

1 Adopted: 08/16/21
2 Effective: 08/16/21

3 SNOHOMISH COUNTY COUNCIL
4 SNOHOMISH COUNTY, WASHINGTON

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6 AMENDED EMERGENCY ORDINANCE NO. 21-050

7
8 RELATING TO COUNTY EMPLOYMENT, PROVIDING FOUR
9 ADDITIONAL HOURS OF EMPLOYEE LEAVE TO ENCOURAGE AND FACILITATE
10 COVID-19 VACCINATIONS FOR EMPLOYEES

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12 **WHEREAS**, SARS-CoV-2 (COVID-19) disease is caused by a virus that spreads easily
13 from person to person and may result in serious illness or death, and is classified by the World
14 Health Organization as a worldwide pandemic; and

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16 **WHEREAS**, COVID-19 has broadly spread throughout Washington State and remains a
17 significant health risk to the community, especially members of our most vulnerable populations;
18 and

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20 **WHEREAS**, as of February 27, 2021, three vaccines are authorized for emergency use by
21 the United States Food & Drug Administration; and

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23 **WHEREAS**, as of April 15, 2021, all County employees are eligible to receive a
24 vaccination against COVID-19; and

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26 **WHEREAS**, as of August 3, 2021, the Snohomish Health District reported a total of
27 40,427 confirmed positive cases in Snohomish County since the beginning of the pandemic, plus
28 an additional 3,834 probable positive cases and 632 deaths in Snohomish County as a result of
29 COVID-19; and

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31 **WHEREAS**, to prevent the spread of COVID-19 it is necessary to achieve the highest rate
32 of vaccination of the Snohomish County population as possible; and


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34 **WHEREAS**, the Centers for Disease Control has recommended that employers develop
35 plans to facilitate worker vaccinations; and

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37 **WHEREAS**, as of August 10th, COVID-19 cases are again spiking as a result of high levels
38 of community transition of the highly infectious delta variant, with the two-week case count
39 increasing to 279 infections per 100,000 people; and

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41 **WHEREAS**, the current wave of infections is also causing an alarming increase in the
42 number of hospitalized patients, putting further strain on local health care resources; and

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44 **WHEREAS**, the best long-term protection from the effects of COVID-19 is vaccination,
45 as evidenced by July case rates and hospitalizations, of which vaccinated Snohomish County
46 residents were one-tenth of those for the unvaccinated; and

1 ATTEST:

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4 Clerk of the Council

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20 Rebecca J. Guadamud 08-12-2021

21 Deputy Prosecuting Attorney