
From: Brett Gailey <bgailey@lakestevenswa.gov>

Sent: Friday, May 5, 2023 9:00 AM

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

Cc: Somers, Dave J <Dave.Somers@co.snohomish.wa.us>; Cummings, Jason <Jason.Cummings@co.snohomish.wa.us>; Fortney, Adam <adam.fortney@co.snohomish.wa.us>; CFranklin <CFranklin@everettwa.gov>; Wiita, Russell <Russell.Wiita@co.snohomish.wa.us>; jnehring <jnehring@marysvillewa.gov>

Subject: Support for Ordinance 23-046

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

Dear Snohomish County Councilmembers,

Attached, please find a statement regarding the support for Ordinance 23-046 by the Snohomish County Mayors and Business Leaders for Public Safety Coalition.

Please feel free to reach out to us if you have any questions.

Sincerely,

Brett Gailey



Brett Gailey, *Mayor*

City of Lake Stevens | Administration

1812 Main Street | PO Box 257

Lake Stevens, WA 98258

bgailey@lakestevenswa.gov

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

Mayors and
Business Leaders for **Public Safety**

May 5, 2023

Snohomish County Council
Robert J. Drewel Building
Eighth floor
3000 Rockefeller Ave., M/S 609
Everett, WA 98201

Dear Councilmembers Nehring, Dunn, Peterson, Mead and Low:

On behalf of the undersigned Snohomish County mayors represented by the Mayors and Business Leaders for Public Safety coalition, we are writing to convey our support for Ordinance 23-046, relating to the use and possession of controlled or counterfeit substances.

Currently, cities in Snohomish County and across Washington state are looking to enact laws governing the possession or public use of illegal drugs in our communities. Absent a statewide drug possession statute, we believe the ordinance proposed by the county council will provide a path forward in unincorporated parts of the county that is consistent with what many of our cities are considering.

We understand there are efforts underway in Olympia to craft a new compromise bill that may provide a solution before the current state law expires at midnight on June 30. We hope a compromise can be achieved, but believe it is necessary and prudent to enact legislation at the county and local levels to ensure policies are in place in the event a statewide policy is not enacted.

Thank you for your efforts to address this vital public safety issue. We support this ordinance and urge its passage.

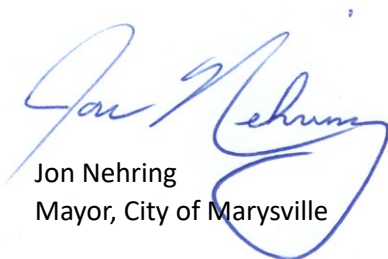
Sincerely,



Cassie Franklin
Mayor, City of Everett



Brett Gailey
Mayor, City of Lake Stevens



Jon Nehring
Mayor, City of Marysville



Russell Wiita
Mayor, City of Sultan



Barbara Tolbert
Mayor, City of Arlington



Dale Kaemingk
Mayor, City of Brier



Dan Rankin
Mayor, City of Darrington



Steve Yarbrough
Mayor, City of Gold Bar



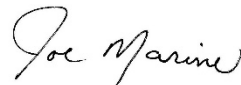
Christine Frizzell
Mayor, City of Lynnwood



Geoffrey Thomas
Mayor, City of Monroe



Kyoko Matsumoto Wright
Mayor, City of Mountlake Terrace



Joe Marine
Mayor, City of Mukilteo



Linda Redmon
Mayor, City of Snohomish



Sid Roberts
Mayor, City of Stanwood



Mike Quinn
Town of Woodway

May 15, 2023

Washington State House and Senate Members
Submitted Electronically

Snohomish County Council
Submitted Electronically

Concerned Residents
Available Electronically

RE: Support for Statewide Approach to Substance Use Disorder and Recovery Options

To Whom It May Concern:

As individually elected officials, community members, advocates, and allies, we support the following: a public health and statewide approach to end illegal drug use and for those struggling with substance use disorder and untreated addiction to have access to recovery options and pathways to stability. We need tools to address the rising use of harmful drugs and we need to prioritize treatment and recovery for substance use disorder.

The increasing amount of drug use in our communities and its residual effects is an issue that impacts us all. We are encouraged that the State Legislature will reconvene and find consensus on a fix to public consumption of illegal substances laws and pass critical funds for treatment.

Local ordinances come with many unaddressed details and only exacerbates the confusion caused by a patchwork approach towards a solution. Additionally, the local ordinances do not include the funding needed to close the gap in treatment and workforce needs.

Law enforcement is undecided on the approach for this issue, Fraternal Order of Police issued a statement on 4/13/2023 calling for a statewide solution and stressed, “the three pillars of effectively dealing with substance abuse disorder cases include: treatment, accountability, and consequences.” **These rank-and-file officers have stressed to the legislature that the best solution, from enforcement to funding consistency, is a workable, consistent statewide approach.**

Municipalities and the State must do their fair share to ensure access to services, including treatment centers, low barrier housing, expanding the recovery navigator program to improve capacity and workforce, pre-arrest/post-arrest/pre-trial diversion and therapy courts, and other solutions.

We are concerned that misinformation campaigns have falsely claimed that the proposed bills allow “safe consumption sites” and “safe injection sites” which is confusing residents and adds to stigmatism of this disease. Washington State has no safe injection sites.

Incarcerating people for addiction is the costliest and least effective way to help a person on a path towards recovery and stability. Jails are ill-equipped and inappropriate for people struggling with addiction. As elected officials and community leaders, we are asking you to join us in focusing resources on prevention, detox facilities, treatment facilities, and other proven measures that give people the tools they need to set them up for success.

We, the undersigned, encourage proper due diligence, ensuring all voices are at the table, and allowing the Washington State Legislature to pass common sense reforms and fund necessary treatment options.

Signed,

Paula Rhyne
Everett City Councilmember, District 2

Liz Vogeli
Everett City Councilmember, District 4

Susan Paine
Edmonds City Council, Position 6

Anji Jorstad
Lake Stevens City Councilmember

Louis Harris
Mukilteo City Councilmember

Steve Schmalz
Mukilteo City Councilmember

Mason Thompson
City of Bothell Mayor

Rami Al-Kabra
Deputy Mayor, City of Bothell

Jenne Alderks
Bothell City Councilmember

Amanda Dodd
Bothell City Councilmember

Rory Paine-Donovan
Mountlake Terrace City Councilmember

Steve Woodard
Mountlake Terrace City Councilmember

Jordan Sears
City of Gold Bar Councilmember, Position 5

Naomi A. Dietrich
Founder/Lead Organizer for Snohomish County Indivisible

Juan Peralez
President of Unidos

Charles Adkins
Community Advocate and State Advisory Council on Homelessness Member

Paul Benz
Executive Director for Washington Partners for Social Change

Demi Chatters
Community Advocate and Everett City Council Candidate

Paula Townsell
Community Advocate

Snohomish Ebony PAC