



SNOHOMISH COUNTY COUNCIL
Snohomish County, Washington

RESOLUTION NO. 24-045

**RECOGNIZING OCTOBER 9, 2024, AS LOIS LANGER THOMPSON DAY IN
SNOHOMISH COUNTY**

***WHEREAS,** Lois Langer Thompson has exemplified outstanding leadership as the Executive Director of Sno-Isle Libraries since 2018, which provides service to over 800,000 residents across Snohomish and Island counties through 23 community libraries, online services, and the Bookmobile; and*

***WHEREAS,** Lois has diligently advanced Sno-Isle Libraries' mission and goals to engage and inspire communities through equitable access to knowledge and resources while enhancing library services, creating inspiring spaces, optimizing funding and investing in staff; and*

***WHEREAS,** Lois has consistently led with equity across the organization, ensuring a commitment to inclusion and removing barriers that prevent historically excluded groups from accessing library services and programming; and*

***WHEREAS,** Lois led a comprehensive capital strategy framework for community libraries, ensuring long-term sustainability to connect everyone to their library, and secured over \$8.02 million in state grants to support these projects;*

***WHEREAS,** to accomplish the goal of creating inspiring spaces, Lois led the organization in completing two major library remodels in Darrington and Edmonds, and a repair project in Mill Creek. The Langley Library is under renovation, and new library projects in Mariner and Lake Stevens are starting construction soon;*

***WHEREAS,** Lois partnered with Snohomish County to invest in digital equity, helping bridge the digital divide for customers through a \$1.5 million federal ARPA grant; and*

***WHEREAS,** under Lois's leadership, the Library District has supported a collection of over 1.6M physical items for community use, and in 2023, Sno-Isle Libraries had a record 4 million digital checkouts; and*

***WHEREAS,** Lois upheld the freedom to read, ensuring access to information and diverse collections to residents of the Library District; and*

***WHEREAS,** Lois upheld environmentally responsible practices and built community resilience within the Library District; and*

WHEREAS, Lois expanded the Sno-Isle Libraries Foundation Board of Directors, bolstering the organization's governance and fundraising capabilities, and strengthened community collaboration, Friends of the Libraries, and regional partnerships, enhancing the library's role and impact in the community; and

WHEREAS, Lois has created a positive and empowering work environment, and has demonstrated exceptional leadership and unwavering support for library staff, fostering a culture of inclusivity and growth; and

WHEREAS, Lois has advocated for public and organizational policies that support and provide for library employee safety; and

WHEREAS, Lois guided the organization through a pandemic, adopting new library services including holds lockers, books by mail, self-service library hours, and online programming; and

WHEREAS, Lois has demonstrated exceptional dedication through active participation in various taskforces and boards including the Public Library Directors of Washington, Island County Economic Recovery Task Force, Snohomish County Economic & Workforce Recovery Task Force and the Economic Alliance of Snohomish County Board of Trustees, significantly contributing to the advancement and betterment of our community; and

WHEREAS, Lois has shown continued community leadership to develop the Mariner Community Campus project in unincorporated Snohomish County including acquisition of property for the future campus;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Snohomish County Council commends Lois Langer Thompson for her contributions across our County, as our Chief County Librarian, connecting everyone to their libraries. We call upon the people of Snohomish County to observe October 9, 2024, as Lois Langer Thompson Day by visiting your local community library, reading, and promoting literacy and lifelong learning.

APPROVED this 9th day of October 2024.




Jared Mead
Council Chair



Nate Nehring
Council Vice-Chair




Sam Low
Councilmember



Megan Dunn
Councilmember



Strom Peterson
Councilmember

ATTEST: 
Elena Lao, CMC
Deputy Clerk of the Council