



SNOHOMISH COUNTY COUNCIL
Snohomish County, Washington

RESOLUTION NO. 26-004

***A RESOLUTION OF THE SNOHOMISH COUNTY COUNCIL HONORING
KEN KLEIN'S SERVICE TO SNOHOMISH COUNTY***

WHEREAS, Ken Klein has dedicated his career to public service and community leadership, demonstrating a deep commitment to the residents, employees, and future of Snohomish County; and

WHEREAS, prior to his service in local government, Ken Klein brought valuable private sector experience as District Accounting Manager and later Operations Manager for Compass Group at Microsoft, where he served for five years and developed strong expertise in fiscal management, operations, and organizational leadership; and

WHEREAS, Ken Klein began his public service career by serving on the Snohomish County Planning Commission from 2008 to 2013, helping guide responsible land use planning and long-term growth strategies for the county; and

WHEREAS, Ken Klein served on the Arlington City Council from 2012 to 2013, contributing to local governance and representing his hometown as an elected official; and

WHEREAS, Ken Klein was elected to the Snohomish County Council and served from 2013 to 2016, where he played a key role in advancing regional economic development, infrastructure investment, and community recovery efforts; and

WHEREAS, during his tenure on the County Council, Ken Klein championed the Stilly Valley Youth Project in response to the SR 530 slide, resulting in meaningful investments including upgrades to Quake Field in Arlington, renovations and additions to the Arlington Boys & Girls Club, development of a new skate park, improvements to Old School Park, and completion of the Whitehorse Trail in Darrington which strengthened community resilience and opportunity in North Snohomish County; and

WHEREAS, Ken Klein was instrumental in securing the designation of the Arlington-Marysville Manufacturing Industrial Center, now known as the Cascade Industrial Center, by the Puget Sound Regional Council, supporting long-term job creation and economic growth; and

WHEREAS, Ken Klein consistently supported local community projects and partnerships, reinforcing the County's commitment to collaboration and local investment; and

WHEREAS, in 2017, Ken Klein was appointed Executive Director by Snohomish County Executive Dave Somers, a role he has held with distinction through 2026; and

WHEREAS, as Executive Director, Ken Klein provided oversight of Public Works, Planning and Development Services, Finance, Facilities and Fleet, Human Resources, Information Technology, Operational Excellence, the Office of Public Defense, and Public Records, overseeing approximately 1,100 employees and a budget of \$650 million; and

WHEREAS, Ken Klein led the development of Snohomish County's first biennial budget, strengthening long-term fiscal planning and accountability; and

WHEREAS, Ken Klein oversaw the \$74 million Courthouse Renovation project, negotiated significant property sales, and led complex labor negotiations with county employee labor groups, demonstrating steady leadership during periods of growth and challenge; and

WHEREAS, Ken Klein's leadership style has been marked by professionalism, integrity, and a collaborative approach that earned the respect of elected officials, county staff, labor partners, and community stakeholders alike; and

WHEREAS, Ken Klein has demonstrated exceptional strategic foresight, resulting in back-to-back fantasy football championships in the Council/Executive fantasy football league; and

WHEREAS, Ken Klein's tireless commitment to quality control ensured that no cookie, treat, or candy jar went untested, thereby maintaining the highest snack standards on the 8th floor; and

WHEREAS, Ken Klein will be leaving Snohomish County service to become the City Administrator for the City of Snohomish, following confirmation of his appointment by the Snohomish City Council on Tuesday, January 6th;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Snohomish County Council hereby honors and commends Ken Klein for his exemplary service, leadership, and dedication to Snohomish County and its residents; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Snohomish County Council expresses its gratitude for Ken Klein's lasting contributions to the County's governance, infrastructure, fiscal stewardship, and community well-being, and wishes him continued success in his new role as City Administrator for the City of Snohomish.

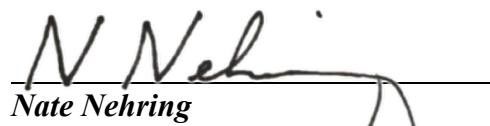
APPROVED this 14th day of January 2026.



Megan Dunn
Council Chair



Sam Low
Council Vice-Chair



Nate Nehring
Councilmember



Jared Mead
Councilmember



Strom Peterson
Councilmember

ATTEST: 
Elena Lao, CMC
Deputy Clerk of the Council