

SNOHOMISH COUNTY COUNCIL
Snohomish County, Washington

THIRD PROPOSED SUBSTITUTE MOTION NO. 25-583

APPROVING THE YWCA AFFORDABLE HOUSING BEHAVIORAL HEALTH OPERATIONS
AND LICENSING CONTRACT FOR THE EDMONDS NEW START CENTER

WHEREAS, RCW 82.14.530 authorizes counties to impose a sales tax for acquisition and construction of affordable housing, which may include emergency, transitional and supportive housing, and new units of affordable housing within an existing structure, or acquiring and constructing behavioral health-related facilities or land acquisition for these purpose or funding operations and maintenance cost of new units of affordable housing and facilities where housing related programs are provided, or newly constructed evaluation and treatment centers; and

WHEREAS, Snohomish County Council passed Ordinance 21-098, imposing a one-tenth of one percent sales tax for affordable housing and behavioral health and adding a new chapter 4.126 to Snohomish County Code; and

WHEREAS, the YWCA was selected as the Edmonds New Start Center Operator and awarded AHBH funding for the operation of the facility; and

WHEREAS, the initial proposed operating and license agreement for the Edmonds New Start Center (the "Agreement") includes referral and eligibility minimum requirements to screen potential clients; and

WHEREAS, the proposed eligibility criteria prohibit a potential client from having a conviction of a crime of violence as defined by RCW 9A.010(7) and not having a recent conviction (within 5 years) for manufacture or distribution/delivery of a controlled substance; and

WHEREAS, the Snohomish County Council wishes to amend the eligibility criteria to allowing a larger population of clients to receive housing and services; and

WHEREAS, final approval for the issuance of New Start Center services and operating and maintenance Agreement, and amendments exceeding \$50,000 shall be made by the Snohomish County Council;

NOW, THEREFORE, ON MOTION, Snohomish County Council:

1. Approves and authorizes the County Executive to execute The YWCA Affordable Housing and Behavioral Health 1590 Operating and License Agreement for the Edmonds New Start Center, and
2. Requires that all extensions subject to this Agreement obtain County Council approval by motion, and

3. The Council requests an evaluation of the Referral and Eligibility Minimum Requirements of the Agreement and a presentation in a public meeting on any recommended changes to those requirements, vacancy rates and program implementation prior to the end of the initial term of the Agreement; and
4. Replaces Attachment 2, Referral and Eligibility Minimum Requirements, in the initial agreement with the Amended Attachment 2, Amended Referral and Eligibility Minimum Requirements appended to this motion.

PASSED this ____ day of _____, 2026.

SNOHOMISH COUNTY COUNCIL
Snohomish County, Washington

Council Chair

ATTEST:

Deputy Clerk of the Council

AMENDED ATTACHMENT 2

AMENDED REFERRAL & ELIGIBILITY MINIMUM REQUIREMENTS

EDMONDS NEW START CENTER

I. PURPOSE

To establish eligibility criteria and a uniform process for referrals to County-owned New Start Center facilities.

Eligibility and referral policies are intended to select Clients that will succeed in a non-congregate setting and continue to make progress toward permanent housing.

II. POLICY

Snohomish County will determine eligibility criteria and referral policies for County-owned New Start Center facilities. All Clients must meet eligibility criteria and be referred to the projects in accordance with the policies described below. Agency will have final approval for admission to the New Start Center and placement in individual units consistent with the Agreement and this Attachment.

Target Population: The projects will serve 1) individuals currently residing in shelters (congregate, non-congregate, or pallet) to be selected by the County OR 2) individuals in consistent contact with a County-approved referral partner and actively engaging in activities to achieve housing stability.

Eligibility Criteria: The program shall serve Eligible Clients only. Eligible Clients must satisfy the following requirements:

1. Be 18 years of age or older.
2. Be literally homeless (Category 1) as defined by HUD Defining Homeless Rule.
 - a. Has a primary nighttime residence that is a public or private place not meant for human habitation; or
 - b. Is living in a publicly or privately operated shelter designated to provide temporary living arrangements (including congregate shelters, transitional housing, and hotels and motels paid for by charitable organizations or by federal, state, and local government programs); or

- c. Is exiting an institution where they resided for 90 days or less and resided in an emergency shelter or place not meant for human habitation immediately before entering that institution.
- 3. Be currently residing in a shelter (congregate, non-congregate, or pallet) selected by the County OR in consistent contact with a County-approved referral partner and actively engaging in activities to achieve housing stability.
- 4. At or below 50% of the area median income for Snohomish County.
- 5. Not have a recent conviction (within 5 years) for manufacture or distribution/delivery of a controlled substance, PROVIDED, HOWEVER, that an otherwise Eligible Client may not be deemed ineligible based solely on one or more convictions of a drug offence(s) under RCW 9.94A.030(22).
- 6. Not be a level 1 noncompliant, level two, or level three registered sex offender.
- 7. Not have a conviction of a crime of violence as defined by RCW 9.41.010(7), PROVIDED, HOWEVER, that an otherwise Eligible Client may not be deemed ineligible based solely on one or more convictions of a crime of violence as defined under RCW 9.41.010(7).
- 8. No substance use in the last 30-days.
- 9. Be able to manage activities of daily living, including:
 - a. Ambulating: The ability to get in and out of bed and move independently.
 - b. Feeding: The ability to feed oneself.
 - c. Dressing: The ability to put on clothes unassisted.
 - d. Personal hygiene: The ability to bathe and perform essential grooming.
 - e. Continence: The ability to control bladder and bowel function.
 - f. Toileting: The ability to get and from the toilet, use it appropriately, and clean oneself.
 - g. Medications: The ability to manage medications without assistance.

Referral Pathways: The New Start Centers will not operate on a drop-in-basis. All Clients must be referred by entities that are on the list of County-approved designated referral partners. The Director of the Human Services Department (or

their designee) may add to, or remove, from the list of designated referral partners. The local jurisdictions of the specific New Start Center facility will be consulted in the selection of designated referral partners.

Local Referrals: The goal is that at least 75% of Clients referred to the projects are residents of the local community, defined as:

- Edmonds Location: 75% of Clients referred to the project shall be residents of South Snohomish County. Agency shall give priority to Edmonds residents according to selection criteria set forth in the Management Plan.
- Everett Location: 75% of Clients referred to the project shall be residents of Everett. Agency shall give priority to Everett residents according to selection criteria set forth in the Management Plan.