

**From:** [KEVIN JOHNSON](#)  
**To:** [Contact Council](#)  
**Subject:** Snohomish County 8% Tax Hike Alert: Make Your Voice Count!  
**Date:** Thursday, November 14, 2024 10:00:01 AM

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**Council Members,**

**Well what can I say to get your attention?**

**This is a terrible proposal and it is the last thing property owners in Snohomish County need. The last thing people need is a tax hike, as most are struggling to make it now.**

**The recent election failures by the Democrats should resonate with each Council Member.**

**I fully understand the general fund lacks the funds needed to operate, but where is the accountability to operate within available funding? You can't keep spending like drunken sailors and expect people to be fine with tax increases. It does not work like this.**

**Any tax increase needs to be approved by the public through a vote. I often see ballot measures to repeal tax increases that did not go to the public for a vote. Let's not have another with this poor idea.**

**Tax and spend does not work and the people of Snohomish County deserve much better than this crazy proposal by County Executive Dave Somers.**

**Council members who support this measure can rest assured there will be zero support from me in the future.**

**Regards,**

**Kevin Johnson**

**Home Owner - Marysville, WA**

**Snohomish County ACTION ALERT!**

**8% Property Tax Hike Proposed in Snohomish County; how you can make your voice heard and support the alternative proposal to not increase taxes before Wednesday.**

County Executive Dave Somers' proposed \$3.07 Billion 2025-2026 Biennial Budget brings with it a massive 8% property tax hike. This means that homeowners and small business owners in Snohomish County will feel the pinch of the increased government spending over the next 2 years.

The 2024 general fund spending of the overall county budget was \$332 million. The 2025 proposal by Executive Somers increases that spending to \$353 million. That's \$21 million more in the first year of the new budget.

As the Snohomish County Council deliberates on the 2025/2026 budget, you the taxpayer have a critical opportunity to voice your opinions and concerns at (or before by letter/email) the upcoming Public Hearing on Wednesday Nov 13<sup>th</sup> at 10:30AM.

You can testify in-person or virtually at the hearing. The vote by the five councilmembers on the two-year budget that includes this large tax increase is scheduled to happen right after this Public Hearing. Your participation can make the difference!

Councilmember Nate Nehring, the Snohomish County Council Vice President, is proposing a budget amendment to eliminate the 8% general property tax levy increase in Executive Somers' proposed budget by reducing unnecessary spending to ensure a balanced budget with no tax increase [see Amendment HERE](#). The

amendment removes budget increases over current budgeted levels and removes discretionary spending not connected to essential County government functions. This amendment, as well as others along with the overall county budget, will be considered at the Council's Public Hearing scheduled for this Wednesday, November 13th starting at 10:30 AM.

**Council Meetings are held at:**

3000 Rockefeller Ave.

8th Floor, Jackson Board Room

Robert J. Drewel Building in Everett

**From:** [ZANETTE R FOUCHE"](#)  
**To:** [Contact Council](#)  
**Subject:** No more tax increases  
**Date:** Thursday, November 14, 2024 10:01:13 AM

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No more increases. We are paying tax on the taxes. It's sheer madness. Didn't you pay attention during the Presidential campaigns? We are broke.  
Cut the waste here.  
Zanette Fouche

**From:** [ZANETTE R FOUCHE"](#)  
**To:** [Contact Council](#)  
**Subject:** Property tax  
**Date:** Thursday, November 14, 2024 10:33:25 AM

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There are 39 counties in Washington state, of which 25 are Red. Give the hike to King County, since they are Blue.

**From:** [Marcia Maxwell](#)  
**To:** [Nehring, Nate](#); [Contact Council](#)  
**Subject:** property tax increase  
**Date:** Thursday, November 14, 2024 10:40:22 AM

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Greetings,

My husband and I recently moved to Stanwood from Redmond, where our property taxes had become untenable—over \$1000 a month for a 4 bedroom house on a lot measured in yards, not acres. We moved here in large part to take advantage of lower property taxes, as I was obliged to retire early due to health issues. We have to live within our means—which is not easy with only one income—and so should county government. Surely cost-cutting and efficiency can be applied before asking for so great an increase.

Given the overall (and largely unavoidable) increase in groceries and fuel cost, this will be a significant added expense, particularly for people on fixed incomes.

I urge the council to reconsider this proposal.

Sincerely yours,  
Marcia Maxwell

**From:** [Bigea, Victor](#)  
**To:** [Contact Council](#)  
**Subject:** New Tax in SnoCo 8%...  
**Date:** Thursday, November 14, 2024 11:18:39 AM

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Good Morning,

This is in regards to the propriety tax increase proposition by 8% for the Snohomish county propriety owners; I vote **NO** on the proposed tax increase. If it passes it will be a financial burden for my family which has already struggling to keep up with the rise in prices for goods, services and bills.

I support Nate Nehring's proposal to freeze property tax.

Respectfully,

Victor Bigea

SnoCo Resident

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**From:** [Michelle Ranous](#)  
**To:** [Contact Council](#); [chris.ranous@pse.com](mailto:chris.ranous@pse.com)  
**Subject:** Vote NO on 8% tax increase  
**Date:** Thursday, November 14, 2024 11:28:00 AM

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Dear council,  
Please vote NO on this tax increase. We cannot afford it. You need to cut your spending just like we ALL have had to do in these economic times.  
Please vote YES on councilman Negrings' amendment.

Sincerely,  
Michelle Ranous

**From:** [jmas7](#)  
**To:** [Contact Council](#)  
**Subject:** Vote No on the 8% tax  
**Date:** Thursday, November 14, 2024 11:37:21 AM

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Hello,

Increasing property taxes by 8% should be put to a vote by the people

As you can see on November 5th the residents of Snohomish County voted NO to raise taxes as residents are finding it hard to afford groceries and pay thier mortgages.

My family and I ask the council to vote NO on this 8% property tax and represent the voters of Snohomish County accordingly or allow the residents to vote on whether we would like this 8% property tax increase.

Thank you for your time.

Maria

Sent from my T-Mobile 4G LTE Device



**From:** [Thesvy Cashen](#)  
**To:** [Contact Council](#)  
**Subject:** Property tax increase 8% NO  
**Date:** Thursday, November 14, 2024 11:58:44 AM

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How does the council justify this huge increase? Mountlake Terrace council meets this week to propose a 1% increase in property taxes too.

Inflation is running under 3%. We could perhaps swallow this but 8% - no way. Our pocketbook have long memories. We will remember this when election time rolls around again.

NO to 8%

Thesvy Cashen

[Sent from AOL on Android](#)

**From:** [Nancy Ball](#)  
**To:** [Contact Council](#)  
**Subject:** 8 percent increase in property taxes  
**Date:** Thursday, November 14, 2024 12:11:44 PM

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I am a senior citizen living on a fixed income. I can't afford an increase in property taxes. Please don't tax me out of my home! I'm too old to live on the streets.

**From:** [Ben Scarbrough](#)  
**To:** [Contact Council](#)  
**Subject:** NO to the Property Snohomish County Property Tax Increase  
**Date:** Thursday, November 14, 2024 12:13:35 PM

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As a resident of the city of Everett, and of Snohomish County, I am making my voice heard.

I am voicing opposition to the proposed 8% property tax increase. The citizens of Everett have directed their Mayor and Council to do more with less, and I am urging the county of Snohomish to do the same.

After record growth over the last ten years that saw property values, business, and inflation soar, state and local governments have benefitted from windfalls. This doesn't even take into consideration federal dollars that were injected into our regions as well as others across the country for over two years.

Now, after four years of crippling economic policies, every middle class home in the nation is struggling to make ends meet. The cost of groceries, fuel, and utilities have all increased. I was just notified yesterday that my mortgage payment for my residence (that I bought in 2020 for \$500,000.00) is increasing for the third year in a row by approximately \$120.00 a month.

We are drowning out here, especially those of us with children to feed. I have to choose between food on the table and extracurricular activities for my kids, and as someone in tech who makes six figures, that is absolutely unacceptable. Considering all of this, and when you add in the amount of crime (much of which is created by repeat offenders), and the number of drug addicted and psychosis-suffering homeless walking the streets of Everett each day, an 8% property tax hike is an insult to us who show up, work hard at our taxable occupations, and lose sleep over what the next month's finances are going to look like.

We are taxed out of our noses in this state. The capital gains tax (which IS an income tax) exists. Car tab taxes are through the roof despite voters voting it down. The carbon tax has driven fuel prices higher and higher. We are taxed and taxed and taxed, but what do we see for it? Unchecked crime, homeless junkies wandering the streets and littering our forests, parks, and streets with drug paraphernalia, garbage and excrement, and the cost of living increasing. My kids can't even safely use our nearby park bathroom because it's a hotspot for junkies. It's pathetic and something my kids nor anyone else's kids should be exposed to. Every level of government in this region has failed us, yet the leviathan's hunger for taxes never subsides.

I am saying NO to a property tax increase in Snohomish County.

Ben Scarbrough  
1926 Highland Ave  
Everett, WA 98201

**From:** [Paula Truex](#)  
**To:** [Contact Council](#)  
**Subject:** Taxes  
**Date:** Thursday, November 14, 2024 12:21:17 PM

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I vote no!!! On raising taxes 8%  
Sent from my iPhone

**From:** [Kristie Minkoff](#)  
**To:** [Contact Council](#)  
**Subject:** Taxes  
**Date:** Thursday, November 14, 2024 12:34:16 PM

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I know I'm late to the meeting. I represent many people in Lake Stevens who vote no for an increase in taxes. What side of history will you be remembered? I hope you do the right thing and figure out other ways to do your planning. Because we will all remember.

Best regards,

Kristie Minkoff  
425-760-5282  
[Kaminkoff@gmail.com](mailto:Kaminkoff@gmail.com)  
Sent from my iPhone

**From:** [Chris Ranous](#)  
**To:** [Contact Council](#)  
**Subject:** Proposed property tax increase  
**Date:** Thursday, November 14, 2024 12:37:05 PM

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Hello,

I'm writing to express my opposition to the proposed property tax increase for Snohomish county. An 8% increase on our property taxes will be unsustainable for a large percentage of this county. We already have extremely high sales tax, and our current property taxes rates are high as it is.

I am concerned this tax will disproportionately affect those that can least afford it, and it may put people on fixed incomes or that have disabilities out of their homes. Please vote no on this increase and trim expenses from the budget to address the fiscal problems the county is facing.

Thank you,

Chris Ranous

**From:** [Grant Massey](#)  
**To:** [Contact Council](#)  
**Subject:** No to 8% property tax increase  
**Date:** Thursday, November 14, 2024 12:50:20 PM

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Please vote no on 8% property tax increase.

Sent from my iPhone

**From:** [Shirley Harmon](#)  
**To:** [Contact Council](#)  
**Subject:** Taxes  
**Date:** Thursday, November 14, 2024 1:25:38 PM

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To the Snohomish Council,

Like so many in our county, we are already taxed beyond reason. Please vote NO on the 8% tax increase and YES to councilman Nehring's amendment.

Sincerely,  
Darrell and Shirley Harmon  
494 W Columbia St  
Monroe, WA

Sent from my iPad



**From:** [Shelly Lamb](#)  
**To:** [Contact Council](#)  
**Subject:** Fwd: PROPOSED 8% PROPERTY TAX INCREASE  
**Date:** Thursday, November 14, 2024 1:31:53 PM

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I am writing to you as a concerned citizen of Snohomish County and your proposal of increasing our property taxes to 8%. I am imploring you to weigh very heavily the impact on homelessness this will CAUSE. As people are burdened financially right now as it is, to raise property taxes to this degree will CAUSE SIGNIFICANT MORE homelessness. Those on the bubble now, will be forced into their cars or worse yet, the streets. You will displace the elderly. You will displace our children. YOU, THE SNOHOMISH COUNTY COUNCIL, WILL MAKE OUR CHILDREN HOMELESS.

Read that again! You, THE COUNCIL, WILL make the children and elderly, families, and just those barely scraping by, of Snohomish County HOMELESS.

But then I am sure, you will create another tax to help alleviate homelessness, thus the circle of tax to fix a problem but that creates a problem to create another tax will go on and on and on.

Please, think before you impose this tax. The repercussions to our elderly, our children, and our families barely scraping by will be enormous! For every tax you want to create/impose, I always ask .... if I were a single mother of three, barely getting by, what would I give up: Would I choose to NOT feed my kids, NOT provide them warmth, NOT provide them water, LIVE in my car ... what. What would I do? What would you do if you were on the bubble?

Please Vote YES on Councilman Nate Nehring's amendment.

Do not increase our homeless population. Stop the taxing madness.

Respectfully,

Michelle Lamb  
13427 95th Ave NE  
Arlington, WA 98223

**From:** [Melissa olejniczak](#)  
**To:** [Contact Council](#)  
**Subject:** NO TO TAX INCREASE  
**Date:** Thursday, November 14, 2024 1:32:20 PM

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PLEASE do what is right for the people of Snohomish county and vote NO on the 8% tax increase and vote YES to councilman Nehrings amendment!!!

Respectfully,

Melissa Olejniczak  
Snohomish county resident and home owner  
425 308 7050

**From:** [Wayne Wayson](#)  
**To:** [Contact Council](#)  
**Subject:** General Fund Property Tax increase  
**Date:** Thursday, November 14, 2024 2:40:48 PM

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Dear County Council members,

It has come to my attention that an 8% property tax increase is being considered. I am contacting you to voice my strong opposition to this increase and respectfully ask you to vote "No".

I am only one person, and my family is one family of many throughout Snohomish County. I do not make this request selfishly for myself and my family, but feel I represent many individuals and families.

My personal story is, I have lived in Snohomish County for over 35 years. All this time, I have worked 1.5 jobs to keep up with the cost of living and taxes. In June, I was laid off of my primary employment and barely surviving on part-time work and savings while searching for new primary employment. In case you were not aware, the job market is flooded with unemployed people and finding any job, let alone employment with a livable wage, is extremely difficult. I am also raising kids and caring for elderly parents (one in my home) with health issues.

I am proud to support my family and my community and do not mind the additional work. Extra activities are not available due to lack of time and funds, but this is just a reality. What I don't appreciate is my hard earned money being taken for items I feel are not necessities.

Recent inflation and personal life changes have made our family need to adjust our expenses and priorities. I ask the council to do the same for the county budget. It's not pleasant, but better for all in the long run.

Thank you for your attention and consideration.

Wayne Wayson  
[wwayson09@gmail.com](mailto:wwayson09@gmail.com)

**From:** [michael.crumpacker@frontier.com](mailto:michael.crumpacker@frontier.com)  
**To:** [Contact Council](#)  
**Subject:** Down with the 8% Tax Hike  
**Date:** Thursday, November 14, 2024 2:47:40 PM

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Members of the Snohomish County council,

My name is Michael Crumpacker, and I have been a register voter and resident of Snohomish County for over forty years. Over that period, I have watched our property and sales taxes skyrocket with very little benefits if any to account for that spending. My wife and I are retired and living on a fixed income and are finding it increasingly difficult to live in the Perrinville area any longer, I understand that there are many other retired people living in Snohomish County that are in a worse financial position than ourselves. Our property taxes have consistently gone up year after year except for one year to my memory and it is becoming apparent that our county and state leaders are completely blinded as to the needs of all its residents. We are tired of constant tax increases and if the government keeps increasing our expenses we will be forced to move away from our children and nine grandchildren. I honestly think that this letter will fall on deaf ears, and you don't really care about anything except your agenda, but I really want you to know that you are impacting the community that you are supposed to represent in a very negative way.

Michael Crumpacker

17826 69<sup>th</sup> Ave W  
Edmonds, WA. 98026

**From:** [Michelle Ulrich](#)  
**To:** [Contact Council](#)  
**Subject:** Property tax hike  
**Date:** Thursday, November 14, 2024 3:07:29 PM

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Please vote NO on the 8% tax increase and YES to Councilman Nehring's amendment.

Michelle Ulrich  
Very concerned citizen

**From:** [Clarissa evans](#)  
**To:** [Contact Council](#)  
**Subject:** Behavior of Megan Dunn at Sno County Budget Meeting on 11/13/24  
**Date:** Thursday, November 14, 2024 3:15:14 PM

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Hello Sno County Council members,

Yesterday two of us attended in person the County Budget meeting for the very first time. We took time out of our day to drive to Everett, pay \$7 for parking and spent 2 hours standing along the back wall.

The entire time I was listening to heart wrenching stories of how homeowners are basically being Property taxed out of their homes.

From my viewpoint on that side of the room, I couldn't help but notice the scowl facial expression that Council member **Megan Dunn** had on her face the entire morning during the meeting!

Not to mention that most of the time she was not looking at the speakers but distracted by her laptop screen in front of her, even giving a smirk apparently in response to something she was reading on it.

When one of the speakers mentioned this behavior by Megan Dunn, it would have been appropriate for Megan to have closed the laptop herself, if she had an ounce of manners, or Jared Mead could have asked Megan to close her laptop and frankly pay attention & show some respect and compassion to the taxpayers present.

Megan could care less what the speakers had to say and seemed to be "put out" that she was forced to listen to any comments that wasn't worth her while. I was appalled by this behavior, her lack of empathy or concern and very disappointed to witness what I saw from an elected person.

Please take this feedback very seriously and provide Megan with an attitude adjustment training as a Professional Public Official.

I plan to attend the next meeting and hope to see an improvement with Megan when she is faced once again, with the Taxpayers that she obviously resents.

We would be happy to discuss further if you need to contact us by phone the # is 425.774.1080

Thank you,  
CE

**From:** [Luke Miller](#)  
**To:** [Contact Council](#)  
**Subject:** Property Tax  
**Date:** Thursday, November 14, 2024 3:19:25 PM

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Vote no on the 8% property tax increase. Values have already increased drastically over the past several years. Adopt Nate Nehrings amendment.

A concerned Snohomish county resident,

Luke Miller

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425.334.9181

**Worship Pastor**

***Snohomish Community Church***

[www.wearescc.org](http://www.wearescc.org)

**From:** [Talisha Zerfoss](#)  
**To:** [Contact Council](#)  
**Subject:** 8% property tax increase  
**Date:** Thursday, November 14, 2024 3:34:07 PM

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To whom it may concern,

My household votes NO on the 8% tax increase. This is something that should be on a ballot and not at the hands of the council. Shame on you for trying to sneak this by. As a renter we are already bleeding money to survive in this crap economy. My household strongly urges you to freeze the current tax level (since we all know you won't drop it) and do an audit of where you are spending money. Maybe the money you need is already there and you need to make some cuts from somewhere else.

I urge you to have some compassion on those that are low income and would not survive if you raise the taxes by 8%.

Talisha Zerfoss  
Author of: "The Great Coat Adventures"



**From:** [Kenneth Halliburton](#)  
**To:** [Contact Council](#)  
**Subject:** Fw: do not raise property taxes ever, my income will never go up  
**Date:** Thursday, November 14, 2024 3:53:35 PM

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**From:** Kenneth Halliburton <sequoia16@hotmail.com>

**Sent:** Thursday, November 14, 2024 9:17 PM

**To:** megan.dunn@snoco.org <megan.dunn@snoco.org>

**Subject:** Fw: do not raise property taxes

I have 3 properties in this district. Taxes just go up and up, with no benefits to the public, just to the govt employees.

I am on fixed income, with a Boeing pension which has no COLA. My income will never go up. Ever. Boeing engineer pay was good, but pension has become small, due to rising costs due to irresponsible Democrats.

SNoco should not spend any more than they are now. Forever, because that's what taxpayers have to do.

The illegal immigration and Green New Deal inflation from the Democratic party has ruined a lot of people's chances, and the voters did a landslide a few weeks ago to try to change this. It may or may not, since Trump has serious personal flaws, as did Biden and Harris. But the Demo party is controlled by a evil antiAmerican fanatic far left woke group that hates America, and is even worse than the flawed Trump. Roe vs. Wade should never have been overturned, of course, but the morning after pill by mail solves this to some degree, if made legal for all states. And rich people and corporations have to be taxed highly, as nobody else has any money. Owning a house or having to buy food and energy does not make you rich. Demos need to stop raising taxes. Live within your means, like the voters have to.

I live in Mukilteo. 425-348-6461.

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**From:** Kenneth Halliburton <sequoia16@hotmail.com>

**Sent:** Wednesday, November 13, 2024 3:51 AM

**To:** contact.council@snoco.gov <contact.council@snoco.gov>

**Subject:** do not raise property taxes

**From:** [Kerry Day](#)  
**To:** [Contact Council](#)  
**Subject:** RE Tax Increase  
**Date:** Thursday, November 14, 2024 4:31:37 PM

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Snohomish County Council -

I am a Snohomish county homeowner but, maybe more importantly, I am a local mortgage lender that has helped hundreds of people become homeowners in Snohomish County. **The 8% proposed tax increase for Snohomish County would be devastating for home affordability in our county.** I strongly support Councilman Nehring's amendment and urge the council to avoid further pressuring already exorbitant local housing prices with the proposed real estate tax increase.

Thank you for your consideration!

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Kerry Day  
206-660-0367  
[kerrymday@gmail.com](mailto:kerrymday@gmail.com)

**From:** [DONALD RODENHIZER](#)  
**To:** [Contact Council](#)  
**Subject:** I tax's do not raise my property tax's, you are taxing me out of my home I have lived in for 50 years! This unfair and hurtful! Sarita Rodenhizer  
**Date:** Thursday, November 14, 2024 5:25:17 PM

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Sent from my iPad

**From:** [Diane Jay](#)  
**To:** [Contact Council](#)  
**Subject:** Strong NO  
**Date:** Thursday, November 14, 2024 6:06:59 PM

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Please say NO NO NO to a property tax increase. I am a retired senior on fixed income and cannot afford any more property tax! Please approve Councilman Nehring's amendment!!

Diane Jay

**From:** [Angela Maddux](#)  
**To:** [Contact Council](#)  
**Subject:** 8% tax increase  
**Date:** Thursday, November 14, 2024 7:22:56 PM

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To whom it may concern on the council,  
As you know our community is having a housing crisis and housing has become so unaffordable that no one can work only one job. I am asking that you do not approve this 8% tax increase as it will affect every family here in Snohomish county. No one wants this and you should do more cuts in your budget and not put your responsibility to be fiscally sound on the community at large. Please considered cuts rather than increasing the burden on the community members.

Angela Maddux  
Small business owner  
Mother and Wife  
Tax payer  
4254264450

**From:** [Astrid Tanda Brugger](#)  
**To:** [Contact Council](#)  
**Subject:** Tax increase  
**Date:** Thursday, November 14, 2024 7:33:55 PM

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NO to 8 percent tax increase and YES to Nate Nehrings sane proposal.

Dave Somers needs to go!

We are struggling out here and this state is taxing us out of our homes! There is NO relief for the middle and lower income. This state is so regressive in their tax policies. Shame on Dave somers!

Record my vote!

Astrid Tanda Brugger  
AgencyOne  
Real Estate Broker  
206-794-1461 cell  
[TandaBrugger@gmail.com](mailto:TandaBrugger@gmail.com)

**From:** [Bob Brugger](#)  
**To:** [Contact Council](#)  
**Subject:** Unacceptable Tax Increase  
**Date:** Thursday, November 14, 2024 7:44:14 PM

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I want to make it very clear that you should stop the unfettered and inefficient financial management that has led to this proposed 8% increase in taxes for we Snoco residents who are already struggling to make ends meet.

Vote NO to this 8% tax increase...

Vote YES to councilman Nehring's amendment!

Be responsible representatives of your constituents and listen to them!

Robert W. Brugger  
23406 148th AVE SE  
Snohomish, WA 99296  
(253) 617-8995

**From:** [Kathleen Carrera](#)  
**To:** [Contact Council](#)  
**Subject:** Demanding voting no on 8% tax increase!!!  
**Date:** Thursday, November 14, 2024 8:10:58 PM

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I want you to vote NO ON THE 8% TAX INCREASE.

I WANT YOU TO VOTE YES on COUNCILMAN NEHRING'S AMENDMENT!

Snohomish County is out of control and not accountable enough with their spending already.

The citizens of Snohomish County are fed up with the increase of taxes and irresponsible spending.

Sincerely,  
Kathleen Carrera  
206-353-8522  
Please excuse Siri



**From:** [libmac4@frontier.com](mailto:libmac4@frontier.com)  
**To:** [Contact Council](#)  
**Subject:** Comment on 8% Property Tax Increase in Budget Proposal  
**Date:** Thursday, November 14, 2024 9:10:32 PM

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Honorable Council Members

I am a resident of Snohomish County. I understand the Snohomish County Council is proposing to increase the county portion of the resident property taxes by an 8% increase for the 2025/2026 biennial budget.

As a resident of Snohomish County and am outraged by this proposal. I have retired friends on fixed incomes who are having to sell their homes like my friend Betty. She has had to sell her home & move south to another state to live with her sister, so they can share expenses because Betty's on a fixed income & can't afford the property taxes here. This is just one example of residents being taxed out of their homes.

If you look at the following items since 2020 Nationally:

- Beef prices are up 21.2%
- Car insurance is up 156%
- Gas prices are up 40.5%...more in WA with the carbon tax
- Food prices are up 25.8%
- Median income to purchase a home is up 76%
- Dozen eggs are up 161.6%
- Mortgage rates nationally in Nov 2020 were 3% vs. 6.9% Nov 2024...up 130%

I speak to folks in the area who are in the lower 50% of income in the area who are having to get a 2nd or 3rd job to make ends meet. I believe the proposal to raise property taxes by 8% is immoral in a time when so many people are struggling financially to keep afloat.

I am strongly urging the Council to please drop the proposal to raise property taxes by 8% in the County Budget. I believe the proposal is irresponsible in a time when people are so challenged. I respectfully hope the Council body will drop the 8% raise increase.

Thank you very much for hearing my comment & your service to the community.

Tom McLaurin

Unincorporated Bothell

**From:** [Dennis Richter](#)  
**To:** [Contact Council](#)  
**Subject:** Raising Property Taxes???  
**Date:** Thursday, November 14, 2024 9:11:35 PM

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You want more money and want to raise our already-too-high property taxes? Let me think about this for a nanosecond...uh...NO!!!!

Dennis Richter  
Bothell

**From:** [Chori](#)  
**To:** [Contact Council](#)  
**Subject:** Please vote NO on the 8% tax increase and YES to Councilman Nehring's amendment  
**Date:** Thursday, November 14, 2024 9:51:58 PM

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Dear Snohomish County council members,

I came cross this article regarding the 8% tax increase proposed recently.

<https://www.heraldnet.com/opinion/comment-county-execs-property-tax-proposal-poorly-timed/>

I strongly agree with Nate Nehring's point about this issue:

"It is evident to me that at Snohomish County, and likely other local governments as well, there is a spending problem. Rather than immediately resorting to raising taxes on the hard-working residents of Snohomish County, I strongly believe we should instead focus on eliminating unnecessary spending so that our taxpayers are getting the most bang for their buck out of their government. To that end, I have introduced a proposal to forego the 8 percent tax increase, freeze property taxes at their current level, and balance the county budget through cuts to discretionary spending."

As a Snohomish County resident, I urge you to vote NO on the 8% tax increase and YES to Councilman Nehring's amendment.

Sincerely,  
Zheng

**From:** [Diane deJong](#)  
**To:** [Contact Council](#)  
**Subject:** Increase in Taxes  
**Date:** Friday, November 15, 2024 4:24:57 AM

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I am asking all council members to carefully consider any increase in taxes.  
All of your constituents are suffering from the high inflation we have experienced for the last 4 years. On top of rapidly increasing prices for groceries and goods our taxes and insurance keeps rising.  
Please consider us and work on increasing efficiency in your budget before raising taxes.

Thank you,  
Diane deJong

Sent from my iPhone

**From:** [Sandy Landert](#)  
**To:** [Contact Council](#)  
**Subject:** Property taxes  
**Date:** Friday, November 15, 2024 4:37:44 AM

---

Please no higher property taxes!

Thank you,  
Sandi landert

**From:** [Della Bryant](#)  
**To:** [Contact Council](#)  
**Subject:** FW: Property taxes increase  
**Date:** Friday, November 15, 2024 6:05:59 AM

---

----- Original message -----

From: Della Bryant <ddmb58@hotmail.com>  
Date: 11/14/24 9:22 PM (GMT-08:00)  
To: council@snoco.org  
Subject: Property taxes increase

Stop trying to tax us out of our homes!! We are struggling enough! WA residents are being taxed to death already! It's getting to a point of do we eat or pay our taxes.. this is part of the reason there are so many homeless. WA State is making it so hard to make ends meet and you just want to add to the burden. Stop it already!!

Della Bryant

Sent from my Verizon, Samsung Galaxy tablet

**From:** [nate cogdill](#)  
**To:** [Contact Council](#)  
**Subject:** No Property Tax Increase  
**Date:** Friday, November 15, 2024 8:50:52 AM

---

Dear Snohomish County Council,

The past several years have seen huge increases in inflation and as a resident in your county my family is already paying you a significant portion of our income to provide for public safety, the roads, and other governance. We cannot afford to pay you more. PLEASE find a way to operate within your current EXCESSIVE tax funded budget and DO NOT RAISE OUR TAXES anymore. Our family and others CANNOT afford it.

Nate Cogdill

**From:** [Jordan Scott](#)  
**To:** [Contact Council](#)  
**Subject:** Reject the 8% property tax increase  
**Date:** Friday, November 15, 2024 8:52:08 AM

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Morning,

I urge you all to please reject the 8% property tax levy. The voters have made it clear that they do not want any tax increases. The mismanagement of the already existing tax revenue is clear and tough decisions must be made to cut non essential programs. Don't add more burden to the people's back, please choose wisely and listen to the voter's voice; reject the 8% proposal!

Jordan Scott  
6007 178th ST SE  
Snohomish Wa 98296

Sent from my iPhone



**From:** [Jerrilyn Harvey](#)  
**To:** [Contact Council](#)  
**Subject:** 8%  
**Date:** Friday, November 15, 2024 9:58:03 AM

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Please vote NO on the tax increase. We are ALL struggling to live and cannot take another tax hike. Please vote YES to Councilmen Nehering's amendment! Thank you.

--

Jerrilyn Harvey  
Harvey Construction, Inc/Deco-Pour  
425-238-3837  
[www.decopour.com](http://www.decopour.com)

**From:** [Linda Gray](#)  
**To:** [Contact Council](#)  
**Subject:** Fwd: PROPERTY TAX ISSUE  
**Date:** Friday, November 15, 2024 1:20:09 PM  
**Attachments:** [Outlook-SmallTrees.png](#)  
[Property Taxes.pdf](#)  
[Property Taxes 1.pdf](#)

---

Hello, Councilmembers - I concur with Debbie's suggestion below. Thank you - Linda

----- Forwarded message -----

From: **Debbie Wetzel** <[debbieleewetzel@gmail.com](mailto:debbieleewetzel@gmail.com)>  
Date: Fri, Nov 15, 2024 at 1:02 PM  
Subject: Re: PROPERTY TAX ISSUE  
To: Mead, Jared <[Jared.Mead@co.snohomish.wa.us](mailto:Jared.Mead@co.snohomish.wa.us)>  
Cc: <[sam.low@snoco.org](mailto:sam.low@snoco.org)>, Nehring, Nate <[nate.nehring@co.snohomish.wa.us](mailto:nate.nehring@co.snohomish.wa.us)>, [megan.dunn@snoco.org](mailto:megan.dunn@snoco.org) <[megan.dunn@snoco.org](mailto:megan.dunn@snoco.org)>, [strom.peterson@snoco.org](mailto:strom.peterson@snoco.org) <[strom.peterson@snoco.org](mailto:strom.peterson@snoco.org)>, <[pam.bennetsen@comcast.net](mailto:pam.bennetsen@comcast.net)>, dave.somers@co.snohomish.wa.us <[dave.somers@co.snohomish.wa.us](mailto:dave.somers@co.snohomish.wa.us)>, Linda Gray <[lgn899a@gmail.com](mailto:lgn899a@gmail.com)>, Michael Whitney <[michael.tribune@snoho.com](mailto:michael.tribune@snoho.com)>

I appreciate you siding with Nate and Sam on this hot-topic and am glad the County has found ways to reduce irresponsible spending of taxpayers' funds. I urge you to consider the additional revenue source I suggested during the public hearing (attached). If you really care about the citizens please explore amending the codes so that the developers provide more revenue - it's been way too long since they had an increase in their fees, while our property taxes have skyrocketed. I know any changes to code requires a County employee (either a Council Member or someone with some clout) to propose changes and am hoping one of you will take this one for the greater good of the residents/taxpayers in your districts. Thanks.

On Fri, Nov 15, 2024 at 12:52 PM Mead, Jared <[Jared.Mead@co.snohomish.wa.us](mailto:Jared.Mead@co.snohomish.wa.us)> wrote:  
Hi Debbie,

Thank you for reaching out to share your concerns about the Executive's proposed 8% property tax increase. I agree—an 8% tax increase at this time is unreasonable, and I will continue to advocate strongly against this proposal. Instead, I am demanding fiscal accountability and responsible use of available resources. To that end, I have introduced amendments that I believe provide a better approach than what the Executive has proposed. These amendments were discussed during our November 13th council meeting and will be officially considered for a vote at the budget adoption hearing on November 25th.

One amendment I want to highlight is [Amendment 14](#), 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.

Last week, the council received an independent audit report that 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, demonstrating our commitment to responsible fiscal management.

If you are interested in learning more, I encourage you to watch the auditor's presentation to the council [here](#). His presentation begins at the 15:50 mark. You can also watch our council's discussion regarding Amendment 14 [here](#) starting at 3:47:45.

As Chair of your County Council, a lifelong Snohomish County resident, and a father raising four young children here, I take my responsibility to spend your tax dollars wisely very seriously. My goal is to ensure that Snohomish County remains an affordable and vibrant place to live, work, and raise a family.

We will vote on Amendment 14 and the rest of the budget on November 25th. Until then, I encourage you to continue advocating for these priorities by using the council's contact service and Public Comment opportunities. Your opinion matters! I urge you to call your councilmembers and express your support for Amendment 14 and responsible fiscal policies. Let them know that you believe in prioritizing efficient use of taxpayer dollars and rejecting unnecessary spending. The council needs to hear from you!

Thank you again for your advocacy. Please don't hesitate to reach out if you have any additional questions or concerns.

Take care,

**Jared Mead**

*Councilmember, District 4*

Snohomish County Council

3000 Rockefeller Ave., M/S 609 | Everett, WA 98201- 4046

425-388-3494 | [jared.mead@snoco.org](mailto:jared.mead@snoco.org)



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).

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**From:** Debbie Wetzel <[debbieleewetzel@gmail.com](mailto:debbieleewetzel@gmail.com)>

**Sent:** Wednesday, November 13, 2024 9:47 AM

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

**Subject:** PROPERTY TAX ISSUE



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

Just another public input on how to get the money your budget needs going forward: Another thing I would recommend is the County adopt an automatic recurring annual transportation road system impact fee increase of 3% each year so the impact fees (SCC 30.66B.330) don't get further behind inflation and require continuous code changes. Other jurisdictions do this. This could be written into your new code amendment. Just trying to help you guys find that money you seem to want.

Thanks.

--

I remain,  
Deborah Wetzel  
206-261-0941

--

I remain,  
Deborah Wetzel  
206-261-0941



Debbie Wetzel <debbieleewetzel@gmail.com>

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## DON'T RAISE PROPERTY TAXES-MAKE THE DEVELOPERS PAY MORE INSTEAD!

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Debbie Wetzel <debbieleewetzel@gmail.com>

Wed, Nov 13, 2024 at 9:31 AM

To: sam.low@snoco.org, "Nehring, Nate" <nate.nehring@co.snohomish.wa.us>, megan.dunn@snoco.org, strom.peterson@snoco.org, jared.mead@snoco.org

Cc: Michael Whitney <michael.tribune@snoho.com>

Bcc: Joan Thomas <savebothell@outlook.com>, Linda Gray <Ign899a@gmail.com>, Mickie Gundersen <hilltop.locust@frontier.com>, david Irwin <david.m.irwin@outlook.com>, Rena Connell <connell.rena@gmail.com>

Good morning, Council Members –

As an alternative to increasing property taxes that the public is already upset about, I suggest you update the Transportation Review Fee found at SCC 13.110.030, which has not been increased since 1990 and have the developers pay their fair share of funds for your budget. Anyone of the Council Members can support and submit this code revision. And I ask on behalf of the public that you immediately do so.

--

I remain,  
Deborah Wetzel  
206-261-0941



Debbie Wetzel <debbieleewetzel@gmail.com>

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## PROPERTY TAX ISSUE

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**Debbie Wetzel** <debbieleewetzel@gmail.com>

Wed, Nov 13, 2024 at 9:47 AM

To: sam.low@snoco.org, "Nehring, Nate" <nate.nehring@co.snohomish.wa.us>, jared.mead@snoco.org, megan.dunn@snoco.org, strom.peterson@snoco.org

Bcc: david Irwin <david.m.irwin@outlook.com>, Linda Gray <lgn899a@gmail.com>, Rena Connell <connell.rena@gmail.com>, Joan Thomas <savebothell@outlook.com>

Just another public input on how to get the money your budget needs going forward:

Another thing I would recommend is the County adopt an automatic recurring annual transportation road system impact fee increase of 3% each year so the impact fees (SCC 30.66B.330) don't get further behind inflation and require continuous code changes. Other jurisdictions do this. This could be written into your new code amendment. Just trying to help you guys find that money you seem to want.

Thanks.

--

I remain,  
Deborah Wetzel  
206-261-0941

**From:** [Mike Ersser](#)  
**To:** [Contact Council](#)  
**Subject:** Please Do Not Pass an 8% Property Tax Increase  
**Date:** Friday, November 15, 2024 2:58:07 PM

---

Hi County Council,  
Please do not raise property taxes by 8% but rather go with Nate Nehring's proposal to find funds elsewhere! Property taxes are already a huge burden on our family and another 8% is rough.

-Mike

**From:** [ricknbarb@thelonghome.com](mailto:ricknbarb@thelonghome.com)  
**To:** [Contact Council](#)  
**Subject:** We already voted no tax increase  
**Date:** Friday, November 15, 2024 4:11:09 PM

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To the Snohomish County Council members, Nate Nehring, Megan Dunn, Strom Peterson, Jared Mead, and Sam Low,

We already voted: No tax increase. Vote NO on the 8% tax increase and YES to Councilman Nehring's amendment.

I also have 2 questions.

1. Do you want this tax increase to pay to house illegal immigrants in Snohomish County?
2. Have you received money personally to bring illegal immigrants into Snohomish County?

I would like the answers to those 2 questions.

Thank you,

Barbara Long  
Arlington, WA



Virus-free. [www.avg.com](http://www.avg.com)



**From:** [Valinda Sultze](#)  
**To:** [Contact Council](#)  
**Subject:** Vote no on 8% property tax increase  
**Date:** Friday, November 15, 2024 6:20:38 PM

---

Please consider not approving the 8% tax increase thar has been proposed. As Councilman Nate has suggested, please do the hard and needful work of evaluating the current spending and finding waste to get rid of instead.

Thank you,

Valinda Sultze

**From:** [Steve Worley](#)  
**To:** [Contact Council](#)  
**Subject:** Property tax proposal  
**Date:** Friday, November 15, 2024 7:25:29 PM

---

Please vote no on raising propert taxes. People will be unable to keep there homes. Property insurance has doubled, were paying higher interest on our home loans and everything we buy costs more. Some of us are on very low fixed incomes this would cause immense hardship. Thank you for your consideration.  
Nancy Worley

**From:** [Liz Marshall](#)  
**To:** [Contact Council](#)  
**Subject:** Snohomish County Property Taxes  
**Date:** Friday, November 15, 2024 8:14:33 PM

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Greetings Snohomish council representatives,

First, thank you for your efforts to meet the numerous and sometimes conflicting goals for those in our communities.

Second, please help the current residents - especially those of us who have lived here for most of our lives - by making the budget balance without increasing property taxes - an 8% increase will be a huge hardship for many!

Third, kudos to Counselman Nehring for representing those of us who are typical home owners and not flashy developers, software millionaires or associated with lucrative professions or other driving "loud" forces.

Thank you!  
Liz Marshall  
1312 235th PL SW  
Bothell WA 98021

**From:** [Nathan Packard](#)  
**To:** [Contact Council](#)  
**Subject:** Re: Public Comment for 11/13 County Council Meeting  
**Date:** Friday, November 15, 2024 9:18:56 PM

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Snohomish County Council-

I am writing as a follow up to the November 13th Public Hearing about the county budget. I left work to attend the hearing. I attended for nearly 1.5 hours, but unfortunately I needed to return to work before I was able to deliver my public comments. For the most part, everything I was going to say was already covered by the other citizens.

I want to clearly communicate that I was extremely disappointed by the behavior of Councilmember Megan Dunn. Her attempt to deliberately mislead the audience with regard to the impact on the Sheriff's office was deplorable. I expect better from elected officials. I have zero problem with an individual having a different opinion from another. I understand if Councilmember Dunn feels strongly that the tax should be passed. However, it was terrible to see her resort to such petty and unprofessional tactics in an effort to get the result that she seeks. Instead, rather than resorting to such tactics, I would hope that our elected officials would look for compromises that meet the goals of both viewpoints, and demonstrate to the public that you are working together to find the best possible solution.

The behavior by Councilmember Dunn is the EXACT type of behavior that leads people to not like, or even worse, to not trust, politicians. I may not agree with each of your opinions or viewpoints, but I hope that I can trust you, and believe that you are putting in your good faith effort to find the best solution possible.

I am eager to see the results of the upcoming vote.

Nathan Packard  
Lake Stevens Resident

On Tue, Nov 12, 2024 at 6:37 PM Nathan Packard <[natepackard@gmail.com](mailto:natepackard@gmail.com)> wrote:

To Whom It May Concern-

I would like to express my opposition to the proposed Snohomish County Council budget, which increases the Property Tax by 8%.

Over the last 5 years my property taxes have increased by 31%, for an average of 6% per year. I am already frustrated by this substantial increase. The fact that the county is proposing an annual increase beyond that 5 year average is very difficult to understand.

I fully support the alternative proposal by Councilmember Nate Nehring to balance the County budget without tax increases while continuing to provide essential services. I am certain that the majority of Snohomish County residents agree with this sentiment. We are all being burdened by ever increasing taxes, as the federal, state and municipal levels. Any relief that can be provided, especially by simply electing not to increase the tax burden, is important.

Thank you for your consideration.

Nathan Packard.  
Lake Stevens City Resident

--

Nathan Packard

To learn more about where I find peace, visit

<https://www.churchofjesuschrist.org/comeuntochrist>

**From:** [K&C](#)  
**To:** [Contact Council](#)  
**Subject:** 8%  
**Date:** Friday, November 15, 2024 9:41:06 PM

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You fiscally inept dipshits are NOT fucking stealing 8% from our homes. You fucking clowns couldn't run a fucking espresso stand profitable. Do more with less you thieves we have to because of your idiotic policies. I'm gonna suggest you morons to Elons website so some of you idiots lose your jobs.

**From:** [Robyn Johnson](#)  
**To:** [Contact Council](#)  
**Subject:** Tax increase  
**Date:** Saturday, November 16, 2024 4:27:43 AM

---

We emlore you to vote NO on the 8% tax increase and YES to Councilman Nehring's amendment.

The working people of this county are already struggling to pay for groceries and to keep the heat on. Our house payment has increased over \$300 per month in the last couple years due to taxes and insurance. Wages have not kept up. We emlore you to vote no an the 8%tax increase. And yes to councilman Nehrings amendment.

From Robyn Johnson  
Marysville WA

**From:** [Heidi Sandall](#)  
**To:** [Contact Council](#); [Low, Sam](#)  
**Cc:** [Beazizo, Heidi](#); [Dunn, Megan](#); [Nehring, Nate](#); [Peterson, Strom](#); [Mead, Jared](#)  
**Subject:** 8% property tax proposal (Vote > NO!)  
**Date:** Saturday, November 16, 2024 9:49:04 AM

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Good morning, Snohomish County Council (Elected officials)

It is evident to me that Snohomish County, and other local governments as well, have a spending problem. Rather than immediately resorting to raising taxes on the hard-working residents of Snohomish County, we strongly believe we should instead focus on eliminating unnecessary spending so that our taxpayers are getting the most bang for their buck out of their government. To that end, we (The Sandall family) say NO to increased taxes. We are being taxed to death here in Snohomish County & Washington State! We own a small business and have nothing to show for our success as all our hard earned money goes to the government! Enough is enough! Balance your budget by using the existing dollars already allocated. You need to cut programs? Then cut programs. It is not fair to continue to tax the working class people of your county to death. No more!

Wayne & Heidi Sandall  
18320 113th St NE  
Granite Falls WA 98252  
425.760.5211



**From:** [Wanda Kupersmith](#)  
**To:** [Contact Council](#)  
**Subject:** Property tax increase  
**Date:** Saturday, November 16, 2024 10:58:36 AM

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NO! I am tired of being viewed as an endless bank for Snohomish Counties ridiculous virtue signaling, woke scams! I endorse Nate Nehring's plan to cut this usurious eight percent property tax increase from the budget.

Regards,  
Wanda Kupersmith

**From:** [Rich Visintainer](#)  
**To:** [Contact Council](#)  
**Subject:** SnoCo Property Tax increase  
**Date:** Saturday, November 16, 2024 11:26:16 AM

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Snohomish County Council members -

I ask that you vote NO for proposed 2025-2026 8% property tax increase contained in Dave Somers biennial budget and accept Council member Nate Nehring's amendment to eliminate the 8% property tax levy.

I ask that our Snohomish county executives look within the current programs and departments of the government it manages and make the necessary cuts just like your constituents have been doing to their personal budgets for years. The continued burden our county (and state) government has put on its taxpayers is beyond the breaking point and so many will not be able to afford this knee jerk reaction of a proposal. Your taxpayers have spoken in this past election by rejecting all but one local tax increase.

I ask that you do the right thing and make internal cuts to get find the needed monies. The money is there, go get it!

Thank you for listening.

Rich Visintainer  
Snohomish WA resident

**From:** [Rebecca Crouse](#)  
**To:** [Contact Council](#)  
**Subject:** Are trying to kick my family out of the state?  
**Date:** Saturday, November 16, 2024 12:38:05 PM

---

Dear Snohomish County Council,

My parents own property in Snohomish County and they have never made a considerable amount of money. I am emailing you to say you are trying to kick them out of the state with this tax hike and should reject it. Americans shouldn't have to worry about losing their homes, but this proposition will increase the amount of homeless on the street and will force taxpayers out of your area.

Sincerely,

R. Crouse

**From:** [Patricia Bradley](#)  
**To:** [Contact Council](#)  
**Subject:** Nate Nehring Amendment  
**Date:** Saturday, November 16, 2024 1:06:53 PM

---

As a property owner and resident of Snohomish County I wish it to be known that I support Nate Nehring's amendment to cut the budget. I do not support raising property taxes by 8%. The county has to start looking at ways to reduce the tax burden on the homeowners. I'm retired and living on a fixed income, please do not price me out of my home.

Patricia Bradley  
5404 68<sup>th</sup> DR NE  
Marysville, WA 98270

**From:** [Genny Smith](#)  
**To:** [Contact Council](#); [Low, Sam](#); [Dunn, Megan](#); [Mead, Jared](#); [Peterson, Strom](#); [Nehring, Nate](#)  
**Subject:** Public Comments  
**Date:** Saturday, November 16, 2024 6:31:39 PM

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Good morning County Council,

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

I wanted to give my public opinion on last weeks agenda items that were up for public comment.

Raising taxes for Snohomish County residents would have a huge impact to all!

Not only the low income family's but the seniors, single parents, veterans and those that are "middle class working" family's. The price to live in Snohomish is raising, owning a business in Snohomish County is rising and the hope of retiring in the home and community one loves seems sadly comical.

I hope you all REALLY listened to your constituents who were willing to talk publicly about their finances, in hopes that you would hear them.

I have to say that, listening to those public statements was hard for me. Hearing the fear in the strangers voices made me question how many people are homeless in Snohomish County because of the shame and anger they felt when they lost housing due to being priced out their homes. How many people were not able to pull through the hard times and turned to alcohol and or drugs because they couldn't accept the shame and anger? Falling into addiction, losing their jobs, losing their family's and waking up on a street corner, a park, or under the local bridge?

How many children will need to move out of their homes, their neighborhoods, away from their friends and schools because their parents just couldn't keep the bills paid and the mortgage was already overdue?

How many of our young people will graduate high school and find a job while going to community college or trade school to only find out that they are unable to afford independence from their parents home like they had dreamed of for years?

How many family's that are scorned by Domestic Violence will keep quiet because the very person abusing them and or the kids is the one that is paying for the roof over their heads?

I am so incredibly grateful and blessed that none of the above situations are happening in my life, and that my husband and I live comfortably. That doesn't mean though that my neighbors, friends, family members or community members are not living in fear or shame wondering how they are going to keep a roof over their heads. I know my city and county are working on their Comprehensive Plan as are many other communities in Washington State and around the country. The Comprehensive Plan requirements, passed down by the state, then passed down by the county to city's is a direct result of city and county governments raising taxes and fees for residents and businesses. Something is wrong when those living and wanting a single family home are being forced to live in a community where they are the exception. Where paying the bills, the mortgage, and taxes is the exception to the way of life.

Snohomish County can do better!

Please consider breaking the cycle of homelessness, drug addiction and mental health, for the residents of Snohomish County by voting no on raising taxes.

Thank you,  
Genny Smith  
Sultan Wa

Sent from my iPhone

**From:** [Nancy Adams](#)  
**To:** [Contact Council](#)  
**Subject:** Increased taxes  
**Date:** Saturday, November 16, 2024 9:10:15 PM

---

As a senior homeowner, our property taxes are over \$10,000 per year, please do not raise taxes. James and Nancy Adams

**From:** [garth](#)  
**To:** [Contact Council](#)  
**Subject:** Support for Nate Nehrings amendment  
**Date:** Saturday, November 16, 2024 11:26:25 PM

---

This amendment is needed by many of us. The rising costs of living in this county for the people living here are devastating us. Longtime owners are getting taxed out of their homes. We have to manage our own budgets and live within our means. Our county leaders should be doing the same with the millions of dollars they control. We bought our Snohomish County properties because of the huge cost increases in King County, which has forced many people out of the area. It is sad that I'm hearing about this very thing in many counties & states. Please take action and adopt Mr Nehring's amendment

Garth

**From:** [Gregory Lemke](#)  
**To:** [Contact Council](#)  
**Subject:** Property tax increase? Why ask again ?  
**Date:** Saturday, November 16, 2024 11:52:25 PM

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To Whom It May concern

Must we address this again? The definition of insanity. Is doing the same thing over and over again to create no real resolve.

Respectfully Submitted

Gregory Dean Lemke  
Past Candidate for Washington State Representative  
1998,2000,2002,2012  
HOUSE INTERNET E-MAIL DELIVERY SERVICE

SENATE INTERNET E-MAIL DELIVERY SERVICE

TO: Travis Couture

CC: Drew MacEwen,  
Dan Griffey

FROM: Gregory Lemke (Non-Constituent from District 38)

STREET ADDRESS:  
7129 64th Ave NE  
Marysville, WA 98270

E-MAIL: [gregoryDLemke@yahoo.com](mailto:gregoryDLemke@yahoo.com)

PHONE: [\(360\) 965-8084](tel:(360)965-8084)

BILL: 5770 - Providing state and local property tax reform. (Against)

SUBJECT: No tax increases stop the property tax increase

MESSAGE:

I am adamantly opposed to the last minute drop of Senate Bill 5770 that would TRIPLE PROPERTY TAX INCREASES. I implore you to not take away the current property tax cap (passed by 58% of voters in 2001 and reenacted and passed by 89% of legislators in 2007 and signed into law by Democrat Governor Chris Gregoire). Even with the cap, it has become unaffordable to rent, purchase, or own a home in Washington state. If this session's top priority is making housing more affordable, SB 5770 goes in exactly the opposite direction. As Democrat House member Amy Walen admitted: 'Folks in my district find it very hard to stay in their homes as it is.' She's right ... but not just in her district. Renters, home buyers, and homeowners are



already facing skyrocketing property tax increases EVEN WITH THE CAP. If the state government and any local government wants to raise property taxes above the cap, they are allowed to do so by asking the voters' permission (like they're doing right now in King County with Proposition 1, a \$1.25 billion property tax increase). Every government -- under SB 5770 -- could TRIPLE the amount they increase property taxes EVERY YEAR and they'd be able to do so UNILATERALLY without a vote of the people in that jurisdiction. As Republican Senator John Braun said in a statement, this bill 'would significantly increase the affordability crisis' in Washington. He's right too. I strongly urge you to reject SB 5770 and let the current cap stand as it has for the past 2 decades (with the safety valve allowing bigger increases if voters are asked and they vote to authorize it)." <https://www.thestreet.com/technology/michael-big-short-burry-makes-another-dire-prediction> Respectfully Submitted Gregory Dean Lemke

[Sent from Yahoo Mail for iPhone](#)

**From:** [Betty Nelson](#)  
**To:** [Contact Council](#)  
**Subject:** Tax raise  
**Date:** Sunday, November 17, 2024 6:25:24 AM

---

pls don't let this hike happen.. we're retired and feel like our tiny lively hood is going to be pulled out from under us. We and our employers paid into this and now it's not being allocated back to us as originally planned. Triple taxing your elder residents would be deplorable to say the least.

Thank you for listening and for your anticipated support in this matter.

**From:** [Jessica DentalAid](#)  
**To:** [Contact Council](#)  
**Subject:** Stop raising taxes!  
**Date:** Sunday, November 17, 2024 8:06:38 AM

---

Dear council persons:

Do you have any idea what Real Life is like out here? The last years since Covid have wiped out people's savings and reduced jobs and inflated costs. It's painful out here for the majority of people. The average wage in Everett is something like \$34,000 — not the over \$100K you make. You claim to care about people but all you really care about is satisfying your own "Shiny New Object Syndrome". Stop trying to make this city better in your own eyes and make it be "not worse" for the average Joe/Jo! You are disconnected from reality and I vote! Support Nate's amendment please. Be realistic. Thank you.

~ Jessica

**From:** [Evaline & Dean Chan](#)  
**To:** [Contact Council](#)  
**Subject:** vote NO on the proposed  
**Date:** Sunday, November 17, 2024 3:27:29 PM

---

I am strongly against the proposed 8% property tax increase.

I thought the state was working on affordable housing and with this increase rents will go up and people living on a fixed income will have less money to stay in their homes. I live within my budget on my fixed income and social security only got a 2.5% rate increase. This tax might not seem too much for you but there are many that this increase will put them in a larger deficit.

Warmly

Evaline Chan

**From:** [Smith, Janet](#)  
**To:** [Contact Council](#)  
**Subject:** Property tax increase  
**Date:** Sunday, November 17, 2024 3:47:28 PM

---

I have lived in my home in Snohomish County for 32 years. I can't believe that the Council would impose yet another property tax increase on the taxpayers of this county. Apparently, no one on the council has been to the grocery store, pumped any gas or seen how everything has risen in price. The people in this county, many of whom are living paycheck to paycheck, and somehow the council feels that it would be a good time for a tax increase. I suggest that the Snohomish County Council reconnect with the reality of the voters, and realize now is not the time to ask for more money. What should be done is an audit to find out where and how the money you are receiving is being spent. The taxpayers are not your personal cash cow!! Wake Up!!

--

Janet Smith  
Discipline Secretary  
Monroe High School

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**From:** [Chris Paulson](#)  
**To:** [Contact Council](#)  
**Subject:** 8% tax hike  
**Date:** Sunday, November 17, 2024 6:03:10 PM

---

Hello,

My wife and I would like to kindly ask that you vote no on the 8% property tax hike. We will likely retire in the next 8 years and will have to downsize and move to eastern WA, as the costs will be too high for us to remain in this area. She was just laid off from Boeing, where she has worked 33 years. Because of her age, it may be difficult for her to find work. Please vote no on the tax hike.

Thanks for your consideration,  
Chris and Vicki Paulson  
Lynnwood, WA

Sent from my iPhone

**From:** [Linda Dave Cole](#)  
**To:** [Contact Council](#)  
**Subject:** PROPERTY TAX INCREASE  
**Date:** Sunday, November 17, 2024 8:15:28 PM

---

NO PROPERTY TAX - WE ARE TAXED ENOUGH BESIDES THE RECKLESS INCREASE BECAUSE OF DEMOCRATS POLICIES WE ARE BEING TAXED OUT OF OUR HOME... NO TAX INCREASE 2025 OR EVER!!!! SENIORS, VETERANS LIFE LONG BORN IN WASHINGTON CITIZENS. DAVE & LINDA COLE ARLINGTON WA

**From:** [Randy DeJong](#)  
**To:** [Contact Council](#)  
**Subject:** Property tax proposed increase  
**Date:** Sunday, November 17, 2024 9:52:22 PM

---

My input regarding this topic is simple. First, emphasize an accurate audit of the current budget and expenses. Second, cut out waste, especially redundancies in spending and positions/salaries. Only then look at increasing taxes. I suspect that, much of the time, that third step is looked at first.  
Randy

Sent from my iPad



**From:** [Julie k](#)  
**To:** [Contact Council](#)  
**Subject:** Tax increase  
**Date:** Monday, November 18, 2024 7:46:14 AM

---

Dear Snohomish County Council,

If this passes, we could potentially lose our house and we would need to consider moving..possibly out if State

I am reaching out as a deeply concerned taxpayer regarding the public hearing on the proposed 2025–2026 biennial budget. This proposal, which includes an 8% increase to the county portion of property taxes, is something that many of us simply cannot afford in the current climate.

I strongly support Councilmember Nate Nehring’s alternative budget proposal, which would eliminate this tax hike, keep property taxes at their current rate, and balance the budget by targeting unnecessary expenditures.

Julie kometz

**From:** [Lindsey Arrington](#)  
**To:** [Contact Council](#)  
**Subject:** Property tax  
**Date:** Monday, November 18, 2024 8:40:33 AM

---

Councilmembers,

As a resident and community advocate I am reaching out very concerned about the proposed property tax increase. This increase will literally push my family and I out of Washington. We absolutely cannot afford the increase and I ask that you would reject it, and adopt Councilmember Nehring's proposal.

Thank you,  
Lindsey Arrington

**From:** [Mary Langenbrunner](#)  
**To:** [Contact Council](#)  
**Subject:** Vote NO. On 8% increase  
**Date:** Monday, November 18, 2024 9:21:39 AM

---

Dear council

It's time to get real. Time to go over your budget again and again and reduce as many items as you can that don't make a big impact on each item but will stop you from raising property taxes by 8%!!!! That simple. Do the work. 8 is toooooo big.

**From:** [Comcast](#)  
**To:** [Contact Council](#)  
**Subject:** Property tax increase???  
**Date:** Monday, November 18, 2024 9:32:36 AM

---

Please do not approve an increase in our property tax rate...

Sent from my iPhone

**From:** [Trina Olson](#)  
**To:** [Contact Council](#)  
**Subject:** Property Tax Increase  
**Date:** Monday, November 18, 2024 9:52:27 AM

---

Please vote no on the budget to increase property taxes. Please consider the proposal by Nate Nehring, I support.

125 46th St SW  
Everett, Wa  
Trina Olson  
Sent from my iPad

**From:** [stacie@remaxelitebrokers.com](mailto:stacie@remaxelitebrokers.com)  
**To:** [Contact Council](#)  
**Subject:** NO on Tax Increase  
**Date:** Monday, November 18, 2024 10:53:02 AM  
**Attachments:** [image001.png](#)  
[image002.png](#)  
[image005.png](#)  
[image007.png](#)  
[image009.png](#)  
[image011.png](#)  
[image013.png](#)  
[image014.png](#)  
[image015.png](#)  
[image016.png](#)  
[image017.png](#)

---

To whom it may concern,  
Please consider the hard-working, middle class when voting on this absurd tax increase.  
NO, NO, NO. Focus your work, on lean government practices and cut the FAT. Please start  
looking within your budget and current spending and create a plan to decrease spending.  
We can't simply ask for 8% pay increases when we're forced to pay more taxes.  
Government for the people means doing the hard work of identifying overspending and halting it.  
Thanks for your time.  
Kind Regards,

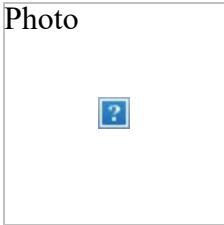
**Stacie L Peterson**  
Marketing & Client Relations  
425-508-1273  
Gadbois Real Estate Group  
2902 Colby Ave Everett WA 98201

**From:** [Karen Schweinfurth](#)  
**To:** [Contact Council](#)  
**Subject:** Tax hike  
**Date:** Monday, November 18, 2024 11:32:36 AM

---

I Oppose the proposed tax hike; how about the County Council cut their payroll in half....as a Realtor I am always asked to cut my commissions....now it's your turn....you people make way too much money, especially Dave Sommers, he needs to retire; we need new blood

Photo



**Karen Schweinfurth**, REALTOR® / Broker

ABR, CRS, SRES, E-PRO,

RE/MAX Northwest Realtors, Inc.

President of Washington Realtors 2016

RE/MAX Hall of Fame Member

RE/MAX Lifetime Achievement Award



[\(425\) 308-3669](tel:(425)308-3669)



[karenschwein@gmail.com](mailto:karenschwein@gmail.com)



[www.karensvillas.com](http://www.karensvillas.com)

**From:** [Simon Pope](#)  
**To:** [Contact Council](#)  
**Subject:** Vote NO on Property Tax Hike  
**Date:** Monday, November 18, 2024 12:08:46 PM

---

As a constituent of this wonderful county, I urge you to not increase property tax by 8%. The country is already drowning in debt and struggling as we are headed towards a recession, the last thing we need is more taxes. I please that you listen to the people and do not pass this measure.

Sent from my iPhone



**From:** [John Corrado](#)  
**To:** [Contact Council](#)  
**Subject:** Increase in property tax  
**Date:** Monday, November 18, 2024 12:25:15 PM

---

I am firmly against any increase in my property tax in Snohomish county. You council member have to learn to live within your means. The trump victory also applies to you.NO increase in Taxes!  
Sent from my iPhone

**From:** [Shelley Towers](#)  
**To:** [Contact Council](#)  
**Subject:** Don't raise taxes!  
**Date:** Monday, November 18, 2024 12:51:25 PM

---

Don't raise taxes cut spending instead. Live within a budget as the real world is forced to.

[Yahoo Mail: Search, Organize, Conquer](#)

**From:** [Marjie Schaefer](#)  
**To:** [Contact Council](#)  
**Subject:** Taxes  
**Date:** Monday, November 18, 2024 12:52:00 PM

---

To whom it may concern:

I am against the 8% tax hike and urge you to vote NO on it.

Please vote yes on Councilman Nearing's amendment.

Thank you,  
Marjie Schaefer

**From:** [Kay Fisher Meyers](#)  
**To:** [Contact Council](#)  
**Subject:** 8% RAISE IN TAXES - SNOCO VOTE  
**Date:** Monday, November 18, 2024 1:02:12 PM

---

I'm completely against an 8% raise in taxes! That's completely unreasonable, and in my opinion, it is without substantiation. It would make more sense for Snohomish County to be more accountable for spending; the only answer is not just to simply raise taxes. We look to our government to use the taxes you're already collecting in a responsible way. It seems like that is currently not being done, so your answer is to raise taxes, which is completely unacceptable to those of us that have to pay these taxes out of our funds that are already stretched because of more government abuse with raising taxes, raising inflation, and importing more illegals to further challenge our economy, which has resulted in we taxpayers becoming the victims of our own government.

I would very much appreciate your consideration, and so with the rest of this is in Snohomish County they have to face this potential 8% raise in taxes. Thank you for your consideration and compliance via your vote against an 8% increase in taxes in Snohomish County.

Should you have any questions please contact me.

Thanks,

Kay

Kay Fisher Meyers  
206-501-6639 - Cell  
Sent from my iPhone

**From:** [stacyandsean.](#)  
**To:** [Contact Council](#)  
**Subject:** Vote NO on Property Tax Increase  
**Date:** Monday, November 18, 2024 1:07:43 PM

---

Please vote no on property tax increase! Things are tight as it is!

**From:** [Gordon Tripp](#)  
**To:** [Contact Council](#)  
**Subject:** Property tax increase  
**Date:** Monday, November 18, 2024 1:25:42 PM

---

Senti am barely able to afford the current property tax and I could not in any way afford an 8% increase in the property tax rate. I am in agreement with other people who think that you should cut back on spending and look for other ways to reduce output rather than cause the current home owners who are just trying to make the money to pay the current tax. Please reject this new tax and let those that have the spending issues do the work to reduce the output. Thank you so very much. We all need to live within our means.

**From:** [Deanna Stiles](#)  
**To:** [Contact Council](#)  
**Subject:** Property Tax  
**Date:** Monday, November 18, 2024 1:45:44 PM

---

Please do not raise property taxes in Snohomish County. Everyone is trying to stretch their budget just to buy groceries and gas so they can get to a job. Please do not push this increase on the people that are just living paycheck to paycheck!

Sent from my iPhone

**From:** [Sallie Lumley](#)  
**To:** [Contact Council](#)  
**Subject:** Property tax increase  
**Date:** Monday, November 18, 2024 1:47:00 PM

---

To whom it may concern,

As a Snohomish County resident I am writing to weigh in on the proposed property tax increase. I have heard 8% thrown around and am shuddering at the thought. I would ask that the board take a look at cutting expenses that don't add great value to the county.

I understand basic increases for COLA and other rising costs. But 8% across the board sounds ridiculously high.

Choose Happiness,

Sallie



**From:** [Ansu](#)  
**To:** [Contact Council](#)  
**Subject:** Please don't raise my property tax  
**Date:** Monday, November 18, 2024 1:49:10 PM

---

This is my objection to the proposed increase of my property tax to 8 percent. Raising my property tax will adversely impact my net income and hinder my ability to support a family of nine. I am a recent graduate from graduate school with outstanding student loans to repay.

[Yahoo Mail: Search, Organize, Conquer](#)

**From:** [Karen Parcels](#)  
**To:** [Contact Council](#)  
**Subject:** Taxes  
**Date:** Monday, November 18, 2024 2:07:19 PM

---

Please do not raise my taxes. I work in at a local grocery store and everyday you hear people complaining about the price of groceries, then other people will jump in and start the it's not just the groceries but gas and EVERYTHING it is out of control. Since Trump was re-elected "Do you honestly believe that people can afford higher taxes?" People complain about all the homeless people, well now who do you think put some of those people there? They can't afford housing. If you can't control your own spending without going over budget then don't run for the office. We need to live within our means so should you.

Karen

Sent from my iPad

**From:** [Michael Murdock](#)  
**To:** [Contact Council](#)  
**Subject:** Budget  
**Date:** Monday, November 18, 2024 2:30:47 PM

---

Good Afternoon,

In light of the audit report findings of reckless spending reported in My Edmonds News at the executive level, it is completely unacceptable to raise property taxes over 8%. Why would anyone propose this when the county is a mess.

Often wondered why some individuals were receiving salaries at both county and state levels. Now the reasons why are clear and finally reported. That effort on public behalf is applauded. We can only hope this practice ceases so confidence can be restored in county government.

Under these circumstances property taxes should be left alone.

Regards,

Mike Murdock  
Sent from my iPhone

**From:** [Jeff Johansen](#)  
**To:** [Contact Council](#)  
**Subject:** Snohomish County Taxes  
**Date:** Monday, November 18, 2024 2:32:44 PM

---

Please do not pass the new tax increase. I realize property taxes are based on value, but those of us who are retired and purchased our home 30+ years ago are getting priced out, even though we have paid our mortgage off. The increases over the past few years far exceed cost of living. The proposed 8% also far exceeds cost of living. Please vote no and trim spending.

**From:** [Joyce Krachmalnick](#)  
**To:** [Contact Council](#)  
**Subject:** Tax hike  
**Date:** Monday, November 18, 2024 2:50:19 PM

---

We can't afford a property tax increase on our retirement income. Please do not pass this increase.

Robert and Joyce Krachmalnick  
6220 Central Dr.  
Mukilteo, WA 98275

**From:** [steven.sterner](#)  
**To:** [Contact Council](#)  
**Subject:** Snohomish County Property Tax Proposal  
**Date:** Monday, November 18, 2024 2:57:34 PM

---



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

Thank you for reading this email.

I'm opposed to any tax increase.

I've heard that the Snohomish Council is looking to raise the property tax by 8%. My understanding was that no more than 2% in any given year and that it was not cumulative. I see this as another way politicians say they are doing the will of the people, but are actually doing nothing of the sort. When I ask people if they trust the government. The over whelming response is no, usually with a colorful word or two in front of the no. This is why people don't trust politicians. Words and deeds are twisted and every politician is ok with it.

Based on the growth of the population here in Snohomish County and the increases in property value along with the new construction of SFRs and Apartments to meet the incoming growth there should be more than sufficient funds to meet all of the counties needs.

Looking the results from our most recent national election it appears the time has come to shrink the size of government. Maybe our local politicians should start finding better ways to utilize their existing revenues. Maybe its time for our local politicians to realize that their constituents do not have an endless supply of funds.

Please look at balancing the budget by removing the waste to decrease expenses before raising our taxes.

Again, thank you for taking the time to read this email.

Have a Stellar Day  
Steven K. Sterner  
206.930.7791

**From:** [Chris Powell](#)  
**To:** [Contact Council](#)  
**Subject:** Tax  
**Date:** Monday, November 18, 2024 2:58:30 PM

---



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

Is it true what is being said about possible 8% property tax increase? I understand the need to keep everything funded but we're retired and would be forced to sell our home.

Sent from my iPhone

**From:** [Tony Boyd](#)  
**To:** [Contact Council](#)  
**Subject:** Tax increases  
**Date:** Monday, November 18, 2024 3:01:08 PM

---



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

As a property owner in Snohomish County, I am strongly against this, I feel we are already paying plenty in taxes. We need to cut spending an additional 8% increase is just too much.

Thank you

Anthony Boyd

8800 Monte Cristo Dr

Everett Wa 98208

Sent from my iPhone



**From:** [Teri Thompson](#)  
**To:** [Contact Council](#)  
**Subject:** NO to higher property tax!!!!  
**Date:** Monday, November 18, 2024 3:03:53 PM

---

Dear law makers,

This property owner votes NO TO MORE PROPERTY TAX!

We suggest you plan on cutting your spending and leave us to our already too high taxation.  
Period.

Thank you,  
Teri Thompson

**From:** [Lynnette Korfanta](#)  
**To:** [Contact Council](#)  
**Subject:** Tax raise  
**Date:** Monday, November 18, 2024 3:33:31 PM

---

I am a senior who has lived in Snohomish County all my life.

I am totally struggling to pay taxes along with the other costs of surviving. My Cola on my SS is only 2.5% how do you justify a 8% raise.

I do not meet the criteria of the senior exemption, as I do not other discounts. I am in the lower middle class. No help with food, electric or other cost of living expenses.

I have been a productive member of the community for all my 66 years, without any government help.

My property floods like heck and have tried to work with surface water management between lack of enforcement and the zoning errors of both Snohomish County and the city of Marysville my properties are not worth much.

With Regards

Lynnette C. Korfanta

425-418-6174

Have a great day!

**From:** [CHRISTIAN REINING](#)  
**To:** [Contact Council](#)  
**Subject:** Raising property tax rates  
**Date:** Monday, November 18, 2024 3:40:18 PM

---



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

Show me what you've done besides waste.  
People who live in Arizona should not be working for us in Washington.  
Especially for 150k. I'll tell you what you don't want to hear. Schools  
going underfunded, roads are the worst in America. Developers say they will  
address the housing problems.  
Your not using the money efficiently, and no matter how deep the pockets are  
there is always a bottom.  
Have the best day ever.  
Cric Reining  
Cricrl@aol.com

**From:** [Scott Fraley](#)  
**To:** [Contact Council](#)  
**Cc:** [Linda Fraley](#)  
**Subject:** Because property taxes aren't way too expensive already?!  
**Date:** Monday, November 18, 2024 4:09:46 PM

---

Saw this on Nextdoor;

*"Snohomish County Council is voting on November 25th whether or not to raise your property taxes by 8%. EIGHT FREAKING PERCENT. Email them now to reject the proposed property tax increase. Tell them to cut spending instead, especially on staffing positions like Ty Trenary's who's making a cool \$150k a year from Arizona as an "senior staff analyst."*

Wow. 150k / year while not even living in the state, let alone county?!  
Seriously folks?!

Maybe we need some better accountants?

So yes, for what it's worth, I would like to officially reject the proposed property tax increase!

Best regards,  
Scott K. Fraley  
530 Fir Pl, Edmonds, Wa 98020

**From:** [Debbie Murrayschneider](#)  
**To:** [Contact Council](#)  
**Subject:** Taxes  
**Date:** Monday, November 18, 2024 4:34:03 PM

---

Everyone is having difficulty budgeting with the high cost of food, medical, medicine, electricity bills, the list goes on and higher costs make it harder to keep a roof over your head ... just look how many homeless people we have living on the street's and government officials say we need more affordable housing but then government says we need to raise property taxes or add new taxes so costs go up even more. Why can't government live with in its means, budget your expenses just like we the people have to, we do not have bottomless pockets and your going to force more people on to the streets

Sent from my iPhone

**From:** [Aaron Martin](#)  
**To:** [Contact Council](#)  
**Subject:** Property tax  
**Date:** Monday, November 18, 2024 4:38:15 PM

---

I reject the 8 percent tax increase. Take it out of your pay not mine!  
Sent from my iPhone

**From:** [Eileen Shults](#)  
**To:** [Contact Council](#)  
**Subject:** Proposes Tax Increase  
**Date:** Monday, November 18, 2024 4:41:25 PM

---

Hello

I am an unemployed senior living on fixed income....i cannot afford an addition increase to my property taxes (they have increased almost 35% since 2020. I guess you want use long time residents to move out of this county.

Thanks for listening

Eileen

Sent from my iPhone

**From:** [Pam Mayer](#)  
**To:** [Contact Council](#)  
**Date:** Monday, November 18, 2024 4:49:56 PM

---

No tax raising



**From:** [Bonnie Aulabaugh](#)  
**To:** [Contact Council](#)  
**Subject:** Property Tax Increase  
**Date:** Monday, November 18, 2024 4:50:04 PM

---

My husband & I are retired & thus on a fixed income. We are opposed to any tax increase at this time. With that said, we are wondering why, with all the building going on in our county and therefore, a huge increase in the tax base, there is such a shortfall in the budget? Obviously, more residential & commercial properties means the amount of income from property taxes has grown exponentially!

With so many other necessities costing more and more these days (food, gasoline, utilities, insurance, medical), it would be a definite hardship for most residents to absorb any kind of property tax increase.

Thank you for your consideration.

Roger & Bonnie Aulabaugh  
Marysville, WA

Sent from my iPhone

**From:** [Marcus Stein](#)  
**To:** [Contact Council](#)  
**Subject:** Property tax increase  
**Date:** Monday, November 18, 2024 4:51:19 PM

---

There is absolutely no reason for an 8% property tax increase in this county. You are taxing people out of their homes. In a county that is already hard enough to own in to begin with. There are plenty of ways to save money. I see the abhorrent waste of tax payer funds on a daily basis. This is absurd that this is happening without proper notification to home owners in the county. I implore you to vote against this increase. The council needs to look into other options. As a homeowner in rural snohomish county this hurts not only young home owners raising families, but the elderly as well. My parents can barely afford to keep their home they have worked their entire lives for as it is. Please do not hike our property taxes up.

Respectfully,

Marcus stein

**From:** [James O Totland](#)  
**To:** [Contact Council](#)  
**Subject:** Taxes  
**Date:** Monday, November 18, 2024 5:05:50 PM

---

There is no reason for you guys to increase our property taxes. Repeat NO REASON.  
Sent from my iPad

**From:** [Chris Brackin](#)  
**To:** [Contact Council](#)  
**Subject:** Property tax  
**Date:** Monday, November 18, 2024 5:08:47 PM

---

Please dont raise our property taxes, i allready pay 8500.00 a year for 5 acres, that has 3 acres that are wetlands i pay for that i dont use

**From:** [Janet Ward](#)  
**To:** [Contact Council](#)  
**Subject:** Vote no on 8% tax increase  
**Date:** Monday, November 18, 2024 5:41:47 PM

---

Dear Council members:

Now is not the time to raise taxes. Families are struggling to make ends meet on a month by month basis. Instead, the focus should be on first finding ways to trim non essentials from the budget. I ask you to vote no to the tax increase.

Janet Ward  
1311 182nd ST SW  
Lynnwood, WA

**From:** [Jeri Sexton](#)  
**To:** [Contact Council](#)  
**Subject:** Please note NO to raise taxes 8%  
**Date:** Monday, November 18, 2024 6:04:23 PM

---

I am a Mukilteo resident and the valuations went crazy last year and we are retired. Property taxes are already enormous, making it harder and harder to keep our home.

Please make a tax where renters or ALL PEOPLE IN THIS COMMUNITY can share in the cost of whatever is needed. Maybe they pay a lower percentage, but home owners can't shoulder all the costs of everything that is spent. Also, Please find ways to reduce spending on things that are not proving to have efficacy.

It's unfair that all the renters and people who don't have to sacrifice and have no skin in the game to vote for anything that effects others costs. The expenses are a problem for all, not just homeowners.

Thanks for listening. Jeri Sexton

Sent from my iPhone

**From:** [Chelsea Bergley](#)  
**To:** [Contact Council](#)  
**Subject:** Opposition to Proposed Property Tax Increase  
**Date:** Monday, November 18, 2024 6:05:54 PM

---

Dear City Council/County Officials/Property Tax Committee Members,

I am writing to express my strong opposition to the proposed property tax increase. As a resident and taxpayer, I believe that rather than increasing the tax burden on the community, efforts should focus on identifying areas where spending can be reduced.

For instance, high-cost staffing positions should be scrutinized. The salary of Ty Trenary, who is employed as a "senior staff analyst" living out of state with a reported salary of \$150,000 annually, is a concerning example of how taxpayer money is currently allocated. This type of expense could be reviewed and reconsidered as part of an overall approach to reduce costs without additional financial strain on residents.

Please consider these factors and focus on responsible budgeting to achieve fiscal stability without a tax increase. I urge you to reject this proposal and prioritize efficient use of our community's resources.

From Nate Nehring on his proposal to forego:

“Snohomish County residents were asked on the ballot during last week’s election whether they’d like to pay an increased sales tax rate in order to fund core services such as criminal justice and other public health and safety related functions. The voters resoundingly rejected this tax increase proposal by a wide double-digit margin.

It is inconceivable to me that in the weeks following this clear mandate from voters to not raise taxes, the Snohomish County Council will be voting on whether to approve the county executive’s proposed 8 percent property tax increase to the county’s general levy.”

Thank you for your attention to this matter.

Sincerely,  
Chelsea Bergley

**From:** [Kathi Hutsell](#)  
**To:** [Contact Council](#)  
**Subject:** Property taxes  
**Date:** Monday, November 18, 2024 6:10:13 PM

---

I have heard that property taxes are possibly going to be raised by 8%. This is about the worst time in the last 50 years that you could do this to us. Everything else is so horribly expensive right now I think this is really bad timing on your part. People are hurting! People can't even afford to always buy the food that they would want to buy including myself as I am on a limited income. I have elderly friends who were priced out of their home in Edmonds, due to taxes. They raised their entire family in that house but they had to sell it and move because the taxes continued to go up. I am very worried that same thing is going to happen to me in arlington. The best thing to do at this time is to cut back on your spending instead. I urge you to reconsider this proposal!

Sincerely,

Kathleen Hutsell  
Arlington



**From:** [Valarie Rice](#)  
**To:** [Contact Council](#)  
**Subject:** Vote NO on raising property taxes!  
**Date:** Monday, November 18, 2024 6:22:24 PM

---

Snohomish County Council Members,

I urge you to vote NO on raising property taxes! Washingtonians cannot afford to shoulder a greater tax burden. Instead, look for ways to cut the county budget, just like citizens do with their personal budgets.

Sincerely, a very concerned taxpayer,

Valarie Rice

Sent from [Outlook](#)

**From:** [sherri gillam](#)  
**To:** [Contact Council](#)  
**Subject:** Property taxes  
**Date:** Monday, November 18, 2024 6:40:55 PM

---

Dear Sirs,

I am extremely disappointed to hear that you would even consider a raise in taxes. Looking at your staff, you are very top heavy and should consider cutting some of your upper management. In addition, just like the public has to do, live within your budget.

Sherri Gillam

Sent from my iPhone

**From:** [paige anderson](#)  
**To:** [Contact Council](#)  
**Date:** Monday, November 18, 2024 6:43:14 PM

---

I would like to reject the bill to increase property taxes. It's hard enough to pay mortgage and this will push people out of their homes  
Sent from my iPhone

**From:** [Cynthia Cappaert](#)  
**To:** [Contact Council](#)  
**Subject:** 8% property tax increase  
**Date:** Monday, November 18, 2024 6:50:41 PM

---

I oppose the 8% property tax increase. We are retired on a fixed income and this will price us out of our home. Vote NO on 8% increase!

**From:** [Mary Kudo](#)  
**To:** [Contact Council](#)  
**Subject:** 8%. ? What us the true story?  
**Date:** Monday, November 18, 2024 6:51:26 PM

---

8%. ? What us the true story?

**From:** [Jolene Barnes](#)  
**To:** [Contact Council](#)  
**Subject:** No 8% prop tax increase!!  
**Date:** Monday, November 18, 2024 7:03:35 PM

---

Thank you!

Jo Barnes  
Sent from my iPhone

**From:** [Kayley Sullivan](#)  
**To:** [Contact Council](#)  
**Subject:** Opposing Proposed Tax Increase and Questionable Spending  
**Date:** Monday, November 18, 2024 7:37:59 PM

---

Snohomish County Council Members,

I am writing to express my **opposition** to the proposed 8% property tax increase. This increase would place an undue burden on property owners during an already challenging time. Instead of raising taxes, I urge the Council to consider reducing spending on unnecessary programs. I'm not paying extra for more cops. They don't promote safety, they have ZERO accountability to "protect and serve", and that is the LAST place more money needs to be poured. If you're "operating in a deficit", it's because the money you have is being severely mismanaged and wrongfully allocated.

On that note, I am concerned about the allocation of **\$150,000** for advice from **former** Sheriff Ty Trenary, who, to my understanding, has not resided in Washington State for years and currently lives in Arizona. It is unclear why the Council is relying on costly input from someone who no longer resides here or owns property in the state. This is a prime example of the mismanagement of funds.

I would appreciate further clarification regarding this decision, particularly on how this spending benefits the residents of Snohomish County.

Thank you for your attention to these concerns. I look forward to your response.

Regards,

Kayley Sullivan

Concerned Arlington Homeowner

<https://www.fox13seattle.com/news/snohomish-county-against-property-tax-levy>

**From:** [Debbie Hornberger](#)  
**To:** [Contact Council](#)  
**Subject:** Arlington Home Owner  
**Date:** Monday, November 18, 2024 7:57:48 PM

---

Hello,

Raising our taxes by 8 percent is unrealistic for hard working people, at this time! Regular folks don't have extra money to give away.. I think it's best to make cuts in other areas. We are the working poor already so don't make things worse for hard working people. Find another way please.

Sincerely Debbie Hornberger  
Sent from my iPhoneDebbie Booth



**From:** [Sonia Meyer](#)  
**To:** [Contact Council](#)  
**Subject:** Vote NO to raise property taxes  
**Date:** Monday, November 18, 2024 8:05:43 PM

---

Please vote NO to raise property taxes by 8%. Please remove Ty Trenary as a senior policy analyst from the county payroll. Thank you.

Sonia Meyer

**From:** [dan alvarez](#)  
**To:** [Contact Council](#)  
**Subject:** Reject on raising property taxes  
**Date:** Monday, November 18, 2024 8:20:37 PM

---

I am living in a single income home. Over the past 7 years property taxes have trippled since I purchased it. I am being taxes out and struggling to survive with all the taxes and crazy inflation on gas,food,power,water,trash,sewer,and all the taxes and leves for schools and EmT. People need to take responsibility for over spending and manage there spending and not ask for more money by taxing the working man to death. So please vote no on raise are property taxes.

Thanks  
Daniel A Alvarez  
Marysville, WA 98270

[Yahoo Mail: Search, Organize, Conquer](#)

**From:** [Kate Heck](#)  
**To:** [Contact Council](#)  
**Subject:** Reject Property Tax Increase for Snoho County  
**Date:** Monday, November 18, 2024 8:26:45 PM

---

Hello

As a snohomish county resident and home owner, I am reaching out urging you to reject increasing our property taxes by any amount during your upcoming vote. Please cut spending instead by eliminating unnecessary and inflated staffing positions. I've been informed there are snohomish county employees that don't even live in our state which I feel is inappropriate and encourage you to cut those positions or replace them.

Our property taxes are high enough and I am begging you to consider the financial well being and serious impacts this would have to home owners in your community.

Remember that you are in a position to serve the people, no one else.

Thank you  
Kate Heck

**From:** [Barb Martenson](#)  
**To:** [Contact Council](#)  
**Subject:** Tax increase  
**Date:** Monday, November 18, 2024 8:32:32 PM

---

Please do not do this to the struggling Snohomish County residents, this will only cause more harm to many of families that are all ready struggling with the high cost of food, gas, insurance, electricity, water, sewer and just trying to survive!

Sincerely, A concerned resident!  
Sent from my iPhone

**From:** [Maria Chavez](#)  
**To:** [Contact Council](#); [Maria Chavez](#)  
**Subject:** Increasing Property taxes  
**Date:** Monday, November 18, 2024 9:22:53 PM

---

I realize that there is never a good time to increase taxes. However this kind of increase and timing could not come at a worst time. One meeting with your constituents is not enough to address and explain why this huge increase is justified and provide citizens options that could be offset by other actions that could offset what the city can afford and not drive families to be further challenged economically with such short notice

[Sent from Yahoo Mail on Android](#)

**From:** [Shelly S](#)  
**To:** [Contact Council](#)  
**Subject:** Tax increase  
**Date:** Monday, November 18, 2024 9:45:40 PM

---

I'm writing to ask you to not increase our property tax. We already pay some of the highest taxes in our state. There should be another way like looking for ways to cut spending.

Thank you for your consideration

Shelly Smith

**From:** [chris matthies](#)  
**To:** [Contact Council](#)  
**Subject:** Proposed property tax hike.  
**Date:** Monday, November 18, 2024 10:12:59 PM

---

Hello Council, my name is Christopher Neal Matthies-Bickel. I am a life long resident of Snohomish County. In my 40 years here I have witnessed a lot of change which I am all for it but at some point we should really think about the implications of some expedited growth especially when it deals with the economic aspect of your constituents lives. Truthfully I own several properties in Snohomish, my wife and I have fought hard through our own life issues and worked harder to make it to this point where we might just be able to set up our family to finally break the generational poverty cycle that has plague us for too long. ANY INCREASE IN TAX is a promise to take directly from our aspirations and dreams to do that. A PROPERTY TAX INCREASE is directly attacking the opportunity for people to own homes in Snohomish County. It's well known that real estate ownership is one of, if not the most practical way for one to transition out of poverty and into generational wealth. With interest rates as high as they are now combined with insurance and your PROPERTY TAXES one has to pay almost 5k a month to afford the median house in Snohomish County and that is with 20% percent down! And thats just to keep a roof over your head! This proposed increase surly knocks the dream of home ownership right out of the grasp of a good majority of the population of this County. I implore you to look elsewhere for the funds you seek. Often times when a household is faced with financial hardships it is forced to make some hard decisions and cut some of the "extras" out for a while maybe you should do the same? Just today I seen 4 County workers pressure washing a sidewalk.....3 of them were watching the 1 to make sure he was doing a good job. I would think a few of the positions in multiple departments could cut some of the positions and tighten up a little. Maybe if the counsel members take a pay cut a TAX ON THE PEOPLE would taste a little better. How come everytime the economy is good government expands and when it slows they figure out a way to ask the people to pay more to cover thier lack of management! Your whole role should be to act on our behalfs! And shield us from any financial burdens that may impact our quality of life! Not steal our hopes and dreams 1% at a time.

Respectfully

Thanks,  
Chris Matthies-Bickel

**From:** [Aleksandra Shepsis](#)  
**To:** [Contact Council](#)  
**Subject:** 8% Tax increase  
**Date:** Monday, November 18, 2024 10:42:48 PM

---

Hello Council Member,

I completely appose the increase in property taxes. We need to use our funding more wisely. We need to reduce waste, cut unnecessary positions, and complete a thorough budget audit of the office.

I want our council to fix the homeless and drug issues coming to Snohomish county. I want our neighborhood and streets to be cleaned up. When I see my taxes going to these projects, then I would be more supportive. Show the people you care about the community.

Thank you,  
Aleks Shepsis



**From:** [Jeannette Sumpter](#)  
**To:** [Contact Council](#)  
**Subject:** NO TAX INCREASE - CUT SPENDING  
**Date:** Monday, November 18, 2024 10:50:42 PM

---

A property tax increase on top of prior increases is absolutely out of the question! Spending cuts are the answer to any budget issues!

Respectfully,

Jeannette Sumpter

17321 31<sup>st</sup> DR SE

Bothell, WA 98012

425-486-9541

**From:** [NATHANIEL young](#)  
**To:** [Contact Council](#)  
**Subject:** Property taxes  
**Date:** Tuesday, November 19, 2024 5:41:42 AM

---

Hello,

I am a concerned home owner in Snohomish county. I heard there was an upcoming vote on Nov 25th to increase our property taxes. The number I heard was by a whopping 8 percent. How is that not theft? With inflation and cost of everything being so expensive you are now going to raise the cost of our mortgage and rent? We dont have any money left. We are all out here struggling to feed our families and you're trying to get more money out of us? Raising the cost of living is not going to help anyone. We all cant have a 150k dollar salary and work from Arizona as analysts for the council.

How do I attend this meeting? Why can't the county cut spending and reallocate funds? I then read that the increase would be closer to 4% which is still entirely too high. This is absolutely ridiculous.

Vote "NO" on raising our property taxes by 8%.

Vote "NO" on raising our property taxes by 4%.

**From:** [Michele Smith](#)  
**To:** [Contact Council](#)  
**Subject:** Property Tax Increase  
**Date:** Tuesday, November 19, 2024 7:21:59 AM

---

This message was sent securely using Zix®

Good morning

As a Mortgage loan collections Manager for a well know Bank in. Washington you can not raise property tax 8% you will have more foreclosures and people leaving the community it is a financial struggle to own a home in Snohomish County as it is. You need to be realistic and cut back on frivolous spending. Focus on actual needs verses wants for the community. Snohomish county residents spend an absurd amount on property taxes as it is. Focus on the incoming presidential team in 2025 and the impact that will have on the cost of food , housing and essentials to survive the next 4 years. Now is not the time to impose heavy taxes rather be cautious and cut back spending.

**Michele Smith**

Assistant Manager Loan Servicing - Mortgage Collections  
NMLS # 2322133

**phone:** +1 (425) 697-8029

**fax:** +1 (425) 275-0127

**website:** [www.fsbwa.com](http://www.fsbwa.com)

**1st Security Bank**

Mountlake Terrace



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**From:** [BRIAN SMITH](#)  
**To:** [Contact Council](#)  
**Subject:** Taxes  
**Date:** Tuesday, November 19, 2024 7:23:14 AM

---

I'm emailing you about the concerns over the tax increases the county is trying to make we are against any tax increase, we have voted no on the schools because we don't want the tax increase. The meeting on November 25th we are going to stand up and we do not want this we are tired of paying taxes The salaries of government employees need to be lowered. We are sick of the city officials making more money than the average person, And nothing positive is changing. It's going to be a no

**From:** [Becky Gallagher](#)  
**To:** [Contact Council](#)  
**Subject:** Property Tax Increase  
**Date:** Tuesday, November 19, 2024 7:23:40 AM

---

Dear Council Members,

I am writing to urge you to vote NO on the proposed 8% property tax increase and YES on councilman Nate Nehring's amendment.

The residents of Snohomish County are reeling from inflation and cost of living already. There is a discretionary spending problem within government and cuts need to be made to unnecessary items, rather than to tax the citizens further.

Thank you,  
Rebecca Gallagher  
Get [Outlook for iOS](#)

**From:** [mike mcbride](#)  
**To:** [Contact Council](#)  
**Subject:** 8% Property Tax Increase  
**Date:** Tuesday, November 19, 2024 7:30:03 AM

---

Scrap the idea of increasing the property taxes by a ridiculous 8%. We the people are already financially strapped, by excessive taxes and the increased cost of living. It would be wiser to adopt the Amendment that Council Member Jared Mead is recommending, which will be voted on 11/25. Council Member Mead did a great job researching unnecessary positions and expenditures.  
Sent from my iPhone

**From:** [Nancy Reilly](#)  
**To:** [Contact Council](#)  
**Subject:** Proposed tax increase  
**Date:** Tuesday, November 19, 2024 7:32:32 AM

---

Dear Council Members,

Please do not make home ownership less affordable in Snohomish County, by raising property taxes AT ALL. Instead, look to where to cut the fat first! With all of the new construction happening here surely the influx of those new taxpayers will boost those tax coffers. VOTE NO on the proposed property tax increase.

Sincerely,

**Nancy Reilly** | Global Real Estate Advisor  
Realogics Sotheby's International Realty  
[15 Lake Street, Kirkland 98033](#)  
[c 425.417.0024](#) [o 425.658.5300](#)  
[w NancyReilly.RSIR.com](#)



**From:** [Cecelia Kuehl](#)  
**To:** [Contact Council](#)  
**Cc:** [CC Kuehl](#)  
**Subject:** STOP THE 8% ADDITIONAL PROPERTY TAX  
**Date:** Tuesday, November 19, 2024 7:46:20 AM

---

Please don't pass an additional 8% property tax. Cut expenses instead. I may have to move away because I can no longer afford to stay.

Cecelia Kuehl  
Mill Creek, WA

Sent from my iPhone



**From:** [T Butler](#)  
**To:** [Contact Council](#)  
**Subject:** Property tax increase  
**Date:** Tuesday, November 19, 2024 7:47:02 AM

---

As a resident and community advocate I am reaching out very concerned about the proposed property tax increase. This increase will literally push my family and I out of Washington. We absolutely cannot afford the increase and I ask that you would reject it, and adopt Councilmember Nehring's proposal.

Thank you,

Tobey & Sherri Butler

**From:** [Adah Langham](#)  
**To:** [Contact Council](#)  
**Subject:** 8 percent property tax  
**Date:** Tuesday, November 19, 2024 7:49:37 AM

---

Vote no increase our proper tax  
Sent from my iPhone

**From:** [Grant Baumgartner](#)  
**To:** [Somers, Dave J](#); [Contact Council](#); [Beazizo, Heidi](#)  
**Subject:** Do Not Raise Property Taxes!  
**Date:** Tuesday, November 19, 2024 7:58:19 AM

---

Dear County Leaders:

Please do not raise property taxes. You just received a Sales Tax Increase. Your tax revenues consistently go up every year. Total Detailed Revenues were up 7.7% in 2023 and have increased every year. You do not need to raise tax rates. You automatically receive increases in taxes due to inflation, more people moving to the county and increased property development.

Sincerely,

Grant Baumgartner  
Everett Resident

**From:** [joeyinseattle@gmail.com](mailto:joeyinseattle@gmail.com)  
**To:** [Contact Council](#)  
**Cc:** [Gregg Johnsén](#); [Donna Strader](#)  
**Subject:** Opposition to Proposed 8% Property Tax Increase  
**Date:** Tuesday, November 19, 2024 8:01:59 AM

---

Dear Snohomish County Council Members,

I am writing as a concerned resident to express my strong opposition to the proposed 8% property tax increase. While I understand the challenges of balancing the county's budget in a rapidly growing area, this proposal places an excessive burden on homeowners, particularly in the current economic climate.

Snohomish County has indeed been one of the fastest-growing counties in the nation, but growth should not necessitate disproportionately high tax increases. The affordability of our communities, from Lake Stevens to Arlington, is already a significant concern for residents. This hike would exacerbate the strain on families who are already managing rising costs across many aspects of daily life.

Council members Jared Mead and Nate Nehring have rightly pointed out that now is not the time to impose such a steep increase. Their positions reflect the concerns of countless residents who have voiced opposition at recent council meetings. I urge the Council to consider more balanced and innovative solutions that do not disproportionately impact homeowners.

I respectfully request that you reconsider this proposal and explore alternative measures to address the budget challenges while preserving the affordability and sustainability of our communities.

Thank you for your time and attention to this important matter. I look forward to your response and hope to see the Council prioritize the well-being of Snohomish County residents in your decision-making.

Sincerely,

**Joey Johnsen, CPA**  
Bothell, WA 98021

**From:** [Maria Gray](#)  
**To:** [Contact Council](#)  
**Subject:** Property tax increase  
**Date:** Tuesday, November 19, 2024 8:16:34 AM

---

As a widow whose income was suddenly cut in hal, taxes doubled, and expenses increased with rising costs, I am strongly opposed to more property tax increases. I cannot afford this area with the rising costs everywhere. I'd like to stay in Snohomish County because our children are here, but everyday I wonder how long I can afford it.

Please, no more tax increases.

Thank you!  
Maria Gray

[Yahoo Mail: Search, Organize, Conquer](#)

**From:** [Edward Thomas](#)  
**To:** [Contact Council](#)  
**Subject:** Vote NO on 8% increase  
**Date:** Tuesday, November 19, 2024 8:26:04 AM

---

>>

>> Hello Council Members,

>>

>> Surely there will s a better way to balance your budget than to increase property taxes by 8%.

>>

>> This would only make sense if everyone living in Snohomish got an 8% raise in their salaries or social security. And that will never happen.

>>

>> Please exhaust all other possibilities - like taking a harder line on your expenses. Do all the external studies have to be done? Do all the consultants need to be hired? If these are necessary, why can't council members do that work? If they can't do it, maybe we should vote in qualified people who can. Just a thought...

>>

>> Sincerely,

>> Edward Thomas

>> 312-371-8533

**From:** [Chico](#)  
**To:** [Contact Council](#)  
**Subject:** No property tax increase  
**Date:** Tuesday, November 19, 2024 8:28:39 AM

---

Do what the rest of us do, cut spending.. i can't just say "I'll give myself a raise" so i can continue my lifestyle with all this bills and new taxes.



**From:** [haha](#)  
**To:** [Contact Council](#)  
**Subject:** Oppose to the Property Tax Hike Proposal  
**Date:** Tuesday, November 19, 2024 8:38:37 AM

---



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

Hi,

I'm a resident in Snohomish county and my family is strongly opposed to the Property Tax Hike proposal, and instead, the county should focus on finding ways to cut unnecessary spendings!!

Ming

**From:** [Angela Shook](#)  
**To:** [Contact Council](#)  
**Subject:** Please do not raise taxes  
**Date:** Tuesday, November 19, 2024 8:46:47 AM

---

Hello

This is incredibly important that you consider how all families are struggling and stretch beyond our paychecks. We cannot afford our taxes to go up 8%.

I'm honestly concerned about living in Washington state... period. I own several vapor retail locations, after the heavy 9 cents mil tax a few years ago I no longer bring home enough to live on. My credit cards are maxed, and I just went back to working in a dental office. This state needs to Stop dipping into our pockets and do a thorough audit and cut spending on your end. This has got to stop! Please consider my email while making decisions that greatly affect us the people. I know for instance there was. Some fraud within Marysville school district. How Can the state and government expect us to clean up everything that is overspending. Extremely concerned, citizen of Snohomish County.

Angela Shook  
17811 McElroy rd  
Arlington Wa 98223  
4253465935

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**From:** [\(null\) dpiez](#)  
**To:** [Contact Council](#)  
**Subject:** Property taxes  
**Date:** Tuesday, November 19, 2024 8:52:57 AM

---

Please so not raise property taxes. We have lived in our house at 113 216th st se in Bothell for over 40 years and cannot afford anymore taxes, our retirement is not that much..

David Jez

Sent from my iPad

**From:** [Eney Wrinkle](#)  
**To:** [Contact Council](#)  
**Subject:** Property tax increase  
**Date:** Tuesday, November 19, 2024 8:57:06 AM

---

Dear Jared Mead - thank you for the article concerning the 8% tax increase.

We ask that the department get a serious grip on spending and stop asking the public for more money. Those of us that are seniors are being priced out of our homes. We have supported this community for over 30 years, it's time to look out for the public. The greed needs to stop.

We declined the increase and ask that you be better stewards of our money.

Eliminate waste before asking the public for more money. There are serious concerns after the audit was performed.

Thank you

Eney and Jim Wrinkle

**From:** [Carol Holland](#)  
**To:** [Contact Council](#)  
**Subject:** No tax increase please!  
**Date:** Tuesday, November 19, 2024 8:59:19 AM

---

Carol Holland  
RE/MAX NW  
206-954-1743  
Sent from my iPhone

**From:** [Maryanne Johnston](#)  
**To:** [Contact Council](#)  
**Subject:** Property taxes  
**Date:** Tuesday, November 19, 2024 9:06:12 AM

---

Attn: Don't raise the property taxes in Snohomish County. We don't get any benefit from them now. Please learn to spend your money in more appropriate ways. For instance, why are you paying Ty Trenary (who doesn't live here) to be an analyst in Arizona. This is as bad as Lynnwood or Mountlake Terrace paying people in Texas and Arizona to monitor their traffic cameras (and taking a percentage.) That's disgusting.

Greg Johnston

**From:** [Anthony Richter](#)  
**To:** [Contact Council](#)  
**Subject:** Proposed 8% tax increase  
**Date:** Tuesday, November 19, 2024 9:06:35 AM

---

Sadly it appears that government can not learn to balance a budget and fails to meet the tax payers needs or requirement. Many of us have been on a fixed income to the past 10 years and can not afford another tax increase on our property. The tax payers of Snohomish County have clearly indicated that they do not wish further taxes on the property as shown by the recent vote on increasing taxes for public safety.

As such please take the action of vetoing the upcoming 8% tax proposal and cut the necessary programs to balance the budget,

Thank you,

Anthony W. Richter

**From:** [David Bly](#)  
**To:** [Contact Council](#)  
**Subject:** Opposition to tax increase  
**Date:** Tuesday, November 19, 2024 9:26:41 AM

---

Dear Snohomish County Council Members,

I am writing to express my strong opposition to the proposed property tax increase in Snohomish county . As a resident deeply concerned about the high cost of living in our area. I urge you to reconsider this proposal.

The cost of living in Snohomish County is already significantly high, and many residents are struggling to make ends met. This tax increase will exacerbate the already critical issue of affordable housing, placing even more financial strain on homeowners and renters alike. For those who are barely managing to stay in their homes already, this significant increase in property taxes will lead to devastating consequences.

Before considering more additional taxes, I implore the Council to explore alternatives such as making responsible cuts and prioritizing efficient government spending. Identifying areas where resources can be reallocate or expenses reduced should be the FIRST course of action, rather than passing the burden into residents who you've already overburdened with ever increasing taxes.

I urge you to prioritize the financial stability of Snohomish county residents and focus on sustainable solutions that do not further inflate the cost of living. Please consider this perspective and live up to the promise you all made to act in the best interests of our communities.

Sincerely,



**From:** [hatfieldflykj@icloud.com](mailto:hatfieldflykj@icloud.com)  
**To:** [Contact Council](#)  
**Subject:** Taxes  
**Date:** Tuesday, November 19, 2024 9:26:43 AM

---

Sent from my iPhone    Reconsider even thinking about raising our property taxes! I can hardly pay my house payment NOW! Quite spending on frivolous crap! I'm retired/Not Rich!!!

**From:** [Mary Heilesen](#)  
**To:** [Contact Council](#)  
**Subject:** Vote no on 8% property tax increase  
**Date:** Tuesday, November 19, 2024 9:28:54 AM

---

Eight percent is a lot! It is too much. Any increase is too much.

Please cut spending.

We are a retired couple on a fixed income.

Please vote NO on the property tax increase.

Steve & Mary Heilesen  
425-349-4849 land line

**From:** [Chanda Hines](#)  
**To:** [Contact Council](#)  
**Subject:** Please vote no on the 8% tax increase  
**Date:** Tuesday, November 19, 2024 9:37:15 AM

---

Please vote no on the 8% tax increase and yes to councilman Nehring's amendment. Property taxes are getting out of control, it's making it harder for people to stay in their own homes. The cost of property taxes are passed on to renters and making housing unaffordable.

Thank you!!

Chanda Hines

Evergreen Environmental Services, Inc

[chanda@eesinfo.com](mailto:chanda@eesinfo.com)

**From:** [Diane T](#)  
**To:** [Contact Council](#)  
**Subject:** Property tax increases  
**Date:** Tuesday, November 19, 2024 9:44:42 AM

---

Council,

Please do not raise the property taxes to 8%. Having read the most recent audit of Council, it is clear that there is much wrong with how tax dollars are being spent in Snohomish County.

While spending so much money on “affordable housing”, property owners have and are being priced out of their homes, and don’t county with the “ they can get tax relief stuff”. The property owners who don’t yet qualify, pay for that too. The press release piece on last nights news used the tired “ it’s only the cost of a latte” line...most folks gave up latte’s a long time ago. The school districts, the fire districts, and our local city governments are all looking to “its only the cost of a latte...” and every other taxing district is crying poverty amd threatening that the police cannot provide us safety (how well has that been going lately anyway?). Boeing is laying folks off, and from that audit report, the Council can make changes and cuts before raising property taxes again. If not, it is unlikely that voters will approve future levy votes.

Please respect the taxpayers in Snohomish County by cleaning up your own audit issues, make some tough decisions as your constituents have had to do, and once done, then come to voters with a proper request for more money along with a transparent plan on how it will be spent.

Diane T

**From:** [Brent Tugby](#)  
**To:** [Contact Council](#)  
**Subject:** Property taxes. Do not raise them. Cut spending, staff. I am retired and on limited income. Brent Tugby, Edmonds  
**Date:** Tuesday, November 19, 2024 9:48:09 AM

---

**From:** [LiveYourLife](#)  
**To:** [Contact Council](#)  
**Subject:** Raising our taxes? What is this becoming?  
**Date:** Tuesday, November 19, 2024 9:56:24 AM

---

Dear Snohomish County Council Members,

My name is James Meehan,

What is our world, our country, and more so our county coming to? We are already losing schools in Marysville to the poor choices our 'leaders' have been making, groceries are sky rocketing in price, gas has been outrageous and you want to raise taxes more!??

I am writing to express my strong opposition to the proposed property tax increase in Snohomish county. As a resident deeply concerned about the high cost of living in our area, I urge you to reconsider this proposal.

The cost of living in Snohomish County is already significantly high, and many residents are struggling to make ends met. This tax increase will exacerbate the already critical issue of affordable housing, placing even more financial strain on homeowners and renters alike. For those who are barely managing to stay in their homes already, this significant increase in property taxes will lead to devastating consequences.

Before considering more additional taxes, I implore the Council to explore alternatives such as making responsible cuts and prioritizing efficient government spending. Identifying areas where resources can be reallocated or expenses reduced should be the FIRST course of action, rather than passing the burden into residents who you've already overburdened with ever increasing taxes.

I urge you to prioritize the financial stability of Snohomish county residents and focus on sustainable solutions that do not further inflate the cost of living. Please consider this perspective and live up to the promise you all made to act in the best interests of our communities.

Sincerely,

**From:** [Irene Tait](#)  
**To:** [Contact Council](#)  
**Subject:** Tax increase  
**Date:** Tuesday, November 19, 2024 10:24:03 AM

---

Please do not increase property taxes. Living expenses are high enough without this added expense.

Thank you

Irene Tait

Sent from my iPad

**From:** [Josh Knabe](#)  
**To:** [Contact Council](#)  
**Subject:** Property Tax Increase - Opposed  
**Date:** Tuesday, November 19, 2024 10:31:19 AM

---

I am writing to you with concerns regarding the proposed property tax increase which I am opposed to. I find it to be very concerning that rather than cutting waste in your office first, the proposition of raising taxes was the first resolution to your budget shortfall. I think that raising taxes should be the last resort, not the first. When my budget comes up short at my house, I don't get to ask my boss to just give me more money, I have to make the necessary cuts in order to meet my monthly budget. I don't understand how/why we are paying people in the Executive's office for positions that are redundant and I also am unclear why there are not more independent audits done more frequently to bring this type of waste to the surface sooner? This type of disregard & waste of our tax dollars is very discouraging to say the least. As a lifelong resident of Snohomish County, my faith in our elected officials has waned over the years, the lack of care and disregard of how our tax dollars are spent is unacceptable.

I commend Councilmen Jared Mead and Nate Nehring for supporting alternatives to raising taxes on Snohomish County Residents.

Thank you,

Joshua A Knabe  
Stanwood, WA



**From:** [Melissa Lindner](#)  
**To:** [Contact Council](#)  
**Subject:** Property tax  
**Date:** Tuesday, November 19, 2024 11:11:39 AM

---

Dear Snohomish County Council Members,

I am writing to express my strong opposition to the proposed property tax increase in Snohomish county . As a resident deeply concerned about the high cost of living in our area. I urge you to reconsider this proposal.

The cost of living in Snohomish County is already significantly high, and many residents are struggling to make ends met. This tax increase will exacerbate the already critical issue of affordable housing, placing even more financial strain on homeowners and renters alike. For those who are barely managing to stay in their homes already, this significant increase in property taxes will lead to devastating consequences.

Before considering more additional taxes, I implore the Council to explore alternatives such as making responsible cuts and prioritizing efficient government spending. Identifying areas where resources can be reallocate or expenses reduced should be the FIRST course of action, rather than passing the burden into residents who you've already overburdened with ever increasing taxes.

I urge you to prioritize the financial stability of Snohomish county residents and focus on sustainable solutions that do not further inflate the cost of living. Please consider this perspective and live up to the promise you all made to act in the best interests of our communities.

Sincerely,  
Melissa Lindner  
Sent from my iPhone

**From:** [Shawn OGara](#)  
**To:** [Contact Council](#)  
**Subject:** Property Tax Increase - Opposed  
**Date:** Tuesday, November 19, 2024 11:17:05 AM

---

Dear Snohomish County Council Members,

I am writing to express my strong opposition to the proposed property tax increase in Snohomish county . As a resident, I am deeply concerned about the high cost of living in our area. I urge you to reconsider this proposal.

The cost of living in Snohomish County is already significantly high, and many residents are struggling to make ends met. This tax increase will exacerbate the already critical issue of affordable housing, placing even more financial strain on homeowners and renters alike. For those who are barely managing to stay in their homes already, this significant increase in property taxes will lead to devastating consequences.

Before considering more additional taxes, I implore the Council to explore alternatives such as making responsible cuts and prioritizing efficient government spending. Identifying areas where resources can be reallocated or expenses reduced should be the FIRST course of action, rather than passing the burden into residents who you've already overburdened with ever increasing taxes.

I urge you to prioritize the financial stability of Snohomish county residents and focus on sustainable solutions that do not further inflate the cost of living. Please consider this perspective and live up to the promise you all made to act in the best interests of our communities.

Sincerely,  
Shawn O'Gara

**From:** [jerry@mav.com](mailto:jerry@mav.com)  
**To:** [Contact Council](#)  
**Subject:** Property Tax increase vote November 25th.  
**Date:** Tuesday, November 19, 2024 11:32:59 AM

---

To all Council Members,

Please vote no to the upcoming vote attempting a property tax increase of 8%.

This is a ridiculous increase that many see as not necessary.

Start looking at your over expenditures and reduce or eliminate unnecessary expenses prior to any proposed increase.

Please look at Jered Meads amendment 14 as just one example of possible steps that can eliminate unnecessary expenses.

Thank You

Jerry Coffell

Current home owner and Snohomish County resident since 1976.

**From:** [Ashley Wigren](#)  
**To:** [Contact Council](#)  
**Subject:** Taxes  
**Date:** Tuesday, November 19, 2024 11:43:31 AM

---



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

Dear Snohomish County Council Members,

I am writing to express my strong opposition to the proposed property tax increase in Snohomish county . As a resident deeply concerned about the high cost of living in our area. I urge you to reconsider this proposal.

The cost of living in Snohomish County is already significantly high, and many residents are struggling to make ends met. This tax increase will exacerbate the already critical issue of affordable housing, placing even more financial strain on homeowners and renters alike. For those who are barely managing to stay in their homes already, this significant increase in property taxes will lead to devastating consequences.

Before considering more additional taxes, I implore the Council to explore alternatives such as making responsible cuts and prioritizing efficient government spending. Identifying areas where resources can be reallocate or expenses reduced should be the FIRST course of action, rather than passing the burden into residents who you've already overburdened with ever increasing taxes.

I urge you to prioritize the financial stability of Snohomish county residents and focus on sustainable solutions that do not further inflate the cost of living. Please consider this perspective and live up to the promise you all made to act in the best interests of our communities.

Sincerely,  
Ashley Wigren

Get [Outlook for iOS](#)

**From:** [Teel, Steve](#)  
**To:** [Contact Council](#)  
**Subject:** Please read  
**Date:** Tuesday, November 19, 2024 11:56:19 AM

---

Dear Snohomish County Council Members,

I am writing to express my strong opposition to the proposed property tax increase in Snohomish county . As a resident deeply concerned about the high cost of living in our area. I urge you to reconsider this proposal.

The cost of living in Snohomish County is already significantly high, and many residents are struggling to make ends met. This tax increase will exacerbate the already critical issue of affordable housing, placing even more financial strain on homeowners and renters alike. For those who are barely managing to stay in their homes already, this significant increase in property taxes will lead to devastating consequences.

Before considering more additional taxes, I implore the Council to explore alternatives such as making responsible cuts and prioritizing efficient government spending. Identifying areas where resources can be reallocate or expenses reduced should be the FIRST course of action, rather than passing the burden into residents who you've already overburdened with ever increasing taxes.

I urge you to prioritize the financial stability of Snohomish county residents and focus on sustainable solutions that do not further inflate the cost of living. Please consider this perspective and live up to the promise you all made to act in the best interests of our communities.

Sincerely,  
Ashley Wigren

Get [Outlook for iOS](#)

**From:** [Abby Clinkenbeard](#)  
**To:** [Contact Council](#)  
**Subject:** Property Tax  
**Date:** Tuesday, November 19, 2024 12:18:15 PM

---

Dear Snohomish County Council Members,

I am writing to express my strong opposition to the proposed property tax increase in Snohomish county. As a resident deeply concerned about the high cost of living in our area. I urge you to reconsider this proposal.

The cost of living in Snohomish County is already significantly high, and many residents are struggling to make ends met. This tax increase will exacerbate the already critical issue of affordable housing, placing even more financial strain on homeowners and renters alike. For those who are barely managing to stay in their homes already, this significant increase in property taxes will lead to devastating consequences.

Before considering more additional taxes, I implore the Council to explore alternatives such as making responsible cuts and prioritizing efficient government spending. Identifying areas where resources can be reallocate or expenses reduced should be the FIRST course of action, rather than passing the burden into residents who you've already overburdened with ever increasing taxes.

I urge you to prioritize the financial stability of Snohomish county residents and focus on sustainable solutions that do not further inflate the cost of living. Please consider this perspective and live up to the promise you all made to act in the best interests of our communities.

Sincerely,

Abby Clinkenbeard

**From:** [Chrystal Karls](#)  
**To:** [Contact Council](#)  
**Subject:** Proposed 2025 property taxes  
**Date:** Tuesday, November 19, 2024 12:44:44 PM

---

Dear Snohomish County Council Members,

I am writing to express my strong opposition to the proposed property tax increase in Snohomish county . As a resident deeply concerned about the high cost of living in our area. I urge you to reconsider this proposal.

The cost of living in Snohomish County is already significantly high, and many residents are struggling to make ends met. This tax increase will exacerbate the already critical issue of affordable housing, placing even more financial strain on homeowners and renters alike. For those who are barely managing to stay in their homes already, this significant increase in property taxes will lead to devastating consequences.

Before considering more additional taxes, I implore the Council to explore alternatives such as making responsible cuts and prioritizing efficient government spending. Identifying areas where resources can be reallocate or expenses reduced should be the FIRST course of action, rather than passing the burden into residents who you've already overburdened with ever increasing taxes.

I urge you to prioritize the financial stability of Snohomish county residents and focus on sustainable solutions that do not further inflate the cost of living. Please consider this perspective and live up to the promise you all made to act in the best interests of our communities.

Sincerely,

Chrystal Karls

**From:** [M. WILLIAM BARNES](#)  
**To:** [Contact Council](#)  
**Subject:** Budget amendments  
**Date:** Tuesday, November 19, 2024 12:45:48 PM

---

Dear Council Members,

I urge you to support Council Member Mead's budget amendments in lieu of raising our property taxes once again.

Respectfully yours,

Bill Barnes

15625 10<sup>th</sup> Ave. W.

Lynnwood, WA 98087

206-200-5375



**From:** [Betty Frank](#)  
**To:** [Contact Council](#)  
**Subject:** Property tax increase  
**Date:** Tuesday, November 19, 2024 12:55:21 PM

---

I am voting NO for this.  
I am retired and on a fixed social security income.

[Sent from Yahoo Mail for iPhone](#)

**From:** [Ashley Wigren](#)  
**To:** [Teel, Steve](#); [Contact Council](#)  
**Subject:** Re: Please read  
**Date:** Tuesday, November 19, 2024 1:17:40 PM

---

Thanks. Not sure if matters but my name is at the end

Get [Outlook for iOS](#)

---

**From:** Teel, Steve <steve.teel@landcare.com>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, November 19, 2024 11:56:10 AM  
**To:** [contact.council@snoco.org](mailto:contact.council@snoco.org) <[contact.council@snoco.org](mailto:contact.council@snoco.org)>  
**Subject:** Please read

Dear Snohomish County Council Members,

I am writing to express my strong opposition to the proposed property tax increase in Snohomish county . As a resident deeply concerned about the high cost of living in our area. I urge you to reconsider this proposal.

The cost of living in Snohomish County is already significantly high, and many residents are struggling to make ends met. This tax increase will exacerbate the already critical issue of affordable housing, placing even more financial strain on homeowners and renters alike. For those who are barely managing to stay in their homes already, this significant increase in property taxes will lead to devastating consequences.

Before considering more additional taxes, I implore the Council to explore alternatives such as making responsible cuts and prioritizing efficient government spending. Identifying areas where resources can be reallocate or expenses reduced should be the FIRST course of action, rather than passing the burden into residents who you've already overburdened with ever increasing taxes.

I urge you to prioritize the financial stability of Snohomish county residents and focus on sustainable solutions that do not further inflate the cost of living. Please consider this perspective and live up to the promise you all made to act in the best interests of our communities.

Sincerely,  
Ashley Wigren

Get [Outlook for iOS](#)

**From:** [Julie Zitnik](#)  
**To:** [Contact Council](#)  
**Subject:** Taxes  
**Date:** Tuesday, November 19, 2024 1:28:01 PM

---

8%. Are you kidding me. This is outrageous. Cut unnecessary spending. Leave us hard working people alone.  
Sent from my iPad

**From:** [\(null\) dave.cynthia](#)  
**To:** [Contact Council](#)  
**Subject:** 8% property tax increase proposal  
**Date:** Tuesday, November 19, 2024 1:34:10 PM

---

Dear Snohomish County Council,

It's come to my attention that you are considering raising my property taxes 8% to cover an operating deficit. For obvious reasons, I am adamantly opposed to an additional increase in my property taxes. My taxes this year were just under \$9,500. This is insane. Before you ask me - a retired person - for more money, please consider showing all of the taxpayers in this county how you are spending the money you already extract from our bank accounts.

- Roads are in bad condition
- We have a dangerous intersection in my area that county refuses to remedy
- Development is happening at a staggering rate, you are collecting fees and taxes from that, yet you aren't putting any money into road infrastructure to handle the additional traffic
- Fireworks bans are not being enforced

I'm struggling to see what county gov is doing for the citizens in exchange for our tax dollars.

Do not implement more property tax increases, please.

Cynthia Bell, sent from my iPhone  
1118 185th Pl SE  
Bothell

**From:** [Dana Patrick](#)  
**To:** [Contact Council](#)  
**Subject:** NO MORE TAXES  
**Date:** Tuesday, November 19, 2024 1:34:23 PM

---

Regarding the upcoming property tax vote on November 25—

NO MORE TAXES  
NO MORE TAXES  
NO MORE TAXES

Every increase adds to the overall weight.

Our retired folks are struggling to pay their ever-increasing property taxes, which are based on unrealized gains and often over-inflated assessments. And to top that, some of us are further taxed by the federal government on the income that was used to pay our state and local property taxes!! Taxation upon taxation- wasn't that illegal at one point?

Please—listen to our concerns. FIRST address the audit findings and cut waste, excess, and expenditure overlap. Readjust your budgeting and reallocate our current tax dollars. Strip the unnecessary spending. Please.

Dana Patrick  
Mukilteo WA

**From:** [Rose Olsen](#)  
**To:** [Contact Council](#)  
**Subject:** Cut spending  
**Date:** Tuesday, November 19, 2024 1:51:22 PM

---



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

I say No to 8% tax increase.  
Please cut spending somewhere.  
Thank you,  
R Olsen

Sent from my Verizon, Samsung Galaxy smartphone

**From:** [Kristie Kight](#)  
**To:** [Contact Council](#)  
**Subject:** Proposed tax increase  
**Date:** Tuesday, November 19, 2024 2:22:35 PM

---

Snohomish County Counsel,

This email is being sent to ask that you reject the proposed property tax increase, and rather cut back on unnecessary spending. This proposed 8% tax increase will cause untold hardship on individuals and families throughout the region.

Please vote no.

Thank you,  
Jim and Kristie Gasca

**From:** [Daniel Osio](#)  
**To:** [Contact Council](#)  
**Date:** Tuesday, November 19, 2024 3:24:53 PM

---

Snohomish County Council Members,

I am writing to express my opposition to the proposed 8% property tax increase. This increase would place an undue burden on property owners during an already challenging time. Instead of raising taxes, I urge the Council to consider reducing spending on unnecessary programs.

On that note, I am concerned about the allocation of \$150,000 for advice from former Sheriff Ty Trenary, who, to my understanding, has not resided in Washington State for years and currently lives in Arizona. It is unclear why the Council is relying on costly input from someone who no longer resides here or owns property in the state. This is a prime example of the mismanagement of funds.

I would appreciate further clarification regarding this decision, particularly on how this spending benefits the residents of Snohomish County.

Thank you for your attention to these concerns. I look forward to your response.

Regards,

Concerned Arlington Homeowner  
Sent from my iPhone



**From:** [northwest\\_hvac](#)  
**To:** [Contact Council](#)  
**Subject:** NO  
**Date:** Tuesday, November 19, 2024 3:27:41 PM

---

I beg you to vote no on the tax increase, we need more accountability on spending. Raising taxes is not the answer, I will move my family and business out of this state if this gets passed. Please vote yes on Nehrings amendment.

**From:** [Steve Schaefer](#)  
**To:** [Contact Council](#)  
**Subject:** Taxes  
**Date:** Tuesday, November 19, 2024 3:38:07 PM

---

To whom it may concern:

Having lived in Snohomish County since 1964, I am appalled and upset that my county is considering an 8% tax hike. I urge you to vote NO on it.

Please vote yes on Councilman Nearing's amendment.

Thank you,  
Steve Schaefer

**From:** [Lisa Thomson](#)  
**To:** [Contact Council](#)  
**Subject:** Please don't raise our property taxes!  
**Date:** Tuesday, November 19, 2024 3:48:50 PM

---

Please don't raise our property taxes. Look at where you can cut back like the rest of us must do. We pay too much already.

Thank you,  
Lisa Thomson

**From:** [pinchclaw](#)  
**To:** [Contact Council](#)  
**Subject:** 8% Tax Increase  
**Date:** Tuesday, November 19, 2024 4:46:39 PM

---

I disagree with the plan to increase taxes by 8%. I understand inflation and all but I can't increase my income by 8% due to inflation. Your plan is poor governance. I also saw a comment you have someone working remotely from AZ for a high salary as an analyst? Really? Is this true? If so this seems like more good old boy poor governance.

**From:** [Robert and Amy Kovach](#)  
**To:** [Contact Council](#)  
**Subject:** Proposed Property Tax Increase  
**Date:** Tuesday, November 19, 2024 5:26:46 PM

---



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

Dear County Council,

I am writing to vehemently oppose any increase in property tax rates in Snohomish County. Values have skyrocketed over the last several years, and our tax bills right along with them. It's time for the county to look inward for ways to trim the budget, not pursue an increase of the already ballooned budget. When the outgo exceeds the income, it's time to tighten the belt.

Thank you in advance for your fiscal responsibility.

.  
Rob Kovach

**From:** [Mark Tapley](#)  
**To:** [Contact Council](#)  
**Subject:** no on property tax increase  
**Date:** Tuesday, November 19, 2024 6:03:55 PM

---

driving home owners out of their homes because they can't afford their property tax is not the way to go. please do not increase the property taxes because of the high cost of living is enough to deal with right now. sincerely, home owner.....

**From:** [Terence Calderon](#)  
**To:** [Contact Council](#)  
**Subject:** Reject Property Tax Increase  
**Date:** Tuesday, November 19, 2024 6:17:30 PM

---

Balance your fucking budgets, stop wasting Our money, and get rid of Ty Trenary

Get [Outlook for Android](#)

**From:** [Sue Charles](#)  
**To:** [Contact Council](#)  
**Subject:** Taxes raised 8%!!! No way!!  
**Date:** Tuesday, November 19, 2024 7:02:12 PM

---

How can you do this to Snohomish Tax payers??  
How do you expect Seniors to keep up?  
Why not be responsible for working with a BUDGET?  
Instead you must always ask for more \$\$ from homeowners.....  
We are watching you!!  
Don't do this!!

Sue Charles  
Optimal Wellness  
Call or Text [206-227-4149](tel:206-227-4149)



**From:** [Anthony Ostroski](#)  
**To:** [Contact Council](#)  
**Subject:** No increased prop tax  
**Date:** Tuesday, November 19, 2024 8:25:31 PM

---

Hello

I do not want my county council passing 8% property tax increase without a vote of the people! For social services? How about helping out my Marysville school system. I side with Nate Nehring and support our Mayor Jon Nehring.

Anthony Ostroski 20 yr Marysville resident.

Sent from my iPhone

**From:** [Colby Arensdorf](#)  
**To:** [Contact Council](#)  
**Subject:** NO MORE TAX RAISES  
**Date:** Tuesday, November 19, 2024 8:27:24 PM

---

VOTE NO ON 8% TAX INCREASE  
VOTE YES TO COUNCILMAN NEHRING'S AMENDMENT

**From:** [Yoshimi Pelczarski](#)  
**To:** [Contact Council](#)  
**Subject:** No tax increase  
**Date:** Tuesday, November 19, 2024 9:25:55 PM

---

Hello, it is crazy for you to think 8% tax increase is acceptable. Consider cutting the county staffing by 10% first to mitigate the expense.

Sent from my iPhone

**From:** [Michael Gannon](#)  
**To:** [Contact Council](#)  
**Subject:** Proposed Property tax increase  
**Date:** Tuesday, November 19, 2024 11:30:57 PM

---

Do not approve any more property tax increases. My property taxes went up over \$200 just this year.

Michael Gannon  
Snohomish, Wa

**From:** [Greg Miller](#)  
**To:** [Contact Council](#)  
**Subject:** 8% Tax Hike is A horrible idea.  
**Date:** Wednesday, November 20, 2024 1:08:40 AM

---

Tax increase.

We have to live by a budget or we don't survive. The County is no different. Tax and spend is not living within your means. More taxes means less ability to sustain our families. You are strangling the financial basis of our families and condemning us to poverty. Please stop. Live within your means and keep your your hands out of our pockets. The same way our families are surviving.

Thanks!

Greg Miller

Gregory Miller

Sent from Samsung Galaxy smartphone.  
Get [Outlook for Android](#)

**From:** [Davi N Diana Loera](#)  
**To:** [Contact Council](#)  
**Subject:** NO  
**Date:** Wednesday, November 20, 2024 4:15:41 AM

---

Please stop the possibility of raising taxes. No,No,No. you are running us out of our own properties. Our wages are not increasing at this level to compensate this absolute nonsense of wanting to increase our property taxes.

Diana

**From:** [Lexie \\*](#)  
**To:** [Contact Council](#)  
**Subject:** Opposition to Proposed Property Tax Increase  
**Date:** Wednesday, November 20, 2024 7:24:05 AM

---

Dear City Council Members,

I am writing to express my strong opposition to the proposed 8% increase in property taxes for Mukilteo. While I understand the need for funding essential services, this significant increase places an undue burden on homeowners, especially during challenging economic times.

An 8% increase is not sustainable for many families and could drive some out of our community. I respectfully ask you to reconsider and explore more balanced approaches.

Sincerely,  
Renee McDonald

**From:** [chris s](#)  
**To:** [Contact Council](#)  
**Cc:** [Chris Sumpter](#)  
**Subject:** contemplated/proposed property tax increase  
**Date:** Wednesday, November 20, 2024 7:43:00 AM

---

Dear Snohomish County Council,

As a homeowner in the 98012 zip code, I am writing to strongly discourage any actions that increase property taxes. I will not vote for any person or support any company that works to move this action forward.

Thank you for maintaining a high level of diligence regarding complex and nuanced challenges that require creative and nimble resource oversight.

Chris Sumpter  
(206) 422-0709



**From:** [Matthew Doherty](#)  
**To:** [Contact Council](#)  
**Subject:** Property tax increase  
**Date:** Wednesday, November 20, 2024 7:50:53 AM

---

Dear Snohomish County Council Members,

I am writing to express my strong opposition to the proposed property tax increase in Snohomish county . As a resident deeply concerned about the high cost of living in our area. I urge you to reconsider this proposal.

The cost of living in Snohomish County is already significantly high, and many residents are struggling to make ends met. This tax increase will exacerbate the already critical issue of affordable housing, placing even more financial strain on homeowners and renters alike. For those who are barely managing to stay in their homes already, this significant increase in property taxes will lead to devastating consequences.

Before considering more additional taxes, I implore the Council to explore alternatives such as making responsible cuts and prioritizing efficient government spending. Identifying areas where resources can be reallocate or expenses reduced should be the FIRST course of action, rather than passing the burden into residents who you've already overburdened with ever increasing taxes.

I urge you to prioritize the financial stability of Snohomish county residents and focus on sustainable solutions that do not further inflate the cost of living. Please consider this perspective and live up to the promise you all made to act in the best interests of our communities.

Sincerely,

Matthew Doherty (Snohomish County Resident)

**From:** [first last](#)  
**To:** [Contact Council](#)  
**Subject:** Concerned Snohomish County Resident  
**Date:** Wednesday, November 20, 2024 8:56:27 AM

---

Dear Councilmembers,

I am writing to express my strong opposition to the proposed 8% property tax increase. This excessive hike would place an unbearable burden on families like mine, many of whom are already struggling to make ends meet in an increasingly expensive region.

Raising taxes is not the solution. Instead, I urge the council to explore alternatives, such as cutting unnecessary spending and re-evaluating high-cost staffing positions, like the \$150,000 salary for Ty Trenary, a “senior staff analyst” reportedly working remotely from Arizona. Measures like these undermine public trust and suggest a lack of fiscal responsibility.

This tax increase will force families out of the county and exacerbate existing financial hardships. I urge you to reject the proposed tax hike and instead adopt Councilmember Nehring’s proposal, which offers a more balanced and sustainable approach.

Please prioritize the well-being of your constituents over unnecessary spending.

Sincerely,  
Ramie Esquivel

**From:** [John Ackerman](#)  
**To:** [Contact Council](#)  
**Subject:** Increasing Taxes  
**Date:** Wednesday, November 20, 2024 9:41:47 AM

---

Hello, yesterday I watched a story on the news about the Snohomish County wanting to raise property taxes another 8 %. A few things enter my mind. 1 I just had and 1k increase to my property taxes this year. 2 the article stated there is a budget issue and this has to be addressed by an increase. In my life I have always had to budget my household or adjust and or go with out. Last, every single person on this alleged budget figuring team needs figure out how to manage the funds without asking for more or pack up and get out of office.

[Yahoo Mail: Search, Organize, Conquer](#)

**From:** [Ashley Ferris](#)  
**To:** [Contact Council](#)  
**Subject:** Please eliminate 8% levy increase.  
**Date:** Wednesday, November 20, 2024 10:17:48 AM

---

Please eliminate 8% levy increase.

**From:** [Sherry Simpson](#)  
**To:** [Contact Council](#)  
**Subject:** Tax increase  
**Date:** Wednesday, November 20, 2024 12:55:03 PM

---

Please vote down the 8% property tax increase that is being proposed !We are on a fixed income and are having a hard time paying the property taxes as it is!!!  
Sent from my iPad

**From:** [Randi Bustad](#)  
**To:** [Contact Council](#)  
**Subject:** Do the right thing  
**Date:** Wednesday, November 20, 2024 1:07:58 PM

---

I just wrote this if people want to use this in their email. If 10k people email them they might get the message.....

Dear Snohomish County Council Members,

I am writing to express my strong opposition to the proposed property tax increase in Snohomish county . As a resident deeply concerned about the high cost of living in our area. I urge you to reconsider this proposal.

The cost of living in Snohomish County is already significantly high, and many residents are struggling to make ends met. This tax increase will exacerbate the already critical issue of affordable housing, placing even more financial strain on homeowners and renters alike. For those who are barely managing to stay in their homes already, this significant increase in property taxes will lead to devastating consequences.

Before considering more additional taxes, I implore the Council to explore alternatives such as making responsible cuts and prioritizing efficient government spending. Identifying areas where resources can be reallocate or expenses reduced should be the FIRST course of action, rather than passing the burden into residents who you've already overburdened with ever increasing taxes.

I urge you to prioritize the financial stability of Snohomish county residents and focus on sustainable solutions that do not further inflate the cost of living. Please consider this perspective and live up to the promise you all made to act in the best interests of our communities.

Sincerely,

**From:** [Maureen Gates](#)  
**To:** [Contact Council](#)  
**Subject:** Property tax increase  
**Date:** Wednesday, November 20, 2024 1:19:08 PM

---

Do NOT raise our taxes by 8% - that is too large of an increase

Maureen Gates

Sent from my T-Mobile 5G Device

Get [Outlook for Android](#)

**From:** [tautio](#)  
**To:** [Contact Council](#)  
**Subject:** Taxes  
**Date:** Wednesday, November 20, 2024 1:37:11 PM

---

Please do NOT raise taxes!! If you can't make the budget work with what you now have, you are not doing your job very well.

Tiffinie Autio  
Taxpayer

Sent from my iPhone



**From:** [Mike & Barb Perry](#)  
**To:** [Contact Council](#)  
**Subject:** Property taxes  
**Date:** Wednesday, November 20, 2024 2:07:54 PM

---

Cut spending not raise taxes!

Mike and Barb Perry

**From:** [joeyinseattle@gmail.com](mailto:joeyinseattle@gmail.com)  
**To:** [Contact Council](#)  
**Cc:** [Gregg Johnsén](#); [Donna Strader](#)  
**Subject:** Re: Opposition to Proposed 8% Property Tax Increase  
**Date:** Wednesday, November 20, 2024 5:40:53 PM

---

Voting members,

The timely, thoughtful responses that I received from two council members, to my initial email below, made me proud to be a Snohomish County resident. Thank you, to those who responded.

As a concerned Snohomish County resident, I am writing to reiterate my strong opposition to the proposed 8% general fund property tax levy increase. As I outlined below, this increase is entirely unreasonable given current economic conditions, and I firmly believe that **raising taxes should be the absolute last resort**.

Even if this proposal were cut in half, I would still oppose it. Taxpayers are already under significant financial strain, and asking them to shoulder more without first addressing inefficiencies within the county's budget is unacceptable.

Instead, unless there is fine print I missed, I **urge the council to adopt fiscally responsible measures, such as those outlined in Amendment 14**, which would save \$1.3+ million annually by **eliminating redundant positions and reducing discretionary spending**. These steps represent the kind of accountability we need before even considering raising taxes.

I strongly encourage the council to **reject any form of tax increase and to prioritize responsible budgeting**. I trust you will make decisions that reflect the best interests of Snohomish County residents.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

Sincerely,

**Joey Johnsen, CPA**  
Bothell, WA 98021

On Nov 19, 2024, at 8:01 AM, [joeyinseattle@gmail.com](mailto:joeyinseattle@gmail.com) wrote:

Dear Snohomish County Council Members,

I am writing as a concerned resident to express my strong

opposition to the proposed 8% property tax increase. While I understand the challenges of balancing the county's budget in a rapidly growing area, this proposal places an excessive burden on homeowners, particularly in the current economic climate.

Snohomish County has indeed been one of the fastest-growing counties in the nation, but growth should not necessitate disproportionately high tax increases. The affordability of our communities, from Lake Stevens to Arlington, is already a significant concern for residents. This hike would exacerbate the strain on families who are already managing rising costs across many aspects of daily life.

Council members Jared Mead and Nate Nehring have rightly pointed out that now is not the time to impose such a steep increase. Their positions reflect the concerns of countless residents who have voiced opposition at recent council meetings. I urge the Council to consider more balanced and innovative solutions that do not disproportionately impact homeowners.

I respectfully request that you reconsider this proposal and explore alternative measures to address the budget challenges while preserving the affordability and sustainability of our communities.

Thank you for your time and attention to this important matter. I look forward to your response and hope to see the Council prioritize the well-being of Snohomish County residents in your decision-making.

Sincerely,

**Joey Johnsen, CPA**

Bothell, WA 98021

**From:** [Dortha Laws](#)  
**To:** [Contact Council](#)  
**Subject:** property taxes  
**Date:** Wednesday, November 20, 2024 4:15:48 PM

---

Sent from [Mail](#) for Windows

Please do not raise property taxes they are too high right now.

Dortha K Laws

**From:** [JeffandHolly Hastings](#)  
**To:** [Contact Council](#)  
**Subject:** No to 8% tax increase!  
**Date:** Wednesday, November 20, 2024 4:27:12 PM

---



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

We are already paying so much in property taxes! The highest yet in 12 years! Please vote no on higher taxes and support Councilman Nehrings balanced budget. He's looking out fir the citizens of Snohomish County.

Sincerely,  
Holly Hastings  
6916 37th pl ne  
Marysville WA

Get [Outlook for iOS](#)

**From:** [Judy Hensen](#)  
**To:** [Contact Council](#)  
**Subject:** Proposed Tax Increase  
**Date:** Wednesday, November 20, 2024 7:04:05 PM

---

Dear Council Members,

Please vote for the amendment proposed by Councilman Nehring, which would seek ways to cut costs rather than raise our taxes 8 %. They are already the highest around, if I'm not mistaken.

Raising taxes would be a hardship for many residents.

Thank you!

Judy Hensen

Bothell

**From:** [Barbara Barr](#)  
**To:** [Contact Council](#)  
**Subject:** Proposed 8% Property Tax Concerns  
**Date:** Wednesday, November 20, 2024 9:29:00 PM

---

Snohomish County Council Members, I am writing to express my opposition to, and deep concerns about, the proposed 8% property tax increase. This increase would place a huge undue burden on me, as a homeowner, and my family during an already very challenging time. I work at a small guardianship office in Marysville and I use my home to make jams and jellies to sell at local markets. I have a Cottage Food Permit that allows me to do this. An 8% increase would make it impossible for me to live in my home that I have worked so hard to purchase and maintain. Losing my home would force me to give up my Cottage Food Permit, I would have to give up my hobby business, something I really enjoy doing.

Instead of raising taxes, I urge the Council to seriously consider reducing spending on unnecessary programs and/or consultants such as former Sheriff Ty Trenary. I understand Mr. Trenary is paid ~\$150,000 but no longer lives in Washington state having moved to Arizona, neither is he a homeowner in Washington State. I am very concerned about monies paid to him, why is the Council relying on costly input from a non-resident or property owner? This could be an example of mismanagement of funds. I would appreciate further clarification regarding this decision, particularly on how this spending benefits the residents of Snohomish County.

Thank you for your attention to these concerns. I look forward to your response.

- Barbara Barr, homeowner & small business owner in Arlington



**From:** [J Alex](#)  
**To:** [Contact Council](#)  
**Subject:** Please don't raise property taxes by 8% without a vote of some kind.  
**Date:** Wednesday, November 20, 2024 10:21:31 PM

---

There may be ways to save money before collecting more from those who are struggling now.

Are staff members living in Arizona really necessary?

Sincerely,

J. Alexander

22910 90th Ave W, #D301

Edmonds, WA 98026

Please don't raise my taxes! I am on a fixed budget and it's getting harder every year to make ends meet!! Please cut spending instead, especially in councils wages!

**From:** [Casey Cannon](#)  
**To:** [Contact Council](#)  
**Subject:** Concerned citizen  
**Date:** Thursday, November 21, 2024 6:41:08 AM

---

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](#)  
**To:** [Contact Council](#)  
**Subject:** Property Tax and Amendment 14  
**Date:** Thursday, November 21, 2024 8:02:49 AM

---

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

**From:** [D. Haynes](#)  
**To:** [Contact Council](#)  
**Subject:** property tax rate increase  
**Date:** Thursday, November 21, 2024 9:23:57 AM

---

Hello,

I heard about the proposed tax increase and then read about it in the Herald and Fox 13 online. Taxes are a concern and so much already goes to schools. Under \$50 could bring in a lot of money. If the number of people in the county is increasing isn't there a natural increase in taxes as more people are paying it?

I am unable to determine how the amount of increase in the news stories is in anyway close to accurate.

$8\% = 0.08$  Say the average value house is listed at \$500,000  
( $0.08 \times 500,000 = \$40,000$ )

Is the rate supposed to be 0.08% ? ( $0.0008 \times 500,000 = \$400$ )

How does it come out anywhere near to \$30.

Diana Haynes,  
Maryville

**From:** [James Young](#)  
**To:** [Contact Council](#)  
**Subject:** Budget Proposal for next 2 years  
**Date:** Thursday, November 21, 2024 9:31:41 AM

---

Dear Snohomish County Council,

I have read the three proposals the Council has made to increase our property taxes for the next two years. I would like to recommend to you the proposal by Jared Mead. It seems to align best with the audit's recommendations on how to remedy the income gap in the budget.

The idea of eliminating redundancy in your departments and reigning in the Executive Office's hiring practice of bypassing standard hiring practices and protocols is a sensible proposal toward efficiency in the Snohomish County budget. We are on a fixed income and every year our property taxes go up and we must readjust our spending habits. We suggest the County Council do the same! It makes no sense to encourage you to use our limited resources to increase the budget without having to trim your spending.

I encourage you to adopt the proposal by Jared Mead on November 25th.

Sincerely,  
James and Patricia Young  
23730 107th Pl. W.  
Edmonds, WA 98020

**From:** [Michael Murdock](#)  
**To:** [Contact Council](#)  
**Subject:** Property Tax Increase  
**Date:** Thursday, November 21, 2024 10:45:56 AM

---

Good Morning,

In the City of Edmonds we are already facing considerable tax increases. RFA, property tax, and possible public safety tax levy. I am sure you are aware Mr. Peterson. Many seniors and property owners and renters are already hanging on and just getting by.

An 8% property tax increase right now in lieu of disturbing money management issues in the executive branch is unacceptable. This money problem must be remedied before asking the taxpayers for a sizable increase when citizens are already fed up to put it bluntly.

I have read Jared Mead's Amendment 14 and it makes sense right now. I urge all of you to support this amendment and the citizens you represent.

I urge all of you to vote NO on the executive tax increase at this time. The timing is horrible and you all know it. The question is do you have the strength of conviction and empathy to act on behalf of those you represent.

Thank you,

Mike Murdock  
Sent from my iPhone

**From:** [Ann Casey](#)  
**To:** [Contact Council](#)  
**Subject:** Amend the Budget  
**Date:** Thursday, November 21, 2024 1:07:00 PM

---

Dear County Councilmembers,

I do not support the increase to the county property tax. I am a REALTOR who believes that the increase would hurt our housing market. Please approve Councilmember Nehring's budget amendment. Thank you.

Ann Casey  
Your Washington Home Girl  
John L. Scott  
(425) 368-8855



**From:** [Danielle Touchette](#)  
**To:** [Contact Council](#)  
**Subject:** Amend the Budget  
**Date:** Thursday, November 21, 2024 1:15:57 PM

---

Dear County Councilmembers, I do not support the increase to the county property tax. I am a REALTOR who believes that the increase would hurt our housing market. Please approve Councilmember Nehring's budget amendment. Thank you.



**Danielle Touchette** | Realtor  
[primelistingsgroup.com](http://primelistingsgroup.com)  
**Mobile: 425-931-3735**



**From:** [Mike Staszak](#)  
**To:** [Contact Council](#)  
**Subject:** Stop the Tax Insanity!!!!!!  
**Date:** Thursday, November 21, 2024 1:20:31 PM

---

*Greatest man in history, named Jesus. Had no servants, yet they called Him Master. Had no degree, yet they called Him Teacher. Had no medicines, yet they called Him Healer. He had no army, yet kings feared Him. He won no military battles, yet He conquered the world. He committed no crime.. Yet they crucified Him. He was buried in a tomb, yet He lives today.*

- Unknown

**From:** [Sherry Bernaski](#)  
**To:** [Contact Council](#)  
**Subject:** Amend the Budget  
**Date:** Thursday, November 21, 2024 1:23:06 PM

---



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

Dear County Councilmembers,

I do not support the increase to the county property tax. I am a REALTOR who believes that the increase would hurt our housing market. Please approve Councilmember Nehring's budget amendment.

Thank you.

Sherry Bernaski  
425 478-6605  
<https://sherryb.johnlscott.com/>

Your Realtor for Life!

**From:** [Rhonda Jackson](#)  
**To:** [Contact Council](#)  
**Subject:** Amend the Budget  
**Date:** Thursday, November 21, 2024 1:24:01 PM

---



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

Dear County Councilmembers,

I do not support the increase to the county property tax. I am a REALTOR who believes that the increase would hurt our housing market. Homeownership is so out of reach for so many people. I have four kids three out of four don't have any hope of homeownership anytime soon and raising taxes like this is going to push everything out years and just makes Som County another homeless haven because people can't afford to live under a roof. Think hard about this before you act because I feel like this is a knee-jerk decision which makes zero sense in what we're dealing with right now crime homelessness, poverty kids not being fed because parents can't afford to feed them . Please approve Councilmember Nehring's budget amendment.

Thank you.

Thank you!

Rhonda Jackson

John L. Scott Lake Stevens

425-890-2241

**From:** [Lizbeth A Seebacher](#)  
**To:** [Contact Council](#)  
**Subject:** NO Property Tax Rate Hike!  
**Date:** Thursday, November 21, 2024 1:35:42 PM

---



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

Learn to balance your budget. It is not ok to think that you can just come after more money from us. Our property taxes are already ridiculously high. There are other ways.

Signed

Dr. Lizbeth Seebacher

**From:** [donna.beamer66@gmail.com](mailto:donna.beamer66@gmail.com)  
**To:** [Contact Council](#)  
**Subject:** VOTE "NO" ON DAVE SOMERS PROPOSED 8% Property Tax Increase - More Taxes are Catastrophic Results for Senior Citizens!!!  
**Date:** Thursday, November 21, 2024 1:42:30 PM

---

This is my second email on this subject and once again I'm asking the Snohomish County Council to consider other ways to meet the 2025-26 budget without raising taxes. Are you blind to the state of the current economy and financial struggles of county residents, especially Seniors who are being taxed out of their homes?

As elected leaders of our community, you have fiduciary responsibility that must be exercised with wisdom and monetary prudence at this time!

The budget amendment proposed by Councilmember Nate Nehring, Snohomish County Council Vice President, is viable and reasonable. It would eliminate the 8% general property tax levy increase in Executive Somers' proposed budget by reducing unnecessary spending to ensure a balanced budget with no tax increase [see Amendment HERE](#). This amendment removes budget increases over current budgeted levels and removes discretionary spending not connected to essential County government functions.

*Donna M. Rudiger.....Arlington, Washington*

**From:** [Kristal Swenson](#)  
**To:** [Contact Council](#)  
**Subject:** Amend the Budget  
**Date:** Thursday, November 21, 2024 1:46:55 PM  
**Attachments:** [Outlook-1bayvsiw.png](#)

---

Dear County Councilmembers,

I do not support the increase to the county property tax. I am a REALTOR who believes that the increase would hurt our housing market. Please approve Councilmember Nehring's budget amendment.

Thank you.

**Kristal Swenson**  
**Real Estate Broker**  
c: (425) 583-6586  
[Kristals@johnlscott.com](mailto:Kristals@johnlscott.com)  
[ilsabb.com/kristals](https://ilsabb.com/kristals)



**From:** [superbirdbob@aol.com](mailto:superbirdbob@aol.com)  
**To:** [Contact Council](#)  
**Subject:** 8% Property Taxes  
**Date:** Thursday, November 21, 2024 1:46:59 PM

---

Dear Sirs:

An 8% property tax increase is CRAZY. There are many of us on a fixed income and with the state of what is going on right now, which consists of just RAISING taxes time and time again. We need to have to make ways of knowing our taxes are not just being used with NO ACCOUNTABILITY. I am sure that balancing the budget line by line would reveal somethings that can be cut out of the budget. My Dad work for the state of Calif and when the new governor was elected he asked for a 10% reduction. Work for the first two years as the cuts just effected the waste in the system. The third year there were real cuts that needed to be made. Do you due jobs and get the WASTE out of our budget. TY, Bob Kropp



**From:** [Gus Pishue](#)  
**To:** [Contact Council](#)  
**Subject:** Amend the Budget  
**Date:** Thursday, November 21, 2024 1:47:30 PM

---

Dear County Councilmembers,

I do not support the increase to the county property tax. I am a REALTOR and Snohomish County resident, who believes that the increase would hurt our housing market. Please approve Councilmember Nehring's budget amendment.

Thank you.

Thank you,

Gus Pishue

Managing Broker | Director - Agent Development

RE/MAX Elite

425-737-6081

[gus@remaxelitebrokers.com](mailto:gus@remaxelitebrokers.com)

**From:** [Donald MacPherson](#)  
**To:** [Contact Council](#)  
**Subject:** Proposed property taxes hike  
**Date:** Thursday, November 21, 2024 1:48:13 PM

---

Please do not pass Dave Somers taxes hike plan. Every day normal people like my husband and I are already struggling to make ends meet. We are on a fixed income and have trimmed all the fat from our budget. This proposal could cost us, and many more in the county to end up amongst the homeless due to raised rents or home loan payments. It's just not affordable. Please seriously consider the alternate plan that Nate Nehring and Jared Mead have come up with. I've read it and believe it to be an excellent plan that would prevent having to increase our taxes. If you would "trim all the fat" from what you spend, and budget the same way the rest of us do, the tax hike will not be necessary. How you vote will be remembered when you come up for re- election. Thank you for your consideration. I pray that God would give all of you wisdom as you cast your vote on this matter.

Sincerely,  
Colleen MacPherson  
12803 Terrace Falls Rd  
Arlington Washington 98223  
425 293 9764

[Yahoo Mail: Search, Organize, Conquer](#)

**From:** [Kerry Fondren](#)  
**To:** [Contact Council](#)  
**Subject:** 8% tax hike  
**Date:** Thursday, November 21, 2024 1:48:49 PM

---

Don't do that to us. It's bad already. I don't want to be taxed out of our home!

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

**From:** [Bill Bickel](#)  
**To:** [Contact Council](#)  
**Subject:** Hello, Thank you for serving our County and State.I have sereral senior clients that are being living weekly,now a another tax increase?Hello them.Thank you,Bill Bickel 206-550-9989 Real Estate Broker  
**Date:** Thursday, November 21, 2024 1:51:34 PM

---



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

**From:** [Sue Hoppe](#)  
**To:** [Contact Council](#)  
**Subject:** No to property tax increase  
**Date:** Thursday, November 21, 2024 2:03:12 PM

---

I am appalled that you are considering an 8% tax increase. I suggest you look at the resounding defeat for the sales tax increase in the recent election and the defeat of the waterfront expansion

Susan and Dennis Hoppe  
7420 46th Ave W  
Mukilteo Wa 98275

Sent from my iPhone

**From:** [Errin Reynolds](#)  
**To:** [Contact Council](#)  
**Subject:** Property Tax hike  
**Date:** Thursday, November 21, 2024 2:57:21 PM

---

I own a home and a small apartment building in Everett. Every year my property tax increases substantially which has really impacted our finances which intern i must pass on to our tenants. This greatly effects the cost for affordable housing for tenants. I wish the property tax would be a reasonable cost and Law makers would consider the effect on the community. If the raise goes into effect, i will move to a more reasonable city and sell my building.

Kind regards,

Errin L Reynolds  
WLA Treasurer  
Landlord Law Group PLLC  
All American Property Services LLC  
425.353.0500

**From:** [mark.hovland](#)  
**To:** [Contact Council](#)  
**Subject:** Tax Increase  
**Date:** Thursday, November 21, 2024 3:05:29 PM

---

I am against the 8 percent tax increase and feel that the County should cut spending to balance the budget. I have lived in Snohomish County since 1977.

Best Regards,  
Mark Hovland

**From:** [Angela Jolley](#)  
**To:** [Contact Council](#)  
**Subject:** 8 % property tax increase  
**Date:** Thursday, November 21, 2024 3:09:42 PM

---

Thank you Council for giving your time and attention to this matter and filling your roles as our county council. We want our property values to continue to rise, but we can't have property taxes increasing at this rate.

Please continue to look for other solutions to minimize costs and keep property taxes lower.

Sent from my phone please forgive brevity and typos.

I appreciate you!

[Click here to schedule a meeting](#)

***Angela Jolley, CFP®, CKA®***

Mukilteo, WA 98275

Cell: 206-354-5836



**From:** [Bill Cooper - Chairman, Snohomish County Republicans](#)  
**To:** [Contact Council](#)  
**Cc:** [Bill Cooper - Chairman, Snohomish County Republicans](#)  
**Subject:** 8% tax increase  
**Date:** Thursday, November 21, 2024 3:17:23 PM  
**Attachments:** [Outlook-at0bxzu5.png](#)

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I attended the county council session earlier on this and can be counted among the hundreds of citizens who strongly oppose the increase. Councilman Nehring's well documented alternative, clearly demonstrating the ease with which unwanted, ineffective and expensive programs can be reduced or outright eliminated, while at the same time not causing reductions in critical services speaks volumes about how inefficient and ineffective many budget items really are. To vote for such an increase in the face of such evidence demonstrates to the voters that some on this council have little to no respect for the concerns and impacts on their constituents and hurts so many of them.

I ask that you re-think this proposal, which by the way, was not intended to have the voters review and approve (if they chose). It is simply wrong to continue to govern like this when there are easy to implement alternatives that cause little to no negative impact.

Respectfully,

*Bill Cooper*

Bill Cooper, Chairman  
Snohomish County Republican Party  
**425-252-3100**  
[chair@snocogop.org](mailto:chair@snocogop.org)  
[snocogop.org](http://snocogop.org)



*Get Involved, Make a Difference!*  
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**From:** [Laura Williams](#)  
**To:** [Contact Council](#)  
**Subject:** Do not raise property taxes  
**Date:** Thursday, November 21, 2024 3:21:54 PM

---

I am writing today to ask that you do NOT increase property taxes. It is already so expensive to live here to continue to raise the property taxes is just unreasonable. Especially when there has not been transparency in spending. Please vote no.

Sent from my iPhone

**From:** [Jackie D.](#)  
**To:** [Contact Council](#)  
**Subject:** tax increase  
**Date:** Thursday, November 21, 2024 3:23:15 PM

---

Please no new tax increase. Jackie Davison  
Sent from my iPhone

**From:** [Edward Flores](#)  
**To:** [Contact Council](#)  
**Subject:** No on 8% property tax increase  
**Date:** Thursday, November 21, 2024 3:23:46 PM

---

Hello city council, I object to the proposed 8% property tax increase. Our property taxes are already too high! Thank you.

Get [Outlook for iOS](#)

**From:** [Richard Rutter](#)  
**To:** [Contact Council](#)  
**Subject:** Snohomish Property Hiker Tax  
**Date:** Thursday, November 21, 2024 3:26:50 PM

---

Sent from my iPhone

**From:** [Shannon E](#)  
**To:** [Contact Council](#)  
**Subject:** Please Vote NO on Property Tax Increases  
**Date:** Thursday, November 21, 2024 3:39:07 PM

---

Hello,

My family lives in Snohomish county. We are urging you to please vote not to increase our property taxes on our home. We are already seeing increases in cost in nearly every area of our lives and this would put a burden on us as home owners. Please represent us and stop the increase in property taxes.

Sincerely,  
Shannon Ellis

**From:** [Melissa Toner](#)  
**To:** [Contact Council](#)  
**Subject:** Amend the Budget  
**Date:** Thursday, November 21, 2024 3:51:23 PM

---

Dear County Councilmembers, I do not support the increase to the county property tax. I am a REALTOR who believes that the increase would hurt our housing market. Please approve Councilmember Nehring's budget amendment. Thank you.  
Melissa Toner

**From:** [Todd Grove](#)  
**To:** [Contact Council](#)  
**Subject:** Property Tax increase  
**Date:** Thursday, November 21, 2024 3:52:07 PM

---

Do not increase our property tax! Government needs to live within its means.



**From:** [Pamela Crumpacker](#)  
**To:** [Contact Council](#); [Mead, Jared](#); [Nehring, Nate](#)  
**Cc:** [Michael Crumpacker](#)  
**Subject:** 8% Tax Hike - Please Say "No" To All and Any Tax Hikes  
**Date:** Thursday, November 21, 2024 3:57:35 PM

---

I would like to reiterate that Snohomish County Council should Vote NO for any increase in our property taxes. Thank you Nate and Jared for your response and your decision of voting no on this tax increase. There should be no property tax increase at all, not even 4% that was proposed.

I really believe that Departments should be closed down or consolidated. Staff should be laid off as Boeing is doing as well as what our new Federal Government administration will be doing in January. This is not the time to raise taxes but to cut programs and to save money at any means possible to stay within the current budget and to pay off the debt that was responsibly incurred.

We have to manage our household account just as the County should manage their expenses.

Warm regards,  
Pamela Crumpacker

**From:** [Alice Anderson](#)  
**To:** [Contact Council](#)  
**Subject:** I vote no for increasing the property tax!  
**Date:** Thursday, November 21, 2024 4:01:02 PM

---

**From:** [John Wagoner](#)  
**To:** [Contact Council](#)  
**Subject:** Tax increase...no  
**Date:** Thursday, November 21, 2024 4:03:59 PM

---

No tax increases

**From:** [asoffes](#)  
**To:** [Contact Council](#)  
**Subject:** Budget 2025/2026  
**Date:** Thursday, November 21, 2024 4:13:04 PM

---

I beg you to accept Councilmember Nate Nehring's budget amendment which would ensure a balanced budget with no tax increase.

Sincerely,  
Antoinette Soffes

Sent with [Proton Mail](#) secure email.

**From:** [Rebecca Anderson](#)  
**To:** [Contact Council](#)  
**Subject:** Please, we need help! Do not raise taxes!!!  
**Date:** Thursday, November 21, 2024 4:53:27 PM

---

Please do not increase taxes for residents of Snohomish county. Instead, have the courage to make tough budget cuts rather than the knee jerk reaction to burdening us with higher taxes. We are being stretched beyond our limit. We cannot absorb increased taxes without great harm to our means.

The increased cost of gas, energy, internet services and groceries is really stretching our monthly budget. The cost of living in our state is forcing residents who are able to move to other states where people have more of their money to use to take care of their families00. We voted down the tax increase on the ballot. Tough budget cuts need to be made. Have the courage to make the cuts. We are trusting you to be good stewards of the resources we have given you. Raising taxes is not going to serve us well.

Thanks.  
Rebecca Anderson  
Edmonds, WA

--

Jesus promised his disciples three things—that they would be completely fearless, absurdly happy, and in constant trouble. - GK Chesterton

**From:** [Jonathan Jensen](#)  
**To:** [Contact Council](#)  
**Subject:** TAXES  
**Date:** Thursday, November 21, 2024 4:56:12 PM

---

Please do not raise taxes. When was the last time someone cut anything out of the county government budget? People are cutting their budgets, so should the county. Do NOT raise property taxes.

**From:** [Richard Porter](#)  
**To:** [Contact Council](#)  
**Subject:** 8 % Property Tax Hike Proposal  
**Date:** Thursday, November 21, 2024 5:19:04 PM

---

I am a complete NO on any tax increase.

I have been retired for 7 years. Inflation has already hit me hard enough as well as the increased assessed value on my home. Enough already!

A Carbon tax. Energy costs. Car insurance. Food. I could go on.

Richard Porter  
Sent from my iPhone

**From:** [shana](#)  
**To:** [Contact Council](#)  
**Subject:** 8% property tax hike  
**Date:** Thursday, November 21, 2024 5:24:31 PM

---

Dear Council

I believe this will greatly affect everyone one who lives in Snohomish county in a VERY TERRIBLE WAY! Not only will it raise mortgages, but rent, food and anywhere else you buy items. This is very poor judgment on your part. Is your goal to make everyone homeless and hungry, because that is where this state is heading and very fast. People already can't afford rent and now you are going to make it worse. I have to ask, how do you sleep at night? I really want to know? This is awful and you seriously need to come up with a better plan. Because the consequences of raising the property taxes that much is going to be horrific.  
I vote NO!!

Sent from my iPhone



**From:** [Sheryl Jump](#)  
**To:** [Contact Council](#)  
**Subject:** Re: 8 % tax hike  
**Date:** Thursday, November 21, 2024 5:42:57 PM

---

Hi, I am a struggling single mom and to pay 8 % on my house taxes overwhelms me. The voters rejected Proposition 1 because we pay so much in taxes. Please look at the budget and see where you can cut and live within the means of the taxes you have.

Sincerely,

Sheryl Jump  
Sent from my iPhone

**From:** [Kira](#)  
**To:** [Contact Council](#)  
**Subject:** 8% property tax hike  
**Date:** Thursday, November 21, 2024 5:48:55 PM

---

NO! We are already paying too much “property tax” as property owners. You were elected to be fiscally responsible, not to keep diving into our pockets for your various dreams and wishes and wants! Be responsible like we have to be responsible: when you don’t have enough money, you don’t have enough money, and you stop spending. Taking from other people their hard earned money is not the way forward!

Vote NO! If you are going to represent those who hired you!

**From:** [chris wells](#)  
**To:** [Contact Council](#)  
**Subject:** Property tax increase!  
**Date:** Thursday, November 21, 2024 5:58:13 PM

---

This is a terrible idea! There needs to be another way!? We are paying too much for groceries, gas for our vehicles, and general bills already! When does it end? Stop taxing hard working people that are trying to feed themselves and their families! Why should we be punished for or states mismanagement of funds!!!!

Figure it out already!

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

**From:** [rocoola](#)  
**To:** [Contact Council](#)  
**Subject:** 8% tax increase  
**Date:** Thursday, November 21, 2024 6:05:10 PM

---

As a Snohomish county resident this is tax theft from every one of us that are tax paying responsible. There is no reason for this increase. Balance the darn budget with what we already pay.

Regards,  
Rochelle Marshall  
8819 131st Ave NE  
Lake Stevens, WA  
98258

Sent from my T-Mobile 5G Device

**From:** [Mary Smith](#)  
**To:** [Contact Council](#)  
**Subject:** Vote no for the 8% rate hike in property tax  
**Date:** Thursday, November 21, 2024 6:24:31 PM

---

Vote no for the 8% rate hike in property tax. I really hate to think of this burden being placed on families with young children let alone older people on fixed incomes. Have mercy, be responsible with what you already are in charge of and vote no please!

**From:** [lindamoormeier@aol.com](mailto:lindamoormeier@aol.com)  
**To:** [Contact Council](#)  
**Subject:** Property Tax Proposal  
**Date:** Thursday, November 21, 2024 6:30:57 PM

---

County Council Members,

Please do not increase Snohomish County property taxes!

Respectfully,

Linda Moormeier

**From:** [DAVID NORMILE](#)  
**To:** [Contact Council](#)  
**Subject:** Tax increases  
**Date:** Thursday, November 21, 2024 6:35:33 PM

---

Keep taxes from increasing .  
Make cuts.  
D

**From:** [rickntami](#)  
**To:** [Contact Council](#)  
**Subject:** 8% tax increase  
**Date:** Thursday, November 21, 2024 7:08:11 PM

---

The increase in taxes the last 10 years is over the top. Youngsters already can't afford to purchase a home, and your making it worse. And your tight high density housing is a harmful way to live.

My property taxes have gone from \$4,000 10 years ago to\$13,000. Ridiculous.

Sent from my Verizon, Samsung Galaxy smartphone



**From:** [Robert Chamuler](#)  
**To:** [Contact Council](#)  
**Subject:** 8% Tax Hike  
**Date:** Thursday, November 21, 2024 7:47:25 PM

---

Please do not pass this tax hike, many people are struggling as it is in paying the current tax. I am sure there are items deemed unnecessary in the budget that could be reduced or eliminated. Most taxpayers have limited funds and have to balance income with outlays. We expect the country to do the same. Please, No Tax increases.  
Sent from my iPhone

**From:** [Marie McDougall](#)  
**To:** [Contact Council](#)  
**Subject:** 8% tax hike  
**Date:** Thursday, November 21, 2024 8:26:56 PM

---

I am not in-favor of this tax hike .

Taxes are ridiculous already.

Thank you

Marie McDougall

Sent from my iPad

**From:** [Paul Tetzlaff](#)  
**To:** [Contact Council](#)  
**Subject:** County council VP Idea over 8% tax increase  
**Date:** Thursday, November 21, 2024 9:01:05 PM

---

My wife and I cannot afford to keep paying increases on property taxes. Everything already costs significantly more than it did 3 and 4 years ago.

please consider the VP Nate Nehring's options before increasing property taxes. They seem reasonable and should be seriously considered.

The idea of moving doesn't appeal to us, but will be an option if these taxes continue to increase.

Paul Tetzlaff

Marysville

**From:** [Mike D](#)  
**To:** [Contact Council](#)  
**Subject:** Proposed Tax Increases  
**Date:** Thursday, November 21, 2024 9:19:07 PM

---

Dear Council,

What planet do you live on? We the people cannot afford our government and your response is lets take more away from the people. That breeds more poverty, but why do you care? We're waking up. We cut budgets, you do the same. Im sick of your ov erarching disdain for the people who are propping you up.

Respectfully,  
Mike Deacy  
Mill Creek

[Yahoo Mail: Search, Organize, Conquer](#)

**From:** [jerry12740@aol.com](mailto:jerry12740@aol.com)  
**To:** [Contact Council](#)  
**Date:** Thursday, November 21, 2024 9:45:32 PM

---

Hi,

My wife and I are a senior citizens living on a fixed income. I have been retired for 22 years from the Teamsters and have never gotten an increase in my retirement, living on the same income I received when I retired. It is about time for the County to start living on just a cost of living raise in taxes, We as seniors will get a 2 1/2 percent increase in our social security only to have the county take it away from us with an 8% raise in propriety taxes , absolutely ridiculous.

Jerry Carlisle and Judy Rizzo  
18429 123rd Ave SE  
Snohomish, WA 98296

**From:** [Sam Burke](#)  
**To:** [Contact Council](#)  
**Subject:** Amend the Budget  
**Date:** Thursday, November 21, 2024 10:04:40 PM

---

Dear County Councilmembers,

I am writing to express my strong opposition to the proposed increase in county property taxes. As a REALTOR, I am deeply concerned about the negative impact this increase could have on our housing market, making homeownership less attainable and further burdening our community.

I urge you to support Councilmember Nehring's budget amendment as a more balanced approach to addressing fiscal priorities without jeopardizing the stability of our housing market.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

photo



**Sam Burke**  
Broker, John L. Scott Snohomish

425-210-4332 | [samburkereaalestate.com](http://samburkereaalestate.com)

[samburke@johnlscott.com](mailto:samburke@johnlscott.com)

[108 Union Ave. Snohomish Wa 98290](#)



**From:** [Ray Fernandez](#)  
**To:** [Contact Council](#)  
**Subject:** Vote no to 8% Property tax in 2025-2026 Budget  
**Date:** Thursday, November 21, 2024 10:34:31 PM

---

Dear Snohomish County Council,

Enough! 8% increase to property taxes?

Our property taxes are way too high now! Our R.E. taxes, our Car Tabs taxes, our high gasoline taxes, our high sales taxes are too much!!

I'm in favor of County Council Vice President, Nate Nehring's Amendment to cut discretionary spending. Just like family budgets, if there's not enough money to spend, you don't continue to run up credit card charges!

You make sacrifices and make do without unnecessary spending. I understand that there are many departments, and various needs in this county but enough is enough!

We are getting squeezed here!

Instead of spend spend spend, find ways to lower Snohomish county residents taxes!

"The amendment removes budget increases over current budgeted levels and removes discretionary spending not connected to essential County government functions."

Thank you and Best regards,

Snohomish county resident  
Ray A Fernandez

[Sent from Yahoo Mail for iPhone](#)

**From:** [lucy guo](#)  
**To:** [Contact Council](#)  
**Subject:** Stop raising taxes!!!  
**Date:** Thursday, November 21, 2024 11:30:35 PM

---

Thank you!



**From:** [Kent Lawenda](#)  
**To:** [Contact Council](#)  
**Subject:** 8% Tax hike  
**Date:** Friday, November 22, 2024 12:12:33 AM

---

11/21/24

To a City Council whom it doesn't seem to hardly concern enough:

This 8% tax hike is so dang high and at such hard times for many. Especially senior folk's on limited incomes! These taxes are already a huge hurdle for so many!

Tax proposals such as these are a burden when government driven inflation and government spending (all taxes!) are so out of hand as in these days. I'm against this added tough stress for so many property owners' budgets for sure! It's unreal you'd think to take yet more now... 8%!

Let's see some recovery from these government added expenses before slaming us with yet more over-reaching hardships such as this.

Consideration is needed!

Kent Lawenda

(Representing many and varied neighbor's sentiments!)

**From:** [Kim Donelson](#)  
**To:** [Contact Council](#)  
**Subject:** Property tax increase  
**Date:** Friday, November 22, 2024 12:49:16 AM

---

I am a retired resident of Snohomish County resident and live on a fixed income. With the economy, the way it is now prices so high for everything we cannot afford an additional 8% property tax. Please vote no on increase in property taxes and vote yes for Nehrings addendum!!!

Thank you for your time

Kim Donelson

[Sent from the all new AOL app for iOS](#)

**From:** [Comcast.net](mailto:Comcast.net)  
**To:** [Contact Council](#)  
**Subject:** 8% property tax proposal  
**Date:** Friday, November 22, 2024 5:14:21 AM

---

I am adamantly against the proposed 8% property tax increase. In the 8+ years we have owned our house in snohomish county our property taxes have already risen over 40%. It's time the county begin to make "choices" and keep spending in control, and not now add even more increases that will only lead to greater problems with affordable housing.

Regards,  
Joe Robinson  
Bothell, WA

Sent from my iPad

**From:** [James Carlsen](#)  
**To:** [Contact Council](#)  
**Subject:** Tax hike  
**Date:** Friday, November 22, 2024 7:22:12 AM

---

My wife and I are against the proposed 8% property tax increase. Cutting costs must be done.  
James and Lynn Carlsen

**From:** [Kyle Parks](#)  
**To:** [Contact Council](#)  
**Subject:** Amend the Budget  
**Date:** Friday, November 22, 2024 7:26:26 AM

---

Dear County Councilmembers,

I do not support the increase to the county property tax. I am a REALTOR who believes that the increase would hurt our housing market. Please approve Councilmember Nehring's budget amendment.

Thank you,

Kyle Parks  
(425) 268-1502  
[kyleparksrealestate@gmail.com](mailto:kyleparksrealestate@gmail.com)

**From:** [Frances Hill](#)  
**To:** [Contact Council](#)  
**Subject:** Proposed 8.31% property increase.  
**Date:** Friday, November 22, 2024 8:27:02 AM

---

To Snohomish County Council:

The proposed increase in property tax demonstrates just how out of touch our elected officials are with their constituents. Not only that, but the hypocrisy demonstrated by this when lamenting lack of affordable housing is glaring. This increase is especially ludicrous in light of the INDEPENDENT auditor's report on redundant, unnecessary and frivolous positions in the Executive's office.

This is precisely why citizens are distrustful of politicians. It is easier to squeeze money from "the people" than to make hard but necessary decisions about alternative ways to cut spending. To Dave Sommers and the council - it is obvious that you are protecting executive positions and departments over fiscal responsibility. I guess that is transparency.

Vote yes for amendment 14 on November 25th. (This is not a suggestion).

I request a reply from each of you.

Sincerely,

Frances Hill

Sent from my iPad

**From:** [Charles Welch jr](#)  
**To:** [Contact Council](#)  
**Subject:** Tax hike  
**Date:** Friday, November 22, 2024 9:49:04 AM

---

Sent from my iPhone

**From:** [Charles Welch jr](#)  
**To:** [Contact Council](#)  
**Subject:** Tax hike  
**Date:** Friday, November 22, 2024 9:50:29 AM

---

Sent from my iPhone.

No tax hike



**From:** [Bob.](#)  
**To:** [Contact Council](#)  
**Subject:** 8% Property Tax Hike  
**Date:** Friday, November 22, 2024 10:18:40 AM

---

Hello, I'm opposing the 8% property tax hike. We in Snohomish County have had unprecedented taxes in the past decade.

As an example, Sno Co ranks 1st in the highest retail taxes in the entire state. Second is King Co. Refer to: <https://dor.wa.gov/forms-publications/forms-subject/local-sales-use-tax-rates-county>

As far as property taxes are concerned, Sno Co is second to King as being the highest taxed county.

Snohomish County has **one of the highest median property taxes** in the United States, and is ranked 155th of the 3143 counties in order of median property taxes.

Refer to: [https://www.tax-rates.org/washington/snohomish\\_county\\_property\\_tax](https://www.tax-rates.org/washington/snohomish_county_property_tax)

We need a change on how we appropriate monies for all forms of expenditures

**From:** [Bill](#)  
**To:** [Contact Council](#)  
**Subject:** RE: 8% proposed tax increase  
**Date:** Friday, November 22, 2024 10:35:32 AM

---

We have lived, worked and supported Snohomish county for decades - built homes and businesses, raised children and grandchildren.

Now, our retirement is threatened by these ever increasing taxes. We have always been able to adjust for economic conditions but, have reached our limit and expect our leaders to “read the room” both locally and nationally.

Please - don't force us to consider relocating to another state.

NO on the 8% property tax increase

Respectfully, Bill & Gena Kegley  
6200 137th place SW  
Edmonds, WA

Get [Outlook for iOS](#)

**From:** [arlingtonbigred@aol.com](mailto:arlingtonbigred@aol.com)  
**To:** [Contact Council](#)  
**Subject:** Proposed 8% Tax Hike  
**Date:** Friday, November 22, 2024 11:31:58 AM

---

I write to you today to express my opposition to the county executive's proposed tax hike. This proposal is, in my opinion, unacceptable for several reasons.

First, we have heard repeatedly over the past few years about the impact of inflation on the basics, such as food, rent, utilities, and fuel throughout the country and especially in an expensive places to live such as Western Washington. In July of this year, Forbes ranked Washington with the eight highest cost of living in general, 5<sup>th</sup> in transportation costs and 4<sup>th</sup> in home prices (which directly impacts both mortgage payments and rent). Now you are asking these financially burdened citizens to pay even more. I suggest you look at what happened at the federal level when the government did not take inflation's impact on the average citizen seriously, it behooves the council and the executive to learn from this.

Secondly, I have seen no real effort to scale back and trim expenditures at a county level before asking for more money. In family and or business budgets – trimming back is the first plan of attack and frankly the only one. Family and businesses do not have the luxury of asking for more money with the ease of the government. If Snohomish County had been making a serious concerted effort to trim back it's pet projects and this tax hike was a last resort type ask – this would be received differently by the voters of this county.

Finally, I have not heard a valid reason for the increase – only that it's been several years since the county asked for an increase. This is not a valid reason, what is the real reason for such an increase?

In summary, I strongly oppose this hike and will remember this when it comes time to reelect the executive and the council members. I suspect I will not be the only one.

*Diana L Manning*

9603 101<sup>st</sup> Ave NE , Arlington, WA 98223  
[arlingtonbigred@aol.com](mailto:arlingtonbigred@aol.com)

**From:** [Greg Olsen](#)  
**To:** [Contact Council](#)  
**Subject:** 8%  
**Date:** Friday, November 22, 2024 12:38:18 PM

---

Don't

Ralph Olsen  
10030 Holly dr  
Everett, Washington 98204  
Sent from my iPad

**From:** [Andrew Kephart](#)  
**To:** [Contact Council](#)  
**Subject:** Property tax proposal  
**Date:** Friday, November 22, 2024 12:40:32 PM

---

Fellow county council,

With an impending vote to increase property taxes by 8%, me as a voter and homeowner cannot support this. We need to first know what for. The spending levels need to be managed better vs a blank slate and raising property taxes. This is a hard no for a massive majority of us homeowners.

Regards

Andrew Kephart

**From:** [mysailisfull](#)  
**To:** [Contact Council](#)  
**Subject:** 8% property tax increase  
**Date:** Friday, November 22, 2024 2:07:51 PM

---

What gives, we are not a money pit that you can keep pulling money out of. You are taxing the life out of us. If you want a tax rebellion then keep it up

Sent from my Verizon, Samsung Galaxy smartphone

**From:** [Zach Hensrude](#)  
**To:** [Contact Council](#)  
**Subject:** Amend the Budget  
**Date:** Friday, November 22, 2024 2:15:51 PM

---

Dear County Councilmembers,

I do not support the increase to the county property tax. I am a REALTOR who believes that the increase would hurt our housing market. Please approve Councilmember Nehring's budget amendment.

Thank you.

**From:** [karen.johnson](#)  
**To:** [Contact Council](#)  
**Subject:** Vote NO on the proposed 8% property tax hike  
**Date:** Friday, November 22, 2024 2:35:23 PM

---

Reduce unnecessary spending to ensure your budget is balanced - exactly the way we do as public citizens and homeowners. We have elected you to represent our best interests, and increasing our property tax by 8% indicates you are not working hard enough to find other areas to balance the budget.

Please vote for Councilmember Nate Nehring's budget amendment to eliminate the 8% general property tax levy increase. An increase such as the one being considered could very easily make it impossible for myself and other seniors to remain in their homes here in Arlington and Snohomish County.

Thank you for your consideration of your constituents.  
Karen W Johnson  
Arlington, WA

Sent from my iPad



**From:** [Lorie Gmail](#)  
**To:** [Contact Council](#)  
**Subject:** Property tax proposed increase  
**Date:** Friday, November 22, 2024 2:40:58 PM

---

Please consider amending or removing the proposed potential 8% tax increase in property taxes for the coming budget year. This seems a bit much, actually a lot much with already increasing costs and increased home values

Lorie Fisher  
Sent from my mobile device

**From:** [Kinder Smoots](#)  
**To:** [Contact Council](#)  
**Subject:** Please read this before your meeting Monday  
**Date:** Friday, November 22, 2024 2:59:43 PM

---

Dear County Council Members -

My husband and I have lived AND served in Snohomish County our entire lives. We raised our kids here and when our kids were in school I went to work for a non-profit serving adults with developmental disabilities. I've worked (and continue to work) for Eagle Wings for the past 21 years. My husband just retired from teaching and coaching at Arlington High School for the past 37 years. He soon will be a Chaplain with the Marysville Fire and Police Departments.

Because I work for a non-profit, I have no retirement and over the years we have invested in real estate. Slowly...and as we could afford it.

One house (in Marysville) holds 10 men (each with their own bedroom) for clean and sober living. We have been running a 98% success rate for the men living there since 2019. One home is used for a respite for a free getaway for those suffering from trauma. Our other homes are rented to the elderly and a single mom. We intentionally keep our rents LOW so that they can afford to stay there. When you increase our property taxes, we are forced to raise their rents and the ripple effect goes on and on.

My line of work exposes me to many other housing situations that are ESSENTIAL for adult family homes for individuals who are developmentally disabled. These are NOT elderly individuals who are able to privately pay their caregivers, but they are adults who rely on caregivers and Federal DDA services. The government only pays those caregivers a fraction of what they should be paid...imagine in addition the homeowners overhead being so high (due to mortgage, interest rates, taxes and insurance. This is making it nearly impossible for these adult family homes to meet the needs of those they are caring for. No one can afford to buy a house and put 6-8 people with Down's Syndrome in it...they cannot afford the overhead. High property taxes contribute to this problem.

This has become personal for me as my mom (also a Snohomish County Resident since 1944) is now at home in hospice and cannot afford her taxes. We had to purchase her home for her because her SSI doesn't allow her enough to pay her taxes. Additionally we are having to pay for her 24/7 care.

I would like to respectfully request on behalf of the most vulnerable citizens of Snohomish County that you NOT increase our property taxes. It's come to my attention that Nate Nehring has proposed a perfectly equitable plan which provides a stability to spending...protecting those who are most vulnerable.

If you want a serious way to acquire funding, please consider taking away all of the DSHS benefits and FOOD STAMPS from all of those who really ARE ABLE TO WORK and allow Food Banks and faith communities to step in, vet individuals thoroughly and send people back to work.

I can tell you about a 4 month old baby boy who received \$340 per month in food stamps in

his name, his own card, while his mother continues to not work and receive all the benefits and get even more by having more children. She's NURSING!! Her other kids get cards too! She's been working the system for the past 18 years!

When I grew up in Monroe, the men from the reformatory had to do so many jobs to help the community. Clean up litter, keep our parks clean, and learn to operate machinery that would make them employable. Where are your creative ideas like that??

It is preposterous that your Council would increase property taxes (the hard-working Americans who are homeowners) rather than come up with other creative ideas to cut back. In my world of nonprofit, we have to do it all the time and it CAN be done.

Please accept this challenge to find other ways to decrease spending, without raising property taxes. Please reach across the aisles and find ways to make things happen without increasing property taxes.

With Respect,

--

James & Kinder Smoots  
5402 88th Street NE  
Marysville WA 98270  
425-344-3578 cell/text



**From:** [Mike McGinness](#)  
**To:** [Contact Council](#)  
**Cc:** [Mike McGinness](#)  
**Subject:** No to 8% property tax increase!!  
**Date:** Friday, November 22, 2024 3:09:05 PM

---



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

No property tax increase!

Learn to balance the budget without increasing taxes!

Eliminate wasteful spending! Be responsible with your elected position!

Mike McGinness  
6515 152nd St SE  
Snohomish Wa. 98296  
206-718-1000

**From:** [lori lumsden](#)  
**To:** [Contact Council](#)  
**Subject:** Proposed Property Tax  
**Date:** Friday, November 22, 2024 3:37:49 PM

---

From Doug and Lori Lumsden

We wish to go on record as Opposing the Property Tax proposal. We do endorse the alternate proposal by Nate Nehring. We believe that the Council Members that support the tax increase are not listening to the vote of the people of Snohomish County. We are taxes enough.

Sincerely,

Doug and Lori Lumsden

Arlington, WA

Sent from my iPhone

**From:** [Renee Butz](#)  
**To:** [Contact Council](#)  
**Subject:** Proposed Property Tax increase!  
**Date:** Friday, November 22, 2024 3:45:31 PM

---



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

Please, please try to work on the budget so there is NOT ANOTHER INCREASE in taxes! Really, the burden is overwhelming already with the out of control cost of living.

Please consider the amendment to remove the budget increases, as well as any discretionary spending not connected to essential County government operations

I hope you care enough that this will cause residents to consider moving! And I am not sure how this helps 'affordable housing'!

Thanks for your consideration,  
Renee Butz  
1705 166th PI SE  
Mill Creek 98012

**From:** [Rebecca Grant](#)  
**To:** [Contact Council](#)  
**Subject:** Please vote "NO" on 8% tax increase!!  
**Date:** Friday, November 22, 2024 4:07:41 PM

---

To the Snohomish County Councilmembers,

I am reaching out as a concerned Snohomish County resident with the proposed 8% Property Tax & executive office spending update. In this time where our taxes seem to only be going up & up, while wages largely remain the same; I encourage each & every one of you to vote NO on this proposed tax increase.

As a fiscally conservative constituent, I would ask that you, as the leaders of our city do the same. Please find ways to cut financial waste within without imposing another tax increase on your community. We are your neighbors, business owners, colleagues & friends. I ask you please not take the "easy way out" with "just putting another tax out & they can handle it." Please figure out a way to use what you have, save us from another unnecessary & poorly timed tax & work with what you have.

Thank you for your time & listening to my concerns.

Rebecca Grant  
14805 Westwick Road  
Snohomish, WA 98290

Owner of Twin Willow Gardens wedding venue & New Creations Wedding Planning

**From:** [Jo Hull](#)  
**To:** [Contact Council](#)  
**Subject:** No on 8%, Yes on Amendments  
**Date:** Friday, November 22, 2024 4:15:55 PM

---

Dear Snohomish County Council Members,

The majority of County residents do not approve the 8% increase of property taxes.  
Please vote YES on the amendments.

Thank you,  
Jo Hull  
Snohomish County Resident



**From:** [Gregory Lemke](#)  
**To:** [Contact Council](#)  
**Subject:** No new property taxes !  
**Date:** Friday, November 22, 2024 4:52:42 PM

---

To Whom It May Concern

Re: New property taxes

Here are the numbers in response to your message requesting new taxes. The social contract is completely gone in Washington State. This is not time to increase taxes property taxes in Washington State ! With inflation and cost of living increasing most people have little resolve unless you want to bring a period of civil unrest to Washington State, I fear their no resolve .

Time for our elected to wake up they are creating third world problems to Washington State .

Increase in property taxes will bring us a new foreclosure crisis people with adjustable mortgages will likely be Unsustainable, the cost will likely lead to more homelessness.

We need a Zero base prioritize, budget, and performance based audits on programs cut the fat!

[https://www.cnn.com/2024/11/22/business/home-buying-interest-rates?cid=ios\\_app](https://www.cnn.com/2024/11/22/business/home-buying-interest-rates?cid=ios_app)  
<https://www.kiro7.com/news/local/new-numbers-show-increase-washington-homelessness/P3VYKUFHK5FTHMIUDI2TLN3YIU/>

Respectfully Submitted

Gregory Dean Lemke

Past Candidate for State Representative

1998,2000,2002,2012

[Sent from Yahoo Mail for iPhone](#)

[Sent from Yahoo Mail for iPhone](#)

**From:** [Gregg Kramer](#)  
**To:** [Contact Council](#)  
**Subject:** No to property tax  
**Date:** Friday, November 22, 2024 7:11:17 PM

---

There's no reason to increase the property tax All it is is a matter of reallocating money. There are positions in the county that can be eliminated that will free up money. We as taxpayers homeowners are already stretched too thin.

Gregg Kramer

**From:** [Don Anderson](#)  
**To:** [Contact Council](#)  
**Subject:** 8% Property Tax Increase Objection  
**Date:** Friday, November 22, 2024 7:28:05 PM

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I'm writing to express my frustration over the property tax increase proposal you'll be voting on very shortly. Please don't do this. Voters already told you we've had enough. Clearly the individuals supporting this have no idea what it's like to live as a retiree on a fixed income in this county where everything around you has exploded in cost (car insurance, health insurance, groceries, etc.) while at the same time one's income has remained the same. How about taking the approach that every one of us has had to take; cut your expenses. It's time to prioritize and focus only on the must haves, and leave the "would be nice to have" for the days when there's a little more gravy to spread around. Cut your budget, it's the responsible thing to do. Be better stewards of our hard earned money. We've had enough tax increases. Doing this during a period when we're already struggling with the cost of things shows a real level callousness and/or a total unawareness of what your constituents are already dealing with. Leave us alone. Do the right thing. Cut your budgets.

Thank you,  
Don Anderson  
Unincorporated Snohomish County

**From:** [Deanne](#)  
**To:** [Contact Council](#)  
**Subject:** Property tax vote  
**Date:** Saturday, November 23, 2024 1:20:35 AM

---

Dear council members,

Please vote no on raising the property taxes by 8%. A whopping 8% is absolutely ridiculous! You need to cut spending rather than raise our taxes. PERIOD! Live within your budget like the rest of us have to.

Deanne Kruick

Sent from my iPhone

**From:** [Morgayne Sullivan](#)  
**To:** [Contact Council](#)  
**Subject:** Don't raise my property taxes  
**Date:** Saturday, November 23, 2024 7:13:41 AM

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Snohomish county council,

We already pay too much. Your going to put more people out on the street it's this constant raising of taxes each year. How are the retired and geriatric community supposed to get by. You need to figure out how to budget better. Maybe start by cutting school administrators pay, they don't listen too teachers anyway and are literally worthless. Schools should be properly funded with all of us paying exorbitant taxes. Property taxes shouldn't be funding schools the federal government should be. We voted down levies for a reason we all tired of getting soaked with taxes. Federal, state, property, car we are taxed on everything. Give the people a break for once.

Morgan  
Sent from my iPhone

**From:** [June Tallman](#)  
**To:** [Contact Council](#)  
**Subject:** Vote No on 8% tax hike !!!  
**Date:** Saturday, November 23, 2024 7:19:53 AM

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I wanted to express that I am strongly opposed to the proposed tax hike of 8 %. You really need to find a way to manage things with your existing means and not have tax payers pay the price both literally and figuratively. I believe everyone feels the pain at the pump, the grocery store, paying for utilities, rising medical costs, and from every school levy that is passed onto them. This proposed tax pushes many families to the brink of losing their homes like blue collar workers, one income families, people on social security disability, etc., and for some it will push them right into homelessness. I'm begging you all to vote no.

Sincerely,  
June Tallman

**From:** [Mike graves](#)  
**To:** [Contact Council](#)  
**Subject:** Fw: Snohomish County Property Tax Proposal  
**Date:** Saturday, November 23, 2024 9:46:07 AM  
**Attachments:** [image.png](#)  
[Outlook-SmallTrees.png](#)

---

Please see email chain below. Liberal extremist imported career politicians like Meagan Dunn are destroying the very family fabric of what once was an independently minded Snohomish County. Remember, she was the one in 2020 who was in favor of violence against police! Please vote against her radical tax increase and ideas. It is not needed when there is proof of massive waste in County Government! Vote for working families and retirees, not for big government.  
Michael Graves

Thank you so much for your insight and feedback, both are greatly appreciated! I would be eternally grateful if you would let the other councilmembers how you feel- I am afraid it may be an uphill battle to get support for my amendment. You can also provide comment on Monday, September 25<sup>th</sup> at 9:00 AM during our public comment hearing, I've included a Zoom link [here](#).

If I can ever be of service in the future, please don't hesitate to reach out.

Take care,

**Jared Mead**

*Councilmember, District 4*

Snohomish County Council

3000 Rockefeller Ave., M/S 609 | Everett, WA 98201- 4046

425-388-3494 | [jared.mead@snoco.org](mailto:jared.mead@snoco.org)



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**From:** Mike graves <gravesma@hotmail.com>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, November 19, 2024 10:22 AM  
**To:** Mead, Jared <Jared.Mead@co.snohomish.wa.us>  
**Subject:** Re: Snohomish County Property Tax Proposal



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

Thank you for your detailed response. I too raised 4 kids in SnoCo, Clearview, and love the area. I certainly agree that County Government is ripe with opportunities to reduce costs. The

Amendment you propose is a perfect example of wasteful government. And I appreciate that you don't just tow the party line.

As a public servant for 31 years in management (now retired), I saw first-hand these completely out of touch high paid bureaucrats push through wasteful proposals, with no regard for tax payers. And often, with no accountability for costs or effectiveness.

Unfortunately its rampant in all public sectors.

My fixed costs for owning my home have gone up nearly 25% since 2020. Nearly all taxes and utilities. My retirement has gone up about 3%.

I am hoping people like yourself and Mr. Nehring can help stem the tide of radical big government. We cannot let Snohomish County become an out-of-control King County look alike. That's not the Sno Co we know and love, and its not what the majority of residents want.

Thanks

Michael Graves

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**From:** Mead, Jared <Jared.Mead@co.snohomish.wa.us>

**Sent:** Sunday, November 17, 2024 9:00 PM

**To:** Mike graves <gravesma@hotmail.com>

**Subject:** Snohomish County Property Tax Proposal

Hi Michael,

Thank you for reaching out to share your concerns about the Executive's proposed 8% property tax increase. I agree—an 8% tax increase at this time is unreasonable, and I will continue to advocate strongly against this proposal. Instead, I am demanding fiscal accountability and responsible use of available resources. To that end, I have introduced amendments that I believe provide a better approach than what the Executive has proposed. These amendments were discussed during our November 13th council meeting and will be officially considered for a vote at the budget adoption hearing on November 25th.

One amendment I want to highlight is [Amendment 14](#), 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.

Last week, the council received an independent audit report that 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, demonstrating our commitment to responsible fiscal management.

If you are interested in learning more, I encourage you to watch the auditor's presentation to the council [here](#). His presentation begins at the 15:50 mark. You can also watch our council's discussion regarding Amendment 14 [here](#) starting at 3:47:45.

As Chair of your County Council, a lifelong Snohomish County resident, and a father raising four young children here, I take my responsibility to spend your tax dollars wisely very seriously. My goal is to ensure that Snohomish County remains an affordable and vibrant place to live, work, and raise a family.

We will vote on Amendment 14 and the rest of the budget on November 25th. Until then, I encourage you to continue advocating for these priorities by using the council's contact service and Public Comment opportunities. Your opinion matters! I urge you to call your councilmembers and express your support for Amendment 14 and responsible fiscal policies. Let them know that you believe in prioritizing efficient use of taxpayer dollars and rejecting unnecessary spending. The council needs to hear from you!

Thank you again for your advocacy. Please don't hesitate to reach out if you have any additional questions or concerns.

Take care,

**Jared Mead**

*Councilmember, District 4*

Snohomish County Council

3000 Rockefeller Ave., M/S 609 | Everett, WA 98201- 4046

425-388-3494 | [jared.mead@snoco.org](mailto:jared.mead@snoco.org)



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**From:** [James Mayer](#)  
**To:** [Contact Council](#)  
**Subject:** Please reconsider property tax increase  
**Date:** Saturday, November 23, 2024 9:47:24 AM

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Snohomish County Council and County Executive,

Please reconsider your attempt to sharply raise our property taxes. I understand that the proposal only impacts the County share of our taxes, but it is still too large.

My wife and I are retired and are fortunate to own our home, but the property tax bill is getting to be as large as my mortgage was. I just don't understand how the county can't live within their means with the existing increases that are allowed. You can drive nearly anywhere in the county and see new parcels of property that are being subdivided into residential housing. Every time this happens it increases property tax revenue to the County, correct??? I think you need to run the county like any for profit business and not just look for more revenue but also look to cut waste.

I respectfully request you reconsider this matter.

Thank you,

James Mayer

**From:** [Louise Kennedy](#)  
**To:** [Contact Council](#); [Mead, Jared](#); [Ewert, Angela](#)  
**Subject:** MORE TAXES???? really?????  
**Date:** Saturday, November 23, 2024 10:05:32 AM

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I cannot believe you folks would EVEN THINK about an 8% tax increase. Have you not paid attention at all to the inflation, gas prices and other destruction to regular citizen budgets? The prices go up and never come down. Folks are stretched beyond your comprehension, apparently.

This is cruel and unusual punishment. I am retired. FIXED INCOME, The inflation has left me with no discretionary income at all. Gas prices mean I do not get to go anywhere. I was quite comfortable until Bidenomics hit us all and you think to make it worse.

SHAME ON YOU for thinking we should be hit more on the local level.

I am in support of Mr. Mead's AMENDMENT 14. Get rid of those Office of Social Justice, Office of Recovery and Resilience(???WTF) and \$200,000 Unclear Communications position---HUGE expenditures. What the hell do those people do and I am sure we did just great before they were installed with salaries that are more in one year than I made in four years when I was working a good job at Boeing.

Look around and get rid of the waste and useless, silly positions that stink of rewards for friends and family. and do nothing for the taxpayers. Use what you have far more wisely than you are now and get used to living within your means LIKE THE CONSTITUENTS YOU THINK TO FLEECE.

Taxpayers are not ATM machines.

NO NO NO NO NO NO NO to the 8% increase in taxes. You should truly be ashamed.

--

Louise A. Kennedy  
206-660-7854

Life is not linear...

**From:** [Gayle](#)  
**To:** [Contact Council](#)  
**Subject:** Tax rate increase  
**Date:** Saturday, November 23, 2024 11:23:25 AM

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Please balance the budget without raising our taxes!! Please, please, please!!

Thank you,  
Gayle Davis

[Sent from the all new AOL app for iOS](#)

**From:** [Mary Ann Monty](#)  
**To:** [Contact Council](#)  
**Subject:** property tax increase  
**Date:** Saturday, November 23, 2024 12:09:26 PM

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Please vote against the proposed tax increase. We voted against the sales tax increase due to the fact that nothing was fully explained concerning the planned use of funds. The property tax increase also needs to be fully accounted for before any funds are approved. The Boeing strike hit Snohomish County especially hard and many families are struggling more now than ever. As they tighten their budgets, so must the county. Thank you,  
Mary Ann Monty  
Silvana

**From:** [md.harvey@comcast.net](mailto:md.harvey@comcast.net)  
**To:** [Contact Council](#)  
**Subject:** Property Tax Increase  
**Date:** Saturday, November 23, 2024 3:18:26 PM

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We are property owners in Snohomish County and are writing to say that we oppose any property tax increases for 2025. We ask that instead, you look for ways to streamline processes and cut excess costs in other areas.

Thank you,

Mike & Deb Harvey

**From:** [Nanette I Gemmer](#)  
**To:** [Contact Council](#)  
**Date:** Saturday, November 23, 2024 4:34:04 PM

---

Please vote No on the 8 percent tax increase. Cut overhead and unnecessary spending. Reduce staffing in areas no longer needed. Our inflation is extremely high now. Don't put an unnecessary burden on the taxpayers. Thank you. Sincerely, Nanette Gemmer



**From:** [Todd - ProAction Physical Therapy](#)  
**To:** [Contact Council](#)  
**Subject:** Property Tax Increase Proposal  
**Date:** Saturday, November 23, 2024 5:01:01 PM

---

To whom it may concern,

I am writing to express my opposition to the Snohomish County property tax increase that is proposed.

As a life long resident of Snohomish County, as well as a family that has had 3 prior generations with a majority born and raised as residents of Snohomish County, I am not one of few. As a business owner and contributor to Snohomish County in other means, such as business taxes, we pay our fair share. One thing I hear from the majority of family, friends, associates, and business clientele, is that "it is harder and harder to afford to stay in this area due to the increased taxes and expenses of this County. I understand that with additional volume, comes additional needs and financial burden to the County. But, I would also point out, that with additional volume of residents come additional taxes coming in at a proportional rate. That is, unless we place more of that volume into rental developments to which those residents are not paying property taxes.

Thank you for your time and attention to my concern.

Sincerely,  
Lance Todd Aalbu  
Owner, Operator, Physical Therapist  
ProAction Physical Therapy

Sent from my Verizon, Samsung Galaxy smartphone  
Get [Outlook for Android](#)

**From:** [James Munneke](#)  
**To:** [Contact Council](#)  
**Subject:** Property taxes  
**Date:** Saturday, November 23, 2024 7:03:32 PM

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Hello, I'm not sure who thinks it's a good idea to raise everyone's property taxes by 8% but we do not. Instead of raising our taxes please find ways to spend less. That's what we all have to do in today's economy. We can't just demand more.

Laurie Munneke  
4253308932

**From:** [Colleen Moore](#)  
**To:** [Contact Council](#)  
**Subject:** Vote on an 8% rise in property tax.  
**Date:** Saturday, November 23, 2024 9:17:42 PM

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I am a retired teacher from the TRS 1 plan who is never guaranteed a COLA for my retirement. My husband and I rely on Social Security and his military disability. We used a VA loan to get our house payment down to a 2.25% interest rate a couple of years ago. That monthly payment has already risen \$222 because of insurance and property tax increases. I just got a notice that my house insurance is going up \$1000 this year and I will be fighting that. I am thankful that Sultan's school bond failed because we would not have been able to pay for it. That is a terrible thing to be thankful for when you have spent over 45 years in teaching.

We have lived on our place for 50 years and spent the first 15 years with two kids in a 10'x55' trailer with two tip outs. I really would like to spend our last days here. Our kids have come and gone and come again as they struggle with life.

There is way too much waste in government. We need to tighten the belt like every one of your families have been doing to keep going. Not only that, I think if people have lived in their houses for 15 years (or whatever makes you happy), their property taxes should be frozen. It keeps elderly people in their homes and helps keep a neighborhood stable and safe. When the house sells, the new owner pays the property tax at the present rate.

I just plead that you do not increase property tax this year and accept the amendment to cut costs.

Colleen Moore  
35620 Mann Rd.  
Sultan, WA 98294

425-359-7244

**From:** [Ron Quam](#)  
**To:** [Contact Council](#)  
**Subject:** Tax hike  
**Date:** Saturday, November 23, 2024 10:14:08 PM

---

Please do not vote for this tax hike. We pay far too much in taxes already. The solution is efficiency and innovation.

Thank you

Ron Quam

Sent from my iPhone

**From:** [Connie M. Allison](#)  
**To:** [Contact Council](#)  
**Subject:** Proposed Tax Increase  
**Date:** Saturday, November 23, 2024 11:51:18 PM

---

Dear Council Members,

Please don't pass the property tax increase. Please use the simple plan Council Member Nate Nehring laid out to balance the budget without raising the property taxes.

Thank You,

Connie Allison  
425-891-8982

**From:** [CHRIS ALLISON](#)  
**To:** [Contact Council](#)  
**Subject:** Proposed Tax Increase  
**Date:** Saturday, November 23, 2024 11:53:35 PM

---

Dear Council Members,

Please don't pass the property tax increase. Please use the simple plan Council Member Nate Nehring laid out to balance the budget without raising the property taxes.

Thank You,

Chris Allison  
425-691-8572

**From:** [mark.massengale](#)  
**To:** [Contact Council](#)  
**Subject:** No to tax increase  
**Date:** Sunday, November 24, 2024 6:29:52 AM

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I am writing in response to your proposal to raise property taxes by 8% with a firm NO! I cannot keep paying higher taxes. Inflation has hit the people of Snohomish county hard enough and now you want to raise taxes. This is unacceptable! You as a city council need to cut back and give us tax payers a break.

Mark Massengale

Sent from my iPhone

**From:** [Karen Page](#)  
**To:** [Contact Council](#)  
**Subject:** Outrageous property tax  
**Date:** Sunday, November 24, 2024 6:33:13 AM

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We are paying enough property taxes now and with inflation we cannot afford this. Absolutely outrageous! This is ludicrous!

Sent from my iPhone



**From:** [Theresa Hutchison](#)  
**To:** [Contact Council](#)  
**Subject:** No on the tax increase  
**Date:** Sunday, November 24, 2024 8:35:58 AM

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Good Morning Snohomish County Council,

I spoke at the November 13 Hearing against any property tax increase. Once again, I am opposed to it. I know you've heard this many times, but I'll repeat it, **your/our problem is not a revenue problem it's a spending problem.** You simply look at us, the taxpayer, as your bottomless piggy bank. I live in Edmonds. My assessed property value increased and so my taxes increased by close to \$1300 a year! Our mayor in Edmonds gave our Chief of Police a raise after he declared that Edmonds would be insolvent by 2027. She now earns \$296,000 plus benefits!!!! The police department budget has increased by 50% in three years. This is sheer insanity and the same thinking is going on in your administration. You need to cut your/our spending dramatically. You are literally driving many out of their homes - driving your own constituents bankrupt. Look at the lines at our Food Banks.

What about the recent audit which shows that the former Sheriff Ternary is receiving \$166,000 annually - owns a home in Arizona and do we know he is even a resident here?

You are not representing your constituents. You have abandoned your fiduciary responsibility to the taxpayers you are supposed to represent. Have you forgotten that the taxpayer is at the top of your Organization Chart? Instead you are treating us as I've already said, like a bottomless piggy bank - someone to trample on.

Vote No on any property tax increase.

Respectfully,

Theresa Campa Hutchison  
Snohomish County Resident

**From:** [Kaitlyn Butcher](#)  
**To:** [Contact Council](#)  
**Subject:** Tax increase  
**Date:** Sunday, November 24, 2024 8:47:18 AM

---

I'm writing in response to the current tax increase being discussed. I have never contacted council before, but enough is enough and I wanted to share my family's journey through the past 4 years.

My husband and I sacrificed and saved every penny for 9 years to build on our property in Arlington. We finally submitted permits at the end of 2019 to start the process. Prior to doing so we contacted Snohomish county to determine our end value based on what we were building and to account for property taxes. As you know, property values skyrocketed as well as inflation of living costs in general. This led to almost a 500k difference in what was estimated vs where we are now. I understand that things happen, but this is a drastic change for a family on a budget. The reality is that our income has gone down the past two years (even with the same employer for 20 plus years) so we are making less and paying much more for the basic cost of living. This is extremely difficult on its own, before adding on the massive price increase in healthcare costs as well. Please consider this plea to reconsider increasing our property taxes further.

Thank you for your time,  
Kaitlyn Butcher

The following is a response from another individual living in Snohomish county. I couldn't agree more and wanted to share it again with you.

"I am writing in response to your proposal to raise taxes 8%. Did you get an 8% wage increase in the past year? I know we didn't. And on top of that, food went up 22%. Energy and housing are similar or worse. We all have desires of what we want, but under the current circumstances, your desire for an 8% tax increase is way beyond reasonable and not needed. We have tightened our belts. It's time for you to do the same. We make hard choices. So can you.

We appreciate Nate's alternative proposal and highly recommend that you seriously consider implementing it. People are already choosing between food and housing payments. Or food and medicine. Or food and heating oil. This is the bottom of the barrel. I talk to many small businesses in Arlington regularly. This year is far worse than even what we experienced during Covid.

There is no additional 8% for you! Wake up to this recession and start taking more appropriate steps to balance your budget with cuts."

**From:** [Teri Boggs](#)  
**To:** [Contact Council](#)  
**Subject:** 8% tax  
**Date:** Sunday, November 24, 2024 8:53:43 AM

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This proposed tax will cause more financial hardship on us and undoubtedly more homeless people and families who won't be able to afford housing. I am sure rent will also go up! We are seniors and struggling even with social security and working full time. We down sized our home so we could retire at some point but with cost of living now that seems out of reach - I can't imagine paying more property tax! It's time to find other ways to reduce costs so this devastating tax will not happen to so many people! Get creative and realistic! Stop taxing us out our homes!  
Sent from my iPhone

**From:** [khope@comcast.net](mailto:khope@comcast.net)  
**To:** [Contact Council](#)  
**Subject:** 8% Property Tax Increase  
**Date:** Sunday, November 24, 2024 9:29:56 AM

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To All Whom this Concerns:

I will address Megan Dunn first: I assume you never need to adjust your home and personal budget based on the way you attempt to spend mine. These last 4 years have been especially difficult on Senior Citizens who live on a very fixed income. If we find we are duplicating spending in any way we eliminate it and seek ways to downsize our spending elsewhere. We have been faced with this for the last 4 years. Our income only goes up if the Federal Social Security Dept deems it or if we take more than we have budgeted away from our IRA and savings accounts. Because of your youth, perhaps you were unaware of this process for Senior Citizens. If Social Justice is your only concern, you are not representing 100% of the Community. The Equal Rights Amendment is for ALL.

To the remaining council members, we implore you to look at Nate Nehring's approach to spending in our community and Jared Mead has done extensive research via a recent Audit of the County Spending. Perhaps saving the county some money would be a high priority for you as our REPRESENTATIVES of spending, you are not elected to just spend our money, you are elected to represent us in the best way possible and help your citizens not punish them financially at every turn. We raised an eyebrow when Ty Trenery was hired to "assist Dave Sommers" at a cost to taxpayers of \$166,000 per year. Wish I could hire an assistant for half that much. I would appreciate an accounting of the number of County Council meetings Mr. Trenery has attended in the last 4 years. As a taxpayer I would appreciate a detailed description of his duties and the number of days he has been in the Council Office working. Perhaps at his age and tours of duties in Snohomish County, his retirement is in order. Many of us have faced this outcome, but we worked in the secular world....not the politically entitled.

This 8% increase on property tax is outrageous and you are not looking at the correct ways to spend our money. Yes, OUR money, not yours. You were elected to responsibly care for our Snohomish County, but it appears it is just another money grab without any consideration to the consequences to the citizens.

I was born and raised in Washington State and have lived the last 53 years of my 73 year old life here in Snohomish county and have watched this County in a gradual decline for the last 40 of them. Perhaps now is the time for you as a Council to rise up and make the financially responsible decisions we need. I would have written to you sooner but had no power for 4 days. I appreciate everything PUD linemen and office staff have done to help us; however, I suspect this will cause another increase to our household bills.

Please evaluate Amendment 14 closely by looking forward to the consequences of huge

increases in our Property Taxes. Using the banked property percentage of 1 then added together over years causes greater impact on the citizens. 8 Percent is too much, one percent is enough. You also must learn to live within your means.

I would appreciate living my final days in Snohomish County in the State of Washington, but with the only one party having a voice we are looking at the possibility of moving to a State that values more than one opinion.

I appreciate your consideration for all your citizens.

Kathy Hope

7621 129<sup>th</sup> Pl SE

Snohomish, WA 98290

360 243 3137

**From:** [Kevin Bakken](#)  
**To:** [Contact Council](#)  
**Subject:** No tax hike  
**Date:** Sunday, November 24, 2024 9:57:03 AM

---

I am opposed to this outrageous tax hike.  
Sent from Kevin

**From:** [Lee Hinds](#)  
**To:** [Contact Council](#)  
**Subject:** tax increase  
**Date:** Sunday, November 24, 2024 10:32:10 AM

---

I have a rental that I rent to handicapped people. I have requested an increase of \$100.00 from HASCO to help compensate the ever increasing RE taxes and insurance. They have denied my request, saying that it is not a "reasonable " request, even though within a 3 mile radius, the 75 percentile, the rent amount is \$300 more than my monthly amount. So as a landlord, I have to keep my rent amount the same for another year or evict the tenant's and rent to people that are not on public assistance.

So I hope that the Counsel considers small landlord's and people that are on limited income (Social Security) and vote NO on the increase that is being proposed.

Lee Hinds

**From:** [geopamorrison@icloud.com](mailto:geopamorrison@icloud.com)  
**To:** [Contact Council](#)  
**Subject:** BACK-STABBING TAXES !!  
**Date:** Sunday, November 24, 2024 10:47:57 AM

---

I am a resident living in Mukilteo, WA. FLED SEATTLE to move to Snohomish County in 1994. After 31 years, Snohomish county is snowballing downhill fast into all KING COUNTY agendas. IT'S THE REGIONAL THING- they like to say!

\*\*\*\*\*

Regarding proposed COUNTY 8% GENERAL PROPERTY TAX INCREASES for 2025 & 2026- AND the 1% Road Tax AND the 1% Conservation futures Tax

**I AM LIVID!! My neighbors too! They were unaware you are going to pass this! and I bet most Snohomish Co. residents don't know what you're up to either!!**

**Well, on top of the 2024 & 2025 19+% + 16+% PS Energy tax increase, the .50 per gallon Carbon tax on vehicle fuel, the 20+% inflation on groceries and retail purchases that DEMOCRATS imposed AND THE SSI DIRECT CASH ASSISTANCE to ILLEGALS in this state--- I AM NOT FEELING THE LOVE FROM THE DEMOCRATS.**

I am a senior, retired, widow, on a fixed limited income USING SAVINGS to PAY TAXES so I don't have to move. **I AM NOT A BANK. STOP SPENDING** same a people do when they have run out of cash!!

**AND.....I AM NOT, NOT, NOT PAYING FOR ILLEGAL FOREIGNERS TO LIVE HERE!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!! Once you set-up tax-payer subsidized programs, they are FOREVER- and GROW more taxes!!!!-----THEY GO BACK!!!!!!!!!!!!!!**

**WHO IS SERVING SNOHOMISH COUNTY CITIZENS?? ———ANYONE??**

Patricia Morrison  
425-493-8811



**From:** [Margie Tremlin](#)  
**To:** [Contact Council](#)  
**Subject:** Property Tax Increase  
**Date:** Sunday, November 24, 2024 11:07:26 AM

---

I just became aware of the desire to raise property taxes by 8%. I would like to oppose this proposal. Property taxes already are way too high. As a senior who has seen their taxes skyrocket, the continued increase will tax seniors who don't qualify for reductions out of their homes. This is not acceptable. My property taxes are already \$6,814.04 per year. You try paying that on social security income. Government spending and waste is already out of control. More money to the government means more waste on projects citizen do not want. No increased taxes please.

Margaret Tremlin

**From:** [Frank Shen](#)  
**To:** [Contact Council](#)  
**Subject:** Vote NO to SnoCo Budget Proposes a 8% Property Tax Increase  
**Date:** Sunday, November 24, 2024 11:49:38 AM

---

Dear council members,

I vote NO to **SnoCo Budget Proposes a 8%  
Property Tax Increase**

Thank you.

Frank Shen  
Bothell WA

**From:** [jessica shu](#)  
**To:** [Contact Council](#)  
**Subject:** Vote NO to SnoCo Budget Proposes a 8% Property Tax Increase  
**Date:** Sunday, November 24, 2024 11:50:18 AM

---

Dear council members,

I vote NO to SnoCo Budget Proposes a 8% Property Tax Increase

Thank you.

Jessica Shu  
Bothell WA

**From:** [Collin Shen](#)  
**To:** [Contact Council](#)  
**Subject:** Vote NO to SnoCo Budget Proposes a 8% Property Tax Increase  
**Date:** Sunday, November 24, 2024 12:02:14 PM

---

Dear council members,

I vote NO to SnoCo Budget Proposes a 8% Property Tax Increase.

--

Thanks,

Collin

**From:** [P. Carlene McCoy](#)  
**To:** [Contact Council](#)  
**Subject:** 8% tax increase proposal  
**Date:** Sunday, November 24, 2024 12:11:33 PM

---

Dear council members.

I am a disabled 71 year old woman on a fixed income. With the higher prices for everything, now, I realize that the county costs are rising, also. However, this would make it so difficult for me and many of my friends in Snohomish County to manage our bills and live safely and be healthy. I have been a supporter in the past of small tax increases, but 8% would really affect our lives. Please vote no on this tax increase proposal and find a better solution to the problem Thank you.

Carlene McCoy  
400 228th St. SW D-101  
Bothell, WA 98021.

**From:** [Debbie Blodgett](#)  
**To:** [Contact Council](#)  
**Subject:** VOTE NO on the Budget Tax Increase  
**Date:** Sunday, November 24, 2024 12:42:16 PM

---

Dear Snohomish County Council,

With more and more information coming to light in what has been happening in the County Executives' office with regards to the hiring practices and the cronyism taking place, I suggest you all take a look at these egregious acts.

Too many overlapping positions have been given to people who shouldn't be employed at the county, yet for some reason, they have been given jobs for over \$100,000 more than what other people who have been employed in similar positions. This needs to stop. It seems that all the past council members and bureaucrats within our county are getting special treatment and high paying "made-up" jobs.

As a taxpayer in this county, I support the NO TAX increases and suggest the county look at cutting the waste in the county executive's office and budget accordingly.

Debbie Blodgett  
206-979-2709

'Worry looks around, Sorry looks back, Faith looks up.'

><((((> ... ><((((> ... ><((((> ... ><((((>

"America will never be destroyed from the outside.

If we falter and lose our freedoms, it will be because we destroyed ourselves."

~ ~Abraham Lincoln

**From:** [Judy West](#)  
**To:** [Contact Council](#)  
**Subject:** Tax increase  
**Date:** Sunday, November 24, 2024 1:35:12 PM

---

Do not raise the property tax for 2025. I live on social security a fixed income. Possibly take it from revenue earned from cannabis sold in Wa. Judy west

**From:** [Arnold Jadwin](#)  
**To:** [Contact Council](#)  
**Subject:** Snohomish Council Tax Increase  
**Date:** Sunday, November 24, 2024 1:54:34 PM

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I and the wife are retired seniors writing in response to your proposal to raise taxes 8%. Did you get an 8% wage increase in the past year? I know we didn't. And on top of that, food went up 22%. Energy and housing are similar or worse. We all have desires of what we want, but under the current circumstances, your desire for an 8% tax increase is way beyond reasonable and not needed. We have tightened our belts. It's time for you to do the same. We make hard choices. So can you.

We appreciate Nate's alternative proposal and highly recommend that you seriously consider implementing it. People are already choosing between food and housing payments. Or food and medicine. Or food and heating oil. This is the bottom of the barrel. There is no additional 8% for you! Wake up to this recession and start taking more appropriate steps to balance your budget with cuts.

Remember this tax increase may be the lever that pushes more people out of their homes and jobs.



**From:** [Ann W](#)  
**To:** [Contact Council](#)  
**Subject:** Tax increase  
**Date:** Sunday, November 24, 2024 2:04:19 PM

---

Many people have already voiced their opinions regarding an 8% tax increase. We also did not get an 8% pay increase and feel that Snohomish County needs to tighten its rules and give people a break. Thank you, EAnne Warnicky  
206 784 9428  
1630 Sunday Lk Road  
Stanwood

Sent from my iPhone

**From:** [Sherbear](#)  
**To:** [Contact Council](#)  
**Subject:** Proposed tax increase  
**Date:** Sunday, November 24, 2024 2:53:09 PM

---

Dear councilmembers:

I'm writing this email in regards to the proposed 8% tax increase coming to the table.

Like many in this county, my partner and myself are on fixed disability incomes. His is a state disability pension that comes with zero medical insurance. Mine is Social Security with only Medicare coverage. My income alone is only \$1400/mo. Out of that, I'm expected to pay 20% of my medical bills, 100% of my prescriptions and then groceries, fuel, etc. In case you haven't noticed, the prices for all of these have increased to the point where we have to pick and choose what we can pay for. Because he has no medical coverage, my partner is 100% responsible for all of his visits and prescriptions. Because of that, he's been avoiding going in for physician visits or preventative care. I know you're thinking "Then apply for assistance". I had brain surgery earlier this year. I did apply for DSHS, but they said I was too far above the property level as if I'm expected to live on \$1400/mo. Now facing a 3rd surgery, I'm going to be in debt until I die.

An increase on property taxes will effectively price an even larger portion of the county's residents out of any housing. We're ALL barely scraping by. The current economy is making it more and more difficult to buy healthy food, make healthy choices and keep a roof over our heads.

I didn't ask to get hit by a police officer in an auto accident. My partner didn't ask to fall from a ladder and break 2 vertebrae. Washington and Snohomish County has been our lifelong homes. We can't afford to pick up and just move. Where would even go, anyway?

I realize you can look and say 8% isn't much. Right now, ANYTHING really is a lot. Just because it's "only 8%", landlords pass that on to at least a 20% increase, stores raise prices because of property tax increases. Of course, you already know this. Obviously, you can afford to pay these increases. I'm not even a senior citizen, yet, so I don't qualify for any cuts.

When people start making choices between groceries, medical care and/or housing because there's no light at the end of the tunnel, they suffer. They suffer physically which leads to increased suffering mentally and emotionally. Sadly, despair sets in and suicide rates increase. Personally, any of our citizens in despair due to affordability issues is too many to me. It should be for you, too.

If our economy were in a better state and I noticed that the taxes we're already paying were actually being used to help our citizens or infrastructure, I'd say go for it. The county has received large amounts of money in post-COVID relief and the pharmaceutical settlement, but where has it gone? We already pay the highest sales taxes in the state. What's being done with that money? The increased gas prices are supposed to help our roads. Yeah right.

I ask, have any of you taken pay cuts or at very least refused any raises these last few years you have been "saving up" these 1% non-voter-needed increases? I can tell you that I'm lucky if I get 3% from SSI, but then everything else goes up much more than that. "Cost of living"

increases are a fallacy.

I appreciate the time you're taking to read and hear the concerns of our residents.

I beg, PLEASE take our concerns to heart. We are in a recession and can't afford for everything to keep climbing. Many of us are already scared of what will happen when the new Predsidential administration comes into office. Especially people like me that depend on assistance.

Sincerely,  
Sherri A Klotz  
Unincorporated Snohomish County resident

**From:** [Kelly Donlon Vance](#)  
**To:** [Contact Council](#)  
**Subject:** NO TAX INCREASE !!! We don't want to be homeless!  
**Date:** Sunday, November 24, 2024 3:00:25 PM

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2:38    •

  5G  85% 

## ← Top posts

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I am writing in response to your proposal to raise taxes 8%. Did you get an 8% wage increase in the past year? I know we didn't. And on top of that, food went up 22%. Energy and housing are similar or worse. We all have desires of what we want, but under the current circumstances, your desire for an 8% tax increase is way beyond reasonable and not needed. We have tightened our belts. It's time for you to do the same. We make hard choices. So can you.

We appreciate Nate's alternative

proposal and highly recommend that you seriously consider implementing it. People are already choosing between food and housing payments. Or food and medicine. Or food and heating oil. This is the bottom of the barrel. I talk to many small businesses in Arlington regularly. This year is far worse than even what we experienced during Covid.



We stand behind this well written letter 100%. Thank you

William and Kelly Vance  
Stanwood Washington 98292

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

**From:** [Joanna Page](#)  
**To:** [Contact Council](#)  
**Subject:** Opposition to Property Tax Increase Vote  
**Date:** Sunday, November 24, 2024 3:08:56 PM

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Hello,

I am writing in to voice my concern and opposition to the proposed property tax increase.

I, and the majority of residents in this county, cannot afford an increase of any kind in our property taxes! We are financially strapped already.

We have Boeing laying people off, which will also cause layoffs at smaller manufacturing companies, and tech jobs are down. The business that I work at is usually booked a month in advance and we are currently struggling to stay busy from day to day. We have homeless families who are living in their cars because the rent is so ridiculously high they cannot afford a place to live. And a property tax increase will only raise those already unaffordable rents. Houses are sitting on the market for extended periods of time because buyers can't afford the mortgages due to already high property taxes and interest rates.

There is no more money!!! We are tapped!!

I, and my family members, are prepared to vote against any council member who agreed to increase our taxes. Please choose wisely.

Best Regards,

Joanna Page  
Sent from my iPhone

**From:** [Inez "Ine" Petersen](#)  
**To:** [Mead, Jared](#); [Dunn, Megan](#); [Peterson, Strom](#); [Low, Sam](#); [Nehring, Nate](#); [Contact Council](#); [Tim Eyman](#)  
**Subject:** Snohomish County Council: vote no on 8% property tax increase, vote yes on eliminating duplicative government jobs  
**Date:** Sunday, November 24, 2024 3:26:57 PM

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*Taxpayers clearly oppose a massive 8% property tax increase. Voters in 2001 and legislators in 2007 capped increases at 1% per year. This 23 year old law requires voter approval for anything higher. Respect this well-established law by voting no on the 8% property tax increase. Just as important, the performance audit clearly identified duplicative government jobs. The proposed amendment eliminating those redundant positions is completely justified. Forcing taxpayers to pay for a 2nd job -- an unelected position -- for any Olympia politician is cronyism at its worst. The citizens demand efficient and effective use of their tax dollars. Vote yes on the amendment eliminating duplicative government jobs.*

*Frankly, don't you collect enough taxes as it is? We need a tax break.*

*Inez  
Everett, WA*

**From:** [Linda Zard](#)  
**To:** [Contact Council](#)  
**Subject:** Property tax vote  
**Date:** Sunday, November 24, 2024 3:38:26 PM

---

Please vote No! These issues should be voted on by the voting public not done by a few. As far as property taxes go 8% is absolutely atrocious. Thank you, Linda Zard  
Sent from my iPhone



**From:** [dtumbleweed1968@aol.com](mailto:dtumbleweed1968@aol.com)  
**To:** [Mead, Jared](#); [Dunn, Megan](#); [Peterson, Strom](#); [Low, Sam](#); [Nehring, Nate](#); [Contact Council](#)  
**Subject:** Reminder regarding your vote on an 8% property tax vote tomorrow  
**Date:** Sunday, November 24, 2024 3:50:36 PM

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Dear Councilmembers,

I am just sending a gentle but firm reminder that as you go to vote on this that you will comply with Washington State law. Hopefully, common sense will prevail and that taxes won't be raised at all.

Thank you,

Denise Raupach  
23/32

**From:** [Tysen Osborn](#)  
**To:** [Mead, Jared](#); [Dunn, Megan](#); [Peterson, Strom](#); [Low, Sam](#); [Nehring, Nate](#); [Contact Council](#); [timdeyman@gmail.com](mailto:timdeyman@gmail.com)  
**Subject:** Snohomish County Council: vote no on 8% property tax increase, vote yes on eliminating duplicative government jobs.  
**Date:** Sunday, November 24, 2024 3:50:46 PM

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Taxpayers clearly oppose a massive 8% property tax increase. Voters in 2001 and legislators in 2007 capped increases at 1% per year. This 23 year old law requires voter approval for anything higher. Respect this well-established law by voting no on the 8% property tax increase. Just as important, the performance audit clearly identified duplicative government jobs. The proposed amendment eliminating those redundant positions is completely justified. Forcing taxpayers to pay for a 2nd job -- an unelected position -- for any Olympia politician is cronyism at its worst. The citizens demand efficient and effective use of their tax dollars. Vote yes on the amendment eliminating duplicative government jobs.

Tysen Osborn  
Snohomish County Home Owner and Tax Payer

**From:** [spdsk8@aol.com](mailto:spdsk8@aol.com)  
**To:** [Mead, Jared](#); [Dunn, Megan](#); [Peterson, Strom](#); [Low, Sam](#); [Nehring, Nate](#); [Contact Council](#); [timdeyman@gmail.com](mailto:timdeyman@gmail.com)  
**Subject:** Snohomish County Council: vote no on 8% property tax increase, vote yes on eliminating duplicative government jobs.  
**Date:** Sunday, November 24, 2024 3:53:45 PM

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Please Vote NO on the proposed 8% property tax increase.  
People can't afford it. Cut spending instead.  
Thanks,  
Bruce Guthrie  
Edmonds, WA

*"Taxpayers clearly oppose a massive 8% property tax increase. Voters in 2001 and legislators in 2007 capped increases at 1% per year. This 23 year old law requires voter approval for anything higher. Respect this well-established law by voting no on the 8% property tax increase. Just as important, the performance audit clearly identified duplicative government jobs. The proposed amendment eliminating those redundant positions is completely justified. Forcing taxpayers to pay for a 2nd job -- an unelected position -- for any Olympia politician is cronyism at its worst. The citizens demand efficient and effective use of their tax dollars. Vote yes on the amendment eliminating duplicative government jobs."*

**From:** [Candy Sherrill](#)  
**To:** [Mead, Jared](#); [Dunn, Megan](#); [Peterson, Strom](#); [Low, Sam](#); [Nehring, Nate](#); [Contact Council](#); [Tim Eyman](#)  
**Subject:** Snohomish County Council: vote no on 8% property tax increase, vote yes on eliminating duplicative government jobs.  
**Date:** Sunday, November 24, 2024 4:15:12 PM

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To the Snohomish County Council:

Taxpayers clearly oppose a massive 8% property tax increase. Voters in 2001 and legislators in 2007 capped increases at 1% per year. This 23 year old law requires voter approval for anything higher. Respect this well-established law by voting no on the 8% property tax increase. Just as important, the performance audit clearly identified duplicative government jobs. The proposed amendment eliminating those redundant positions is completely justified. Forcing taxpayers to pay for a 2nd job -- an unelected position -- for any Olympia politician is cronyism at its worst. The citizens demand efficient and effective use of their tax dollars. Vote yes on the amendment eliminating duplicative government jobs.

Respectfully,

Candy Sherrill  
Snohomish County Homeowner

**From:** [Bob Davis](#)  
**To:** [Contact Council](#)  
**Subject:** No Property Tax increase  
**Date:** Sunday, November 24, 2024 4:37:11 PM

---

I am not in favor of increased or new property taxes. Inflation has already stolen some of our limited resources. This is not the time for increases. This is a time for the County to manage its current funds more wisely.

[Bob Davis](#)  
[Locust Way](#)

**From:** [locke.s@comcast.net](mailto:locke.s@comcast.net)  
**To:** [Mead, Jared](#); [Dunn, Megan](#); [Peterson, Strom](#); [Low, Sam](#); [Nehring, Nate](#); [Contact Council](#); [timdeyman@gmail.com](mailto:timdeyman@gmail.com)  
**Subject:** Snohomish County Council: vote no on 8% property tax increase, vote yes on eliminating duplicative government jobs.  
**Date:** Sunday, November 24, 2024 4:37:46 PM

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Snohomish County Council,

*We Taxpayers clearly oppose a massive 8% property tax increase. My wife and I are presently living on Social Security and will finish paying the mortgage on our home in four years. The 8% property tax will be a liability to completing this goal. Taxpayers clearly oppose a massive 8% property tax increase and so do we.*

*Voters in 2001 and legislators in 2007 capped increases at 1% per year. This 23-year-old law requires voter approval for anything higher. Respect this well-established law by voting no on the 8% property tax increase.*

*Just as important, the performance audit clearly identified duplicative government jobs. The proposed amendment eliminating those redundant positions is completely justified. Forcing taxpayers to pay for a 2nd job -- an unelected position -- for any Olympia politician is cronyism at its worst and we should not even be suggested that we pay. We the tax paying citizens demand efficient and effective use of our tax dollars. Vote yes on the amendment eliminating duplicative government jobs.*

*Thank you for your service to the citizens of Washington State.*

Steve Locke  
Citizen of Washington State  
[Locke.s@comcast.net](mailto:Locke.s@comcast.net)  
360-607-3685

**From:** [Carolyn Egus](#)  
**To:** [Contact Council](#)  
**Subject:** Property tax  
**Date:** Sunday, November 24, 2024 4:59:24 PM

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Please stop raising our property taxes

We moved here 5 years ago

Our property taxes were \$4500.00

We are now paying \$ 7850.00per year!!!

We haven't done any building or upgrading to the property

We are retired and on fixed income. Your only help for the Elderly is an income of \$ 48,000

Per year per couple!!! Simply outrageous!!! 2 people could not feed themselves on that amount

Let me know why you're trying to make the Elderly people sell and move away!!!

Carolyn Egus

13710 84th St SE, Snohomish, WA 98290

[Carolynegus@gmail.com](mailto:Carolynegus@gmail.com)

**From:** [Rhyne, Paula](#)  
**To:** [Contact Council](#)  
**Subject:** FW: County budget  
**Date:** Sunday, November 24, 2024 5:01:17 PM  
**Attachments:** [image001.png](#)

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For public comment...

**Paula Rhyne** | *Legislative Aide to Councilmember Megan Dunn*  
[Snohomish County Council](#)

3000 Rockefeller Ave., M/S 609 | Everett, WA 98201-4046

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

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**From:** Juan Peralez <[juan@unidos-snoco.org](mailto:juan@unidos-snoco.org)>

**Sent:** Sunday, November 24, 2024 1:47 PM

**To:** Nehring, Nate <[nate.nehring@co.snohomish.wa.us](mailto:nate.nehring@co.snohomish.wa.us)>; Dunn, Megan <[Megan.Dunn@co.snohomish.wa.us](mailto:Megan.Dunn@co.snohomish.wa.us)>; Mead, Jared <[Jared.Mead@co.snohomish.wa.us](mailto:Jared.Mead@co.snohomish.wa.us)>; Peterson, Strom <[Strom.Peterson@co.snohomish.wa.us](mailto:Strom.Peterson@co.snohomish.wa.us)>; Low, Sam <[Sam.Low@co.snohomish.wa.us](mailto:Sam.Low@co.snohomish.wa.us)>; russell.wiitw@snoco.org; Rhyne, Paula <[Paula.Rhyne@co.snohomish.wa.us](mailto:Paula.Rhyne@co.snohomish.wa.us)>; Thompson, Joshua <[Joshua.Thompson@co.snohomish.wa.us](mailto:Joshua.Thompson@co.snohomish.wa.us)>; angel.eweert@snoco.org; darcy.cheeseman@snoco.org

**Subject:** County budget



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

Dear Council Members and Aides,

I write to you to express my support for the County's budget put forth by Executive Somers that will preserve office staff and services and the Office of Social Justice which has provided nonprofit organizations small grants and support for educational community events promoting community empowerment.

Given the public concerns in our country and county, the Executives proposed budget will also support the Sheriff's Office and allow it to keep our county safe.

**Juan Peralez**

President

Unidos-snoco-org

Cell: 425-773-2448

[Juan@unidos-snoco.org](mailto:Juan@unidos-snoco.org)

<https://unidos-snoco.org/>





**From:** [myron feiock](#)  
**To:** [Mead, Jared](#); [Dunn, Megan](#); [Peterson, Strom](#); [Low, Sam](#); [Nehring, Nate](#); [Contact Council](#); [Tim Eyman](#)  
**Subject:** Snohomish County Council 8% Property Tax  
**Date:** Sunday, November 24, 2024 5:04:05 PM

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Tax payers here in WA State are opposed to this bill!

We know this clearly is an illegal move. There must be approval by a vote if any tax will be more than 1%. 8% is NOT 1% and we know that you know the difference.

No one around here can or is willing to afford this awful tax increase no matter what you may think. We have clearly said NO to this in years past and nothing has changed, we still say NO!

Sincerely,

Myron & Shawna Feiock

Tulalip, WA

**From:** [MARK NEWTON](#)  
**To:** [Mead, Jared](#); [Dunn, Megan](#); [Peterson, Strom](#); [Low, Sam](#); [Nehring, Nate](#); [Contact Council](#); [timdeyman@gmail.com](mailto:timdeyman@gmail.com)  
**Subject:** Snohomish County Council: vote no on 8% property tax increase, vote yes on eliminating duplicative government jobs.  
**Date:** Sunday, November 24, 2024 5:29:23 PM

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***Taxpayers clearly oppose a massive 8% property tax increase. Voters in 2001 and legislators in 2007 capped increases at 1% per year. This 23 year old law requires voter approval for anything higher. Respect this well-established law by voting no on the 8% property tax increase. Just as important, the performance audit clearly identified duplicative government jobs. The proposed amendment eliminating those redundant positions is completely justified. Forcing taxpayers to pay for a 2nd job -- an unelected position -- for any Olympia politician is cronyism at its worst. The citizens demand efficient and effective use of their tax dollars. Vote yes on the amendment eliminating duplicative government jobs.***

*This continual ongoing tax and spend mentality MUST STOP. Quit taxing citizens so you can give the funds away to buy votes and support. It is NOT UNNOTICED. and is a clear violation of your DUTY. Assuming you understand what a duty entails?*  
Mark Newton

**From:** [John S](#)  
**To:** [Mead, Jared](#); [Dunn, Megan](#); [Peterson, Strom](#); [Low, Sam](#); [Nehring, Nate](#); [Contact Council](#); [Somers, Dave J](#)  
**Cc:** [John S](#); [Sekulich](#)  
**Subject:** vote no on 8% property tax increase, yes on eliminating duplicative government jobs!  
**Date:** Sunday, November 24, 2024 5:39:28 PM

---

I and many other taxpayers clearly oppose a **massive** 8% property tax increase.

Voters in 2001 and legislators in 2007 capped increases at 1% per year. This 23 year old law requires voter approval for anything higher. Respect this well-established law by voting no on the 8% property tax increase.

Just as important, the performance audit clearly identified duplicative government jobs. The proposed amendment eliminating those redundant positions is completely justified. ***Forcing taxpayers to pay for a 2nd job -- an unelected position -- for any Olympia politician is cronyism at its worst.*** The citizens demand efficient and effective use of their tax dollars. Vote yes on the amendment eliminating duplicative government jobs.

John Sekulich  
PCO Filbert Precinct  
Bothell WA  
206 391 9905

**From:** [kurt@hankefam.net](mailto:kurt@hankefam.net)  
**To:** [Contact Council](#)  
**Subject:** Tone-deaf 8% tax hike  
**Date:** Sunday, November 24, 2024 6:01:07 PM

---

We see that Dave Somers has been hard at work keeping his crony friends employed at our expense.

We also see that Snohomish County has not been managing it's expenditures with any concern for the taxpayer and their plight at all. Questionable hiring practices, major duplication of effort, and useless departments are wasting our hard-earned money.

Citizens have also been burdened with outrageous levels of inflation due to misguided spending and the war on energy by the Biden / Harris team. We've been hammered by major setbacks due to Covid.

Your attempt to give us an 8% property tax increase is just tone-deaf.

NO on any tax increases!

Very sincerely

Kurt

Kurt Hanke  
10615 4th Drive SE  
Everett, WA 98208  
[kurt@hankefam.net](mailto:kurt@hankefam.net)

**From:** [Linda Bryant](#)  
**To:** [Contact Council](#)  
**Subject:** 8% tax increase  
**Date:** Sunday, November 24, 2024 6:02:16 PM

---

All though we did not write this letter we are in total agreement. We are recently retired and if this proposal was to pass it will be a terrible hardship on us financially.  
Paul and Linda Sweeney

Here's My Comments to the Snohomish Council Re Tax Increase

Hello Snohomish County Council.

I am writing in response to your proposal to raise taxes 8%. Did you get an 8% wage increase in the past year? I know we didn't.

And on top of that, food went up 22%. Energy and housing are similar or worse. We all have desires of what we want, but under the current circumstances, your desire for an 8% tax increase is way beyond reasonable and not needed. We have tightened our belts. It's time for you to do the same. We make hard choices.

So can you.

We appreciate Nate's alternative proposal and highly recommend that you seriously consider implementing it. People are already choosing between food and housing payments. Or food and medicine. Or food and heating oil. This is the bottom of the barrel. I talk to many small businesses in Arlington regularly. This year is far worse than even what we experienced during Covid.

There is no additional 8% for you! Wake up to this recession and start taking more appropriate steps to balance your budget with cuts.

Best wishes for a much more realistic budget!

Sent from my iPhone

**From:** [Joseph Wolfe](#)  
**To:** [ared.mead@snoco.org](mailto:ared.mead@snoco.org); [Dunn, Megan](#); [Peterson, Strom](#); [Low, Sam](#); [Nehring, Nate](#); [Contact Council](#)  
**Cc:** [timdeyman@gmail.com](mailto:timdeyman@gmail.com)  
**Subject:** Taxpayers clearly oppose a massive 8% property tax increase. Voters in 2001 and legislators in 2007 capped increases at 1% per year. This 23 year old law requires voter approval for anything higher. Respect this well-established law by voting no on the...  
**Date:** Sunday, November 24, 2024 6:02:23 PM

---

Dear council members,

I don't normally send these. However, the suggested subject line got my attention. I work for a county south of Snohomish County. We have a huge problem with the duplication of effort, and it sounds like you do too.

Taxpayers in our county and yours clearly oppose an 8% property tax increase. Voters in 2001 and legislators in 2007 capped increases at 1% per year. This 23 year old law requires voter approval for anything higher. Respect this well-established law by voting no on the 8% property tax increase. Just as important, the performance audit clearly identified duplicative government jobs. The proposed amendment eliminating those redundant positions is completely justified. Forcing taxpayers to pay for a 2nd job -- an unelected position -- for any Olympia politician is cronyism at its worst. The citizens demand efficient and effective use of their tax dollars. Vote yes on the amendment eliminating duplicative government jobs. This is a better way to maintain the public trust than simply taxing citizens more. Given the current climate of mistrust in our governmental institutions, there is much less risk in choosing this option.

Best,

Joe Crossland  
(360) 884-2236

**From:** [Grant Baumgartner](#)  
**To:** [Dunn, Megan](#)  
**Cc:** [Contact Council](#)  
**Subject:** Re: Snohomish County Property Tax Proposal  
**Date:** Sunday, November 24, 2024 6:04:29 PM  
**Attachments:** [image001.png](#)  
[image002.png](#)

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Dear Ms. Dunn,

Thank you for responding to my email. I want to address a few points you made in your email.

1. Misinformation- There is no misinformation. The issue is simple - an 8% property tax increase.
2. The increase only applies to the County's portion of the property tax bill- That's a poor excuse. We always hear this from the school districts, the Port and all other taxing entities who want to continue to raise our tax rates. They are all trying to increase the tax rates. Take responsibility for your portion of our property tax bill.

**Please do not raise our tax rates further.**

Sincerely,

Grant Baumgartner  
Everett Resident

On Thu, Nov 21, 2024 at 10:51 AM Dunn, Megan <[Megan.Dunn@co.snohomish.wa.us](mailto:Megan.Dunn@co.snohomish.wa.us)> wrote:

Hello Grant,

Thank you for sharing your comments on the budget, here's my statement:

Hello:

Thank you for taking the time to email me regarding the 2025-2026 County Budget. I am thankful for the time that you took to write in and share your thoughts and perspective. Please know that I thoroughly read your email – it's important to me to understand how any vote that I make at our county will affect community members like you. Deliberating and deciding the county budget each year is the most important decision that our county council makes. Our county budget should be a reflection of the values within our community and I take this responsibility seriously. An equally important top priority is to ensure that we as a county are being a good steward of your taxpayer dollars, especially during these difficult times of inflation that we are all experiencing, while still providing the

community with critical services through our sheriff's department, corrections, elections office, court system, human services, parks departments, and more.

Since September when the proposed budget was presented to council there has unfortunately been an onslaught of misinformation about the proposed budget and impacts it would have on households in the county. This misinformation has only muddled conversations and unnecessarily brought fear and uncertainty to residents in our county. As elected leaders, it's our duty to provide accurate and transparent information to residents, and I'm hopeful that this email today can help provide clearer information about what is being deliberated in our county budget, its impacts to a household in Snohomish County, and what's at stake.

As you may already know, since 2001 our county's general fund budget is limited by state law to grow by only 1% per year, however expenses tend to grow by 4% per year because government also experiences the pressures of inflation like the rest of the community. There have been times when previous budgets did not implement the 1% increase, but instead banked it to use at a later date – a term called “banked capacity” - and at this point, the county has 6% in banked capacity. State law expressly allows for this practice. For the past decade or so, this imbalance between allowed budget growth and increases to the cost of doing business has been felt strongly as costs have far outpaced the 1% cap. Despite this imbalance, the county has worked diligently to tighten our belts, and this year is no exception.

In order to preserve services and avoid layoffs the proposed biennial budget includes 1.5% in cuts to general fund departments, and departments are asked to underspend their budgets by 1.5%, for a total of 3% in cuts already imbedded in this 2025-2026 budget. These cuts aren't enough to preserve services.

The current proposed biennial budget from the County Executive includes an increase in our county's levy rate which draws down our full banked capacity. This would be the 1% allowed increase, plus 3% of our banked capacity, for a total of 4% for 2025, and again in 2026. ***It's important to remember that this proposed increase only applies to the county portion of your property taxes which is about 6% of your overall tax bill, and is not an increase in your overall property tax bill.*** The current levy rate of \$0.4956 per \$1,000 of assessed value would increase to \$0.5178 - a \$0.0222 increase per \$1,000 of assessed value, so a little over \$0.02 cents per \$1000 of a house value. For a house valued at \$650,000 the increase would be a modest increase of \$14-15 of property taxes for the year.

In short, the proposed 8% property tax increase only applies to the county's portion of your property tax bill, which is about 6% of your overall bill which comes out to about \$14-\$15 per year and would preserve public safety and services in the county.

During budget deliberations, we have heard from councilmembers who claim that there are ways to balance the budget without activating our banked capacity, but in my analysis of the budget and consultation with department directors, this simply isn't possible. For starters, an amendment that would cut millions from the budget instead of moving forward with the proposed budget includes \$1M in cuts to our sheriff's department, which I oppose. Now is not the time to defund our sheriff's department when public safety is a top concern from community members. Other cuts to our parks department, courts, elections office, public health and other general fund departments would hamper our quality of life. Without this modest increase to the county budget, there will be cuts to personnel and services which directly impacts the county's ability to provide basic services.

Knowing that there are pressures that property taxes can place on low-income and fixed-income people in the community, I wanted to make sure that you were aware of tax relief programs that are available at the county for people who qualify. They are listed here:

<https://www.snohomishcountywa.gov/328/Property-Tax-Exemptions>.

I will continue to work on this important matter and look for ways that we can exercise savings and efficiencies without eliminating programs that benefit our community or county



staff who work hard every day to serve the residents of our county.  
Council is scheduled to make a final vote on the county's 2025-2026 budget on Monday, November 25 at the 9am Public Hearing meeting. Please know that I will be keeping your comments in mind during deliberations.  
Thank you again for reaching out,  
Megan

**Megan Dunn** | *Snohomish County Councilmember, District 2*  
O: (425) 388-3494 | [megan.dunn@snoco.org](mailto:megan.dunn@snoco.org)  
*Pronouns: she/her/hers*

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

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**From:** Grant Baumgartner <[grantdbaum@gmail.com](mailto:grantdbaum@gmail.com)>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, November 20, 2024 3:33 PM  
**To:** Mead, Jared <[Jared.Mead@co.snohomish.wa.us](mailto:Jared.Mead@co.snohomish.wa.us)>  
**Cc:** Ewert, Angela <[Angela.Ewert@co.snohomish.wa.us](mailto:Angela.Ewert@co.snohomish.wa.us)>; Dunn, Megan <[Megan.Dunn@co.snohomish.wa.us](mailto:Megan.Dunn@co.snohomish.wa.us)>  
**Subject:** Re: Snohomish County Property Tax Proposal



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

Dear Mr. Mead,

Thank you for your response and your good work. I will not opine on the specifics of the amendment, but I am very glad to see that you and others are taking fiscal responsibility seriously AND are against the property tax increase.

Grant Baumgartner

Everett Resident

On Wed, Nov 20, 2024 at 2:51 PM Mead, Jared <[Jared.Mead@co.snohomish.wa.us](mailto:Jared.Mead@co.snohomish.wa.us)> wrote:

Hi there,

Thank you for reaching out to share your concerns about the Executive's proposed 8% general fund property tax levy increase. I agree—an 8% tax increase at this time is unreasonable, and I will continue to advocate strongly against this proposal. Instead, I am demanding fiscal accountability and responsible use of available resources. To that end, I have introduced amendments that I believe provide a better approach

than what the Executive has proposed. These amendments were discussed during our November 13th council meeting and will be officially considered for a vote at the budget adoption hearing on November 25th.

One amendment I want to highlight is [Amendment 14](#), 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.

Last week, the council received an independent audit report that 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, demonstrating our commitment to responsible fiscal management.

If you are interested in learning more, I encourage you to watch the auditor's presentation to the council [here](#). His presentation begins at the 15:50 mark. You can also watch our council's discussion regarding Amendment 14 [here](#) starting at 3:47:45.

As Chair of your County Council, a lifelong Snohomish County resident, and a father raising four young children here, I take my responsibility to spend your tax dollars wisely very seriously. My goal is to ensure that Snohomish County remains an affordable and vibrant place to live, work, and raise a family.

We will vote on Amendment 14 and the rest of the budget on November 25th. Until then, I encourage you to continue advocating for these priorities by using the council's contact service and Public Comment opportunities. Your opinion matters! I urge you to call your councilmembers and express your support for Amendment 14 and responsible fiscal policies. Let them know that you believe in prioritizing efficient use of taxpayer dollars and rejecting unnecessary spending. The council needs to hear from you, you can contact us at [contact.council@snoco.org](mailto:contact.council@snoco.org).

Thank you again for your advocacy. Please don't hesitate to reach out if you have any additional questions or concerns.

Take care,

**Jared Mead**

*Councilmember, District 4*

Snohomish County Council

3000 Rockefeller Ave., M/S 609 | Everett, WA 98201- 4046

425-388-3494 | [jared.mead@snoco.org](mailto:jared.mead@snoco.org)



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:** [Diane Ehr](#)  
**To:** [Mead, Jared](#); [Dunn, Megan](#); [Peterson, Strom](#); [Low, Sam](#); [Nehring, Nate](#); [Contact Council](#); [Tim Eyman](#)  
**Subject:** Snohomish County Council: vote no on 8% property tax increase, vote yes on eliminating duplicative government jobs.  
**Date:** Sunday, November 24, 2024 6:37:49 PM

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Taxpayers clearly oppose a massive 8% property tax increase. Voters in 2001 and legislators in 2007 capped increases at 1% per year. This 23 year old law requires voter approval for anything higher. Respect this well-established law by voting no on the 8% property tax increase. Just as important, the performance audit clearly identified duplicative government jobs. The proposed amendment eliminating those redundant positions is completely justified. Forcing taxpayers to pay for a 2nd job -- an unelected position -- for any Olympia politician is cronyism at its worst. The citizens demand efficient and effective use of their tax dollars. Vote yes on the amendment eliminating duplicative government jobs.

**From:** [Bobbie](#)  
**To:** [Mead, Jared](#); [Dunn, Megan](#); [Peterson, Strom](#); [Low, Sam](#); [Nehring, Nate](#); [Contact Council](#); [Tim Eyman](#)  
**Subject:** Snohomish County Council: vote no on 8% property tax increase, vote yes on eliminating duplicative government jobs.  
**Date:** Sunday, November 24, 2024 6:46:18 PM

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Taxpayers clearly oppose a massive 8% property tax increase. Voters in 2001 and legislators in 2007 capped increases at 1% per year. This 23 year old law requires voter approval for anything higher. Respect this well-established law by voting no on the 8% property tax increase. Just as important, the performance audit clearly identified duplicative government jobs. The proposed amendment eliminating those redundant positions is completely justified. Forcing taxpayers to pay for a 2nd job -- an unelected position -- for any Olympia politician is cronyism at its worst. The citizens demand efficient and effective use of their tax dollars. Vote yes on the amendment eliminating duplicative government jobs.

Sincerely,  
Bobbie Piety

**From:** [DAM PHAM](#)  
**To:** [Mead, Jared](#); [Dunn, Megan](#); [Peterson, Strom](#); [Low, Sam](#); [Nehring, Nate](#); [Contact Council](#); [timdeyman@gmail.com](mailto:timdeyman@gmail.com)  
**Subject:** Snohomish County Council: vote no on 8% property tax increase, vote yes on eliminating duplicative government jobs.  
**Date:** Sunday, November 24, 2024 6:48:50 PM

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Dear Sir or Madam,

*Taxpayers clearly oppose a massive 8% property tax increase. Voters in 2001 and legislators in 2007 capped increases at 1% per year. This 23 year old law requires voter approval for anything higher. Respect this well-established law by voting no on the 8% property tax increase. Just as important, the performance audit clearly identified duplicative government jobs. The proposed amendment eliminating those redundant positions is completely justified. Forcing taxpayers to pay for a 2nd job -- an unelected position -- for any Olympia politician is cronyism at its worst. The citizens demand efficient and effective use of their tax dollars. Vote yes on the amendment eliminating duplicative government jobs.*

Truly,

Dam Pham

**From:** [April Featherkile](#)  
**To:** [Mead, Jared](#); [Dunn, Megan](#); [Peterson, Strom](#); [Low, Sam](#); [Nehring, Nate](#); [Contact Council](#); [Tim Eyman](#); [timdeyman@gmail.com](mailto:timdeyman@gmail.com)  
**Subject:** Snohomish County Council: vote no on 8% property tax increase,  
**Date:** Sunday, November 24, 2024 6:53:19 PM

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*Dear Council members,*

*I do not live in your jurisdiction but rather in Chelan County. Voters in 2001 and legislators in 2007 capped tax increases to 1% a year. If you increase your taxes, other countries will surely be imbolded to try to do so. This 23 year old law requires voter approval for anything higher than 1%. Think of your residents and others across the state.*

*I am a senior citizen. Social security is 1/2 of my income. Everytime I turn around, some utility is increasing fees faster than I am able to tread water. I am about to drown!*

*I try to help out my children and 14 grandkids with school activities. These are NOT cheap. Sports and music take money they do not have. Are you aware a letterman's jacket cost around \$600. In order for a parent to watch a kid swim or participate in a music festival a parent has to cough up hours of driving, gas and perhaps lodging to some distant school across the state? What I am trying to say is: grandparents usually sacrifice a lot. Increasing property taxes means that we don't get to help our kids and grandkids and many charities and church funds will be affected by our inability to donate. I object to the government spending my money on things I may not approve of.*

*Please vote against any property tax increases in your county.*

*Thank you for your time,*

*April Featherkile  
1430 Second St*

*Wenatchee, WA 98801*



**From:** [Brian Coffey](#)  
**To:** [Contact Council](#)  
**Subject:** 8% property tax increase  
**Date:** Sunday, November 24, 2024 7:38:33 PM

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Attn. Council

As a Snohomish County resident, I adamantly oppose the 8% property tax increase, and I ask that you vote no. This increased proposal is absolutely insane.

Thank you,  
Brian Coffey  
Marysville resident

**From:** [Laurie Layne](#)  
**To:** [Mead, Jared](#); [Dunn, Megan](#); [Peterson, Strom](#); [Low, Sam](#); [Nehring, Nate](#); [Contact Council](#); [Tim Eyman](#)  
**Subject:** Snohomish County Council: vote no on 8% property tax increase, vote yes on eliminating duplicative government jobs.  
**Date:** Sunday, November 24, 2024 7:40:08 PM

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Hi There taxpayers strongly oppose this massive 8% percent property tax increase! And said so in 2001 along with legislators in 2007 and capped it at 1% ! This has been in effect for 23 years and for a bigger increase the voters permission is required! Vote no on this 8% property tax increase and show some fiscal discipline for a change! Also there was a performance audit identifying duplicated government jobs. Vote yes on the amendment eliminating them! Taxpayers have had enough of misuse of their \$\$ on such obvious waste! And remember who you work for! Thanks for your time!

**From:** [Pauly Nieten](#)  
**To:** [Contact Council](#)  
**Subject:** Proposed tax increases  
**Date:** Sunday, November 24, 2024 7:58:28 PM

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Good evening. Regarding the proposed 8% tax increase, this is not the right time for that. Perhaps when things get better economically, this would be a proposal people could live with. But at this time in the United States, it is not a good idea to raise people's taxes so much when so many are struggling financially.

If the budget is so out of whack that it requires such a high increase, perhaps it is time to reevaluate the budget and reduce programs that do not directly serve the majority of citizens. Like many government budgets, I'm certain there are many programs that money is being spent on that are just not a necessity right now.

Thank you,

Pauly Nieten  
Arlington Resident  
734.637.8708

**From:** [Robert Blix](#)  
**To:** [Contact Council](#)  
**Subject:** Waste Fraud and Abuse ?  
**Date:** Sunday, November 24, 2024 7:59:22 PM

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Dear Council Members,

Recent Financial Audits have disclosed wasteful and abusive spending by the Government of Snohomish County.

Findings document clearly that government employees are assigned nothing jobs while working on the political campaigns of their boss. Questionable programs are being run by phantom Directors who allegedly are not even residents of this State. Numerous staff positions are deemed pointless or a wasteful duplication of effort.

What has to happen before this waste, fraud and abuse ends ? Reach out to 60 Minutes ?

Vote NO on Somers Abusive Property Tax.

Respectfully,

Robert Blix  
Colonel,USA  
Retired

Sent from my iPad

**From:** [Mike Brodle](#)  
**To:** [Mead, Jared](#); [Dunn, Megan](#); [Peterson, Strom](#); [Low, Sam](#); [Nehring, Nate](#); [Contact Council](#); [timdeyman@gmail.com](mailto:timdeyman@gmail.com)  
**Subject:** Snohomish County Council: vote no on 8% property tax increase, vote yes on eliminating duplicative government jobs.  
**Date:** Sunday, November 24, 2024 8:03:02 PM

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members,

Taxpayers clearly oppose a massive 8% property tax increase. Voters in 2001 and legislators in 2007 capped increases at 1% per year. This 23 year old law requires voter approval for anything higher. Respect this well-established law by voting no on the 8% property tax increase. Just as important, the performance audit clearly identified duplicative government jobs. The proposed amendment eliminating those redundant positions is completely justified. Forcing taxpayers to pay for a 2nd job -- an unelected position -- for any Olympia politician is cronyism at its worst. The citizens demand efficient and effective use of their tax dollars. Vote yes on the amendment eliminating duplicative government jobs. Mike

**From:** [Lester Liu](#)  
**To:** [Mead, Jared](#); [Dunn, Megan](#); [Peterson, Strom](#); [Low, Sam](#); [Nehring, Nate](#); [Contact Council](#); [timdeyman@gmail.com](mailto:timdeyman@gmail.com)  
**Subject:** Snohomish County Council: vote no on 8% property tax increase, vote yes on eliminating duplicative government jobs.  
**Date:** Sunday, November 24, 2024 8:41:29 PM

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Taxpayers clearly oppose a massive 8% property tax increase. Voters in 2001 and legislators in 2007 capped increases at 1% per year. This 23 year old law requires voter approval for anything higher. Respect this well-established law by voting no on the 8% property tax increase. Just as important, the performance audit clearly identified duplicative government jobs. The proposed amendment eliminating those redundant positions is completely justified. Forcing taxpayers to pay for a 2nd job — an unelected position — for any Olympia politician is cronyism at its worst. The citizens demand efficient and effective use of their tax dollars in an ethical and accountable way. Vote yes on the amendment eliminating duplicate government jobs.

Snohomish County Resident,

Lester Liu

**From:** [Shirley Johnson](#)  
**To:** [Contact Council](#)  
**Subject:** Increase in property tax  
**Date:** Sunday, November 24, 2024 8:44:54 PM

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I can't afford an increase in my property taxes. I'm 81 years old and live on Social Security and I have to take money out of a small savings account to help me pay my property tax. If my taxes don't go up I can live in my house 3 more years and then my savings will be gone. Please don't increase my property tax. Reduce the property tax by consolidating departments and get rid of wasteful spending. I hope you do the right thing because I would hate to become homeless.

Shirley Johnson  
Sent from my iPhone

**From:** [Hobi Ardis](#)  
**To:** [Mead, Jared](#); [Dunn, Megan](#); [Peterson, Strom](#); [Low, Sam](#); [Nehring, Nate](#); [Contact Council](#); [timdeyman@gmail.com](mailto:timdeyman@gmail.com)  
**Subject:** Snohomish County Council: vote no on 8% property tax increase, vote yes on eliminating duplicative government jobs.  
**Date:** Sunday, November 24, 2024 9:05:29 PM

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*Taxpayers clearly oppose a massive 8% property tax increase. Voters in 2001 and legislators in 2007 capped increases at 1% per year. This 23 year old law requires voter approval for anything higher. Respect this well-established law by voting no on the 8% property tax increase. Just as important, the performance audit clearly identified duplicative government jobs. The proposed amendment eliminating those redundant positions is completely justified. Forcing taxpayers to pay for a 2nd job -- an unelected position -- for any Olympia politician is cronyism at its worst. The citizens demand efficient and effective use of their tax dollars. Vote yes on the amendment eliminating duplicative government jobs.*

Acts like these, are causing people to reconsider whether this state is worth staying in, what with rampant ILLEGAL immigration driving down wages for US citizens here in the puget sound region,, Skyrocketing housing prices also caused by rampant ILLEGAL immigration, and outrageous inflation caused by the federal government printing money constantly and borrowing money we wont be able to pay the interest on, let alone pay back,

And on top of all that, local politicians instructing law enforcement to ignore laws for certain groups of people, not to mention the covid lockdown lunacy pushed by ALL the local governments,, yup the taxpaying law abiding citizens seem to be getting the short end of the stick from ALL the washington politicians both here and in DC,

No i wouldnt vote for those increases if i were you, we are about at our limits with what you people are trying to do

and yes i use the slur "You People" to describe politicians, i use it because look at the state of the country - its broken and its broke and

about to collapse

these problems have been known for 50 years, and all the scum (politicians) did was kick the can down the road while borrowing and spending MORE money WE DONT HAVE !!!!!!!

YUP WE'RE ABOUT AT OUR LIMIT WITH THE LIES AND TAXES THAT EMANATE FROM OLYMPIA  
YOUVE BEEN PUT ON NOTICE,

VENTURE FORWARD WITH TREPIDATION

THIS COUNTRY IS ABOUT TO EXPLODE

ALL THANKS TO LYING WORTHLESS CAREER POLITICIANS

WHY DO YOU THINK DONALD TRUMP WAS ELECTED



**From:** f  
**To:** [Contact Council](#)  
**Subject:** Proposed Property Tax Increase  
**Date:** Sunday, November 24, 2024 9:34:28 PM

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Hello-

This is the second time I have written to the council regarding this issue. I appreciate the responses that I received from Nate Nehring, Jared Mead and Megan Dunn. I have a much better understanding of the issues with the information that you all provided.

However, that does not change my strong belief that this is not the time to raise property taxes no matter how minimal they might seem. I am a very fiscally conservative person by nature and in my own household I have no problems cutting the fat when necessary. In our current economy as citizens struggle to avoid the basics, I think the county needs to cut back to funding only the essentials required by law. There is no doubt in my mind that there cuts that can and should be made starting with the items discovered during the recent audit of the county executives office.

Once again, I ask that the county council do what all of us have done and that is reduce expenditures and live within our means.

Thank you,

Joni McKenzie  
Snohomish

**From:** [lrhoward](#)  
**To:** [Contact Council](#)  
**Subject:** NO NEW TAXES!!  
**Date:** Sunday, November 24, 2024 10:08:58 PM

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Please vote against this ridiculous 8% real estate tax Somers wants to saddle us with. Enough already!!

Our insurance has doubled, gasoline prices will still rise after confusing the voters w lying commercials. Just Stop!!!!

The State has a bloated budget & so do you! Cut back like everyone else. Please! Vote No!

Lynne Howard

Sno co res

Get [Outlook for iOS](#)

**From:** [J and M](#)  
**To:** [Contact Council](#)  
**Subject:** Snoco property - Monday  
**Date:** Sunday, November 24, 2024 11:08:58 PM

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Dear Nate and Council Members,

I urge you to consider the implications of raising property rates in SnoCo, especially given the current cost-of-living crisis.

The rising cost of land and housing is already making the market increasingly inaccessible for new homebuyers. An increase in property rates would only exacerbate this issue.

Additionally, raising property rates would contradict efforts to support residents through hourly wage increases. Higher property rates would lead to increased rents, perpetuating a cycle that makes it harder for people to afford living in our area.

I strongly recommend exploring alternative funding options, such as seeking support from private vendors or organizing fundraisers, to address budgetary needs without further burdening homeowners and renters.

Please do not vote to raise property rates in Snohomish County.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

Sincerely,

Thank you.  
Mary Murphy

184th & Larch Way  
Lynnwood 98037

**From:** [Jocelyn Javier](#)  
**To:** [Contact Council](#)  
**Subject:** 8% Tax Increase  
**Date:** Monday, November 25, 2024 12:56:05 AM

---

I am writing in response to your proposal to raise taxes 8%. Did you get an 8% wage increase in the past year? Most of us didn't. On top of that, food prices went up 22%. Energy and housing are similar or worse. We all have desires of what we want, but under the current circumstances, your desire for an 8% tax increase is way beyond reasonable and not needed. We have tightened our belts. It's time for you to do the same. We make hard choices. So can you. We appreciate Nate's alternative proposal and highly recommend that you seriously consider implementing it. People are already choosing between food and housing payments. Or food and medicine. Or food and heating oil. This is the bottom of the barrel. This year is far worse than even what we experienced during the Covid pandemic.

Please listen to your constituents and face the recession. Take more appropriate steps to balance your budget with cuts. Thank you.

Sent from my iPhone

**From:** [Madeline Gerwick](#)  
**To:** [Contact Council](#)  
**Subject:** Re Proposed 8% Tax Increase  
**Date:** Monday, November 25, 2024 1:03:22 AM  
**Attachments:** [image001.png](#)  
**Importance:** High

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Hello Snohomish County Council,

I'm writing again to encourage you to cut expenses, instead of raising taxes. I see Jared has offered some excellent suggestions on how to do that. My own property taxes are over twice what they were 11 years ago when I purchased my home. I understand how this occurs due to market values. However, my own income did not double, nowhere remotely near that! It certainly looks like there's plenty of room for cuts in your budget and there's no room for another 8% tax increase in my budget. Please vote for Jared's amendment and get in line with the times we're in. I'm sure you can handle these cuts without harming emergency services.

Many thanks!

Madeline Gerwick

Polaris Business Guides, LLC

Toll Free: 877-524-8300

International: 360-474-1149

[www.polarisbusinessguides.com](http://www.polarisbusinessguides.com)

[mgb@polarisbusinessguides.com](mailto:mgb@polarisbusinessguides.com)



**From:** [Ann Napier](#)  
**To:** [Contact Council](#)  
**Subject:** VOTE NO on the Proposed Co Tax Hike!  
**Date:** Monday, November 25, 2024 1:07:54 AM

---

Dear Council Members,

I have been a Snohomish Co resident since 2016. I moved to Everett because I could no longer afford to live in King County, where I worked and lived in Bellevue. Shortly after moving to Everett, I was forced into part time employment by my employer, who then laid me off during the pandemic. My financial situation has not improved over the years, as I would have hoped. If this tax increase happens, I will have no other choice than to leave WA state. Maybe that's what this tax hike is all about, though? Making the "undesirables" leave the state, or at least from the area?

A community is made of ALL kinds of people. When I first moved to WA state in 1994, we chose the Puget Sound area because it was so diverse, it had lots of opportunities for growth, and had the environments that we wanted to raise our children in. As I've aged, I've noticed the social culture has definitely changed in this area. There doesn't seem to be much tolerance any more for those who are different, less fortunate, or the working poor, unless they meet certain criteria or narratives. Snohomish County is home to many of these types of peoples, along with some who are more than fortunate. What appears to be unfortunate is that those who are more fortunate tend to govern and impose taxes upon the less fortunate. This sounds like a modern day caste system to me.

What Snohomish County needs, like most every other county, state, city, and household in this nation, and most likely the world, is a balanced budget: one where the credit is not more than the debit. I understand that's what the council thinks it is doing; but, in reality the burden that this increase will have will be far more detrimental to the people who currently live here. It's past time for the council to cut the fat out of the budget....like MANY of your constituents have already done, and are still not making ends meet. This tax burden is waaaaay TOO MUCH!

I appealed my property value last year, only to have insurance and other taxes go up! So, even though my appeal was approved, I still ended up paying \$200 more/month! I'm more than maxed out, since I've had no income for over 4 years, and have nearly exhausted my 401K. I cannot work since I am currently dealing with cancer (for the fourth time!)

I strongly urge you to reconsider this tax hike: DON'T be like King County!

Thank you,

Ann Napier  
2317 State St  
Everett, WA 98201

Live simply, love generously, care deeply, speak kindly, then leave the rest to God ; )

**From:** [Mike Young](#)  
**To:** [Contact Council](#)  
**Subject:** We Oppose 8% Property Tax Increase  
**Date:** Monday, November 25, 2024 4:23:27 AM

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We just heard that there is a proposal for an 8% Property Tax increase being voted on this morning. We strongly oppose such an increase! As Senior citizens on fixed incomes, a proposed 8% increase in our property taxes is alarming. PLEASE VOTE NO on this proposed increase!!!

Mike and Gail Young  
1228 235<sup>th</sup> Pl. S.W.  
Bothell, WA 98021

**From:** [execsecretary.assistant@gmail.com](mailto:execsecretary.assistant@gmail.com)  
**To:** [Contact Council](#)  
**Subject:** : 8% property tax hike  
**Date:** Monday, November 25, 2024 6:09:41 AM

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To Whom It May Concern:

As a nearly 30yr resident of Snohomish County I express to you my extreme dismay at the prospect of yet another large property tax increase. This will trickle down to do the most harm to the most vulnerable and increase rents and mortgages that are already too high.

Since 2020 most recently we have all seen shocking market appreciation that has already priced so many out of the area or into homelessness. This appreciation is a bubble reflecting the artificial stimulus during the lockdown period, or most appropriately termed would be a devaluation of our money. The only way out of this mess is to reduce all spending at the government level and return that money to the private sector, even in terms of labor resources as the labor market is too tight for business to produce and be profitable.

Property values here appear to be softening and may crash in reaction to the factors mentioned. A tax increase will only strengthen that process in our region. SnoCo needs to do the responsible thing and cut, cut, cut all spending to bring back productivity and affordable living in this great green place of beauty in which we reside.

Kind Regards,  
James Harper  
Lake Stevens WA



**From:** [Jamie Sullivan](#)  
**To:** [Mead, Jared](#); [Dunn, Megan](#); [Peterson, Strom](#); [Low, Sam](#); [Nehring, Nate](#); [Contact Council](#); [timdeyman@gmail.com](mailto:timdeyman@gmail.com)  
**Subject:** Snohomish County Council: vote no on 8% property tax increase, vote yes on eliminating duplicative government jobs.  
**Date:** Monday, November 25, 2024 6:16:26 AM

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*Taxpayers clearly oppose a massive 8% property tax increase. Voters in 2001 and legislators in 2007 capped increases at 1% per year. This 23 year old law requires voter approval for anything higher. Respect this well-established law by voting no on the 8% property tax increase. Just as important, the performance audit clearly identified duplicative government jobs. The proposed amendment eliminating those redundant positions is completely justified. Forcing taxpayers to pay for a 2nd job -- an unelected position -- for any Olympia politician is cronyism at its worst. The citizens demand efficient and effective use of their tax dollars. Vote yes on the amendment eliminating duplicative government jobs.*

**James Sullivan**  
**Gig Harbor WA**

**From:** [mjroggenkamp@gmail.com](mailto:mjroggenkamp@gmail.com)  
**To:** [Mead, Jared](#); [Dunn, Megan](#); [Peterson, Strom](#); [Low, Sam](#); [Nehring, Nate](#); [Contact Council](#)  
**Subject:** Snohomish County Council: vote no on 8% property tax increase, vote yes on eliminating duplicative government jobs.  
**Date:** Monday, November 25, 2024 6:33:10 AM

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We oppose any tax increase especially a massive 8% property tax increase. Voters in 2001 and legislators in 2007 capped increases at 1% per year. This 23 year old law requires voter approval for anything higher. Respect this well-established law by voting no on the 8% property tax increase. Just as important, the performance audit clearly identified duplicate government jobs. The proposed amendment eliminating those redundant positions is completely justified. Forcing taxpayers to pay for a 2nd job -- an unelected position -- for any Olympia politician is cronyism at its worst. The citizens demand efficient and effective use of their tax dollars. Vote yes on the amendment eliminating duplicative government jobs.

Thank you for your service to we the people

Marilyn Roggenkamp

503-866-6393

*"Truth will ultimately prevail where pains are taken to bring it to light." George Washington*

**From:** [Monica Smith](#)  
**To:** [Contact Council](#)  
**Subject:** Tax Increase  
**Date:** Monday, November 25, 2024 6:40:01 AM

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Hello Snohomish County Council.

I am writing in response to your proposal to raise taxes 8%. Did you get an 8% wage increase in the past year? I know we didn't. And on top of that, food went up 22%. Energy and housing are similar or worse. We all have desires of what we want, but under the current circumstances, your desire for an 8% tax increase is way beyond reasonable and not needed. We have tightened our belts. It's time for you to do the same. We make hard choices. So can you.

We appreciate Nate's alternative proposal and highly recommend that you seriously consider implementing it. People are already choosing between food and housing payments. Or food and medicine. Or food and heating oil. This is the bottom of the barrel. I talk to many small businesses in Arlington regularly. This year is far worse than even what we experienced during Covid.

There is no additional 8% for you! Wake up to this recession and start taking more appropriate steps to balance your budget with cuts.

Best wishes for a much more realistic budget!

Get [Outlook for iOS](#)

**From:** [Marv Nelson](#)  
**To:** [Contact Council](#)  
**Subject:** 8% tax  
**Date:** Monday, November 25, 2024 6:50:56 AM

---

With repspect ,, we are absolutely opposed to the 8% tax increase MNelson  
Sent from iPhone

**From:** [Mike Zyskowski](#)  
**To:** [Contact Council](#)  
**Subject:** NO on 8% property tax increase  
**Date:** Monday, November 25, 2024 7:13:58 AM

---

Greetings,

I'm writing to ask that you please do not enact the proposed 8% property tax increase.

I respectfully request that instead you approve the budget amendment to eliminate the 8% general property tax levy increase in Executive Somers' proposed budget by reducing unnecessary spending to ensure a balanced budget with no tax increase see Amendment. The amendment removes budget increases over current budgeted levels and removes discretionary spending not connected to essential County government functions.

We cannot afford more property tax increases - please find another way to balance the budget.

Michael Zyskowski  
Everett, WA

**From:** [Yvonne Martin](#)  
**To:** [Contact Council](#)  
**Subject:** Proposed tax increase  
**Date:** Monday, November 25, 2024 7:16:31 AM

---

I believe this proposed general property tax increase is not only exorbitant but also unnecessary. We are already under a heavy tax burden in this state and county and can ill afford any additions to it. You should look to be better stewards of the budget that has already been given to you by tax payers and cut the unnecessary things out of the spending. I believe the proposed budget ammendment by council member Nate Nehring should be adopted to acclomplish the elimination of the proposed increase.

Thank you,

Yvonne Martin  
1044 Columbia Ave  
Marysville 98270

**From:** [Renee Kimes](#)  
**To:** [Contact Council](#)  
**Subject:** Proposed Vote to Raise Property Taxes in Snohomish County  
**Date:** Monday, November 25, 2024 7:25:19 AM

---

What are you thinking!!! Vote no to raise our property taxes. Your budgets are bloated and spend money on things the majority of us do not want.

VOTE NO TO RAISING OUR TAXES!

I am retired and my monthly tproperty tax bill is \$700.

Renee Kimes

**From:** [F.Pestarino](#)  
**To:** [Mead, Jared](#); [Dunn, Megan](#); [Peterson, Strom](#); [Low, Sam](#); [Nehring, Nate](#); [Contact Council](#)  
**Subject:** Snohomish County Council: vote no on 8% property tax increase, vote yes on eliminating duplicative government jobs.  
**Date:** Monday, November 25, 2024 7:26:05 AM

---

VOTE "NO" ON THE 8% PROPERTY TAX INCREASE !

VOTE "YES" ON ELIMINATING DUPLICATIVE GOVERNMENT JOBS !



**From:** [shellbellemail](#)  
**To:** [Nehring, Nate](#); [Mead, Jared](#); [Dunn, Megan](#); [Low, Sam](#); [Peterson, Strom](#); [Contact Council](#)  
**Subject:** FREEZ PROPERTY TAX 2025-2026, BAL BUDGET, & HIRE SHERIFF'S  
**Date:** Monday, November 25, 2024 7:42:48 AM  
**Attachments:** [Snohomish County Council Meeting Nov.25,2024.docx](#)

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11/25/2024

Good Morning All

You are receiving this email of my intent to comment at today's meeting.

I support Nate Nehring and Jared Mead Proposals to Cut 1.3 Million Dollars and Freeze Property Taxes for 2025 & 2026.

Please see attached: My Comment.

Looking Forward to Hearing Back From You and The Results of Today's Vote.

Shelly Schweigert  
16121 3rd Drive NE  
Arlington WA 98223

Cell:425-737-1228

# **Snohomish County Council Meeting**

## **2025 & 2026 Budget Proposal and Vote**

**November 25, 2024 @ 9am**

My name is Shelly Schweigert Resident of Arlington in Snohomish County.

I want to recognize Snohomish County Council Members for your outstanding teamwork. Your efforts and all that you do is appreciated !

What I like about Snohomish County Residents, Retired or Working, we continue to support our Communities Post COVID-19 Pandemic.

What I like about Snohomish County Council Best Practices is Building Bridges Together to find Solutions for our County.

Executive Somers [proposed 2025-2026 Budget](#) "Post Covid-19" *reflects economic concern in Snohomish County.*

On Wednesday November 13, 2024 Snohomish County *Sheriff Susanna Johnson, announced* 16 open sheriff positions for a safer Snohomish County

I agree with Jared Mead Proposal Cut 1.3 million. This would allow the County to hire 13 Sheriff's Deputies out of 16.

I agree and support Nate Nehring proposal to **FREEZE Property Taxes** without increase 2025 & 2026.

Cost of [living increase post](#)-COVID highlights the ongoing financial challenges many Snohomish County Taxpayers face. While inflation has moderated, prices for essential goods and services remain high, straining household budgets. We can navigate this complex economic landscape and work towards financial stability over the next 2 years .

**Snohomish County's budget is a reflection of the values of our community**

**Shelly Schweigert 16121 3<sup>rd</sup> Drive NE Arlington WA 98223**

**From:** [John Ackerman](#)  
**To:** [Contact Council](#)  
**Subject:** Property Tax Increase  
**Date:** Monday, November 25, 2024 7:45:07 AM

---

Hello, I understand there will be a meeting and a vote today to potentially increasing property taxes. Keep in mind the biggest issue we tax payers want is accountability not constant asking for more tax increases. Tax payers should be in control of increases. If we saw fiscal accountability not open checkbooks we would agree on taxes. Fix the current budget with out emotion !

[Yahoo Mail: Search, Organize, Conquer](#)

**From:** [Annette](#)  
**To:** [Contact Council](#)  
**Subject:** No Tax Increase - Implement Audit Suggestions & Trim the Budget  
**Date:** Monday, November 25, 2024 8:06:44 AM

---

Snohomish County Council Members,

I am not sure why the citizen outcry for no tax increase is falling on deaf ears and has come to another vote. Responsible leaders prioritize, trim costs, and reduce the size of government at a time like this. The latest audit outlines overlap and savings opportunities as a good start. The rate of tax increases and ever growing government is unsustainable. Since my property taxes have literally doubled in the last 10 years, I don't believe for a minute that the proposed tax increase will only cost me another \$25 per year. Budget trimming and proof of need should come first.

I implore you to please vote No Tax Increase.

Thank you for your consideration.

Best regards,

Annette Kessler  
Brier, WA

**From:** [Susan Paine](#)  
**To:** [Contact Council](#)  
**Subject:** Please Support the Executive's Recommendations  
**Date:** Monday, November 25, 2024 8:16:31 AM

---

Dear County Councilmembers,

Please unbank all of the 1% property tax capacity and continue to increase taxes by the legal maximum amount for both years of your biennial budget.

The usefulness of having banked capacity is almost nil with the inflation rate being as high as it has been for the past several years. The additional revenue will help the County to preserve the needed programs for both our residents and the environment.

With appreciation for your service,

Susan Paine  
Edmonds Councilmember

**From:** [Wayne Jess](#)  
**To:** [Contact Council](#)  
**Subject:** Tax increase NO!  
**Date:** Monday, November 25, 2024 8:18:54 AM

---

This 8% tax increase is a terrible idea! Try skimming some of the high paid execs first!  
Thank You

[Sent from Yahoo Mail for iPhone](#)

**From:** [Raymond Miller](#)  
**To:** [Contact Council](#)  
**Subject:** No tax increase  
**Date:** Monday, November 25, 2024 8:23:01 AM

---

I am writing in regards to the ill advised tax increase that you are considering! During this difficult period with the economy being what it is a tax increase is out of question and I believe you should tax additional measures to reduce the budget. Please no new taxes you can do better!!

Raymond Miller  
Sent from my iPhone

**From:** [RUDY NARSI](#)  
**To:** [Contact Council](#)  
**Subject:** Property tax  
**Date:** Monday, November 25, 2024 8:24:13 AM

---

Dear Snohomish county council,

The property tax that is proposed should not pass. We the people should get to vote for our taxes to increase and not up to the council members that makes more money then the public and can't manage the money that is given in taxes already. We pay way more tax then we should and it is your responsibility to manage the budget properly and it showed you can't do that. Look at all the waste the county has and stop giving yourself a raise and say you need to increase the tax to pay for it. Cut you upper management staffing and waste and put an increase to the public.

NO needs to be the vote.

Roopesh Narsi



**From:** [Shirley Oczkewicz](#)  
**To:** [Contact Council](#)  
**Subject:** Nov. 25th vote  
**Date:** Monday, November 25, 2024 8:40:08 AM

---

Councilmembers,

How can you in good conscience vote for an 8% increase in property tax when Nate Nehring and another councilmember have offered lower and better proposals?!!!

Shirley Oczkewicz  
Edmonds

**From:** [Dick Williams](#)  
**To:** [Contact Council](#)  
**Subject:** Proposed tax increase  
**Date:** Monday, November 25, 2024 8:57:05 AM

---

We agree with Nate Nehring and Jared Mead. Dave Somers has directed taxpayer funds in numerous ways that do not benefit the taxpayers. The elimination of the nonproductive "employees" will accomplish more than the tax increase.

Dick & Jill Williams  
360-668-7706  
22127 138th Ave SE  
Snohomish, WA 98296

**From:** [Gabriel Jacobs](#)  
**To:** [Contact Council](#)  
**Subject:** 8% property tax increase  
**Date:** Monday, November 25, 2024 9:00:58 AM

---

Council members,

When you say that the 8% property tax increase will only be \$3 in 2025, it invokes memories of Jay Inslee saying that the climate commitment act would cost pennies. Citizens of WA have been lied to and gas lit for too long and we are waking up.

We do not trust you.

I urge no tax increase at this time.

-Gabe Jacobs

425-314-1994

**From:** [Margo Weiss](#)  
**To:** [Contact Council](#); [Margo Weiss](#)  
**Subject:** NO on 8% increase on Property taxes  
**Date:** Monday, November 25, 2024 9:01:03 AM

---

No. Please take out redundant jobs. I support Nate Nehring's amendment.

Margo Weiss  
22705 13th Pl W,  
Bothell, WA 98021

**From:** [Judith Boles](#)  
**To:** [Mead, Jared](#); [Dunn, Megan](#); [Peterson, Strom](#); [Low, Sam](#); [Nehring, Nate](#); [Contact Council](#); [timdeyman@gmail.com](mailto:timdeyman@gmail.com)  
**Subject:** Snohomish County Council: vote no on 8% property tax increase, vote yes on eliminating duplicative government jobs.  
**Date:** Monday, November 25, 2024 9:04:26 AM

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*Taxpayers clearly oppose a massive 8% property tax increase. Voters in 2001 and legislators in 2007 capped increases at 1% per year. This 23 year old law requires voter approval for anything higher. Respect this well-established law by voting no on the 8% property tax increase. Just as important, the performance audit clearly identified duplicative government jobs. The proposed amendment eliminating those redundant positions is completely justified. Forcing taxpayers to pay for a 2nd job -- an unelected position -- for any Olympia politician is cronyism at its worst. The citizens demand efficient and effective use of their tax dollars. Vote yes on the amendment eliminating duplicative government jobs.*

**From:** [Dan](#)  
**To:** [Contact Council](#)  
**Subject:** Reject Tax Increases  
**Date:** Monday, November 25, 2024 9:04:57 AM

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Snohomish County Councilmembers,

If those on the council believe there's a need for more revenue, then 'cut taxes, spending and eliminate non-essential programs like "department of social justice" and there will be plenty of funds. Follow the audit recommendations as well. Why on earth are the taxpayers paying a former sheriff \$166,000 annually? Is this hush money for things he knows about the city or its leaders that the council doesn't want coming out? Perhaps there needs to be an outside investigation as to this pot of gold being provided to a former sheriff. Whatever it is, it's a tremendous waste of taxpayer money and needs to stop immediately.

Reject any tax increases and be responsible and accountable to the taxpayers, your constituents.

Dan Kessler

**From:** [Bill Cooper - Chairman, Snohomish County Republicans](#)  
**To:** [Contact Council](#)  
**Cc:** [Bill Cooper - Chairman, Snohomish County Republicans](#)  
**Subject:** 8% property tax  
**Date:** Monday, November 25, 2024 9:10:13 AM  
**Attachments:** [Outlook-ulv4udmo.png](#)

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I am writing to officially and publicly oppose this increase due to the many negative impacts it has on everyone. I have two Master's Degrees in Business and am a Lean Six Sigma Master Black Belt. As he was preparing to run for County Executive Dave Sommers and I met twice to discuss his implementing Lean Six Sigma into county government. He was quite interested in its use towards streamlining county government and advised he was going to create a position in the county to implement it (I wrote the book on how to manage Lean in government).

In this case the vote to add 8% to an already onerous property tax is inappropriate. Council Member Nate Nehring did the homework on how to reduce expenses on multiple programs producing little to no value and as it is reviewed it completely offsets the proposed increase.

As a representative of our constituents I strongly recommend eliminating this proposal - voting it down. Nate's gift to the county on how to provide well thought out fiscal management is where this vote needs to go.

*Bill Cooper*

Bill Cooper, Chairman  
Snohomish County Republican Party  
**425-252-3100**  
[chair@snocogop.org](mailto:chair@snocogop.org)  
[snocogop.org](http://snocogop.org)



*Get Involved, Make a Difference!*  
*The New **GOP**—**G**rowth and **O**pportunity **P**arty*

**From:** [Jennifer Walters](#)  
**To:** [Contact Council](#)  
**Subject:** Insane tax increase in a bad ece. This proposal is a onomy  
**Date:** Monday, November 25, 2024 9:26:44 AM

---

People here are struggling just to put food on their table. . I deeply oppose this high increase.in taxes.

I have to budget and so can you with OUR money.

Get rid of the excess waste you impose on us that most of us tax paying citizens don't benefit from.

I am a resident of Snohomish County.

Regards,  
Jen Walters



**From:** [pamg286](#)  
**To:** [Contact Council](#)  
**Subject:** Tax increase  
**Date:** Monday, November 25, 2024 9:35:16 AM

---

This is a very bad idea

It will increase homelessness. It will cause more people to move put of Washington.  
Cut the Covid funds group; cut the George Floyd group, cut some of the public entertainments.

People on fixed incomes or low incomes are already stretched thin.

Sent via the Samsung Galaxy S21 5G, an AT&T 5G smartphone

**From:** [Clifford Meador](#)  
**To:** [Contact Council](#)  
**Subject:** Taxes  
**Date:** Monday, November 25, 2024 9:41:11 AM

---

You're sure not representing us.

**From:** [Jim Ewert](#)  
**To:** [Contact Council](#); [Somers, Dave J](#)  
**Subject:** Tax rate increase  
**Date:** Monday, November 25, 2024 9:41:21 AM

---

I am contacting you asking not to add an additional property tax increase to the already overburdened people of your district(s). You need to cut costs with the budget you already have and show some fiscal responsibility for your constituents. As a Snohomish County resident for most of my life, I have witnessed more squandering of money as the county has prospered. Just in my town, we have witnessed recent new sidewalks, roundabouts and guardrail replacements when none was warranted. Or what about looking at the payroll of the top one hundred Snohomish County employees? Why are Snohomish County elected officials receiving a 10%-20% pay increase for failing? What about Hal Johnson and his ridiculous salary for being a DEI director? What is the ROI for his newly appointed position? In conclusion, I would ask that you seriously look at some alternative options to achieve a balanced budget. We all know the tactic of threatening to cut back first the line items that affect the most people (i.e. public safety officers, firefighters, teachers). All the while throwing taxpayer dollars at pet projects that serve very few. We just witnessed on a national level what the "silent majority" of the populus feel are important. I would highly recommend you realize that the times are changing and people are putting our elected officials under a microscope and holding you accountable. Continuously taxing the property owners is not the way to achieve career longevity or a thriving community.

Thanks, Jim

**From:** [Rena Connell](#)  
**To:** [Contact Council](#)  
**Subject:** Concern About Biennial Budget Cuts  
**Date:** Monday, November 25, 2024 9:42:24 AM

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I have grown increasingly concerned about proposed budget cuts that would reduce services affecting Snohomish County residents in the future. I am especially concerned about Council cuts that may affect community safety, especially those that would impact the sheriff's office and its protections to the public. In a growing population in this county, we cannot afford budget cuts that would further impact the sheriff's staff and services already stretched thin. Please utilize the authority that the county has to use some of our "banked capacity," and prevent unnecessary service cuts at a time when inflation is already impacting county budgets. Your willingness to tap all available resources is essential if we are to preserve quality of life in this county.

--

Rena Connell, 15422 228th St. SE, Snohomish  
(h) 360-863-7741  
(c) 425-246-8592

**From:** [sandra gildroy](#)  
**To:** [Contact Council](#)  
**Subject:** No new tax hike  
**Date:** Monday, November 25, 2024 9:45:18 AM

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As a taxpayer of Snohomish county, I feel it would be more beneficial cutting benefits from those in charge: ie...the Mayor of Everett, for one. Why is she and others like her allowed to spend hard-earned taxpayer dollars to go to Washington, D.C. to hob-nob with senators who also love spending our money...then brag about it in public. Why would a mayor even need to go to D.C?

Cut dollars from the TOP "managers" rather than the continuing rape of the public.  
Gail Gildroy

**From:** [Zack Zinter](#)  
**To:** [Mead, Jared](#); [Dunn, Megan](#); [Peterson, Strom](#); [Low, Sam](#); [Nehring, Nate](#); [Contact Council](#); [timdeyman@gmail.com](mailto:timdeyman@gmail.com)  
**Subject:** Snohomish County Council: vote no on 8% property tax increase, vote yes on eliminating duplicative government jobs.  
**Date:** Monday, November 25, 2024 9:55:22 AM

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*Taxpayers clearly oppose a massive 8% property tax increase. Voters in 2001 and legislators in 2007 capped increases at 1% per year. This 23 year old law requires voter approval for anything higher. Respect this well-established law by voting no on the 8% property tax increase. Just as important, the performance audit clearly identified duplicative government jobs. The proposed amendment eliminating those redundant positions is completely justified. Forcing taxpayers to pay for a 2nd job -- an unelected position -- for any Olympia politician is cronyism at its worst. The citizens demand efficient and effective use of their tax dollars. Vote yes on the amendment eliminating duplicative government jobs.*

Zack Zinter  
360-707-8782

**From:** [Roberta Martin](#)  
**To:** [Mead, Jared](#); [Dunn, Megan](#); [Peterson, Strom](#); [Low, Sam](#); [Nehring, Nate](#); [Contact Council](#); [timdeyman@gmail.com](mailto:timdeyman@gmail.com)  
**Subject:** vote no on 8% property tax increase, vote yes on eliminating duplicative government jobs  
**Date:** Monday, November 25, 2024 9:59:06 AM

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vote no on 8% property tax increase, vote yes on eliminating duplicative government jobs

*Taxpayers clearly oppose a massive 8% property tax increase. Voters in 2001 and legislators in 2007 capped increases at 1% per year. This 23 year old law requires voter approval for anything higher. Respect this well-established law by voting no on the 8% property tax increase. Just as important, the performance audit clearly identified duplicative government jobs. The proposed amendment eliminating those redundant positions is completely justified. Forcing taxpayers to pay for a 2nd job -- an unelected position -- for any Olympia politician is cronyism at its worst. The citizens demand efficient and effective use of their tax dollars. Vote yes on the amendment eliminating duplicative government jobs.*

*Roberta Martin, Edmonds WA. Tax payer and voter!*

**From:** [Mike D](#)  
**To:** [Contact Council](#)  
**Subject:** Property Tax  
**Date:** Monday, November 25, 2024 10:16:22 AM

---

Dear Council,  
When will you do things beneficial to the people, rather than yourselves? Wasteful spending put the country where it is today. Dont follow sui

Mike Deacy  
Mill Creek

[Yahoo Mail: Search, Organize, Conquer](#)



**From:** [Amie Beisel](#)  
**To:** [Contact Council](#)  
**Subject:** Tax increase proposal  
**Date:** Monday, November 25, 2024 10:18:16 AM

---

Dear Council Members,

We are absolutely opposed to an 8% property tax increase! How can you even be considering that with citizens trying to recover from the current inflation and cost of groceries?!!

We fully support Councilman Nehring's alternative option that will not raise our taxes! Please vote for the option that is for us, not against us. Thank you.

Sincerely,  
Amie & Dave Beisel

**From:** [Amy Overland](#)  
**To:** [Nehring, Nate](#); [Mead, Jared](#); [Contact Council](#)  
**Subject:** 2024 Budget public comment  
**Date:** Monday, November 25, 2024 10:23:30 AM

---

Mr. Nehring & Mr. Mead,

As a homeowner in Stanwood and employee of Snohomish County I would like provide comment on the County Budget proposal to use the prior years banked capacity to increase property taxes. And to ask Jared Mead to please vote against a tax increase.

Our family home is in Stanwood and our property taxes have increased significantly (\$2,200) for the last 8 years due to the Assessor increasing the value of our home.  
For a few of the years, (2024 included), the Assessor valued it for more than we can sell it.

I am in no way interested in paying even more taxes for the government to continue to mismanage and spend on wasteful departments like the efficiency department or DEI teams or other woke social re-engineering projects or similar. Until the government can prove they are no longer blowing our hard-earned money on social programs that don't work, covid nonsense, & DEI shenanigans, etc. (which I won't go into in an effort to keep this short), then I will not support raising tax rates, at this time.

Amy Overland

(425)346-1130

## Public Testimony – Voicemails related to Ordinance 24-075

1. 11/12/24 Cathy Gemkow
2. 11/13/24 Pam Bennetsen
3. 11/13/24 Kathy Moore
4. 11/14/24 Nancy Ball
5. 11/14/24 Michael Ball
6. 11/14/24 Greg Seelaf
7. 11/14/24 Donald Jacobson
8. 11/19/24 Todd Sames