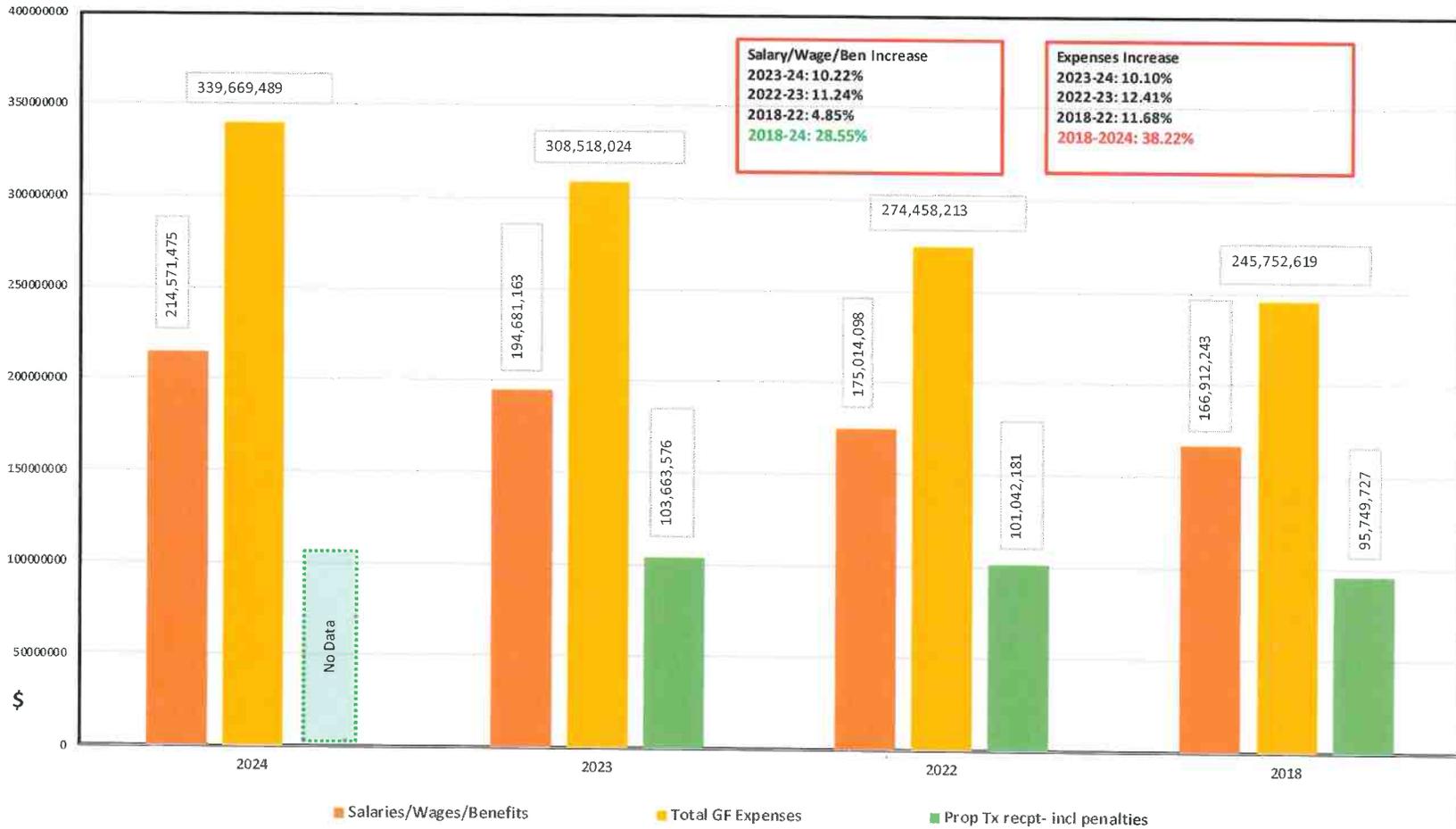
Shannon Michael
712 203rd St SE
Bothell, WA 98012

PING CHOW - TESTIMONY

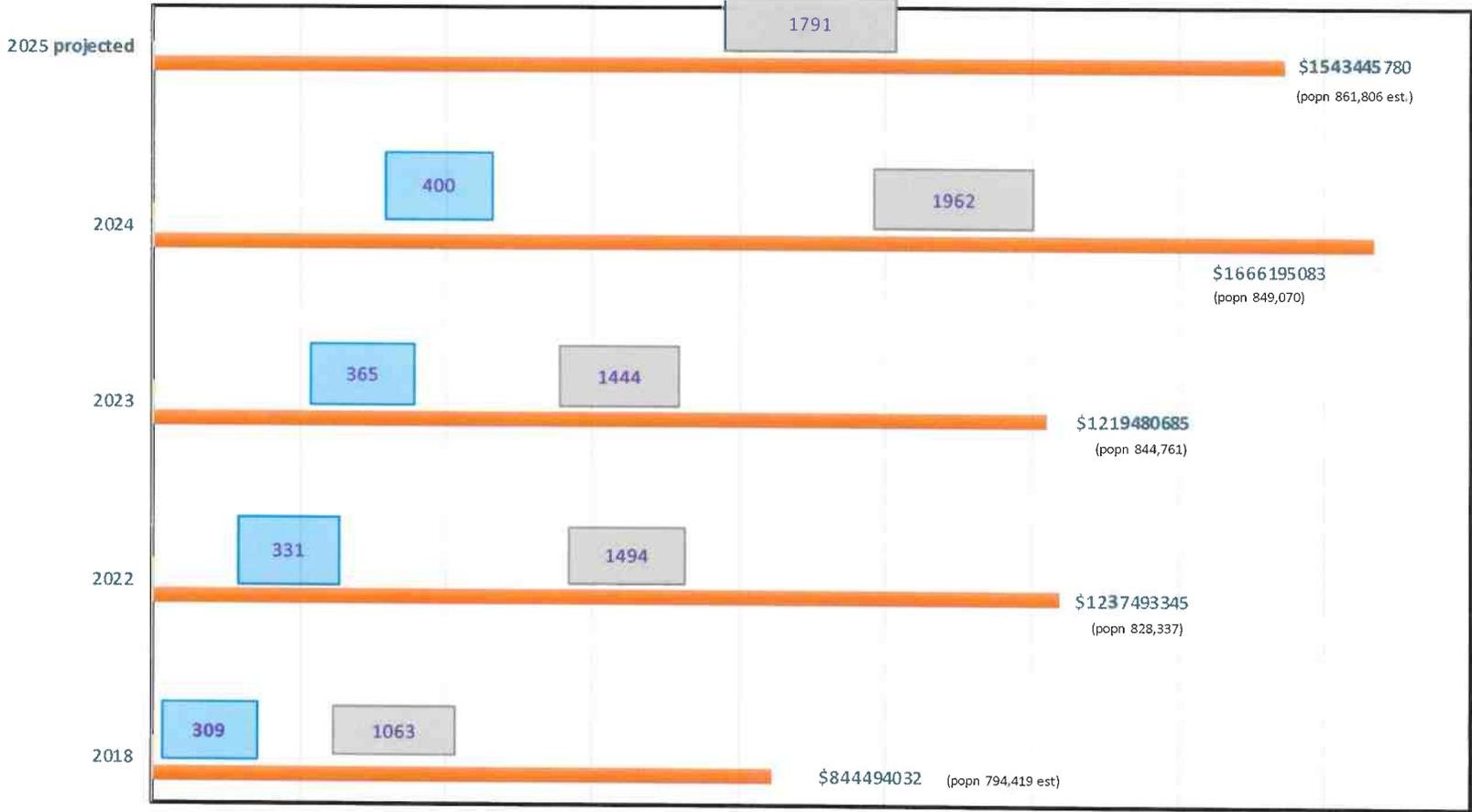
FILE ORD 24-083

11-13-24

Snohomish County General Fund
Year to Year Comparison: Salaries/Wages/Benefits, Expenses, Property Taxes
2018 to 2024



Budget and Expense Dollar per Snohomish person



■ Expense \$ per person ■ Budget \$ per person ■ Budget (\$)

From: Genny Smith <gennyleesmith4@gmail.com>
Sent: Sunday, November 17, 2024 11:12 AM
To: Contact Council; Mead, Jared; Nehring, Nate; Low, Sam
Subject: Public comment on amendment 14

Good afternoon County Council Members,

I am a resident of Sultan and have lived in Snohomish County for 50 + years.

I want to thank County Council member Mead for doing the work to bring amendment 14 to the county council showing his commitment to financial responsibility and transparency.

While listening to Council members discuss the amendment I heard, hints of a “no vote” coming in the next few weeks, from a few - 3, of the County Council members. Not supporting this amendment tells me that financial responsibility and accountability is not your utmost importance for the constituents of Snohomish County.

Accountability needs to be a priority for governmental officials and something that I expect. To hear some of you make excuses for the findings of the audit in the Executive Office and not supporting this amendment is disappointing and adds a layer of distrust.

I am hopeful that after some time, research and reflection each of you will show support to amendment 14.

Thank you for your time and consideration, Genny Smith Sultan Resident Sent from my iPhone

From: Colleen <collbraz@gmail.com>
Sent: Wednesday, November 20, 2024 7:03 AM
To: Contact Council
Subject: Support of Amendment 14

Dear Snohomish County Council,

I am writing to express my support of Amendment 14 to the budget. In the last few years our property tax has almost doubled and as seniors on a fixed income our property taxes have a serious impact on our budget. While I willingly pay our property tax and completely support schools, libraries and emergency services I welcome Jared Mead's thoughtful approach to first looking at other ways to trim the budget. This shows me that Snohomish County is putting homeowners first and that really means a lot. I am not anti-tax by any means, but I do appreciate our county government being fiscally responsible.

Thank you so much,

Colleen Brazil
98296

From: d.vago@frontier.com
Sent: Wednesday, November 20, 2024 9:02 AM
To: Contact Council
Subject: Amendment 14 | Fiscal Policies

Dear Members of the Snohomish County Council,

As a concerned citizen, I urge you to prioritize fiscal responsibility in all decisions regarding taxpayer dollars, and to focus on reducing unnecessary spending before considering increasing our taxes.

It's essential that our resources are directed toward critical priorities—such as infrastructure and public safety—while avoiding wasteful or inefficient expenditures. Every dollar spent should deliver measurable outcomes, and provide a clear benefit to the community.

Thoughtful, transparent decision-making that prioritizes the needs of the community is not only expected-it's necessary to ensure long-term financial stability.

Thank you for your commitment to serving our county responsibly.

As ever,
Donna Vago
Snohomish County resident
District 21

From: Irene Billa <ibilla@yahoo.com>
Sent: Wednesday, November 20, 2024 10:07 AM
To: Contact Council
Cc: Jared Mead
Subject: Please vote for Amentdment 14

I am a Snohomish County resident and I received a letter from Jared Mead discussing the recent Council Meeting and votes that are coming up.

I urge you to eliminate wasteful spending rather than tax us any more. Please eliminate jobs that are no longer needed and try to consolidate duties that are replicated. We count on you to protect us and our funds.

Thank you.

Irene Billa

From: Jeff Huth <rjhuth55@gmail.com>
Sent: Wednesday, November 20, 2024 10:46 AM
To: Contact Council
Subject: Amendment 14

I agree with Jared Mead and support adoption of Amendment 14. Thanks to all for your hard work on this matter.

Sincerely,

Jeff and Lilly Huth
13704 67th Ave W, Edmonds, WA 98026

From: Bill Merrow <bmerrow@gmail.com>
Sent: Wednesday, November 20, 2024 5:24 PM
To: Contact Council
Subject: 8% tax increase is totally unacceptable

You have too many management staff with high pay - makes more sense to look into that and reduce staff.

Sharing the information I was given:

independent audit report revealed several duplicative and unnecessary positions in the Executive's Office:

- Office of Social Justice Positions: The audit identified two positions in OSJ as duplicative. According to the report, OSJ's duties are primarily related to Human Resources policies and micro-grant writing—functions already handled by staff in the HR and Human Services departments. Reducing OSJ staff from three full-time equivalents (FTEs) to one would save approximately \$400,000 per year.
- Office of Recovery and Resilience Position: Another identified position, created during the COVID-19 pandemic to share grant funding information, is no longer necessary now that grant funding is unavailable. Reducing this office from three FTEs to two would save an additional \$200,000 per year.
- Unclear Communications Position: The audit also highlighted a position in the Executive's Office that has operated without a job description for three years. While it has recently been described as a communications role, the Executive's Office already has multiple communications positions with clear and appropriate job descriptions. Removing this redundant position would save another \$200,000 annually.
- Discretionary Spending: Lastly, the discretionary spending account tied to OSJ would be reduced from \$650,000 to \$150,000, resulting in a \$500,000 savings.

By addressing redundancies and improving efficiencies, Amendment 14 would generate \$1.3 million in annual savings within the Executive's Department alone

From: Lori Quinlan <lqquinlan@gmail.com>
Sent: Wednesday, November 20, 2024 5:57 PM
To: Contact Council
Subject: Amendment 14 & Nehring proposal

I am writing to support both of the above proposals. I ask my council rep Megan Dunn to vote in favor of these proposals and not to raise taxes. With inflation affecting every aspect of our lives putting additional tax burden on us is uncalled for at this time. We have all had to reduce our budget in the past few years and expect our government to also.

Lori Quinlan

Sent from my iPhone

From: Gerry Gibson <bonger@comcast.net>
Sent: Wednesday, November 20, 2024 7:16 PM
To: Contact Council
Subject: Amendment 14

I am getting a 2% "cost of living " increase. 8% increase is ridiculous and not warranted It just enforces that there is overspending. Further, we all experience fewer services. I recommend a serious review of prioritizing expenditures and eliminating many not needed items. If you need help doing that, I am here to help do that.

Gerry Gibson
71 Pine St 209
Edmonds
425-330-5238.

From: David Bly <david.blyc21@gmail.com>
Sent: Wednesday, November 20, 2024 9:27 PM
To: Contact Council
Subject: Amendment 14

Dear County Council Members,

I am writing to express my strong support for Amendment 14 and to voice my opposition to the proposed 8% property tax increase.

The proposed tax increase is unreasonable, especially in the current economic climate. Instead, I commend the council for introducing Amendment 14 as a good faith effort to ensure responsible fiscal management. By eliminating four management-level positions within the Executive's Office and significantly reducing discretionary spending, this amendment presents a thoughtful approach to addressing budgetary concerns without burdening residents with higher taxes.

The potential savings of \$1.3 million from Amendment 14 not only demonstrate a commitment to efficiency but also prioritize the responsible use of taxpayer dollars. These cuts are necessary before considering any tax increases, and I appreciate the council's dedication to advocating for fiscal accountability.

Thank you for your efforts in prioritizing our community's financial well-being. I urge you to support Amendment 14 and reject the proposed tax increase.

From: miclarke nwcybernet.com <miclarke@nwcybernet.com>
Sent: Thursday, November 21, 2024 5:45 AM
To: Contact Council
Subject: Budget proposal regarding communication coordinator

It has come to my attention that there is a proposal to eliminate the position of communication coordinator at the county Department of Emergency Management (DEM). I think this would be a mistake as communication is key to emergency preparedness and response. As a member of the county Auxiliary Communication Services (ACS), I have worked with Scott Honaker. He is a talented and knowledgeable individual who greatly contributes to the community. Scott's actions have been responsible for community members' increased awareness of threats to the area. He has been a valued leader in working with ACS to prepare for emergencies. I think it would be a mistake to eliminate the position of communication coordinator. Scott Honaker's position at DEM is vitally important and should be preserved. I hope that you will vote accordingly in the upcoming budget meeting.

Thanks you,
Mike Clarke
KK7RPI
13623 55th Dr SE
Everett, WA 98208

From: Holly Urness <holly.urness@gmail.com>
Sent: Thursday, November 21, 2024 11:07 AM
To: Contact Council
Subject: Budget consideration for upcoming council vote

Dear Council Members, first, thank you for your service to our County. I am certain that there are many difficult judgment calls that come your way in performing your office. It is in connection with one of these decisions that I am reaching out to you today.

One proposed budget savings being considered has come to my attention. It has to do with the role of Scott Honaker Communication Coordinator at the Department of Emergency Management. Scott's role has been invaluable for the county in many ways. He is a lightning rod of creativity and empowerment for a huge community of volunteers with ham radio skills who collectively contribute hundreds of hours to the county free of charge. My concern is that by viewing elimination of his position as a cost savings measure, the unintended consequence will be the eventual loss of many of those volunteers who will lack direction and creative focus for energies that are of great service to the county.

Specifically, one project alone that he has spearheaded has been the MITRU Trailers. I am acquainted with Emergency Management people on the east coast who like me, are members of the ham radio community. They have never heard of anything so useful, portable, and accessible to the public in a crisis. I was delighted to be able to refer them to Scott. This project is an example of Scott's creative problem solving, technical skills, and ability to rally others with pertinent skills to create and develop something truly unique to our County and on the cutting edge of emergency preparedness.

I sit on the Public Safety Board for the city of Snohomish and Scott, as well as some volunteers from ACS, for the second year in a row have brought the MITRU trailer to a city meeting. As a result of the enthusiastic response, members of the city council and City leadership are in the process of developing a trailer of our own that will live in the City of Snohomish. This action is the direct influence of Scott and his leadership.

There are many ways to save money, but my hope is you will consider the larger and unintended costs of eliminating his role and therefore losing his influence in emergency preparedness in the county.

Thank you for your consideration,

Holly Urness
KJ7KIU

From: Russ Urness <rcu198762@gmail.com>
Sent: Thursday, November 21, 2024 1:33 PM
To: Contact Council
Subject: Proposed Elimination of Scott Honaker's position



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

Dear Council Members,

As a concerned citizen, I question the framework behind Snohomish County's budgetary decisions. When evaluating how the county allocates tax revenue to provide essential services, one critical question arises: **What are your priorities?**

Public safety should be a cornerstone of those priorities. The decision to eliminate Scott Honaker's position seems shortsighted, with long-term implications for the safety and welfare of Snohomish County residents. Consider the invaluable role someone in Scott's position played during Hurricane Helene in Buncombe County, NC (where Asheville NC is located). Their coordination of emergency communication was critical to the county's response. With a 9.0 magnitude earthquake looming as an eventual reality, having someone like Scott in place is not a luxury—it's a necessity.

As a former HR professional at Boeing, I understand the difficulty of tough budget decisions. After 9/11, we made deep cuts to stay afloat, but we also cut through the muscle that made Boeing competitive. Will the council risk a similar outcome for Snohomish County by deprioritizing essential roles like Scott's?

I urge you to reconsider and ensure public safety remains a top priority in the county's budget.

Respectfully,
Ruston C. Urness

From: RBrandis <sjandjrbrandis@aol.com>
Sent: Sunday, November 24, 2024 4:34 AM
To: Contact Council; Contact Council
Subject: Amendment 14

Good morning.

An 8% tax increase being considered by the Snohomish County Council is unacceptable. We have families struggling to put food on the table and presents under the tree. There are taxpayers that need to decide on medicine or food. Many cut their doses in half to make them last. Maybe The Council needs to cut their budget. I have been a Snohomish County taxpayer for over 40 years. My parents were Snohomish County taxpayers from 1941 - 2017. My family has supported this county for many years, and we take pride to call Washington our home, and Snohomish County our resident county. I think there are options out there to balance the budget without raising our taxes.

I strongly advocate for responsible use of the taxpayer dollars. I strongly support Amendment 14. Standing behind Amendment 14 would eliminate 4 top level positions within the Executive Office. This would free up 1.3 million dollars annually. The positions that would be eliminated are duplicative positions that were discovered during a recent independent audit.

We all have budgets, and we all need to make our paychecks stretch farther than ever before. It is time to run Snohomish County with fiscal responsibility and stop putting the burden on the taxpayers to foot the bill. Eliminate irresponsible spending and eliminate duplicative positions that exist in Snohomish County Government.

Thank you for taking the time to address my concerns.

Rebecca Brandis

From: [Alvaro Guillen](#)
To: [Nehring, Nate](#); [Dunn, Megan](#); [Peterson, Strom](#); [Mead, Jared](#); [Low, Sam](#); [Wiita, Russell](#); [Rhyne, Paula](#); [Thompson, Joshua](#); [Ewert, Angela](#); [Cheesman, Darcy](#); [Contact Council](#)
Subject: Request to preserve staff and community investment resources
Date: Friday, November 22, 2024 8:35:38 AM
Attachments: [image001.png](#)
[image002.png](#)
[image003.png](#)
[image004.png](#)
[image005.png](#)
[image006.png](#)

Dear Snohomish County Councilmembers,

I am writing to express my deep concern regarding the potential impact of budget cuts on critical programs and services, particularly those offered by the Office of Social Justice.

Snohomish County has made important strides in recent years toward advancing equity and social justice. The creation of the Office of Social Justice was a pivotal step, and the recent inclusion of voting materials in Spanish is a testament to the County's commitment to inclusivity.

The programs and initiatives funded by the Office of Social Justice, such as entrepreneurship training, dental clinics, and other programs designed to improve our community's health, are vital to the well-being of historically marginalized communities, especially those in the Casino Road neighborhood. These programs have the power to break down barriers, empower individuals, and create a more equitable County. One of the standout programs the office of Social Justice makes happen for our community is women exercise groups at our center. The physical health benefits of a twice-weekly cardio program are obvious, but what we hear time and time again from community members is that the mental health benefits are even more meaningful. The women who attend the program are hardworking, often mothers, and sometimes the sole caretaker. They have told us directly that this program has offered them an irreplaceable space to relieve stress, connect with others, and form strong community bonds that are the foundation for the Casino Road neighborhood to thrive.

By utilizing the banked capacity, you can ensure the preservation of essential services like these classes and many others. Eliminating the Office of Social Justice would be a step backward, undoing the progress made towards a more just and inclusive county. Not only will this directly affect the programs making a real and measurable impact today, but it will affect how residents feel valued.

I urge you to consider the message this sends to our youth. Many young people in our County are enthusiastically joining school advisory boards and DEI commissions, eager to contribute to a more just and equitable future.

What kind of example does it set for them if you abandon your commitment to social justice and equity?

Thank you for your time and consideration.

Sincerely,

Alvaro Guillen



Alvaro Guillen
 Director, Connect Casino Road
 Community Foundation of Snohomish
 County

Phone : (425) 610-3856



Spread joy
this holiday
season
with toys
for Casino
Road kids!



[Check out CCR's new impact report!](#)

From: Tom Kleven <tomkleven@gmail.com>
Sent: Thursday, November 21, 2024 2:05 PM
To: Contact Council
Subject: Amendment 14

I'm fully supportive of Amendment 14 and other similar cost reduction measures that can make it our local government more efficient.

These reductions can prevent the need to increase the tax burden on your already-strained constituents.

Sincerely,
Tom Kleven
Bothell, WA

Sent from my iPhone

From: Andy Lubresky <lubreskyandy@yahoo.com>
Sent: Friday, November 22, 2024 9:44 AM
To: Contact Council
Subject: Amendment 14

I am writing to support amendment 14 which reduces the budget 1.3 million by eliminating unnecessary positions and reducing discretionary spending. I believe it is necessary for all of us to look at our budgets and adjust accordingly to the current state of the economy.

Thank you,
Andrew Lubresky

From: Eileen Swinford <e.swinford@comcast.net>
Sent: Saturday, November 23, 2024 10:37 AM
To: Contact Council
Subject: Annual budget with property tax increase

I am requesting that the Council adopt Amendment 14 to the budget being voted on next week. This would address issues found by the recent audit and save taxpayers millions of dollars. With all the new housing developments under construction, there will also be millions of additional dollars coming into the county coffers, making an increase in our current property tax rate unnecessary. Please adopt proposed Amendment 14 to the budget when voting on it. Taxpayers are demanding accountability for our dollars!

Thank you!

Eileen and Milton Swinford
21928 4th Dr SE
Bothell, WA 98021

Sent from [Mail](#) for Windows

From: John Allen <allenjohnb@hotmail.com>
Sent: Sunday, November 24, 2024 5:33 PM
To: Contact Council
Subject: 2025/2026 Budget

Dear Councilmembers,

I support Amendment #14 or any amendment that would eliminate the need for the Executive's proposed 8% general property tax increase.

Clearly the Executive's office could absorb several cuts. An independent audit report presented to the council revealed several duplicative and unnecessary positions in the Executive's Office. As for discretionary spending, I am quite sure that most Snohomish County residents don't have that line in their home budget.

Step up to the plate, make the cuts and show us some leadership.

Sincerely,

John Allen

2723 92nd PI SE

Everett, WA 98208

From: Sue Ward <slward51@comcast.net>
Sent: Monday, November 25, 2024 8:45 AM
To: Contact Council
Subject: Proposed Budget Meet 11/25/24

Council Members:

I wrote to this Council 11/12/24 as did 400+ other Citizens. I also sat through 3 Zoom hours of your 11/13/24 meeting.

Please POSTPONE THIS VOTE TODAY!! There is too much work left to be done specifically reducing the budget. It is ridiculous to be running 14-15 million in the RED! There was an admission regarding the county's "Savings Acct" and how it stands is now double the average of other jurisdiction's. Why not dip into this??

Continue to tighten the belt of every department. THERE IS A SPENDING PROBLEM that needs to stop.

Please re-visit the motion and don't vote today!

Susan Ward
Arlington

Sent from my iPhone

From: Penny Merkley <penmerk@comcast.net>
Sent: Monday, November 25, 2024 9:10 AM
To: Contact Council
Subject: Amendment 14 and Property Tax increases

I support amendment 14 and request that the County Council DOES NOT raise property taxes. They are already too high. We need to learn to live within our means. Cut the budget where possible to hold the line or even reduce property taxes. Many people are at their limit for household budgets. Remember that many of us live on fixed incomes and cannot afford to pay more. Many people are having to choose between buying food, medication, rent and paying for more government spending.

Thank You for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Tony and Penny Merkley
14726 Madison Way
Lynnwood, WA 98087

From: potownsell@gmail.com
Sent: Monday, November 25, 2024 9:14 AM
To: Contact Council
Subject: Letter in Support of SC Executive Budget
Attachments: 20241125SCCLetter in Support OSJ and Tax Increase.pdf

Clerk of the Council,

Please provide the attached letter to Councilmembers for consideration.

Kin regards,
Paula Townsell
Everett, WA

Paula Townsell
Everett, Washington 98203
Email: potownsell@gmail.com

November 25, 2024

Snohomish County Councilmembers
3000 Rockefeller Avenue
Everett, WA 98201

Uploaded Electronically for Delivery

Re: Executive Budget and Office of Social Justice

Dear Honorable Councilmembers,

I am writing this letter to support the County Executive's Budget Proposal to increase tax revenue. In a time of significant inflation and wage increase pressure, as well as meeting service demands, it is understandable that increasing revenue as permitted by law is an appropriate measure.

I am wholly opposed to the proposal of some Councilmembers to eliminate the Office of Social Justice (OSJ). I believe that would be very short-sighted as a measure to cut costs and would have a chilling effect on progress made by the County in committing to long-term equity goals. To treat this office as a political volleyball is disingenuous to the important work done and commitments made of ongoing collaboration and building unity instead of festering division.

I urge this Council to work together to meet the needs of all community members, including the most vulnerable and marginalized, by providing sufficient funding for the OSJ.

Regards,



Paula Townsell

From: Janice Greene <janicergreene@outlook.com>
Sent: Monday, November 25, 2024 10:40 AM
To: Contact Council
Subject: County Council Public Hearing
Attachments: Letter to Snohomish County Council.docx

For your records,

Sent from my T-Mobile 5G Device
Get [Outlook for Android](#)

Snohomish County Branch National Association for the Advancement of Colored People



November 24, 2024

To: The Honorable Members of the Snohomish County Council

Subject: Support for the Office of Social Justice and Collaborative Leadership

Dear Council Members,

On behalf of the Snohomish County NAACP, The Snohomish County Legislative District Democrats, Snohomish County Indivisible, and Snohomish County Human Rights Commission, we appreciate the Snohomish County Council's consideration for continuing to fund the Office of Social Justice (OSJ). The OSJ is critical to supporting equity and advancing opportunities for a diverse population of over 825,000 residents.

As you finalize the budget and plan for the future, we urge you to consider the complexities of the current political climate and ensure that the OSJ has adequate resources to meet the growing needs of this diverse community. It is the collective and shared responsibility of our elected leaders to uphold fairness and opportunity for all residents.

There are Snohomish County residents who face systemic barriers to opportunity and services, BIPOC individuals, immigrants, veterans, disabled residents, unhoused individuals, LGBTQIA+ communities, people experiencing poverty or health challenges, and others.

The Office of Social Justice has a significant role in addressing disparities, facilitating economic empowerment, addressing systemic inequities, and fostering inclusivity. If adequately resourced, OSJ can play an essential role in the stability and resilience of Snohomish County. By providing advocacy, developing policy, and implementing initiatives, the OSJ can help residents contribute to and benefit from the county's success.

The OSJ is uniquely positioned to collaborate with existing economic development and community organizations to create opportunities by:

- Advocating for equitable access to educational resources that position residents for future opportunities.
- Ensuring residents have access to opportunities that prepare residents for the demands of an evolving workforce.

Snohomish County Branch

National Association for the Advancement of Colored People

- Promoting economic development by addressing disparities and creating opportunities to ensure inclusion; the OSJ can contribute to a more robust, dynamic economy where all residents will have the chance to thrive.

We recognize that ensuring equity requires more than maintaining funding—it requires meaningful investment and collaboration. The OSJ mission cannot be fulfilled without adequate resources and shared commitment from all leaders.

We call on our elected representatives to:

- Work Together to demonstrate leadership and collaborate to prioritize community needs.
- Provide Sufficient Funding and ensure the OSJ has the resources necessary to fulfill its mission effectively, including staff support and operational capacity.
- Commit to Long-Term Equity Goals: Incorporate equity into the broader strategic framework for the future of the county ensuring that these efforts are not subject to political shifts.

Now more than ever, we need our elected officials to prioritize unity and collaboration. Supporting the OSJ is a matter of meeting the needs of Snohomish County residents and upholding our shared values of fairness, inclusion, and opportunity.

We urge our elected representatives to work together to:

- Adequately Resource the OSJ: Provide sufficient funding and staffing to meet the growing needs of our community.
- Collaborate Across Divides: Focus on shared goals, ensuring that decisions prioritize the well-being of Snohomish County residents.
- Engage Community Voices: Work closely with community leaders and stakeholders to identify and address the most pressing needs of underserved populations.

In today's political and economic environment, we have community members who feel increasingly vulnerable. The OSJ is uniquely positioned to help Snohomish County address immediate challenges and future opportunities by fostering inclusion, economic empowerment, and social justice. Our community needs leadership that rises above division and centers on shared values. Maintaining the OSJ is a critical step in the right direction. By continuing to support and focus the OSJ's work, Snohomish County sends a powerful message: that fairness, inclusion, and opportunity are priorities for all its residents.

In Conclusion:

We will appreciate the preservation of OSJ and the commitment this represents to equity and justice in Snohomish County. Moving forward, we encourage ongoing collaboration to ensure

Snohomish County Branch

National Association for the Advancement of Colored People

that the OSJ—and the communities it serves—receive the resources and support needed to thrive. Together, we can ensure that Snohomish County remains a place where every resident has the opportunity to succeed, both now and in the future.

We look forward to your leadership and dedication to our community. We also look forward to working alongside you to advance these shared goals.

Sincerely,

Janice R. Greene, PhD
NAACP Snohomish County



Shaina Langley

Chair: 38th Legislative District Democrats



Demí Chatters

Snohomish County Human Rights Commission

Naomí Dietrich

Founder and Lead Organizer: Snohomish County Indivisible



The mission of the Snohomish County Branch for the Advancement of Colored People is to ensure the political, educational, social, and economic equality of rights of all persons of Snohomish County and to eliminate racial hatred and racial discrimination.

SNOHOMISH COUNTY COUNCIL
Snohomish County, Washington

SNOHOMISH COUNTY COUNCIL

EXHIBIT # 5.46

FILE ORD 24-083

October 22, 2024 @ 10:30 a.m.
2025-2026 Biennial Budget

SIGN UP SHEET

PLEASE PRINT CLEARLY

		DO YOU WISH TO TESTIFY? (Please Circle One)	
NAME	CITY OF RESIDENCE	Yes	No
1. <u>KAREN CROWLEY</u>	<u>SNOHOMISH</u>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
2. <u>EMMAN PRAHL PFAHL</u>	<u>GRANITE FALLS</u>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
3. <u>Tiffany Rich</u>	<u>Snohomish, WA</u>	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>
4. <u>Sean Christensen</u>	<u>Snohomish Marysville, Wa</u>	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>
5. <u>Courtney L. Newsome</u>	<u>EVERETT</u>	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>
6. <u>Larry Montgomery</u>	<u>EVERETT</u>	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>
7. <u>Chad Seem</u>	<u>Lake Stevens</u>	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>
8. <u>Larry Wright</u>	<u>Lake Stevens</u>	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>
9. <u>Garry Davis</u>	<u>Snohomish</u>	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>
10. <u>Robert McCloud</u>	<u>Bellingham</u>	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>

SNOHOMISH COUNTY COUNCIL
Snohomish County, Washington

October 22, 2024 @ 10:30 a.m.
2025-2026 Biennial Budget

SIGN UP SHEET

PLEASE PRINT CLEARLY

	NAME	CITY OF RESIDENCE	DO YOU WISH TO TESTIFY? (Please Circle One)	
1.	<u>Beth Newsome</u>	<u>Everett</u>	Yes _____	No _____
2.	<u>Ivan Meyer</u>	<u>Snohomish</u>	Yes _____	No _____
3.	<u>Tiffany Cautfield</u>	<u>Snohomish</u>	Yes _____	No _____
4.	<u>Tanesha Roberson</u>	<u>King</u>	Yes _____	No <u>X</u>
5.	<u>Maurice Dawson</u>	<u>King</u>	Yes _____	No <u>L</u>
6.	<u>Jerry Ball</u>	<u>King</u>	Yes _____	No <u>✓</u>
7.	<u>Bob Stutz</u>	<u>Lake Stevens</u>	Yes <u>A</u>	No _____
8.	<u>Alex van Duine</u>	<u>Lake wood SD</u>	Yes _____	No <u>x</u>
9.			Yes _____	No _____
10.			Yes _____	No _____

SNOHOMISH COUNTY COUNCIL
Snohomish County, Washington

SNOHOMISH COUNTY COUNCIL

EXHIBIT # 5.47

FILE ORD 24-083

October 22, 2024 @ 6:00 p.m.
2025-2026 Biennial Budget

SIGN UP SHEET

PLEASE PRINT CLEARLY

	NAME	CITY OF RESIDENCE	DO YOU WISH TO TESTIFY?	
			(Please Circle One)	
1.	<u>Ivan Meyer</u>	<u>Snohomish</u>	Yes _____	No <u>X</u>
2.	<u>LARRY MONTGOMERY</u>	<u>EVERETT</u>	Yes _____	No <u>X</u>
3.	<u>Courtney L. Newsome</u>	<u>Everett</u>	Yes _____	No <u>(O)</u>
4.	<u>Elly Wanambisi</u>	<u>Lynnwood</u>	Yes _____	No <u>X</u>
5.	<u>Anthony Orona</u>	<u>Everett</u>	Yes _____	No <u>X</u>
6.	<u>ETHAN PFAHL</u>	<u>GRANITE FALLS</u>	<u>(Yes)</u>	No _____
7.	<u>Brian Warner</u>	<u>LAKE STEWART</u>	Yes _____	No <u>(O)</u>
8.	<u>Angela K. Scott</u>	<u>Granite Falls</u>	Yes _____	No <u>X</u>
9.	<u>Maribel Williams</u>	<u>Manville</u>	<u>(Yes)</u>	No _____
10.	<u>Josh Williams</u>	<u> </u>	Yes _____	No <u>(O)</u>

SNOHOMISH COUNTY COUNCIL
Snohomish County, Washington

October 22, 2024 @ 6:00 p.m.
2025-2026 Biennial Budget

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	NAME	CITY OF RESIDENCE	DO YOU WISH TO TESTIFY? (Please Circle One)	
1.	Chelsea Starkey	Bothell,	Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	No <input type="checkbox"/>
2.	DRI RALPH	BOTHELL	Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	No <input type="checkbox"/>
3.	Tom Laurman	SNOHOMISH	Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	No <input type="checkbox"/>
4.	Karen Mosser	Bothell	Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	No <input type="checkbox"/>
5.	Denise Stiffarm	Seattle	Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	No <input type="checkbox"/>
6.	Richard Purvis	Mill Creek	Yes <input type="checkbox"/>	No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
7.	Sam Hem	Everett	Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	No <input type="checkbox"/>
8.	Peth Newsome	Everett	Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	No <input type="checkbox"/>
9.	Robert Morgan	Everett	Yes <input type="checkbox"/>	No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
10.			Yes <input type="checkbox"/>	No <input type="checkbox"/>

SNOHOMISH COUNTY COUNCIL
Snohomish County, Washington

October 22, 2024 @ 6:00 p.m.
2025-2026 Biennial Budget

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		DO YOU WISH TO TESTIFY? (Please Circle One)	
NAME	CITY OF RESIDENCE	Yes	No
1. Annette Brandino	Arlington	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
2. Julie Anderson	Marysville	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
3. Tammy Richardson	Marysville	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>
4. Dan Chaplik	Sultan	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
5. Tiffany Rich	Snohomish	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
6. Christina Cauthron	Lake Stevens	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>
7. Juan L Cruz	Arlington	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
8. Karl de Jong	Sedro-Woolley	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>
9. Paul Ray	Buverett	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>
10. Erik Long	Marysville	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>

SNOHOMISH COUNTY COUNCIL
Snohomish County, Washington

November 13, 2024 @ 10:30 a.m.
2025-2026 Biennial Budget

SNOHOMISH COUNTY COUNCIL

EXHIBIT # 5.48

FILE ORD 24-083

SIGN UP SHEET

PLEASE PRINT CLEARLY

NAME		CITY OF RESIDENCE	DO YOU WISH TO TESTIFY? (Please Circle One)	
1.	Paul Brandal	Lake Stevens	<input checked="" type="radio"/> Yes	<input type="radio"/> No
2.	MARIE CLAYWELL	Everett	<input checked="" type="radio"/> Yes	<input type="radio"/> No
3.	Irma Comegas	Snohomish Co.	<input type="radio"/> Yes	<input checked="" type="radio"/> No
4.	Susan Zinder	Snohomish County - Stanwood	<input checked="" type="radio"/> Yes	<input type="radio"/> No
5.	Candice Tretter	Snohomish - Lake Stevens	<input type="radio"/> Yes	<input checked="" type="radio"/> No
6.	PING CHOW	EDMONDS	<input checked="" type="radio"/> Yes	<input type="radio"/> No
7.	Sherie Katz-Kinanthu	Lake Stevens	<input type="radio"/> Yes	<input checked="" type="radio"/> No
8.	Jon + Wendy Iseman	Mukilteo, Everett	<input checked="" type="radio"/> Yes	<input type="radio"/> No
9.	Julie Anderson	Marysville	<input checked="" type="radio"/> Yes	<input type="radio"/> No
10.	Doug Roulstoe	Snohomish	<input checked="" type="radio"/> Yes	<input type="radio"/> No

SNOHOMISH COUNTY COUNCIL
Snohomish County, Washington

November 13, 2024 @ 10:30 a.m.
2025-2026 Biennial Budget

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NAME	CITY OF RESIDENCE	DO YOU WISH TO TESTIFY? (Please Circle One)	
1. Julie Johnson	Edmonds	<input checked="" type="radio"/> Yes	<input type="radio"/> No
2. Dave Stewart	Snohomish Cty	<input checked="" type="radio"/> Yes	<input type="radio"/> No
3. Joseph Wankelman	Lynnwood	<input checked="" type="radio"/> Yes	<input type="radio"/> No
4. Craig M Smith	Snohomish	<input checked="" type="radio"/> Yes	<input type="radio"/> No
5. Janelle Cass	Edmonds	<input checked="" type="radio"/> Yes	<input type="radio"/> No
6. Marcie Clogston	Snohomish	<input type="radio"/> Yes	<input checked="" type="radio"/> No
7. Theresa Hutchinson		<input checked="" type="radio"/> Yes <i>if able</i>	<input type="radio"/> No
8. Erik Nelson	Edmonds	<input checked="" type="radio"/> Yes	<input type="radio"/> No
9. DENISE RAUPACH	LYNNWOOD	<input checked="" type="radio"/> Yes <i>IF TIME</i>	<input type="radio"/> No
10. James Kellett	Snohomish	<input checked="" type="radio"/> Yes <i>X</i>	<input type="radio"/> No

SNOHOMISH COUNTY COUNCIL
Snohomish County, Washington

November 13, 2024 @ 10:30 a.m.
2025-2026 Biennial Budget

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NAME		CITY OF RESIDENCE	DO YOU WISH TO TESTIFY? (Please Circle One)	
1.	Sandy Higgins	EDMONDS	<input checked="" type="radio"/> Yes	<input type="radio"/> No
2.	Patti Whitmarsh	Edmonds	<input checked="" type="radio"/> Yes	<input type="radio"/> No
3.	GERALD WHITMARSH	EDMONDS	<input checked="" type="radio"/> Yes	<input type="radio"/> No
4.	Tim Evman	Belleve/mokilteo	<input checked="" type="radio"/> Yes	<input type="radio"/> No
5.	Ther Sheerill	Mill Creek	<input checked="" type="radio"/> Yes	<input type="radio"/> No
6.	WAYNE PETTY	EVERETT	<input checked="" type="radio"/> Yes	<input type="radio"/> No
7.	Jackie Matzek		<input checked="" type="radio"/> Yes	<input checked="" type="radio"/> No
8.	Maribel Williams	Marysville	<input checked="" type="radio"/> Yes	<input type="radio"/> No
9.	Tim Evman	BELLEVEUE	<input checked="" type="radio"/> Yes	<input type="radio"/> No
10.	Sherryl Palazzo	Everett	<input type="radio"/> Yes	<input checked="" type="radio"/> No

SNOHOMISH COUNTY COUNCIL
Snohomish County, Washington

November 13, 2024 @ 10:30 a.m.
2025-2026 Biennial Budget

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NAME		CITY OF RESIDENCE	DO YOU WISH TO TESTIFY? (Please Circle One)	
1.	Ashvin SANGHVI	Mukilteo	<input checked="" type="radio"/> Yes	<input type="radio"/> No
2.	Brian Hayter	Edmonds	<input checked="" type="radio"/> Yes	<input type="radio"/> No
3.	Tom MALKOW	EVERETT	<input type="radio"/> Yes	<input checked="" type="radio"/> No
4.	Nancy Callihan	No. Bithell	<input checked="" type="radio"/> Yes	<input type="radio"/> No
5.	RANDY TEN DENHOF	ARLINGTON	<input checked="" type="radio"/> Yes	<input type="radio"/> No
6.	Rathie Russell	Everett	<input checked="" type="radio"/> Yes	<input type="radio"/> No
7.	Arlene Noyes	EVERETT (Sno co.)	<input type="radio"/> Yes	<input checked="" type="radio"/> No
8.	Georgia Fisher	MUKILTEO	<input checked="" type="radio"/> Yes	<input type="radio"/> No
9.	Kristina Mitchell	Unincorporated Lynnwood	<input checked="" type="radio"/> Yes	<input type="radio"/> No
10.	Mary Hadlow	Snohomish	<input checked="" type="radio"/> Yes	<input type="radio"/> No

Not Present

SNOHOMISH COUNTY COUNCIL
Snohomish County, Washington

November 13, 2024 @ 10:30 a.m.
2025-2026 Biennial Budget

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	NAME	CITY OF RESIDENCE	DO YOU WISH TO TESTIFY?	
			(Please Circle One)	
1.	Jim BURNETT	EVERETT	Yes	No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
2.	John Daniel	Mt. Creek	Yes	No
3.	Nathan Packard	Lake Stevens	Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	No
4.	QJ Marston	Edmonds	Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	No
5.	Dave Tucker	Monro	Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	No
6.	JEHANI ATKIN	SNOHOMISH COUNTY	Yes	No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
7.			Yes	No
8.			Yes	No
9.			Yes	No
10.			Yes	No

SNOHOMISH COUNTY COUNCIL
Snohomish County, Washington

SNOHOMISH COUNTY COUNCIL
5.49

November 25, 2024 @ 9:00 a.m.
2025-2026 Biennial Budget

EXHIBIT # _____

FILE _____
ORD 24-083

SIGN UP SHEET

PLEASE PRINT CLEARLY

	NAME	CITY OF RESIDENCE	DO YOU WISH TO TESTIFY?	
			(Please Circle One)	
1.	Alvaro Guillen	Mountlake Terrace	Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	No <input type="checkbox"/>
2.	Tim Eyman	Belleuve/Mulcitto	Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	No <input type="checkbox"/>
3.	Zach McCoun	Conway	Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	No <input type="checkbox"/>
4.	Jusy Kamball	EVAT	Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	No <input type="checkbox"/>
5.	Larry Kambell	EVERETT	Yes <input type="checkbox"/>	No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
6.	Rebecca Muehlenberger	Everett	Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	No <input type="checkbox"/>
7.	Shelly Schweigert	Arlington	Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	No <input type="checkbox"/>
8.	Paul Galovin	Marysville	Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	No <input type="checkbox"/>
9.	MASON RUTLEDGE	EVERETT	Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	No <input type="checkbox"/>
10.	Jim Morino	Edmonds	Yes <input type="checkbox"/>	No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

SNOHOMISH COUNTY COUNCIL
Snohomish County, Washington

November 25, 2024 @ 9:00 a.m.
2025-2026 Biennial Budget

SIGN UP SHEET

PLEASE PRINT CLEARLY

	NAME	CITY OF RESIDENCE	DO YOU WISH TO TESTIFY?	
			(Please Circle One)	
1.	Carolyn Strong	Edmonds	Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	No <input type="checkbox"/>
2.	Belle Brooks Sebastian	University of Washington	Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	No <input type="checkbox"/>
3.	Ju Magdalena	SNOHOMISH	Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	No <input type="checkbox"/>
4.	Heidi Sandall	Granite Falls	Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	No <input type="checkbox"/>
5.	Deborah Lobe	Edmonds	Yes <input type="checkbox"/>	No <input type="checkbox"/>
6.	Paul Brandt	Lake Stevens	Yes <input type="checkbox"/>	No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
7.	Daniel Carter	Lake Stevens	Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	No <input type="checkbox"/>
8.	Doug Roulston	Snohomish	Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	No <input type="checkbox"/>
9.			Yes <input type="checkbox"/>	No <input type="checkbox"/>
10.			Yes <input type="checkbox"/>	No <input type="checkbox"/>