

PUBLIC TESTIMONY LIST

Date	Description
3/13/26	Email – Steven Short
3/13/26	Email – Monica Summerset
3/16/26	Email – Shawn McMahon
3/16/26	Email – Matthew Hwang
3/16/26	Email – Tamara King
3/16/26	Email – Eric Leung
3/19/26	Email – Gurpreet Dhaliwal
3/26/26	Email – Carrie Caffrey, WA State Council of County and City Employees AFSCME AFL-CIO
3/26/26	Letter – Local Labor Unions
3/26/26	Letter – Snohomish & Island County Labor Council
4/14/26	Letter – Jim Kenny, Snohomish and Island County Fire Commissioners Association
4/27/26	Letter – Natalie Reber, Master Builders Association of King and Snohomish Counties
5/12/26	Email – Nancy Dawson
5/12/26	Email – Nancy Dawson
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5/13/26	Email – Matthew Ehlert
5/28/2026	Email – John Tellesbo
5/28/2026	Letter – Pat Murphy
6/10/2026	Letter – Theresa Lynn

From: [S.S](#)
To: [Contact Council](#)
Subject: Transportation benefit district
Date: Friday, March 13, 2026 4:39:28 PM

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

Dear County Councilmembers and Dave Somers,

I am a dedicated county employee and your constituent. I urge you to support establishing a Transportation Benefit District (TBD) in unincorporated Snohomish County. Without a stable, long-term funding source for transportation, the County will face cuts that directly threaten union jobs and the essential services our members provide.

Rising costs for materials, fuel, and basic operations have already stretched Public Works to the limit. Without new revenue, the County will be forced to reduce road maintenance, delay critical repairs, and scale back emergency response capacity. These cuts don't just impact infrastructure, they eliminate the very workers who keep our roads safe and our communities connected.

Job losses in Public Works would have a ripple effect across the county:

- Fewer workers maintaining roads and responding to emergencies
- Increased strain on remaining staff
- Higher long-term costs as infrastructure deteriorates
- Greater burdens on rural residents, low-income families, and essential workers

If the County cannot sustain its transportation workforce, other unions will eventually be forced to add positions to compensate for reduced right-of-way maintenance and emergency road clearing, planning, design and inspection. This simply shifts the cost to residents and taxpayers later—at a much higher price.

A Transportation Benefit District is one of the few tools available to prevent immediate job losses, protect essential services, and ensure Snohomish County can meet its obligations to the public. It is a responsible investment in the workers who keep this county functioning.

Our Local and employees are ready to support you in moving this forward.

Sincerely,

Steven short

From: [Monica Summerset](#)
To: [Contact Council](#)
Subject: Support for a Transportation Benefit District to Protect Jobs and Essential Service
Date: Friday, March 13, 2026 5:34:09 PM

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

Dear County Councilmembers and Dave Somers,
As a dedicated county employee for nearly three decades as your constituent, I urge you to support establishing a Transportation Benefit District (TBD) in unincorporated Snohomish County. Without a stable, long-term funding source for transportation, the County will face cuts that directly threaten union jobs and the essential services the members provide.

Rising costs for materials, fuel, and basic operations have already stretched Public Works to the limit. Without new revenue, the County will be forced to reduce road maintenance, delay critical repairs, and scale back emergency response capacity. These cuts don't just impact infrastructure, they eliminate the very workers who keep our roads safe and our communities connected.

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Sincerely,
Monica Summerset

From: [Shawn McMahon](#)
To: [Contact Council](#); [Low, Sam](#)
Subject: Support for a TBD
Date: Monday, March 16, 2026 3:08:54 PM

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

Dear County Councilmembers and Dave Somers,

I am a dedicated county employee and your constituent. I urge you to support establishing a Transportation Benefit District (TBD) in unincorporated Snohomish County. Without a stable, long-term funding source for transportation, the County will face cuts that directly threaten union jobs and the essential services our members provide.

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Sincerely,

Shawn McMahon, Local 109, Electrician

Constituent of District 5

From: [Matthew Hwang](#)
To: [Contact Council](#)
Subject: Support for TBD
Date: Monday, March 16, 2026 7:26:32 PM

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

Dear County Councilmembers and Dave Somers,

I am a dedicated county employee and your constituent. I urge you to support establishing a Transportation Benefit District (TBD) in unincorporated Snohomish County. Without a stable, long-term funding source for transportation, the County will face cuts that directly threaten union jobs and the essential services our members provide.

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Sincerely,

Matthew

From: [Tamara King](#)
To: [Contact Council](#); [Mead, Jared](#)
Subject: Support for a Transportation Benefit District to Protect Jobs and Essential Service
Date: Monday, March 16, 2026 9:02:03 PM

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

Dear County Councilmembers and Dave Somers,

I am a dedicated county employee and your constituent. I urge you to support establishing a Transportation Benefit District (TBD) in unincorporated Snohomish County. Without a stable, long-term funding source for transportation, the County will face cuts that directly threaten union jobs and the essential services our members provide.

Rising costs for materials, fuel, and basic operations have already stretched Public Works to the limit. Without new revenue, the County will be forced to reduce road maintenance, delay critical repairs, and scale back emergency response capacity. These cuts don't just impact infrastructure, they eliminate the very workers who keep our roads safe and our communities connected.

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Our Local and employees are ready to support you in moving this forward.

Sincerely,

Tamara King

District 4

Clearview, WA

From: [Eric Leung](#)
To: [Contact Council](#); [Mead, Jared](#)
Subject: Comments on Transportation Benefit District to Protect Jobs and Essential Service
Date: Monday, March 16, 2026 10:12:05 PM

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

Dear County Councilmembers and Dave Somers,

I am a long time resident of Snohomish county district 4 and I urge you to support establishing a Transportation Benefit District (TBD) in unincorporated Snohomish County. Without a stable, long-term funding source for transportation, the County will face cuts that directly threaten union jobs and the essential services that members provide.

Rising costs for materials, fuel, and basic operations have already stretched Public Works to the limit. Without new revenue, the County will be forced to reduce road maintenance, delay critical repairs, and scale back emergency response capacity. These cuts don't just impact infrastructure, they eliminate the very workers who keep our roads safe and our communities connected.

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Sincerely,
Eric Leung
District 4
Clearview, WA

From: [GURPREET DHALIWAL](#)
To: [County Executive](#); [Mead, Jared](#); [Somers, Dave J](#)
Cc: [Contact Council](#)
Subject: (District 4) Support for a Transportation Benefit District to Protect Jobs and Essential Services
Date: Thursday, March 19, 2026 8:43:51 PM

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

Dear County Executive Somers and Council Member Mead:

I am a dedicated county employee and your constituent. I urge you to support establishing a Transportation Benefit District (TBD) in unincorporated Snohomish County. Without a stable, long-term funding source for transportation, the County will face cuts that directly threaten union jobs and the essential services our members provide.

Rising costs for materials, fuel, and basic operations have already stretched Public Works to the limit. Without new revenue, the County will be forced to reduce road maintenance, delay critical repairs, and scale back emergency response capacity. These cuts don't just impact infrastructure, they eliminate the very workers who keep our roads safe and our communities connected.

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If the County cannot sustain its transportation workforce, other agencies will eventually be forced to add positions to compensate for reduced right-of-way maintenance and emergency road clearing, planning, design and inspection. This simply shifts the cost to residents and taxpayers later—at a much higher price.

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Our Local and employees are ready to support you in moving this forward.

Sincerely,

Gurpreet Dhaliwal

From: [Dunn, Megan](#)
To: [Contact Council](#)
Subject: FW: Letters of Support for Transportation Benefit District
Date: Thursday, March 26, 2026 12:03:57 PM
Attachments: [Labor Council Support of TBD.docx](#)
[Local Unions Support TBD.docx](#)

Megan Dunn | *Snohomish County Council Chair, District 2*

O: (425) 388-3494 | 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: Carrie Caffrey
Sent: Thursday, March 26, 2026 11:47 AM
To: Nehring, Nate ; Mead, Jared ; Low, Sam ; Dunn, Megan ; Peterson, Strom
Subject: Letters of Support for Transportation Benefit District

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

Dear Councilmembers,

I am writing to respectfully request that you review the recently submitted letters of support from several labor unions regarding the proposed Transportation Benefit District.

These letters reflect the perspectives of workers who are directly affected by transportation investments and who rely on safe, reliable, and well-funded transportation infrastructure to support our local economy and communities. Their feedback may provide valuable insight as you consider the scope and potential impacts of the Transportation Benefit District.

Thank you for your time and for your continued service to our county. Please let me know if any additional information would be helpful.

Respectfully,

Carrie Caffrey

Staff Representative

**Washington State Council of
County and City Employees**

AFSCME AFL-CIO

3305 Oakes Ave

Everett WA 98201

Cell:(425)359-7188

Phone: (425)303-8818

e-mail: carriec@council2.com

www.council2.com

Subject: Support for a Transportation Benefit District to Protect Jobs and Essential Services

Dear County Councilmembers,

I am a dedicated county employee and your constituent. I urge you to support establishing a Transportation Benefit District (TBD) in unincorporated Snohomish County. Without a stable, long-term funding source for transportation, the County will face cuts that directly threaten union jobs and the essential services our members provide.

Rising costs for materials, fuel, and basic operations have already stretched Public Works to the limit. Without new revenue, the County will be forced to reduce road maintenance, delay critical repairs, and scale back emergency response capacity. These cuts don't just impact infrastructure, they eliminate the very workers who keep our roads safe and our communities connected.

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Our Local and employees are ready to support you in moving this forward.

Sincerely,

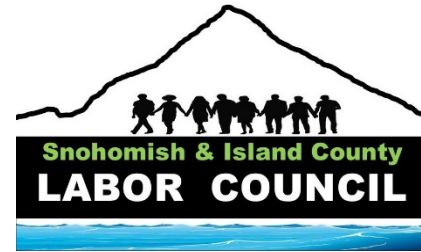


2/25/26

Snohomish County Council

3000 Rockefeller Ave

Everett, WA 98201



Dear Councilmembers,

On behalf of the Sno-Isle County Labor Council and the unions we represent, we write to express our strong support for establishing a Transportation Benefit District (TBD) for unincorporated Snohomish County. This is a necessary and responsible step to ensure long-term transportation stability, protect essential services, and safeguard the well-being of the workers and communities who rely on them every day.

Our unions have felt the impact of the rising costs firsthand. Inflation has driven up the price of everything from construction materials, services, fuel, medical premiums, and basic supplies. Public agencies and the workers who keep them running are being asked to do more with less, even as the cost of maintaining safe, reliable transportation infrastructure continues to climb. These pressures are not theoretical; they are lived realities for our members and the residents they serve.

At the same time, Snohomish County faces declining revenues and limited fiscal tools to support Public Works. Without new, stable funding mechanisms, the County will be forced to make cuts that will ripple across the community:

- Reduced road maintenance and slower emergency response times
- Increased wear and tear on vehicles for working families
- Greater strain on public employees who are already stretched thin
- Long-term deterioration of infrastructure that will cost far more to fix later

These consequences do not fall evenly. They hit rural residents, low-income families, and essential workers the hardest. They also affect other unions whose members depend on safe roads to get to work, deliver goods, and provide public services. A TBD is one of the few viable tools available to prevent these cascading impacts and to ensure that Snohomish County can meet its obligations to the public.

We urge you to consider the long-term implications of inaction. Deferred maintenance and unstable funding do not save money—they simply shift the burden onto future taxpayers, future workers, and future councils. Eventually, other unions will need to establish additional positions dedicated to right-of-way maintenance and emergency road clearing.

Eliminating essential workers and critical services from Snohomish County’s budget may create the appearance of short-term savings. However, over time, residents will face higher costs related to infrastructure—whether through increased utility rates and fees or through rising construction and housing expenses. In the end, the residents and businesses of Snohomish County will either pay now or pay more later. Establishing a Transportation Benefit District is a prudent, forward-looking investment in the economic health, safety, and sustainability of our county.

The labor community stands ready to support you in this effort. We believe that a TBD is not only fiscally responsible but morally responsible. It ensures that the people who live and work in unincorporated Snohomish County can continue to depend on the infrastructure that keeps our communities connected and our economy moving.

Thank you for your leadership and for your commitment to the residents and workers of Snohomish County. We urge you to vote in favor of establishing a Transportation Benefit District and to take this important step toward long-term fiscal stability and community well-being.

Sincerely,



From: [Kenny, Jim](#)
To: [Contact Council](#)
Subject: Transportation Benefit District Proposal
Date: Tuesday, April 14, 2026 11:42:14 PM
Attachments: [south_county_fire_logo-removebg-preview-removebg-preview_c38369a2-5d38-463c-b99e-21c662d02fb1.png](#)
[Sno-Isle Ltr to SCC re TBD 4-14-26.pdf](#)

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

Councilmembers,

Please find attached a letter of support for the County's Transportation Benefit District proposal. Thank you.

Jim Kenny
Treasurer
Sno-Isle Fire Commissioners Association



Jim Kenny
Fire Commissioner
12425 Meridian Ave. S, Everett WA 98208
O: (425) 551-1200 C: (425) 232-2236
jkenny@southsnofire.org | www.southsnofire.org

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**SNOHOMISH AND ISLAND COUNTY
FIRE COMMISSIONERS ASSOCIATION**

12425 Meridian Ave S
Everett, WA 98208

April 14, 2026

Snohomish County Council
3000 Rockefeller Ave, M/S 609
Everett, WA 98201

Dear Councilmembers:

The Snohomish and Island County Fire Commissioners Association supports the County's proposed Transportation Benefit District (TBD) to fund roads in the unincorporated areas of the County. We use those roads, and we need them to effectively respond to 911 calls. Roads are expensive, but they need to be maintained. Snohomish County Public Works does a good job with limited resources, and the TBD is an investment in the future. If you have any questions, please contact me at jkenny@southsnofire.org. Thank you.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Jim Kenny". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a long horizontal stroke at the end.

Jim Kenny
Treasurer
Sno-Isle F.C.A.

From: [Natalie Reber](#)
To: [Contact Council](#)
Subject: Support for Ordinance 26-009, Transportation Benefit District
Date: Monday, April 27, 2026 3:54:27 PM
Attachments: [image001.png](#)
[image002.png](#)
[image003.png](#)
[image004.png](#)
[image005.png](#)
[image006.png](#)
[MBAKS Support for Ord 2026 009 TBD.pdf](#)

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

Dear Councilmembers,

On behalf of the Master Builders Association of King and Snohomish Counties, I'm writing to express our support for Ordinance 26-009 establishing a Transportation Benefit District. This proposal creates a modest, predictable funding source for critical transportation improvements while helping ensure infrastructure costs are shared broadly rather than falling disproportionately on new housing.

Our full letter of support for the ordinance is attached.

Thank you for your work to make housing more attainable for all.

Best,
Natalie Reber



Natalie Reber | Snohomish County Government Affairs Manager

[206.683.0160](tel:206.683.0160) | nreber@mbaks.com | mbaks.com

335 116th Ave. SE, Bellevue, WA 98004



Everyone deserves a place to call home.



April 27, 2026

Snohomish County Council
3000 Rockefeller Ave
Everett, WA 98201

RE: Support for Ordinance No. 26-009 – Transportation Benefit District

Dear Snohomish County Council Members,

On behalf of the Master Builders Association of King and Snohomish Counties, I write in support of Proposed Ordinance 26-009.

Reliable transportation infrastructure is essential to deliver housing and support growing communities. This ordinance takes a practical step forward by establishing a modest vehicle license fee to create a stable, predictable funding source for needed transportation improvements in unincorporated Snohomish County.

We appreciate the County's effort to establish the Transportation Benefit District and align funding with established transportation plans. Just as importantly, this approach helps ensure that infrastructure costs are shared broadly, rather than falling disproportionately on new housing.

MBAKS supports this ordinance as a balanced and responsible way to fund infrastructure while continuing to advance housing production.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Natalie Reber

Natalie Reber
Snohomish County Government Affairs Manager
Master Builders Association King and Snohomish Counties
nreber@mbaks.com



From: [nancy dawson](#)
To: [Contact Council](#)
Subject: TBD for Unincorporated Snohomish County
Date: Tuesday, May 12, 2026 10:05:34 AM

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

Hi,

I oppose the establishment of a Transportation District in unincorporated Snohomish County. According to the slides in Dave Somers email some of the most populous cities in Snohomish County do NOT have an additional vehicle tax. If passed, the TBD would amount to an unfair and unequal taxation of unincorporated citizens.

Please oppose the establishment of the TBD.

From: [nancy dawson](#)
To: [Contact Council](#)
Subject: 2025-3508 Ordinance 26-009 Snohomish County Benefit District for Unincorporated Snohomish County-Please Oppose
Date: Tuesday, May 12, 2026 10:38:58 AM

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

I oppose the establishment of a Transportation Benefit District in unincorporated Snohomish County. According to the slides in Dave Somers email some of the most populous cities in Snohomish County do NOT have an additional vehicle tax. If passed, the TBD would amount to an unfair and unequal taxation of unincorporated citizens.

Please oppose the establishment of the TBD.

Nancy Dawson
206-399-8421
23319 19th Pl W
Bothell, WA 98021

From: [Ally Ehlert](#)
To: [Contact Council](#); [Peterson, Strom](#); [Dunn, Megan](#); [Nehring, Nate](#); [Mead, Jared](#); [Low, Sam](#)
Subject: NO to transportation benefit district ordinances
Date: Wednesday, May 13, 2026 7:30:28 AM

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

Good morning Council members,

As a resident of Snohomish County I'm repulsed by the actions you are considering at 10:30 am this morning (5/13). Not only does this time not allow those of us that are fully employed to attend but the purpose of the meeting is to consolidate power and then add another tax in a time where people are barely surviving. I find these actions repugnant and severely lack transparency! As my representatives on the council I expect you all to unanimously vote NO on all of these items. When No Kings Rallies are being held on a regular basis regarding the actions of our federal government, I expect our local government to not do anything that would consolidate power or create a further hardship for families under your reigning authority. Gas is now at \$6.00 a gallon in part thanks to our state gas taxes and carbon taxes. Utility rates have increased around the puget sound and our property taxes continue to tick up. Our family is single income and some months barely making it. The burden of more taxes and fees is the last thing all of us need. A region that preaches equality and inclusion is definitely finding every way possible to create inequity for the young families that support all of your salaries.

I implore you all to vote NO on all of these ordinances. Do not consolidate power, and DO NOT add another tax/fee to young families!

Thank you,

Alexandra Ehlert
Arlington, WA

From: [Matthew Ehlert](#)
To: [Contact Council](#); [Peterson, Strom](#); [Dunn, Megan](#); [Nehring, Nate](#); [Mead, Jared](#); [Low, Sam](#)
Subject: Re: NO to transportation benefit district ordinances
Date: Wednesday, May 13, 2026 9:55:09 AM

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

Good morning Council members,

"Wow." That's all that can be said at this point..

I am beyond disgusted - but by no means surprised - to learn of the actions you are considering today (5/13). Gas is beyond \$6.00 a gallon in places throughout the county. Utility rates continue to rise. Property taxes ceaselessly increase every year. The burden of more taxes and fees is the last thing all of us need. And yet, here we are, facing a conniving attempt by our county to add yet another tax in a time where people are barely surviving. Ironically, as deranged individuals are chanting "No Kings" in the streets, our local government continues to do anything in their means to consolidate power or create further hardships for families. It's disturbing, to say the least.

As my representatives on the council, I remind you that you are elected public *servants*, and as such, I respectfully demand that you all vote NO on all of these ordinances. Do not consolidate power, and DO NOT add another tax/fee to young families!

Thank you,

Matthew Ehlert
Smokey Point

From: [Wiita, Russell](#)
To: [Contact Council](#)
Subject: FW: No to increase in car tabs.
Date: Wednesday, June 3, 2026 9:19:38 AM

FYI

From: John Tellesbo
Sent: Thursday, May 28, 2026 5:26 PM
To: Wiita, Russell
Subject: No to increase in car tabs.

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

I already have to pay a stupid weight fee on a little trail 125 motorcycle.

No new increases in taxes. Cut, cut, no increase in tax.

John Tellesbo

Norsk129@gmail.com

Arlington

A Letter to the Snohomish County Council

May 28, 2026

Dear Council Member,

I have read in the paper recently, that the Council is considering raising Vehicle License Tab fees. I oppose this for two reasons.

The first reason is that there are a significant number of vehicles out there with expired temporary or annual license tabs. There seems to be a general policy across the state of ignoring the expiration dates on these items. That puts the tax burden on those folks who do pay for the privilege of using our roadways. Also, agencies are complaining that there isn't enough money to pay for their programs, to include the need to improve road surfaces and other structures. Enforcement of the current laws on the books just might correct that.

The second reason is that, and I am quite sure you do remember Tim Eyeman who campaigned for the basic charge to purchase license tabs should be limited to \$30. He went to court and won that the excise tax is limited to that amount.

I drive a vehicle that is a 2022 model year vehicle and the fee is approximately \$450 for license tabs. I think you might agree that is a long way from \$30. There are also a significant number of programs out there that get to share in the license fee account where they don't have any connection.

I have also been told that about one third of the vehicles on the road that do not have current tabs. If that were to be corrected, after say a 7-to-14-day notice, there might not be a need to increase taxes. This will give offenders some time to pay up.

There are funds out there without the need to increase taxes. It seems that the first thing that elected folks look at when there is a need, is to raise taxes. It shouldn't be that way.

I hope you will reconsider the need for the increased fee.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Pat Murphy". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Pat Murphy

DATE: 06/10/26 Time 10:35 a.m.

Snohomish County Council, 6/10/26

Stop it just stop it.

Twenty more dollars added to our tabs because you can't balance your budget. No, then what next year \$40 the next year \$60. No. The excuse to put signs up & to plow.

Well where I live we get no plowing. So no more money.

We have had everyone of our utilities bills go up, most at least \$20 bucks. Then gas is up, groceries are up & the sales tax just went up. Next month the gas tax goes up AGAIN.

Pretty sure our property taxes are going up again.

So stop it. BALANCE your budget cause WE THE PEOPLE have no budget left to balance.

Theresa Lynn
2063689564