

PT-21	12/02/21	Public Testimony / Email – Teena Ellison
PT-22	12/02/21	Public Testimony / Email – Russell Ostlund
PT-23	12/02/21	Public Testimony / Email – Steven Franke
PT-24	12/02/21	Public Testimony / Email – Matt Ogurkow
PT-25	12/02/21	Public Testimony / Email – Andrea Roberts
PT-26	12/02/21	Public Testimony / Email – Rick Rosenkilde
PT-27	12/02/21	Public Testimony / Email – Reverend Wyrn
PT-28	12/02/21	Public Testimony / Email – Jeff Caldwell
PT-29	12/02/21	Public Testimony / Email – Mike Kellogg
PT-30	12/02/21	Public Testimony / Email – Ron Vivion
PT-31	12/02/21	Public Testimony / Email – Shawna Rose
PT-32	12/02/21	Public Testimony / Email – Amber Lennox
PT-33	12/02/21	Public Testimony / Email – Kyle Thannisch
PT-34	12/02/21	Public Testimony / Email – Chuck Lie
PT-35	12/02/21	Public Testimony / Email – Norma Middleton
PT-36	12/02/21	Public Testimony / Email – Don & Tonya Miewald
PT-37	12/02/21	Public Testimony / Email – Robert Wright
PT-38	12/02/21	Public Testimony / Email – Amelia Wood
PT-39	12/02/21	Public Testimony / Email – David & Cynthia Jones
PT-40	12/02/21	Public Testimony / Email – Erin Carr
PT-41	12/02/21	Public Testimony / Email – John Graham
PT-42	12/02/21	Public Testimony / Email – Daniel Roberson
PT-43	12/02/21	Public Testimony / Email – Daniel Dofelmier
PT-44	12/02/21	Public Testimony / Email – Steve Abramowicz
PT-45	12/02/21	Public Testimony / Email – Betty Welsh
PT-46	12/03/21	Public Testimony / Email – Gay-Lynn Beighton
PT-47	12/03/21	Public Testimony / Email – Michael Graves
PT-48	12/03/21	Public Testimony / Email – Devin Cook
PT-49	12/03/21	Public Testimony / Email – Douglas Dahl
PT-50	12/03/21	Public Testimony / Email – Frederic & Maureen Williamson
PT-51	12/03/21	Public Testimony / Email – Charla Benoit
PT-52	12/03/21	Public Testimony / Email – D. Danielson
PT-53	12/04/21	Public Testimony / Email – Erin Laws
PT-54	12/04/21	Public Testimony / Email – Victoria Smith
PT-55	12/04/21	Public Testimony / Email – Judy Lagerwey
PT-56	12/04/21	Public Testimony / Email – jencashman75@gmail.com
PT-57	12/04/21	Public Testimony / Email – Carol Kujawa

PT-58	12/05/21	Public Testimony / Email – Laurie Loth
PT-59	12/06/21	Public Testimony / Email – Joan Maybank
PT-60	12/06/21	Public Testimony / Email – Tom Nicholson
PT-61	12/06/21	Public Testimony / Email – Roz Deede
PT-62	12/06/21	Public Testimony / Email – Elizabeth Myers
PT-63	12/06/21	Public Testimony / Email – Guy Schoonmaker
PT-64	12/06/21	Public Testimony / Email – Sean Hansen
PT-65	12/06/21	Public Testimony / Email – Pamela Reeves
PT-66	12/07/21	Public Testimony / Email – Leslie Lamm Baldrige
PT-67	12/07/21	Public Testimony / Email – Al & Anne Compaan
PT-68	12/07/21	Public Testimony / Email – Brenda Bolanoslvory
PT-69	12/07/21	Public Testimony / Email – Margaret McClure
PT-70	12/07/21	Public Testimony / Email – Marysville City Council
PT-71	12/07/21	Public Testimony / Email – Donna Rudiger
PT-72	12/07/21	Public Testimony / Email – Elizabeth Myers
PT-73	12/08/21	Public Testimony / Email – Corey Snelson
PT-74	12/08/21	Public Testimony / Email – Joseph Alonzo
PT-75	12/08/21	Public Testimony / Email – Rachael Hager
PT-76	12/08/21	Public Testimony / Email – Tarah Wilder
PT-77	12/08/21	Public Testimony / Email – Catalina Angel
PT-78	12/08/21	Public Testimony / Email – Mark Smith
PT-79	12/08/21	Public Testimony / Email – Fred Safstrom
PT-80	12/08/21	Public Testimony / Email – Kim Toskey
PT-81	12/08/21	Public Testimony / Email – Sharon Lee
PT-82	12/08/21	Public Testimony / Email – Kim Toskey
PT-83	12/08/21	Public Testimony / Email – Rocio Carranza
PT-84	12/08/21	Public Testimony / Email – Nicolas Quijano
PT-85	12/08/21	Public Testimony / Email – Jack Hartsock
PT-86	12/08/21	Public Testimony / Email – Duane Leonard
PT-87	12/08/21	Public Testimony / Email – Peter Catterall
PT-88	12/08/21	Public Testimony / Email – Mark Grosz
PT-89	12/09/21	Public Testimony / Email – Tiffany Mecca
PT-90	12/09/21	Public Testimony / Email – Jen Winckler
PT-91	12/09/21	Public Testimony / Email – Everett Mayor Cassie Franklin
PT-92	12/09/21	Public Testimony / Email – Chris Collier
PT-93	12/09/21	Public Testimony / Email – Harold McClure
PT-94	12/09/21	Public Testimony / Email – Rachel & Jonathan Kay

PT-95	12/09/21	Public Testimony / Email – Jeff Schumacher
PT-96	12/09/21	Public Testimony / Email – Shirley Wilkins
PT-97	12/10/21	Public Testimony / Email – Guido Riley
PT-98	12/10/21	Public Testimony / Email – Tonja Cram
PT-99	12/10/21	Public Testimony / Email – Sharon Cremin
PT-100	12/10/21	Public Testimony / Email – Rachel Wilkinson Downes
PT-101	12/10/21	Public Testimony / Email – Tamara Comeau
PT-102	12/10/21	Public Testimony / Email – Catherine Delorey
PT-103	12/10/21	Public Testimony / Email – Jerron Craig
PT-104	12/10/21	Public Testimony / Email – Tim Foley
PT-105	12/10/21	Public Testimony / Email – John Chase
PT-106	12/10/21	Public Testimony / Email – Karen Resing
PT-107	12/10/21	Public Testimony / Email – Saranne Moreschi
PT-108	12/10/21	Public Testimony / Email – Carley Stenberg
PT-109	12/10/21	Public Testimony / Email – James Bloss
PT-110	12/10/21	Public Testimony / Email – Ross Rettenmeir
PT-111	12/10/21	Public Testimony / Email – Chelaina Crews
PT-112	12/10/21	Public Testimony / Email – Bry Nap
PT-113	12/10/21	Public Testimony / Email – Kimberly Haskell
PT-114	12/10/21	Public Testimony / Email – Lynette Bear
PT-115	12/10/21	Public Testimony / Email – Derra Moyers
PT-116	12/10/21	Public Testimony / Email – Emily Hiskes
PT-117	12/10/21	Public Testimony / Email – Steve Corsi
PT-118	12/10/21	Public Testimony / Email – Larry Bell
PT-119	12/10/21	Public Testimony / Email – Ralph Quaas
PT-120	12/10/21	Public Testimony / Email – Cara Ball
PT-121	12/10/21	Public Testimony / Email – Darrin French
PT-122	12/10/21	Public Testimony / Email – Reverend Mimi Lane
PT-123	12/11/21	Public Testimony / Email – Robert & Vickie Campbell
PT-124	12/11/21	Public Testimony / Email – Sarah Higginbotham
PT-125	12/11/21	Public Testimony / Email – Crystal Bond
PT-126	12/11/21	Public Testimony / Email – Martha Cetina
PT-127	12/11/21	Public Testimony / Email – Ruth Brandon
PT-128	12/11/21	Public Testimony / Email – Rodi & Philip O’Loane
PT-129	12/11/21	Public Testimony / Email – Hoosik Shahbazian
PT-130	12/11/21	Public Testimony / Email – Gerry Gibson
PT-131	12/11/21	Public Testimony / Email – Gretchen Saari

PT-132	12/11/21	Public Testimony / Email – Diana Shahbazian
PT-133	12/12/21	Public Testimony / Email – dd1987nav@gmail.com
PT-134	12/12/21	Public Testimony / Email – Jeff Schumacher
PT-135	12/12/21	Public Testimony / Email – Guy Schoonmaker
PT-136	12/12/21	Public Testimony / Email – Mike Impola
PT-137	12/12/21	Public Testimony / Email – Violet Swapp
PT-138	12/12/21	Public Testimony / Email – Aisha Sial
PT-139	12/12/21	Public Testimony / Email – Janet Robertson
PT-140	12/12/21	Public Testimony / Email – Barbara Rohe
PT-141	12/12/21	Public Testimony / Email – Willie Dickerson
PT-142	12/12/21	Public Testimony / Email – Courtney Normand
PT-143	12/12/21	Public Testimony / Email – Juli Keith
PT-144	12/12/21	Public Testimony / Email – Jason Cockburn
PT-145	12/12/21	Public Testimony / Email – Paul Malatesta
PT-146	12/12/21	Public Testimony / Email – Hans Dankers, MD
PT-147	12/12/21	Public Testimony / Email – Rev. Carol Jensen
PT-148	12/12/21	Public Testimony / Email – Stephen Sallee
PT-149	12/12/21	Public Testimony / Email – Jeff Rasmussen
PT-150	12/12/21	Public Testimony / Email – Rena Connell
PT-151	12/12/21	Public Testimony / Email – Teresa Norman
PT-152	12/12/21	Public Testimony / Email – Rich Norman
PT-153	12/12/21	Public Testimony / Email – Charlotte DuBose
PT-154	12/13/21	Public Testimony / Email – Jessica Dietsch
PT-155	12/13/21	Public Testimony / Email – Julie Barrett
PT-156	12/13/21	Public Testimony / Email – Susan Heid
PT-157	12/13/21	Public Testimony / Email – Debra Fagala
PT-158	12/13/21	Public Testimony / Email – Shantel Rogers
PT-159	12/13/21	Public Testimony / Email – Snohomish Legislative Delegation
PT-160	12/13/21	Public Testimony / Email – Everett City Council
PT-161	12/13/21	Public Testimony / Email – Kyoko Matsumoto Wright
PT-162	12/13/21	Public Testimony / Email – Maddy Metzger-Utt
PT-163	12/13/21	Public Testimony / Email – Luke Distelhorst
PT-164	12/13/21	Public Testimony / Email – Mike Kahler
PT-165	12/13/21	Public Testimony / Email – Morgan Webb
PT-166	12/13/21	Public Testimony / Email – Kara-Liv Dineen
PT-167	12/13/21	Public Testimony / Email – Rita Meehan
PT-168	12/13/21	Public Testimony / Email – Cory Armstrong-Hoss

PT-169	12/13/21	Public Testimony / Email – Duane Leonard
PT-170	12/13/21	Public Testimony / Email – Jilda Nettleton
PT-171	12/13/21	Public Testimony / Email – Jaime Temple
PT-172	12/13/21	Public Testimony / Email – Cherie Matyas
PT-173	12/13/21	Public Testimony / Email – Carolyn Hetherwick Goza
PT-174	12/13/21	Public Testimony / Email – Hannah Smith
PT-175	12/13/21	Public Testimony / Email – Laura Reed
PT-176	12/13/21	Public Testimony / Email – Mary Harrigan
PT-177	12/13/21	Public Testimony / Email – Cheryl Dillon
PT-178	12/13/21	Public Testimony / Email – Bryan Partington
PT-179	12/13/21	Public Testimony / Email – Rebecca Partington
PT-180	12/13/21	Public Testimony / Email – Duane Leonard
PT-181	12/13/21	Public Testimony / Email – James Harrigan
PT-182	12/13/21	Public Testimony / Email – Maria S.
PT-183	12/13/21	Public Testimony / Email – Charles Adkins
PT-184	12/13/21	Public Testimony / Email – Stacy Russell
PT-185	12/13/21	Public Testimony / Email – G Money
PT-186	12/13/21	Public Testimony / Email – Jamie Flaxman
PT-187	12/13/21	Public Testimony / Email – Louise Kennedy
PT-188	12/13/21	Public Testimony / Email – Derek Benedict
PT-189	12/13/21	Public Testimony / Email – Melinda Woods
PT-190	12/13/21	Public Testimony / Email – Deborah Davis
PT-191	12/13/21	Public Testimony / Email – Gary Fast
PT-192	12/13/21	Public Testimony / Email – Norman Moss
PT-193	12/13/21	Public Testimony / Email – Bob Williams
PT-194	12/13/21	Public Testimony / Email – Christine Davis
PT-195	12/13/21	Public Testimony / Email – Ginette Hamilton
PT-196	12/13/21	Public Testimony / Email – Mr & Mrs Don Ripley
PT-197	12/13/21	Public Testimony / Email – Roy Rodland
PT-198	12/13/21	Public Testimony / Email – Dawn Akins
PT-199	12/13/21	Public Testimony / Email – Rick Rochelle
PT-200	12/13/21	Public Testimony / Email – Jason Johns
PT-201	12/13/21	Public Testimony / Email – Kim Toskey
PT-202	12/13/21	Public Testimony / Email – Darrel Dreke
PT-203	12/13/21	Public Testimony / Email – Joseph Cassidy
PT-204	12/13/21	Public Testimony / Email – Dan & Jan Matthews
PT-205	12/13/21	Public Testimony / Email – Patricia Hubble

PT-206	12/13/21	Public Testimony / Email – Jack & Sharon Smelser
PT-207	12/13/21	Public Testimony / Email – Doug White
PT-208	12/13/21	Public Testimony / Email – Rosalie Kaji
PT-209	12/13/21	Public Testimony / Email – Stefan Papp
PT-210	12/13/21	Public Testimony / Email – Clifford Rolie
PT-211	12/13/21	Public Testimony / Email – James Perrin
PT-212	12/13/21	Public Testimony / Email – Louise Edwinson
PT-213	12/13/21	Public Testimony / Email – Louise Edwinson
PT-214	12/13/21	Public Testimony / Email – Gloria Elledge
PT-215	12/13/21	Public Testimony / Email – James Perrin
PT-216	12/13/21	Public Testimony / Email – erlend@millikans.us
PT-217	12/13/21	Public Testimony / Email – Peter Henry
PT-218	12/13/21	Public Testimony / Email – Patricia Lindsay
PT-219	12/13/21	Public Testimony / Email – Lonny Bartholomew
PT-220	12/13/21	Public Testimony / Email – Kara Whelan
PT-221	12/13/21	Public Testimony / Email – Joel Bergsagel
PT-222	12/13/21	Public Testimony / Email – David Whitesell
PT-223	12/13/21	Public Testimony / Email – Danielle Ockerman
PT-224	12/13/21	Public Testimony / Email – Sheila Kay Rogers
PT-225	12/13/21	Public Testimony / Email – Tamra Erickson
PT-226	12/13/21	Public Testimony / Email – Nancy & Bob McCutchin
PT-227	12/13/21	Public Testimony / Email – Kelsey K
PT-228	12/13/21	Public Testimony / Email – Arthur & Pietra Gabriel
PT-229	12/13/21	Public Testimony / Email – Kerri Lonergan-Dreke
PT-230	12/13/21	Public Testimony / Email –Theresa Curry Almuti
PT-231	12/13/21	Public Testimony / Email – Sharon Toon
PT-232	12/13/21	Public Testimony / Email – Joseph Nagel
PT-233	12/14/21	Public Testimony / Email – Douglass Jackson
PT-234	12/14/21	Public Testimony / Email – Rex Kendall
PT-235	12/14/21	Public Testimony / Email – LaDonna Elvig
PT-236	12/14/21	Public Testimony / Email – Roxanne DeBardi
PT-237	12/14/21	Public Testimony / Email – Russell Jacobson
PT-238	12/14/21	Public Testimony / Email – Ryan McQuillin
PT-239	12/14/21	Public Testimony / Email – Pete Saufferer
PT-240	12/14/21	Public Testimony / Email – Denise Jannusch
PT-241	12/14/21	Public Testimony / Email – Janice Huxford
PT-242	12/14/21	Public Testimony / Email – Leslie Gregg

PT-243	12/14/21	Public Testimony / Email – Jennifer Garcia
PT-244	12/14/21	Public Testimony / Email – Dr. Steve Woodard
PT-245	12/14/21	Public Testimony / Email – Brad Sebranke
PT-246	12/14/21	Public Testimony / Email – Julie Langabeer
PT-247	12/14/21	Public Testimony / Email – Mary Salamon
PT-248	12/14/21	Public Testimony / Email – Jeff Capeloto
PT-249	12/14/21	Public Testimony / Email – Diane Symms
PT-250	12/14/21	Public Testimony / Email – Dave Willeiksen
PT-251	12/14/21	Public Testimony / Email – DJ Defreeze
PT-252	12/14/21	Public Testimony / Email – Jack McPherson
PT-253	12/14/21	Public Testimony / Email – Ron Bresher
PT-254	12/14/21	Public Testimony / Email – Larry & Kathleen Powell
PT-255	12/14/21	Public Testimony / Email – Rick Rickman
PT-256	12/14/21	Public Testimony / Email – Don Backstrom
PT-257	12/14/21	Public Testimony / Email – Steve Nielsen
PT-258	12/14/21	Public Testimony / Email – Thomas Rothschild
PT-259	12/14/21	Public Testimony / Email – Todd Welch
PT-260	12/14/21	Public Testimony / Email – Bill McElroy
PT-261	12/14/21	Public Testimony / Email – Mark Smith
PT-262	12/14/21	Public Testimony / Email – C. Wear
PT-263	12/14/21	Public Testimony / Email – Tiffany Webb
PT-264	12/14/21	Public Testimony / Email – Marta Baldwin
PT-265	12/14/21	Public Testimony / Email – Linda Boles
PT-266	12/14/21	Public Testimony / Email – Ricardo Suico
PT-267	12/14/21	Public Testimony / Email – Mike Echelbarger
PT-268	12/14/21	Public Testimony / Email – Eric Nordstrom
PT-269	12/14/21	Public Testimony / Email – Dan Kessler
PT-270	12/14/21	Public Testimony / Email – Rebecca Lindahl
PT-271	12/14/21	Public Testimony / Email – Deb & Mike Harvey
PT-272	12/14/21	Public Testimony / Email – Paul Behnke
PT-273	12/14/21	Public Testimony / Email – Amie & Dave Beisel
PT-274	12/14/21	Public Testimony / Email – Boris Zaretsky
PT-275	12/14/21	Public Testimony / Email – Caroline Atwood
PT-276	12/14/21	Public Testimony / Email – Mary Anne Dillon
PT-277	12/14/21	Public Testimony / Email – Mary Ann Monty
PT-278	12/14/21	Public Testimony / Email – Jack Odell
PT-279	12/14/21	Public Testimony / Email – Joseph Sutton

PT-280	12/14/21	Public Testimony / Email – Neil Sasinowski
PT-281	12/14/21	Public Testimony / Email – Lisa Hall
PT-282	12/14/21	Public Testimony / Email – Mary Duffy
PT-283	12/14/21	Public Testimony / Email – Jennifer Bereskin
PT-284	12/14/21	Public Testimony / Email – Kristofer Korshaven
PT-285	12/14/21	Public Testimony / Email – Athena MacDonald
PT-286	12/14/21	Public Testimony / Email – Scott Perry
PT-287	12/14/21	Public Testimony / Email – Steven Torrence
PT-288	12/14/21	Public Testimony / Email – Regina Zull
PT-289	12/14/21	Public Testimony / Email – Fred Sirianni
PT-290	12/14/21	Public Testimony / Email – Charles Farmer
PT-291	12/14/21	Public Testimony / Email – Joel Yinger
PT-292	12/14/21	Public Testimony / Email – Laurie Cooper
PT-293	12/14/21	Public Testimony / Email – Heather Bruce
PT-294	12/14/21	Public Testimony / Email – Yani Sipes
PT-295	12/14/21	Public Testimony / Email – Julie Martinoli
PT-296	12/14/21	Public Testimony / Email – Toni Wessar
PT-297	12/14/21	Public Testimony / Email – Kyle Thannisch
PT-298	12/14/21	Public Testimony / Email – Matt Fowler
PT-299	12/14/21	Public Testimony / Email – snterra@comcast.net
PT-300	12/14/21	Public Testimony / Email – Edward Drabb
PT-301	12/14/21	Public Testimony / Email – Cynthia Weaver
PT-302	12/14/21	Public Testimony / Email – Howie Bargreen
PT-303	12/14/21	Public Testimony / Email – Gilbert Hughes
PT-304	12/14/21	Public Testimony / Email – David Tomulty
PT-305	12/14/21	Public Testimony / Email – Karen Guzak
PT-306	12/14/21	Public Testimony / Email – Wanda Tilke-Sapp
PT-307	12/14/21	Public Testimony / Email – Tifani Hoornstra
PT-308	12/14/21	Public Testimony / Email – Lynn and Jere Wright
PT-309	12/14/21	Public Testimony / Email – Kathleen Fitzpatrick
PT-310	12/14/21	Public Testimony / Email – Victor Sandblom
PT-311	12/14/21	Public Testimony / Email – Teal Burkhead
PT-312	12/14/21	Public Testimony / Email – Carolyn Strong
PT-313	12/14/21	Public Testimony / Email – Jess Blanch
PT-314	12/14/21	Public Testimony / Email – Debbie (hutsonmill@aol.com)
PT-315	12/14/21	Public Testimony / Email – Howard Fankhauser
PT-316	12/14/21	Public Testimony / Email – Keith Reyes

PT-317	12/14/21	Public Testimony / Email – Jim Hill
PT-318	12/14/21	Public Testimony / Email – Elaine Niemann
PT-319	12/14/21	Public Testimony / Email – Sandy Higgins
PT-320	12/14/21	Public Testimony / Email – Jeff Nicely
PT-321	12/14/21	Public Testimony / Email – Brian Holtzclaw
PT-322	12/14/21	Public Testimony / Email – Joel Kolbo
PT-323	12/14/21	Public Testimony / Email – Evelyn Seymour
PT-324	12/14/21	Public Testimony / Email – Suzanne Milliken
PT-325	12/14/21	Public Testimony / Email – Paul Goertz
PT-326	12/14/21	Public Testimony / Email – Stephen Gregory
PT-327	12/14/21	Public Testimony / Email – Patrick MacDonald
PT-328	12/14/21	Public Testimony / Email – Gil Ruiz
PT-329	12/14/21	Public Testimony / Email – Rick Hanson
PT-330	12/14/21	Public Testimony / Email – Dan Rivisto
PT-331	12/14/21	Public Testimony / Email – Rich Carton
PT-332	12/14/21	Public Testimony / Email – Garry Pagon
PT-333	12/14/21	Public Testimony / Email – Cindy Rappuhn
PT-334	12/14/21	Public Testimony / Email – Catherine Martin
PT-335	12/14/21	Public Testimony / Email – Michael Turk
PT-336	12/14/21	Public Testimony / Email – Vasheti Quiros
PT-337	12/14/21	Public Testimony / Email – John Tellesbo
PT-338	12/14/21	Public Testimony / Email – James, Tonja, and Jamie Cram
PT-339	12/14/21	Public Testimony / Email – Denise Raupach
PT-340	12/14/21	Public Testimony / Email – Dan & Joan Harvey
PT-341	12/14/21	Public Testimony / Email – Rocky Palombo
PT-342	12/14/21	Public Testimony / Email – Drain Family
PT-343	12/14/21	Public Testimony / Email – Tracee Gorman
PT-344	12/14/21	Public Testimony / Email – Nori Jacobson
PT-345	12/14/21	Public Testimony / Email – Michelle Ranous
PT-346	12/14/21	Public Testimony / Email – gokracken@yahoo.com
PT-347	12/14/21	Public Testimony / Email – Alisha Morgan
PT-348	12/14/21	Public Testimony / Email – Ruth McIvers
PT-349	12/14/21	Public Testimony / Email – Jennifer Lopeman
PT-350	12/14/21	Public Testimony / Email – Peter Chopelas
PT-351	12/14/21	Public Testimony / Email – Becky Lint
PT-352	12/14/21	Public Testimony / Email – Susan Hughes
PT-353	12/14/21	Public Testimony / Email – David Rappuhn

PT-354	12/14/21	Public Testimony / Email – Linda Grant
PT-355	12/14/21	Public Testimony / Email – Kelly Christensen
PT-356	12/15/21	Public Testimony / Email – Charles & Kathleen Strong
PT-357	12/15/21	Public Testimony / Email – Shelley Whitkop
PT-358	12/15/21	Public Testimony / Email – Dennis Longnecker
PT-359	12/15/21	Public Testimony / Email – R.J. Armstrong
PT-360	12/15/21	Public Testimony / Email – Jennifer Kaloger
PT-361	12/15/21	Public Testimony / Email – Christine Frizzell
PT-362	12/15/21	Public Testimony / Email – Michael Finch
PT-363	12/15/21	Public Testimony / Email – Graham Link
PT-364	12/15/21	Public Testimony / Email – Greg Skorheim
PT-365	12/15/21	Public Testimony / Email – Debra MacCracken
PT-366	12/15/21	Public Testimony / Email – Lake Stevens City Council
PT-367	12/15/21	Public Testimony / Email – Dave Hobson
PT-368	12/15/21	Public Testimony / Email – Misha Lujan
PT-369	12/15/21	Public Testimony / Email – Kit Wennersten
PT-370	12/15/21	Public Testimony / Email – Lisa Utter
PT-371	12/15/21	Public Testimony / Email – Mary-Anne Grafton
PT-372	12/15/21	Public Testimony / Email – Laura Jones
PT-373	12/15/21	Public Testimony / Email – Nicole McMurray
PT-374	12/15/21	Public Testimony / Email – David Beisel
PT-375	12/15/21	Public Testimony / Email – Sam Townsend
PT-376	12/15/21	Public Testimony / Email – Billye Brooks-Sebastiani
PT-377	12/15/21	Public Testimony / Email – Coliin McMahon
PT-378	12/15/21	Public Testimony / Email – Rhonda Tatum
PT-379	12/15/21	Public Testimony / Email – Mark Jungck
PT-380	12/15/21	Public Testimony / Email – Linda Pawlak
PT-381	12/15/21	Public Testimony / Email – Philip Scougale
PT-382	12/15/21	Public Testimony / Email – Mill Creek City Council
PT-383	12/15/21	Public Testimony / Email – Bob Williams
PT-384	12/15/21	Public Testimony / Email – Gerry Gibson
PT-385	12/15/21	Public Testimony / Email – Dave Nichols
PT-386	12/15/21	Public Testimony / Email – Eric Walllin
PT-387	12/15/21	Public Testimony / Email – Mike Deacy
PT-388	12/15/21	Public Testimony / Email – Rep. Cindy Ryu
PT-389	12/15/21	Public Testimony / Email – Susan Paine
PT-390	12/15/21	Public Testimony / Email – Shelley Whitkop

PT-391	12/08/21	Public Testimony / Email – Katie
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From: [Nancy H](#)
To: [Contact Council](#)
Subject: Please, no tax increase
Date: Wednesday, December 1, 2021 10:26:06 AM

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

Dear council,

I live in Stanwood. Im a home owner, business owner and community volunteer. I'm a former public school teacher who now homeschools and I co-lead a low cost homeschool co-op. I'm married and have 4 wonderful teenagers.

I understand a tax increase for the county has been proposed.

This is so deflating.

We've had personal loses because of the Covid mandates. I closed my small business teaching children art lessons for several months because our family had Covid the entire month of August and students' parents have been weary of exposing kids to others during the holidays.

My husband works internationally with microsoft & Lenovo and they had to move an international dinner meeting to our county because King county wouldn't allow them to have unvaccinated people in the restaurants. I share this to highlight that there are multiple stressors in every aspect of life in our state and increased taxes will just add to that.

Our church just had a deacon resign yesterday. It boils down to the fact that his wife wants to go to a church that mandates masks. There is division everywhere, even in family units. We've had 2 elders leave our church because they had different opinions on how the mandates should be followed. Our church attendance is half of what it was. The programs we've always had to help people in the community are struggling. I share this to give you a glimpse of the health of organizations who typically care for the public, we need those who remain in good spirits to be able to persevere.

Please don't add to the stress of the holidays and the two year pandemic stress.

Haven't those who need housing had quite a lot of support? Weren't they given free rent for months at the expense/loss of their landlords? And people aren't working because they make more money by not working?

If there is a tax increase we will add this to our personal list of reasons to leave Washington due to the increased costs of living here and the stressors of the mandates.

We have 3 families who we are close to who will move to Texas between December and February because they are tired of the mandates, taxes, lack of opportunity to vote (advisory votes are a mean joke), etc.

We've been helping a mom whose husband died of Covid and running to the store for those in quarantine.

Our friend who is a father of 4 lost his job as a Seattle fireman because he wouldn't get vaccinated. They are in shock.

My teens are sad they can't have a Christmas swing dance again. The local hall won't allow it.

So much sadness and disappointment.

Please don't tax us more. Please have compassion on hard working families & business owners.

Sincerely,
Nancy Hansen

Sent from my iPhone

EXHIBIT # PT-2

FILE ORD 21-098

From: [Steve and Athena](#)
To: [Contact Council](#)
Subject: Sales Tax Vote Transparency
Date: Wednesday, December 1, 2021 10:35:17 AM

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

Esteemed Council Members :

We respectfully request that you put to a public vote the proposed sales tax increase recently placed on the December 15th agenda. Giving each voter the opportunity to weigh in on this important matter after multiple informational learning opportunities is the prudent course of action.

Warmest regards,

Steve and Athena Ewing

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SNOHOMISH COUNTY COUNCIL

From: [DARIN STORDAHL](#)
To: [Contact Council](#)
Subject: Re: Proposed County sales tax increase
Date: Wednesday, December 1, 2021 11:50:19 AM

EXHIBIT # PT-3
FILE ORD 21-098

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

Hi my name is Veronica Stordahl and I'm a voting Snohomish County resident and I am highly opposed to the proposed county wide tax increase. I support Nate Neiring and his proposal to put this tax increase on the ballot to be voted on.

Thank you
Veronica Stordahl
Sent from my iPhone

SNOHOMISH COUNTY COUNCIL

From: [Shannan Ramey](#)
To: [Contact Council](#)
Subject: Sales tax increase
Date: Wednesday, December 1, 2021 11:50:43 AM

EXHIBIT # PT-4
FILE ORD 21-098

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

I am writing you today to express my disgust that you would be proposing to raise the county sales tax without a vote of the people. Let me please remind you that you work for us, the people of Snohomish County, not the other way around. If the entire county votes to increase our sales tax that is one thing, but for you all to use some loophole to cram it down our throats is another. I implore you to not go ahead with this proposal as it is not the will of the people.

Kind regards,

Shannan Ramey
Arlington

From: [james harrigan](#)
To: [Nehring, Nate](#)
Cc: [Contact Council](#)
Subject: HB 1590 Sales Tax
Date: Wednesday, December 1, 2021 11:58:25 AM

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

Dear Council Member Nehring,

My names is James Harrigan and I currently reside in the City of Monroe. I have been a long time resident of SnoCo and am a nurse who works at Providence Hospital in Everett. I have personal, professional, and volunteer experience related to housing instability and mental healthcare.

I appreciated your comments regarding the implementation of HB 1590 during today's council meeting. You emphasized two things: the fast tracking of this item and the bypassing of a vote of the people. I would encourage you to consider the following.

1) A vote of the people is not fully representative of all citizens of our county, particularly of those most affected by mental health challenges and housing instability. This includes those experiencing homelessness or acute mental health conditions, and really can't vote, but also many people who are facing housing instability or other circumstances that inhibit their ability to participate in the process, such as public hearings or even to vote (for example, those experiencing frequent address changes or who must work excessive numbers of hours to make ends meet, and do not engage the voting system). A traditional public ballot vote fails to incorporate these citizens in the process.

2) As far as the fast tracking of this item, it depends on your perspective. On one hand, it reduces the time for input and deliberation regarding this important topic. On the other hand, it acknowledges the urgency of the need we are facing, as well as the fact that affordable housing and behavior health support are needs that have been woefully underfunded for decades, which have now been exasperated by the pandemic. Fast tracking makes sense when trying to address an emergency.

I can understand if you disagree with the method of a sales tax to address affordable housing and mental healthcare, but I would

3) encourage you to be prepared to offer an alternative recommendation to quickly secure long-term funding for these two areas at the local or county level. The most significant barrier to progress in these areas is the lack of on-going funding.

Thanks very much for your public service,
James Harrigan

SNOHOMISH COUNTY COUNCIL

EXHIBIT # PT-6

FILE ORD 21-098

From: [Lori Wirtz](#)
To: [Contact Council](#)
Cc: [Bill Wirtz](#)
Subject: vote NO for sales tax increase
Date: Wednesday, December 1, 2021 1:29:19 PM

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

Good afternoon,

Please don't increase the sales tax without a vote of the PEOPLE. We are already paying more for gas, food & power. The last thing we need is another tax increase.

Thank you,

Bill and Lori Wirtz
15130 63rd DR SE
Snohomish, WA 98296

SNOHOMISH COUNTY COUNCIL

EXHIBIT # PT-7

FILE ORD 21-098

From: [Donna Knight](#)
To: [Contact Council](#)
Subject: Taxes
Date: Wednesday, December 1, 2021 2:50:38 PM

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

I think any proposals to raise taxes for any purpose should be put to the people for vote. I do not want to see an increase in sales tax to help pay for taxpayer subsidized housing in Snohomish county. Thank you- Donna Knight

From: mekaji@juno.com
To: [Contact Council](#)
Subject: New tax being discussed and voted in Dec
Date: Wednesday, December 1, 2021 3:52:24 PM

EXHIBIT # PT-8
FILE ORD 21-098

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

I just heard about the new tax proposal for Snohomish county to increase sales tax again. Taxes in Snohomish county are part of the problem for affordable housing and taxing more is not the solution. Look for ways to reduce taxing so people can afford to pay taxes and live in this area. THIS sounds like giving control of money that will actually increase cost of living in this area and not a solution for affordable housing. If other counties have developed this expensive process of purchasing new homes, renting and administering these "affordable" homes then wait to see if and how this works for them.

Please stop being a part of the problem and come up with solutions that reduces cost of living in our area for all.

THank you,
Marilyn

--

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[NetZero.com/NortonLifeLock](https://www.netzero.com/nortonlifelock)

From: [Bill Anderson](#)
To: [Contact Council](#)
Subject: New sales tax to subsidize housing
Date: Wednesday, December 1, 2021 4:13:25 PM

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

I understand that you are considering enacting a sales tax without the vote of the people of Snohomish County for the purpose of more tax payer subsidized housing in Snohomish County. This should only be done by a vote of Snohomish County tax payers. Do not do this. There is already enough burdens on Snohomish Co tax payers and businesses from inflations taxes and a multitude of other costs and problems.



SNOHOMISH COUNTY COUNCIL

From: [Carrie Bossert](#)
To: [Contact Council](#); [Mead, Jared](#)
Subject: Proposed sales tax increase
Date: Wednesday, December 1, 2021 4:27:54 PM

EXHIBIT # PT-10
FILE ORD 21-098

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

Dear Jared and Snohomish County Council members,

I understand that you will be holding a meeting on 12/15 regarding a proposed sales tax rate increase. I would like to say that an increase during a time of inflation and right before the holidays is not OK. Why would you increase sales tax again during these difficult times? I hope that this increase will not be made.

Thank you.

Best regards,
Carrie Bossert

SNOHOMISH COUNTY COUNCIL

From: [mike eggerling](#)
To: [Contact Council](#)
Subject: No to increase in sales tax
Date: Wednesday, December 1, 2021 5:17:05 PM

EXHIBIT # PT-11

FILE ORD 21-098

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

Please put the tax increase for housing to a vote of the people.
Lealie Eggerling
Sent from my iPhone

SNOHOMISH COUNTY COUNCIL

From: [Paul Thompson](#)
To: [Contact Council](#)
Subject: Proposed Sales Tax Increase
Date: Wednesday, December 1, 2021 5:17:52 PM
Importance: High

EXHIBIT # PT-12
FILE ORD 21-098

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

Dear Council Members,

It has recently come to my attention that the Snohomish County Council is strongly considering a sales tax increase for our county. As a resident and business owner in Snohomish County, I find it appalling that amidst our ongoing struggle with COVID-19 and rising inflation the council can possibly consider a sales tax increase. This increase will only burden the poor among us and make the pain of rising prices that much more acute. Perhaps the council knows that voters would largely disapprove as the proposed increase seems to be flying very low and fast under the radar. One quick meeting mid December is not sufficient time for public consideration. Preferably this would be put to a public vote so our community can help decide the best course for addressing homelessness and tax rates.

Snohomish County already has the highest sales tax rates in the state of Washington. Continued increases will only further oppress low income families and the very homeless community these funds are supposed to help. Inflated rates will also harm small and medium sized businesses that may eventually decide to relocate to avoid heavier tax burdens that potential customers will travel to avoid.

Please consider the poor timing and ill effects of this rushed proposition and reconsider increasing the sales tax rate at this time. Also, please consider the need to more fully address the root causes of homelessness including drug abuse and mental health. More emphasis and resources need to be allocated to addressing these root causes before expensive housing acquisitions should be considered.

Sincerely,

Paul Thompson
[American Crawlspace](#)
[& Pest Services](#)
Lynnwood, WA

SNOHOMISH COUNTY COUNCIL

From: [Kris Johnson](#)
To: [Contact Council](#)
Subject: Proposed Sales Tax Increase
Date: Wednesday, December 1, 2021 5:25:53 PM

EXHIBIT # PT-13
FILE ORD 21-098

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

As a council, you have been elected to serve as the voice of residents within you district. Use that voice now to vote NO to a county wide increase in sales tax without a ballot measure. Those who vote yes to the increase surely will not have my vote next election!

Sincerely,
Crystal Johnson
Snohomish County Resident and Taxpayer

From: TrukDuden@protonmail.com
To: [Contact Council](#)
Subject: NO NEW TAXXES
Date: Wednesday, December 1, 2021 5:33:50 PM

EXHIBIT # PT-14
FILE ORD 21-098

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

You morons created this homeless problem and now you want to sneak a new fucking tax under everyones noses. So god damn sick of you fucking IDIOTS creating problems to fucking tax and then be si fucking sTuPiD you still cant fix the problem you useful idiots created. NO NEW FUCKING TAX YOU IDIOTS.

Sent from ProtonMail mobile

From: [Jeanne Petershagen](#)
To: [Contact Council](#)
Subject: VOTE NO: TO INCREASE COUNTYWIDE SALES TAX RATE INCREASE WITHOUT A VOTE OF THE PEOPLE
Date: Wednesday, December 1, 2021 6:19:26 PM

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

To Our Elected County Councilpersons,

Simply because the State Legislature enacted a loophole allowing tax increases "without a vote of the people" does not mean it is the right thing to do. You are proposing to increase OUR taxes and spend OUR money and that should require OUR VOTE. Councilmember Nate Nehring is drafting an amendment to this proposal, which would send this measure to a Ballot for a Vote of the People. Please approve his Amendment. People are hurting now and increasing our taxes will only hurt people that you were elected by, more.

These are OUR hard-earned funds, not the governments, and WE should have a say in whether we would like to see a sales tax increase to fund more taxpayer-subsidized housing in Snohomish County. It is not a Councilmember's role to spend our money without our consent.

Jeanne Petershagen

jpetershagen@hotmail.com | 425.210.7262

SNOHOMISH COUNTY COUNCIL

From: [Margo Dahl](#)
To: [Contact Council](#)
Subject: Proposed Sales Tax
Date: Wednesday, December 1, 2021 6:55:11 PM

EXHIBIT # PT-16
FILE ORD 21-098

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 voice my opposition to the proposed sales tax increase to provide more affordable housing in Snohomish County. This increase in taxes needs to be presented transparently to the voters and not rushed through in this manner. Our sales tax is already over 10% in some areas, making it difficult for working families to live in this area. The same hard working people who made Snohomish County a great place to be. Please reconsider this misdirected solution.

Gratefully,
Margo Dahl
Constituent, District 2

SNOHOMISH COUNTY COUNCIL

EXHIBIT # PT-17

FILE ORD 21-098

From: [Tara San Miguel](#)
To: [Contact Council](#)
Subject: No sales tax increase
Date: Wednesday, December 1, 2021 10:43:30 PM

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

I am reaching out as a Snohomish resident against your attempts to raise the sales tax without a vote of the people.

Taralee San Miguel
206-538-1571

SNOHOMISH COUNTY COUNCIL

From: [Vicci Hilty](#)
To: [Contact Council](#)
Subject: ordinance 21-098
Date: Thursday, December 2, 2021 9:20:03 AM

EXHIBIT # PT-18
FILE ORD 21-098

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

I support passage of Ordinance 21-098

One of the leading causes for victims of domestic violence staying in an abusive home, is the fear of affordable housing for themselves and their children if they leave. They might become homeless. Staying and tolerating the pain (physical and mental) feels like a better alternative than placing their children in a homeless situation or forcing themselves into living in a shelter or worse, their car.

Thank you for the consideration of ordinance 21-098

Vicci L. Hilty

Executive Director/C.E.O.

Domestic Violence Services of Snohomish County

P.O. Box 7

Everett, WA 98206-0007

425-259-2827 Ext 1021

vicci@dvs-snoco.org

www.dvs-snoco.org

"Envisioning Peace in Every Home"

From: [Jeff Heckathorn](#)
To: [Contact Council](#)
Subject: No tax increases please without a vote of the public
Date: Thursday, December 2, 2021 9:40:11 AM

EXHIBIT # PT-19

FILE ORD 21-098

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

Hello

Pretty simple.

I don't want tax increases implemented in an underhanded way.

Stay transparent.

Give voters a chance for input.

Find other areas to reduce first before piling on more taxes.

Governments should become more efficient - just like the private sector does regularly.

Thank you.

Jeff Heckathorn

SNOHOMISH COUNTY COUNCIL

From: [Jeni Patterson](#)
To: [Contact Council](#)
Subject: Sales tax increases
Date: Thursday, December 2, 2021 10:14:48 AM

EXHIBIT # PT-20
FILE ORD 21-098

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

I 100% oppose this new bill going in on December 15th about raising sales tax to pay for housing. We need to figure out a better plan instead of charging everyone this money that they don't even necessarily have. How about make the cost of living cheaper. Houses and apartments are ridiculously high priced here in the State of Washington. It's actually the 13th most expensive state to live in. That is sad. Where is the logic in that? Please decline this bill and let's figure out a different way that doesn't cost the people of Washington to pay even more money.

Thank you.

~Jennifer Patterson

Sent from my T-Mobile 5G Device

From: [Teena Ellison](#)
To: [Contact Council](#)
Subject: Ordinance 21-098
Date: Thursday, December 2, 2021 10:26:07 AM
Attachments: [image001.png](#)
[image002.png](#)
[image003.png](#)
[image004.png](#)
[image005.png](#)

SNOHOMISH COUNTY COUNCIL

EXHIBIT # PT-21

FILE ORD 21-098

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

Dear respected council members

I am writing to support the passage of Ordinance 21-098 in Snohomish County. While I work for a housing agency in Seattle, I live in Snohomish County and care deeply about the housing crisis that we need to address as a community of caring people.

Teena



Teena Ellison | she/her/hers
Director of Housing Services
D: 206-474-1411



SNOHOMISH COUNTY COUNCIL

From: [Russell Ostlund](#)
To: [Contact Council](#)
Subject: Sales tax
Date: Thursday, December 2, 2021 11:10:02 AM

EXHIBIT # PT-22
FILE ORD 21-098

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

I oppose an increase in sales tax. Thank you.
Russell Ostlund
Get [BlueMail for Android](#)

SNOHOMISH COUNTY COUNCIL

EXHIBIT # PT-23

FILE ORD 21-098

From: steven.franke2@frontier.com
To: [Contact Council](#)
Subject: no new taxes!
Date: Thursday, December 2, 2021 11:54:56 AM

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

Dear council members.

I am very much opposed to your idea to pass a sales tax increase for homelessness. Taxes are already too high and adding additional regressive taxes is not a solution. Work within you means. If more money is needed for homelessness (which I doubt) then cut something else. No new taxes!

Sincerely,

Steven Franke
24220 15th Place SE
Bothell, WA 98021
steven.franke2@frontier.com

SNOHOMISH COUNTY COUNCIL

EXHIBIT # PT-24

FILE ORD 21-098

From: [Matt Ogurkow](#)
To: [Contact Council](#)
Subject: Proposed sales tax increase
Date: Thursday, December 2, 2021 12:20:47 PM

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

Dear Snohomish County Council:

Please consider adding an amendment to your upcoming bill that all sales tax increases of any size be put to a vote of the people. I believe that this will increase your credibility and trust while giving us citizens the confidence we need in our elected officials.

Thank you for the consideration,

Sent from my iPhone
Matt Ogurkow

SNOHOMISH COUNTY COUNCIL

EXHIBIT # PT-25

FILE ORD 21-098

From: [Andrea Roberts](#)
To: [Contact Council](#)
Subject: Sales tax increase
Date: Thursday, December 2, 2021 12:24:12 PM

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

Please put this on the ballot for a vote by the people. We do NOT want a tax increase especially for failed social programs like what this increase would go to fund. How about creating more jobs by providing the best environment for business to thrive. I think businesses may leave KingCo in droves.

Thank you
Andrea Roberts
Snohomish, WA 98290

From: [Rick Rosenkilde](#)
To: [Contact Council](#)
Subject: In Regards to Increase of Sales Tax by 0.1% for Affordable Housing
Date: Thursday, December 2, 2021 1:06:43 PM

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

Greetings,

I'm *not* in favor of rushing this sales tax increase without significant input from the public. Having the council vote on this increase of sales tax prior to the end of the year seems to have underlying concerns associated without proper deliberation.

I support the council to place an amendment that would require this 0.1% sales tax to be put before the voters.

Best regards,
Rick Rosenkilde
121 173rd Pl SE, Bothell, WA 98012

SNOHOMISH COUNTY COUNCIL

EXHIBIT # PT-27

FILE ORD 21-098

From: [Reverend Wyrn](#)
To: [Contact Council](#)
Subject: Proposed Sales Tax Increase
Date: Thursday, December 2, 2021 2:42:19 PM

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

To whom it may concern,

Shame on every member of the Snohomish County Council who even considers passing a sales tax increase without putting it to voters in our fine county! Frankly the fact that the County Council would even consider a sales tax increase at all is disgusting given the fact that most residents in Snohomish County already pay a minimum sales tax of 9% with many paying more than 10% throughout the county. I'm sure I don't need to remind you that these outrageously high sales taxes, the highest of which is higher than 99% of all counties nationwide and higher than any other county in our state, hurt lower income Snohomish County families the most. Rest assured I will make it a personal mission to actively campaign against any and all Councilmembers that push through any sales tax increases without putting them to the vote of the people. Simply because state legislators are unethical enough to carve out loopholes bypassing the voters of our state doesn't mean you should take advantage of them. Demonstrate the quality of your character by choosing to let the folks you represent dictate the direction their community should take.

Sincerest Regards,
A concerned Snohomish Resident

From: [Jeff G Caldwell](#)
To: [Contact Council](#)
Subject: Fw: No sales tax increase
Date: Thursday, December 2, 2021 4:01:35 PM

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

I don't involve myself in politics, but this disturbs me. We are paying more for everything and this is not the time to raise taxes. We all know that you will be back raising taxes, and raising taxes again and again without listening to public input.

Bad idea and a bad time.

At the very least, put it up to a vote. If it is that important, and you have a convincing argument you may get more. Just ask first.

[Sent from Frontier Yahoo Mail on Android](#)

----- Forwarded Message -----

From: "Jeff G Caldwell" <jeffcaldwell@frontier.com>
To: "Stephanie.Wright@snoco.org" <Stephanie.Wright@snoco.org>
Sent: Thu, Dec 2, 2021 at 3:52 PM
Subject: No sales tax increase

No sales tax increase.

Don't trust how you will spend the money.

However much you think you will need it is never enough, and politicians will always demand more tax increases.

Again, I don't trust how you will spend the money.

At the very least, let voters decide. If it is so important and necessary let the voters decide.

Jeff Caldwell

206 799 6072

[Sent from Frontier Yahoo Mail on Android](#)

EXHIBIT # PT-29

FILE ORD 21-098

From: [Mike Kellogg](#)
To: [Contact Council](#)
Subject: Sales Tax increase
Date: Thursday, December 2, 2021 4:16:32 PM

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

County Council,

I'm strongly against any kind of sale tax increase being proposed without voter approval.

Please consider the current inflation costs and a recent survey that states that the lower income level population is feeling this inflation the most. The last thing they need is to pay higher sale taxes.

Sincerely,

Mike Kellogg
Marysville resident

From: [Ronald Vivion](#)
To: [Contact Council](#)
Subject: Ordinance 21-098
Date: Thursday, December 2, 2021 4:17:44 PM

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

As a private citizen and Shohomish County resident, I support passage of Ordinance 21-098. The supported housing needs of our community are manifest, and emphasized by the numbers of individuals and families that are inadequately housed, or not housed at all.

This county needs to take a stand; adopting this ordinance will add to the good work that has been done so far. However, it doesn't take long in looking at the housing issues facing our county to realize that even more need exists. My heart aches for the 1000+ youth who attend our schools, but don't have adequate housing. As a society, we're better than that!

The Council should be commended for bringing this ordinance forward for review, and I look forward to continuing to add my comments to the debate.

I encourage each council member to take the brave step of passing Ordinance 21-098.

Ron Vivion
15011 3rd DR SE, Mill Creek, WA 98012
ronvivion@gmail.com
206 261-8505 (cell)

SNOHOMISH COUNTY COUNCIL

From: [Shawna Rose](#)
To: [Contact Council](#)
Subject: Comments on tax for homeless
Date: Thursday, December 2, 2021 4:21:35 PM

EXHIBIT # PT-31

FILE ORD 21-098

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

Dear Snohomish County Council:

I am a resident of Snohomish county and have been for the last 21 years.

I strongly oppose a tax increase to support funds spent on homeless initiatives without a vote of the people.

I want to encourage you to be as transparent as possible on something this critical. You **should not** support initiatives like this that do not have the support of taxpayers. I also want to express my support of councilmember Nate Nehring for bringing this to light. It is much appreciated.

This should be a vote of the people.

Sincerely,
Shawna Rose
Long time resident of Everett, WA

SNOHOMISH COUNTY COUNCIL

EXHIBIT # PT-32

FILE ORD 21-098

From: [Amber Lennox](#)
To: [Contact Council](#)
Subject: Tax Increase Proposal
Date: Thursday, December 2, 2021 5:22:57 PM

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

I have been made aware that there is a proposed tax increase for Snohomish County without a public vote. I am requesting that this is introduced on a ballot. I feel that as a community this decision needs to be made by all.

Thank-You,
Amber Lennox

From: [Kyle Thannisch](mailto:Kyle.Thannisch)
To: [Contact Council](#)
Cc: kthannisch@outlook.com
Subject: Opposing the Sales Tax Increase
Date: Thursday, December 2, 2021 6:04:09 PM

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

Councilmembers,

I am writing to express my strong opposition to the proposed 0.1% sales tax increase. Snohomish County residents are already paying some of the highest sales taxes in the country. With rapidly rising property values, we are also paying much more in property taxes than before. A tax increase, especially in light of the ongoing economic struggles, seems irresponsible and regressive. The County should appropriate funds it already has to address issues such as homelessness instead of imposing a higher tax rate on already financially strained citizens. The taxes imposed by government have driven some of our friends and family out of Snohomish County, some even out of Washington State. My mother, who has lived in the same home for nearly 30 years, will soon have a difficult time affording her exorbitant property taxes. I have heard the argument that this is such a miniscule tax that most families will hardly notice. We have seen so many miniscule tax increases that our pocketbooks are bleeding a death of a thousand papercuts. Snohomish County needs to prioritize the money it already has instead of taxing more.

In the Seattle Times article regarding this tax, it was compared to the similar King County tax. Why would Snohomish County base our model for reducing homelessness on something that King County has done? If King County was reducing homelessness at all I might understand following its lead. However, King County's solution has proven to be an abject failure. Perhaps Snohomish County should step up and lead in this regard instead of following a failing model set forth by our neighbors to the south.

My wife and I grew up in Snohomish County and we were extremely fortunate to have purchased our first home here, after months of searching and stress. The search for a home in Snohomish County was infuriating. We were frequently outbid, had houses sell before we had the chance to view them, and we had to pay a significant amount over asking price in order to purchase the home we live in now. My wife and I, along with many (if not most) of the buyers we spoke with were moving from King County specifically because the taxes are so high there. King County and the cities within are taxing exorbitantly, spending irresponsibly, and problems like homelessness and crimes related to homeless encampments are getting continually worse. I work for a company which has employees all over the country. Recently on a company forum I saw somebody mention he was thinking of moving to the Seattle area with his family and was looking for recommendations on areas to look at. Not one person of this diverse workgroup recommended King County. Some recommended avoiding Snohomish

County because it is turning into the next King County, with high and increasing taxes, among other issues.

I am also concerned by the speed at which this proposed tax is working through the system. I did not know about it until today, and I understand it is to be voted on very soon. I am taking time out of a busy schedule to write this email. Unfortunately, most people do not have time to express opposition, or even support, for something like this. There should be an adequate window for citizens to be heard so we may be properly represented in all matters. If that cannot be achieved, perhaps the issue should be voted on by the citizens.

In conclusion, I admire the Council's desire to help those in need and reduce homelessness in Snohomish County. I do not think that an effective way to do this is to increase taxes on already strained taxpayers. I think the County should work with the money it already receives to find a smart, effective, and compassionate solution that benefits all citizens of Snohomish County. Thank you so much for your time, and have a happy holiday season.

Respectfully,

Kyle Thannisch
(425) 501-0203
kthannisch@msn.com

SNOHOMISH COUNTY COUNCIL

From: [Chuck Lie](#)
To: [Somers, Dave J](#)
Cc: [Contact Council](#); claudia.yaw@heraldnet.com
Subject: Sales Tax Increase for affordable housing
Date: Thursday, December 2, 2021 6:57:30 PM

EXHIBIT # PT-34

FILE ORD 21-098

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

Dave, thanks for bringing this to the council. I trust that the council members will approve it.

For those that say the sales tax is regressive or that it will hurt low income people, they need to lobby the legislature for an Income Tax. An income tax could take care of school funding as well. An income tax would not burden the low income folks. Housing is a very real burden on low income folks.

Chuck Lie
just a voter
39964 May Creek Road
Gold Bar, Washington

SNOHOMISH COUNTY COUNCIL

From: [N Middleton](#)
To: [Contact Council](#)
Subject: Sales Tax for Affordable Housing
Date: Thursday, December 2, 2021 7:18:04 PM

EXHIBIT # PT-35

FILE ORD 21-098

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

Dear Council Members:

I am writing to urge you to support Councilmember Nehring's amendment requiring the 0.1% sales tax for affordable housing be put on the ballot for a public vote.

Thank you,

Norma Middleton

SNOHOMISH COUNTY COUNCIL

From: [Don Miewald](#)
To: [Contact Council](#)
Subject: No On sale tax increase
Date: Thursday, December 2, 2021 7:40:19 PM

EXHIBIT # PT-36

FILE ORD 21-098

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

Hello Council,

Please vote no on the new proposed sale tax increase. Inflation is already eating up our paychecks. Please don't take more.

Sincerely,
Don & Tonya Miewald

SNOHOMISH COUNTY COUNCIL

EXHIBIT # PT-37

FILE ORD 21-098

From: [Robert Wright](#)
To: [Contact Council](#)
Subject: Sales tax raise again...
Date: Thursday, December 2, 2021 7:40:19 PM

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

Are you seriously considering another tax raise for sales? I guess with your salary at \$ 126,500 a year you don't have to worry about another raise in our County. There are a lot of people living here on a fixed income with a lot lower income and the cost of living is high and going up all the time. What perfect timing, COVID 19 for 1 1\2 years, new variant now, inflation probably in the 6% range this coming year...look, I was a first responder for this County for almost 23 years and the cost of living here has gone crazy since I retired...please reconsider going this path now... Bob Wright...

Sent from my iPad

SNOHOMISH COUNTY COUNCIL

From: [Marilyn Monroe Singing Telegrams](#)
To: [Contact Council](#)
Subject: Support Snohomish County Ordinance 21-098
Date: Thursday, December 2, 2021 7:47:01 PM

EXHIBIT # PT-38
FILE ORD 21-098

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

Hello one and all,

Thank you for supporting the efforts of our community members in establishing an itsy bitsy, teeny tiny tax to assist our fellow humans in living safely and humanely in our county. This is just the beginning of making grand changes and if we must take a baby step, let it be a small but powerful tax. Why? Because it takes a village to raise a child. A village to raise a healthy group of individuals. A village to thrive and not just survive. So if paying a 0.1 percent tax irks you, I suggest you get over your penny pinching and open your eyes; you could be asked to consume one less Starbucks a day instead. Gasp.

Amelia Wood

SNOHOMISH COUNTY COUNCIL

From: [D Jones](#)
To: [Contact Council](#); [Cynthia Jones](#)
Subject: Please support ordinance 21-098
Date: Thursday, December 2, 2021 8:29:13 PM

EXHIBIT # PT-39
FILE ORD 21-098

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

We live in District 3 of Snohomish County and are writing to ask Stephanie Wright to vote in support of Ordinance 21-098.

We have stopped going to Seattle due to the abundance of individuals experiencing homelessness we encounter. We see the drain on King County at all levels when homelessness becomes a way of life. We don't want the same impact in Snohomish County, and one way to address this is by establishing dependable funding for those in need.

Affordable housing and emergency shelter beds provide the start of a stable return to a productive life. They are the means to connect an individual in freefall with the needed social services and long-term support that they have not been able to acquire while struggling to find a place to live.

The quality of life in our county depends on the ability of residents to find and remain in affordable homes. We need a workforce that lives and votes where it is employed.

Please do the right thing--approve Ordinance 21-098 and help acquire some of the funds needed to make Snohomish County a more livable location for all of our residents.

Sincerely,

David and Cynthia Jones
6311 146th ST SW
Edmonds, WA 98026

SNOHOMISH COUNTY COUNCIL

From: [Erin Carr](#)
To: [Contact Council](#)
Subject: Ordinance 21-098
Date: Thursday, December 2, 2021 9:05:38 PM

EXHIBIT # PT-40
FILE ORD 21-098

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

Good afternoon Council Members,

As a proud Snohomish County resident and a concerned citizen, I am contacting you in support of Ordinance 21-098. Regardless of party affiliation or ideology, it is widely acknowledged that we are facing a severe housing emergency in our area that has been further exacerbated by the pandemic. Platitudes about the need for action, absent meaningful measures, is insufficient to address this growing humanitarian, economic, ecological, and public health crisis. I urge you to support ordinance 21-098, a pragmatic response to the need for affordable housing in our county that will benefit our housing insecure neighbors, our broader economy, and our community at large.

Sincerely,
Erin Carr
4223 Thomson Ave,
Everett, WA 98203

SNOHOMISH COUNTY COUNCIL

From: [JOHN GRAHAM](#)
To: [Contact Council](#)
Subject: Proposed Sales Tax Increase
Date: Thursday, December 2, 2021 9:12:11 PM

EXHIBIT # PT-41

FILE ORD 21-098

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

As a retired person living in Snohomish County and on a fixed income, I do not support the proposal to raise the countywide sales tax rate to fund taxpayer subsidized housing. It is already hard to make ends meet and not sure how much more I can pay in taxes before I lose everything. At least put it up to a vote so I can at least cast a vote.

John Graham
Snohomish, Wa
Sent from [Mail](#) for Windows

SNOHOMISH COUNTY COUNCIL

EXHIBIT # PT-42

FILE ORD 21-098

From: [Daniel Roberson](#)
To: [Contact Council](#)
Subject: Affordable Housing Taxes
Date: Thursday, December 2, 2021 9:18:02 PM

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

Hello County Council Members,

I am a resident of Snohomish County and have heard of the pending tax change regarding affordable housing. I support any reasonable plan to improve housing retention and stability in our county, and understand the county's authorization to raise the tax without a vote. I believe that our county's residents are also aware of the current housing crisis and would generally support this movement. However, what I am more certain of is that they would appreciate transparency from our county that they do not get from Olympia. If there is an increased tax coming, I hope that the country representatives would see it not as a duty, but an honor to explain it to taxpayers their work in crafting responses to country needs and earn votes for the proposal. Please consider bringing this important discussion to the county in a broader way.

Daniel

SNOHOMISH COUNTY COUNCIL

EXHIBIT # PT-43

FILE ORD 21-098

From: [Daniel Dofelmier](#)
To: [Contact Council](#)
Subject: tax
Date: Thursday, December 2, 2021 9:20:46 PM

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

Dear Councilmembers

Please put any new taxes to a vote of the people. When you raise the sales taxes without going to the people it seems super shady at best. The message it sends is that you KNOW you do not have the votes of the people and you are jamming it down our throat. This is bad business, bad governance and shows a complete lack of leadership and massive lack of transparency. Please consider putting any sales taxes to a vote of the people. Remember you work for us not the other way around.

Respectfully,

Dan Dofelmier

SNOHOMISH COUNTY COUNCIL

From: [Steve Abramowicz](#)
To: [Contact Council](#)
Subject: Fwd: Snohomish County sales tax hike
Date: Thursday, December 2, 2021 9:57:32 PM

EXHIBIT # PT-44
FILE ORD 21-098

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

Dear Snohomish Council, please don't pass the sales tax increase without voter approval as has been traditionally done. Right before Christmas when voters aren't paying attention is a bad look for the first time exercising this new power. If it is a five year program to raise \$117 millions why the rush? Just because you can doesn't mean you should when we can lease afford it with rising inflation and supply chain issues. Please vote no on the increase and instead put it up for a vote of the citizens.

Thank you for your consideration

Best,
Steven Abramowicz
Mill Creek

From: Steve Abramowicz <steve@sabramowicz.com>
Sent: Thursday, December 2, 2021 9:42:39 PM
To: Jared Mead <electjaredmead@gmail.com>
Subject: Snohomish County sales tax hike

Dear Councilmember Mead, in this time of rising inflation and job uncertainty during a pandemic please don't vote to increase the Snohomish sales tax by another 0.1% above what is already the highest in Washington to 10.6%.

Lynnwood, Mukilteo, Mill Creek and Bothell are suffering just as much by an economy where, due to supply chain issues, it takes months to get replacement parts, dishwashers and washer/dryers. This tax won't raise the assumed \$117 millions in 5 years for 300 new affordable housing units if sales fall.

Please vote NO on this ill-timed tax increase and instead *allow it to be voted on by the residents as tax increases have traditionally been done*. Just because the council can doesn't mean they should.

Thank you for your consideration.

Steven Abramowicz
Mill Creek

SNOHOMISH COUNTY COUNCIL

From: [Betty Welsh](#)
To: [Contact Council](#)
Subject: Taxation without representation
Date: Thursday, December 2, 2021 10:06:23 PM

EXHIBIT # PT-45

FILE ORD 21-098

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

Allow the people you represent to vote on your sales tax increase proposal. You are behaving in a deceptive manor. As many have said, "just because you can, doesn't mean you should." Let us vote.

SNOHOMISH COUNTY COUNCIL

EXHIBIT # PT-46

FILE ORD 21-098

From: [GayLynn Beighton](#)
To: [Contact Council](#)
Subject: YES on Ordinance 21-098
Date: Friday, December 3, 2021 6:56:58 AM

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

Please vote YES for Ordinance 21-098

Thank you,
Gay-Lynn Beighton
6307 147th ST SW
Edmonds, WA 98026

From: [Mike graves](#)
To: [Low, Sam](#)
Cc: [Nehring, Nate](#); [Dunn, Megan](#); [Wright, Stephanie](#); [Mead, Jared](#); [Contact Council](#)
Subject: sales tax increase STOP!
Date: Friday, December 3, 2021 9:10:47 AM

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

Councilman Low, et all:

My name is Michael Graves I live in District 5.

A non-voter approved sales tax increase does not help the average Snohomish County Citizen!

With the cost of living, property taxes, and rapid inflation, this is the worst time to implement tax increases!

The median income in our county is barely enough to get by. I bet most of you make well above it and won't feel it.

Those of us on a fixed income are on the edge. DON'T MAKE IT WORSE!!!

Snohomish County leadership was NOT voted in to be Seattle or King County politics. Listen to your constituents!

You all claim to fight for working families, maybe you should do it!

The cumulative effect of governments thirst for our money, along with failed state and federal policies, is destroying the standard of living for lower- and middle-class families. Can't you see that?

Thank you

Michael Graves

Sent from [Mail](#) for Windows

From: [Devin Cook](#)
To: [Contact Council](#)
Subject: Sales Tax Increase
Date: Friday, December 3, 2021 10:29:36 AM

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

This proposal needs to be put in front of the people.

We are already being hit by giant price increases, which should be pushing up sales taxes for the county, but adding this extra tax will be increasing the pain we are all feeling.

You may feel the cause is noble, but the government has never been able to solve these problems in the past, and we have no confidence they can in the future.

SNOHOMISH COUNTY COUNCIL

From: [Douglas Dahl](#)
To: [Contact Council](#)
Subject: Proposed Tax Increase
Date: Friday, December 3, 2021 11:41:00 AM

EXHIBIT # PT-49

FILE ORD 21-098

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

Dear Snohomish County Council,

I am writing this email because of the news article in Everett Herald that there is a proposal to increase taxes on unincorporated Snohomish county .1%. I would ask you to seriously consider dropping this proposal or putting the proposal to a vote of the people who will have to pay the increase in taxes. Sales taxes on the working class men and women in the county are already high. The solution to the county's problems need be addressed without continually increasing taxes. Add this increase in taxes with rising inflation, property tax increases as values rise, and other financial pressures brought on by Covid, the council is actually making life more difficult on hard working people with lower income jobs who have homes and are trying to maintain a good quality of life in this increasingly expensive location. In addition, continually increasing sales taxes also harms our small business owners and pushes shoppers north into Skagit county.

Sincerely,

Douglas Dahl
3411 Kromer Ave.
Everett, WA 98201

SNOHOMISH COUNTY COUNCIL

From: fgwilliamson@gmail.com
To: [Contact Council](#)
Subject: County Tax Increase Proposal
Date: Friday, December 3, 2021 12:17:27 PM

EXHIBIT # PT-50
FILE ORD 21-098

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

To All Snohomish Council Members,

Snohomish county already leads the state at the top of tax rates among all counties. This 0.1% sales tax increase better be put to the voters as an amendment to the current pending council vote. We keep being hit with more tax on top of inflation, and there never seems to be specific accountability or transparency in these matters either before after a new tax is put into law. And, you propose this vote to take place at your LAST meeting before Christmas break...?! What a scam...! Great plan to keep from getting any feedback...! Isn't it nice to be spending OPM (Other People's Money) – makes you feel like you're above the rest of us, right, not servants of the people?

We'll be looking carefully at the next slate of candidates for Council to find persons who actually believe in representing ALL of the people, including those of us who pay all the taxes.

Yours, in Disbelief at your Audacity,

Frederic G and Maureen L Williamson

Mukilteo WA 98275

505-670-1435

<https://mynorthwest.com/3262631/councilmember-snohomish-county-sales-tax-increase-getting-rushed-with-minimal-transparency/>

SNOHOMISH COUNTY COUNCIL

EXHIBIT # PT-51

FILE ORD 21-098

From: [Charla Williams](#)
To: [Contact Council](#)
Subject: Tax
Date: Friday, December 3, 2021 12:55:43 PM

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

Mr. Patton and counsel members,

I strongly oppose the tax increase and call for it to be put to vote for the people of Snohomish County.

Respectfully
Charla Benoit

Sent from my iPhone

From: [Dandy Don](#)
To: [Contact Council](#)
Subject: Affordable Housing
Date: Friday, December 3, 2021 2:07:57 PM

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

Dear Council Person(s),

I must say I am disappointed in the Snohomish County Council. Not for the fact that the sales tax for funding affordable housing is being implemented but for the fact that the process seems to be circumventing the normal SCC procedures that you use.

The standard procedure as I understand it is:

1. Introduced at an administrative session.
2. It gets assigned to a committee. In this instance it would be Law/Justice or Finance.
3. Taken up at the general meeting session.
4. Public hearing (with some notice), Dec 15th (8 days) is NOT notice.

I'm aware that the state legislature is allowing the taxation of up to .1% without a vote, what I do not understand is the need to deviate from normal procedure.

The other issues I have are:

- A. Our county coffers are full AND you just raised the property taxes to the allowable 1%, can you please stop gathering more money just because you can? Many people are hurting from the pandemic (me included) and this is not helping when the county does not need the money. At least wait until our recovery is farther along.
- B. How is this money to be used SPECIFICALLY, I see no definition of how it will be used? Doing the math off the top of my head based on the anticipated 27-million-dollar revenue it will average out to \$500,000 per affordable house. This is not making sense.

Please give us a break, it has been a bad two years. At least adhere to your normal process, six weeks total is not that long when you are dealing with a serious issue.

For the record, I do support a tax for affordable housing, just not implemented in this manner or at this time.

D Danielson
Everett, WA

From: [Elaws151](#)
To: [Contact Council](#)
Subject: Sno Co sales tax increase
Date: Saturday, December 4, 2021 9:06:17 AM

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

Dear council members,

I strongly urge you to vote **NO** on increasing the sales tax in Snohomish county. This is the wrong time to make our lives more expensive, when all other costs are rising, as well.

This should be an issue that is voted on by the public.

Best regards,

Erin Laws
Lake Stevens

Sent from ProtonMail for iOS

SNOHOMISH COUNTY COUNCIL

From: [Victoria Irish](#)
To: [Contact Council](#)
Subject: Against - Sales Tax Hike in Snohomish County
Date: Saturday, December 4, 2021 9:39:39 AM

EXHIBIT # PT-54
FILE ORD 21-098

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

As a successful financial auditor I am disappointed to hear an increase in sales tax without a vote from the people is in motion.

I have 15 years of audit experience under my belt and not once has a single government representative stated “We have no other option but to increase taxes. We’ve audited all programs for efficiencies and ensured no waste is being spent in any program paid for by local taxes.” All the companies I represent pride themselves before any impactful decision gets made they hire us to determine no untapped revenue source is being neglected or if any programs have now become excessive and money spent on them is no longer necessary and can be re allocated to another area in need. Increasing taxes is a band aid for those who don’t want to take the time to first question themselves “are you spending every dollar we have already the right way?”

As this is not the first tax increase imposed without the vote of the people and this won’t be the last. I am looking to now move myself, my family, and my firm out of WA state. I care deeply about the success of family and my employees and being taxed heavily isn’t the way to go when we have options like Florida who has kept the 6% state wide flat sales tax in place for many years.

Put the facts together and audit your own before you tap into the wallets of the residents for more money. It’s the right thing to do and it is your job.

Victoria Smith

SNOHOMISH COUNTY COUNCIL

From: [judy.lagerwey](#)
To: [Contact Council](#)
Subject: Sales Tax Increase
Date: Saturday, December 4, 2021 1:09:58 PM

EXHIBIT # PT-55
FILE ORD 21-098

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

To whom it may concern,
I am a resident of Snohomish county. Please do not raise our sales tax without voter approval. Please allow the voters to decide this issue.
Thank you,
Sincerely,
Judy Lagerwey

Sent from Yahoo Mail. [Get the app](#)

SNOHOMISH COUNTY COUNCIL

EXHIBIT # PT-56

FILE ORD 21-098

From: jencashman75@gmail.com
To: [Contact Council](#)
Subject: New tax
Date: Saturday, December 4, 2021 2:48:16 PM

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

Please do not raise the sales tax without public input.

Sent from my iPhone

From: [RushBabe49](#)
To: [Contact Council](#)
Subject: Don't you DARE raise the Sales Tax without a vote of the People who elected you!
Date: Saturday, December 4, 2021 6:57:57 PM
Importance: High

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

Dear Snohomish County Council:

In case you hadn't noticed, the price of everything we buy has been hugely inflated by all the Democrat money-printing this and last year. The last thing we need is an increased Sales Tax to raise our cost of living even more! And we don't believe even for a second that whatever money is raised by that higher sales tax will go for "affordable housing" in the county. You can't even DEFINE "affordable housing", can you? Affordable for whom? We Citizens with brains know that money is fungible, and you cannot, and will not, keep close track of the money raised, and make sure it goes for whatever you decide is "affordable housing". And then, you try to sneak that tax increase past the people by passing it at the very end of the year, hoping we won't notice. **We notice.**

If you do this without our consent, we will know we were railroaded, and we, the people who elect you to represent US, will think about that at election time in 2022. You should fear for your jobs, every single one of you.

Sincerely,

Citizen Carol A. Kujawa
2228 99th ST SE
Everett 98208
RushBabe49@comcast.net
425-218-2314

From: Laurie.loth@comcast.net
To: [Contact Council](#)
Subject: Oppose the tax loophole!
Date: Sunday, December 5, 2021 11:11:20 PM

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

To Our Elected County Councilpersons,

Simply because the State Legislature enacted a loophole allowing tax increases "without a vote of the people" does not mean it is the right thing to do. You are proposing to increase OUR taxes and spend OUR money and that should require OUR VOTE. Councilmember Nate Nehring is drafting an amendment to this proposal, which would send this measure to a Ballot for a Vote of the People. Please approve his Amendment. People are hurting now and increasing our taxes will only hurt people that you were elected by, more.

These are OUR hard-earned funds, not the governments, and WE should have a say in whether we would like to see a sales tax increase to fund more taxpayer-subsidized housing in Snohomish County. It is not a Councilmember's role to spend our money without our consent.

Laurie Loth
11926 22nd St NE
Lake Stevens WA 98258

SNOHOMISH COUNTY COUNCIL

From: [J.M](#)
To: [Contact Council](#)
Subject: Yes on Ordinance 21-098
Date: Monday, December 6, 2021 10:00:23 AM

EXHIBIT # PT-59

FILE ORD 21-098

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

Hi there,

Please pass this Ordinance. I have a family member who has had mental health and related issues in the past and has been homeless. It is essential that Snohomish County starts taking housing for the homeless seriously. People need to be housed BEFORE they can deal with mental health and addiction issues. I strongly support this initiative!

Thank you,

Joan Maybank
18903 68th Ave W, Lynnwood, WA 98036

From: [Tom Nicholson](#)
To: [Contact Council](#)
Subject: Proposed Sales Tax Ordinance 21-098
Date: Monday, December 6, 2021 2:08:46 PM

EXHIBIT # PT-60
FILE ORD 21-098

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

Snohomish Council Members, I am writing this message on behalf of a large group of Edmonds residents who are very concerned with the proposed snap vote on an increase to the county sales tax at the Dec. 15 meeting. I have spoken to a number of you and your staff members over the past few days expressing that a decision of this magnitude must be sent to the voters for approval. This proposal for affordable housing while needed is not one that should be funded by a permanent increase to the sales tax that every resident of Snohomish County will pay forever since there is not a sunset clause. I have studied the report of how the funds would be allocated and we feel strongly that this need is being funded by over 20 organizations in the county including private, non-profit, federal, state, and developers. If this ordinance is adopted it will further burden every citizen and is a regressive tax that impacts populations of all income levels. The crushing tax burden that we face in Edmonds in property taxes is forcing residents to consider Skagit, Whatcom, and Island counties and this sales tax will accelerate this situation. While we realize that the State of Washington granted counties the right to adopt taxes to pay for this purpose, the responsible course of action should be allowing an adequate time for public comment and a public vote. Rushing a vote to the final meeting of the year in the midst of a pandemic is the core of our opposition. I look forward to testifying next week at the Law & Justice hearing and at the council session, thank you.

EXHIBIT # PT-61

FILE ORD 21-098

From: [Roz Deede](#)
To: [Contact Council](#)
Subject: Message from Bothell Home Owner Rosalind Deede 206-717-4993 24309 9th ave west Bothellk 98021
Date: Monday, December 6, 2021 2:10:26 PM

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

Good Afternoon, PLease be advised I am dismayed and totally against your intent to raise the county sales tax. As a homeowner, tax payer and active voter and community involved citizen I want to alert you NOT to raise anymore taxes, enough is enough. My neighbors are furious about your actions and ignoring citizens' input. Next election we will vote and pay close attention to your actions. You are trying to slip this by with no input and no real concern for the taxpayers. You are being watched, evaluated, and we are very unhappy to say the least at your lack of respect and empathy for the taxpayers of Sno Co.
Regards, Roz Deede

SNOHOMISH COUNTY COUNCIL

From: [Elizabeth Myers](#)
To: [Contact Council](#)
Subject: Proposed Sales Tax Increase
Date: Monday, December 6, 2021 4:46:43 PM

EXHIBIT # PT-62
FILE ORD 21-098

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

Dear Council Members,

I am writing to inform the council that I am totally opposed to a sales tax increase of any kind. The council should never consider raising the sales tax without a vote where the citizens of Snohomish county can decide if a sales tax increase is warranted. This is supposed to help affordable housing? You are making it unaffordable for those of us on a fixed income. And unaffordable for young families because they are the biggest consumers who can least afford an increase in the sales tax rate. This proposed tax impacts all families as well as retirees like me. My property taxes go up every year because my property value increases. Where does all that extra tax money go anyway? I can't figure it out! When I lived in Florida it was easy to follow the money. I knew where my tax money went. We also voted in Florida on tax increases! We also had limits on how much property taxes could increase in a year. Start listening to the voters. We can't take any more tax increases. What are you doing to cut unnecessary expenses in the county budget? The state, the county, the school district – everyone asks for more tax money but they never can tell us how they are going to cut out the unnecessary expenses that we all know exist in every government budget. Do that before you ask the residents of Snohomish County to fund yet another experiment that will probably resolve nothing!

Thank you for taking the time to listen.

Elizabeth Myers
Lynnwood, WA 98037

From: [Guy & Patty Schoonmaker](#)
To: [Contact Council](#)
Subject: Affordable Housing proposed sales tax increase
Date: Monday, December 6, 2021 6:09:50 PM

EXHIBIT # PT-63
FILE ORD 21-098

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

Sno Co Council Members:

I am against the proposed .01% sales tax increase to fund affordability housing.
This issue cannot be resolve by throwing more money up in the air hoping it will fall in the right place.
Most everyone has and still are being impacted financially, not the time if any to impose.

No government program yet has shown any significant impact building “Affordable” housing.
It cannot keep up with the cost of living increases or wage rates in our area to make a difference.
The definition of “Affordable” is deceiving.

My suggestion is to allocate funding from our current property tax rate, I know for a fact money is available somewhere.
Its origin makes much more sense and be proportionally fair based on property value.

You could try to bury it in a proposition?? Just kidding.....

Thanks for your time and consideration,

Guy Schoonmaker
Edmonds Wa

SNOHOMISH COUNTY COUNCIL

From: hansenfamily1996
To: [Contact Council](#)
Subject: FW: Sales Tax Increase
Date: Monday, December 6, 2021 6:47:39 PM

EXHIBIT # PT-64
FILE ORD 21-098

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

Council Members,

Below is an email I sent Councilman Mead regarding the proposed sales tax increase the Council is considering. I oppose the Council increasing taxes for the reasons stated below.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sean Hansen

17015 31st Drive SE
Bothell, WA 98012
206 679-8307

Sent from my Verizon, Samsung Galaxy smartphone

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

From: hansenfamily1996 <hansenfamily1996@gmail.com>
Date: 12/3/21 7:50 AM (GMT-08:00)
To: jared.mead@snoco.org
Subject: Sales Tax Increase

Mr. Mead,

I am writing to express my opposition to the proposed sales tax increase. Snohomish County already has the highest sales tax in the state. Our residents are currently struggling with the impacts of inflation on their cost of living. An increase to the sales tax only exacerbates that burden. This is a burden felt most by our low income residents. Further, this increase would come without a vote of County residents.

If the Council wants an increase, explain to the public why the increase is necessary and how the money will be used, then put it on the ballot.

Thank you,

Sean Hansen

17015 31st Drive SE
Bothell, WA 98012
206 679-8307

Sent from my Verizon, Samsung Galaxy smartphone

EXHIBIT # PT-65

FILE ORD 21-098

From: [Pam Reeves](#)
To: [Contact Council](#)
Subject: Sales tax hike
Date: Monday, December 6, 2021 10:52:04 PM

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

Dear Councilman or Councilwoman,

I do not want you to raise our taxes without a vote of the people. The loophole passed by the State Legislature is wrong. We need transparency, not deception.

No on Snohomish County tax increases!

Pamela Reeves

Preevesrq@gmail.com

EXHIBIT # PT-66

FILE ORD 21-098

From: [Leslie Lemm](#)
To: [Wright, Stephanie](#)
Cc: [Contact Council](#); george.hurst@snoco.org
Subject: oppose new taxes
Date: Tuesday, December 7, 2021 7:42:24 AM

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

I urge you to oppose and vote NO on a sales tax increase. As a citizen and taxpayer inflationary costs are already cutting into the hardworking law-abiding citizens personal budget and family spending. As a business owner there is the struggle not of just increased costs of goods but rising labor costs due to the shortage of people willing to work.

The council needs to not rush into an increase of our sales tax, put the measure to a vote if that is what you believe the citizens want to spend their money on. The lack of transparency in government is extremely disappointing and we in Snohomish County I would hope to be better than that.

Please represent the wants and needs of the taxpayers that have voted you in!

Leslie Lemm Baldrige
SERVPRO of Edmonds & Lynnwood
425-774-1148

From: [Al Compaan](#)
To: [Contact Council](#)
Subject: Sales Tax Increase - Vote set for December 15th
Date: Tuesday, December 7, 2021 9:47:55 AM

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

Dear Council Members,

We strongly urge you to **vote no** on the one-tenth of one percent sales tax increase for affordable housing and homelessness. There is no question that there are important issues in our county. However, to impose a sales tax increase in the middle of a pandemic when people are already struggling is an exercise of poor judgment. The sales tax should not be increased for the following reasons:

1. There has been limited opportunity for public input on this tax increase.
2. Other than for this one specific purpose (affordable housing), state law requires that any sales tax increase be subject to vote of the people. That is clearly the spirit of the law.
3. Sales tax is a regressive tax, especially impacting those who already have less in the way of financial resources.
4. We understand there are other funding sources and programs already in place. Have those funding sources been thoroughly explored?

I would encourage reconsideration of the funding mechanism for affordable housing issues. As property owners in this county, we would be supportive of a modest real estate tax increase dedicated to affordable housing. This is a stable funding source and is a much less regressive form of taxation. Please give our suggestions your valuable consideration. Thank you.

Best,

Al & Anne Compaan
Edmonds
206.786.9118

SNOHOMISH COUNTY COUNCIL

From: [Brenda Bolanos-Ivory](#)
To: [Contact Council](#)
Subject: Support for Affordable Housing Urgent Request
Date: Tuesday, December 7, 2021 10:54:13 AM

EXHIBIT # PT-68
FILE ORD 21-098

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

Dear County Council Members,

I urge you all to vote on a very aggressive affordable housing budget. These next couple of years will determine how many families, children, seniors and people experiencing addiction will have to live on our streets with your votes today.

My personal expertise is helping the men and women experiencing homelessness and addiction in homeless camps. As manager of a County low barrier supportive motel pilot program last year, my team took 30% from our streets to treatment and/or housing. We were just starting it. We can do even better! My team is now with a nonprofit; Force of Hope.

County needs to buy one or more motels. We need motel programs. We need pallet shelters. We need increased sober, mental illness, and senior supportive housing for after treatment, after traumatic homelessness, and preventing homelessness.

We have great leaders who are successfully running programs. Thank you for your current support for them. They're working with good management. We still desperately need more funding in this crisis period to prevent thousands of homeless people on our streets in the next two years.

Hindsight is 20/20. Let's make Foresight 20/20.

Warm regards,
Brenda BolanosIvory

--
Brenda Bolanos-Ivory
619-549-1657
Government Community Consultant
Everett, Washington

SNOHOMISH COUNTY COUNCIL

From: [Meg McClure](#)
To: [Contact Council](#)
Subject: Support of ordinance
Date: Tuesday, December 7, 2021 4:31:42 PM

EXHIBIT # PT-69
FILE ORD 21-098

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

Yes on Ordinance 21-098

Margaret McClure
14213 62nd Dr. SE
Everett, WA 98208

SNOHOMISH COUNTY COUNCIL

From: [Sandy Langdon](#)
To: [Contact Council](#)
Subject: Letter from Marysville Council
Date: Tuesday, December 7, 2021 6:15:32 PM
Attachments: [image001.png](#)
[Marysville Letter to SnoCounty.pdf](#)

EXHIBIT # PT-70

FILE ORD 21-098

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

Snohomish County Councilmembers,

At the December 6th Marysville Council workshop the Marysville Council approved the attached letter to the Snohomish County Council regarding the proposed sales tax increase.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sandy Langdon | Finance Director | City of Marysville
1049 State Avenue, Marysville WA 98270
Main: 360.363.8000 | Direct: 360.363.8017 | Fax: 360.363.8042



NOTICE: All emails, and attachments sent to and from the City of Marysville are public records and may be subject to disclosure pursuant to the Public Records Act (RCW 42.56).



December 6, 2021

Snohomish County Council
3000 Rockefeller 8th Floor, Drewel Building
Everett, WA 98201

Dear Snohomish County Councilmembers,

We appreciate and share your desire to address the challenges regarding behavioral health and housing affordability that we are experiencing in our county and in our communities; however, as fellow elected representatives, we have deep concerns about the use of a councilmanic sales tax increase that has been proposed to address these challenges.

Particularly during this period of inflation and economic uncertainty, we are concerned about the potential detrimental impacts of a sales tax increase on our Marysville citizens and businesses. Furthermore, rather than the county council imposing a councilmanic sales tax increase, we believe our citizens should be presented with a plan, informed on how these funds would be spent, and then be given the opportunity to vote on whether or not they can afford and support such a tax increase and plan. We feel this is imperative to preserving full transparency and encouraging public trust in local government leaders.

We commend your commitment to addressing these important issues, and look forward to continuing to partner with you on finding solutions that will benefit our county and our local communities.

Sincerely,

Kamille Norton, Marysville City Council President
Jeffrey Vaughan, Marysville City Councilmember
Mark James, Marysville City Councilmember
Tom King, Marysville City Councilmember
Michael Stevens, Marysville City Councilmember
Kelly Richards, Marysville City Councilmember
Steve Muller, Marysville City Councilmember

From: donna.beamer66@gmail.com
To: [Contact Council](#)
Subject: Demand for Public Input on Proposed Sales Tax Increase! - Scheduled for Vote on Dec 15, 2021
Date: Tuesday, December 7, 2021 8:21:23 PM

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

To the members of the County Council: There are over 20 organizations from private, federal, state, public and local developers that already have programs in place to address affordable housing issues in Snohomish County. As a retired person on a fixed income, living in the second most expensive county in this state, I demand public input be gathered on this subject and I will not tolerate having this increase inflicted on me! I have lived here for over 40 years and do not want to lose my lifelong home!

Further....the glut of new high-density housing in the Arlington/Marysville area, along with the new Amazon ("Flagship") Distribution Center at Smokey Point, should provide sufficient additional tax base to further support this topic. The growth in this region is becoming a cancerous blight on the environment; farmland is nearly non-existent in northern Snohomish County now. The continued escalation of taxes, including property taxes will cause more and more of us to lose our retirement homes.

How much is enough? And, how much of these funds are actually utilized for affordable housing issues, and how much ends up in the private coffers of unscrupulous people?

I am reminding you that I still live in a county and a country where "we the people" have a voice and I will persist in using it!

*Donna M. Rudiger
Arlington, Washington*

From: [Elizabeth Myers](#)
To: [Wright, Stephanie](#)
Cc: [Contact Council](#); [George Hurst](#); [Christine Frizzell](#)
Subject: Proposed Sales Tax Increase
Date: Tuesday, December 7, 2021 10:32:18 PM

EXHIBIT # PT-72
FILE ORD 21-098

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

Dear Council Member Wright,

I read the article posted on Facebook on My Edmonds News about the proposed sales tax increase. I live in Lynnwood. I am writing to you because it sounds like you are the originator of this idea.

George Hurst made a good point in this article about the previous sales tax increase for mental health and addiction issues that was instituted in 2009. This is the quote from that article:

“In 2009, the county approved a 0.1% chemical dependency and mental health sales tax that Hurst estimated has generated more than \$150 million but the city hasn’t benefited much from. Between 2017-21, the city received just over \$37,000 from the tax for the Lynnwood Senior Center and First Responder Flex Funds. “They (the county) haven’t built detox beds, they haven’t built mental health facilities,” he said. “So, my concern is what are they going to do with this money that is supposedly for housing?”

There doesn’t seem to be any accountability to the people for how our sales tax dollars and other tax dollars are being spent. I moved here in 2017 and it’s been a constant struggle to find detailed information on how my city, county, and state tax dollars are being used. The amount of the sales tax might sound like a very small percentage, but it’s just one more tax on top of all the other new taxes and increased property taxes. I remember a sales tax increase we voted on to replace the emergency radio equipment that police and fire departments use. I voted yes at the time but thought to myself, how in the world did the county get in this situation where they don’t have the money in the budget to update this critical system? What a lack of planning! And I still feel this way. With the increased costs of the pandemic, the council should be looking for ways to cut out every unnecessary expense from the county budget. And the Council should be looking at critical capital infrastructure expenses and ensuring you are planning for those future needs and setting aside funding for them. Then, when you see a need for a new program that you can’t fund any other way, then you do your research, plan it all out with detailed cost information and revenue forecasts and present it to the voters. People in Snohomish County do care about affordable housing, but they also feel like they have had way too many tax increases in the past few years!

What you should NOT do is try to sneak in a sales tax increase for “affordable housing” when you have not spelled out exactly how that money would be used and given the voters a chance to say whether that’s a program they actually want initiated. Then on any sales tax increase that is actually voted in, the council should ensure the voters can see how those tax dollars are being spent on an ongoing basis. And make it easy for us to see this information online, in email newsletters we can sign up for (like the City of Lynnwood does), etc. It’s extremely frustrating to not be able to understand where your tax dollars are actually being spent.

In my opinion, this sales tax would just make living in Snohomish County even more “unaffordable” for most of us. And it’s just plain wrong to try and impose this tax without letting the voters decide!

Elizabeth Myers
Lynnwood, WA 98037

From: [Corey Snelson](#)
To: [Contact Council](#)
Subject: Please move forward with enacting Ordinance 21-098
Date: Wednesday, December 8, 2021 10:54:17 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 urge you to authorize a local revenue option to support housing for our most vulnerable neighbors in Snohomish County. As you know, we have extraordinary affordable and supported housing needs that require regional solutions. As a resident of Snohomish County, I support this action.

These funds will clearly help meet existing affordable and homeless housing plans enacted by Snohomish cities and counties. With more locally controlled and ongoing funds, we can more quickly meet the well thought out housing objectives in each jurisdictions' affordable housing plans.

Your authorization of this funding can help us solve this crisis at a much faster pace. With more funding, we can help provide affordable housing for the 3,000 school-age children in our County who currently do not have a stable home. We can double the current rate of affordable housing production in Snohomish County. We can help provide our estimated 1,132 unsheltered neighbors put a roof over their heads. We can invest in programs that help people move forward and open a new chapter in their lives.

Please move forward with enacting Ordinance 21-098.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Corey Snelson

Arlington, WA

From: [Joseph Alonzo](#)
To: [Contact Council](#)
Subject: Support of Ordinance 21-098
Date: Wednesday, December 8, 2021 11:08:40 AM
Attachments: [image001.png](#)
[image002.png](#)
[image003.png](#)
[image004.png](#)
[image005.png](#)
[image006.png](#)
[image007.png](#)
[image008.png](#)
[image009.png](#)
[image010.png](#)

SNOHOMISH COUNTY COUNCIL

EXHIBIT # PT-74

FILE ORD 21-098

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

Dear Snohomish County Council,

My name is Joe Alonzo, and I am the CEO of Cocoon House, and also a resident of Snohomish County.

I am writing in support of the passage of ordinance 21-098. The topic of affordable housing at all price points has been a contentious topic in our area for years. Unfortunately, the issue has risen to crisis levels and there is no more time to wait. The people of Snohomish County have spoken and acknowledge the need to increase housing stock. There have been countless public meetings and forums held to understand the capacity needs. The Housing Affordability Regional Taskforce brought together our area experts to develop a comprehensive report and clear action needed. It is time to act.

Passage of this ordinance will result in \$23 Million per year in support of affordable housing and behavioral health services – something that current and future generations will be grateful for!

Thank you for your consideration,

Joe Alonzo

Joseph Alonzo

CEO

Cocoon House

Pronouns: he/him/his

Office: 425.259.3184

Email: joseph.alonzo@cocoonhouse.org

“Cocoon House empowers young people, families, and the community to break the cycle of homelessness through outreach, housing and prevention.”

Your support will have a lasting, positive impact in the lives of teens and families. To make a donation please click [HERE](#). For more information on Cocoon House and our programs, please visit our website at www.cocoonhouse.org

Connect with us:

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From: [Rachael Hager](#)
To: [Contact Council](#)
Subject: In Reference to Ordinance 21-098
Date: Wednesday, December 8, 2021 12:00:57 PM
Attachments: [image001.png](#)
[image002.png](#)
[image003.png](#)
[image004.png](#)
[image005.png](#)
[image006.png](#)
[image007.png](#)
[image008.png](#)
[image009.png](#)
[image010.png](#)

SNOHOMISH COUNTY COUNCIL

EXHIBIT # PT-75

FILE ORD 21-098

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 urge you to authorize a local revenue option to support housing for our most vulnerable neighbors in Snohomish County. As you know, we have extraordinary affordable and supported housing needs that require regional solutions. As a resident of Snohomish County, I support this action.

These funds will clearly help meet existing affordable and homeless housing plans enacted by Snohomish cities and counties. With more locally controlled and ongoing funds, we can more quickly meet the well thought out housing objectives in each jurisdictions' affordable housing plans.

Your authorization of this funding can help us solve this crisis at a much faster pace. With more funding, we can help provide affordable housing for the 3,000 school-age children in our County who currently do not have a stable home. We can double the current rate of affordable housing production in Snohomish County. We can help provide our estimated 1,132 unsheltered neighbors put a roof over their heads. We can invest in programs that help people move forward and open a new chapter in their lives.

Please move forward with enacting Ordinance 21-098.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Rachael Hager

Family Engagement Specialist | Youth Engagement Team

Cocoon House

Pronouns: She/Her/Hers | They/Them/Theirs

Office: (425) 259-5802, ext. 127

Cell: (425) 268-7893

Email: Rachael.Hager@cocoonhouse.org

“Cocoon House empowers young people, families, and the community to break the cycle of homelessness through outreach, housing and prevention.”

Your support will have a lasting, positive impact in the lives of teens and families. To make a donation please click [HERE](#). For more information on Cocoon House and our programs, please visit our website at www.cocoonhouse.org

Connect with us:

Statement of Confidentiality

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From: [Tarah Wilder](#)
To: [Contact Council](#)
Subject: ordinance 21-298
Date: Wednesday, December 8, 2021 12:05:20 PM

EXHIBIT # PT-76
FILE ORD 21-098

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

I am writing to encourage you to support Affordable Housing Ordinance 21-098. As a lifelong resident of Snohomish County and as a long-time human services worker, I've seen the increasing need for affordable housing and services in our community and I'm sure you have as well. I hope you will consider approving the funding measure to protect our vulnerable community members and improve life in Snohomish County.

Thanks for your time and consideration,

Tarah Wilder
Arlington, WA

From: [Catalina Angel](#)
To: [Contact Council](#)
Subject: HOUSING AND MENTAL HEALTH IN SNOH
Date: Wednesday, December 8, 2021 12:25:53 PM

EXHIBIT # PT-77

FILE ORD 21-098

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

Dear Snohomish County Council Members,

As mental health provider in Snohomish, I am writing to urge you to authorize a local revenue option to support housing for our most vulnerable neighbors in Snohomish County. As you know, we have extraordinary affordable and supported housing needs that require regional solutions. As a resident of Snohomish County with children in public schools, I support this action.

These funds will clearly help meet existing affordable and homeless housing plans enacted by Snohomish cities and counties. With more locally controlled and ongoing funds, we can more quickly meet the well thought out housing objectives in each jurisdictions' affordable housing plans.

Your authorization of this funding can help us solve this crisis at a much faster pace. With more funding, we can help provide affordable housing for the 3,000 school-age children in our County who currently do not have a stable home. We can double the current rate of affordable housing production in Snohomish County. We can help provide our estimated 1,132 unsheltered neighbors put a roof over their heads. We can invest in programs that help people move forward and open a new chapter in their lives.

Please move forward with enacting Ordinance 21-098.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Catalina Angel

From: [Mark Smith](#)
To: [Contact Council](#)
Subject: Cost of Ord 21-098 for average taxpayer
Date: Wednesday, December 8, 2021 1:05:13 PM
Attachments: [cost of 1590 increase 2021.21.08.xlsx](#)

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

Dear Councilmembers,

I have heard various numbers as to how much Ordinance 21-098 would cost the average taxpayer in Snohomish County.

Here are some numbers you may find useful:

The median household income in Snohomish County is \$89,260. On average, 80.4% (\$71,765) is spent on items in five categories: Housing, transportation, personal insurance and pensions, food and healthcare. Very little, if any of this is subject to sales tax. This leaves the median income household with \$17,495 per year in disposable income. If all of that was used for taxable purchases, the 0.001 increase would cost the average taxpayer \$17.50 per year.

Using the same data and calculations, an extremely low income household (<30%AMI) would spend an additional \$5.25 per year. A very high income household (\$250,000 and above) would spend an additional \$49 per year.

I've attached a spreadsheet with the calculations and links to the data sources, US Census Bureau and Bureau of Labor Statistics.

I've tried to be as fair and as accurate as possible with the numbers. Like all data, there are exceptions and variations. For example, most personal medical devices are not subject to sales tax but some are. It is impossible to ferret out the exact percentage of each so they are all included in the Healthcare category. Since the vast majority of healthcare spending is not subject to sales tax I have assumed that the impact of including that amount that is subject to sales tax is diminimus. Internet service is not subject to sales tax but it falls into the Entertainment category which by and large is taxable. Again, there is no way to separate out just internet service so that remains as a taxable expense for the purposes of these calculations.

Best regards,

Mark Smith

Executive Director

Housing Consortium of Everett and Snohomish County

425-339-1015 / mark@housingsnohomish.org

<https://www.housingsnohomish.org>

PO Box 1326, Everett, WA 98206

Please note that the Consortium's hours are M-Th, 7:30am-6:00pm

SnoCo median income ¹	\$89,260.00	100.0%	Extremely Low Income (<30%AMI)	\$26,778.00	100%	High Income	\$250,000	100%
Housing	\$32,758.42	36.7%	Housing	\$9,827.53	36.7%	Housing	\$91,750	36.7%
Transportation	\$11,782.32	13.2%	Transportation	\$3,534.70	13.2%	Transportation	\$33,000	13.2%
Personal Insurance & Pensions	\$10,978.98	12.3%	Personal Insurance & Pensions	\$3,293.69	12.3%	Personal Insurance & Pensions	\$30,750	12.3%
Food	\$10,800.46	12.1%	Food	\$3,240.14	12.1%	Food	\$30,250	12.1%
Healthcare	\$5,444.86	6.1%	Healthcare	\$1,633.46	6.1%	Healthcare	\$15,250	6.1%
Totals	\$71,765.04	80.4%	Totals	\$21,529.51	80.4%	Totals	\$201,000	80.4%
Remainder	\$17,494.96	19.6%	Remainder	\$5,248.49	19.6%	Remainder	\$49,000	19.6%
Multiplied by .001 sales tax	\$17.49		Multiplied by .001 sales tax	\$5.25		Multiplied by .001 sales tax	\$49	

American Community Survey

S1903_MEDIAN INCOME IN THE PAST 12 MONTHS (IN 2019 INFLATION-ADJUSTED DOLLARS)

Expense categories from https://www.bls.gov/regions/west/news-release/pdf/consumerexpenditures_seattle.pdf

From: [Fred Safstrom](#)
To: [Contact Council](#)
Subject: Ordinance 21-098 Letter of Support
Date: Wednesday, December 8, 2021 3:28:27 PM
Attachments: [image001.png](#)
[image002.png](#)
[20211208153434734.pdf](#)

EXHIBIT # PT-79

FILE ORD 21-098

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

Please see attached Housing Hope's letter of support for your proposed ordinance 21-098. Adoption of this ordinance will make a transformative difference for the creation of housing serving Snohomish County's most vulnerable citizens. Thank you for your consideration.

Very best regards,
Fred



**HOUSING
HOPE**
we keep hope alive



Fred Safstrom (he/him)
CEO

Tel: (425) 353-5546
5830 Evergreen Way
Everett, WA 98203
www.housinghope.org
www.hopewrks.org



December 8, 2021

Snohomish County Council
3000 Rockefeller Ave., M/S 609
Everett, WA 98201

Dear Councilmembers,

I am writing to you today in strong support of Snohomish County Ordinance 21-098, the sales tax for affordable housing and behavioral health. This ordinance would significantly increase our community's ability to effectively address our affordable housing and homelessness crises.

As Snohomish County's largest and most active non-profit developer of affordable housing, Housing Hope has seen firsthand how our lack of local funding resources has held our community back. Under the current system, county-wide, non-profit affordable housing developers are only able to produce one new development per year because there is not enough local funding to act as match for state and federal funding sources. This low pace of development does not come close to addressing the overwhelming need for affordable housing in Snohomish County.

Ordinance 21-098 is a once in a generation opportunity to double the production of affordable housing development in Snohomish County. With more than 3,000 school-age children currently experiencing homelessness and more than 20,000 low-income households spending more than 50% of their income on rent, we have a moral and economic responsibility to take bold action to address housing affordability. Ordinance 21-098 is the bold action we need.

I strongly urge you to support Ordinance 21-098 to ensure that Snohomish County has the capacity to address our housing affordability and homelessness crises for years to come.

Sincerely,

Fred Safstrom
Chief Executive Officer

From: kim.toskey@comcast.net
To: [Contact Council](#)
Subject: Snohomish County Ordinance 21-098
Date: Wednesday, December 8, 2021 3:31:06 PM

EXHIBIT # PT-80

FILE ORD 21-098

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

Dear Snohomish County Council Members,

I am concerned that there seems to be a question about the rationale for this ordinance. You have been elected to represent the best interests of **ALL** Snohomish County residents--not just those who contributed financially to your campaign; or who live in a house they bought more than thirty years ago; or who have been blessed to have no physical or mental impairments that restrict one or more of life's major activities. In fact, it is especially important that you consider those of our neighbors who may not be able to advocate for themselves! The proceeds of this tax are expected to add \$23M to our housing construction coffers per year! That goes a long way toward solving our housing problems!

This small added sales tax, known as 1590, will give us a local source of funding for additional housing. This is vitally important when SnoCo housing nonprofits compete for state and federal funds; applicants from jurisdictions with locally-sourced funds are able to leverage those funds for more construction/maintenance/operation awards. "Skin in the Game" is a traditional evaluation metric when comparing the worthiness of side-by-side applications, so many of our proposed housing developments have to wait for two or more funding cycles to be able to move forward. These delays only increase the projected costs, which in turn can reduce the proposed scale. I am eager to see Snohomish County begin to win some of the competitive awards, so that we can build more housing faster and for less cost! Each local housing \$1 is typically leveraged for an additional \$10 in funding—why would we leave that kind of money on the table?

More and more lately, I am hearing tales of talented community members moving to other counties and even states in order to be able to live and work in the same community. A husband and wife ministry team moved this summer from Edmonds to Tacoma to be able to buy a home near their church; the son and family of a local housing employee moved to Idaho to be able to buy a home near his job; a family with a teenager in high school is now bunked in with a friend in Federal Way because their rent went up drastically at the end of the eviction moratorium, but their income was the same; school districts are having difficulty getting and keeping sufficient staff to support the teachers and students because they can't find adequate housing that is affordable. Medical workers often work multiple jobs to cover their housing costs. Rents in SnoCo now require more than \$100,000 in annual income to fit the standard definition of affordable-- less than one-third of income on housing; ownership is even higher. None of us want to live in a community where all the young people have to leave, and where our faith communities, hospitals and schools have job postings go unfilled because the cost of housing is prohibitive.

Please, *do the job you said you wanted to do*, and vote to support a source of local funding for housing, so that more of our neighbors, especially those with disabilities, will have access to housing that is safe and affordable. It is no longer in our collective best interests to not implement this local funding source for more housing! Sales tax is regressive, but the actual cost of this tax to low income families will be less than \$1 per month, and nothing is more regressive than homelessness. Please Vote YES on SnoCo Ordinance #21-098!!

In Community,

Kim Toskey (she/her)

CEO, Homes and Hope Community Land Trust

Attainable Housing Advocate & Practitioner

425.422.5286

Visit our website: www.homesandhopeclt.org

Connect on www.facebook.com/homesandhopeclt

Sign up for AmazonSmile and select Homes and Hope Community Land Trust as your preferred charity at smile.amazon.com/ch/82-3392935. Remember to shop for deals at smile.amazon.com, or with AmazonSmile ON in the Amazon app, and AmazonSmile will donate to us at no cost to you.

SNOHOMISH COUNTY COUNCIL

EXHIBIT # PT-81

FILE ORD 21-098

From: [Sharon Lee](#)
To: [Contact Council](#)
Cc: [Jon Grant](#); [Mark Smith](#)
Subject: Please Support 0.1% Sales Tax for Housing & Homelessness
Date: Wednesday, December 8, 2021 3:48:58 PM

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

Greetings Snohomish County Council,

I am writing in strong support of the county's 0.1% Sales Tax proposal authorized by House Bill 1590 to fund more emergency shelter and permanent affordable housing. It is a rare opportunity to be able to usher in new resources that respond to our homelessness crisis, and we should pursue every opportunity.

The Low Income Housing Institute is one of the Pacific Northwest's largest non-profit affordable housing providers with over 3,000 low-income housing units, and we are eager to respond to the housing needs of Snohomish County. We currently own and operate multiple properties in the area, such as the Meadowdale Apartments in Lynnwood and Cedarwood II Apartments in Lake Stevens. These properties prioritize very low income and formerly homeless households. We need more properties like this to get homeless people inside.

The sales tax rate across Snohomish County currently ranges from 7.8-10.5%; this 0.1% proposal will have a minor fiscal impact but yield enormous results in addressing homelessness in our community.

The last annual Point-in-Time count in Snohomish County showed that 1,132 people were homeless, and it is likely an undercount. This ordinance is estimated to bring in \$23.2 million per year and would create 100 units of emergency bridge and permanent supportive housing and 300 affordable housing units in the first five years. The funding would be allocated in the following way:

- 82% for acquisition, rehabilitation, construction, operation, and maintenance of newly acquired and created affordable, emergency bridge, and permanent supportive housing.
- 18% on delivery of services and the creation of a local reserve fund for the construction of behavioral health facilities.

LIHI is ready to step up to the challenge to build more affordable housing in order to address our homelessness crisis; but we must have the resources available to do so. Please pass this proposal, the only permanent cure to homelessness is housing.

- Sharon Lee

--

Sharon H. Lee

Executive Director
Low Income Housing Institute
Please note our new address:
1253 S Jackson Street, Suite A
Seattle, WA 98144

(206) 443-9935, ext. 1031
(206) 443-9851 fax

Celebrating 30 Years
Housing is a human right!
Need Affordable Housing? Available units posted weekly at:

<http://www.lihi.org>

From: [Kim Toskey](#)
To: [Contact Council](#)
Subject: Snohomish County Ordinance #21-098
Date: Wednesday, December 8, 2021 4:22:45 PM

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

Dear Snohomish County Councilmembers,

Homes and Hope Community Land Trust supports the passage of this ordinance, which would establish a small additional sales tax to be dedicated to housing. This tax would add less than \$1 per month in additional costs for low income families, but would generate about \$23M in local housing funds, which can typically be leveraged with state and federal dollars at a 10:1 ratio. Currently, nonprofit housing organizations in Snohomish County struggle to win awards for their proposals due the scarcity of local funds.

Please vote to pass SnoCo Ordinance #21-098!

- The people have already spoken on this. After years of acknowledging the issue, holding public meetings and forums, and producing the HART report, it is time to ACT!
- You are following state law and the normal county council process --public hearing and vote-- in taking this as a councilmanic vote.
- We live in a representative democracy and not a direct democracy. We elect leaders to lead and to vote on our behalf, because it is our elected leaders that have the whole picture of the issues the county faces and how to spend our public dollars to address those issues.

ALL of our Snohomish County neighbors should live in a safe and affordable home! And NONE of our Snohomish County neighbors should have to bear the hidden costs of insufficient housing supply, including elevated emergency room bills, public trash cleanups, and missed school/work days!

--

In Community,

Kim Toskey
President & CEO, Homes and Hope Community Land Trust
10224 53rd Ave W.
Mukilteo, WA 98275

cell: 425.422.5286

Grounding our community with permanently affordable housing and neighborhood amenities!

From: [Rocio Carranza Jacinto](#)
To: [Contact Council](#)
Subject: Support for Ordinance 21-098
Date: Wednesday, December 8, 2021 4:49:44 PM
Attachments: [image001.png](#)
[image002.png](#)
[image003.png](#)
[image004.png](#)
[image005.png](#)
[image006.png](#)
[image007.png](#)
[image008.png](#)
[image009.png](#)
[image010.png](#)

SNOHOMISH COUNTY COUNCIL

EXHIBIT # PT-83

FILE ORD 21-098

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 urge you to authorize a local revenue option to support housing for our most vulnerable neighbors in Snohomish County. As you know, we have extraordinary affordable and supported housing needs that require regional solutions. As a resident of Snohomish County and an employee of Cocoon House, I support this action. I was born in Mexico, but grew up in the Monroe and Sultan area, at the time my parents could not afford housing so we had to share space with my uncles family. I know if affordable housing was available my childhood would have been less worried about my family being kicked out of my uncles house and more dedicated to being a kid.

These funds will clearly help meet existing affordable and homeless housing plans enacted by Snohomish cities and counties. With more locally controlled and ongoing funds, we can more quickly meet the well thought out housing objectives in each jurisdictions' affordable housing plans.

Your authorization of this funding can help us solve this crisis at a much faster pace. With more funding, we can help provide affordable housing for the 3,000 school-age children in our County who currently do not have a stable home. We can double the current rate of affordable housing production in Snohomish County. We can help provide our estimated 1,132 unsheltered neighbors put a roof over their heads. We can invest in programs that help people move forward and open a new chapter in their lives.

Please move forward with enacting Ordinance 21-098.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Rocio Carranza

Rocio Evelin Carranza Jacinto, MPH

Program Specialist

Cocoon House

Pronouns: she/her/hers/ella

Office: 425.494.8433

Email: rocio.carranzajacinto@cocoonhouse.org

“Cocoon House empowers young people, families, and the community to break the cycle of homelessness through outreach, housing and prevention.”

Your support will have a lasting, positive impact in the lives of teens and families. To make a donation please click [HERE](#). For more information on

Cocoon House and our programs, please visit our website at www.cocoonhouse.org

Connect with us:

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From: [Nicolas Quijano](#)
To: [Contact Council](#)
Subject: Support for Ordinance 21-098
Date: Wednesday, December 8, 2021 4:58:57 PM

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

Dear Snohomish County Council Members,

My name is Nico Quijano and I live in Mountlake Terrace. Prior to living in Mountlake Terrace, I lived in Everett. I also work at a Snohomish County non-profit that serves those experiencing homelessness. I am grateful to be a part of the Snohomish County community, both as a professional and in my private life. I've had the privilege of meeting several of you in the past, and am grateful for the work you do for our community.

My wife Lindsey and I recently welcomed our first child, a little boy named Stellan, who is now five months old. Stellan is already a Snohomish County regular; he was born in a birth center in Mountlake Terrace, we've taken him to parks in Edmonds, Lynnwood, Stanwood, and Arlington, his aunt, uncle and cousins live in Everett, and he's watched us eat takeout from just about every town in the area. We've had the joyous experience of being able to provide our son with a roof over his head, and to introduce him to a friendly community.

However, in my work, I've encountered many individuals and families that live in Snohomish County but do not have a home to call their own, or the supports they need to thrive or find stability. I've had to speak to young parents with children the same age as mine who had nowhere to go at night, and had to tell them that they didn't have any good options. I can't help but imagine trying to sleep in the back of a car with my baby boy, to try and make ends meet, to try and find joy in life while having nowhere to go at the end of the day. It's hard enough having a baby even with all of the comforts that I am privilege to; it's hard to imagine surviving without a place to call my own.

That's why I'm writing to ask you to enact ordinance 21-098. There are people out there who would immediately benefit from 21-098, and with your support, they can

do more than just survive; they can get the resources and support they need to thrive in our County, as anyone deserves to do.

Thank you,

Nico Quijano

From: [Thompson, Joshua](#)
To: [Eco, Debbie](#)
Cc: [Lao, Elena](#)
Subject: FW: Feedback from a D3 resident
Date: Thursday, December 9, 2021 11:25:57 AM

Related to **ORDINANCE 21-098**

Sincerely,

Josh Thompson

Legislative Aide – District 3
Councilmember Stephanie Wright
Snohomish County Council
3000 Rockefeller Ave, M/S #609
Everett, WA 98201
(425) 388-3494 x2576
Joshua.Thompson@snoco.org

From: Jack Hartsock <jack.c.hartsock@gmail.com>
Sent: Wednesday, December 8, 2021 7:14 AM
To: Wright, Stephanie <Stephanie.Wright@co.snohomish.wa.us>
Cc: Thompson, Joshua <Joshua.Thompson@co.snohomish.wa.us>
Subject: Feedback from a D3 resident

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

Subject: 0.1% Sales Tax Increase

Dear Stephanie:

I am a resident of district 3, and am contacting you to say I am against the council's proposal to raise our sales tax. We are in the middle of a pandemic, child care for our twin girls is astronomical, the governor is taking a large chunk out of our checks beginning next year with his Long-term care tax, and now I learn the county wants to raise taxes without putting it to a vote. It's a lousy time to increase our taxes and Lynnwood (where I live) has the highest sales tax in the state as it is already.

I think it is wrong the council is trying to push this tax & spend bill through without a public vote.

Signed,

Jack Hartsock
Age 34
Lynnwood, Wash

Lao, Elena

From: Duane Leonard <dleonard@hasco.org>
Sent: Wednesday, December 8, 2021 5:39 PM
To: Contact Council
Subject: Please support 1590
Attachments: CtyCouncil1590Support.pdf

SNOHOMISH COUNTY COUNCIL

EXHIBIT # PT-86

FILE ORD 21-098

CAUTION : This email originated from outside of this organization. Please exercise caution with links and attachments.
Please forward to all County Council members.



Duane Leonard | Executive Director
Housing Authority of Snohomish County
12711 4th Ave W | Everett, WA 98204
P: 425.290.8499 x: 522 | F: 425.290.5618 | hasco.org

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December 8, 2021

The Honorable Members of the Snohomish County Council
3000 Rockefeller Avenue, 8th Floor Drewel Building
Everett, WA. 98201

RE: Support for HB 1590

Dear Council Members:

One penny; that is all the additional tax you will pay on a \$10 purchase in Snohomish County if you vote to impose a sales tax. This 1/10th of 1% tax would fund affordable housing, a problem that has grown worse and worse over the last decade. As housing costs have risen, more and more of our friends, neighbors, sons, and daughters, have struggled with the ever increasing costs of living here. Just today, I received an email from an elderly gentleman who lives on a fixed income of \$983 a month in Social Security and \$194 in food stamps, who cannot find a place to live he can afford. No one could. All I could do was refer him to our wait list.

More than anything else, the COVID-19 pandemic has highlighted the stark income inequality within the region and throughout our country. A McKinsey Institute study estimated that 75% of all COVID-19 related job losses were for people earning \$40,000 a year or less. These were already the people that struggled the most. The irony is that during the pandemic many low-wage workers, such as daycare, grocery, and agriculture workers, were deemed essential and were forced to work in unsafe conditions just to make rent. All while struggling to live in the communities they put their health and safety on the line to serve.

Even before the pandemic, many households struggled to afford rent, and it was not for lack of trying. The unemployment rate in the County in 2019 was approximately 2.5%. That is beyond full employment, with just too many people working for low wages. It is a math problem. The average rent for a two-bedroom apartment in the County exceeds \$1,800. To afford that, a low-wage household is spending over 50% of their take home pay on rent and making difficult choices between basic needs. We have an acute emergency, amplified by COVID-19: thousands of Snohomish County residents, working full-time, are in extreme economic distress.

Ways Home. Paths Forward.



(425) 290-8499 Phone • (425) 290-5618 Fax
www.hasco.org • 12711 4th Ave West • Everett, WA 98204

The solution is simple, and it is not a question of whether you like paying a tax. It is a question of morality; it is simply the right thing to do. Those of us who have weathered the pandemic, who still have money to spend, should pay an extra penny, 10 cents, or 1 dollar in additional tax. This amount is inconsequential to our daily lives, yet cumulatively, so impactful and meaningful to others who struggle for stability in their living situations.

You have heard people saying, “sales taxes are so regressive”, or “now is not the time to raise taxes” and businesses will claim “my customers can’t afford this”. Hogwash! No one who ever spent \$100 changed their mind because of an extra 10 cents in sales tax! Furthermore, businesses don’t pay this, they update their point-of-sale systems for a very minor increase, collect the money, and remit it to the State. And what is more regressive than homelessness?

The federal government approved trillions of dollars in stimulus funding to help get us through the immediate crisis. How many County residents and businesses received stimulus money and were grateful? How can we now refuse to do our part to help our friends and neighbors? How can we expect the federal government to do more if locally we refuse to do anything?

Snohomish County issued the Housing Affordability Regional Taskforce (HART) report in January of 2020, that highlighted the all too familiar reasons for the housing affordability crisis with the commitment to study funding mechanisms in the future. Well, here it is.

This County is the 3rd most populous in the State. We must start acting like it and take a meaningful role in contributing to solving our part of the regional problems. The Council should unanimously support the vote to impose this 1/10th of 1% tax. We needed local investment in housing before COVID-19, we need it now, and we cannot wait any longer.

Sincerely,

**Duane
Leonard**

Digitally signed by Duane Leonard
DN: cn=Duane Leonard, o=Housing
Authority of Snohomish County,
ou=Executive Director,
email=dleonard@hasco.org, c=US
Date: 2021.12.08 17:38:09 -08'00'

Duane Leonard

Executive Director

SNOHOMISH COUNTY COUNCIL

EXHIBIT # PT-87

FILE ORD 21-098

From: catterallp@comcast.net
To: [Contact Council](#)
Subject: Snohomish County Ordinance 21-098
Date: Wednesday, December 8, 2021 6:15:27 PM

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

Dear Snohomish County Councilmembers,

I urge you to vote in favor of this ordinance, which would create a small housing-dedicated sales tax, referred to as 1590. As a small business owner and a long-time property owner in Snohomish County, I am concerned about the scarcity of options for lower income residents, especially those with physical and/or mental health concerns. This sales tax would give us a local source of funding for our housing needs, which also improves our ability to access and leverage state and federal housing dollars. It is not acceptable that our school children are “couch surfing,” and many families live in substandard and over-crowded conditions.

Please do the job you were elected to fulfill and vote for the well-being and best interest of all SnoCo residents by passing Ord. # 21-098.

Respectfully,

Peter Catterall

(206) 450-7412

SNOHOMISH COUNTY COUNCIL

From: [G](#)
To: [Contact Council](#)
Subject: Proposed Sales Tax
Date: Wednesday, December 8, 2021 9:38:55 PM

EXHIBIT # PT-88
FILE ORD 21-098

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

Dear Council,

I wanted to express my displeasure with your proposed 0.1% sales tax hike. My hope would be that you exhibit some semblance of fiscal discipline, before coming back to the trough once more without having the gumption to put it to a vote. you work for me, so please start acting like it

thank you

Mark Grosz
Edmonds

From: [Tiffany Mecca](#)
To: [Contact Council](#)
Subject: I support ordinance 21-098
Date: Thursday, December 9, 2021 8:50:14 AM

EXHIBIT # PT-89
FILE ORD 21-098

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

Good morning,

I am a Snohomish County resident and live in Edmonds. I also have worked in Snohomish County for the past 14 years.

I strongly support ordinance 21-098. This ordinance would go a long way to address the large need for affordable housing in our County. There are more than 20,000 households in Snohomish County with annual incomes of \$34,500 or less. These households are spending more than 50% of their income on housing alone. Ordinance 21-098 would double the current rate of affordable housing production in our County.

When people have a home, communities thrive and people prosper. Housing and treatment are a much more effective and long-term solution to homelessness than a police response.

Thank you,
Tiffany Mecca

From: [Jen Winckler](#)
To: [Contact Council](#)
Subject: do not support ordinance 21-098
Date: Thursday, December 9, 2021 9:11:26 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 urge you to find alternative ways to support affordable housing for our most vulnerable neighbors in Snohomish County instead of a sales tax increase. As a resident of Snohomish County, I do NOT support Ordinance 21-098.

Our sales tax is one of the highest in the state and country already and disproportionately affects people WITH low incomes (The very people we are trying to help with this ordinance). The claim from supporters is they spend more on housing and less on taxed necessities, but the fact is that when they do buy necessities they are paying more of their income in taxes compared to their higher income neighbors. The WA state tax system needs to be reworked in general, but adding to existing regressive taxes is not a good solution. I do in fact support many of the organizations that are in favor of this Ordinance, but this is one solution I cannot get behind.

Homelessness is a complicated issue, and I appreciate the county's desire to address the needs. It will take coordination from many sectors to address. I do not have a specific solution to recommend, but I have to say I feel over taxed already.

Please do not move forward with enacting Ordinance 21-098.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely, Jen Winckler, Lynnwood

Lao, Elena

From: Nichole Webber
Sent: Thursday, December 9, 2021 1:25 PM
To: Contact Council
Cc: Somers, Dave J
Subject: Support for proposal to expand affordable housing
Attachments: Support for Executive Somers' proposal to expand affordable housing through 0.1% sales tax, as allowed under HB 1590.pdf

SNOHOMISH COUNTY COUNCIL
EXHIBIT # PT-91
FILE ORD 21-098

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

Good afternoon,

Please accept this letter in support of Executive Somers' proposal to expand affordable housing through 0.1% sales tax, as allowed under HB 1590 on behalf of Mayor Franklin.

Thank you,
Nichole Webber



Nichole Webber - She/Her
Project Manager | Admin/ Executive Team
425.257.7119 | 2930 Wetmore Ave., Suite 10-A Everett, WA 98201
everettwa.gov | [Facebook](#) | [Twitter](#)

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12.09.21

Snohomish County Council
Robert J Drewel Building
8th floor
3000 Rockefeller Ave, M/S 609
Everett, WA 98201

Re: Support for Executive Somers' proposal to expand affordable housing through 0.1% sales tax, as allowed under HB 1590

Honorable Councilmembers:

I strongly support the proposal recently brought forth by Executive Somers, Council Chair Wright and Council Vice-Chair Dunn, which would authorize new funding for affordable housing through a 0.1% sales tax, as allowed under HB 15990.

Like regions throughout the nation, Snohomish County faces an affordable housing crisis – one that has only been exacerbated by the COVID-19 pandemic. We've seen a dramatic increase in the number of households struggling to make ends meet, as well as in the number of people who have lost the roof over their head and are now without safe and stable housing.

Federal and state funded assistance has helped to provide short-term housing for some of these individuals, but what we really need is a more holistic and longer-term plan to provide a broader range of options to address our housing challenges. This includes emergency shelter, bridge housing, affordable housing, and a continuum of care to help those struggling with mental or behavioral health issues, or substance use disorder.

County Council's approval of this proposal would generate the revenue desperately needed to create more housing and shelter options, as well as expand support services to help those in need.

I wholeheartedly support this proposal and urge you to authorize this request.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Cassie Franklin', with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Cassie Franklin
Mayor, City of Everett

Office of the Mayor
CASSIE FRANKLIN

2930 Wetmore Ave., Ste. 10-A
Everett, WA 98201

425.257.7115
425.257.8729 fax

everettwa.gov

Lao, Elena

From: Chris Collier <ccollier@hasco.org>
Sent: Thursday, December 9, 2021 3:40 PM
To: Wright, Stephanie; Dunn, Megan; Mead, Jared; Nehring, Nate; Low, Sam
Cc: Contact Council
Subject: 0.1% Sales Tax - Letter of Support
Attachments: AHA Letter - Council.pdf

SNOHOMISH COUNTY COUNCIL

EXHIBIT # PT-92

FILE ORD 21-098

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

Good evening,

Attached, please find a letter from AHA that was transmitted to the County Council on October 30, 2020. I am re-submitting this letter, retaining its original transmittal date, in light of the renewed discussion around a 0.1% sales tax for affordable housing. I believe the content of the letter is no less true than it was when it was originally sent.

Please feel free to contact me with any questions. Thank you for considering this important matter.

Best,
Chris Collier

Chris Collier | AHA Program Manager
Housing Authority of Snohomish County
12711 4th Ave W | Everett, WA 98204
P: 425.293.0601 | F: 425.290.5618 | hasco.org
Work hours: M-Th 8:00am – 6:00pm, Fri 8:00am – Noon

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Arlington ▲Edmonds ▲Everett ▲Granite Falls ▲Housing Authority of Snohomish County ▲
▲Lake Stevens ▲Lynnwood ▲Marysville ▲Mill Creek ▲Mountlake Terrace ▲
▲Mukilteo ▲Snohomish ▲Snohomish County ▲Stanwood ▲Woodway ▲

Snohomish County Council
3000 Rockefeller Ave.
M/S 609
Everett, WA 98201

October 30, 2020

The Alliance for Housing Affordability (AHA), a collaboration of local municipal governments, was formed in 2013 to address the issue of our housing affordability crisis in Snohomish County. One of the major needs in housing affordability is the commitment of local policy and funding. RCW 82.14.530, amended by HB1590 in the 2020 Legislative Session, provides the opportunity for legislative bodies like the Snohomish County Council to address the need for local funding for affordable housing.

Today, the AHA Joint Board writes to encourage Council action on this issue as an important and needed step to address the County's growing housing affordability crisis.

Data that shows the need for affordable housing is exhaustive and widely available, notably in the Snohomish County HART report. That data clearly and strongly speaks to the need for increased affordability across the socio-economic spectrum. Instead of retreading that ground, AHA would like to draw attention to three perspectives that we believe makes clear the need to support adoption of a 0.1% sales tax for affordable housing.

Housing Affordability Deserves a Response Like Any Disaster

The first perspective is best framed through this question: "What response would we expect if the Cascadia earthquake happened tomorrow and thousands of Snohomish County residents were suddenly in need of assistance?" One would hope that funding from all levels of government- local, state, and federal - would flow to the region to assist those suddenly displaced by the disaster. This need would be both immediate (emergency shelter) and long-term (as the region's economy would suffer for years after). Wouldn't it be appropriate to raise funds from the public to render assistance to those in need in that case? We hope the answer to that question is, "It would be appropriate, and expected, for that aid to be rendered."

If help would be appropriate in event of an earthquake, what do we say to the thousands of households struggling despite their 40+ hours of work a week? The thousands who are currently homeless, or soon to be made so by COVID-19's economic impacts? A common refrain, heard for many years, is to "Pull yourself up by your bootstraps," or simply "Go live somewhere else." Would we say that to residents displaced by an earthquake? Is this difference in response because of the slow-motion nature of the current housing crisis compared to the immediacy of an earthquake? Is it because we simply view the growing number of our affected friends, neighbors, and coworkers as undeserving? Or is it something else? This question bears discussion.

If Not Now, When?

Setting disaster aside, consider one common reason to reject tax measures: "Now is not the time for a tax increase." If not now, when? When would be the appropriate time for the County Council to use its councilmanic authority to raise taxes? Is the answer, "When times are better, and the economy is stronger"? If that is the case, we would like to encourage the County Council to consider the 8% 'banking' of councilmanic property taxes (last done in Ordinance No. 19-065). There were surely good



Arlington ▲Edmonds ▲Everett ▲Granite Falls ▲Housing Authority of Snohomish County ▲
▲Lake Stevens ▲Lynnwood ▲Marysville ▲Mill Creek ▲Mountlake Terrace ▲
▲Mukilteo ▲Snohomish ▲Snohomish County ▲Stanwood ▲Woodway ▲

reasons at the time to bank that taxing authority despite a strong economy, just as there are good arguments today. Putting it all together, it appears that no time will feel *right* to raise taxes, and in that case, then today is as good as any other time to adopt this measure.

Using the Tools We Have

Third and finally, it is indeed unfortunate that a sales tax is the option that we must take in support of funding affordable housing creation. Property taxes are the only other funding mechanism of significance, and as discussed above, have been left unused for eight years with no sign of change in the future. In the case of a sales tax, it is notable that as we stood on the precipice of a deep economic recession in 2008 we still passed the 0.1% Chemical Dependency and Mental Health (CDMH) sales tax. We can look back to see what negative impacts were experienced in the wake of its passage. Notably, CDMH has done great work in assisting providers in the work they do to serve Snohomish County residents. Further, like CDMH, this measure for affordable housing would assist in making Snohomish County more competitive in applications for state and federal dollars, which often require or incentivize local funding commitments. These state and local funds are often granted in much larger values than the local funding commitment, so in addition to making Snohomish County more competitive, this measure would leverage funds at a greater than 1:1 ratio from state and federal sources.

While the COVID-19 pandemic creates challenging circumstances to adoption of this tax, it also provides a greater imperative to do so. A year from now, whether the pandemic itself has been overcome or not, its impact on the economy and thus the housing market will surely still be with us. At that time and beyond, the lack of a source of local funding to support those affected will be sorely felt, and even more urgently needed.

Looking ahead to that future, AHA's members strongly urge the County Council to make it clear that those who work hard, but still make below 60% of the County's median income, deserve as much support as would be expected in the wake of any other disaster. It is understood that taxation is difficult, uniquely so during this pandemic. However, we often do not consider that the impacts of failing to adequately address the shortage of housing will have outsized financial impacts that we will all ultimately pay. Those costs will manifest themselves in the form of charity hospital care, emergency treatment and intervention, law enforcement and incarceration, lowered educational attainment, and more. Worse yet, a lack of action on this will contribute to an ever-thinning social fabric that holds us together in common purpose of decency to one another and the dream of a prosperous future for all. AHA's mission is to keep that dream alive for Snohomish County residents of today and tomorrow, and we thank you for continued support of that work.

This letter was approved by a vote of 8-1, with 4 abstentions and 2 absent, by the AHA Joint Board on October 28, 2020.

Sincerely,

AHA Joint Board

SNOHOMISH COUNTY COUNCIL

From: [Harold McClure](#)
To: [Contact Council](#)
Subject: Ordinance vote
Date: Thursday, December 9, 2021 4:17:02 PM

EXHIBIT # PT-93
FILE ORD 21-098

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

Yes on Ordinance 21-098.

Harold McClure
14213 62nd. Drive SE
Everett, WA 98208

SNOHOMISH COUNTY COUNCIL

From: [Jon Kay](#)
To: [Contact Council](#)
Subject: Vote Yes on Ordinance 21-098
Date: Thursday, December 9, 2021 5:38:28 PM

EXHIBIT # PT-94

FILE ORD 21-098

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

Vote Yes on Ordinance 21-098

Rachel Kay
Jonathan Kay
Edmonds, WA

District 2

From: [Jeff Schumacher](#)
To: [Nehring, Nate](#); [Dunn, Megan](#); [Wright, Stephanie](#); [Mead, Jared](#); [Low, Sam](#); [Contact Council](#)
Subject: Homeless in Snohomish County
Date: Thursday, December 9, 2021 5:55:19 PM

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

Snohomish County elected officials

It is time to seriously consider creating a Snohomish County Homeless Commission that directly communicates with the homeless, shelters, and the Washington State housing, human services, and veterans committee. To Research other States and Counties within the United States that are having success with the Homeless population and provides the Snohomish County Elected Officials written reports. For the Homeless commission to provide Snohomish County Elected officials affordable solutions to the Homeless crisis, affordable housing, drug prevention, psychological counseling, and workforce training.

For instance, The Snohomish County elected officials may enjoy learning more about how Houston Texas reduced their homeless population by 55% with a Housing First Policy.

See link <http://www.houstonstateofhealth.com/promisepractice/index/view?pid=3933>

There is a serious community health and safety concern to simply allow the homeless to live on the streets.

It needs to be illegal to live on the streets and to offer alternatives such as relocating to family/friends/and shelters.

For Snohomish county to even offer one way plane tickets for the homeless to reunite with their family/friends anywhere in the United States.

Snohomish County can no longer afford the status quo of the Homeless crisis.

Take for instance this one homeless woman in need that may live in the forests near Swedish Medical Mill Creek.

Many citizens and the emergency crew consistently stop to help this one individual that doesn't like to wear shoes.

This one homeless individual is consistently not aware of surroundings and in danger, a safety risk for traffic, takes up a lot of emergency staff time, and there are limited solutions.

Now take the crisis of this one homeless individual and times it by the entire homeless population of about 20,000 in Washington state

Homeless in unincorporated Snohomish County near Swedish Medical Mill Creek.

See link

https://youtu.be/s_u3oHbY5xQ

Snohomish County Hotels are expensive for the taxpayer and does not re...
Instead of making quick and costly decisions, Snohomish County needs to...

Thank you for reading my kind suggestions,
Your citizen,
Jeff Schumacher

From: [Dunn, Megan](#)
To: [Contact Council](#)
Subject: Fwd: 10 cent per \$100 tax increase
Date: Thursday, December 9, 2021 8:23:32 PM

EXHIBIT # PT-96
FILE ORD 21-098

For public record.

Sent from my iPhone

Begin forwarded message:

From: Shirley Wilkins <shirleysjams@gmail.com>
Date: December 9, 2021 at 7:15:57 PM EST
To: "Dunn, Megan" <Megan.Dunn@co.snohomish.wa.us>
Subject: 10 cent per \$100 tax increase

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

Please support the 10 cent per \$100 tax increase to fund homelessness.

Thank you,
Shirley Wilkins
3421 Wetmore Ave Apt 3
Everett Wa. 98201

EXHIBIT # PT-97

FILE ORD 21-098

From: [Guido Riley](#)
To: [Contact Council](#)
Subject: Snohomish County Ordinance 21-098 for Affordable Housing and Behavioral Health
Date: Friday, December 10, 2021 6:36:51 AM

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

Dear Council Members:

I urge you to pass Snohomish county Ordinance 21-098. The need is critical. I attend Everett UCC, a church in downtown Everett. For nearly a year now we have been housing 30 homeless individuals in our basement, also providing them with daily meals. These people literally have no where else to go. Yet they are only the tip of a very large iceberg. So many people in our area have fallen through the public safety net, especially since the start of the pandemic. Ordinance 21-098 will certainly help to alleviate this pressing problem.

Thank you for listening and doing what you can for the less fortunate members of our community.

Sincerely,
Guido Riley

SNOHOMISH COUNTY COUNCIL

EXHIBIT # PT-98

FILE ORD 21-098

From: [Tonja Cram](#)
To: [Contact Council](#)
Subject: Ordinance 21-098
Date: Friday, December 10, 2021 6:49:07 AM

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

I support Ordinance 21-098 and strongly urge all council members to vote in favor.

Tonja M. Cram, SUDP, BAS

From: [Sharon Cremin](#)
To: [Contact Council](#)
Subject: Ordinance 21-098
Date: Friday, December 10, 2021 8:39:20 AM

EXHIBIT # PT-99
FILE ORD 21-098

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 urge you to authorize a local revenue option to support housing for our most vulnerable neighbors in Snohomish County. As you know, we have extraordinary affordable and supported housing needs that require regional solutions. As a resident of Snohomish County, I support this action.

These funds will clearly help meet existing affordable and homeless housing plans enacted by Snohomish cities and counties. With more locally controlled and ongoing funds, we can more quickly meet the well thought out housing objectives in each jurisdictions' affordable housing plans.

Your authorization of this funding can help us solve this crisis at a much faster pace. With more funding, we can help provide affordable housing for the 3,000 school-age children in our County who currently do not have a stable home. We can double the current rate of affordable housing production in Snohomish County. We can help provide our estimated 1,132 unsheltered neighbors put a roof over their heads. We can invest in programs that help people move forward and open a new chapter in their lives.

Please move forward with enacting Ordinance 21-098.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Sharon Cremin

Sent from [Mail](#) for Windows

SNOHOMISH COUNTY COUNCIL

From: [Rachel Downes](#)
To: [Contact Council](#)
Subject: Support Snohomish County Ordinance 21-098
Date: Friday, December 10, 2021 9:05:12 AM

EXHIBIT # PT-100
FILE ORD 21-098

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

Dear Councilmembers,

I am a resident of District 2 (Everett) and am writing to urge you to support Snohomish County Ordinance 21-098, the sales tax for affordable housing and behavioral health. This new funding source will significantly improve our community's capacity to address our housing and homelessness crises.

As a mother of two young children, I view this revenue stream as an investment in my children's and our wider communities' futures. I am happy to pay pennies in sales tax today so that Snohomish County can have housing that is affordable and attainable for my kids and all their classmates for decades to come.

Please vote yes on Ordinance 21-098.

Thank you!
Rachel Wilkinson Downes

SNOHOMISH COUNTY COUNCIL

From: [Tamara Comeau](#)
To: [Contact Council](#)
Subject: Ordinance 21-098
Date: Friday, December 10, 2021 9:28:00 AM

EXHIBIT # PT-101
FILE ORD 21-098

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

I support passage of this ordinance. I reside in Lynnwood, WA. I am a public defense attorney and have several clients every week without housing and/or access to mental health treatment. There is a HUGE need for this sort of funding for our community. Please pass this ordinance.

Thank you,

Tamara Comeau

(she/her/hers)

Attorney

Snohomish County Public Defender Association

2722 Colby Avenue, Suite 200

Everett, WA 98201-3527

Ph: 425-339-6300 Ext 505

Fax: 425-339-6363

SNOHOMISH COUNTY COUNCIL

EXHIBIT # PT-102

FILE ORD 21-098

From: [Cat D](#)
To: [Contact Council](#)
Subject: Support Snohomish County Ordinance 21-098
Date: Friday, December 10, 2021 9:29:05 AM

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

Hello,

I'd like to ask that you please support Snohomish County ordinance 21-098. I truly believe that this measure is critical for the future of the county.

Thank you,
Catherine Delorey
Mukilteo, WA

SNOHOMISH COUNTY COUNCIL

From: [Jerron Craig](#)
To: [Contact Council](#)
Subject: Snohomish County Ordinance 21-098
Date: Friday, December 10, 2021 9:33:01 AM

EXHIBIT # PT-103

FILE ORD 21-098

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

Please support Snohomish County Ordinance 21-098. My community needs it.

Thank you,
Jerron Craig
Housing Hope
Training Coordinator

SNOHOMISH COUNTY COUNCIL

From: [Tim Foley](#)
To: [Contact Council](#)
Subject: Ordinance 21-098
Date: Friday, December 10, 2021 9:35:44 AM

EXHIBIT # PT-104
FILE ORD 21-098

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

Please support Snohomish County Ordinance 21-098

Thank you!
Tim

Tim Foley
731 215th PL SW
Lynnwood, WA 98036
425-280-7015

Sent from my iPhone

From: [John Chase](#)
To: [Contact Council](#)
Subject: Support of Ordinance 21-98
Date: Friday, December 10, 2021 9:41:13 AM

EXHIBIT # PT-105
FILE ORD 21-098

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

Good morning,

I am writing in support of Ordinance 21-98. The modest increase in sales tax will provide desperately needed resources for housing, mental health facilities and services in our community. These resources often determine whether people regain stability and control of their lives, or are left to languish on the streets or in the criminal system without assistance.

Thank you for considering,

John Chase (*he.him.his*)

Staff Attorney

Snohomish County Public Defender Association

2722 Colby Avenue, Suite 200

Everett, WA 98201

Direct Phone: 425-212-2598

Office Phone: 425-339-6300, Extension 538

Fax: 425-339-6363

Website: www.snocopda.org

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SNOHOMISH COUNTY COUNCIL

From: [Karin Resing](#)
To: [Contact Council](#)
Subject: Snohomish County Ordinance 21-098
Date: Friday, December 10, 2021 9:53:46 AM

EXHIBIT # PT-106
FILE ORD 21-098

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

Please support Snohomish County Ordinance 21-098. These funds are needed to support our homeless population.

Karin Resing

SNOHOMISH COUNTY COUNCIL

From: [Saranne Moreschi](#)
To: [Contact Council](#)
Subject: Yes to Ordinance 21-098
Date: Friday, December 10, 2021 10:06:47 AM

EXHIBIT # PT-107
FILE ORD 21-098

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

Dear Council Members,

Please vote yes on Ordinance 21-098. I support affordable housing. Both of my adult sons who live with mental illness and seizures, live at home because they can't find affordable housing. Thanks for helping the most vulnerable in our society.

Saranne Moreschi
Mukilteo, Washington
Snohomish County District 21

SNOHOMISH COUNTY COUNCIL

From: [Carley Stenberg](#)
To: [Contact Council](#)
Subject: Ordinance 21-098
Date: Friday, December 10, 2021 10:23:04 AM

EXHIBIT # PT-108
FILE ORD 21-098

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

I support passage of this ordinance. I live in Lynnwood.

I am a Defender on behalf of our client's seeking affordable housing.

Thank you!

Carley Stenberg.

SNOHOMISH COUNTY COUNCIL

From: [Jim Bloss](#)
To: [Contact Council](#)
Subject: Pls. vote YES on Ordinance 21-098
Date: Friday, December 10, 2021 10:41:30 AM

EXHIBIT # PT-109
FILE ORD 21-098

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

Please do a council-matic vote YES on Ordinance 21-098 (pertaining to affordable housing and behavioral healthcare) at the Council's public hearing on Dec. 15. Even just a quick review of the ordnance makes evident that this initiative serves as both a housing and healthcare action but also directly impacts public safety by the implementation of its intent in providing increased safety and security for every member of our community.

James F. Bloss
618 Riverview Dr./Monroe, WA. 98272
Council District 5/Sam Low

Lao, Elena

From: Ross Rettenmier <rrett@sagepointadvisor.com>
Sent: Friday, December 10, 2021 10:50 AM
To: Contact Council
Subject: Support For Snohomish County Ordinance 21-098 - Direct Email

SNOHOMISH COUNTY COUNCIL

EXHIBIT # PT-110

FILE ORD 21-098

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

Good morning,

I am writing to add my strong support for Snohomish County Ordinance 21-098. I believe that Snohomish County can and should be a leader in response to the challenging issue of homelessness (and related issues). This measure would go a long way in addressing the needs of the homeless. I trust that the discussion/recommendation from the committee, followed by the public hearing on December 15 will result in the passage of the ordinance.

Our county has a number of organizations actively providing solutions. More funding will bridge the gap!

Thanks for recognizing and addressing this critical need!

Ross E. Rettenmier, AIF®, CPFA®

**Registered Representative / Principal
Investment Adviser Representative**



www.rettentmierfinancial.com

3209 Colby Avenue, Suite 106
Everett, WA 98201

rrett@sagepointadvisor.com

www.rettentmierfinancial.com

<http://www.linkedin.com/pub/ross-rettentmier/b/807/293>

425.303.8338

425.339.2546 (fax)

We are sensitive to the concerns of our clients regarding Covid-19 and seek to make our clients and visitors feel safe while in the office. Office staff is fully vaccinated and we ask that unvaccinated visitors to the office to please mask. We will follow recommendations / restrictions as they change.

- Deliveries at office can be placed in #106 lockbox on porch, or
- Door mail slot in Suite #106 (if building door is open)

Please Do Not Leave Trade Instructions In An Email or Voicemail Message

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SNOHOMISH COUNTY COUNCIL

From: [Chel Crews](#)
To: [Contact Council](#)
Subject: Ordinance 21-098
Date: Friday, December 10, 2021 10:58:51 AM

EXHIBIT # PT-111
FILE ORD 21-098

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

Hello,

I am a resident of Everett, and I am emailing in support of the passage of Ordinance 21-098. I have lived in Snohomish County my entire life, and have been working in social work here since 2014. I've seen firsthand, through my work and through my family and loved ones' experiences, the need for more affordable housing.

Thank you,
Chelaina Crews

SNOHOMISH COUNTY COUNCIL

From: [Bry Nap](#)
To: [Contact Council](#)
Subject: Ordinance 21-098
Date: Friday, December 10, 2021 11:25:03 AM

EXHIBIT # PT-112

FILE ORD 21-098

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

I support passage of this ordinance.

I live in Everett, WA and I support this for our clients as a public defender.

SNOHOMISH COUNTY COUNCIL

From: [Kim Haskell](#)
To: [Contact Council](#)
Subject: Letter to Snohomish County
Date: Friday, December 10, 2021 11:47:30 AM

EXHIBIT # PT-113
FILE ORD 21-098

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

Subject: Please Support 0.1% Sales Tax for Housing & Homelessness

Greetings Snohomish County Council,

I am writing in strong support of the county's 0.1% Sales Tax proposal authorized by House Bill 1590 to fund more emergency shelter and permanent affordable housing. It is a rare opportunity to be able to usher in new resources that respond to our homelessness crisis, and we should pursue every opportunity.

The sales tax rate across Snohomish County currently ranges from 7.8-10.5%; this 0.1% proposal will have a minor fiscal impact but yield enormous results in addressing homelessness in our community.

The last annual Point-in-Time count in Snohomish County showed that 1,132 people were homeless, and it is likely an undercount. This ordinance is estimated to bring in \$23.2 million per year and would create 100 units of emergency bridge and permanent supportive housing and 300 affordable housing units in the first five years.

We must step up to the challenge and build more affordable housing in order to address our homelessness crisis; but we must have the resources available to do so. Please pass this proposal, the only permanent cure to homelessness is housing.

Sincerely,

--

Kimberly Haskell
Area Manager
Low Income Housing
425-771-5064

Lao, Elena

From: Lynette Bear <LynetteBear@housinghope.org>
Sent: Friday, December 10, 2021 1:24 PM
To: Contact Council
Subject: Support of Sno Co Ord 21-098

SNOHOMISH COUNTY COUNCIL

EXHIBIT # PT-114

FILE ORD 21-098

CAUTION : This email originated from outside of this organization. Please exercise caution with links and attachments.
Please support Snohomish County Ordinance 21-098

Thank you,

Lynette Bear



Lynette Bear
Employment Specialist

Tel: 425.610-4931 | Fax: 425.353.5546
3331 Broadway, Everett 98201
www.housinghope.org

From: [Derra Moyers](#)
To: [Contact Council](#)
Subject: Please Vote Yes on Ordinance 21-098
Date: Friday, December 10, 2021 3:19:23 PM

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

Dear Council:

Please Vote Yes on Ordinance 21-098.

Derra N. Moyers
Edmonds, Washington
Snohomish County Council--District 3

From: [emily hiskes](#)
To: [Contact Council](#)
Subject: Ordinance 21-098
Date: Friday, December 10, 2021 4:16:34 PM

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

I support passage of this ordinance. I am a public service attorney practicing 100% in Snohomish County and am aware of the desperate need for housing resources on a daily basis.

Thank you,

Emily Hiskes

From: [Steve Corsi](#)
To: [Contact Council](#)
Subject: 1590 Letter of Support from VOAWW
Date: Friday, December 10, 2021 4:20:29 PM
Attachments: [1590 LOS VOAWW.pdf](#)

SNOHOMISH COUNTY COUNCIL

EXHIBIT # PT-117

FILE ORD 21-098

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

Thank you for your consideration.

Steve Corsi, Psy.D.
President /CEO
Volunteers of America Western Washington | voaww.org
2802 Broadway, Everett, WA 98201
scorsi@voaww.org
w: 425-609-2203 | c: 951-313-5697

One team. One heart. One mission.

December 10, 2021

Snohomish County Council

Dear Council Members,

We are reaching out regarding the Snohomish County Ordinance 21-098, the sales tax for affordable housing and behavioral health, also referred as 1590. We believe that not approving this bill will significantly damage our community. Please consider the following:

Snohomish County is experiencing an acute shortage of decent, safe, and sanitary dwellings for families of lower income. We are continually losing affordable units through sales and demolition, forcing families with children, seniors, and people with disabilities to overcrowded, substandard housing, temporary solutions, or pushing them to the streets.

The Coronavirus pandemic has brought this already risky situation to the level of deep crisis. Financial hardship has caused thousands of households to seek rental assistance in order to avoid homelessness. Our rental assistance program has served over 15,000 households distributing over \$50M of federal and state funding to prevent homelessness. These funds are temporary and these services will unfortunately be discontinued to vulnerable Snohomish County residents who will be without support and viable solutions to stay housed or obtain new housing. The stress creates a mental health crisis for many low-income families with children, veterans, elderly, and other disadvantaged community members who are already experiencing depression and anxiety.

In our county, a two-bedroom apartment costs nearly \$2,000 per month to rent and to afford it a household needs a total annual income of \$83,960. There are more than 20,000 households in Snohomish County with annual incomes of \$34,500 or less that are spending more than 50% of that income just on housing alone. We desperately need more affordable housing to prevent and decrease homelessness.

The need for housing stabilization in our community is much larger than the currently available resources. This tax will raise about \$20M per year to invest in affordable housing and behavioral health services and will double the current rate of affordable housing produced in Snohomish County.

Stable, affordable housing allows individuals to shift their focus to employment opportunities and income progression; children are able to perform better in school, community members achieve better health outcomes, and it also increases safety in our communities.

Please be part of the solution to protect and support our community members and move forward with 1590 (Ordinance 21-098).

Thank you for your thoughtfulness and consideration,



Dr. Steve Corsi, Psy.D.

President/CEO

Volunteers of America Western WA

2802 Broadway, Everett, WA 98201

425-609-2203 office

951-313-5697 cell

scorsi@voaww.org

SNOHOMISH COUNTY COUNCIL

From: [Larry Bell](#)
To: [Contact Council](#)
Subject: I support passage of Ordinance 21-098
Date: Friday, December 10, 2021 4:33:19 PM

EXHIBIT # PT-118
FILE ORD 21-098

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

Dear Council members,
Please pass Ordinance 21-098. The need is critical.
I live in Snohomish County District 1.
Thank you,
Larry Bell

From: [Ralph Quaas](#)
To: [Contact Council](#)
Date: Friday, December 10, 2021 4:37:12 PM

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

I support measure to increase low income housing

From: ck_ball@comcast.net
To: [Contact Council](#)
Subject: In support of Ordinance 21-098 aka 1590
Date: Friday, December 10, 2021 5:00:34 PM

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

Dear Council Members,

I am writing in **support** of Snohomish County Ordinance 21-098, the sales tax for affordable housing and behavioral health, often referred to as 1590.

This sales tax will be a step in the right direction towards addressing the complex issue of housing the unhoused or unstable housed in our community. I take sales tax increases seriously. As a former CPA and investment counselor, I understand the budgeting process and how taxes, if well planned and spent, can positively impact our community.

When reviewing sales tax increase proposals, I ask myself the following questions:

1. Will this increase negatively impact me? (No)
2. Will this increase negatively impact most individuals in the community? (No)
3. Will the monies raised be spent on known and vetted solutions and help address the problem? (Yes)
4. How will I know the monies spent have the appropriate oversight and will help solve the identified problem? (I expect the Council to receive progress reports and metrics on achieving the goals set forth as well as to provide oversight)

The answers to all these questions lead me to support this sales tax. We have unhoused in our community and we need to find a solution as soon as possible. I know this is a politically complicated proposition. However, we have a solution to our current problem which can be partially solved with this Ordinance.

I ask you to support Snohomish County Ordinance 21-098

Thank you,

Cara Ball

SNOHOMISH COUNTY COUNCIL

EXHIBIT # PT-121

FILE ORD 21-098

From: [Darrin French](#)
To: [Contact Council](#)
Subject: Darrin French
Date: Friday, December 10, 2021 6:32:32 PM

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

Dear council members:

I contacted each of you individually concerning the upcoming opportunity to increase our sales tax in the county. I thank the three of you who responded to me. The issue I want to address is not necessarily the housing it will address but firstly your authority to implement a sales tax increase without a vote of your constituency. While that authority is given to you under HB 1590 that does not mean you should use that authority in this case or in possibly any case. I would ask that you put a sales tax increase on a ballot and let the voters decide.

Snohomish County is home to the highest sales tax in the state with Lynnwood and Mill Creek at 10.5%. There is nothing important enough to increase it again.

I have no confidence that simply building affordable housing will decrease the homeless population. Housing Hope has built lot after lot of affordable housing and dealt with homelessness since 1987. The Cocoon house has aided homeless teens and countless churches have programs that address the needs of the homeless. There are several agencies serving the homeless and we want to add more? How about figuring out why what we are doing is not working (hint: Not Working is the key to solving homelessness.)? Or, how about lending support to these agencies and churches. No amount of additional funds will help the homeless.

Thank you for your time. I will continue to watch the proceedings of this plan with interest.

Sincerely,
Darrin French

SNOHOMISH COUNTY COUNCIL

From: [Mimi Lane](#)
To: [Contact Council](#)
Subject: Housing
Date: Friday, December 10, 2021 9:54:25 PM

EXHIBIT # PT-122

FILE ORD 21-098

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

Dear Council,

As Clergy & a person of faith, I ask that you pass Ordinance 21-098. The Church I attend houses a cold weather housing shelter as well as a full time shelter for the homeless. It would be so wonderful if people could actually have homes. Ther is a great need for Senior housing also. I know you are aware of this and so I would request you pass this much needed Ordinance!

Blessing & Peace in this Season of Light,

Reverend Mimi Lane
12015 Marine Drive
Marysville, WA 98271



SNOHOMISH COUNTY COUNCIL

From: [Bob Campbell](#)
To: [Contact Council](#)
Subject: 21-098
Date: Saturday, December 11, 2021 5:58:40 AM

EXHIBIT # PT-123
FILE ORD 21-098

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

I support passage of Ordinance 21-098”

***Robert D. And Vickie W. Campbell
18030 Cedarbough loop
Arlington, Wa
98223
360-435-8638***

Sent from Bob Campbell's iPhone

SNOHOMISH COUNTY COUNCIL

From: [Sarah Higginbotham](#)
To: [Contact Council](#)
Subject: I support passage of Ordinance 21-098
Date: Saturday, December 11, 2021 6:59:30 AM

EXHIBIT # PT-124
FILE ORD 21-098

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

Dear County Council,

As a registered voter and community member of District 1, I support the passage of Ordinance 21-098.

As a parent of a 16- and 20-year-old I am concerned about the affordability and availability of housing in our community. While we can have our children stay with us as they need, not all young adults have that opportunity. Out of curiosity, I called around to apartment complexes in our community and there is no availability, unless you are over 55. And that's market rate apartments.

As a leader of an organization that works with people experiencing homelessness and in poverty on the verge of homelessness, I am concerned with the lack of affordable housing because the longer people are out of housing, the harder it is to get into housing. How do we minimize the time people experience homelessness? Our community needs enough housing that is affordable across the entire county.

People want to stay in the communities they are from. When people enter Coordinated Entry and a housing opportunity becomes available, a household must take what they get and often it is not in their own community.

People with all their needs met are uncomfortable by the sight of homeless people. The best way to not see it, is to have enough housing and programs to address the issue. I am told that money is the answer, thus the need for this tax.

Respectfully,

Sarah Higginbotham
Executive Director
North Snohomish County Outreach
Sharing hope through relationships.
PO Box 3339 | Arlington, WA 98223 | 425-319-1848
[Website](#) [Facebook](#)

* Please know that I honor and respect boundaries around personal time and wellbeing, caretaking, and rest. If you are receiving correspondence from me when you are engaging in any of the above, please protect your time and wait to respond when you are next working. Prioritize joy, not email, where and when you can.

SNOHOMISH COUNTY COUNCIL

From: [Ms Crystal Bond](#)
To: [Contact Council](#)
Subject: Please support Snohomish County Ordinance 21-098
Date: Saturday, December 11, 2021 8:09:40 AM

EXHIBIT # PT-125

FILE ORD 21-098

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

SNOHOMISH COUNTY COUNCIL

EXHIBIT # PT-126

FILE ORD 21-098

From: [Martha Cetina](#)
To: [Contact Council](#)
Subject: Ordinance 21-098
Date: Saturday, December 11, 2021 8:15:37 AM

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

Please pass this ordinance. There are more than 20,000 households in Snohomish County with annual incomes of \$34,500 or less that are spending more than 50% of that income just on housing. Fair Market Rent for a two-bedroom apartment in Snohomish County is \$2,099. A household would need a total annual income of \$83,960 (\$40.37hr) to afford this apartment. When people have a home, children do better in school, employment opportunities and income levels increase, medical and mental health outcomes are better and communities thrive and people prosper when everyone lives in a safe, healthy, affordable home. I believe affordable housing is a moral imperative, especially for our neighbors who are most in need.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

SNOHOMISH COUNTY COUNCIL

From: [Ruth M Brandon](#)
To: [Contact Council](#)
Subject: Ordinance 21-098
Date: Saturday, December 11, 2021 9:32:39 AM

EXHIBIT # PT-127

FILE ORD 21-098

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

Please pass this ordinance - 21-098

I am a retired pastor, a voter, and an apartment resident in Snohomish County. More than the penny sales tax is needed to keep people housed and to house the currently unhoused but this will certainly help. 10 cents on a \$100 purchase will hardly be noticed.

Affordable housing is essential if we want our citizens to be able to keep a job, raise a family, do better in school, stay healthier and contribute to the good in the communities we live in. I read that more than 20,000 households in this County have annual incomes of \$34,500 or less and spend more than 50% of that just on housing.

The need is great - pass ordinance 21-098 please.

SNOHOMISH COUNTY COUNCIL

From: [Rodi OLoane](#)
To: [Contact Council](#)
Subject: Ordinance 21-098 COUNCIL DISTRICT #1
Date: Saturday, December 11, 2021 9:33:34 AM

EXHIBIT # PT-128

FILE ORD 21-098

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

My husband Philip O'Loane and I (Rosemary O'Loane) live in Oso - Snohomish County District #1. We **STRONGLY** support Ordinance 21-098. This is a rare opportunity to deal with a human needs issue that affects all of us. Please consider our position in your vote.

Best regards,
Rodi (Rosemary) O'Loane
Philip O'Loane

Sent from my iPad

SNOHOMISH COUNTY COUNCIL

From: [Hoosik Shahbazian](#)
To: [Contact Council](#)
Subject: YES on Ordinance 21-098
Date: Saturday, December 11, 2021 5:07:24 PM

EXHIBIT # PT-129

FILE ORD 21-098

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

Hoosik Shahbazian
10517 1st PL NE
Lake Stevens, WA 98258
(425)231-4514

Sent from my iPhone

SNOHOMISH COUNTY COUNCIL

From: [Gerry Gibson](#)
To: [Contact Council](#)
Subject: Sales Tax
Date: Saturday, December 11, 2021 7:07:10 PM

EXHIBIT # PT-130

FILE ORD 21-098

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

Please no new sales taxes and any other taxes. There are numerous organizations and government funding to help the homeless. Do not raise sales tax for this or any other purpose.
Please listen to the people who put you there.

Gerry Gibson
71 Pine St #209
Edmonds, WA 98020

Sent from my iPhone

SNOHOMISH COUNTY COUNCIL

EXHIBIT # PT-131

FILE ORD 21-098

From: [Gretchen Saari](#)
To: [Contact Council](#)
Subject: Ordinance 21-098
Date: Saturday, December 11, 2021 7:58:26 PM

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

Please pass this ordinance.

I attend Cascade View Presbyterian Church. I believe it is a moral duty of our community to support my neighbors, especially those in much need.

Gretchen Saari

Sent from my iPad

SNOHOMISH COUNTY COUNCIL

EXHIBIT # PT-132

FILE ORD 21-098

From: [Diana Shahbazian](#)
To: [Contact Council](#)
Subject: Yes on ordinance 21-098
Date: Saturday, December 11, 2021 10:51:57 PM

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

10517 1st PI NE Lake Stevens Wa, 98258. Please pass this ordinance. Thank you!

Sent from my iPhone

From: Gmail <dd1987nav@gmail.com>
Sent: Sunday, December 12, 2021 7:27 AM
To: Contact Council
Subject: Everett Herald

EXHIBIT # PT-133
FILE ORD 21-098

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

Most (include the Herald it seems) agree that following the normal I procedure is best for this worthy cause. Like I tell my kids, "Just because you can does not make it best." Please respect the majority of your constituents and the Everett Herald Editorial Board.



From: [Jeff Schumacher](#)
To: [Nehring, Nate](#); [Dunn, Megan](#); [Wright, Stephanie](#); [Mead, Jared](#); [Low, Sam](#); [Contact Council](#)
Subject: Snohomish County Homeless Reform and smart policies
Date: Sunday, December 12, 2021 8:52:17 AM

EXHIBIT # PT-134

FILE ORD 21-098

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

Snohomish County Elected officials

I greatly value and appreciate your efforts on Homeless Reform
The homeless crisis has now become an emergency for safety and health.

Please keep in mind that the United States of America has spent over 2 Trillion dollars into Afghanistan with no benefit for Afghanistan citizens in the end. Likewise, Snohomish county can spend over 2 Trillion dollars in the hotel business for the homeless with little to no success in the end.

Please consider to proceed with caution and review the successful homeless reform policies in other parts of the Nation and the world.
In short, research, have discussion, and create smart homeless reform policies that have proven to be a success.
The hotel business for the homeless is a huge financial risk for the taxpayer.

So far, the hotel business for the homeless was a good idea, but unfortunately has become a huge financial failure in other parts of the nation.
Instead, those financial investments could have been spent toward smart and affordable homeless reform policies that truly made a difference.
See link <https://endhomelessness.org/resource/hotels-to-housing-case-studies/>

Thank you for reading my suggestion
Your citizen,
Jeff Schumacher

From: [Guy & Patty Schoonmaker](#)
To: [Contact Council](#)
Subject: Affordable Housing Tax
Date: Sunday, December 12, 2021 9:32:38 AM

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

Megan,

Thanks for the lengthy response to justify the need for the sales tax increase as proposed

I would support this 100% if the entire amount went to rebuilding our mental health system. It has been totally decimated for the many decades.

The families and individuals that are healthy and willing to be housed have many options available currently. They can find help if truly desired.

The root of the issue is drug and mental health, if we continue to cut the top of the tree it will grow back.

Thank you for your time,

Guy Schoonmaker
Edmonds Wa

SNOHOMISH COUNTY COUNCIL

From: [Mike Impola](#)
To: [Contact Council](#)
Subject: Sales Tax Increase
Date: Sunday, December 12, 2021 10:10:25 AM

EXHIBIT # PT-136
FILE ORD 21-098

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

Council,

It would be inappropriate for the people of Snohomish County to not have the information regarding a proposed sales tax increase for affordable housing and then, after reviewing the information, the opportunity to have their voices heard via a vote of the people

The only reason to rush the sales tax increase through, without the input of the people, is out of a fear the people will reject the increase... which means to push the increase through is basically to knowingly take action contrary to the desires of the people of Snohomish County.

Thank you,
Mike Impola

SNOHOMISH COUNTY COUNCIL

From: vjswapp@frontier.com
To: [Contact Council](#)
Subject: Ordinance 21-098
Date: Sunday, December 12, 2021 11:12:22 AM

EXHIBIT # PT-137
FILE ORD 21-098

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

Please Vote Yes on Ordinance 21-098.

Violet Swapp
20620 60th Ave W. Unit 2C
Lynnwood, WA. 98036

From: [Aisha Sial](#)
To: [Contact Council](#)
Subject: vote Yes on Ordinance 21-098
Date: Sunday, December 12, 2021 1:26:58 PM

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

Peace be with you,

As a member of the City of Monroe Community Human Services Advisory Board I have studied in depth how to implement the recommendations made by Monroe's Homelessness Policy Advisory Committee. I strongly recommend that you as a member of Snohomish County Council vote in favor of increasing the sales tax by 1/10th of one-percent as outlined in Ordinance 21-098. Our government reaps fiscal benefits from supporting affordable housing for our most vulnerable people. In 2021 the League of Women Voters Snohomish County reached a consensus on the value of preventing homelessness among children, youth, and families with children then they produced a radio program that was broadcast on KSER November 8, 2021. [Homelessness in Snohomish County - YouTube](#)

Thank you.

Aisha Sial
Monroe, WA 98272
Snohomish County District #5

See more details below and click for access to the audio files.

Homelessness in Snohomish County

[Podcast, Part 1](#) (21 minutes) **The Study**: Members of the Children's Services Committee share key findings from our League's 3-year study.

[Podcast, Part 2](#) (14 minutes) **Take the Next Step**: Hear from **Sarah Lunstrum** about Take the Next Step, a Monroe-based non-profit serving 'neighbors in need'.

[Podcast, Part 3](#) (11 minutes) **Meet Mel**: Anyone can become homeless. Mel Simpson shares her story - and her success.

[Podcast, Part 4](#) (12 minutes) **Housing Hope**: Hear from Fred Safstrom, CEO of Housing Hope, about what it will take to truly address our homelessness crisis.

[Podcast, Part 5](#) (2.5 minutes) **Phyllis Busch** summarizes the key takeaways and gives a call to action.

SNOHOMISH COUNTY COUNCIL

From: [Janet C. Robertson](#)
To: [Contact Council](#)
Subject: Please vote yes on 21-098.
Date: Sunday, December 12, 2021 1:31:44 PM

EXHIBIT # PT-139
FILE ORD 21-098

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

Thank you.

Janet C Robertson
417 4th Ave N
Edmonds, WA 98020

--

Janet C Robertson

...there is always light,

if only we're brave enough to see it

If only we're brave enough to be it--Amanda Gorman

Janet C. Robertson
janetcopa@gmail.com
phone: 860-933-1670

SNOHOMISH COUNTY COUNCIL

EXHIBIT # PT-140

FILE ORD 21-098

From: [Barbara Rohe](#)
To: [Contact Council](#)
Subject: Ordinance 21-098
Date: Sunday, December 12, 2021 2:27:37 PM

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

Please vote YES on Ordinance 21-098. It is one thing we can do to help end the housing crisis in our area. Thank you.

Barbara Rohe
606 Holiday Street
Snohomish, WA 98290
District 5

SNOHOMISH COUNTY COUNCIL

From: [Willie Dickerson](#)
To: [Contact Council](#)
Subject: Affordable Housing
Date: Sunday, December 12, 2021 2:37:07 PM

EXHIBIT # PT-141
FILE ORD 21-098

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

Greetings,

I am writing to support and ask you to vote yes on Ordinance 21-098, December 15, to create a tax of 1/10th of one-percent (0.001) increase in the sales tax for affordable housing and behavioral health. Both of these are in crisis and this will help solve the problems.

Sincerely,

Willie Dickerson
606 Holiday St.
Snohomish
District 5

SNOHOMISH COUNTY COUNCIL

From: [Courtney Normand](#)
To: [Contact Council](#)
Subject: Please support passage of Ordinance 21-098
Date: Sunday, December 12, 2021 2:45:39 PM

EXHIBIT # PT-142
FILE ORD 21-098

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

Greetings,

I live in Arlington, in Sno Co Council District 1, and I support Ordinance 21-098. Each of us has a responsibility to help end our housing and homelessness crisis. Thank you!

Courtney Normand
(360)631-0128

SNOHOMISH COUNTY COUNCIL

From: [Juli Keith](#)
To: [Contact Council](#)
Subject: Please Vote Yes on Ordinance 21-098
Date: Sunday, December 12, 2021 3:47:26 PM

EXHIBIT # PT-143
FILE ORD 21-098

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

Please Vote Yes on Ordinance 21-098

Juli Keith
City of Snohomish, District 5

Thank you,
Juli Keith

SNOHOMISH COUNTY COUNCIL

From: [Jason Cockburn](#)
To: [Contact Council](#)
Subject: Ordinance 29-098
Date: Sunday, December 12, 2021 3:56:11 PM

EXHIBIT # PT-144
FILE ORD 21-098

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

As a formerly homeless individual who spent 25 years without a viable solution to ending my homelessness, and as a business owner in the community that strives to help others break free. I think this is a critical step in the right direction to helping people into supportive housing. If it allows people with lived experience to have a voice in its uses. There is not one easy solution to homelessness. Not one type of housing or support that will serve everyone. Each homeless is an individual with a lot of trauma and thinking errors that leave them chronically homeless.

We need an understanding of the thinking of a homeless individual if we are ever to serve them effectively.

Jason Cockburn
Vice President/ Founder
Second Chance Foundation
425 876 7077

SNOHOMISH COUNTY COUNCIL

From: phmalat@comcast.net
To: [Contact Council](#)
Subject: Sales Tax
Date: Sunday, December 12, 2021 4:08:17 PM

EXHIBIT # PT-145
FILE ORD 21-098

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

I strongly oppose raising the sales tax to fund “affordable” housing in Snohomish County. I pay my way and so should others. Don’t subsidize housing to attract more welfare recipients.

Paul H. Malatesta
915 Sea Vista Pl
Edmonds, WA 98020

SNOHOMISH COUNTY COUNCIL

From: [Hans Dankers](#)
To: [Low, Sam](#)
Cc: [Contact Council](#); [Somers, Dave J](#)
Subject: Please Vote Yes on Ordinance 21-098
Date: Sunday, December 12, 2021 5:25:27 PM

EXHIBIT # PT-146
FILE ORD 21-098

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

Dear Sam,

Martha and I have lived just west of Sultan for 43 years, and I enjoyed having lunch with you at the 2019 Hospice foundation luncheon. You left early to attend one of your children's game. I hope they played well.

A major cause of homelessness is mental health issues, so the behavioral health component is critical to the funds raised to work with helping the homeless.

Supporting Ordinance 21-098 will be a major step to decrease homelessness.

Thank you,

Hans Dankers MD

14005 Reiner Rd, Monroe

SNOHOMISH COUNTY COUNCIL

From: [Carol Jensen](#)
To: [Contact Council](#)
Subject: Ordinance 21-098
Date: Sunday, December 12, 2021 5:37:04 PM

EXHIBIT # PT-147
FILE ORD. 21-098

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

Dear Members of the Snohomish County Council:

I strongly urge you to pass Ordinance 21-098 at your upcoming meeting.

As a faith-based community leader who coordinates the Everett Faith in Action group, I have seen first hand how the lack of affordable housing in our city and county impacts so many and increases the crisis of homelessness in our midst. This modest increase in our sales tax will be more the offset by the benefits that will come from such an increase - benefits not only to those who are most in need of affordable housing but also to our entire community. Everett Faith in Action is all about partnerships between government agencies, non-profits, and sometimes businesses (e.g. the Pallet Company) to address the challenges of homelessness and housing. This tax will generate funds to help expand these partnerships and leverage funds not otherwise available. It is common sense, and we cannot miss this opportunity.

Thank you for your service,
Rev. Carol Jensen

SNOHOMISH COUNTY COUNCIL

From: [STEPHEN SALLEE](#)
To: [Contact Council](#)
Subject: Please vote YES on Ordinance 21-098
Date: Sunday, December 12, 2021 6:00:47 PM

EXHIBIT # PT-148
FILE ORD 21-098

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

We believe that passing Ord. 21-098 will enable Snohomish County to provide much needed housing for our county residents who are currently able to afford a place to live. PLEASE VOTE YES.

Stephen and Kathleen Sallee
11210 Bollenbaugh Hill Rd
Monroe, WA 98272
Snohomish County Council District 5

SNOHOMISH COUNTY COUNCIL

From: [The Rasmussen's](#)
To: [Contact Council](#)
Subject: Ord. 21-098
Date: Sunday, December 12, 2021 6:31:36 PM

EXHIBIT # PT-149

FILE ORD 21-098

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

Council,

Thank you for your service to our communities.

I have been made aware of the upcoming discussion and possible vote on Ordinance 21-098 which would raise sales tax to support affordable housing and behavioral health.

While I agree that the tax increase is minimal and there is a need to support affordable housing and behavioral health, I do not believe that this is the right strategy. I do not see anything in the bill that gives me confidence that the money will have a direct impact on the areas it is intended to support. Instead, this resembles another revenue source to balance a future budget. As elected leaders, I call on you to find a way to support our communities where they are needed most, but not by constantly relying on some sort of tax increase. Citizens are already stretched thin, another tax increase, regardless of how little, can be too much for some families to manage.

Please vote no on Ordinance 21-098.

Thank you for your time.

Jeff Rasmussen
Monroe, WA
425-466-9705

From: [Rena Connell](#)
To: [Contact Council](#)
Subject: Testimony for Wed., Dec. 15 Housing Support Sales Tax Increase
Date: Sunday, December 12, 2021 7:11:54 PM

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

As a Dist. 5 constituent, an advocate for affordable housing, and a donor to Snohomish County Housing Hope, I am urging all Council members to vote in favor of the .1% sales tax for affordable housing as allowed under HB 1590. This county needs even more than this small sales tax to adequately support affordable housing for our growing population over the next five years. While an income tax would be fairer and more equitable, at this time the increased sales tax is the only mechanism available to address additional funding for this desperate need for our county residents. This proposal also includes absolutely critical support services for mental health-- a component that I think is central to the success of any housing proposal. My career in human services where I served in the homes of families of infants and toddlers with special needs confirmed for me the need that simply providing a roof is inadequate. Support services make the difference in long-term success for families. The funds raised by passage of this tax increase could help address a burgeoning county problem to meet the need for affordable housing and supportive surrounding services . This is the Council's chance to take the bold steps necessary to begin to address our affordable housing shortage. The Snohomish County Council must make critical investment in local communities and prevent the growing crisis for families who are unable to find affordable housing here as costs skyrocket.

--

Rena Connell
15422 228th St. SE, Snohomish, WA 98296

(h) 360-863-7741

(c) 425-246-8592

SNOHOMISH COUNTY COUNCIL

From: [Teresa Norman](#)
To: [Contact Council](#)
Subject: Please vote Yes on Ordinance 21-098
Date: Sunday, December 12, 2021 7:18:38 PM

EXHIBIT # PT-151
FILE ORD 21-098

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

Dear Council members,

As a resident of Monroe, I am writing to ask you to vote yes on Ordinance 21-098. Our city (and Snohomish County) are in desperate need of more affordable housing for low income, elderly and disabled folks. Some of my friends who work one or two jobs and have roommates still have a hard time keeping up with the ever increasing cost of rent. I have other friends who have two good jobs but can't find a house without leaving the area entirely. Homeless folks we know need shelter, not more tarps.

Your consideration is greatly appreciated,
Teresa Norman
219 S. Madison St.
Monroe, WA 98272

SNOHOMISH COUNTY COUNCIL

From: [Rich Norman](#)
To: [Contact Council](#)
Subject: Yes on Ordinance 21-098
Date: Sunday, December 12, 2021 7:34:29 PM

EXHIBIT # PT-152
FILE ORD 21-098

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

Dear Council Members,

My name is Rich Norman. I am a resident of Monroe, WA. I am writing concerning the upcoming vote on Ordinance 21-098. There are many here that feel hopeful for the positive change this could bring about for low income, elderly and disable people. What many people do not understand is that it is a win/win for the whole community. I encourage you to vote yes on this ordinance.

Thank you for your service.

Rich Norman
219 S Madison St.
Monroe, WA 98272

SNOHOMISH COUNTY COUNCIL

From: [Charlotte](#)
To: [Contact Council](#)
Subject: Please Vote Yes on Ordinance 21-098
Date: Sunday, December 12, 2021 8:40:30 PM

EXHIBIT # PT-153
FILE ORD 21-098

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

Please Vote Yes on Ordinance 21-098

It is imperative to ensure we have affordable housing for the most vulnerable in our community.

Just today I drove past a makeshift hovel just off 19th where someone is living under blankets with only spare belongings. On that same drive less than a mile away on Dumas road a small pup tent straddles the sidewalk where a homeless person has been living for at least 3 weeks. It's heartbreaking! My car registered 39 degrees at noon! Homes in this area exceed \$1M. Yet for the homeless, options are gravely lacking.

Your yes vote would make all the difference to those who are struggling.

The measure of a society is found in how they treat their weakest and most helpless citizens - Jimmy Carter

Thank you for your kind consideration!

Charlotte A DuBose
Everett, WA 98208
County council District 4

Sent from my iPad

SNOHOMISH COUNTY COUNCIL

From: [Jessica Dietsch](#)
To: [Contact Council](#)
Subject: Do not pass the tax!
Date: Monday, December 13, 2021 7:03:52 AM

EXHIBIT # PT-154

FILE ORD 21-098

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

Hello,

I understand that you are voting to pass another tax increase. So many people are already struggling and cannot afford this please do not pass this tax. People already can't make it.

SNOHOMISH COUNTY COUNCIL

From: socialwithjulie@gmail.com
To: [Contact Council](#)
Subject: County Sales Tax
Date: Monday, December 13, 2021 7:05:34 AM
Importance: High

EXHIBIT # PT-155

FILE ORD 21-098

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

Dear Members of the Council,

As a Snohomish County resident and voter, I am asking you to vote NO on passing the 0.1% tax increase at your December 15th meeting.

Tax increases have always and SHOULD still be put to the voters to decide. Due to increasing bad legislation and abuse of powers in Washington state, I realize there is now a loophole that allows you to bypass “we the people.” This is not right. In a time where inflation is at a 39 year high and many families can no longer afford to live in Snohomish County, passing an *additional* tax is irresponsible and an abuse of power.

Do the right thing. Tell us how you will spend the money (not just arbitrary “it’s for affordable house”) and then let us vote whether to pass it or not.

This tax increase would make Snohomish County the highest taxed county on the entire West Coast.

Please focus on fiscal responsibility rather than looking to us for more tax dollars.

If this tax is passed by the council, you have my guarantee that I will work my butt off to make sure the council members who voted to approve will be voted out in the next election.

Thank you,

Julie Barrett

4318 181st St SE, Bothell, WA 98012 – unincorporated SnoCo

SNOHOMISH COUNTY COUNCIL

EXHIBIT # PT-156

FILE ORD 21-098

From: [Susan Heid](#)
To: [Contact Council](#)
Subject: DO NOT PASS THIS TAX
Date: Monday, December 13, 2021 7:21:31 AM

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

I am writing to urge you to NOT pass this proposed sales tax increase. This is outrageous that the council would try to sneak this one by the voters without much to-do. A disgrace.

Please respect the budgets of families who take pride in living in Snohomish County and buying items here and local businesses. This could very well drive purchasing to other counties.

Susan Heid

Lake Stevens resident

SNOHOMISH COUNTY COUNCIL

From: [Debbie Fagala](#)
To: [Contact Council](#)
Subject: Objecting to Tax Increase
Date: Monday, December 13, 2021 7:46:05 AM

EXHIBIT # PT-157

FILE ORD 21-098

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

I object to the increase in our sales tax. Vote NO
Debra Fagala
Edmonds, WA



Virus-free. www.avg.com

From: [Shantel Rogers](#)
To: [Contact Council](#)
Subject: Tax Increase
Date: Monday, December 13, 2021 8:14:03 AM

EXHIBIT # PT-158

FILE ORD 21-098

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

DO NOT PASS this sales tax increase. This is NOT what the people want.

--

Shantel Rogers
1shantelrogers@gmail.com

Lao, Elena

SNOHOMISH COUNTY COUNCIL

From: Wright, Stephanie
Sent: Monday, December 13, 2021 8:53 AM
To: Lao, Elena
Subject: FW: Snohomish County Legislative Delegation Support of Affordable Housing Ordinance 21-098
Attachments: Sno Co Council Ordinance 21-098 - Delegation Letter.pdf

EXHIBIT # PT-159

FILE ORD 21-098

For the record

From: Wicks, Rep. Emily <Emily.Wicks@leg.wa.gov>
Sent: Monday, December 13, 2021 7:36 AM
To: Wright, Stephanie <Stephanie.Wright@co.snohomish.wa.us>; Dunn, Megan <Megan.Dunn@co.snohomish.wa.us>; Low, Sam <Sam.Low@co.snohomish.wa.us>; Nehring, Nate <nate.nehring@co.snohomish.wa.us>; Mead, Jared <Jared.Mead@co.snohomish.wa.us>; Somers, Dave J <Dave.Somers@co.snohomish.wa.us>; Harper, Lacey <Lacey.Harper@co.snohomish.wa.us>; contact.council@snoco.org.
Cc: Sells, Rep. Mike <Mike.Sells@leg.wa.gov>; Davis, Rep. Lauren <Lauren.Davis@leg.wa.gov>; Lovick, Rep. John <John.Lovick@leg.wa.gov>; Peterson, Rep. Strom <Strom.Peterson@leg.wa.gov>; Robinson, Sen. June <June.Robinson@leg.wa.gov>; Salomon, Sen. Jesse <Jesse.Salomon@leg.wa.gov>; Berg, Rep. April <April.Berg@leg.wa.gov>; Stanford, Sen. Derek <Derek.Stanford@leg.wa.gov>; Ryu, Rep. Cindy <Cindy.Ryu@leg.wa.gov>; Ortiz-Self, Rep. Lillian <Lillian.Ortiz-Self@leg.wa.gov>; Duerr, Rep. Davina <Davina.Duerr@leg.wa.gov>; Kloba, Rep. Shelley <Shelley.Kloba@leg.wa.gov>; Ibrahimovic, Semir <Semir.Ibrahimovic@leg.wa.gov>; Haifley, Brian <Brian.Haifley@leg.wa.gov>; Elder, John <John.Elder@leg.wa.gov>; Cardamenis, Stephen <Stephen.Cardamenis@leg.wa.gov>; Dasch, Ann <Ann.Dasch@leg.wa.gov>; Rios, Israel <Israel.Rios@leg.wa.gov>; Apata, Joshua <Joshua.Apata@leg.wa.gov>; Janovyak, Charlotte <Charlotte.Janovyak@leg.wa.gov>; Christopherson, Cory <Cory.Christopherson@leg.wa.gov>; Fosse, Mary <Mary.Fosse@leg.wa.gov>; Armstrong, Kate <Kate.Armstrong@leg.wa.gov>; Liaw, Shoubee <Shoubee.Liaw@leg.wa.gov>; Thompson, Joshua <Joshua.Thompson@co.snohomish.wa.us>; Rhyne, Paula <Paula.Rhyne@co.snohomish.wa.us>; Cheesman, Darcy <Darcy.Cheesman@co.snohomish.wa.us>; Wiita, Russell <Russell.Wiita@co.snohomish.wa.us>; Ewert, Angela <Angela.Ewert@co.snohomish.wa.us>; Geraghty, Melissa <Melissa.Geraghty@co.snohomish.wa.us>
Subject: Snohomish County Legislative Delegation Support of Affordable Housing Ordinance 21-098

CAUTION : This email originated from outside of this organization. Please exercise caution with links and attachments.
December 13, 2021

Snohomish County Council
Attn: Council Members
Robert J. Drewel Building
3000 Rockefeller Ave., M/S 609
Everett, WA 98201

Dear Snohomish County Executive and Council Members,

We are writing to urge you to help meet the extraordinary housing needs of our county's most vulnerable residents by approving the 1/10th of 1% sales tax increase enabled by State Legislative action last year and improved upon by Rep. Cindy Ryu's HB 1070 this year. This very modest tax increase will provide an ongoing, locally controlled fund to meet various housing and mental health needs.

This revenue tool will help acquire land or existing buildings and construct affordable housing and provide housing-related services for people whose income is 60% or less of the county median income. It will build on the investments made with Covid related relief funding flowing into Snohomish County, but it is time limited.

This fund will conservatively raise \$20-23 million annually in Snohomish County and serve as a local “housing trust fund” to help meet our housing and support services needs now and into the future. Revenues will conservatively leverage at least five times other funds for affordable housing construction and acquisition.

As fellow elected officials, we know that raising taxes is never an easy action. However, we believe that our affordable housing and homeless challenges are a strong reason for this action. Additionally, in funding the Working Families Tax Credit this year, the Legislature has given a significant cash boost to low-and-moderate income households, especially those with children, which significantly offsets this minimal tax increase.

We look forward to standing with you as you pass an ordinance enabling this increase in the coming months. Please advise how we can help.

Sincerely,

Rep. Shelley Kloba (LD 1)



Rep. Davina Duerr (LD 1)



Rep. Strom Peterson (LD 21)



Rep. Lillian Ortiz-Self (LD 21)



Rep. Cindy Ryu (LD 32)



Rep. Lauren Davis (LD 32)



Rep. Mike Sells (LD 38)



Rep. Emily Wicks (LD 38)



Rep. John Lovick (LD 44)

John Lovick
Rep. April Berg (LD 44)



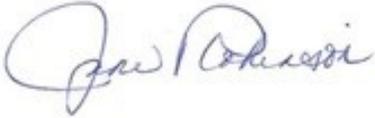
Sen. Derek Stanford (LD 1)



Sen. Jesse Salomon (LD 32)



Sen. June Robinson (LD 38)



Emily Wicks

Washington State Representative | 38th LD

Tulalip | Marysville | Everett

emily.wicks@leg.wa.gov

Legislative Cell Phone: 425.446.2810

Gender Pronouns: She/her/hers

NOTICE OF PUBLIC DISCLOSURE: Please note, this email and any documents you send this office, may be subject to disclosure requirements under the state Public Records Act, RCW 42.56.



December 13, 2021

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Attn: Council Members
Robert J. Drewel Building
3000 Rockefeller Ave., M/S 609
Everett, WA 98201

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As fellow elected officials, we know that raising taxes is never an easy action. However, we believe that our affordable housing and homeless challenges are a strong reason for this action. Additionally, in funding the Working Families Tax Credit this year, the Legislature has given a significant cash boost to low-and-moderate income households, especially those with children, which significantly offsets this minimal tax increase.

We look forward to standing with you as you pass an ordinance enabling this increase in the coming months. Please advise how we can help.

Sincerely,

Rep. Shelley Kloba (LD 1)

Rep. Davina Duerr (LD 1)

Rep. Strom Peterson (LD 21)

Rep. Lillian Ortiz-Self (LD 21)

Rep. Cindy Ryu (LD 32)

Rep. Lauren Davis (LD 32)



Legislative Building

Washington State Legislature

Olympia, WA 98504-0600

Rep. Mike Sells (LD 38)

Handwritten signature of Mike Sells in black ink.

Rep. Emily Wicks (LD 38)

Handwritten signature of Emily Wicks in black ink.

Rep. John Lovick (LD 44)

Handwritten signature of John Lovick in black ink.

Rep. April Berg (LD 44)

Handwritten signature of April Berg in black ink.

Sen. Derek Stanford (LD 1)

Handwritten signature of Derek Stanford in black ink.

Sen. Jesse Salomon (LD 32)

Handwritten signature of Jesse Salomon in black ink.

Sen. June Robinson (LD 38)

Handwritten signature of June Robinson in black ink.



Legislative Building

Washington State Legislature

Olympia, WA 98504-0600

Lao, Elena

From: Wright, Stephanie
Sent: Monday, December 13, 2021 10:20 AM
To: Lao, Elena
Subject: FW: City of Everett letter to Snohomish County attached
Attachments: Co Letter 1 percent tax-1.pdf

SNOHOMISH COUNTY COUNCIL

EXHIBIT # PT-160

FILE ORD 21-098

From: Deb Williams <DWilliams@everettwa.gov>

Sent: Monday, December 13, 2021 10:18 AM

To: Somers, Dave J <Dave.Somers@co.snohomish.wa.us>; Dunn, Megan <Megan.Dunn@co.snohomish.wa.us>; Nehring, Nate <nate.nehring@co.snohomish.wa.us>; Mead, Jared <Jared.Mead@co.snohomish.wa.us>; Wright, Stephanie <Stephanie.Wright@co.snohomish.wa.us>; Low, Sam <Sam.Low@co.snohomish.wa.us>

Cc: Brenda Stonecipher <BStonecipher@everettwa.gov>; Judy Tuohy <JTuhoy@everettwa.gov>; Elizabeth Vogeli <EVogeli@everettwa.gov>; Scott Murphy <ScMurphy@everettwa.gov>; Scott Bader <SBader@everettwa.gov>; Jeffrey Moore <jmoore@everettwa.gov>; Paul Roberts <PRoberts@everettwa.gov>; CFranklin <CFranklin@everettwa.gov>; Nick Harper <NHarper@everettwa.gov>; Lori Cummings <LCummings@everettwa.gov>; Kimberley Cline <kcline@everettwa.gov>

Subject: City of Everett letter to Snohomish County attached

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

Good morning Executive Somers and members of the Snohomish County Council:

Please see the attached letter from some members of the Everett City Council regarding the proposed councilmanic increase to the county wide sales and use tax for affordable housing.

Please feel free to reach out to Council member Scott Murphy if he can answer any questions or be of any further assistance. He can be reached at 425 257 8703 or you may reach him by email at scmurphy@everettwa.gov.

Respectfully,

Deb Williams

Executive Assistant to Council

On behalf of Council member Scott Murphy

Everett City Council



Deb Williams

Executive Assistant to Council

425.257.8703 | 2930 Wetmore Ave, Suite 9A Everett, WA 98201

everettwa.gov | [Facebook](https://www.facebook.com/everettwa) | [Twitter](https://twitter.com/everettwa)

Note: Emails and attachments sent to and from the City of Everett are public records and may be subject to disclosure pursuant to the Public Records Act.



December 8, 2021

To Executive Dave Somers and members of the Snohomish County Council:

We, the undersigned, have concerns regarding the proposed councilmanic increase to the countywide sales and use tax for affordable housing. While we share the desire to address affordable housing issues in our county, the proposed process minimizes public input and will erode trust with our shared constituents.

A sales tax to produce affordable housing is counterintuitive and will only further burden residents and small businesses throughout Snohomish County. Sales tax is one of the most regressive forms of taxation, creating a disproportionate burden on low-income families who are already impacted by high inflation and on businesses struggling to recover from the economic consequences of the pandemic.

In addition to the merit of the policy proposal itself, we have significant concerns with the process being used to implement this tax increase. Historically, a proposal like this would need to go to the voters for their consideration. While the legislature allowed local governments to impose this sales tax increase using councilmanic authority, we feel that the appropriate and transparent course of action must involve a vote of the people.

We encourage the County Council to place this issue on the ballot and allow the voters of Snohomish County to determine whether this tax increase and proposed spending has merit.

Please do not impose this additional tax burden on Snohomish County residents without their input through a public process and vote.

Respectfully,

A blue ink signature of Scott Murphy, written in a cursive style.

Scott Murphy
Council member

A blue ink signature of Scott Bader, written in a cursive style.

Scott Bader
Council member

A blue ink signature of Jeff Moore, written in a cursive style.

Jeff Moore
Council member

Scott Murphy
Everett City Council



2930 Wetmore Ave., Ste. 9-A
Everett, WA 98201



425.2577-8703
425.257.8691 fax



everettwa.gov

SNOHOMISH COUNTY COUNCIL

From: [Kyoko Matsumoto Wright](#)
To: [Contact Council](#)
Cc: [Kyoko Matsumoto Wright](#)
Subject: In support of Affordable Housing
Date: Monday, December 13, 2021 8:43:28 AM
Attachments: [HB1590Letter.docx](#)

EXHIBIT # PT-161

FILE ORD 21-098

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

Please see attached letter.

Thank you.

Kyoko Matsumoto Wright
Realtor with Coldwell Banker Bain
Mountlake Terrace Mayor
Wa. State Real Estate Commissioner

December 10, 2021

To the Snohomish County Councilmembers,

I am writing in favor of HB1590, the tax for Affordable Housing as we need more housing.

I know that even when we build more housing with this and other funds (Federal and local) it will still not be enough. But this is a start.

I hear that almost everyone I communicate with agree that more affordable housing is needed. Yet every time we try to come up with a solution, we run into a roadblock.

I urge you as a private citizen of Snohomish County to vote yes on this.

Thank you for listening.

Kyoko Wright

21608-46th Pl W

Mountlake Terrace 98043

SNOHOMISH COUNTY COUNCIL

From: [Maddy Metzger-Utt](#)
To: [Contact Council](#)
Subject: 1/10 of 1% sales tax
Date: Monday, December 13, 2021 8:44:02 AM

EXHIBIT # PT-162

FILE ORD 21-098

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

My name is Maddy Metzger-Utt and I am one of the Board members for the Housing Authority of Snohomish County (HASCO). I am writing to urge you to support the increase of 1/10th of 1% tax to help fund affordable housing in the County.

As someone who was born and raised in Everett, I have seen how drastically housing prices have increased in the last ten years. The average rent for a two-bedroom apartment in the County exceeds \$1,800 (that is more than the mortgage I paid on my custom-built house). To afford that, a low-wage household is spending over 50% of their take home pay on rent and making difficult choices between food, transportation, and medical expenses. Most people in these circumstances will find it difficult to save for unexpected financial shocks, which means they are one or two paychecks away from homelessness.

With over 100,000 families in the county struggling with housing costs, and street homelessness becoming ever more pervasive, it is beyond time to act. Ten cents, one dime; is all the additional sales tax you would pay on a \$100 purchase in Snohomish County if the County Council votes to impose a sales tax, authorized by the State Legislature in House Bill 1590. As housing costs have risen, more and more of our friends, neighbors, sons, and daughters, struggle with the ever-increasing costs of living here.

More than anything else, the COVID-19 pandemic has highlighted the stark income inequality within the region and throughout our country. A McKinsey Institute study estimated that 75% of all COVID-19 related job losses were for people earning \$40,000 a year or less. These are the very same people that already struggle the most in our economy. This is not surprising since most of the jobs eliminated were in the hospitality, retail, and service sectors, where wages are traditionally lower. The irony is that during the pandemic many other low-wage jobs, such as daycare workers, food service workers and agriculture processors, were considered essential and effectively forced to work in unsafe conditions just to make rent. All while continuing to struggle to live in the communities, they literally put their health and safety on the line to serve.

Please vote to increase the sales tax by 1/10th of 1% tax to help fund affordable housing in the County.

Thank you for all the work you do and for taking the time to read this letter.

Sincerely,

Maddy Metzger-Utt

From: [Luke Distelhorst](#)
To: [Contact Council](#)
Subject: Please support Affordable Housing!
Date: Monday, December 13, 2021 8:53:59 AM

EXHIBIT # PT-163

FILE ORD 21-098

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

Dear County Council Members,

Thank you for considering enacting 1590 to support a 0.1% sales tax for constructing affordable housing and its operation. I know this is not an easy decision, but it is absolutely vital for our county's future and the wellbeing of our residents.

Market doesn't build this housing

Private market housing will not produce units that can be affordably rented residents earning 60% or less of the area median income. Affordable housing requires partnerships and public investment to ensure that our essential workers can find and live in housing that will not be flipped for profit. Enacting this very small tax will give the county vital funds and will unlock significant grant dollars at various levels to create affordable housing in Snohomish County. This will support our economic vitality, bring more jobs, construct housing, and ensure Snohomish County residents can continue to live, work, and recreate in our county.

We pay for it no matter what

Without this tax, and without more affordable housing, we will continue to see growth in housing insecurity, residents experiencing homelessness, and the associated costs of trying to re-shelter our neighbors. These costs manifest in healthcare, human and social services, and law enforcement costs, which are passed on to all taxpayers, with little to no benefit to those in need. Studies from around the world show what solves housing insecurity and homelessness: a roof over people's heads.

Our environment demands it

The rural and ex-urban sprawl of the Salish Sea region continues to bulldoze our green-field areas, increasing transportation greenhouse gas emissions and pollutants harming salmon recovery efforts. Not only is sprawl fiscally unsustainable, but the environmental impacts are being seen season after season as our extreme weather events set new records every year. We can reduce "drive to qualify" by using these dollars to build this much-needed housing in our cities so our workers can live nearer where they work, while also reducing our greenhouse gas emissions.

Thank you for your consideration and I look forward to seeing more affordable housing built in cities and areas in need all across Snohomish County.

Sincerely,
Luke Distelhorst
Edmonds, WA

SNOHOMISH COUNTY COUNCIL

From: [Mike Kahler](#)
To: [Contact Council](#)
Subject: Sales Tax Concern
Date: Monday, December 13, 2021 9:09:53 AM

EXHIBIT # PT-164
FILE ORD 21-098

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

Dear Snohomish County Council,

It has come to my attention the council is planning to instate a 0.1% sales tax hike by the end of the year.

2021 has been a bad enough year already.

I'm sure you've noticed we are in the midst of the worst pandemic in the past 100 years.

Our gracious Insurance Commissioner Mike Kreidler has already punished 100,000's of WA residents by jacking around our insurance rates (yes, I know he only illegally banned use of credit scores, but in the end, his solitary actions made rates go up).

The WA legislature passed a flawed bill instituting a 0.58% income tax for a care system that is so flawed no one believes it's even salvageable.

We are experiencing the worst inflation in the past 30 years.

And now YOU want to impose additional sales tax on all Snohomish County Residents? Are you trying to claim the title of highest sales tax rate on the West Coast?

And worse yet, on top of all the above, you want to selfishly pass this without a vote of the people, just because some loophole legislation gives you that ability.

It's been said before, but just because you can do something, doesn't mean you should. Adding more financial burden on top of everything else that has been piled on in 2021 just seems like a bad idea.

I ask that you seriously rethink this plan.

If you have solid grounds to warrant this additional sales tax, then tell the county residents about it....sell us on the idea...then let us support your plan by voting. Don't just magically slip it in through some closed door council vote.

Thank you for your consideration,

Mike Kahler

From: [Morgan Webb](#)
To: [Contact Council](#)
Subject: Ordinance 21-098
Date: Monday, December 13, 2021 9:51:26 AM

EXHIBIT # PT-165
FILE ORD 21-098

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

Please pass this ordinance. Housing is a moral imperative, and we as a County are failing miserably. I am a Recovery Navigator with the Snohomish County LEAD program. I often work in the Carnegie building, and see person after person after person who is unhoused and in need of services. The need for affordable housing in our County is great, and the problem will not solve itself.

Fair Market Rent for a two-bedroom apartment in Snohomish County is \$2,099. My household would need a total annual income of \$83,960 (\$40.37hr) to afford this apartment. Even with my amazing job, that I am so thankful for, I cannot afford a place of my own at today's prices. I am a single mother, and have to rely on the help of my family to stay housed and to keep me and my children off of the streets. I LONG for a place of my own for me and my children. I work HARD to provide for my family, and it is a sad reality that we cannot afford a home of our own. I work HARD to better my community, and help lift others out of the abject poverty that runs rampant in our streets. Even with all of my hard work, and dedication to providing my children a good and stable life, I cannot afford the most basic of necessities, a home to call our own.

When people have a home, opportunity abounds. Children do better in school. Parents are able to get and keep better jobs, making higher wages and securing brighter futures for their families. Medical and mental health outcomes are better, and the strain on our emergency systems is lightened, because people have the time, security, and resources to access medical maintenance and preventive care. The cost to house people is by far less expensive than the cost to hospitalize or jail them, and the benefits reach deep into our communities.

Aside from the moralistic and humanistic benefits, there are expansive economic benefits to passing this ordinance as well. Each \$1 of local funding typically leverages \$10 of additional funding. That means that this sales tax, which will raise approximately \$23M per year, will translate into a potential \$230M investment into our people and our communities in Snohomish County. Building affordable housing also creates high-wage construction jobs right here in our own backyard.

Please. Pass Ordinance 21-098.

We CAN create a brighter future for Snohomish County.

--
Morgan Webb, C.P.C.

Recovery Navigator
LEAD- Snohomish County
Cell: 425.508.2370
morgan.webb@leadbureau.org

From: [Kara Dineen](#)
To: [Contact Council](#)
Subject: YES on ordinance 21-098
Date: Monday, December 13, 2021 10:06:47 AM

EXHIBIT # PT-166
FILE ORD 21-098

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

I am a voter in Snohomish county, and longtime resident of thre town of Monroe. I'm asking that you vote YES on ordinance 21-098!! Finding enough Low income housing is a huge problem in monroe as there just aren't enough places available here.

I have seen first hand how this is affecting so many people. People that want stay in the town they've grown up in, lived in for years, and have created community are being forced out because they cannot find anywhere they can afford anymore, as rent and housing prices continue to rise, but available jobs and wages stay the same. Homelessness is clearly on the rise in our community. The first step to combating homelessness is safe housing, and we have a woeful lack of affordable housing in our community.

Please address this most urgent issue and VOTE YES on ordinance 21-098!! Help protect our vulnerable population with housing they can actually afford and find!!

Signed, a dedicated and active voter in Snohomish County!

Kara-Liv Dineen
23512 Lake Fontal Rd
Monroe, WA 98272

SNOHOMISH COUNTY COUNCIL

From: [Rita Ehli-Meehan](#)
To: [Contact Council](#)
Subject: In support
Date: Monday, December 13, 2021 10:13:22 AM

EXHIBIT # PT-167

FILE ORD 21-098

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

I am in support of the 1/10th tax to be used toward affordable housing and behavioral health issues.

Rita Meehan
Arlington, WA

SNOHOMISH COUNTY COUNCIL

From: [Cory Armstrong-Hoss](#)
To: [Contact Council](#)
Subject: I support passage of Ordinance 21-098
Date: Monday, December 13, 2021 10:19:14 AM

EXHIBIT # PT-168

FILE ORD 21-098

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

Thank you,

Cory Armstrong-Hoss
(425) 830-8624

Lao, Elena

From: Duane Leonard <dleonard@hasco.org>
Sent: Monday, December 13, 2021 10:27 AM
To: Contact Council
Subject: Ordinance 21-098

SNOHOMISH COUNTY COUNCIL

EXHIBIT # PT-169

FILE ORD 21-098

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

Dear Council Members,

The time to act in support of Affordable Housing is now. A Herald editorial suggests delaying to run an advisory vote. Why? People are literally dying on the street every year for lack of shelter. Why is there always an excuse to do nothing to help the most needy among us?

When will local elected officials step up to the plate and lead? This problem has grown steadily worse year after year. Ask yourself, has this problem gotten better or worse, or the last 30 years? 20 years? 10 years? The answer is obvious that it has gotten much worse. Will it continue to get worse if nothing is done, the obvious answer again is that it will continue to get worse.

John Kennedy once said, "Too often we enjoy the comfort of opinion, without the discomfort of thought." The need is obvious. The data is incontrovertible. Delay will only make the problem worse. It is time to lead. Time to support this ordinance.



Duane Leonard | Executive Director
Housing Authority of Snohomish County
12711 4th Ave W | Everett, WA 98204
P: 425.290.8499 x: 522 | F: 425.290.5618 | hasco.org

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SNOHOMISH COUNTY COUNCIL

From: [Jilda Nettleton](#)
To: [Contact Council](#)
Subject: Support Ordinance 21-098
Date: Monday, December 13, 2021 10:41:18 AM

EXHIBIT # PT-170
FILE ORD 21-098

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

I'm in Snohomish County Council District 4 and I support passage of Ordinance 21-098. We do not want to let Snohomish County become another bay area. I have lived in the Bay Area (Pacifica, CA - not even the most pricy area) and we left after two and half years and a lot of it had to do with the ridiculous cost of housing there. Yes we were well off enough to buy a house for ourselves, but a lot of people couldn't - like good teachers and grocery store workers, healthcare workers. Our favorite bike shop shut down because they said, we can't afford to pay our workers enough to live here and keep our business going. There were noticeably fewer basic services near where I lived in the bay area compared to where I live now in Bothell. My kids now go to a far better school.

Children living in unstable housing are not going to do as well in school. Which means our schools end up paying more to educate them. In the long run we end up paying for our homeless population through jails and the ER. Getting more affordable housing for the community is needed not only to address homelessness but to prevent more of it. When people are paying more than 50% of the income on housing, as over 20,000 household in Snohomish county are, they are at high risk at become homeless in the near future.

Thank you,

Jilda Nettleton
Bothell, Snohomish County.

SNOHOMISH COUNTY COUNCIL

From: [Jamie Temple](#)
To: [Contact Council](#)
Subject: Tax Increase
Date: Monday, December 13, 2021 10:56:06 AM

EXHIBIT # PT-171
FILE ORD 21-098

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

Hello,

I am a small business owner in Lynnwood, WA. Our current sales tax here in Lynnwood is 10.5%, which is the highest in the state of WA. I recently learned that the Snohomish County Council is voting on a tax increase this week, without input from their constituents. The members of our community are still struggling from the effects of the Covid-19 pandemic in addition to record inflation this holiday season. A tax increase would only add additional, unnecessary strain to the people of Snohomish county. I urge you to consider the well being of your constituents who are already paying the highest sales tax in the state. As a business owner, we have struggled as well due to the pandemic and have heard firsthand from our customers how the high taxes affect their ability to purchase local products. Please do not do further damage to the business landscape here in Snohomish county by imposing higher taxes.

Sincerely,

Jamie Temple
Vice President
Temple Distilling
425.678.8620
cell 206.856.4013
www.templedistilling.com

SNOHOMISH COUNTY COUNCIL

EXHIBIT # PT-172

FILE ORD 21-098

From: [Cherie Matyas](#)
To: [Contact Council](#)
Subject: Please Vote Yes on Ordinance 21-098.
Date: Monday, December 13, 2021 11:38:36 AM

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

Please Vote Yes on Ordinance 21-098.

Thank you,
Cherie Matyas
Monroe, WA
District 5

From: [Carolyn Goza](#)
To: [Contact Council](#)
Subject: PLEASE support County Ordinance 21-098
Date: Monday, December 13, 2021 11:40:17 AM

EXHIBIT # PT-173FILE ORD 21-098

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

I am firstly, a parent of a now 49 year old son with mental health issues that has taken our family a lifetime of keeping him stable and keeping him housed. Doctors have been amazed he is even alive and he is succeeding so well and is so well liked at Bridgeways Enterprises. The myriads of issues from Day 12 when he was adopted from a prominent adoption agency in TX would fill several volumes! And timely, we have spent the last month searching affordable housing after he had a wonderful duplex for 13 years where the elderly couple knew he was in supported employment trying to better himself so charged him only \$800/month. My son became their animal keeper, house sitter, etc. until the wife passed away and Ray knew he needed more help than he could provide himself. He sold the wonderful property and new commercial owners raised his rent to \$2000. Fortunately, a Bridgeways Enterprises social worker worked with him for weeks visiting every apt. complex in Everett in a reputable area. Living with his mental health issues, a busy, noisy, complex is NOT for him.

But not being able to get out into his yard, having quiet non-stimulating environment, he has regressed back into a depressed individual with blinds totally drawn, earphones around "home". Fortunately, he is still having a teleconference with his therapist once a month---and she REALLY didn't want him in this environment but thankfully he is stable on his meds. This is a gentleman who spent 5 years in a psychiatric hospital in Dallas and we are almost to undoing all the positive strides our budget put out. He is working at Bridgeways Enterprises at accepted salary, perfect attendance but let me tell a bit about this recent "journey". With a little bit of money saved he was cooking fresh vegetables he grew in his yard, went bike riding with a friend when not working, and LOVES his 2 yr perfect attendance PT job at Bridgeways. He's come so far Daddy in Heaven would not believe and is now locked into a year lease because of the lack of reasonable housing.

Let's think another way. For the last 16 years after I was widowed when my husband killed our beloved adopted then 5 yr old grandchild

and then himself(because of lack of resources in WA), I have been the Coordinator of the evidenced-based parent classes through NAMI (National Alliance of Mental Illness) and monthly Parent Support Group. Google me and read all the *Herald* and other articles that have been written about me working tirelessly for mental health care in Everett. I'm on the CDMH Advisory Board and have been a Board member of all the various names that group has held. I've had several state representatives visit our parent group to hear their cries as they have not had the resources in WA that we had in TX and especially our families with 20ish aged young adults existing totally in their bedrooms because they have nowhere to live. Several live in terror because the young adult is at times physically abusive and they have no where else for them to live. The stress on we parents comes screaming through in these Support Groups.

We MUST have housing decent housing for our youth, and young adults, unstably housed. The lack of resources in this state is criminal. Besides my beloved husband of 40 years and our precious grandchild, we've had several young adults seriously self-harm and one even stopped his medications and killed his mother. Are you proud of this????? HOW MUCH MORE CAN WE AS PARENTS TOLERATE???????

Carolyn Hetherwick Goza, M.Ed., Certified Educational Diagnostician
NAMI BASICS Coordinator/Parent Support Group Co-Facilitator
Snohomish County Chemical Dependency/Mental Health Sales Tax
Advisory Board

Snohomish County Integrated Crisis Response Services Committee

Home Telephone: (425) 347-5365 Cell (425)301-6824

namicontact@gmail.com or chetherwickg@gmail.com

"Mental Illness: You didn't CAUSE it. You can't [easily] CONTROL it. You can't CURE it. You must learn to COPE with it." (Dr. David Karp)

From: [Hannah Smith](#)
To: [Contact Council](#)
Subject: Support for Increase in Affordable Housing Funding
Date: Monday, December 13, 2021 12:00:06 PM

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

Dear Council Members,

There is no doubt that we have a housing crisis in Snohomish County. High rent, too many homeless people and not enough mental health services and job training services are all obstacles in making sure every person has shelter and is supported.

The Snohomish County Council has the opportunity to address these obstacles by authorizing a local funding option. This would be an ongoing source of revenue for the county dedicated to addressing our housing crisis by adding more than \$23 million annually to unmet housing needs and would add only a small tax increase (1/10th of 1%). This funding would double the current rate of affordable housing production as well as help fund mental health services. We can invest in programs that help people move forward in their lives and it is my hope that the County Council will adopt this solution now to help address the critical housing needs in our community.

As a member of the Snohomish County community, I feel very strongly about making sure everyone in our community feels accepted and supported, and that includes the homeless population. Please consider adopting this solution.

Thank you for your time,
Hannah Smith
Lynnwood

From: [Laura Reed](#)
To: [Contact Council](#)
Subject: I am emailing to SUPPORT the affordable housing Ordinance 21-098
Date: Monday, December 13, 2021 12:25:25 PM

EXHIBIT # PT-175

FILE ORD 21-098

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

Hello Council,

I **support** the effort to pass Ord 21-098 for the small sales tax increase.

Thank you!

Regards,
Laura Reed

1909 Hoyt Avenue
Apt D
Everett, Washington 98201
360-348-1127

SNOHOMISH COUNTY COUNCIL

EXHIBIT # PT-176

FILE ORD 21-098

From: [Mary Harrigan](#)
To: [Contact Council](#)
Subject: Ordinance 21-098
Date: Monday, December 13, 2021 12:33:45 PM

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

RE: Ordinance 21-098, Affordable Housing for the Most Vulnerable

Good afternoon Members of the Snohomish County Council,

My name is Mary Harrigan, and I live in Snohomish County at 10826323rd Ave SE, Sultan, WA 98294. I fully support the 1/10th of one percent sales tax increase to support affordable housing and behavioral health in our community.

I have a son with a disability who has benefited greatly from the resources at Hero House/The Clubhouse in Everett, which is a place to go during the workweek for those who need companionship and resources to reach personal goals. However, affordable housing and behavioral health is the next step.

Those in our community who are unaware of government ordinances to support them and opportunities to vote depend on those who do. What better way to serve our community than to protect and care for the most vulnerable, and to give them hope.

Thank you for taking a stand to give hope to most vulnerable. Please vote Yes on Ordinance 21-098.

Mary Harrigan
10826 323rd Ave SE
Sultan, WA 98294
leglsecywa@yahoo.com

Sent from my iPhone

SNOHOMISH COUNTY COUNCIL

From: [cheryl dillon](#)
To: [Contact Council](#)
Subject: Please Vote Yes on Ordinance 21-098
Date: Monday, December 13, 2021 12:37:25 PM

EXHIBIT # PT-177

FILE ORD 21-098

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

Please Vote Yes on Ordinance 21-098

Thanks,

Cheryl

“To laugh often and much; to win the respect of intelligent people and children; to earn the appreciation of honest critics and endure the betrayal of false friends; to appreciate beauty; to find the beauty in others; to leave the world a bit better whether by a healthy child; a garden patch; or a redeemed social condition; to know that one life has breathed easier because you have lived here. This is to have succeeded.” Ralph Waldo Emerson

SNOHOMISH COUNTY COUNCIL

EXHIBIT # PT-178

FILE ORD 21-098

From: [Bryan Partington](#)
To: [Contact Council](#)
Subject: Ordinance 21-098
Date: Monday, December 13, 2021 12:45:58 PM

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

Please pass this ordinance.

From: [Rebecca Partington](#)
To: [Contact Council](#)
Subject: Ordinance 21-098
Date: Monday, December 13, 2021 12:53:34 PM

EXHIBIT # PT-179

FILE ORD 21-098

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

Please pass Ordinance 21-098.

What it would do

- Raise approximately \$23M per year for affordable housing and behavioral health
- Double the current rate of affordable housing production in Snohomish County
- Add \$0.01 (one cent) to a \$10 purchase, \$1.00 to a \$1,000 purchase
- Increase the sales tax by 0.1 percent (one-tenth of one percent)

The Need

- There are more than 20,000 households in Snohomish County with annual incomes of \$34,500 or less that are spending more than 50% of that income just on housing.
- Fair Market Rent for a two-bedroom apartment in Snohomish County is \$2,099. A household would need a total annual income of \$83,960 (\$40.37hr) to afford this apartment.
- In 2020, there were 1,132 people living unsheltered in Snohomish County
- There were over 3,000 school-age children living on the street, in cars, in hotel/motels or doubled and tripled-up with others in the 2019/20 school year.

The Benefit

- When people have a home...
- Children do better in school
- Employment opportunities and income levels increase
- Medical & mental health outcomes are better
- Communities thrive and people prosper when everyone lives in a safe, healthy, affordable home

Economics

- It costs far less to house and treat someone than it does to jail them or take them to the emergency room
- Each \$1 of local funding typically leverages \$10 of additional funding. This sales tax will raise approximately \$23M per year which translates into a potential \$230M investment in our people and our communities in Snohomish County
- Building affordable housing creates high-wage construction jobs
- Since 2017, affordable housing projects in Snohomish County have paid over \$6M in construction sales tax to the County.

Public Safety

- Getting people off the streets and into a safe, healthy, affordable home is a public safety measure
- Housing and treatment are a much more effective and long-term solution to homelessness than a police response

From: [Duane Leonard](#)
To: [Contact Council](#)
Subject: Ord 21-098
Date: Monday, December 13, 2021 12:56:27 PM

EXHIBIT # PT-180

FILE ORD 21-098

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

Dear members of the County Council,

This email below came into my inbox this morning. I receive emails like this every week. Our waitlists are closed and our units are full. This is a Snohomish County resident.

We need more housing! Please support Ordinance 21-098.

Duane Leonard | Executive Director
Housing Authority of Snohomish County

From: Mustangrider92@outlook.com <cobb.shannon92@gmail.com>

Sent: Monday, December 13, 2021 11:43 AM

To: Duane Leonard <dleonard@hasco.org>

Subject: Public Housing

Hello,

My name is Shannon Cobb. I'm married with two children. We are currently homeless and are looking for any help to find housing. I don't know if this is the right way to go about it but I'm hoping for anything. Even a point in the right direction.

Thank you,
Shannon Cobb
Sent from [Mail](#) for Windows

From: [james harrigan](#)
To: [Contact Council](#)
Subject: Please Vote Yes on Ordinance 21-098
Date: Monday, December 13, 2021 1:38:37 PM
Attachments: [Please Vote Yes on Ordinance 21-098..pdf](#)

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

Dear Snohomish County Councilmembers:

Please Vote Yes on Ordinance 21-098.

I join the many other voices in urging you to quickly implement HB 1590 as a bold step toward addressing the affordable housing emergency, as well as it's close counterpart, the behavioral health crisis. Both of these areas are necessary to address before success in reducing rates of homelessness can sustainably be achieved.

Both affordable housing and behavioral healthcare operate on a continuum, much like a ladder. If there are missing rungs anywhere along the way it will prevent people from being able to progress upward.

We recognize that an individual's underlying mental health challenges are a root cause that needs to be treated. However, it is very difficult to provide care to people who are not housed or who are not stably housed. That is one of the reasons why lack of affordable housing has such a big influence on the homelessness rate; it hinders successful mental healthcare. Affordable housing and mental healthcare go hand and hand.

Implementing HB 1590 by councilmanic action will acknowledge the urgency of the need we are facing, as well as the fact that affordable housing and behavior health support are needs that have been woefully underfunded for decades, which have now been exasperated by the pandemic. Fast tracking makes sense when trying to address an emergency.

Deferring this action to a vote of the people hinders the rapid response that is needed. Additionally, a ballot vote is not fully representative of all citizens of our county, especially of those most affected by mental health challenges and housing instability. This includes those experiencing homelessness or acute mental health conditions, and cannot vote, but also many people who are facing housing instability or other circumstances that inhibit their ability to participate in the process, such as public hearings or even to vote (for example, those experiencing frequent address changes or who must work excessive numbers of hours to make ends meet, and do not engage the voting system). A traditional public ballot vote fails to incorporate these citizens in the process.

If the County Council opposes this action, I encourage the council to be prepared to offer

an alternative recommendation to quickly secure long-term funding for these two areas at the local or county level. The most significant barrier to progress in these areas is the lack of on-going funding.

Please Vote Yes on Ordinance 21-098.

Thank you for your public service,
James Harrigan

Dear Snohomish County Councilmembers:

I join the many other voices in urging you to quickly implement HB 1590 as a bold step toward addressing the affordable housing emergency, as well as its close counterpart, the behavioral health crisis. Both of these areas are necessary to address before success in reducing rates of homelessness can sustainably be achieved.

Both affordable housing and behavioral healthcare operate on a continuum, much like a ladder. If there are missing rungs anywhere along the way it will prevent people from being able to progress upward.

We recognize that an individual's underlying mental health challenges are a root cause that needs to be treated. However, it is very difficult to provide care to people who are not housed or who are not stably housed. That is one of the reasons why lack of affordable housing has such a big influence on the homelessness rate; it hinders successful mental healthcare. Affordable housing and mental healthcare go hand and hand.

Implementing HB 1590 by councilmanic action will acknowledge the urgency of the need we are facing, as well as the fact that affordable housing and behavior health support are needs that have been woefully underfunded for decades, which have now been exasperated by the pandemic. Fast tracking makes sense when trying to address an emergency.

Deferring this action to a vote of the people hinders the rapid response that is needed. Additionally, a ballot vote is not fully representative of all citizens of our county, especially of those most affected by mental health challenges and housing instability. This includes those experiencing homelessness or acute mental health conditions, and cannot vote, but also many people who are facing housing instability or other circumstances that inhibit their ability to participate in the process, such as public hearings or even to vote (for example, those experiencing frequent address changes or who must work excessive numbers of hours to make ends meet, and do not engage the voting system). A traditional public ballot vote fails to incorporate these citizens in the process.

If the County Council opposes this action, I encourage the council to be prepared to offer an alternative recommendation to quickly secure long-term funding for these two areas at the local or county level. The most significant barrier to progress in these areas is the lack of on-going funding.

Please Vote Yes on Ordinance 21-098.

Thank you for your public service,
James Harrigan

From: [jmas7](#)
To: [Contact Council](#)
Subject: Projected increase sales tax for Snohomish County
Date: Monday, December 13, 2021 1:55:55 PM

EXHIBIT # PT-182
FILE ORD 21-098

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

Hello,

As a 20 year resident of Snohomish County, I find it very disappointing that our County Council is trying to pass a sales tax in less than 2 days without reaching out to the residents of Snohomish County for a vote.

I understand that some of you would like to resolve the homelessness, mental illness and the possibility of residents not being able to afford housing. As you know with inflation comes all of these concerns and much more, but trying to sneak a vote to pass a 0.1% tax on the Snohomish County residents is not the the way to help all of your constituents.

Taking it upon yourselves to vote in a tax that will put some of our cities at a 10.6% sales tax will only cause more issues that will not be repairable. I ask that you consider tabling this increase in sales tax and put it to a vote for the residents of Snohomish County to decide it's fate.

Meanwhile you can find a better and sustainable way to help with the concerns of the council members in regards to homelessness, mental illness and affordable housing, if our council puts the time and effort to listen and bounce ideas off of eachother, I hope that you will find a better suited solution to your concerns.

Again I ask as a resident of Snohomish County that you wait and let the people of this county vote on this issue since it will effect them and their future here in Snohomish County.

Thank you,

Maria S

Sent from my T-Mobile 4G LTE Device

From: [Charles Adkins](#)
To: [Contact Council](#)
Subject: Affordable Housing Comment
Date: Monday, December 13, 2021 2:39:17 PM

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 urge you to authorize a local revenue option to support housing for our most vulnerable neighbors in Snohomish County. As you know, we have extraordinary affordable and supported housing needs that require regional solutions. As a resident of Snohomish County, I support this action.

These funds will clearly help meet existing affordable and homeless housing plans enacted by Snohomish cities and counties. With more locally controlled and ongoing funds, we can more quickly meet the well thought out housing objectives in each jurisdictions' affordable housing plans.

Your authorization of this funding can help us solve this crisis at a much faster pace. With more funding, we can help provide affordable housing for the 3,000 school-age children in our County who currently do not have a stable home. We can double the current rate of affordable housing production in Snohomish County. We can help provide our estimated 1,132 unsheltered neighbors put a roof over their heads. We can invest in programs that help people move forward and open a new chapter in their lives.

Please move forward with enacting Ordinance 21-098.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Charles Adkins

From: [Stacy Russell](#)
To: [Contact Council](#)
Subject: Concerned Snohomish Resident
Date: Monday, December 13, 2021 2:52:23 PM

EXHIBIT # PT-184

FILE ORD 21-098

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

Hello,

Please do not pass the increase for sales tax here in Snohomish County. After the pandemic years we have had and the hardship the community faces this is the ultimate slap in the face.

Vote NO on this increase for Sale Tax!

Very concerned,
Stacy Russell
www.yourhotyoga.com
360-474-1699

Connect with us socially and spiritually



SNOHOMISH COUNTY COUNCIL

From: [G MONEY](#)
To: [Contact Council](#)
Subject: 0.1 sales tax
Date: Monday, December 13, 2021 3:19:56 PM

EXHIBIT # PT-185

FILE ORD 21-098

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

Do not pass this 0.1% sales tax increase!

SNOHOMISH COUNTY COUNCIL

From: [Jamie Flaxman](#)
To: [Contact Council](#)
Subject: Ordinance 21-098
Date: Monday, December 13, 2021 4:06:09 PM

EXHIBIT # PT-186
FILE ORD 21-098

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 urge you to approve Ordinance 21-098, a sales tax that will benefit those with housing and mental health challenges in Snohomish County. I also urge you NOT to vote for any amendments that would delay funding.

These funds will clearly help meet existing affordable and homeless housing plans enacted by Snohomish cities and counties. With more locally controlled and ongoing funds, we can more quickly meet the well thought out housing objectives in each jurisdictions' affordable housing plans.

I personally HATE sales taxes and often vote against them, because Washington needs an income tax to strengthen and stabilize our state's revenue. BUT this increase in the sales tax is for such a critical need in our community that I stand fully behind it and urge your passage with no amendments.

Thank you,

Jamie Flaxman, Edmonds, WA

From: [Louise Kennedy](#)
To: [Contact Council](#)
Subject: NO NO NO NO MORE SALES TAXES WITHOUT TAXPAYER INPUT
Date: Monday, December 13, 2021 4:13:04 PM

EXHIBIT # PT-187

FILE ORD 21-098

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

DO NOT PASS THIS TAX. You have all the money you need. USE IT WISELY
like your citizens are forced to do. **END** this obvious overreach.

--

Louise A. Kennedy Marysville, wa
206-660-7854

Life is not linear...

From: [i»/Derek](#)
To: [Contact Council](#)
Subject: Homeless funding now!
Date: Monday, December 13, 2021 4:23:29 PM

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 urge you not to vote for any amendments that would delay funding for affordable housing and **authorize a local revenue option to support housing for our most vulnerable neighbors in Snohomish County now!**

As you know, we have extraordinary affordable and supported housing needs that require regional solutions. As a resident of Snohomish County, I support this action.

These funds will clearly help meet existing affordable and homeless housing plans enacted by Snohomish cities and counties. With more locally controlled and ongoing funds, we can more quickly meet the well thought out housing objectives in each jurisdictions' affordable housing plans.

Your authorization of this funding can help us solve this crisis at a much faster pace. With more funding, we can help provide affordable housing for the 3,000 school-age children in our County who currently do not have a stable home. We can double the current rate of affordable housing production in Snohomish County. We can help provide our estimated 1,132 unsheltered neighbors put a roof over their heads. We can invest in programs that help people move forward and open a new chapter in their lives.

Please move forward with enacting Ordinance 21-098.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Derek Benedict
Lynnwood WA 98036

From: [Melinda Woods](#)
To: [Contact Council](#)
Subject: Ordinance 21-098
Date: Monday, December 13, 2021 4:24:24 PM

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

Dear County Council members,

My name is Mindy Woods and I am a single mom, Gulf War Navy veteran, and have experienced homelessness twice in Snohomish County in the last 10 years due to a lack of affordable and available rentals. I am writing in support of Ordinance 21-098, also known as HB 1590.

Prior to the pandemic, there were over 38,000 households in Snohomish County spending more than 50% of their income just on housing. The pandemic has only made this worse. There is a huge shortage of affordable rentals. Studio and 1-bedroom rentals are between \$1,000-\$1,500 month, and 2-bedrooms are between \$1,300-\$2,000 month. This prices out many people in our county, with nowhere to go. People receiving Social Security benefits in 2021 only brought in \$1,500 per month on average (many are lower!), leaving our most vulnerable residents, seniors and people with disabilities, extremely cost-burdened and unstably housed.

The biggest expenses for extremely low-income households are housing, transportation, and food, in that order. This tax will have very little impact on those spending categories. It is estimated that households making less than \$30,000 per year would spend \$9 per year should this tax be implemented. I would have gladly spent \$9 to have access to housing I could afford! This Ordinance would make a huge impact by doubling the current amount of affordable housing production in our county.

Ordinance 21-098 will raise approximately \$18-23M per year to help those who need it most; seniors on fixed incomes, veterans, families with school-age children, people with disabilities, and people earning lower wages. In my day job working in human services, these are the types of people I get calls from the most, and many are on the verge of falling off the financial cliff into homelessness if they haven't already. I've heard that some think that this is a regressive tax, but there is nothing more regressive than homelessness! These funds would also open the doors for vital grant-matching opportunities we are currently missing out on, dramatically increasing the investment into our people and communities. We are in a public health crisis, and unless we do something different, the problem will only continue to get worse and cost us much more.

Without this tax, and without more affordable housing and investments in behavioral health, we will continue to see more housing insecurity, more homelessness, and the associated costs of trying to re-shelter our neighbors. These costs manifest in healthcare, human and social services, law enforcement/emergency response, which are passed on to all taxpayers, with little to no benefit to those in need. Studies from around the world show what solves housing insecurity and homelessness: a roof over people's heads, and supportive services for those needing them. The bottom line, our communities are much stronger when everyone can get the support they may need and has access to a safe, affordable and healthy place to call home, where people can thrive and live up to their full potential.

We cannot keep sitting by and doing nothing, while more people suffer and die being unhoused and untreated. The Snohomish County's Longest Night count of people experiencing homelessness who've perished on the streets this year nearly doubled from before. You've been elected to represent ALL of the residents of Snohomish County, including those without homes and those who struggle with behavioral health challenges, and we cannot afford to waste another second addressing this issue. Like air and water, housing is an essential basic human need. I implore you, please vote yes on Ordinance 21-098 and be part of the solution in our county.

In community,

Mindy Woods

"Whatever affects one directly, affects all indirectly."

- **Martin Luther King Jr.**

SNOHOMISH COUNTY COUNCIL

EXHIBIT # PT-190

FILE ORD 21-098

From: [Mrs D](#)
To: [Contact Council](#)
Date: Monday, December 13, 2021 4:33:00 PM

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

We need to have the option to vote for new tax increases from the democrats
This states left is overreaching
We the people includes all people
Not a one party rule here!

Deborah Davis

SNOHOMISH COUNTY COUNCIL

From: garyfast123@gmail.com
To: [Contact Council](#)
Subject: Tax increase
Date: Monday, December 13, 2021 4:37:10 PM

EXHIBIT # PT-191
FILE ORD 21-098

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

To the Snohomish County Council,

I am writing to strongly request that the Council submit the proposed county tax increase to the ballot for a vote of the people!

Gary Fast

14396 Deerfield Dr SE, Monroe, WA 98272
206.501.6551 (cell)
garyfast123@gmail.com



Virus-free. www.avg.com

SNOHOMISH COUNTY COUNCIL

From: [Norman Moss](#)
To: [Contact Council](#)
Subject: taxes
Date: Monday, December 13, 2021 4:38:25 PM

EXHIBIT # PT-192
FILE ORD 21-098

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

Greetings,

Currently Washington State is one of the most taxed states. Currently due to bad government decisions on the State and Federal level inflation is quickly going to surpass the Jimmy Carter disaster.

It is very inappropriate to increase any taxes or fees of any kind. At this time.

Back when I was young the State got by with 5.5% sales tax with also much lower property taxes. If you really want to get Snohomish county to grow and become wealthier you will reduce taxes and never exceed the equivalent rates applied during those very prosperous years.

Don't King County our County.

Consider South Dakota. They exist on a 5.5% sales tax. Everything is paid for and they have a surplus of revenue.

Quit enabling people to behave badly. You aren't really helping them.

Norman Moss

Snohomish.

SNOHOMISH COUNTY COUNCIL

EXHIBIT # PT-193

FILE ORD 21-098

From: [Bob Williams](#)
To: [Contact Council](#)
Subject: Sales tax increase
Date: Monday, December 13, 2021 4:47:52 PM

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

I have just heard that the county is considering a sales tax increase. Are you insane? I am getting taxed to death and am getting nothing for it. We are tired of never ending taxation. Have you noticed that every tax advisory vote on the ballots are no, no, NO! Now we have to put up with runaway inflation which is a hidden tax. It is time to live within your means like I do. No new programs, no new subsidies, no new special interest groups, NO NEW TAXES.

Thanks,

Bob Williams

EXHIBIT # PT-194

FILE ORD 21-098

From: [Christine Davis](#)
To: [Contact Council](#)
Subject: Sales Tax Increase
Date: Monday, December 13, 2021 4:48:08 PM

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

Dear Council,

Please do not raise the sales tax. It is already too high. My family has a good income, but the taxes in this area, coupled with inflation, are pushing us out of this area. We want to continue living here, but if things continue to be more expensive, we won't be able to. Please do not raise taxes on us anymore during this time of uncertainty.

Christine Davis

SNOHOMISH COUNTY COUNCIL

From: [G. Hamilton](#)
To: [Contact Council](#)
Subject: SALES TAX INCREASE
Date: Monday, December 13, 2021 4:56:30 PM

EXHIBIT # PT-195
FILE ORD 21-098

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

Inflation is intensifying and constituents are trying to hang on while their purchasing power diminishes every day,

Before you pass another tax increase, we should be allowed to vote, at the ballot box, whether or not this is a feasible option for us at this time.

The cost of living in this area is beyond what it should be, and the effects are having a negative on families in every aspect of daily living.

Thank you for your time and courtesy.

Ginette Hamilton
Mountlake Terrace resident

From: [Donald Ripley](#)
To: [Contact Council](#)
Subject: 1% Tax
Date: Monday, December 13, 2021 4:58:22 PM

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

Dear Council,

We are writing to strongly oppose the 1% sales tax for “affordable housing”. This is becoming a black hole. The more freebies you hand out the more come from all over the country to get the freebies and where does it end? We already have some of the highest taxes in the country. If you are truly representing us PLEASE do the right thing and vote NO on more taxes. There are job openings all over the county just drive around and you will see them.

Mr. and Mrs Don Ripley
Mukilteo

SNOHOMISH COUNTY COUNCIL

From: [Roy Rodland](#)
To: [Contact Council](#)
Subject: Sales Tax Increase
Date: Monday, December 13, 2021 5:00:11 PM

EXHIBIT # PT-197
FILE ORD 21-098

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

1. NO SALES TAX INCREASE! I strongly, Extremely Strongly oppose the sale tax increase you are proposing. I am a land owner, tax payer, business owner, and landlord in Snohomish county. It is people like myself that have been here for over 50 years that make this county what is, and it could be much better than it is with better leadership! You are going to get support for this from the progressives for certain. Ask those supporters these questions, don't be woke and afraid go ahead and ask, Are you a property owner and pay taxes? Do you own a business that collects sales tax for the state and county? I'll bet most do not understand the impact on people like myself. When we are paying way to much for food and fuel it definitely is not only wrong to even ask us for more taxes but it is bad timing as well. Do you not see the exodus of people from this state? Tax decreases are what we need. Housing construction is booming still even though prices are stupid. New homes mean more tax dollars TO YOU IN THE COUNTY GOVERNMENT ever time one is built which equals more county tax funds available. Stop the madness and work within what you are collecting already. PLEASE.

SNOHOMISH COUNTY COUNCIL

From: [Dawn Akins](#)
To: [Contact Council](#)
Subject: Tax increases or new tax deductions
Date: Monday, December 13, 2021 5:03:28 PM

EXHIBIT # PT-198

FILE ORD 21-098

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

All tax increases or deductions should go to ballot to be voted.. stop increasing or deducting without the citizens votes.

Get [Outlook for iOS](#)

SNOHOMISH COUNTY COUNCIL

EXHIBIT # PT-199

FILE ORD 21-098

From: [Rick Rochelle](#)
To: [Contact Council](#)
Subject: Sales Tax increase
Date: Monday, December 13, 2021 5:04:59 PM

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

Hi County Council,

In case you haven't noticed, the cost of everything is going up. Most importantly, the cost of basic essentials (food, medicine, diapers just to name a few) is increasing faster than wages.

Recent calls to increase the sales tax will negatively impact people. The hardest hit will be the diverse communities who have people struggling to put food on the table, keep the lights on and their homes heated. Most importantly it will impact BIPOC residents of the county who struggle today due to the impacts of COVID on their livelihood.

Don't raise taxes!

Regards,
Rick Rochelle
Everett WA

Sent from my iPhone

Lao, Elena

SNOHOMISH COUNTY COUNCIL

From: Jason Johns <JasonsJunk2021@outlook.com>
Sent: Monday, December 13, 2021 5:07 PM
To: Contact Council
Subject: Re: CALL TO ACTION BY SCRIP CHAIR ROULSTONE & COUNTY COUNCILMAN NEHRING

EXHIBIT # PT-200

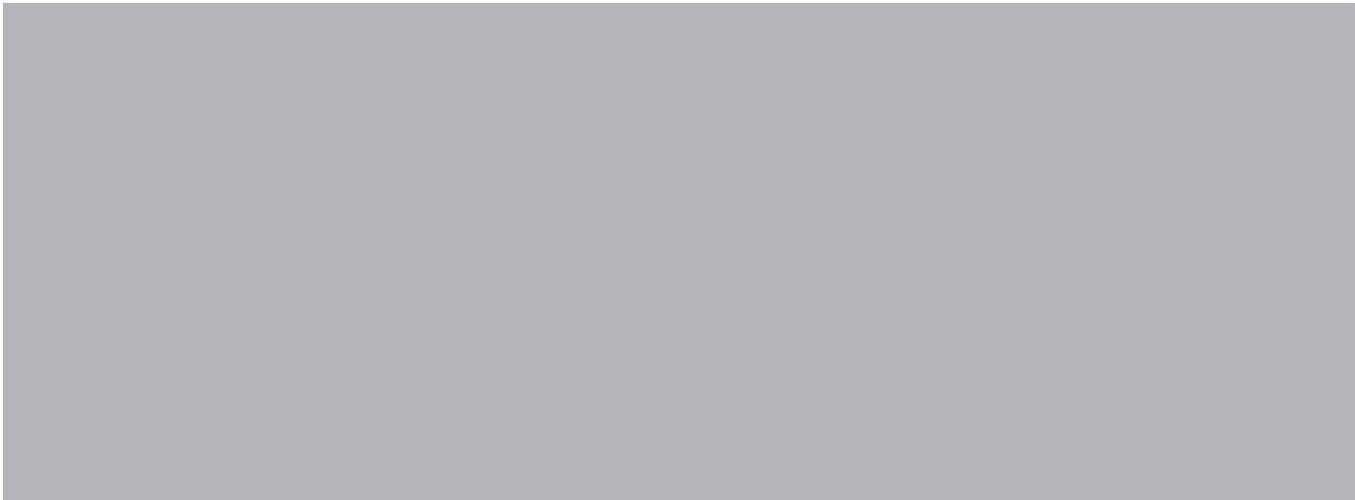
FILE ORD 21-098

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

No more taxes!! Thank you.

Jason Johns

On Dec 13, 2021, at 4:26 PM, Snohomish County Republican Party <chair@snocogop.org> wrote:



Donate Today!

Contact Your Local GOP

**Jason, more tax increases are on the way.
Please join us and stop the insanity!**

Greetings to all Snohomish County Republican Party contacts!

The Snohomish County Council has been getting lots of emails from progressive activists in support of the sales tax increase, so we need to get more folks who are opposed to email in. If you could please ask your networks to send emails to Contact.Council@snoco.org requesting that the Council send this proposal to the ballot for a vote of the people that would be a big help.

Additionally, the public hearing where this proposal will be voted on is this **Wednesday, December 15th, at 10:30 AM**. We really need to have people there as I'm sure all of the subsidized housing activists will be there. If you can ask people to attend that meeting & testify, that would be great. Here is the login info for that meeting:

Zoom Webinar link: <https://zoom.us/j/94846850772>
Dial in: (253) 215 8782 or (301) 715 8592
Meeting ID: 948 4685 0772

Best regards,

Doug Roulstone

Chair

Snohomish County Republican Party

[425-252-3100](tel:425-252-3100)

www.snocogop.org

And

Nate Nehring

County Councilman

nehringn@gmail.com

Events Calendar

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Snohomish County Republican Party

P.O. Box 5314
Everett, WA 98206
Phone: 425-252-3100

Contact Us



Snohomish County Republican Party | 3115 Oakes Avenue, Everett, WA 98201

[Unsubscribe jasonsjunk2021@outlook.com](mailto:jasonsjunk2021@outlook.com)

[Update Profile](#) | [Constant Contact Data Notice](#)

Sent by chair@snocogop.org powered by



From: kim.toskey@comcast.net
To: [Contact Council](#)
Subject: SnoCo Ordinance 21-098
Date: Monday, December 13, 2021 5:10:31 PM

EXHIBIT # PT-201
FILE ORD 21-098

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

Dear Snohomish County Council Members,

I am concerned about today's editorial in the *Everett Herald* urging a public advisory vote before you approve this ordinance, which is based on HB 1590. The people of Snohomish County have said repeatedly that their TOP concern is housing availability and its twin, housing affordability. PLEASE!! Do not hold this councilmanic action hostage for another conversation! Our neighbors can NOT wait any longer for housing stability-- just look around!

Talk, talk, talk... we have been talking for years about the lack of affordable housing; meanwhile, more folks become homeless every month, and then more homeless people die in our parks, our woods and our neighborhoods. I think we're all ready to put a little money where our talk has been! This is a crisis that demands action, not conversation. We don't need a public vote or another hearing to know that housing is not built with words-- the Three Little Pigs taught us that homes are built with bricks and mortar! Those materials cost money, and the tradespeople who assemble the materials need to be paid money, as well. The Council has all the information it needs to know this is the *right* thing to do: pass ordinance 21-098.

This measure has traveled the same legislative process as our budgets, property tax increases, and all other pieces of legislation that come before you: General Administrative Session of the Council, Council Committee Meeting for discussion, Public Hearing, Vote. The Council must act now!

By the way, if you want to start a conversation about restructuring our regressive tax structure, I am happy to join in that conversation! In the meantime, please *do the job you were elected to do* and act in the best interests of **ALL** the people of Snohomish County by passing this ordinance!!

In Community,

Kim Toskey (she/her)
CEO, Homes and Hope Community Land Trust
Attainable Housing Advocate & Practitioner
425.422.5286

Visit our website: www.homesandhopeclt.org
Connect on www.facebook.com/homesandhopeclt

Sign up for AmazonSmile and select Homes and Hope Community Land Trust as your preferred charity at smile.amazon.com/ch/82-3392935. Remember to shop for deals at smile.amazon.com, or with AmazonSmile ON in the Amazon app, and AmazonSmile will donate to us at no cost to you.

SNOHOMISH COUNTY COUNCIL

EXHIBIT # PT-202

FILE ORD 21-098

From: [Darrel Dreke](#)
To: [Contact Council](#)
Subject: Sales Tax Increase
Date: Monday, December 13, 2021 5:16:46 PM

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

Attn. Council:

Please send this proposal to the ballot for a vote of the people. The people of Snohomish County **MUST** have input as to an increase in sales tax. We must have representation!

Sincerely,
Concerned citizen

SNOHOMISH COUNTY COUNCIL

EXHIBIT # PT-203

FILE ORD 21-098

From: [Joseph Cassidy](#)
To: [Contact Council](#)
Subject: Sales Tax Increase.
Date: Monday, December 13, 2021 5:26:43 PM

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

Dear members of the Council, I respectfully ask that you not burden the citizens of Snohomish County with anymore Tax increases. You've already increased our property taxes 2.5% which I opposed especially since we are on a fixed income. Enough is enough. Respectfully, Joe Cassidy. (PCO Granite Falls 2.).

Sent from [Mail](#) for Windows

From: [Dan Matthews](#)
To: [Contact Council](#)
Subject: Proposed County Tax Increase - Comments
Date: Monday, December 13, 2021 6:14:03 PM

EXHIBIT # PT-204

FILE ORD 21-098

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

TO: The Snohomish County Council
RE: Proposed Sales Tax Increase
FROM: Dan & Jan Matthews, Mukilteo

Please allow the people of Snohomish County to VOTE on this proposed tax increase.

Especially in these difficult economic times - with Inflation increasing - and the Economy slowing,
the Voters of our county need to have a say in such a proposal.

Whether at the state or local level, the public has always clearly indicated that it would like any tax increases to be put to a vote of the public.

We have kept our comments short so that this central point be understood.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Dan & Jan Matthews
520 17th Place
Mukilteo, WA 98275
Phone: 425-710-0747

SNOHOMISH COUNTY COUNCIL

From: [Patricia Hubble](#)
To: [Contact Council](#)
Subject: Sales tax increase
Date: Monday, December 13, 2021 6:16:57 PM

EXHIBIT # PT-205
FILE ORD 21-098

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

Vote no

Inflation has already taken a big bite of income, we do not need another tax increase. We need fiscally responsible people in government who stop spending what they don't have. Re organization of spending would be better. Combining departments, cutting sizes to save money.

SNOHOMISH COUNTY COUNCIL

EXHIBIT # PT- 206

FILE ORD 21-098

From: [Jack Smelser](#)
To: [Contact Council](#)
Subject: sales tax
Date: Monday, December 13, 2021 6:19:25 PM

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

If you think you need higher taxes put your request in front of the Voters and let them decide. NO more higher taxes.

Jack & Sharon Smelser
51stAve SE Everett

Sent from [Mail](#) for Windows

SNOHOMISH COUNTY COUNCIL

From: [Douglas White](#)
To: [Contact Council](#)
Subject: sales tax increase
Date: Monday, December 13, 2021 6:20:49 PM

EXHIBIT # PT- 207

FILE ORD 21-098

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

Snohomish County Council,

This is not the time to raise taxes with inflation and the BLS participation rate still low it would be appropriate to find ways to cut and reduce un-needed spending.

Doug White

From: [Rosalie Kaji](#)
To: [Contact Council](#)
Subject: Proposed sales tax increase.
Date: Monday, December 13, 2021 6:35:58 PM

EXHIBIT # PT- 208

FILE ORD 21-098

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

Dear County Council members,

We do not want or need any more taxes. Our sales tax rates are outrageous already and I understand you have plenty of federal money you haven't spent yet. Why burden an already overtaxed population with more taxes when it isn't even necessary.

Please kill this proposal or at least put it up for public vote at the next election. You'll see that people can't afford more taxes in this high inflation period. I wonder why you would even be considering such a thing.

Sincerely,
Rosalie Kaji
Mountlake Terrace

SNOHOMISH COUNTY COUNCIL

From: [Stefan Papp](#)
To: [Contact Council](#)
Cc: onemartiniup@hotmail.com
Subject: Communities need fewer tax obligations now...
Date: Monday, December 13, 2021 6:52:53 PM

EXHIBIT # PT- 209
FILE ORD 21-098

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

Council Members,

I am writing to express my concern that raising the sales tax in this uncertain economic climate is detrimental for our community. I strongly encourage you to consider tabling this action or at the least putting it to a vote of the people.

I attempted to make a case in a previous message (below) for giving our communities room to breathe and to heal without piling on additional tax burden in an environment that is trending negatively. My argument is largely the same now, but is amplified by the recent news that significant inflation is real and is not likely to ease any time in the near future.

The uncertainty imposed by our state's response to Covid and the undeniable economic downturn currently impacting us all make this exactly the wrong time increase the tax burden on families.

Respectfully,

Stefan Papp
stefanp@msn.com
206-910-3896

From: Stefan Papp
Sent: Friday, November 5, 2021 5:15 PM
To: contact.council@snoco.org
Subject: No Worse Timing for a Property Tax Hike

Council Members,

My family and I are recent additions to Snohomish County, having moved to Granite Falls from Seattle a little over a year ago. So please bear with me, as I am new to the issues we confront in this area. But I am perplexed (and concerned) by the move to raise property taxes now, given the impact of the events of the last several years:

- *Selective lockdowns* have put tremendous pressure on independent business owners, causing many to have to lay off employees or close doors outright;
- *Inflation* is high and getting worse, impacting everything from groceries to gas and beyond. This is a tangible hit to everyone's pocketbook;
- *Vax Mandates* are forcing people of conscience to make tough choices – introducing financial

- uncertainty and/or hardship to hosts of families;
- *Supply chain issues* are causing shortages and putting further upward pressure on the costs of everyday necessities;
 - *Eviction moratoriums* have impacted individual property owners who may rely on rental income to make ends meet;
 - *Proposed Vax "passports"* would divide us into two classes, and depending on how draconian the measures become, may make it difficult for the un-vaccinated to obtain basic necessities. Adding even more uncertainty...

Perhaps you've considered these items and still believe that raising additional funds is a priority right now. But this will add tangible financial burden to families already impacted by current events at a time when we should be allowing the community a reasonable grace period to heal. I admit to not having had an opportunity to understand in detail the county's proposed application for the additional revenue, but from having watched Seattle leadership in action, I would bet that the urgency of those items falls well below the urgency and uncertainty that average families are feeling right now.

I strongly urge you to table any property tax increase. It is detrimental to the well-being of so many families who've been directly impacted by the fallout from the Federal and State reaction to the covid event. At best this appears to be a tone-deaf action at a time when we should be considering the welfare of families our paramount concern.

Respectfully,

Stefan Papp
stefanp@msn.com
206-910-3896

SNOHOMISH COUNTY COUNCIL

From: [Cliff R.](#)
To: [Contact Council](#)
Subject: Proposed sales tax increase.
Date: Monday, December 13, 2021 6:59:22 PM

EXHIBIT # PT- 210

FILE ORD 21-098

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

To whom it may concern:

During these times of record inflation, supply chain woes, current overall financial instability and knowing that tax increases hit the less fortunate among us the hardest, any proposed tax increase should be placed on a ballot for a public vote, be it sales tax, property taxes etc.

In the latest budget released after the 2.5% tax increase I saw funding for things that are simply not a priority in this financial environment. I also noticed few if any cost cutting measures being implemented or substantial savings by streamlining etc. mentioned. This causes me to question who is setting the priorities for our hard earned money?

I expect our local government to be focusing on the basic functions first. We all have budgets to manage and sometimes have to make painful decisions to keep it balanced. It is also why any tax increases should be put to a public vote ensuring we are following the **actual will** of and have the direct consent of the people affected.

Sincerely,
Clifford Rolie
425-346-8393

SNOHOMISH COUNTY COUNCIL

From: [james.perrin](#)
To: [Contact Council](#)
Subject: sales tax increase
Date: Monday, December 13, 2021 7:00:03 PM

EXHIBIT # PT- 211

FILE ORD 21-098

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

NO!!!

Send this to the people for a true count of the NO's!

Sent from [Mail](#) for Windows

SNOHOMISH COUNTY COUNCIL

From: [LOU17002](#)
To: [Contact Council](#)
Subject: No sales Tax Increase
Date: Monday, December 13, 2021 7:08:31 PM

EXHIBIT # PT- 212

FILE ORD 21-098

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

This taxation must stop! We have massive inflation, supply chain issues, violence, shortage of workers, it's unaffordable to live here and property taxes are drive by us out. We are planning to move to a more free state with lower taxes. Louise Edwinson

SNOHOMISH COUNTY COUNCIL

EXHIBIT # PT- 213

FILE ORD 21-098

From: [LOU17002](#)
To: [Contact Council](#)
Subject: Voters and a say on all tax increase proposals.
Date: Monday, December 13, 2021 7:09:52 PM

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

Please put tax increases on the ballot!

SNOHOMISH COUNTY COUNCIL

From: [Gloria Elledge](#)
To: [Contact Council](#)
Subject: RE: Proposed 1% increase sales tax.
Date: Monday, December 13, 2021 7:28:02 PM

EXHIBIT # PT- 214

FILE ORD 21-098

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

Stop the bleed. Vote NO!

SNOHOMISH COUNTY COUNCIL

From: [james.perrin](#)
To: [Contact Council](#)
Subject: sales tax increase
Date: Monday, December 13, 2021 7:32:59 PM

EXHIBIT # PT- 215
FILE ORD 21-098

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

NO!

Put them to work and off drugs.

NO MORE HANDOUTS!

Sent from [Mail](#) for Windows

SNOHOMISH COUNTY COUNCIL

From: erlend@millikans.us
To: [Contact Council](#)
Subject: Proposed Sales Tax Increase.
Date: Monday, December 13, 2021 7:41:17 PM

EXHIBIT # PT- 216

FILE ORD 21-098

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

After the poor have been subjected to an unjust inflation tax this year, how can you justify adding an increase in the regressive sales tax? If you still consider the increase at least submit it for voter approval.

Lao, Elena

From: Peter Henry <henry_pet@msn.com>
Sent: Monday, December 13, 2021 7:53 PM
To: Contact Council
Subject: Housing support

SNOHOMISH COUNTY COUNCIL

EXHIBIT # PT- 217

FILE ORD 21-098

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

Hello Councilmembers,

SnoCo, like everywhere else, has a housing crisis. It's too expensive for many people, and people and their families are at risk of getting evicted and ending up on friends' couches (if they are lucky) or the street.

I just read an account about tenants who were evicted from their low-cost apartment building in Tacoma, and 3 years later half of them have died.

<https://gcc02.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2Fwww.knknx.org%2Fsouth-sound%2F2021-12-08%2Fa-developer-forced-them-out-of-their-building-three-years-later-nearly-half-are-dead&data=04%7C01%7CContact.Council%40co.snohomish.wa.us%7Cee129fe259bf4ae698a008d9beb546c1%7C6bd456aac074218897c4d0a6a503ee2%7C1%7C0%7C637750508055604967%7CUnknown%7CTWFpbGZsb3d8eyJWljiMC4wLjAwMDAiLCJQIjoiV2luMzliLCJBTiI6IjEhaWwiLCJXVCi6Mn0%3D%7C3000&reserved=0>

People's lives are at stake.

Please do not delay county housing for affordable housing and support it with a revenue stream.

Please vote for Ordinance 21-098.

Thank you.

Take care,
Peter Henry
(206) 618-1639
935 Pine Street
Edmonds, WA 98020

SNOHOMISH COUNTY COUNCIL

From: plindsay601@frontier.com
To: [Contact Council](#)
Subject: Taxes
Date: Monday, December 13, 2021 8:17:56 PM

EXHIBIT # PT- 218

FILE ORD 21-098

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

I oppose the .1% sales tax being imposed by the Snohomish County Council. I feel that this is being done in a covert way and circumventing the will of the voters in the county. Taxes cannot be passed without a vote of the people.

Thank you,

Patricia Lindsay

Snohomish County Resident

[Sent from Frontier Yahoo Mail on Android](#)

From: [Lonny Bartholomew](#)
To: [Contact Council](#)
Subject: Increased sales tax.
Date: Monday, December 13, 2021 8:20:36 PM

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

With the rate of inflation, I would imagine that the current rate of sales tax, the county should have no reason to need to increase the tax.

The best thing to do would be to put this on the ballot and let the people decide.

Please consider having we the people vote on this.

Thank you

Lonny Bartholomew

From: [Kara Abramowicz](#)
To: [Contact Council](#)
Subject: Sales Tax Increase
Date: Monday, December 13, 2021 8:37:00 PM

EXHIBIT # PT- 220

FILE ORD 21-098

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

Dear Council Members,

It is my understanding that there is currently a proposal to increase the sales tax in Snohomish County. I would ask that you allow this measure to go to vote by the public on the next ballot and that you not pass the measure without a vote from your constituents.

Thank you,

Kara Whelan

Mill Creek

EXHIBIT # PT- 221

From: [Joel Bergsagel](#)

To: [Contact Council](#)

Subject: Please send this proposal to the ballot for a vote of the people. The challenge with this additional tax is that we senior citizens have a very limited revenue to begin with. And when you add an additional program, so much of the monies get taken up in...

Date: Monday, December 13, 2021 8:52:26 PM

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

SNOHOMISH COUNTY COUNCIL

From: [David Whitesell](#)
To: [Contact Council](#)
Subject: Sales Tax Increase
Date: Monday, December 13, 2021 9:04:31 PM

EXHIBIT # PT- 222

FILE ORD 21-098

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

Send any proposed sales tax increase to the voters.

Sent from [Mail](#) for Windows

From: [Danielle Ockerman](#)
To: [Contact Council](#)
Subject: Tax vote
Date: Monday, December 13, 2021 9:06:27 PM

EXHIBIT # PT- 223

FILE ORD 21-098

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

Dear Members of the Council,

As a Snohomish County resident and voter, I am asking you to vote NO on passing the 0.1% tax increase at your December 15th meeting.

Tax increases have always and SHOULD still be put to the voters to decide. Due to increasing bad legislation and abuse of powers in Washington state, I realize there is now a loophole that allows you to bypass “we the people.” This is not right. In a time where inflation is at a 39 year high and many families can no longer afford to live in Snohomish County, passing an additional tax is irresponsible and an abuse of power.

Do the right thing. Tell us how you will spend the money (not just arbitrary “it’s for affordable house”) and then let us vote whether to pass it or not.

This tax increase would make Snohomish County the highest taxed county on the entire West Coast. Please focus on fiscal responsibility rather than looking to us for more tax dollars.

If this tax is passed by the council, you have my guarantee that I will work my butt off to make sure the council members who voted to approve will be voted out in the next election.

Thank you,

Danielle Ockerman

From: [Kay Rogers](#)
To: [Contact Council](#)
Subject: Against Sales Tax Increase in Snohomish County
Date: Monday, December 13, 2021 9:15:34 PM

EXHIBIT # PT- 224

FILE ORD 21-098

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

I am against taxation without representation. At the very least, sent this proposed sales tax increase to the general public to vote on. Thank you.

Sheila Kay Rogers
14603 40th Ave W
Lynnwood, WA 98087
skayrogers@yahoo.com

SNOHOMISH COUNTY COUNCIL

From: [Tamra Erickson](#)
To: [Contact Council](#)
Subject: Vote NO on increase in county sales tax
Date: Monday, December 13, 2021 9:23:59 PM

EXHIBIT # PT- 225

FILE ORD 21-098

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

No one will be able to afford houses if you keep increasing our taxes. Those of us who have them will lose them because we can't afford them with all the cost increases and taxes. We are debating whether to move out of the area.

Sincerely,
Tamra Erickson

SNOHOMISH COUNTY COUNCIL

From: [Nancy McCutchin](#)
To: [Contact Council](#)
Subject: Do Not Pass
Date: Monday, December 13, 2021 9:47:46 PM

EXHIBIT # PT- 226

FILE ORD 21-098

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

Hello - It has come to my attention that the SnoCo council is planning on raising the sales tax without public input or deliberation. Why? Please do not continue to add to our overtaxed situation. Adding 2.5% to the property tax was a really bad idea, too.

It is way past the time to start cutting expenses and spending. We, as private citizens, have to live within our means. You should want that, too. I expect you to be more fiscally responsible with my money. We are fed up with wasteful spending and overtaxation.

Sincerely,
Nancy & Bob McCutchin
Mukilteo, WA

SNOHOMISH COUNTY COUNCIL

From: kels.gordon
To: [Contact Council](#)
Subject: Request for Vote
Date: Monday, December 13, 2021 9:52:48 PM

EXHIBIT # PT- 227

FILE ORD 21-098

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

Hello,

I am writing you to request that the council send the ballot for a vote on the tax increase. The tax increase impacts my family and the tax is not needed. Please let us speak through voting.

Thanks,
Kelsey K

Sent from ProtonMail for iOS

From: [Arthur and Pietra Gaebel](#)
To: [Contact Council](#)
Date: Monday, December 13, 2021 10:20:15 PM

EXHIBIT # PT- 228

FILE ORD 21-098

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

Dear Snohomish County Council,

As residents of Snohomish County, we are deeply concerned that you are considering a sales tax increase at a time when businesses are already struggling with reduced patronage from COVID sanctions, mask mandates, and difficulty finding willing employees after many have become accustomed to the passive lifestyle of increased unemployment benefits.

Sales tax increases put not only a burden on our citizens who are already highly taxed and pay excessive property taxes. It also discourages sales at the businesses we depend on to bring in revenue to our city.

We ask you to say NO to this tax increase until businesses have had time to recover from draconian COVID ordinances.

Please respond.

Respectfully,

Art and Pietra Gaebel
Everett, WA

From: [Kerri Lonergan-Dreke](#)
To: [Contact Council](#)
Subject: Sales tax increase
Date: Monday, December 13, 2021 10:31:59 PM

EXHIBIT # PT- 229

FILE ORD 21-098

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

Snohomish County Councilmembers,

Any proposed increase to the county's general sales tax rate should be put to the voters. The cost of living in Washington state, specifically in Snohomish County is becoming more unaffordable for the average resident every year. Raising taxes to create more "affordable housing" is not the answer to increasing the housing supply and stabilizing rents and home prices.

Snohomish County councilmembers should make the right choice and put a sales tax increase on the ballot. Let the people make the decision on whether to tax themselves more. In the meantime, the council should focus on creating more incentives for builders and developers to build below market housing, streamline the permitting process with a focus on reducing fees and permit turnaround time, and offer down payment grants to first time homeowners.

Kerri Lonergan-Dreke
Mark Dreke

From: [Theresa Curry](#)
To: [Contact Council](#)
Subject: Support revenue for affordable housing
Date: Monday, December 13, 2021 11:06:45 PM

EXHIBIT # PT-230

FILE ORD 21-098

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 urge you not to vote for any amendments that would delay funding for affordable housing and **authorize a local revenue option to support housing for our most vulnerable neighbors in Snohomish County now!** As you know, we have extraordinary affordable and supported housing needs that require regional solutions. As a resident of Snohomish County, I support this action.

These funds will clearly help meet existing affordable and homeless housing plans enacted by Snohomish cities and counties. With more locally controlled and ongoing funds, we can more quickly meet the well thought out housing objectives in each jurisdictions' affordable housing plans.

Your authorization of this funding can help us solve this crisis at a much faster pace. With more funding, we can help provide affordable housing for the 3,000 school-age children in our County who currently do not have a stable home. We can double the current rate of affordable housing production in Snohomish County. We can help provide our estimated 1,132 unsheltered neighbors put a roof over their heads. We can invest in programs that help people move forward and open a new chapter in their lives.

Please move forward with enacting Ordinance 21-098.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Theresa Curry Almuti

Mukilteo

SNOHOMISH COUNTY COUNCIL

From: [Sharon Toon](#)
To: [Contact Council](#)
Subject: No tax increase
Date: Monday, December 13, 2021 11:09:14 PM

EXHIBIT # PT- 231
FILE ORD 21-098

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

Dear Council Members,

This measure to increase the sales tax rate to pay for subsidized housing needs to be voted on by the people. Please put this measure on a ballot so that every voice can be heard.

Thank you,

Sharon Toon

[Sent from the all new AOL app for Android](#)

From: [Joseph Nagel](#)
To: [Contact Council](#)
Subject: Ordinance 21-098 Funding for affordable housing, mental health facilities and related services
Date: Monday, December 13, 2021 11:52:07 PM
Attachments: [image001.png](#)
[image002.png](#)
[image003.png](#)
[image004.png](#)

EXHIBIT # PT- 232

FILE ORD 21-098

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

Hello,

I wanted to reach out to provide comment based on reading the Everett Herald's editorial on the need to bring this issue to public vote.

Please understand that many counties have decided to utilize council manic votes to approve funding that supports 1590 funds for affordable housing and services for marginalized populations. Housing is a crisis that demands immediate action by Council. This passing of Ordinance 21-098 will provide a source of funds for Housing and Services that Snohomish County has been looking for, which has been identified as a need through the HART.

Please consider maintaining council manic voting, and keep the vote with the council pass the ordinance.

Thank you,

Joseph Nagel, MSLAJ | Director of Service Enriched Housing
Pioneer Human Services | 360-927-6533
PioneerHumanServices.org



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SNOHOMISH COUNTY COUNCIL

From: [Douglass Jackson](#)
To: [Contact Council](#)
Subject: Ordinance 21-098
Date: Tuesday, December 14, 2021 12:11:41 AM

EXHIBIT # PT- 233

FILE ORD 21-098

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

Snohomish County Councilmembers,

I support passage of Ordinance 21-098.

Douglass L. Jackson
Board Member
YWCA Seattle | King | Snohomish

SNOHOMISH COUNTY COUNCIL

From: [Rex Kendall](#)
To: [Contact Council](#)
Subject: Sales Tax Increase
Date: Tuesday, December 14, 2021 4:46:16 AM

EXHIBIT # PT- 234

FILE ORD 21-098

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

Dear council,

I hear that you are considering increasing our sales tax. Please, seriously don't do it. Inflation is going crazy and you want to increase my sales tax? Bad timing!

Rex R Kendall

[Sent from Yahoo Mail on Android](#)

SNOHOMISH COUNTY COUNCIL

From: [LaDonna Elvig](#)
To: [Contact Council](#)
Subject: Sales tax increase.
Date: Tuesday, December 14, 2021 5:32:10 AM

EXHIBIT # PT- 235

FILE ORD 21-098

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

Please do not increase the sales tax. With inflation on the rise and the governor implementing a long term care tax it is going to hit low income people very hard.

Please think about how this affects people. We can't cut our budgets anymore but I am sure you can.

LaDonne Elvig

Sent from my iPhone

SNOHOMISH COUNTY COUNCIL

From: [R. DeBardi](#)
To: [Contact Council](#)
Cc: [Nehring, Nate](#)
Subject: Stop taxing your constituents
Date: Tuesday, December 14, 2021 5:46:51 AM

EXHIBIT # PT- 236
FILE ORD 21-098

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

Dear Council,

I am writing to you today to plea with you to vote no on the proposed .1% sales tax increase. This is NOT the right time to raise our sales taxes. This IS the right time to be responsible with taxpayers money.

Many of your constituents work for Boeing and did not get pay raises last year. This coupled with the fact that our property values are increasing, and you just voted yes on another property tax increase (this in reality is the council double dipping). Inflation is at a 40 year high. Fuel is at an 8 year high. I now have to pay for long term care tax too. People are bringing home less now than they did a year ago.

Property taxes alone are causing the deterioration of affordable housing. How can we expect to maintain fair rental prices, pay our mortgages, and pay our bills if the county keeps increasing costs of the very thing that controls what we pay? The amount of property taxes I pay has gone up 19% since 2016. The county is already getting more taxes from taxpayers because the values of our homes are going up. Inflation is also bringing in more money for the county. Taking advantage of a housing market boom and inflation on the cost of goods to make more money off the taxpayers is robbery. Please let this market and economy settle down before you make any more financial changes on people who are already seeing their paychecks diminish.

Thank you,

--

Roxanne DeBardi

From: [Russell Jacobson](#)
To: [Contact Council](#)
Subject: NO on sales tax increase!
Date: Tuesday, December 14, 2021 6:11:35 AM

EXHIBIT # PT- 237

FILE ORD 21-098

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

Dear Council Members,

Sales tax increases need to go to the vote of the People, (your employers). Please do not do an end run around and use a sneaky legislation to by-pass the People's voice. Especially during these times it is unimaginable that you are even considering passing a tax increase.

Sincerely ,
Russell Jacobson
Granite Falls, Wa.

--

"Let the first act of every morning be to make the following resolve for the day: I shall not fear anyone on Earth...I shall not bear ill will toward anyone.I shall not submit to injustice from anyone.I shall conquer untruth by truth." Mahatma Gandhi

SNOHOMISH COUNTY COUNCIL

From: [Ryan McQuillin](#)
To: [Contact Council](#)
Subject: Sale tax
Date: Tuesday, December 14, 2021 7:13:53 AM

EXHIBIT # PT- 238

FILE ORD 21-098

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

Hello, I'm emailing you with my concerns about the new sale tax bill coming up. I would like to say please please don't let that bill pass. We the people are having a hard time as it is trying to stay afloat. I'm a single dad raising to teenage girls and trying to make ends meet are very hard these days. My rent went up \$300 a month and with gas, insurance, and food I mean everything has gone up but our wages. And increase in sales tax will more than likely put a lot of people over the edge. Our homeless numbers will increase and they are already high enough. If you as our county council really would like to help out the people of Snohomish county then please don't let the sales tax bill pass.

Thank you,

Ryan McQuillin

Lao, Elena

From: Pete Saufferer <saufferer@shimadzu-usa.com>
Sent: Tuesday, December 14, 2021 7:19 AM
To: Contact Council
Subject: Opposed to Sales Tax Increase

SNOHOMISH COUNTY COUNCIL

EXHIBIT # PT- 239

FILE ORD 21-098

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

Please do not pass the sales tax increase. I cannot afford any more of the money I earn to go to taxes. The inflation this year has taken any chance I have had to get ahead.
I oppose any tax increase being proposed.



Pete Saufferer
Senior Account Manager

Shimadzu Medical Systems USA

6161 NE 175th Street, Ste 201
Kenmore, WA 98028
Office: (425) 279-9945
Mobile: (206)790-8749
saufferer@shimadzu-usa.com



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From: [Denise Jannusch](#)
To: [Contact Council](#)
Subject: Snohomish County Council set to increase sales tax
Date: Tuesday, December 14, 2021 8:26:07 AM

EXHIBIT # PT- 240

FILE ORD 21-098

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

Snohomish County Council set to increase sales tax

I live in Snohomish County and am requesting that the Council send this proposal to the ballot for a vote of the people!

Denise Jannusch

(425) 385-3405

djannusch@am-hs.org

SNOHOMISH COUNTY COUNCIL

From: [Janice Huxford](#)
To: [Contact Council](#)
Subject: Sales Tax Increase: Vote No
Date: Tuesday, December 14, 2021 8:27:59 AM

EXHIBIT # PT- 241

FILE ORD 21-098

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

County Leadership:

Please consider the ongoing negative impact of a sales tax increase to hard working, tax paying constituents in your districts and **vote no** on the proposal before you. While Snohomish County is filled with compassionate people, we are weary of the heavy burden of increased and unbudgeted taxes being implemented by both the County and State.

Respectfully,

Janice Huxford

From: [Leslie Gregg](#)
To: [Contact Council](#)
Subject: Comment for Dec 15, 2021 Public Hearing on Ordinance No. 21-098
Date: Tuesday, December 14, 2021 8:53:03 AM

EXHIBIT # PT- 242FILE ORD 21-098

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

To Snohomish County Councilmembers,

I am a taxpayer and active registered voter in Snohomish County. I do not support Ordinance No. 21-098 and its 0.1% sales and use tax increase for affordable housing and behavioral health. If the Democrats on the council insist on proceeding with the tax increase, I support at a minimum Councilmember(s) Nehring's and Low's Amendment Sheet 1 proposal to present the tax increase to the people requiring a majority vote to approve. I also support Councilman Nehring's Amendment Sheet 2, which adds a sunset to the tax if the tax increase is either ultimately approved by the council or the majority vote of the people.

The residents of Snohomish County have been "nickel and dimed" over the past several years with tax and fee increases from Federal, State, County, and Municipal Governments. All taxes are up – income, sales, property, utility, communication, gas, payroll, etc. When I moved to Snohomish County in CY 2011, taxes were very reasonable. Today, taxes are at ridiculous levels with no end in sight. Continuing to strip every productive citizen of their earnings to pay for "Democrat give aways" will cause a mass exodus of income earners to better managed States/Countries. One only needs to recognize the mass migration out of high tax, Democrat controlled states like New York, California, and Illinois into competently managed Republican controlled states like Florida and Texas to see that residents ultimately vote with their feet.

Productive residents should not be hit with more taxes at a time when residents are dealing with the draconian, economically devastating pandemic mandates imposed by Democrat Governor Inslee and out-of-control, broad-based commodity sector inflation. Taxing is not the cure for every adverse impact of bad Democrat policy – and Ordinance 21-098, as well as RCW 82.14.530, are two of many bad policies. Democrat councilmembers responsible for passing the recent 2.5% property tax increase and this 0.1% sales tax increase will be held accountable by voters when they are up for re-election. It is clear based on voting records (including the recent approval of the 2.5% property tax increase even when an alternate balanced budget was proposed without the tax increase), that Snohomish County residents cannot rely on Democrat

Councilmembers to responsibly manage County finances.

Respectfully,

Leslie A. Gregg
Mukilteo

SNOHOMISH COUNTY COUNCIL

From: [Jennifer Garcia](#)
To: [Contact Council](#)
Subject: No sales tax increase
Date: Tuesday, December 14, 2021 8:58:03 AM

EXHIBIT # PT- 243

FILE ORD 21-098

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

Good morning,

I request that the proposal to increase sales tax in Snohomish county be sent to that ballot for a vote by the people. This isn't a decision that should be made by a small group of people, but by residents like myself who this will actually impact. We deserve a voice, it's our hard earned money, we should have a say on where and how OUR money is spent.

Thank you,

Jennifer Garcia
10 year Snohomish County resident

SNOHOMISH COUNTY COUNCIL

From: [Steve Woodard](#)
To: [Contact Council](#)
Subject: LOS: HB1590 (SPW)
Date: Tuesday, December 14, 2021 9:06:50 AM
Attachments: [SPW LOS HB1590.docx](#)

EXHIBIT # PT- 244

FILE ORD 21-098

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

Greetings, one and all.

Please see the attachment.

Confirmation of receipt is appreciated.

Thank you and take care.

December 12, 2021

To the Snohomish County Councilmembers:

Writing to express my support for HB1590, the tax for Affordable Housing. In so doing my thanks are extended to our Snohomish County leadership for your individual and collective courage to follow the lead of our neighboring counties and cities, including our own City of Snohomish, and address this critical matter. Our residents countywide should be proud that you all do so to increase the level of financial support dedicated to affordable housing in WA state.

My backing today is given both as a private resident and as a Board member with Volunteers of America Western Washington (VOAWW). Specific to the latter ours is an organization dedicated to breaking the cycle of poverty by ensuring a more just system is created. Affordable housing and strong social services are foundational resources in this struggle as they each are a commitment to equity and inclusion.

Recognizing that much more needs to be accomplished, HB1590 further moves us along this restorative path.

Please vote Yes.

Thank you for receiving my public comment.

Dr. Steve Woodard
23006 60th Ave. West
Mountlake Terrace, 98043

SNOHOMISH COUNTY COUNCIL

From: [Brad Sebranke](#)
To: [Contact Council](#)
Subject: Potential Tax increase
Date: Tuesday, December 14, 2021 9:27:47 AM

EXHIBIT # PT- 245
FILE ORD 21-098

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

County Council, I was informed that there is a push from progressives to increase sales tax in Snohomish County. I am opposed to that and would request that any tax increase would be put to a vote of the people. Thank you for your service, Brad Sebranke 425-770-8507

From: [Julie Langabeer](#)
To: [Contact Council](#)
Subject: Sales Tax for Affordable Housing
Date: Tuesday, December 14, 2021 9:38:29 AM

EXHIBIT # PT- 246

FILE ORD 21-098

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

Dear Council Members,

I am in favor of this very modest tax increase. The lack of affordable housing is an EMERGENCY and needs to be dealt with yesterday! It is the job of elected officials to do the right thing, even when some of the public objects. It is not right that some of our fellow citizens can't find a place to live that they can afford, or that they have to spend so much of their income on housing that they can't pay for necessities such as food and medical care. We all need to chip in to help our fellow citizens.

Yes, the sales tax is regressive. Unfortunately, a fix for that appears to be a long way away. In the meantime, we have to work with what we have.

PLEASE VOTE "YES"

Sincerely,

Julie Langabeer
1409 Grand Ave.
Everett, WA 98201

SNOHOMISH COUNTY COUNCIL

From: [Mary Salamon](#)
To: [Contact Council](#)
Subject: The increase sales taxes for affordable housing
Date: Tuesday, December 14, 2021 9:47:03 AM

EXHIBIT # PT- 247

FILE ORD 21-098

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

To whom it may concern,
Please bring this issue to the voters. This is not your money.
Mary Salamon

From: malcap@frontier.com
To: [Contact Council](#)
Subject: Ordinance #21-098
Date: Tuesday, December 14, 2021 9:48:57 AM

EXHIBIT # PT- 248

FILE ORD 21-098

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

Council:

Please pass ordinance #21-098. The cost is negligible (1 cent on a \$10.00 purchase) and does not even apply to food purchases, rent payments, medical, or a number of other things. However, even at a negligible cost the funds raised can be leveraged by the Housing Authorities, Housing Hope, and other non-profits to make a substantial improvement in the county with regard to the readily apparent homelessness and housing affordability crises.

Thank you.
Jeff Capeloto

SNOHOMISH COUNTY COUNCIL

From: dianes@lombardisitalian.com
To: [Contact Council](#)
Subject: Sales Tax increase.
Date: Tuesday, December 14, 2021 9:49:45 AM

EXHIBIT # PT- 249
FILE ORD 21-098

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

I am opposed to an increase in the property tax.

Affordability is an issue for everyone not just the “homeless”. Raising the sales tax only makes the affordability an issue for more families.

This issue should be either rejected by the council or put on the ballot so that citizens can vote their preference.

Diane Symms
Founder/Co-owner

Lombardi’s Restaurant Group, LLC
Natures Connection – a wedding and event venue
206 -369-2133 cell
425-740-3161 office

SNOHOMISH COUNTY COUNCIL

From: [Dave Willeiksen](#)
To: [Contact Council](#)
Subject: Sales Tax Increase
Date: Tuesday, December 14, 2021 9:51:34 AM

EXHIBIT # PT- 250

FILE ORD 21-098

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

I do not want a sales tax increase!

Dave Willeiksen
15115 Broadway Ave, Snohomish, WA 98296

SNOHOMISH COUNTY COUNCIL

EXHIBIT # PT- 251

FILE ORD 21-098

From: [Dj Defreese](#)
To: [Contact Council](#)
Subject: "NO" vote on rate increase
Date: Tuesday, December 14, 2021 9:52:07 AM

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

NO RATE INCREASE for affordable housing!!!

SNOHOMISH COUNTY COUNCIL

From: [Jack McPherson](#)
To: [Contact Council](#)
Subject: Never ending cycle
Date: Tuesday, December 14, 2021 9:53:36 AM

EXHIBIT # PT- 252

FILE ORD 21-098

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

AT some point even liberals have to know that MORE money is not the answer. They do know of course but they don't care. They derive some satisfaction from confiscating someone else's hard earned money for their chosen cause of the day.

With the highest inflation in 40 years caused by a catastrophic shift to the far left, spending trillions of dollars that will never be repaid, nor can they spend it quick enough. Now build back, worse nonsense will cost many times more than the Biden loonies will admit.

This lunacy has to stop, and we can stop it right here in Everett.

Learn to live within your means.

Jack McPherson

SNOHOMISH COUNTY COUNCIL

From: [Bresher \(US\), Ronald E](#)
To: [Contact Council; , - Null; "jason@jasonrantz.com"](#)
Subject: Dec.15th property Tax hike!
Date: Tuesday, December 14, 2021 9:54:10 AM

EXHIBIT # PT- 253

FILE ORD 21-098

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

Dear Council members. I sent Jared Mead an E Mail about two weeks ago. Of course the bum does not read his E Mails.
I am so sick of our current situation. I think a civil war is the only viable answer to the communist politicians of our country.
Thanks.

Have a nice day.
Ron.

Ron Bresher
Data Steward.
Reliability Data Management Group.
Bldg. 2-25.4.
Cell Phone 425-219-1515
ronald.e.bresher@boeing.com

SNOHOMISH COUNTY COUNCIL

From: [Larry Powell](#)
To: [Contact Council](#)
Cc: [Kathleen Powell Associates](#)
Subject: Larry Powell 206-660-6025
Date: Tuesday, December 14, 2021 9:55:34 AM
Attachments: [image001.png](#)
[image002.png](#)

EXHIBIT # PT- 254
FILE ORD 21-098

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

To the Council,

We are deeply concerned about the new proposal for increasing sales tax for affordable housing. We urge you to put this proposal on the ballot and let your constituents decide whether or not to increase sales taxes for affordable housing. With inflation and taxes eating away at our incomes—whether fixed incomes or not—this is NOT the time to be increasing any taxes.

Sincerely,

Larry & Kathleen Powell

Larry Powell | REALTOR®



WINDERMERE REAL ESTATE/EAST, INC.

CELL 206-660-6025

Kathleen Powell, CRS® ABR® SRES® | (206) 940-8777
Managing Broker | Windermere Real Estate/East, Inc.

From: [Rick Rickman](#)
To: [Contact Council](#)
Subject: SALES TAX INCREASE PROPOSAL FOR AFFORDABLE HOUSING AND BEHAVIORAL HEALTH
Date: Tuesday, December 14, 2021 10:00:28 AM

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

By this email I request this tax increase be placed on a ballot so those paying the tax can vote 'Yay' or 'Nay' for it. Most approaches to deal with the above issues has a very, very low return for the investment. I want to see exactly how the money is planned on being spent before I approve my taxes going up.

Thank you for listening to my opinion.

Rick Rickman
A Snohomish County resident.

Sent from [Mail](#) for Windows

From: [Don Backstrom](#)
To: [Contact Council](#)
Subject: Sales Tax increase for affordable housing
Date: Tuesday, December 14, 2021 10:04:22 AM

EXHIBIT # PT- 256

FILE ORD 21-098

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

ANY INCREASE IN TAXES SHOULD BE DECIDED BY THE PEOPLE OF THE COUNTY !!!

This should not be decided by a select few. Any increase would be a substantial impact on my business... We are on the verge of closing the doors and putting our employees out of work. It has been the most difficult two years of my 38 years in business.

PUT IT TO THE VOTERS !!!

Backstrom Curb & Sidewalk, Inc.

19014 63rd Ave NE

Arlington, WA 98223

360.403.4866

www.backstromconcrete.com

SNOHOMISH COUNTY COUNCIL

From: [Steve Nielsen](#)
To: [Contact Council](#)
Subject: Sales Tax Increase
Date: Tuesday, December 14, 2021 10:05:20 AM

EXHIBIT # PT- 257

FILE ORD 21-098

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

I am opposed to any increase in taxes. We are still in a pandemic, inflation is out of control, we already have one of the highest sales tax in the nation, and this state has one of the highest gas taxes in the country.

We are retired and live on a fixed income. Raising sales tax may be the last straw that will cause us the move out of the state. I have lived in Washington for 42 years, my wife & children have lived here their entire lives. Don't force us to leave!

It is beyond belief you are even considering raising taxes. Your efforts should be on cutting expenses and becoming more efficient.

Thanks,
Steve Nielsen
Everett, WA

SNOHOMISH COUNTY COUNCIL

From: [Tomas R.](#)
To: [Contact Council](#)
Subject: Affordable housing
Date: Tuesday, December 14, 2021 10:08:18 AM

EXHIBIT # PT- 258
FILE ORD 21-098

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

Hello,

I appreciate the concerns about affordable housing and I have seen other cities, states, and countries take the same approach of raising taxes to subsidize housing. I just don't believe it is a long term viable approach. I cannot name an area that used tax subsidized housing that has resulted in a successful resolution to the lack of affordable housing. A better solution, in my opinion, would be to increase the housing density per acre and increase the supply of available housing. There seems to be a resistance to building up as well as a resistance to utilize areas in unincorporated Snohomish County. Well planned developments, with mass transportation (light rail, trains, and busses) would increase housing availability and increase long term tax revenues. Depending on spending tax dollars while not increasing development, will exacerbate long term housing shortages resulting in increased house prices. We are already seeing the results of government constraints on supply. Some housing prices have increased 30% or more in one year. This is hurting young people that can't afford to buy \$800,000 and higher houses. Focus tax revenue on assisting private industry in growing housing supply, not putting the money into subsidized housing. That is an endless money pit!

Thank you,
Thomas Rothschild

SNOHOMISH COUNTY COUNCIL

From: [Todd Welch](#)
To: [Contact Council](#)
Subject: Sales Tax Increase (Against)
Date: Tuesday, December 14, 2021 10:09:29 AM

EXHIBIT # PT- 259
FILE ORD 21-098

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

Council,

I understand that we have many people on our streets whom are without a home or are in constant risk of losing their home, but that does not mean the Council should without a vote from the people increase the County Sales Tax.

While I can respect the goal of the tax revenue, it still should be up to the vote of the people before moving forward. The tax is not a major increase but it is just another layer on top of other taxes and fees from local municipalities, special districts, county, and state. We should have the ability to review the plan..

If you choose to move forward w/ a sale tax increase w/out the input of voters, then do not use it for new construction but instead issue housing vouchers. Construction is expensive and the maintenance will be on-going. Vouchers can help people as soon as revenue comes in vice 4-5 years from now.

Todd Welch
Former - Lake Stevens City Councilmember

EXHIBIT # PT- 260

FILE ORD 21-098

From: billmcelroy@frontier.com
To: [Contact Council](#)
Subject: Sales Tax Increase
Date: Tuesday, December 14, 2021 10:11:34 AM

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

Good morning,

I believe the best avenue for the council to proceed is to have the measure placed on the ballot.

Bill McElroy
Bothell, WA – Snohomish County

From: [Mark Smith](#)
To: [Contact Council](#)
Subject: Ordinance 21-098
Date: Tuesday, December 14, 2021 10:17:25 AM

EXHIBIT # PT- 261
FILE ORD 21-098

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

To: Snohomish County Council
From: Mark Smith
RE: Ordinance 21-098

I have a vision of the County in which everyone lives in a safe, healthy and affordable home. That home may be a single-family home, it may be an apartment, it may be a condo or a duplex or an ADU. For some, initially, it may be a bed in an emergency shelter. Regardless of the physical shape or size, it is a place to feel safe, to create relationships and to become part of a community.

A place to call home is the cornerstone upon which we build our lives. It is the foundation for excelling in school, for stable employment, for better mental and physical health. It is the place that allows us to dream and realize those dreams.

Without a home, we are adrift in a very turbulent world with nothing to anchor us.

Ordinance 21-098 is the most significant opportunity in at least the past 10 years to move us toward that vision. It will build much needed emergency housing, permanent supportive housing, workforce housing, mental health facilities and also fund services some residents may need to stabilize their lives.

All of the other arguments some are making in opposition to this measure, lack of transparency, vote of the people, regressive tax, rushed vote, are just white noise to distract from the obvious need.

It is like rushing to help your neighbors because their house is on fire yet all they can talk about is cleaning the moss off of the roof.

There are almost 4,000 homeless children in Snohomish County school districts. There are more than 38,000 households spending more than 50% of their income just on housing. The average rent for a 2-bedroom apartment has climbed to \$2,000mo.

Forget the moss. Our house is on fire.

Please pass ordinance 21=098.

Best regards,

Mark Smith
Lynnwood resident, voter and taxpayer
Executive Director, Housing Consortium of Everett and Snohomish County

Mark Smith
Executive Director
Housing Consortium of Everett and Snohomish County
425-339-1015 / mark@housingsnohomish.org
<https://www.housingsnohomish.org>
PO Box 1326, Everett, WA 98206

Please note that the Consortium's hours are M-Th, 7:30am-6:00pm

SNOHOMISH COUNTY COUNCIL

From: [c.wear](#)
To: [Contact Council](#)
Subject: opposition to tax
Date: Tuesday, December 14, 2021 10:18:00 AM

EXHIBIT # PT- 262

FILE ORD 21-098

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

This 0.1% sales tax proposal should be sent to the ballot for a PUBLIC vote!

Thank you,
C. wear

SNOHOMISH COUNTY COUNCIL

From: [TIFFANY WEBB](#)
To: [Contact Council](#)
Subject: Please let us vote
Date: Tuesday, December 14, 2021 10:19:13 AM

EXHIBIT # PT- 263

FILE ORD 21-098

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

Hello - I am writing to encourage you to allow the taxpayers of Snohomish County to vote on any proposed tax increases or new taxes. We're supposed to be living in a representative democracy - if legislative bodies can tax based on fiat, it sort of defeats the point, doesn't it?

Thank you.

Tiffany Webb
Snohomish

From: [Marta B](#)
To: [Contact Council](#)
Subject: Taxation Without Representation
Date: Tuesday, December 14, 2021 10:25:39 AM

EXHIBIT # PT- 264

FILE ORD 21-098

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

I'm writing to let you know how disappointed I am with the new taxes that will be coming out of my payroll and the new proposed sales tax.

Washington is one of the richest states yet our government is continually fleecing the working class to benefit others. It's unfair and unjust in my opinion. It's become glaringly obvious that we have one of the most corrupt governors in the USA and he's becoming more and more like a dictator every day with these taxes that are being imposed upon us without our vote.

We can do much better than this by managing our existing funding in ways that make sense without unfairly taxing people.

Washington State elected officials better be on point or the people will eventually speak through their votes and throw these corrupt officials out!

Sincerely,

Marta Baldwin

SNOHOMISH COUNTY COUNCIL

From: [LINDA BOLES](#)
To: [Contact Council](#)
Subject: tax increase
Date: Tuesday, December 14, 2021 10:25:45 AM

EXHIBIT # PT- 265

FILE ORD 21-098

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

Please put this tax increase issue up for a vote of the people.

Sent from my iPad

From: [Richard Suico](#)
To: diane.buckshnis@edmondswa.gov; [Contact Council](#)
Subject: Pass 1590
Date: Tuesday, December 14, 2021 10:26:07 AM

EXHIBIT # PT- 266
FILE ORD 21-098

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

Hi County Council,

I'm a 20 year resident of Snohomish county mostly in Edmonds. I've seen my properties grow in value and was lucky enough to be able to afford a place in my early 30s and build a nest egg based primarily on my home and rental properties. I'm thoroughly lucky to have the opportunity to live in this country and county at the right time of Microsoft and, of course, Amazon booms.

I also lived in NYC, the Bay Area and saw the disparity of wealth manifested in billionaires being in the same spaces as homelessness in those big, urban centers. In my first 10 years in Edmonds, I never saw people experiencing homelessness or was very transitory. It was closer to middle class, middle America in terms of income, housing prices and quality of life. That all changed in the late aughts and early teens after the Great Recession. Homelessness has become a chronic issue. It affects my quality of life and those of my family going to the library, going to parks, running on the sidewalks--all in little Edmonds.

We can't continue to ignore or let market forces fix a housing problem that it isn't incentivized to create affordable housing. This problem is close to home and not just a big city problem like Seattle. It is chronic, very local and needs local answers like 1590 with responsible leadership actually leading and not legislating nor passing the buck.

Thanks for your consideration!

Richard Suico
18105 69th Pl W
Edmonds WA 98026

SNOHOMISH COUNTY COUNCIL

From: [Mike Echelbarger](#)
To: [Contact Council](#)
Subject: Affordable housing tax
Date: Tuesday, December 14, 2021 10:36:51 AM

EXHIBIT # PT- 267
FILE ORD 21-098

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

Against as proposed. Housing is not the issue. From what I understand, and needles abundant at encampments seems to confirm this... the issue is drug addiction... homelessness is really a peripheral result of the drugs. Mandatory Treatment centers are what is needed.

Mike echelbarger
Sent from my iPhone

SNOHOMISH COUNTY COUNCIL

EXHIBIT # PT- 268

From: enorthstream@aol.com
To: [Contact Council](#)
Subject: Sales Tax for Affordable Housing
Date: Tuesday, December 14, 2021 10:38:43 AM

FILE ORD 21-098

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

Hi,

I am a local elected official and I wanted to express my deep concern over the County Council's decision to arbitrarily try and pass an increase in the sales tax rate for affordable housing without putting it to the vote of the citizens for whom it will affect, especially since this is a new tax. In my realm of elected office if I want to implement a new source of tax revenue, let alone a substantial increase of an existing revenue stream, I must put that proposal to a vote of my citizens. In an effort to make sure we have transparent and good government, I truly believe the same must be done here so we don't have division on these important social issues (ie. let the voters decide what taxes they should be subject to, especially given the decision to implement the tax is obviously not unanimous).

Please do the right thing and put this out to a vote of the people.

Thank you,
Eric Nordstrom
Commissioner - Chair
Fire District 21

From: [Dan](#)
To: [Contact Council](#); [Nehring, Nate](#); [Dunn, Megan](#); [Wright, Stephanie](#); [Mead, Jared](#); [Low, Sam](#)
Subject: Oppose Sales Tax Increase!
Date: Tuesday, December 14, 2021 10:39:03 AM

SNOHOMISH COUNTY COUNCIL

EXHIBIT # PT- 269

FILE ORD 21-098

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

Snohomish County Council Members,

Please reject additional tax increases as the public is already dealing with out of control inflation which further undermines the ability to pay for necessities like food, rent and utilities. Now is not the time to raise taxes but if anything provide a reduction in taxation and cut wasteful spending.

Reject tax increases!

Dan Kessler

SNOHOMISH COUNTY COUNCIL

From: [Rebecca Lindahl](#)
To: [Contact Council](#)
Subject: Sales tax increase
Date: Tuesday, December 14, 2021 10:47:08 AM

EXHIBIT # PT- 270
FILE ORD 21-098

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

Please do not increase the sales tax. It already adds over 10% (in my tiwn of Edmonds) to everything. With covid decreasing quantities of whats on shelves and prices going up as a result, its making even basic necessities too expensive for many.

Sincerely,

Rebecca Lindahl
Sent from my iPhone

From: md.harvey@comcast.net
To: [Contact Council](#)
Subject: Increased Sales Tax should be voted on by residents
Date: Tuesday, December 14, 2021 10:51:29 AM

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

Regarding the proposal for an increased sales tax increase for affordable housing and behavioral health, and the Public Hearing scheduled for 12/15/2021, we believe the voters should be able to decide on this type of increased sales tax, NOT the County Council. We would vote NO to this tax.

Thank you
Deb & Mike Harvey
12312 45th Ave SE
Everett, WA 98208

SNOHOMISH COUNTY COUNCIL

From: gzpbehnke1@gmail.com

To: [Contact Council](#)

Subject: The proposed sales tax increase for affordable housing, Etc.

Date: Tuesday, December 14, 2021 10:56:45 AM

EXHIBIT # PT- 272

FILE ORD 21-098

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

The voters in Snohomish county should always be allowed to vote for any Snohomish county sales tax increases. Please consider the working poor and low income senior citizens. All the different taxes we pay in Snohomish county add up very quickly and they become real money not just pennies. Please let the taxpayers vote on this.

Thanks, Paul Behnke Rose Rd, Arlington

Sent from my iPhone

SNOHOMISH COUNTY COUNCIL

From: [Amie Beisel](#)
To: [Contact Council](#)
Subject: A tax increase???
Date: Tuesday, December 14, 2021 11:03:33 AM

EXHIBIT # PT- 273

FILE ORD 21-098

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

Dear Snohomish County Council members,

My husband and I are adamantly opposed to a proposed sales tax increase in our County.

We, the residents, deserve to vote on this matter that has a serious effect on us. Even The Herald published the concern about this about this increase!!

"Additionally, over 50 local elected officials from across Snohomish County are joining the call to allow voters to have a say in this sales tax increase. The Herald [covered the letter](#) this morning stating, "Fifty-eight elected officials from across the county said they have "grave concerns" about the tax and want it put in front of voters."

Please do the right thing, and give us a say before increasing sales tax!!

Thank you!
Your constituents,
Amie & Dave Beisel (Sultan)

SNOHOMISH COUNTY COUNCIL

From: [Boris Zaretsky](#)
To: [Contact Council](#)
Subject: Please do not raise our sales tax
Date: Tuesday, December 14, 2021 11:08:16 AM

EXHIBIT # PT- 274
FILE ORD 21-098

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

Sincerely,

Boris Zaretsky

Snohomish County Resident for 23 years

SNOHOMISH COUNTY COUNCIL

From: [Michael A. Atwood](#)
To: [Contact Council](#)
Subject: tax
Date: Tuesday, December 14, 2021 11:20:44 AM

EXHIBIT # PT- 275
FILE ORD 21-098

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

I don't think we need a tax increase for affordable housing. With all the tent city's going up all around the area and the trash and filth they leave around, the county and city should charge them for cleanup. They don't want to live in housing. They seem to have more rights than we do. Can't tell them not to put up tents on sidewalks and city parks, using the grass for bathrooms and laying needles wherever they wish. I'm sorry but these people don't want to be helped. If they did there are places, they can go to fine housing. No on new tax for housing.

Let the people decide on that tax. Everything is going up so much, people are getting tired of taxes.

Caroline Atwood

SNOHOMISH COUNTY COUNCIL

EXHIBIT # PT- 276

FILE ORD 21-098

From: [Mary Anne Dillon](#)
To: [Contact Council](#)
Subject: Support for Ordinance 21-098
Date: Tuesday, December 14, 2021 11:23:06 AM
Attachments: [image001.png](#)

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

Dear Snohomish County Council,

My name Mary Anne Dillon, Snohomish County Executive Director of the YWCA Seattle | King | Snohomish. YWCA has been a long time provider of services, emergency shelter, temporary and permanent affordable housing in Snohomish County. We have seen firsthand how affordable housing can change lives, strengthen families and transform communities. I am a resident of Edmonds and have been working in Snohomish County for 25 years. The county, the cities, the people have been talking for years about the need to address the lack of affordable housing and increasing numbers of people who are experiencing homeless...Talking for years while more people become homeless and more homeless people die in our parks, in our woods and in our neighborhoods. The Council has all the information it needs and knows we don't need a public vote to understand the need to build more affordable housing.

The Fair Market Rent for a two-bedroom apartment in Snohomish County is \$1,940. A household would need a total annual income of over \$77,000 (\$37.01hr) to afford this apartment, and there are more than 20,000 households in Snohomish County with annual incomes of \$34,500 or less. The math simply doesn't work. Passing ordinance 21-098 is an investment in the future of the over 3,000 school-age children living on the street, in cars, in hotel/motels or doubled-up with others. When people have a home, children do better in school, employment opportunities and income levels increase, medical & mental health outcomes are better and communities thrive and people prosper when everyone lives in a safe, healthy, affordable home. This sales tax is a very minimal effect to the taxpayer and will have a maximum effect for our community. This is a crisis that demands immediate action, not delay.

I support the sales tax increase to pay for more affordable housing and services because I value our community and understand there is nothing more regressive than homelessness.

Best,

Mary Anne Dillon
Executive Director, Snohomish County
Office: 425.258.2766 | **Fax:** 425.258.1213

YWCA Seattle | King | Snohomish
3301 Broadway, Everett, WA 98201
YWCAWORKS.ORG
[Facebook](#) | [Twitter](#) | [YouTube](#)

YWCA IS ON MISSION

EXHIBIT # PT- 277

FILE ORD 21-098

From: [Mary Ann Monty](#)
To: [Contact Council](#)
Subject: Sales tax
Date: Tuesday, December 14, 2021 11:27:45 AM

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

This is no time to add to the already high sales tax. It only encourages people to go to a different county for large purchases and puts a burden on the ones that you are attempting to help.

Get [Outlook for iOS](#)

From: [Mary Ann Monty](#)
To: [Contact Council](#)
Subject: Sales tax
Date: Tuesday, December 14, 2021 11:33:41 AM

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

Each housing unit constructed results in sales tax revenue. Each sales tax increase raises the cost of construction. Already over ten percent of the cost of each housing unit goes to sales tax . It makes no sense to keep increasing the cost of the housing you are trying to preserve.

Get [Outlook for iOS](#)

EXHIBIT # PT- 278

FILE ORD 21-098

From: [Jack Odell](#)
To: [Contact Council](#)
Subject: affordable housing
Date: Tuesday, December 14, 2021 11:29:59 AM

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

We ask the County Council to put this proposal on the ballot and let the people decide whether to increase sales taxes for affordable housing.

Jack Odell

From: [Joseph Sutton](#)
To: [Contact Council](#)
Subject: No on sales tax increase for Affordable Housing and Behavioral Health
Date: Tuesday, December 14, 2021 11:35:09 AM

EXHIBIT # PT- 279

FILE ORD 21-098

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

Dear County Council,

Just because you can increase a tax does not mean you should ... especially without a vote of the people who it will most greatly impact.

Dozens of new taxes and fees have been piled onto state and county citizens over the last few years and inflation (the most hideous hidden 'tax') has significantly reduced purchasing power for everyone.

We cannot afford more.

Please do not vote (tomorrow) to increase our sales tax! It is one of the highest in the country and we cannot afford it! Not to mention, it is one of the most regressive taxes to increase!

At the very least, this proposed sales tax increase should be placed on the ballot so that Snohomish County voters can decide if they want to fund the so-called 'need' identified.

I personally think the county has enough funding dedicated to this cause currently and need to utilize it more efficiently, and adopt policies that discourage homeless people from migrating to our area.

Joe Sutton
Lake Stevens, WA

EXHIBIT # PT- 280

FILE ORD 21-098

From: [Neil Sasinowski](#)
To: [Contact Council](#)
Subject: County sales tax increase.
Date: Tuesday, December 14, 2021 11:37:48 AM

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

All I hear when the government wants to fund a project is to increase taxes to pay for whatever. Increasing sales taxes without the vote of the public is communism in full force. Jamb it down our throats and don't complain and shut up. What happened to our democracy? Why not look at some of the boondoggles that are currently funded and think about cutting back or eliminating them altogether. Remember, there is no free lunch without strings attached.

Neil Sasinowski
Edmonds

From: [Lisa Hall](#)
To: [Contact Council](#)
Subject: Ordinance 21-098
Date: Tuesday, December 14, 2021 11:38:39 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 urge you not to vote for any amendments that would delay funding for affordable housing and **authorize a local revenue option to support housing for our most vulnerable neighbors in Snohomish County now!** As you know, we have extraordinary affordable and supported housing needs that require regional solutions. As a resident of Snohomish County, I support this action.

These funds will clearly help meet existing affordable and homeless housing plans enacted by Snohomish cities and counties. With more locally controlled and ongoing funds, we can more quickly meet the well thought out housing objectives in each jurisdictions' affordable housing plans.

Your authorization of this funding can help us solve this crisis at a much faster pace. With more funding, we can help provide affordable housing for the 3,000 school-age children in our County who currently do not have a stable home. We can double the current rate of affordable housing production in Snohomish County. We can help provide our estimated 1,132 unsheltered neighbors put a roof over their heads. We can invest in programs that help people move forward and open a new chapter in their lives.

Please move forward with enacting Ordinance 21-098.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Lisa Hall
1001 E. Marine View Drive B-32
Everett WA 98201
Sent from my iPhone

SNOHOMISH COUNTY COUNCIL

From: [Mary Duffy](#)
To: [Contact Council](#)
Subject: Tax on the ballot.
Date: Tuesday, December 14, 2021 11:42:08 AM

EXHIBIT # PT- 282

FILE ORD 21-098

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

I want to see the issue of the sales tax increase placed on the ballot.

Mary Duffy
7709 173rd St SW
Edmonds, WA 98026

SNOHOMISH COUNTY COUNCIL

From: [Jennifer Bereskin](#)
To: [Contact Council](#)
Subject: Public Comment - Ordinance 21 - 098
Date: Tuesday, December 14, 2021 11:50:24 AM

EXHIBIT # PT- 283
FILE ORD 21-098

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 urge you to authorize a local revenue option to support housing for our most vulnerable neighbors in Snohomish County. As you know, we have extraordinary affordable and supported housing needs that require regional solutions. As a resident of Snohomish County, **I support this action.**

As a child, I watched my stepfather who served this country in the U.S. Navy during Desert Storm experience severe mental distress related to his service in the military upon return to civilian life. The police and the court system punished my stepfather for his mental health crisis, compounding the factors of our family experiencing chronic homelessness even though both parents worked two or more jobs. Snohomish County could not successfully house our family of six even in the late 90's as there was not enough housing or mental health support for families in crisis. In 2021 this is still true today, there is not enough support for families and individuals who are met with unstable housing and mental health crises.

The reason I support this action is I am a person who has been living in poverty for thirty-seven years of my life. Twenty-five of those years have been spent in Snohomish County with housing instability and childhood poverty. I grew up homeless as a child in the Lynnwood and surrounding areas. I lived throughout elementary, high school and community college where I continued to experience housing instability and homelessness. I always had two jobs, but I still could not afford a stable apartment or establish a foundation to emerge out of poverty. The non-profit YWCA Pathways for Women in Lynnwood was the reason for our stable housing which has ensured that my child with special needs has a safe home and a secure foundation to thrive. The due diligence of the non-profits and individuals who support them have been doing the work which this ordinance will strengthen immensely. I am grateful to the YWCA and the many others who have continued to support and advocate for the critical needs in our community.

Snohomish County must work to ensure low-income people can thrive and when doing so it supports a stronger local economy and overall healthier community. No one is immune to sickness, poverty, or becoming homeless despite their previous life experiences. We must invest in our community especially our youth and those who cannot support themselves because as human beings they deserve nothing less. I applaud the county council members who have supported this ordinance, we are grateful for your leadership and dedication to ensure everyone in Snohomish County can have a safe and healthy home.

These funds will clearly help meet existing affordable and homeless housing plans enacted by Snohomish cities and counties. With more locally controlled and ongoing funds, we can more quickly meet the well thought out housing objectives in each jurisdiction's affordable housing plans.

Your authorization of this funding can help us solve this crisis at a much faster pace. With more funding, we can help provide affordable housing for the 3,000 school-age children in our County who currently do not have a stable home. We can double the current rate of affordable housing production in Snohomish County. We can help provide our estimated 1,132 unsheltered neighbors to put a roof over their heads. We can invest in programs that help people move forward and open a new chapter in their lives. Please move forward with enacting Ordinance 21-098. Thank you for your consideration in this important matter

Peacefully,

Jennifer Bereskin

**Youngest Daughter of The Sea Monster Man - Snohomish
Qawalangin Tribe of Unalaska - Unangan
Community Services Advisory Council Board Member
Resident Action Project (RAP) Snohomish County Chapter**

"For us, Warriors are not what you think of as Warriors. The Warrior is not someone who fights, because no one has the right to take another life. The Warrior, for us, is one who sacrifices himself for the good of others. His task is to take care of the elderly, the defenseless, those who cannot provide for themselves, and above all the children, the future of humanity." -Sitting Bull

SNOHOMISH COUNTY COUNCIL

EXHIBIT # PT- 284

From: [Kristofer Korshaven](#)
To: [Contact Council](#)
Subject: Proposed Tax Increase
Date: Tuesday, December 14, 2021 11:52:36 AM

FILE ORD 21-098

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

Hello,

As a Snohomish County Resident, I am reaching out to voice my concern after hearing the council is considering a sales tax increase to support "affordable housing". If taxes continue to go up at the rate they are, we all are going to need help with housing!

The council should be putting ALL tax increase proposal on the ballet for the people to decide, not passing it themselves.

Sincerely,
Kristofer Korshaven
98296

From: [Athena MacDonald](#)
To: [Contact Council](#)
Subject: Extortion increases are not good for business
Date: Tuesday, December 14, 2021 11:54:28 AM

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

Dear halfwits,

I have put up with your ridiculousness regarding business for the last 3 years because it's been that or move out of state, and I was hoping that someone would come to their senses. As a small business owner it's getting harder and harder to sell my products because the cabbage in chief has continued the disastrous policies of his predecessor Don Donald causing runaway inflation and less spending money in pockets.

I understand that you want to destroy the middle class because they vote overwhelmingly Republican, and bring in more people who depend on the government because they vote Democrat, but your policies are destroying your tax base too. We will not stand for another tax increase.

You can't tax your way into prosperity (unless you're the socialist at the top of the dump heap). If you keep raising taxes you will drive the rest of us away and then you'll have no one left to extort.

Get a freaking clue before its too late.

Athena MacDonald
Owner/Esthetician
360-961-9630
athenasoasis.com
[Book Now](#)

SNOHOMISH COUNTY COUNCIL

From: [Scott Perry](#)
To: [Contact Council](#)
Subject: tax increase
Date: Tuesday, December 14, 2021 11:55:16 AM

EXHIBIT # PT- 286

FILE ORD 21-098

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

To our wonderful Snohomish Co council members:

I believe it is imperative that you put this proposed tax increase to fund affordable housing in front of the voters and let them decide the old democratic way, by casting THEIR VOTE, THE GOVERNMENT SHOULD NOT DECIDE THIS, REMEMBER FOR THE PEOPLE BY THE PEOPLE!! The government has contributed greatly to insane cost of living in our area starting with existing tax policies, mitigation fees, water/sewer fees, permit fees, inspection fees, regulatory fees, and the list goes on. I am asking as a long time business owner to let the folks decide and keep government out of the way. Thank you.

Scott Perry
Tuscano's Italian Kitchen
Cell: 206 276-9601
Email: Scott@TuscanosItalian.com
www.TuscanosItalian.com

From: [STEVEN TORRENCE](#)
To: [Contact Council](#)
Subject: Affordable Housing
Date: Tuesday, December 14, 2021 11:56:46 AM

EXHIBIT # PT- 287

FILE ORD 21-098

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

There are people who have emergencies/problems in life which cause them to need help; they need support. However, I think people on drugs/alcohol who want to stay that way do not need free and even better places to stay. They need to change. (Society may help them do that.) However, supporting people who want to remain on drugs and alcohol doesn't help them or us. Those people need therapy to help them become constructive citizens, not ones demanding anything free from society. Life is being responsible and making responsible choices. Those of us who have tried to be responsible and who have worked/paid taxes to support society should NOT have to pay an "ever-growing" burden for those who don't want to make responsible choices.

SNOHOMISH COUNTY COUNCIL

From: [i> Regina Zull](#)
To: [Contact Council](#)
Subject: Do not raise the sales tax without a vote!
Date: Tuesday, December 14, 2021 11:59:40 AM

EXHIBIT # PT- 288
FILE ORD 21-098

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

I am a Snohomish county resident, a tax-payer, and a voter.
Please, do not raise the sales tax without a vote!

Regina Zull
Stanwood, WA

SNOHOMISH COUNTY COUNCIL

From: [Fred Sirianni](#)
To: [Contact Council](#)
Subject: Please reconsider
Date: Tuesday, December 14, 2021 12:01:01 PM

EXHIBIT # PT- 289
FILE ORD 21-098

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

Dear Snohomish County Council representatives –

Citizens rightly feel queasy about this latest effort to raise our taxes. The proposed sales tax increase is on top of myriad other taxes – including the poorly-designed long-term care “benefit” – being added. Please consider letting citizens decide on this one. It’s getting excessive.

Best –
Fred

FRED S. SIRIANNI | Vice President, Financial Advisor
fsirianni@dadco.com | 425.388.8498
D.A. Davidson & Co.

[My website and intro video](#)
[The Power of Planning video](#)



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SNOHOMISH COUNTY COUNCIL

From: [Charles Farmer](#)
To: [Contact Council](#)
Subject: Tax increase
Date: Tuesday, December 14, 2021 12:02:38 PM

EXHIBIT # PT- 290
FILE ORD 21-098

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

Dear Council,

Please NO NEW TAXES. I already pay \$10K in property tax a year to live here, then there is the gas tax, car tabs, sales tax, plus inflation!!!! I'm sure I'm missing other taxes. I'm retired and on a fixed income. That is enough taxes already! Most of my friends have moved to Idaho and Montana. For me, these conservative states are looking better and better. Government only knows how to raise taxes how about reducing them by 1% then live within a budget like the people do!!!!

Thank You and Merry Christmas if you can afford Christmas in 2021.

Charles Farmer
4257507448

Sent from my iPhone

SNOHOMISH COUNTY COUNCIL

EXHIBIT # PT- 291

From: [Joel Yinger](#)
To: [Contact Council](#)
Subject: Sales Tax Increase
Date: Tuesday, December 14, 2021 12:04:20 PM

FILE ORD 21-098

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

Hello Council,

I am writing to let you know that I strongly disagree with your tactic, to not let the VOTERS decide the outcome of the sales tax increase. At a time where many are suffering financial hardship, it is beyond comprehension that you would not let your constituents decide if timing is correct for additional taxes. If it passes fine, but let it be from vote by the people.

Best regards,
Joel Yinger

SNOHOMISH COUNTY COUNCIL

From: [Laurie Cooper](#)
To: [Contact Council](#)
Subject: HB1590
Date: Tuesday, December 14, 2021 12:11:32 PM

EXHIBIT # PT- 292

FILE ORD 21-098

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

I strongly support HB1590 for affordable housing.

Laurie Cooper
Voter in Edmonds

From: [Michael and Heather Bruce](#)
To: [Nehring, Nate](#); [Dunn, Megan](#); [Wright, Stephanie](#); [Mead, Jared](#); [Low, Sam](#); [Contact Council](#); [Lori McConnell](#); [Daniel Salinas](#)
Subject: Please put the sales tax increase option on a ballot....
Date: Tuesday, December 14, 2021 12:13:20 PM

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

Thank you for bringing this to our attention and giving us the opportunity to comment on this proposal. I am requesting that tomorrow's County Council vote places this proposal on the ballot for the people who pay these taxes to decide if they are willing to pay more taxes. The cost of living continues to grow at a staggering rate. Groceries are ridiculous and the cost of EVERYthing is going up dramatically. NObody's income is growing at this rate....at least the average consumer's paycheck is not....whether it's a Senior like me or a "poor working stiff."

Heather Bruce
District 4

EXHIBIT # PT- 294

From: [Yani Darling](#)
To: [Contact Council](#)
Subject: Proposed Sales Tax Increase for Affordable Housing & Behavioral Health
Date: Tuesday, December 14, 2021 12:21:01 PM

FILE ORD 21-098

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

Dear County Council,

I ask that this proposal be set aside by the council until it can be put on the ballot for the people to decide whether or not to increase the sales tax they would be paying. I urge you to consider your duty to represent the interests of Snohomish County residents and allow them to make their own well-informed decisions (with a bit more than two weeks' notice!) in proper fashion.

May you and yours be healthy this holiday season.

Regards,

Yani Sipes
425.530.0108
yanijd@gmail.com

SNOHOMISH COUNTY COUNCIL

EXHIBIT # PT- 295

From: [Julie Martinoli](#)
To: [Contact Council](#)
Subject: NO TAX INCREASE!!!!
Date: Tuesday, December 14, 2021 12:21:21 PM

FILE ORD 21-098

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

NO TAX INCREASE AT ALL! PERIOD!!!!!!

Julie Martinoli
Snohomish County Washington
425-359-2885

SNOHOMISH COUNTY COUNCIL

EXHIBIT # PT- 296

From: [Toni W](#)
To: [Contact Council](#)
Subject: Sales tax increase
Date: Tuesday, December 14, 2021 12:25:56 PM

FILE ORD 21-098

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

Please send the proposed sales tax increase to the ballot for a vote of the people.

Thank you,
Toni Wessar
(360) 840-7035

Sent from my Verizon, Samsung Galaxy smartphone

SNOHOMISH COUNTY COUNCIL

From: [Kyle Thannisch](#)
To: [Contact Council](#)
Subject: Opposing Ordinance 21-098
Date: Tuesday, December 14, 2021 12:32:49 PM

EXHIBIT # PT- 297
FILE ORD 21-098

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

Councilmembers,

Unfortunately, I will not be able to attend Wednesday's public comment session regarding the proposed sales tax increase, Ordinance 21-098. I would like to state my opposition to this tax increase regardless.

I have written you all previously regarding my opposition to this tax, but I would like to reiterate some of what I have said before the public comment session tomorrow.

First, residents of Snohomish County are already paying enough in taxes. Many families are being taxed out of their homes due to skyrocketing property values. I believe it is extremely insensitive to propose a sales tax increase, which is a regressive tax, while we are seeing such instability in our region. People are losing jobs and businesses and we are experiencing record-breaking inflation. Inflation is increasing the prices of essential goods at the highest rate in 40 years - an estimated 9% in the Puget Sound region. Inflation alone is crippling average families. Please, do not add another tax burden on the backs of already strained taxpayers.

Next, I do not believe that the proposed tax increase, if implemented, would help the homelessness crisis. If we look to King County as an example, they have implemented similar programs, and the housing purchased by the County becomes a center for crime while homelessness is not meaningfully decreased. I too want to help our neighbors in need, but I do not think a regressive tax to purchase housing for the homeless is the way to do it. Snohomish County should use the funds it already has to find new and innovative ways to help our less fortunate neighbors. We should not follow the lead of failing programs already implemented in our State.

Finally, a decision of this magnitude and that raises such controversy should be sent to the People for a vote. I know every issue cannot be sent to the voters, but I believe this should be an exception. Let people speak their minds through a vote. I know many people who have strong opinions on this issue, but cannot take time out of their busy schedules to attend midday weekday meeting. Many don't even have time to send a well worded email. As a matter of fact, the only people I have spoken to about this who have time to comment are those who are retired. I do not believe you will get a fair cross section of your constituents at tomorrow's meeting. Give people a chance to look over this issue thoroughly. Put it to a vote

of the People.

Thank you for your consideration. Have a wonderful week.

Respectfully,

Kyle Thannisch
(425) 501-0203
kthannisch@msn.com

SNOHOMISH COUNTY COUNCIL

EXHIBIT # PT- 298

From: [Matt Fowler](#)
To: [Contact Council](#)
Subject: Raising Sales tax a very bad idea
Date: Tuesday, December 14, 2021 12:43:40 PM

FILE ORD 21-098

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

At a time where inflation continues to erode away at our buying power, and where small businesses, trying to compete, are handcuffed by supply chain problems and labor shortages, this is a colossally bad idea! Seriously, whoever came up with this idea should be voted out as soon as possible. I cannot, for the life of me, understand why anyone on the County Council would support this idea. It makes you look desperate, uncaring and totally incompetent. As a small business owner in Snohomish County, my customers already complain about the 10.4% sales tax we are forced to charge them. Increasing this will make it worse. Why does government think it is a good idea to tax its people more at the worst times. It is truly unthinkable. Please cut the bloated, unnecessary spending and stop asking us and our customers to pay more at the worst possible time.

Best regards,
Matt Fowler
Snohomish County resident and owner of Shirts Illustrated, LLC in Lynnwood.

SNOHOMISH COUNTY COUNCIL

From: snterra@comcast.net
To: [Contact Council](#)
Subject: Sales tax increase
Date: Tuesday, December 14, 2021 12:48:22 PM

EXHIBIT # PT- 299

FILE ORD 21-098

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

I believe it is highly arrogant to increase the sales tax for any reason without a vote of the people. Furthermore, should this tax be enacted how will the proceeds be distributed?

From: [Ed Drabb](#)
To: [Contact Council](#)
Subject: Please don't raise the sales tax without a vote of the people
Date: Tuesday, December 14, 2021 12:57:34 PM

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

Hello.

I just wanted to recommend that you do not increase county taxes any further without a consenting vote of the people.

When inflation is gaining steam is the worst time to raise taxes

Our purchasing power is being diluted by rising prices. Do not reduce my spending power more by raising taxes. Especially without a vote of the people.

Sincerely.

Edward Drabb, BA, MBA
Arlington, WA

From: [Cynthia Weaver](#)
To: [Contact Council](#)
Subject: I support passage of Ordinance 21-098
Date: Tuesday, December 14, 2021 1:05:46 PM
Attachments: [image001.png](#)

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

As a longtime resident of Snohomish County, I was excited to hear about the possibility of this ordinance which will create much needed funding for affordable housing. This is such a small cost with such huge benefits. Stable housing is critical to not only getting the homeless off the streets, but keeping those that are on the brink of homeless from becoming homeless. We are in a crisis right now, with housing being the building block necessary to stabilize the lives of so many in our county, and by doing so, also improve the community for everyone, low income to high. It costs so much less to put this ordinance into place and create much needed housing than it does to deal with the ever increasing homeless population and the crime, drug use, nuisance issues, and poverty that homelessness perpetuates.

Please pass Ordinance 21-098.

Thank you.

	Cynthia Weaver VP, Relationship Manager M: 206-909-6834 1501 E. Madison St, Suite 100, Seattle, WA 98122
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From: hbargreen@aol.com
To: [Contact Council](#)
Subject: New Property taxes
Date: Tuesday, December 14, 2021 1:08:36 PM

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

Please give the Snohomish County voters a chance to approve any new taxes.

I am for any tax that will get rid of illegal drugs.

Probably that would eliminate most of the County Criminal Justice System.

No wonder we cannot get rid of illegal drugs.

Howie Bargreen

From: [GIL HUGHES](#)
To: [Contact Council](#)
Subject: Tax increase proposal
Date: Tuesday, December 14, 2021 1:10:12 PM

EXHIBIT # PT- 303

FILE ORD 21-098

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

The tax increase proposal you are considering tomorrow should be voted on by Snohomish tax payers instead. Please do not do this without a vote of the people.

Thank you,
Gilbert Hughes

Get [Outlook for Android](#)

From: [DAVID TOMULTY](#)
To: [Contact Council](#)
Subject: sales tax
Date: Tuesday, December 14, 2021 1:17:06 PM

EXHIBIT # PT- 304

FILE ORD 21-098

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

This needs to be sent to the people of Washington for a vote. Even if we vote it down the dumocrat communist party will nullify our vote. They did it with the tabs initiative.

From: [Wright, Stephanie](#)
To: [Lao, Elena](#)
Subject: FW: Here's my strong support for the sales tax to provide more affordable housing.
Date: Tuesday, December 14, 2021 12:29:53 PM

From: Karen Guzak <karenguzak@gmail.com>
Sent: Tuesday, December 14, 2021 12:23 PM
To: Wright, Stephanie <Stephanie.Wright@co.snohomish.wa.us>; Mead, Jared <Jared.Mead@co.snohomish.wa.us>; Low, Sam <Sam.Low@co.snohomish.wa.us>; Dunn, Megan <Megan.Dunn@co.snohomish.wa.us>; Nehring, Nate <nate.nehring@co.snohomish.wa.us>
Subject: Here's my strong support for the sales tax to provide more affordable housing.

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

I strongly urge you to take action to increase the number of new affordable units in the county. This is a change of a lifetime to do something substantial to improve our communities and meet the needs of so many - families, children, veterans.

Mental health and physical health are all tied to housing. So, this is an opportunity to increase the health of our citizens.

Put me in the YES column....along with our Snohomish City Council members who took action for the benefit of our small city.

Karen Guzak
www.KarenGuzak.com
www.AngelArmsWorks.net
www.YogaCircleStudio.com
360-568-1000

SNOHOMISH COUNTY COUNCIL

From: [W Sapp](#)
To: [Contact Council](#)
Subject: Proposed Sales Tax Increase
Date: Tuesday, December 14, 2021 1:20:30 PM

EXHIBIT # PT- 306

FILE ORD 21-098

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

Hello

Our sales tax rate in Mukilteo is already one of the highest in the nation. Pls request that the sales tax increase proposal be sent to the ballot, so we the people can vote on this matter.

Thanks

Wanda Tilke-Sapp
875 Goat Trail Loop Rd
Mukilteo. WA. 98275

SNOHOMISH COUNTY COUNCIL

From: [MT Hoornstra](#)
To: [Contact Council](#)
Subject: Against sales tax increase
Date: Tuesday, December 14, 2021 1:25:58 PM

EXHIBIT # PT- 307

FILE ORD 21-098

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

Hello,

I am against the proposed sales tax increase in Snohomish County. I urge you to put forth this proposal in a vote to the citizens of the county. We are already hit hard by high sales taxes as well as property taxes, and this puts undue financial strain on the citizens of our community.

Sincerely,
Tifani Hoornstra
Snohomish resident

Sent from my iPhone

EXHIBIT # PT- 308

FILE ORD 21-098

From: [Jere-n-Lynn Wright](#)
To: [Contact Council](#)
Subject: Sales tax
Date: Tuesday, December 14, 2021 1:28:14 PM

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

We are opposed to an increase in the sales tax. Inflation is hitting all of us hard enough. Any tax increase needs to be put to a vote of the citizens of Snohomish County.
Respectfully,
Lynn and Jere Wright

From: [Kathy](#)
To: [Contact Council](#)
Subject: Proposed Tax Increase Needs Our vote
Date: Tuesday, December 14, 2021 1:34:08 PM

EXHIBIT # PT- 309

FILE ORD 21-098

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

Dear Folks,

I am requesting that the proposed Snohomish County sales tax increase be placed on the ballot for the vote of the people. This is something very serious that will detrimentally affect thousands of county residents. We all deserve the chance to vote in favor or against such a large increase. People also need more information regarding how such an increase in revenue will be dispersed in order to make an informed vote. This information should have been sent to all county residents.

Sincerely,

Kathleen Fitzpatrick kmffgf@frontier.com 1608 Hoyt Avenue Everett WA 98201



SNOHOMISH COUNTY COUNCIL

From: [Victor Sandblom](#)
To: [Contact Council](#)
Subject: Sales tax
Date: Tuesday, December 14, 2021 1:35:41 PM

EXHIBIT # PT- 310
FILE ORD 21-098

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

Dear council,
Please put this to a vote of the people. We need to be included in any significant tax increases .
Thank you,
Victor Sandblom

Sent from my iPhone

SNOHOMISH COUNTY COUNCIL

From: [T.Potter](#)
To: [Contact Council](#)
Subject: Tax increase
Date: Tuesday, December 14, 2021 1:50:12 PM

EXHIBIT # PT- 311

FILE ORD 21-098

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

The proposed sales tax increase to be voted on by the Snohomish County Council should be rejected. The economic impact it will have on already struggling families and businesses is unacceptable. Many residents of Snohomish County have lost their businesses, jobs and security. To even consider adding to this burden shows a complete disconnect between the people governing and the people they are supposed to be representing. Any member who votes to impose this tax will be met with strong disapproval in any future elections. More taxes are not the solution to homelessness nor affordable housing. Responsible spending of the moneys already collected is the solution. The voting public sees through these veiled attempts to increase taxes in under the claim of social good.
Teal M Burkhead

From: [Carolyn Strong](#)
To: [Contact Council](#)
Subject: Please take the tax hike vote to the people
Date: Tuesday, December 14, 2021 2:05:36 PM

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

Dear County Council Members,

I am writing to you to request that you do not raise the sales tax. At the very least, please stick with the tradition of letting the people of Snohomish County vote on this important matter that affects our families, budgets and livability in Snohomish County. Sales tax in this county are already extremely high. Now with the recent increase in property taxes, along with the other taxes we pay the state and cities, the burden is overwhelming to many of us.

The advisory votes from the past election show that residents do not want more taxes. The county has received 100s of millions from the taxpayers already through the federal government Covid relief grants. Sales tax was already \$12 million over expectation in 2020.

Please let those who voted you into office, vote on this tax. By voting this tax hike in with a simple council majority, you show no confidence in your constituents' ability to decide for themselves on how their money should be spent.

We are a government for the people, by the people and of the people. Please take the vote on raising the sales tax to the PEOPLE.

Thank you,

Carolyn Strong
Edmonds

SNOHOMISH COUNTY COUNCIL

EXHIBIT # PT- 313

FILE ORD 21-098

From: [Blanch, Jess](#)
To: [Contact Council](#)
Subject: Ordinance 21-098
Date: Tuesday, December 14, 2021 2:21:18 PM
Attachments: [image002.png](#)
[Snohomish County Council Testimony 12.15.21.pdf](#)

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

Council Chair Wright and Members of the Council:

Please accept the attached written testimony regarding Ordinance 21-098, the local implementation of House Bill 1590. On behalf of Enterprise Community Partners, **I am writing in strong support of the proposed ordinance to enact a 0.1% sales tax increase, countywide, for behavior health & affordable housing.**

Thank you,

Jess Blanch, Assoc. AIA [she/her]

Program Director

Pacific Northwest

206.204.3425

enterprisecommunity.org

 **Enterprise**



December 14, 2021

Snohomish County Council

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

Council Chair Wright and Members of the Council:

Please accept my written testimony regarding Ordinance 21-098, the local implementation of House Bill 1590. On behalf of Enterprise Community Partners, **I am writing in strong support of the proposed ordinance to enact a 0.1% sales tax increase, countywide, for behavioral health & affordable housing.**

Enterprise is a national nonprofit that exists to make a good home possible for the millions of families without one. We support community development organizations on the ground, aggregate and invest capital for impact, advance housing policy at every level of government, and build and manage communities ourselves. Since 1982, we have invested \$44 billion and created 781,000 homes across all 50 states – all to make home and community places of pride, power and belonging.

In many of Washington's densely populated areas, housing is expensive. The combination of skyrocketing land costs, zoning and regulatory requirements, and labor and materials costs translate into high rents. Studio and 1-bedroom rents are \$1,000-\$1,500 per month and 2-bedroom rents can climb as high as \$2,000 per month. These rents are simply out of reach for many members of our community—people earning minimum wages in retail and restaurants, child and health care workers, seniors and people with disabilities.

Building affordable housing with public subsidy is a proven solution. By enacting HB 1590, Snohomish County will make our local affordable housing development proposals feasible and make them more competitive for state and federal resources such as the state Housing Trust Fund and the federal bond and tax credit programs administered by the Housing Finance Commission.

Even though a sales tax increase may not be our first choice, the 0.1% sales tax is the tool the legislature has granted local governments to tackle affordable housing. And, it is estimated that households earning \$30,000 a year or less will pay no more than \$9.00 a year in additional tax. Since the pandemic has only exacerbated the affordable housing crisis, Snohomish County can no longer wait to act.

Affordable housing is critical for our local communities. This ordinance is key to creating lasting solutions that move people to permanent, stable homes and help restore our region's economic and public health. When our neighbors are housed, children do better in school, employment opportunities increase, and health outcomes improve. I strongly encourage this Council to pass Ordinance 21-098 and enact HB 1590 for behavioral health & affordable housing, and a better Snohomish County.

Sincerely,

Jess Blanch, Edmonds resident
Program Director
Enterprise Community Partners, Pacific Northwest
www.enterprisecommunity.org

From: [Debbie](#)
To: [Contact Council](#)
Subject: I oppose the proposed Sales tax increase for affordable housing
Date: Tuesday, December 14, 2021 2:22:10 PM

EXHIBIT # PT-314
FILE ORD 21-098

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

Like the VAST MAJORITY of my neighbors and friends, I oppose the tax request for affordable housing.

I direct the County Council to put this proposal on the ballot and let the people decide whether to increase sales taxes.

Out-of-control inflation is destroying lower and middle income families; it is the height of the Council's arrogance and callousness to put further tax burden on already suffering citizens. I cannot believe that the County council would propose this, nor consider approving it!!

SNOHOMISH COUNTY COUNCIL

EXHIBIT # PT- 315

FILE ORD 21-098

From: [Howard Fankhauser](#)
To: [Contact Council](#)
Subject: HB1590
Date: Tuesday, December 14, 2021 2:49:28 PM

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

I strongly support HB1590 for affordable housing.
Howard Fankhauser
Edmonds, Wa.

From: [Keith Reyes](#)
To: [Contact Council](#)
Subject: SALES TAX INCREASES
Date: Tuesday, December 14, 2021 2:54:34 PM

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

Let the People of Snohomish County have the Last WORD.. Place this issue on a Ballot and let Democracy Speak for ITSELF. GOD BLESS AMERICA...

Best Regards,

Keith F. Reyes, CAS,
USN (DV/SWCC/SERE) Ret.

Deputy (Medical Retirement)
Snohomish County Sheriff's Office (SCSO)

Past Jr. Vice Commander
Military Order of The Purple Heart (MOPH)
Department of Washington State

Humble, Quiet, Resilient, Instrument of Service, Always Give, Hope, Light, Console,
Understand, Pardon, Grace..
"St. Francis of Assisi."

"The Wicked Flee When None Pursueth"
PROVERBS 28:1

Confidential Encrypted Email Outlook.com

From: [Jim Hill](#)
To: [Contact Council](#)
Subject: property tax increase
Date: Tuesday, December 14, 2021 2:56:34 PM

EXHIBIT # PT-317

FILE ORD 21-098

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

To whom it may concern,

There seems to be an agenda to make retired people like me more tax poor. I must sell and leave or pay for someone's social program of affordable housing.

This is where socialism intersects with those already on the edge. Ironic that you will drive people out to make it affordable for others.

My wife and I are lifelong Snohomish county residents in Lake Stevens, retired and raised our children here. We will have little choice but to sell and move if these regressive taxes are implemented. This is the last punch on us during these high inflationary times. Some on the council seem disconnected from the realities of average people trying to keep up.

Jim Hill
Lake Stevens

From: [Elaine Niemann](#)
To: [Contact Council](#)
Subject: Increase in County Tax
Date: Tuesday, December 14, 2021 3:31:03 PM

EXHIBIT # PT-318

FILE ORD 21-098

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

Good afternoon! I understand that council will be getting together tomorrow to vote on the implementation of a higher county tax.

I will not be able to attend the meeting to voice my concerns in person and so I am writing you in hopes that you will consider tabling this matter and putting it to a vote of the residents of Snohomish County.

There are already so many households and businesses struggling to stay afloat, this certainly is not the time to add to our burden.

Thank you for your consideration.

Elaine
Elaine M. Niemann
6131 41st Avenue NE, Marysville
c) 908-268-2216

SNOHOMISH COUNTY COUNCIL

From: [Sandra Higgins](#)
To: [Contact Council](#)
Subject: Taxes
Date: Tuesday, December 14, 2021 3:45:53 PM

EXHIBIT # PT- 319

FILE ORD 21-098

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

I have written about this before. The last thing we can handle right now is an increase in taxes. Decrease your spending and stay within a budget like the rest of us have to do. Please no tax hike. Put it to a vote if your constituents.

Sandy Higgins

Sent from my iPhone

From: [Jeff & Melinna Nicely](#)
To: [Contact Council](#)
Subject: Please pass Ordinance 21-098
Date: Tuesday, December 14, 2021 4:09:21 PM

EXHIBIT # PT- 320
FILE ORD 21-098

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

County Council members,

Please accept this as my input in support for your action, subsequent to the December 15 Public Hearing, to approve adoption of Snohomish County Ordinance 21-098. After due deliberation, the State Legislature enabled Cities and Counties to take action without a vote of the people to create a local means for addressing the ongoing housing crisis. Advocates, pro and con, were heard during the last legislative session and now it is your turn to vote to adopt the small increase in the sales tax to make a huge impact on affordable housing production and the lives of our low-income neighbors and community members.

I have spent the past 36 years of my professional career living in this county while working in non-profit housing and mental health services, often frustrated by the incrementalism of public policy and action in addressing these community needs. The ordinance before you is a game-changer in our collective ability to be truly impactful.

I have great disdain for this state's highly regressive tax structure - let's tackle that issue together another day. This very small addition to the sales tax at this time of crisis will create major lasting benefits for low-income community members and the health and well-being of the county as a whole that will far outweigh any cries of foul you may be hearing.

You've been handed a tool to address a dire situation. Please exercise your leadership and use that tool to make a very positive and immediate impact on our need for increasing the supply of and access to affordable housing and related services. Pass Ordinance 21-098.

Jeff Nicely
27827 59th Avenue NE
Arlington, WA 98223
425-359-3755

From: [Nehring, Nate](#)
To: [Contact Council](#)
Subject: FW: Proposed Ordinance 21-098 -- Affordable Housing Sales and Use Tax
Date: Tuesday, December 14, 2021 4:10:57 PM
Attachments: [image001.png](#)
[image002.png](#)

EXHIBIT # PT- 321FILE ORD 21-098

From: Brian Holtzclaw <brian@village-life.net>

Sent: Tuesday, December 14, 2021 4:07 PM

To: Nehring, Nate <nate.nehring@co.snohomish.wa.us>; Mead, Jared <Jared.Mead@co.snohomish.wa.us>

Subject: Proposed Ordinance 21-098 -- Affordable Housing Sales and Use Tax

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

Councilmembers Nehring and Mead,

Unfortunately, my schedule will not allow me to attend the hearing tomorrow regarding this proposed ordinance.

As I have spoken with both of you regarding this proposal I wanted to submit my comments for the record as a resident of Mill Creek (14604 32nd Dr SE, Mill Creek, WA 98012).

I believe a proposal like this should be put to the voters of Snohomish County and not adopted by "councilmatic" action.

I have substantive concerns with the proposed affordable housing tax. I liken this tax increase to treating a cold with Sudafed. It makes you feel better for a short time but doesn't do anything to address the underlying illness.

The fundamental and driving factor in our housing affordability crisis is the lack of supply of housing at all segments of the market. That lack of supply is driving the cost of land on which to build housing "through the roof" (pun intended). This housing tax will do nothing to increase the supply of land on which to build.

So if this tax were to be adopted, and without doing anything to address the lack of supply that is driving up land prices, the only choice going forward will be to keep increasing this tax in the future as the cost of housing continues to soar. That would be nothing but a band aid on a patient who is hemorrhaging.

Further, purporting to address housing affordability through an increase in the sales and use tax is not good public policy. The sales and use tax is regressive. It disproportionately impacts people at the lower end of the economic spectrum and will make the goods and services they buy more expensive; even more so given the current inflation in the economy. Thus, increasing the sales tax to address housing affordability would negatively impact the most the very people for whom you are trying to make housing more affordable.

Adopting this tax might make some feel better because they think they will be doing something for affordable housing. But this tax would do nothing to address the underlying causes that are driving the housing affordability crisis in Snohomish County and the Puget Sound region.

In closing, as a resident of Mill Creek I believe the decision whether to impose this tax should be left to the voters. Substantively, I do not support this tax for all the reasons I have stated.

Please include my comments in the record for proposed Ordinance 21-098.

Thank you for considering my comments.

Best regards,

B



Brian Holtzclaw

General Counsel

C: 425.478.7453 (preferred)

O: 425.678.1471

[19020 33rd Ave West | Suite 450
Lynnwood, WA 98036](#)



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From: [joehifly](#)
To: [Contact Council](#)
Subject: NO on any proposed tax increase!
Date: Tuesday, December 14, 2021 4:36:42 PM

EXHIBIT # PT-322FILE ORD 21-098

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

Dear Snohomish County Council members;

I just got wind of a new tax you want to impose on us. I strongly oppose this, because it is both inappropriate and excessive. It is in my opinion irresponsible, and abuse of the taxpayer. As a 46-year-long resident of this county, I have experienced a gradual increase in the *percentage* I am being taxed for education, fire, roads, and more. Yet the population, the taxpayer base, has increased tremendously.

The percentage should remain the same or be reduced, because the population increase has been huge, and all these new taxpayers should be adequate to fund all the county's required services and then some.

If it is NOT enough, then perhaps it is time to do some inward inspection regarding where the county may have become bloated, inefficient and wasteful, and tighten up those leaks.

Taxes always go up, never down, because government agencies have no strong incentive to be frugal. This is because the money is confiscated from those who earned it, and is distributed by people who did not.

And hey, if you run out, or come up with a new idea for spending *more* taxpayer money, instead of exercising fiscal restraint and respecting the resident taxpayers, the knee-jerk response is to just pass a new or increased tax! Easy, boom, done!

And how did so many people become homeless in the first place? We citizen taxpayers didn't do it, except perhaps by electing people who embrace the social decay we are witnessing.

Several factors have certainly contributed to this problem at which you want to throw [our] money:

1. Relaxed drug arrests and fewer prosecutions have told people who traffic and use addictive, life-destroying drugs that it's OK to do it. So, they do more, and ruin their lives. Also, allowing public begging tells people it is just fine to do, and so people give them money which is often spent on more drugs as quickly as it was given to them.
2. Allowing people to live in tent-camps on county-owned property, where they discard trash, human waste and used drug-injection needles, where they are taught to show a disrespect and disregard for the rule of law, which the county has seemed to ignore.

These things are evidence of the county shirking its duty to keep the region safe, clean and livable, as our laws and conduct should protect and preserve.

So, who should fix this?

It isn't is. It is Government; YOU. It doesn't take another tax on the citizens, all it take is for all of YOU to do the jobs you were elected to do.

Support police efforts to reduce crime. Stop hamstringing their funding.

Have the County Court system prosecute more crime. When smaller crimes are not prosecuted, it tells the person who committed the crime that they can get away with it. And so, they commit MORE crime, bigger crimes.

It blows my mind that all across the nation we are seeing a HUGE increase in theft, drug use, assault, homelessness, waste, suicides and homicides, protests, terrorism and anarchy, all increasing, because of government officials not doing their jobs well, not arresting and prosecuting criminals, and instead, killing off countless small businesses with arbitrary, selective and punitive Covid restrictions, and then you want to tax us more to fix problems that were created by the mismanagement of government.

I say NO! Do NOT pass a punitive tax on us, because YOU caused this, not us.

The cities, counties and states that reward bad behavior and punish the taxpayer to fund more projects need to stop it and be better servants to the people they represent; ALL of us.

You are the problem, not us, coddling lawlessness, defunding police, funding non-working people, and not enforcing the laws against litter, theft, drug selling, public drug abuse, all of it; you; not us.

Do your jobs better instead of squeezing more from the taxpayer. Show more respect for the taxpayers. Don't just keep milking us like cattle. Throwing money at problems does not resolve them. Often it just creates more bureaucracy and dependence.

No new tax.

Sincerely,
Joel Kolbo
Maltby, WA

Sent via the Samsung Galaxy S® 6, an AT&T 4G LTE smartphone

SNOHOMISH COUNTY COUNCIL

From: [Evelyn Seymour](#)
To: [Contact Council](#)
Subject: Support for Ordinance 21-098
Date: Tuesday, December 14, 2021 4:45:15 PM

EXHIBIT # PT- 323

FILE ORD 21-098

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

Hi Council,

I support passage of Ordinance 21-098. I volunteer to provide support for Packs for Kids so that they have food on the weekend but am shocked to learn how many of these children do not have safe housing. We must help them and their parents to live in our community where housing is beyond the reach of so many people.

Evelyn Seymour
6419 125th Pl SW
Mukilteo, WA 98275

SNOHOMISH COUNTY COUNCIL

From: [SUZANNE M MILLIKEN](#)
To: [Contact Council](#)
Subject: Tax increase
Date: Tuesday, December 14, 2021 5:01:40 PM

EXHIBIT # PT- 324

FILE ORD 21-098

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

Please, please, please do not raise our taxes. As you know, we are getting hit with additional taxes besides this one. Taxes, prices on EVERYTHING, etc. are going up, but NOT wages.

I am seriously stressed out about all of these taxes as I already live paycheck to paycheck. I cannot even make ends meet.

Please take into consideration how this will effect the people. I work really hard, and I can never get ahead. Not mention how many people will leave this county.

TY.

Suzanne Milliken
Longtime Snohomish County resident
Sent from my iPad

SNOHOMISH COUNTY COUNCIL

From: [Paul Goertz](#)
To: [Contact Council](#)
Subject: Affordable housing sales tax increases. No
Date: Tuesday, December 14, 2021 5:10:54 PM

EXHIBIT # PT- 325

FILE ORD 21-098

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

I'm paying too many taxes already. We need abolish property taxes on our homes. We never truly own our homes while government has the power to take our homes from us due to unpaid taxes. It's not American to push the elderly from their homes due to this un-American and evil policy. Paul Goertz

SNOHOMISH COUNTY COUNCIL

From: [Steve Gregory](#)
To: [Contact Council](#)
Subject: sales tax hike
Date: Tuesday, December 14, 2021 5:11:30 PM

EXHIBIT # PT- 326

FILE ORD 21-098

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

My name is Stephen Gregory
925 edmonds Street
Edmonds wa 98020

As a small business person and voting resident of Snohomish county for 40 years I am Not in favor of a sales tax hike. We already have one of the highest sales tax rates in the country and it is such a regressive tax hurting the residents that can least afford it. Please bring this to a vote of the people as has always been done in the past.

Thank you for your consideration

--



Stephen Gregory

Gregory Dill & Company

steve@gregorydill.com

SNOHOMISH COUNTY COUNCIL

From: [Pat MacDonald](#)
To: [Contact Council](#)
Subject: Ordinance 21-098
Date: Tuesday, December 14, 2021 5:18:55 PM

EXHIBIT # PT- 327

FILE ORD 21-098

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

I'm a resident and homeowner in unincorporated Snohomish County. I urge the council to pass this new tax, without either of the proposed amendments. Our county is facing an affordable housing crisis. Every little bit helps and I'm happy to pay this tax if it will make even a small dent in the problem.

Patrick MacDonald
Snohomish County, WA

From: [Uncle Gilbert Ruiz Pitmaster](#)
To: [Contact Council](#)
Subject: I oppose the new sales tax proposal
Date: Tuesday, December 14, 2021 5:35:27 PM

EXHIBIT # PT- 328

FILE ORD 21-098

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

Dear County Counsel Members.

As a property owner and long time resident of Snohomish County I oppose a sales tax increase based on providing affordable housing. Considering we have not recovered from a Pandemic, inflation is at a record high, crime and shortages in staff with law enforcement and other services etc.

You have bigger fish to fry. It's an ambitious proposition, however this would take take years to implement and all the other issues infrastructure and building out units.

Sorry to say it but it's not prudent to put it politely.

LET THE TAX PAYING RESIDENTS VOTE, not the council. Stop listening to the activists and pay attention to the tax payers.

Sincerely,

Gil Ruiz

Sent from my iPhone

EXHIBIT # PT- 329

FILE ORD 21-098

From: [Rick Hanson](#)
To: [Contact Council](#)
Subject: NO NEW TAXES!!!!
Date: Tuesday, December 14, 2021 5:35:55 PM

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

To whom it may concern;

Please do not raise the sales tax. People can't afford any more taxes. What we need is a relief from taxes (a lowering of taxes) NOT an increase!!!!!!

Regards

Rick Hanson.

Sent from my iPhone

From: [Dan Rivisto](#)
To: [Contact Council](#)
Subject: Increased Tax proposal
Date: Tuesday, December 14, 2021 5:44:01 PM

EXHIBIT # PT- 330

FILE ORD 21-098

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

Dear Snohomish County Council,

I respectfully ask the question why are you considering this at this time? Maybe you haven't notice but Inflation is BACK! I will be 67 in April and though not retired (I cannot afford to) and with the record increase to my social security is promised to start next month, I can guarantee you, it comes far short of increasing what it takes for me to get by. My grocery shopping has been a trip filled with making decisions about what I can get by without instead of what my wife and I need. The what we want conversation stopped long ago and I know I am not alone. And with this backdropped you want to raise taxes?! You want to increase the number of homeless by making it harder for us working folks to make it? I am trying to figure out with increased rents coming how I can find an extra \$300-\$400 a month I am budgeting to get by without serious changes in our lifestyle. And to boot, I actually make a decent living working still, so I can only imagine if I was retired and unable to work. Stop this madness. The taxpayer is not an endless and bottomless pit you can dip into to look good to voters. Stop spending so much, cut your salaries (something I have never seen a politician do) and make some tough decisions we empowered you to do and NOT RAISE TAXES on us.

Meanwhile though I know there is a Zoom meeting to consider this decision, I will be at work, trying to make up for the 7 weeks of medical leave I HAD TO TAKE RECENTLY. Times are hard enough. Stop being part of what is making things harder. Please. Please do not increase our taxes.

Respectively,

Dan Rivisto

3333 164th ST SW,

Lynnwood, WA 98087

206-552-0099

drivisto@outlook.com

SNOHOMISH COUNTY COUNCIL

From: [Rich](#)
To: [Contact Council](#)
Subject: Sales tax increase
Date: Tuesday, December 14, 2021 6:07:40 PM

EXHIBIT # PT- 331

FILE ORD 21-098

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

Snohomish County Council,

I understand you are proposing an increase to the sales tax. I am opposed to this increase and if you are determined to raise taxes on Snohomish county residents, I request that you put the proposal on the ballot for the citizens to vote on.

Sincerely,
Rich Carton

SNOHOMISH COUNTY COUNCIL

From: [Garrett Pagon](#)
To: [Contact Council](#)
Subject: Sales Tax
Date: Tuesday, December 14, 2021 6:23:32 PM

EXHIBIT # PT- 332

FILE ORD 21-098

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

Councilmembers

I filed and organized an initiative campaign that repealed an unpopular sales tax increase many years ago. My initiative put this tax increase on the ballot, and the people voted overwhelmingly for repeal.

The proposed sales tax increase should not be adopted at all and, if adopted, it should certainly not be adopted without a vote of the people.

Garry Pagon
C: (425) 238-7632

SNOHOMISH COUNTY COUNCIL

From: [Sky Valley Family Farm](#)
To: [Contact Council](#)
Subject: please put tax to fund affordable housing to a vote
Date: Tuesday, December 14, 2021 7:03:20 PM

EXHIBIT # PT- 333

FILE ORD 21-098

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

Dear Snohomish County Council Members,

I am requesting that you put the proposed tax to fund affordable housing and behavioral house on the ballot. Allow the people who live in Snohomish County to make the decision as you were voted into office to represent those living in Snohomish County. What better way to know the people's desire than to let them vote! The polls will give you direction as to the people's will.

Thank you for your consideration.

Cindy Rappuhn
14013 363rd ave se
Sultan 98294

From: [Catherine Martin](#)
To: [Contact Council](#)
Subject: Proposed sales tax increase for housing
Date: Tuesday, December 14, 2021 8:15:30 PM

EXHIBIT # PT- 334

FILE ORD 21-098

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

Dear Council Members,

It concerns me that the county is extending funds to purchase property rather than helping people achieve the help to maintain housing for themselves. Government owning personal property should be discouraged. Advancing the health of a prosperous community should be encouraged.

It appears to me that the council is taking a step towards communism. It appears to me that the leaders in Snohomish county are no longer independent in their ideals to maintain a strong republic, but rather are being coerced into liberal ideologies on a path to communism with an end result of citizens "owning nothing and being happy" per Claus Schwab. Agenda 21 is indeed being carried out by our leaders.

My hope is that the leadership in Snohomish County step back from the politics and get real about the problems we face walking down the street and in our homes. We can open up our services to immigrants giving them everything they need, but our own citizens on the street suffer because our system has left them hopeless, searching for any thing to make them happy. Sadly the street and its perversions have taken hold with drugs and crime; desperate means. We leave them to die on the streets and to assault our neighborhoods and businesses. These people have no will of their own. Their addiction controls them. They need help. Stop assuming the lie that they have to be ready. They don't have the clear mind to make that decision. That should be obvious! Allow the system we have to incarcerate them for crimes and treat them for their addiction. Social Services to help those entrapped. Drug test people on public assistance so we know our tax dollars are not being used for drugs.. Our problem is that we don't have long term recovery programs and our procecutors are unwilling to seek justice for the victims. Again, this is a communist system, allowing crime to thrive, giving reason for more taxation that funds friends of the elect and never solves the problem that festers fear in the citizens so they continue to allow more taxation.

Get a grip on reality and stop feeding into exaggerated problems. We can solve our problems, if we address them with real solutions which don't depend on more tax dollars but smart solutions by existing resources. Stop hiring people for their political loyalty and hire people for there qualifications, job performance and previous accomplishments.

I trust the Snohomish County Council does not enter us into contracts that force their hand when accepting federal or state funding. Being forced to tow the line of political issues, real or created, for funding is morally wrong.

In a time when inflation is at levels we've rarely seen, increasing taxes is harmful to taxpayers. With the increased values in properties, we should have funds to support upward mobility to independent living and hopefully home ownership.

Do the right thing. Do Not raise taxes in Snohomish County.

Catherine Martin
Snohomish County Resident

Sent from my Verizon, Samsung Galaxy smartphone
Get [Outlook for Android](#)

From: [Michael Turk](#)
To: [Contact Council](#)
Subject: tax increase for affordable housing and behavioral health
Date: Tuesday, December 14, 2021 8:20:18 PM

EXHIBIT # PT- 335

FILE ORD 21-098

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

Tax increases, for free handouts, haven't proven to be very successful at helping people become , contributing members of society. I don't support the idea of giving away more.

Sent from my Verizon, Samsung Galaxy smartphone
Get [Outlook for Android](#)

From: [Vasheti Quiros](#)
To: [Contact Council](#)
Subject: I support the passage of Ordinance 21-098
Date: Tuesday, December 14, 2021 8:20:20 PM

EXHIBIT # PT- 336

FILE ORD 21-098

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

Dear Snohomish County Council Members,

I support the passage of Ordinance 21-098. It would raise approximately \$23M per year for affordable housing and behavioral health and double the current rate of affordable housing production in Snohomish County.

Right now, there are more than 20,000 households in Snohomish County with annual incomes of \$34,500 or less that are spending more than 50% of that income just on housing. The Fair Market Rent for a two-bedroom apartment in Snohomish County is \$2,099. A household would need a total annual income of \$83,960 (\$40.37hr) to afford this apartment.

In 2020, there were 1,132 people living unsheltered in Snohomish County and over 3,000 school-age children living on the street, in cars, in hotel/motels, or doubled and tripled-up with others in the 2019/20 school year.

When people have a home...

- Children do better in school
- Employment opportunities and income levels increase
- Medical & mental health outcomes are better
- Communities thrive and people prosper when everyone lives in a safe, healthy, affordable home

It costs far less to house and treat someone than it does to jail them or take them to the emergency room. Each \$1 of local funding typically leverages \$10 of additional funding. This sales tax will raise approximately \$23M per year which translates into a potential \$230M investment in our people and our communities in Snohomish County. Building affordable housing creates high-wage construction jobs.

Getting people off the streets and into a safe, healthy, affordable home is a public safety measure. Housing and treatment are a much more effective and long-term solution to homelessness than a police response.

Children do better in school, adults do better in the job market and families thrive when they live in a safe, healthy, and affordable homes.

Vasheti Quiros

Director of Operations

Snohomish County Music Project
Pronouns: she/her

Main: 425.258.1605

Cell: 425.553.9300

www.scMusicProject.org

We acknowledge that we occupy the ancestral lands of the Snohomish (sduhubš) people and other Coast Salish tribes. We commit to anticolonial, healing work that honors Indigenous ancestors and contemporary Indigenous people.

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SNOHOMISH COUNTY COUNCIL

From: [John Tellesbo](#)
To: [Contact Council](#)
Subject: New tax for housing
Date: Tuesday, December 14, 2021 8:20:23 PM

EXHIBIT # PT- 337

FILE ORD 21-098

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

It's not fair for us to pay the housing costs for drug addicts. You want to help, force them in to treatment centers

John T
27202 Meridian Ave N, Arlington, WA 98223

This e-mail sent via-phone, please excuse misspellings and grammar errors.

From: [Tonja Cram](#)
To: [Contact Council](#)
Subject: Ordinance 21-098
Date: Tuesday, December 14, 2021 8:22:33 PM

EXHIBIT # PT- 338

FILE ORD 21-098

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

We fully support Ordinance 21-098 and expect the council to approve it. Providing affordable housing and behavioral health care to those in need must be a priority if the council hopes to address crime, attract business, and create a healthier community.

Sincerely,
James Cram
Tonja Cram
Jamie Nicole Cram

Registered voters who vote in every election.

SNOHOMISH COUNTY COUNCIL

From: dtumbleweed1968@aol.com
To: [Contact Council](#)
Subject: To Sno. Co Council - Sales Tax Increase
Date: Tuesday, December 14, 2021 8:24:21 PM

EXHIBIT # PT- 339

FILE ORD 21-098

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

Please do not raise the sales tax. The sales tax in Lynnwood is already a shocking 10.5% which disproportionately is paid by the working poor and lower income workers. Please learn to live within your budget like residents have to.

Thank you,

Denise Raupach

SNOHOMISH COUNTY COUNCIL

From: [Dan & Joan Harvey](#)
To: [Contact Council](#)
Subject: Snohomish Co. Council proposal to increase sales tax
Date: Tuesday, December 14, 2021 8:26:38 PM

EXHIBIT # PT- 340

FILE ORD 21-098

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

We are asking the County Council to put this proposal on the ballot and let the people decide whether to increase sales taxes for affordable housing.

We also feel this proposal is an attempt to quickly push a new tax on the citizens pretty much behind their backs without adequate public input.

Dan and Joan Harvey

4209 – 145th PL S.E.

Snohomish, WA 98296

SNOHOMISH COUNTY COUNCIL

From: [Rocky Palombo](#)
To: [Contact Council](#)
Subject: Sale Tax Increase
Date: Tuesday, December 14, 2021 8:40:32 PM

EXHIBIT # PT- 341

FILE ORD 21-098

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

> Dear Snohomish County Council.

> I write this to voice my opposition to the consideration of raising the sales tax rate to 10.1% without a vote of the people.

> My understanding is that the tax increase will somehow help the homeless. I haven't seen a plan for this. Is there one? If there is, how will success or failure be measured?

> This increase comes at a time of record inflation. A tax increase is not what we need at this time. Are you trying to create more homeless people? If the county needs more money, how about looking at the budget and finding places to cut. Like a family will have to do if this tax increase is approved.

> Please put the brakes on this. Give us the plan, and let us vote on it. That is what good leadership would do.

> Thank you,

> Rocky Palombo

> 360-322-0178

From: [Teresa Drain](#)
To: [Contact Council](#)
Subject: Please DO NOT raise sales taxes
Date: Tuesday, December 14, 2021 8:52:54 PM

EXHIBIT # PT- 342

FILE ORD 21-098

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

County Council Members,

Please **do not raise the sales taxes** for Snohomish County and make this the highest tax rate on the entire West Coast.

Per the Economic Policy Institute, sales taxes specifically raise the inequality between high and low income earners:

Sales taxes are levied on what people buy, as opposed to what they earn. Since poor and middle-income families have to spend more of what they earn just to get by, they are paying a greater share of their income in sales taxes.

<https://www.epi.org/explorer/state-and-local>

The low income families you represent in Snohomish County can not afford to pay more for each and every purchase. Snohomish County median per capita income is lower than the median income for all of Washington state. This comes from the Washington State Department of Numbers:

The ACS 1-year survey shows the per capita income for Snohomish County was \$41,103 in 2019. Compared to the median Washington per capita income, Snohomish County median per capita income is \$418 lower.

<https://www.deptofnumbers.com/income/washington/snohomish-county/>

From the Snohomish County's own website:

Over 161,000 Snohomish County residents (21%) are living below 200% of the federal poverty level, which is an annual income of \$24,980 for an individual. However, a single adult living in Snohomish County requires an estimated annual income of \$29,689 (or \$14.06 hourly) in order to meet basic needs (including housing, food, healthcare, and transportation). For families with children, the amount needed to cover basic needs increases significantly. A single parent with one preschool aged child requires an estimated annual income of \$56,065 (\$26.55 hourly).

<https://snohomishcountywa.gov/1084/Low-Income-Needs-Assessment>

Right now, every Snohomish County resident is feeling the impact of inflation on basic needs. Adding an increase in sales taxes is adding a burden on each and every purchase needed, and will increase hardship. **Please do not raise sales taxes.**

Respectfully,
The Drain Family
Marysville

SNOHOMISH COUNTY COUNCIL

From: [Tracee Gorman](#)
To: [Contact Council](#)
Subject: Sales tax raise
Date: Tuesday, December 14, 2021 9:05:43 PM

EXHIBIT # PT- 343

FILE ORD 21-098

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

I urge you to vote NO on the sales tax increase. The citizens of WA state are being taxed enough!

Sincerely,
Tracee Gorman
Snohomish

From: [N Jacobson](#)
To: [Contact Council](#)
Subject: No to sales tax increase!
Date: Tuesday, December 14, 2021 10:12:08 PM

EXHIBIT # PT- 344

FILE ORD 21-098

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

This is not the right time to increase our sales tax in Snohomish county! Our sales tax is higher than many parts of King County right now so adding to our current rate is outrageous! I already plan my major purchases outside of the county just to make it more affordable for me. After considering the impacts of the pandemic, this should be a no-brainer to vote this down! So many families are struggling to get food on the table and to keep the rent paid now. By increasing the sales tax, you are driving residents away from Snohomish county. NO TO A SALES TAX INCREASE!!

Nori Jacobson
17920 Bellflower Rd, Bothell

[Sent from Yahoo Mail on Android](#)

From: [Michelle Ranous](#)
To: [Contact Council](#)
Subject: NO tax increase!
Date: Tuesday, December 14, 2021 10:25:44 PM

EXHIBIT # PT- 345

FILE ORD 21-098

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

I do NOT want the tax increase for “affordable housing” without a vote of the people. Now is not the time with record high inflation. We pay ENOUGH to live here. If you cant afford it, move.

NO MORE TAX INCREASE

Michelle Ranous

13019 29th ave se

Everett, wa 98208

206-795-1333

From: [Sonics Rock](#)
To: [Contact Council](#)
Subject: Taxes and Hotels
Date: Tuesday, December 14, 2021 10:29:28 PM

EXHIBIT # PT- 346
FILE ORD 21-098

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

Dear Council Members,

Please do not enact a tax to pay for a county hotel system. In fact, the county should not buy ANY hotels. They are not working in King County, they won't work here. The only thing they will do is add another burden to tax payers, nearby businesses, and residents. They will create another void to be filled.

Besides, why would you copy a business model that doesn't work?

What we should do, is continue to provide temporary assistance to non profits for housing that is not government owned. We should continue to ask successful businesses to pay living wages. We should ask the feds to curtail inflation. We should draw a harder line on drug use. We should ask our state to re-examine mental health laws to make it easier for people to get the help they need. We should be teachers, not enablers.

Why is the answer always to take more money from working families? When did the government become more responsible than social organizations, churches, and non profit groups?

Several years ago, the city of Everett helped Catholic charities build Claire's Place, a supportive housing facility. It is located right next to a pot shop and the area is much worse off than it was before both! Further, the city doesn't seem to have any data to support the effectiveness of the supportive housing facility. That's strange.

Instead of another burden on taxpayers, let's help them out by spending existing money on things that benefit the most people, like infrastructure, parks, open spaces, and habitat restoration.

Please, do not follow in the footsteps of failed Seattle and turn Everett back into the dump from which it has emerged.

Best regards,

Anonymous County Resident

P.s. what ever happened to refunding the taxpayers the excess funds from the "new" courthouse?

From: [Alisha Morgan](#)
To: [Contact Council](#)
Subject: Increase in the tax rate
Date: Tuesday, December 14, 2021 10:32:34 PM

EXHIBIT # PT- 347

FILE ORD 21-098

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

Please sent the tax increase to the ballot for a vote of the people. A lot of people are barely getting by and can't afford to pay more taxes. Thank you

EXHIBIT # PT- 348

FILE ORD 21-098

From: [Ruth McIvers](#)
To: [Contact Council](#)
Subject: Property tax increase proposal
Date: Tuesday, December 14, 2021 10:39:49 PM

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

To the Snohomish County Council,

As far as the vote on the increase in our property taxes, all I can do is beg, "Please please please do not raise our property taxes!" Please let the people of Snohomish County vote on this and decide what is best.

We just had our property taxes go up by \$1000 in one year not too long ago. I can definitely tell you that our income has not gone up. That really hurt. Between inflation and our income being static, we are fearful that we will be taxed out of our home. We are almost there now.

We know many of our neighbors have been incredibly hurt by the Covid shut down, and have still not recovered. This is the absolute worst time to increase taxes on what should be our safest place in the world- our homes.

Affordable housing is a laudable goal. However, please do not fund affordable housing for some by making our own homes unaffordable.

Thank you,
Ruth McIvers
Lake Stevens

From: [Jennifer Lopeman](#)
To: [Contact Council](#)
Subject: proposed sales tax increase for affordable housing
Date: Tuesday, December 14, 2021 10:42:32 PM

EXHIBIT # PT- 349

FILE ORD 21-098

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

RE: proposed sales tax increase for affordable housing and behavioral health

I vote no. At minimum, this should be put to the voters.

Sincerely,

Jennifer Lopeman

From: [Petros98223](#)
To: [Contact Council](#)
Subject: raising property tax to make housing affordable?
Date: Tuesday, December 14, 2021 11:00:05 PM

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

this is a mistake, and must not be done. VOTE NO.

no more tax increases: snohomish county already has some of the highest property taxes in the state. Please STOP!

my tax payments are higher than my mortgage now.

I will have to sell my house and move out of the county so I can afford to retire. a property we have lived on for 30+ years.

Please vote NO!

no more property taxes!

Peter Chopelas, Arlington WA

SNOHOMISH COUNTY COUNCIL

From: [beckylint](#)
To: [Contact Council](#)
Subject: Raising the sales tax
Date: Tuesday, December 14, 2021 11:00:17 PM

EXHIBIT # PT- 351

FILE ORD 21-098

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

This should be taken to a vote. We elected you all to do what we want and need. We have already put enough money towards homelessness. We don't need to be taxed anymore then we already are. No more new taxes.

Becky Lint

Sent from my Verizon, Samsung Galaxy smartphone

SNOHOMISH COUNTY COUNCIL

From: [Susan Hughes](#)
To: [Contact Council](#)
Subject: No to sales tax increase!
Date: Tuesday, December 14, 2021 11:02:58 PM

EXHIBIT # PT- 352
FILE ORD 21-098

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

Vote no to a sales tax increase!

Increasing the county sales tax by 0.1%, makes the tax rate 10.6%, the highest rate on the entire west coast!
At least put it to a vote of the people.

Susan Hughes

Sent from my iPhone

SNOHOMISH COUNTY COUNCIL

From: [David and Kaitlyn Rappuhn](#)
To: [Contact Council](#)
Subject: tax increase
Date: Tuesday, December 14, 2021 11:12:21 PM

EXHIBIT # PT- 353

FILE ORD 21-098

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

Hello,

Please allow voters to have a say in increasing the sales tax rate. My family is already struggling with inflation.... Please do not add another burden on middle class families. Also as a business owner this will put even more financial strain on my business in a time when staying in business is already tough enough.

Thank you,
David Rappuhn
Sultan

SNOHOMISH COUNTY COUNCIL

EXHIBIT # PT-354

From: [Linda Grant](#)
To: [Contact Council](#)
Subject: Please Support Ordinance 21-098
Date: Tuesday, December 14, 2021 11:45:36 PM
Attachments: [1590 Funds Support LTR Evergreen Recovery Ctrs 12-14-21.pdf](#)

FILE ORD 21-098

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

Attached is my professional and personal experience with homelessness and I urge the Council to pass this critical resource to improve housing and behavioral health facilities in Snohomish County. Thank you for your consideration.

Linda

Linda Grant, MS, SUDP

CEO, Evergreen Recovery Centers

lgrant@evergreenrc.org

11627 Airport Road, Suite F, Everett, WA 98204

(425) 258-2485 direct (425) 493-5310 receptionist





Date: December 14, 2021

To: Snohomish County Council

From: Linda Grant, CEO
Evergreen Recovery Centers – lgrant@evergreenrc.org; 425.258.2485

RE: **Snohomish County Ordinance 21-098 (1590 funds)**

I am urging you to support passage of Ordinance 21-098 which will provide critical tax dollars to provide affordable housing and behavioral health facility funding.

No tax is ever met with enthusiasm, but few taxes reduce social costs in the way that housing supports do. The impact of inadequate housing is obvious to us all as we go down streets and freeways as well as in the doorways of our communities. In 1980 the State created the Alcohol and Drug Abuse Treatment and Shelter Act (ADATSA) that demonstrated the tremendous impact offering housing with treatment services has on helping persons with behavioral health disorders to get back on their feet and become productive citizens. If you attend self-help groups today you can hear the long-term recovery stories of persons who started this journey in the early 1980's under the ADATSA program was documented to create huge cost savings to the State. Changing social policy changed this program over time, but it is clearly the most important program in the past 50 years to address the complexities of homelessness caused by underlying substance use and mental disorders.

Poverty and homelessness are also accompanied by intergenerational adverse effects. I know this because my own mother was among those who was permanently impacted by the horrible impact that homelessness has on families. As one of 9 children living in a tent city in this area during the Great Depression, the deep trauma, fear and shame she experienced during those homeless years left painful permanent scars and stories.

Evergreen Recovery Centers monthly see hundreds of homeless in our LEAD, treatment and family programs, Even individuals with jobs are unable to find affordable housing. In the past year I was working with Whatcom County, which passed this tax over a year ago, and was stimulated by the opportunities this tax creates.

1590 funding is an investment in an improved economy, reduced crime, and more jobs. And as the economy improves, there are more sales and revenues. Thank you for your consideration and compassion in supporting this important ordinance!

Evergreen Recovery Centers Snohomish County Locations

Administration and Law Enforcement Diversion Offices - 11627 Airport Road, Suite B, Everett, WA 98204

Pregnant and Parenting Women's Residential Treatment - 2601 Summit Avenue, Everett WA 98201

Medical Withdrawal Management - 20508 56th Avenue W., Lynnwood, WA 98036

Everett Outpatient Clinic – 2732 Grand Avenue, Everett, WA 98201

Lynnwood Outpatient Clinic - 4230 198th St., Lynnwood, WA 98036

EXHIBIT # PT- 355

From: [Mckay Christensen](#)
To: [Contact Council](#)
Subject: Proposed sales tax increase for affordable housing and behavioral health
Date: Tuesday, December 14, 2021 11:52:36 PM

FILE ORD 21-098

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

Dear Snoco council members,

I write to you in opposition of the proposed sales tax increase for affordable housing and behavioral health.

I also write in support of putting this issue on the ballot for a vote of the people.

The sales tax rate in Idaho is 6%, in Utah it's 4.85% + 2.053 for local jurisdictions, in Montana it's 0. In Oregon it's 0. In Mill Creek where I live the rate is: 10.5%.

"Among major cities, Tacoma, Washington imposes the highest combined state and local sales tax rate, at 10.30 percent. Five other cities—Fremont, Los Angeles, and Oakland, California; Chicago, Illinois; and Seattle, Washington—are tied for the second highest rate of 10.25 percent."

[\(https://taxfoundation.org/sales-tax-rates-by-city-2021/\)](https://taxfoundation.org/sales-tax-rates-by-city-2021/)

Wrong, the highest sales tax rate in the United States of America is in MILL CREEK WA.

Regards,

Kelly Christensen
Mill Creek

From: [Kathleen Strong](#)
To: [Contact Council](#)
Subject: Sales Tax Increase
Date: Wednesday, December 15, 2021 12:19:46 AM

EXHIBIT # PT- 356

FILE ORD 21-098

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

Please say "NO" to more taxes on Snohomish County Residence.

For 2022, my housing cost have already gone up, fuel costs have already gone up at the pump, heating costs have gone up on our electric bill, and insurance - to just name a few.

I am sure we can all name the raise in the tolls , licensing taxes & fees, and garbage & water fees that have gone up, too.

Please, do NOT raise our sales tax, too!

You are taxing us out of the county. I happen to love living in Snohomish County. Please don't send us away with more taxes.

Warm regards,
Charles & Kathleen Strong
11003 35th Ave SE
Everett, WA 98208

From: [Shelley Whitkop](#)
To: [Contact Council](#)
Subject: Proposed tax increase concerning buying a hotel for homeless
Date: Wednesday, December 15, 2021 7:11:10 AM

EXHIBIT # PT- 357

FILE ORD 21-098

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

Dear County Council,

I implore you to reconsider this idea to increase our property taxes. Our taxes are going up each and every year because of the inflated value of our homes. Many people could not work during Covid and this just puts additional hardship on us.

(And what does the county do with the additional property taxes that our inflated home values bring into you?)

Or, let the voters decide if they want to be taxed.

I realized this additional tax has to do with the homeless situation.

I recently read "San Fransicko" by Michael Shellenberger. I do not have time to go into detail but this idea to purchase motels, has already proved itself a failure. We must look at drug addiction, mental illness and real homelessness in a different way.

The Housing First idea does not work. I was in favor of this idea back in 2014 when Mayor Stephenson worked to create the first Housing First in Everett. California has proven that this method has not worked. They are the second largest (or maybe#1) location for homeless. We need to look at other ways to battle this problem.

To just take addicts and mentally ill and put them into a hotel does not work on core problem. The core problem is mental health care/addiction treatment first, not free housing.

Of course it's much more complicated than what I have just said but we don't want to be another King County. We don't want to be another Seattle. I am in Seattle daily and it is horrendous! We do not want to copy what King County does.

Thank you,

Shelley Whitkop
1501 Rucker Avenue
Everett 98201
425-427-3187

SNOHOMISH COUNTY COUNCIL

From: [Dennis Longnecker](#)
To: [Contact Council](#)
Subject: Increase Sales Tax
Date: Wednesday, December 15, 2021 7:44:37 AM

EXHIBIT # PT- 358

FILE ORD 21-098

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

That just means any large purchases to make will NOT be in Snohomish County.

From: [Russell Armstrong](#)
To: [Contact Council](#)
Subject: No to tax increases
Date: Wednesday, December 15, 2021 7:46:40 AM

EXHIBIT # PT- 359
FILE ORD 21-098

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

Good day,

We cannot afford another tax hike. Taxpayers have had to tighten our belts. Government must do the same. If the council feels that it must do this, then put it to a vote. That is, a vote of the people. A sales tax increase at this time is tone deaf and is most certainly regressive. Enough is enough.

Regards,

R.J. Armstrong

From: [Jenni Kaloger](#)
To: [Contact Council](#)
Subject: Snohomish County sales tax increase
Date: Wednesday, December 15, 2021 7:48:14 AM

EXHIBIT # PT- 360

FILE ORD 21-098

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

To Snohomish County Council:

I was dismayed to hear the council is considering a sales tax increase. In fact I find the proposal completely out of touch with the state of the economy and quickly rising inflation we are dealing with. I recently heard that families are paying about \$4,000/year more on necessities than last year because of inflation. Does the council really think now is the time to raise taxes? It strikes me as incredibly out of touch with the realities of your constituents.

Perhaps put the tax increase proposal on the next ballot and see how popular it is. I have a feeling it wouldn't pass with inflation being what it is.

Thank you,
Jennifer Kaloger
Snohomish, WA

Sent from my iPhone

From: [Dunn, Megan](#)
To: [Contact Council](#)
Subject: Fwd: HB 1590
Date: Wednesday, December 15, 2021 6:42:02 AM
Attachments: [HB1590 Letter to County Council.docx](#)

EXHIBIT # PT- 361
FILE ORD 21-098

Sent from my iPhone

Begin forwarded message:

From: Christine Frizzell <cfrizzell@lynnwoodwa.gov>
Date: December 15, 2021 at 1:02:12 AM EST
To: "Nehring, Nate" <nate.nehring@co.snohomish.wa.us>, "Dunn, Megan" <Megan.Dunn@co.snohomish.wa.us>, "Wright, Stephanie" <Stephanie.Wright@co.snohomish.wa.us>, "Mead, Jared" <Jared.Mead@co.snohomish.wa.us>, "Low, Sam" <Sam.Low@co.snohomish.wa.us>
Subject: HB 1590

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

Nate, Megan, Stephanie, Jared, and Sam

I am unable to attend the December 15 Council meeting as I am out of town. Attached is a letter regarding HB 1590. I would appreciate you taking time to read and consider it before you vote.

Thank you and I look forward to working with you over the next four years in my new role as Mayor of the City of Lynnwood.

Snohomish County Council

December 14, 2021

Dear County Council Members:

HB 1590 “Allowing the local sales and use tax for affordable housing to be imposed by a councilmanic authority” was signed into law by Governor Inslee and took effect on June 11, 2020. To date this has been implemented in various municipalities in our region.

Without question, we are living in a time and place of unaffordable housing as well as a shortage of housing that is safe and livable. Living without stable housing for anyone is dangerous and debilitating, but even more so for our children. In the Edmonds School District alone there are hundreds of unhoused students and their families. We must take steps to curtail generational homelessness.

I have been an active volunteer and advocate in the homeless community for many years. I have witnessed the instability that homelessness, lack of social services, and broken connection to society have on the most vulnerable.

Men and women often need to work two or more jobs to afford housing in our area. Government has grappled with housing issues for years and has been seemingly content to allow nonprofit organizations to shoulder the burden of finding locations, funding, partnerships, and development. The best time to provide for affordable housing was likely 20 years ago. The next best time is now.

In the last three years, much time and effort has been put forward by the Snohomish County HART Committee as well as Lynnwood’s Housing Action Plan and Lynnwood City Council’s Housing Policy Committee. It is time to put those plans into action.

I am adamant about moving the issue of affordable housing out of the shadows and into the light of all our community. Seeing homeless men, women, and

children in our parks, on our streets, and living in their cars is a constant reminder that we, as a society, have failed to provide for the most fragile in our community.

Obviously adding a new tax is never entered into lightly. Adding a .1% Sales Tax increase will cost taxpayers (in particular, those who are housed and more inclined to spend money on taxable items) an additional \$1 on every \$1,000 of purchases.

I ask that for every new housing unit created that long term services also be provided to those that need them. Services such as life skills classes, education, job training, mental health, physical health, and others are necessary to help heal the brokenness in our system. Simply putting a roof over someone's head is NOT enough. We must provide ways for people to grow, prosper, and provide for themselves and their families and thereby move out of homelessness and into stable and safe living.

I further ask that the cities whose sales tax base are the greatest contributors to this tax have representation on the board that will be governing these funds. Businesses in our city generate these funds and city representatives should have a voice at the table as to how they are to be appropriated.

I support your vote to implement HB 1590 in Snohomish County and hope that you consider my comments as you put HB 1590 into effect.

Sincerely,

Christine Frizzell

Mayor-Elect, City of Lynnwood

SNOHOMISH COUNTY COUNCIL

From: [Finch, Michael](#)
To: [Contact Council](#)
Subject: FW: Proposed Ordinance 21-098
Date: Wednesday, December 15, 2021 8:21:57 AM

EXHIBIT # PT- 362

FILE ORD 21-098

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

Dear Executive Somers and Snohomish County Councilmembers,
Please put the proposed sales tax for affordable housing and behavioral health to the public for a vote. While there is little debate about the need to effectively address homelessness, mental health, drug abuse and crime – but a new tax should be openly debated and decided by taxpayers. Please do not undermine your integrity as elected leaders: If you believe increased public funding is an effective and efficient means of addressing the homelessness and behavioral health issues in Snohomish County, put your reasoned proposal to a public vote in the normal course.
Thank you,
Michael Finch
Everett

From: [Graham Link](#)
To: [Contact Council](#); [Mead, Jared](#)
Subject: Proposed Sales Tax Increase - VOTE NO
Date: Wednesday, December 15, 2021 8:29:49 AM

EXHIBIT # PT-363

FILE ORD 21-098

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

Councilmen Mead -

Do you or the rest of the council have an actual plan on how these funds will be allocated? Not just "estimates" about how many apartments you can build. We all know how often government estimates are on the nose. Is there an actual plan to build these buildings and get people in them?

VOTE NO

<https://lynnwoodtimes.com/2021/12/13/snoco211213-sales-tax/>

Inflation accelerating at rates not seen in 40 years.

Why wouldn't the council members proposing this tax increase pull together verifiable data/statistics showing how the "affordable housing crisis" is affecting this county? And then a plan about how this tax increase is going to solve it. Give that information to voters. Otherwise, this is just another way to nickel and dime taxpayers/voters. My hunch is the elected officials cannot do that. I suspect funds are not the issue, but rather mismanagement of them.

The solution to every issue in your city/county/jurisdiction is not a tax increase.

Graham Link
23402 50th ave W
MLT 98043

From: [Greg Skorheim](#)
To: [Contact Council](#)
Subject: Sales Tax Increase - Opposition
Date: Wednesday, December 15, 2021 8:37:08 AM

EXHIBIT # PT-364

FILE ORD 21-098

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

Snohomish County Council Members:

I respectfully request that you do not vote to increase the sales tax for “affordable housing” and “behavioral health” initiatives. In my view 1) any increase in taxes should be put to a vote of the residents of the county and 2) affordable housing and behavioral health are not the responsibility of the residents of the county and therefore not the responsibility of the County Council, our elected representatives. I believe that affordable housing and behavioral health are individual needs/responsibilities best pursued by the individual and their families, friends, churches and other charitable organizations, not the County government.

Further, the headlines are trumpeting the largest increase in inflation in several generations and this is clearly not the time to be adding additional burdens on the finances of the residents of the county.

Regards,

Greg Skorheim

Snohomish, WA 98290

From: [Debra MacCracken](#)
To: [Contact Council](#)
Subject: PLEASE DON'T RAISE the SALES TAX!!
Date: Wednesday, December 15, 2021 8:38:01 AM

EXHIBIT # PT-365
FILE ORD 21-098

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

Dear Council members - PLEASE!!!!!! NO SALES TAX and STOP RAISING TAXES - PERIOD.. ANY tax increases should be approved by the people. Quit stealing our hard-earned money to fund your pet projects.

I worked hard for my money, I am perfectly able to support the projects/charities I prefer.... I do not appreciate Gov'mt stealing from me to fund projects I don't approve of.

Please learn to stick within your budgets. Thanks for listening!

Debra MacCracken
7123 197th St SE
Snohomish, WA 98296
360-668-5515

SNOHOMISH COUNTY COUNCIL

From: [Caitlin Weaver](#)
To: [Contact Council](#); [Nehring, Nate](#); [Eco, Debbie](#)
Cc: [Kelly Chelin](#)
Subject: Lake Stevens City Council Sales Tax Response Letter
Date: Wednesday, December 15, 2021 8:42:14 AM
Attachments: [City Council Sales Tax Response Letter.pdf](#)

EXHIBIT # PT- 366

FILE ORD 21-098

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

Good morning,

Please accept this letter on behalf of the Lake Stevens City Council regarding the proposed increase to countywide sales tax.

Thank you,



Caitlin Weaver, *Deputy City Clerk*
City of Lake Stevens | Administration
1812 Main Street | PO Box 257
Lake Stevens, WA 98258
(425) 622-9423
cweaver@lakestevenswa.gov

NOTICE: All emails and attachments sent to and from the city of Lake Stevens are public records and may be subject to disclosure pursuant to the Public Records Act (RCW 42.56).



One Community Around the Lake

December 15, 2021

Snohomish County Council
3000 Rockefeller Ave. M/S 609
Everett, WA 98201

Dear Snohomish County Council:

We, the undersigned, have concerns regarding the proposed councilmanic increase to the countywide sales and use tax for affordable housing. While we share the desire to address affordable housing issues in our county, the proposed process minimizes public input and will erode trust with our shared constituents.

A sales tax to produce affordable housing is counterintuitive and will only further burden residents and small businesses throughout Snohomish County. Sales tax is one of the most regressive forms of taxation, creating a disproportionate burden on low-income families who are already impacted by high inflation and on businesses struggling to recover from the economic consequences of the pandemic.

In addition to the merit of the policy proposal itself, we have significant concerns with the process being used to implement this tax increase. Historically, a proposal like this would need to go to the voters for their consideration. While the legislature allowed local governments to impose this sales tax increase using councilmanic authority, we feel that the appropriate and transparent course of action must involve a vote of the people.

We encourage the County Council to place this issue on the ballot and allow the voters of Snohomish County to determine whether this tax increase and proposed spending has merit. Please do not impose this additional tax burden on Snohomish County residents without their input through a public process and vote.

Sincerely,

Kim Daughtry, Council President
on behalf of the City of Lake Stevens City Council

City of Lake Stevens
Council President's Office

1812 Main Street | PO Box 257 | Lake Stevens, WA 98258-0257
www.lakestevenswa.gov

From: [Dave Hobson](#)
To: [Contact Council](#)
Subject: Sales Tax Increase
Date: Wednesday, December 15, 2021 8:46:30 AM

EXHIBIT # PT- 367

FILE ORD 21-098

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

[] Please let us vote

[] Give them a home and they will come. We don't want more. Help them their way maybe, but don't enable them to be a drag on our society and economy!

Dave Hobson
Arlington

From: [Misha Lujan](#)
To: [Somers, Dave J](#); [Nehring, Nate](#); [Dunn, Megan](#); [Wright, Stephanie](#); [Mead, Jared](#); [Low, Sam](#)
Cc: [Contact Council](#); [Yamaguchi, Kendee](#); [Wiita, Russell](#); [Rhyne, Paula](#); [Thompson, Joshua](#); [Cheesman, Darcy](#)
Subject: Ordinance No. 21-098 Authorizing Sales and Use Tax for Affordable Housing and Behavioral Health
Date: Wednesday, December 15, 2021 8:55:36 AM
Attachments: [image001.png](#)
[image002.png](#)
[image003.png](#)
[image004.png](#)
[image005.png](#)
[image006.png](#)
[image007.png](#)
[EASC - Sales Tax for Affordable Housing.pdf](#)

SNOHOMISH COUNTY COUNCIL

EXHIBIT # PT- 368

FILE ORD 21-098

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

Honorable Members of the Snohomish County Council, Honorable Snohomish County Executive, and County Clerk:

Economic Alliance Snohomish County would like to provide comment on Ordinance No. 21-098, Authorizing Sales and Use Tax for Affordable Housing and Behavioral Health. Please see the attached letter from our President & CEO, Garry Clark.

Thank you for the opportunity to comment on this proposed ordinance.

Sincerely,

Misha Lujan she.hers
Government Relations Manager
T 425.248.4219
C 206.250.3293



December 13, 2021

Honorable Members of the Snohomish County Council
Honorable Snohomish County Executive

Sent via email: Individually to each member and the County Clerk

RE: Ordinance No. 21-098 Authorizing Sales and Use Tax for Affordable Housing and Behavioral Health

This letter requests action to extend community outreach to the business community related to the upcoming Sales and Use Tax decision (21-098). While Economic Alliance Snohomish County (EASC) recognizes and supports goals around proactive steps to become more economically stable through more inclusive and accessible housing options, EASC plans to remain neutral on this sales tax at this time.

EASC recognizes the remarkable County initiative in-proactively leading an inquiry into the issues surrounding housing through its *Snohomish County Housing Affordability Regional Taskforce Five Year Action Plan* (HART Report) and its steps to implement government intervention recommendations from the report. This initiative leverages certain state laws clarifying allowable uses of these funds and the underproduction of housing units for households earning below 80% of average median income and the significant threat to our communities this issue creates.

EASC further acknowledges inadequate housing supply, cost-burdened residents, escalating rent increases, and mental health of unhoused community members must be addressed to support County and EASC goals creating community opportunity and prosperity. However, there has not been enough time for our business community to provide an informed response on this ordinance. EASC is currently developing standard operating procedures for determining positions on critical items such as this by allowing time for robust discussion among our investors and partners to determine the impact on the business community.

As your County-designated economic development authority, EASC has a responsibility to apprise our leaders related to business sentiments and feedback we have received. EASC respectfully submit this information thanks for the opportunity to engage on this issue.



Garry Clark
President & CEO
cc. EASC Board of Trustees

From: [Kit Wennersten](#)
To: [Contact Council](#)
Subject: Taxation without representation
Date: Wednesday, December 15, 2021 8:58:04 AM

EXHIBIT # PT- 369
FILE ORD 21-098

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

am deeply concerned about the democrats effort to speed this tax through without any involvement (voting) by the citizens it will impact the most. We in Snohomish County were hit this year with a massive property tax increase. We cannot continue to afford to be taxed at these alarming rates. Were are the controls/audits, etc. to properly manage such a huge amount of money they are proposing to collect. As I have in the past worked with (as a police officer), transients, homeless, etc. I have found that many of these people have no interest in abiding by the rules necessary to protect the taxation. Nor as recently as this week have any interest in finding jobs, but rather want to exist on whatever welfare they can obtain. Dont get me wrong, I believe in helping those who are truly legitimate in needing help, but not for creating another bureaucracy that will eat up most of the money for those employed by that bureaucracy instead of actually going to help those truly in need. We as citizens of this country, state and county DO NOT HAVE UNLIMITED RESOURCES TO CONTINUALLY FUND THESE DEMANDS FOR MORE MONEY TO FUND EMPLOYMENT FOR BUREAUCRATS.

Thanks

Kit Wennersten

Sent from my iPhone

From: [Lisa Utter](#)
To: [Contact Council](#)
Subject: Ordinance 21-098
Date: Wednesday, December 15, 2021 8:59:09 AM

EXHIBIT # PT- 370

FILE ORD 21-098

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

I urge you to support this ordinance in order to address the severe housing shortage that this region is addressing. Sales tax is not the best way, but we are in a housing crisis and looking at a potential for many more people to be pushed out of housing given the end of the eviction moratorium.

Lisa Utter
(425)778-0182

From: [Mary-Anne Grafton](#)
To: [Contact Council](#)
Subject: Snohomish County Ordinance 21-098
Date: Wednesday, December 15, 2021 9:10:42 AM

EXHIBIT # PT- 371

FILE ORD 21-098

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

Good Morning,

As a social worker with years of housing experience, including case management, supervision, and being a former Housing Director with Providence Health, I whole heartedly support the passage of Ordinance 21-098.

Thank you,

Mary-Anne Grafton, MSW

Sent from [Mail](#) for Windows

From: [Lauralyn Jones](#)
To: [Contact Council](#)
Subject: Sales tax increase
Date: Wednesday, December 15, 2021 9:14:22 AM

EXHIBIT # PT- 372

FILE ORD 21-098

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

Dear Snohomish County Council,

The people should be allowed to vote on whether they want to increase the sales tax further. People are already struggling with ever higher prices. We have the highest percent increase in inflation in over thirty years, adding increased sales tax is adding insult to injury. More people can no longer afford to buy necessary items for their livelihoods, do not raise prices further. There are other means to fund low cost housing without continuing the ever persistent increases in sales taxes!

Laura Jones
Snohomish

From: [Nicole McMurray](#)
To: [Contact Council](#)
Subject: Snohomish County Ordinance 21-098
Date: Wednesday, December 15, 2021 9:14:34 AM

EXHIBIT # PT- 373

FILE ORD 21-098

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

Good morning,

I understand there is concern about the measure being regressive as it will disproportionately impact low-income residents who pay a higher portion of their income in sales tax.

My question is where you are looking to find an alternative funding solution? In a perfect world, you would be raising taxes on rental income, increasing excise real estate taxes on properties that 99% of residents in Snohomish County can not afford to buy, and also creating tax incentives for landlords who rent units at less-than-market value or who own a small number of rental properties. Can you tax those who have been making disproportionate wealth from the housing market to help those who have been put behind? Rental prices are continuing to go up, making areas once affordable not affordable to people earning minimum wage or even much more than minimum wage, while the top earners and real estate investors in our community have been gaining wealth at the expense.

The bottom line is that homelessness is worse than a tiny bit of sales tax. But if you are going to choose to vote against this measure on the basis of not wanting to raise taxes on low-income individuals, I would expect that it rested on the notion that the housing crisis was something that you WILL address. What are the alternatives you have to offer?

Thank you

From: [Dave Beisel](#)
To: [Contact Council](#)
Subject: No New Taxes
Date: Wednesday, December 15, 2021 9:20:56 AM

EXHIBIT # PT- 374

FILE ORD 21-098

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

Dear Snohomish County Council members,

I am adamantly opposed to the proposed sales tax increase in Snohomish County. I deserve to vote on this matter that has a serious effect on us. Please do the right thing and give us a vote before increasing OUR sales tax!!

Thank you!

David Beisel
Sultan

From: [Sam Townsend](#)
To: [Contact Council](#)
Subject: Support Snohomish County Ordinance 21-098
Date: Wednesday, December 15, 2021 9:32:34 AM
Attachments: [Homeward House Letter.pdf](#)

EXHIBIT # PT- 375

FILE ORD 21-098

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

Good Mornings Snohomish County!

As a collaborative we wanted to show our support for ordinance 21-098 in regards to affordable housing and mental health. Thank you!

Sam Townsend
Homeward House Collaborative Manager
Phone: 425.866.9354
stownsend@ywcaworks.org

YWCA Seattle | King | Snohomish
3301 Broadway Ave., Everett, WA 98201
YWCAWORKS.ORG
[Facebook](#) | [Twitter](#) | [YouTube](#)

YWCA IS ON A MISSION



December 13, 2021

Homeward House CORE Collaborative
3301 Broadway
Everett, WA 98201
homewardhouse@ywcaworks.org
(Add phone number)

Snohomish County Council Members
contact.council@snoco.org

We, the Steering Committee of Homeward House CORE Collaborative strongly support the passage of Ordinance 21-098.

The harm, damage, and costs of opioid and other substance use disorders to current and future generations in Snohomish County can be reduced and prevented. We are working together as a collaborative to do just that.

Our collective impact is seriously hindered because of the ongoing lack of affordable housing in Snohomish County for the families we serve.

A home is a foundation upon which parents who are overcoming substance use disorders and poverty build healthy bonds with their young children and a sustainable future. Without access to a safe and secure place to live and reunite with their children the benefits of our collective services — including support from an infant mental health specialist, assistance with education and employment, and support for basic needs — are fleeting.

A special property tax levy and a dedicated sales tax are the only tools we have to address the affordable housing crisis. If you accept that we are in the middle of a housing crisis then one or both of these options must be applied to build more affordable housing.

Please help the parents who are striving to overcome poverty and substance use turn their lives around and prevent future harm, damage and costs. .Move forward with HB-1590.

Respectfully,
Homeward House CORE Collaborative Steering Committee
Committed to reducing and preventing the harm, damage, and costs of opioid and other substance use disorders to current and future generations in Snohomish County.

Argelia Grassfield
YWCA (Lead Agency)

Sarah Pulliam
Childstrive

Becky Megard
Domestic Violence Services of Snohomish County

Ann Brice
Law Offices of Brice & Timm

Rosemary LeVasseur
Housing Hope

Jim Dean
Interfaith Family Shelter

Ricky Naffziger
Parent with lived experience

Marissa Frohning
Parent with lived experience

Lynae Hoover
YWCA Parents for Parents Program

Elise Herwig
United Way of Snohomish County (Funding Partner)

From: [Billye Brooks Sebastiani](#)
To: [Contact Council](#)
Cc: [Somers, Dave J](#)
Subject: LET THE PEOPLE DECIDE ON SALES TAX INCREASE
Date: Wednesday, December 15, 2021 9:46:27 AM

EXHIBIT # PT- 376

FILE ORD 21-098

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

Snohomish County Council,

I will address 3 issues, the most prevalent is the vote this morning on the increase in sales tax for Snohomish County.

Sales Tax Increase

1. Not necessary given the amount of money provided to the County by the Federal government, which is basically another tax on all Americans.
2. To vote for this increase because the "folks" in Olympia said that counties and cities no longer HAVE to go to the people is tyrannical. Reading the bios of each council member, there is reference to supporting the people you serve. How? By not providing the voters an opportunity to decide on the tax increase?
3. **Point of reference:** In the November 2 General Election, there were three Advisory Votes No. 36, 37 and 38 which provided the voters an opportunity to cast their votes on taxes that our Legislators enacted WITHOUT A VOTE OF THE PEOPLE and the results were REPEALED 58%, 65.29% and 62.80 respectively.
That vote should have put up a flag for both the Executive and County Council to think about their constituents before proposing more taxes.
4. Comments made publicly from Snohomish County officials regarding "the tax is only one dollar on a ten-dollar purchase" exposes the lack of leadership and in my opinion integrity to respect the people they are supposed to be serving!

Property Tax Increase

1. Unnecessary as the County revenues are exceeding forecast.
2. I spoke against the tax at the first public hearing and was unable to attend the hearing on the vote. So I went back and watched the entire video of that session. I realize that you were present and heard all comments, but urge you to go back and listen, really listen to the parade of officials (well paid by the taxpayers-I have no problem with the pay) and the fact that they would make jokes about how small the increase was, or that it was just the cost of a Frappuccino, made me sick and ashamed of these people and the folks that planned this charade.
3. The comment about these County employees are tired of "tightening their belts" is outrageous.
4. This tax should be reversed and the money should be found in scrubbing the budget not bloating it up.

\$4 Hour Hazard Pay

I will simply say that this public hearing was one of the worst that I have participated in: Council members Mead and Dunn went off about how these grocery stores brought in multi-million

dollar profits and could afford to pay without passing the increase on to their customers. Looking at the bios of these two, I did not see (perhaps I missed it) any reference to them having ownership in businesses for profit. Grocery stores have one of the lowest profit margin and require volume and have to compete with other grocery stores. I find it strange that government employees think they have the authority to take over private businesses.

The other item that put up a red flag was the discussion on how many grocery stores were impacted and whether WalMart was one of them or not - the discussion reflected an attitude that it didn't matter, the decision had already been made so shut up.

I strongly believe that perhaps a TAX REBATE is due Snohomish County residents - time to govern for the PEOPLE.

Thank you,
Billye Brooks-Sebastiani
Unincorporated Snohomish County - Arlington
123 188th Street NW

From: [Colin J. McMahon](#)
To: [Contact Council](#)
Subject: APPROVE ORDINANCE 21-098
Date: Wednesday, December 15, 2021 9:48:28 AM

EXHIBIT # PT-377

FILE ORD 21-098

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 urge you to authorize a local revenue option to support housing for our most vulnerable neighbors in Snohomish County. As you know, we have extraordinary affordable and supported housing needs that require regional solutions. As a resident of Snohomish County, I support this action.

These funds will clearly help meet existing affordable and homeless housing plans enacted by Snohomish cities and counties. With more locally controlled and ongoing funds, we can more quickly meet the well thought out housing objectives in each jurisdictions' affordable housing plans.

Your authorization of this funding can help us solve this crisis at a much faster pace. With more funding, we can help provide affordable housing for the 3,000 school-age children in our County who currently do not have a stable home. We can double the current rate of affordable housing production in Snohomish County. We can help provide our estimated 1,132 unsheltered neighbors put a roof over their heads. We can invest in programs that help people move forward and open a new chapter in their lives.

Please move forward with enacting Ordinance 21-098.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

--

Colin J. McMahon
WSBA#49152
425.299.6227
colinjamesmcmahon@gmail.com

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SNOHOMISH COUNTY COUNCIL

From: [Rhonda Tatum](#)
To: [Contact Council](#)
Subject: Sales Tax Increase proposal
Date: Wednesday, December 15, 2021 9:49:57 AM

EXHIBIT # PT- 378

FILE ORD 21-098

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

I am requesting that the Council send the sales tax increase proposal to the ballot for vote of the people.

Thank you,
Rhonda Tatum

EXHIBIT # PT- 379

FILE ORD 21-098

From: [Mark Jungck](#)
To: [Contact Council](#)
Subject: Opposed to increase sales tax for Snohomish County
Date: Wednesday, December 15, 2021 9:51:55 AM

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

Hi,

I am opposed to the raise in sales taxes. We are entering into a perilous financial crisis, again, and adding additional taxes at this time, on top of increased state taxes and the necessary school levies that are coming up is going to further burden families in this county.

The proposed scheme is ill-defined, with not enough public reporting or oversight.

If you feel you must impose this on us, at least put it up for a vote of the people.

Mark Jungck

9912 23rd Ave SE

Everett, WA 98208

SNOHOMISH COUNTY COUNCIL

From: [Linda Pawlak](#)
To: [Contact Council](#)
Subject: please send the tax increase for a vote of the people
Date: Wednesday, December 15, 2021 10:06:46 AM

EXHIBIT # PT- 380

FILE ORD 21-098

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

Thank you,
Linda Pawlak

From: Philip Scougale <spookygunship@juno.com>
Sent: Wednesday, December 15, 2021 10:23 AM
To: Contact Council <Contact.Council@co.snohomish.wa.us>
Subject: Sales Tax Rates

EXHIBIT # PT- 381

FILE ORD 21-098

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

In light of increasing inflation, out of control property tax increases and a shortage of affordable housing, I ask that the Council look for other methods of improving housing affordability/availability than increasing taxes.

Sales tax increases disproportionately impact the very people you are trying to help with the affordable housing initiative. Perhaps zoning, and development laws could be modified to reduce costs and streamline permitting processes without raising taxes.

I know from my experience working at PUD that permitting processes are clunky and communication between PDS and Public Works is dysfunctional. Many of our Cities are also forcing developers to perform expensive piecemeal overhead to underground conversations. A development near me just went through this. Their cost for electronic infrastructure ended up being about 4x more than it needed to be in order to underground less than 200 ft of line. The number of poles actually increased by one also.

Thank you for your consideration.
Philip Scougale, PE

Sent from my iPhone

From: [Naomi Fay](#)
To: [Contact Council](#)
Subject: City of Mill Creek Letter to County Council RE: Countywide sales and use tax
Date: Wednesday, December 15, 2021 10:28:58 AM
Attachments: [COMC 12.15.21 COUNTYWIDE SALES & USE TAX.pdf](#)

EXHIBIT # PT- 382

FILE ORD 21-098

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

To County Councilmembers,

On behalf of the City of Mill Creek Council, please see attached.

Best Regards,



Naomi Fay

City Clerk

City of Mill Creek

naomif@cityofmillcreek.com

P: 425-921-5725 | F: 425-745-9650

[Facebook](#) | [Twitter](#) | [Instagram](#)

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15728 Main Street, Mill Creek, WA 98012

Administration 425-745-1891

Police 425-745-6175

All Other Departments 425-551-7254

Snohomish County Members of Council,

Pursuant to Snohomish County's proposal to increase the countywide sales and use tax for affordable housing, the City of Mill Creek's Council would like to share their thoughts on the process. Housing policy encompasses several overlapping concerns and given the complicated nature of this issue, we are suggesting that a transparent course of action be taken. This would entail allowing the residents of Snohomish County an opportunity to provide their input through a public process and vote.

We encourage the County Council to place this issue on the ballot for the voters of Snohomish County in order to ensure consensus of this important sales and use tax proposal.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "S. Vignal".

Mayor Pro Tem Stephanie Vignal,

On Behalf of the City of Mill Creek Council

From: [Bob Williams](#)
To: [Dunn, Megan](#)
Cc: [Contact Council](#)
Subject: RE: Ord 21-098
Date: Wednesday, December 15, 2021 10:31:19 AM

EXHIBIT # PT- 383FILE ORD 21-098

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

Ms. Dunn, with all due respect, I don't care how much (or little) it is. The government has no business taking from some and giving to others. Not to mention that this tax increase is regressive. A penny here and a dollar there and \$100 elsewhere. It all adds up and I am running out of money to give to the government. None of which I get back in services or subsidies. Homelessness can be addressed simply by not allowing it. The market should dictate housing prices. By taking money from me to subsidize housing, all it does is allow prices to drift up due to a new pot of money going in to the market, just like student loans drive up higher education cost.

To reiterate, it is my money. I work for it. The government does not produce anything, it only takes. You work for me, I don't work for you (but you seem to think I do). If government had done their job at the first sign of homelessness and removed each and every shelter immediately there would be no problem. If drug use was not allowed and dealers were put away and dealt with harshly, we would not have the drug problem we are currently faced with. You want me to pay for a government created problem and I say, enough is enough.

Thanks,

[Bob Williams](#)

From: Dunn, Megan <Megan.Dunn@co.snohomish.wa.us>

Sent: Wednesday, December 15, 2021 9:38 AM

To: Dunn, Megan <Megan.Dunn@co.snohomish.wa.us>

Subject: Ord 21-098

Hello,

Thank you for reaching out regarding the recent proposal to fund emergency sheltering, supportive housing, and behavioral health services in our community. I appreciate that you took the time to write in.

After years of input from our cities and outreach to residents, two weeks ago council introduced [Ordinance 21-098](#) which allows Snohomish County to follow the lead of five other counties and seven other cities to enact a 1/10th of 1% sales tax to address affordable housing and sheltering needs in our county. To put this in perspective, it would be \$0.01 (one cent) on a \$10 purchase, or \$1.00 on a \$1,000.00 purchase. **One-hundred percent of the revenue collected would go directly to fighting one of our county's most pressing crises: housing affordability, homelessness, and behavioral health services.** Taxpayers already pay a substantial amount to address the effects of homelessness in our communities through camp clean ups, law enforcement, and jail costs. The money generated will be allocated based on the [5-Year Plan](#) and help divert people towards housing and a more stable life, and progress will be measured through monthly and quarterly reporting from the Human Services Department. **The County has created a broad-based strategic approach to addressing the**

housing crisis, including buying a hotel, creating more affordable housing, and building a continuum of services to help those who are struggling with behavioral health or substance use disorder.

These services and housing options would be located throughout the County. Repeated studies show that it costs a taxpayer *less* to house a person experiencing homelessness than it does to pay for that person to remain on the streets. Not only is the passage of this Ordinance fiscally responsible, it's morally responsible. In 2020, there were 1,132 people living unsheltered in Snohomish County, according to the Point in Time Count. This is not merely a humanitarian challenge; it also constrains our economy and limits our ability to thrive.

Our current efforts addressing housing affordability and homelessness is clearly not adequate and the pandemic has only exacerbated the problem. Teachers, first responders, frontline workers, or other working-class families are finding it difficult to make ends meet because of the skyrocketing costs of housing. And all of us have passed by a person living in a tent, using bushes downtown as a bathroom, or a family sleeping in their car. It's time to take a bolder and proactive approach before it's too far out of hand. Local and national studies and polls have repeatedly echoed what I frequently hear from voters: It's past time to address housing and homelessness issues in our county. Our County does not have enough emergency sheltering options or shelter beds, supportive long-term housing, or services for our residents in need. A sustainable funding source would solve this problem.

This is the only tool we have at our disposal for sustained County funding to address the affordable housing and behavioral health crisis. We need to act now or the problem will do more damage to our economy, the environment, and the health of our community. The cumulative impacts of taxes is a matter that I'm sensitive to. Analysis shows that the working poor spend a greater percentage of their income on non-taxable items (e.g. food, rent, etc.) than those well off. The Working Families Tax Credit takes effect in 2023, families will be able to qualify for support to help offset some of the sales tax costs. The impacts to low-income families will be minimal and in the long-run will ultimately be offset by access to affordable housing. And all of us will benefit through alleviation of the impacts of homelessness on our communities.

Under HB 1590, only a vote of a county council or city council can authorize the tax, as long as it is used for affordable housing. Unlike approving a fire or school levy, a public vote would not enact this tax. The housing affordability crisis has been upon us for years, and there was extensive public involvement and debate through the County's [Housing Affordability Regional Taskforce process](#) and when the legislature passed HB 1590. Public input through these initiatives have shared loud and clear that voters have repeatedly identified housing affordability and homelessness as their top concern. This Ordinance is in direct response to voters who have asked for a more proactive response to solve this matter.

This Ordinance was introduced on December 1 and the standard two-week notice was given for the Public Hearing on December 15 at 10:30am and the issue was discussed in a committee meeting on December 13th at 1:30 pm. Your email has been added as public record, and if you would like to share any further comments, you're more than welcome to

join the Public Hearing meeting on December 15th, or email the full council at contact.council@snoco.org. I understand how important this issue is, so please know that I took your comments into consideration, and I will continue to support taking action to address this crisis.

Sincerely,

Megan Dunn | *Vice Chair and Councilmember District 2*

O: (425) 388-3494 | megan.dunn@snoco.org

Pronouns: she/her/hers

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This email has been scanned for spam and viruses. Click [here](#) to report this email as spam.

From: [Gerry Gibson](#)
To: [Dunn, Megan](#)
Cc: [Contact Council](#)
Subject: Re: Ord 21-098
Date: Wednesday, December 15, 2021 10:41:27 AM

EXHIBIT # PT- 384

FILE ORD 21-098

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

I appreciate your reply. I disagree with you and again challenge you to show examples where adding more and more funds from additional sources has been successful. In the last several years there has been a substantial amount of funds and the problems have gotten worse, here and across the country.

I don't have the answer you want to hear, but adding more and more tax payer money to plans affecting many other aspects of the community with failure after failure across the country is not a correct response, we both know that.

Gerry Gibson

Sent from my iPhone

On Dec 15, 2021, at 9:38 AM, Dunn, Megan
<Megan.Dunn@co.snohomish.wa.us> wrote:

Hello,

Thank you for reaching out regarding the recent proposal to fund emergency sheltering, supportive housing, and behavioral health services in our community. I appreciate that you took the time to write in.

After years of input from our cities and outreach to residents, two weeks ago council introduced [Ordinance 21-098](#) which allows Snohomish County to follow the lead of five other counties and seven other cities to enact a 1/10th of 1% sales tax to address affordable housing and sheltering needs in our county. To put this in perspective, it would be \$0.01 (one cent) on a \$10 purchase, or \$1.00 on a \$1,000.00 purchase. **One-hundred percent of the revenue collected would go directly to fighting one of our county's most pressing crises: housing affordability, homelessness, and behavioral health services.** Taxpayers already pay a substantial amount to address the effects of homelessness in our communities through camp clean ups, law enforcement, and jail costs. The money generated will be allocated based on the [5-Year Plan](#) and help divert people towards housing and a more stable life, and progress will be measured through monthly and quarterly reporting from the Human Services Department. **The County has created a broad-based strategic approach to addressing the**

housing crisis, including buying a hotel, creating more affordable housing, and building a continuum of services to help those who are struggling with behavioral health or substance use disorder.

These services and housing options would be located throughout the County. Repeated studies show that it costs a taxpayer *less* to house a person experiencing homelessness than it does to pay for that person to remain on the streets. Not only is the passage of this Ordinance fiscally responsible, it's morally responsible. In 2020, there were 1,132 people living unsheltered in Snohomish County, according to the Point in Time Count. This is not merely a humanitarian challenge; it also constrains our economy and limits our ability to thrive.

Our current efforts addressing housing affordability and homelessness is clearly not adequate and the pandemic has only exacerbated the problem. Teachers, first responders, frontline workers, or other working-class families are finding it difficult to make ends meet because of the skyrocketing costs of housing. And all of us have passed by a person living in a tent, using bushes downtown as a bathroom, or a family sleeping in their car. It's time to take a bolder and proactive approach before it's too far out of hand. Local and national studies and polls have repeatedly echoed what I frequently hear from voters: It's past time to address housing and homelessness issues in our county. Our County does not have enough emergency sheltering options or shelter beds, supportive long-term housing, or services for our residents in need. A sustainable funding source would solve this problem.

This is the only tool we have at our disposal for sustained County funding to address the affordable housing and behavioral health crisis. We need to act now or the problem will do more damage to our economy, the environment, and the health of our community. The cumulative impacts of taxes is a matter that I'm sensitive to. Analysis shows that the working poor spend a greater percentage of their income on non-taxable items (e.g. food, rent, etc.) than those well off. The Working Families Tax Credit takes effect in 2023, families will be able to qualify for support to help offset some of the sales tax costs. The impacts to low-income families will be minimal and in the long-run will ultimately be offset by access to affordable housing. And all of us will benefit through alleviation of the impacts of homelessness on our communities.

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This Ordinance was introduced on December 1 and the standard two-week notice was given for the Public Hearing on December 15 at 10:30am and the issue was discussed in a committee meeting on December 13th at 1:30 pm. Your email has been added as public record, and if you would like to share any further comments, you're more than welcome to

join the Public Hearing meeting on December 15th, or email the full council at contact.council@snoco.org. I understand how important this issue is, so please know that I took your comments into consideration, and I will continue to support taking action to address this crisis.

Sincerely,

Megan Dunn | *Vice Chair an*

From: [David Nichols](#)
To: [Contact Council](#)
Subject: Sales tax increase
Date: Wednesday, December 15, 2021 10:46:40 AM

EXHIBIT # PT- 385

FILE ORD 21-098

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

We already have too high of a sales tax. No new taxes.

Sent from my iPhone

SNOHOMISH COUNTY COUNCIL

From: [Eric Todd Wallin](#)
To: [Contact Council](#)
Subject: sales tax increase.
Date: Wednesday, December 15, 2021 10:53:29 AM

EXHIBIT # PT- 386

FILE ORD 21-098

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

Please ***do not increase the sales tax*** in Snohomish County. Washington is being taxed to death. Quit spending so much and show some fiscal restraint. Thank you.
Eric Wallin

From: [Mike D](#)
To: [Contact Council](#)
Subject: Tax Increases
Date: Wednesday, December 15, 2021 11:47:32 AM

EXHIBIT # PT- 387

FILE ORD 21-098

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

Dear snohomish County representatives,

We are being clobbered by ever increasing taxation and inflation and getting nothing in return. Do not raise taxes during this precarious times. Our economy will suffer greatly and more people thrown into poverty. this tax only aggravates a worsening situation for the people. Those of us working can no longer subsidize those who dont.

Respectfully,

Mike Deacy
Mikk Creek

Lao, Elena

From: Ryu, Rep. Cindy <Cindy.Ryu@leg.wa.gov>
Sent: Wednesday, December 15, 2021 11:53 AM
To: Contact Council
Subject: Ordinance 21-098 testimony

SNOHOMISH COUNTY COUNCIL

EXHIBIT # PT- 388

FILE ORD 21-098

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

I am State Representative Cindy Ryu and I live in Shoreline just 1 block south of the County line. I represent the 32nd Legislative District which includes the Town of Woodway, parts of Edmonds and Mountlake Terrace, as well as most of Lynnwood. I was the House committee chair for Housing issues the past 5 years and now I chair the new Community and Economic Development Committee.

I support the council's authorization of this sales and use tax for affordable housing and behavioral health services **and** working closely with the Executive throughout its implementation with Amendment 5.

Over the years, one of the few revenue tools the State Legislature was able to give local governments such as Snohomish County to combat the housing affordability and homelessness crisis is being adopted with passage of this ordinance. Yes, it is a new tax and you're being asked to lead by voting on this yourselves instead of punting to the voters.

However, the cost of your lack of resources at the county level for housing and related services is costing you even more. It costs more in terms of your budget and for all the opportunities lost directly and indirectly, being paid by everyone.

As we recover and rebuild from the pandemic, what the Snohomish County's communities and businesses, and in fact even law enforcement need are stably housed people with access to not only housing and services but to have the **dignity** of their own home and to be truly a part of the community.

Please pass Ordinance 21-098 today with Amendment 5 and I look forward to continuing to work with you. Thank you.

Sincerely,



[Representative Cindy Ryu, MBA, \(D-32nd\)](#)

Community & Economic Development Committee - Chair

Consumer Protection & Business | Appropriations Committees - Member

Washington Tourism Marketing Authority | Pacific Northwest Economic Region Delegate Council

Offices: District 206.466.5741 | Olympia 360.786.7880 | Legislative Cell 206.430.0694

Ms. Shoubee Liaw, Legislative Assistant

Requests for Appointments: cindy.ryu@leg.wa.gov

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From: [Susan Paine](#)
To: [Contact Council](#)
Subject: In Support of Snohomish County Ordinance 21-098
Date: Wednesday, December 15, 2021 12:16:00 PM

EXHIBIT # PT- 389

FILE ORD 21-098

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

Dear County Council

I am writing in support of Snohomish County Ordinance 21-098, the sales tax for affordable housing and behavioral health, often referred to as 1590.

This sales tax will be a step in the right direction towards addressing the complex issue of housing the unhoused or unstable housed in our community. I take sales tax increases seriously. As an active member in my community and a City Council member, I understand the budgeting process and how taxes, if well planned and spent, can positively impact our community.

When reviewing sales tax increase proposals, I ask myself the following questions:

1. Will this increase negatively impact me? (No)
2. Will this increase negatively impact most individuals in the community? (No)
3. Will the monies raised be spent on known and vetted solutions and help address the problem? (Yes)
4. How will I know the monies spent have the appropriate oversight and will help solve the identified problem? (I expect the Council to receive progress reports and metrics on achieving the goals set forth as well as to provide oversight)

The answers to all these questions lead me to support this sales tax. We have unhoused in our community and we need to find a solution as soon as possible. I know this is a politically complicated proposition. However, we have a solution to our current problem which can be partially solved with this Ordinance.

I ask you to support Snohomish County Ordinance 21-098

Thank you,

Susan Paine

From: [Shelley Whitkop](#)
To: [Contact Council](#)
Subject: Revised: Proposed tax increase concerning buying a hotel for homeless
Date: Wednesday, December 15, 2021 1:10:12 PM

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

Hello,

Well, I have mud on my face. I made an assumption that this tax was a property tax!

I am more appalled that we are talking about an increase in SALES TAX!

Please...NO!

At least, let the people vote!!

Cordially,

Shelley Whitkop

On Wed, Dec 15, 2021 at 7:10 AM Shelley Whitkop <slwhitkop@gmail.com> wrote:

Dear County Council,

I implore you to reconsider this idea to increase our property taxes. Our taxes are going up each and every year because of the inflated value of our homes. Many people could not work during Covid and this just puts additional hardship on us.

(And what does the county do with the additional property taxes that our inflated home values bring into you?)

Or, let the voters decide if they want to be taxed.

I realized this additional tax has to do with the homeless situation.

I recently read "San Fransicko" by Michael Shellenberger. I do not have time to go into detail but this idea to purchase motels, has already proved itself a failure. We must look at drug addiction, mental illness and real homelessness in a different way.

The Housing First idea does not work. I was in favor of this idea back in 2014 when Mayor Stephenson worked to create the first Housing First in Everett. California has proven that this method has not worked. They are the second largest (or maybe#1) location for homeless. We need to look at other ways to battle this problem.

To just take addicts and mentally ill and put them into a hotel does not work on core problem. The core problem is mental health care/addiction treatment first, not free housing.

Of course it's much more complicated than what I have just said but we don't want to be

another King County. We don't want to be another Seattle. I am in Seattle daily and it is horrendous! We do not want to copy what King County does.

Thank you,

Shelley Whitkop
1501 Rucker Avenue
Everett 98201
425-427-3187

From: [Thompson, Joshua](#)
To: [Eco, Debbie](#)
Cc: [Lao, Elena](#)
Subject: FW: Sales Tax Increase Proposal
Date: Thursday, December 9, 2021 11:26:53 AM

Related to **ORDINANCE 21-098**

Sincerely,

Josh Thompson

Legislative Aide – District 3
Councilmember Stephanie Wright
Snohomish County Council
3000 Rockefeller Ave, M/S #609
Everett, WA 98201
(425) 388-3494 x2576
Joshua.Thompson@snoco.org

From: K B <geologyrocx@gmail.com>
Sent: Wednesday, December 8, 2021 9:46 AM
To: Dunn, Megan <Megan.Dunn@co.snohomish.wa.us>; Rhyne, Paula <Paula.Rhyne@co.snohomish.wa.us>; Nehring, Nate <nate.nehring@co.snohomish.wa.us>; Wiita, Russell <Russell.Wiita@co.snohomish.wa.us>; Wright, Stephanie <Stephanie.Wright@co.snohomish.wa.us>; Thompson, Joshua <Joshua.Thompson@co.snohomish.wa.us>; Mead, Jared <Jared.Mead@co.snohomish.wa.us>; Low, Sam <Sam.Low@co.snohomish.wa.us>; Cheesman, Darcy <Darcy.Cheesman@co.snohomish.wa.us>
Subject: Sales Tax Increase Proposal

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

Hello all,

I am urgently taking time out of my busy schedule to contact you regarding an issue I feel passionately about, and frankly, upsets me as a middle class taxpayer of Snohomish County.

In the midst of COVID, in the midst of struggling for some semblance of normalcy, inflation, the continued push for more and more social services, I now hear of a 0.1% increase in our County's sales tax to fund only 300 units of "affordable" garbage housing over five years, and that we, as the people of Snohomish County, won't be allowed to vote on it. Why? Why do we even want this? So little bang for a \$117 million price tag. This will literally do nothing to dent housing problems over five years. The core of the problem is inflation and regional overgrowth that is continually allowed to fester, not to mention our governor continuously putting small-time landlords out of business. I'm really not sure what the heck you all are thinking. All of what you are proposing hurts the economy, not helps it. Everyone knows that when these projects are proposed, inflation soon follows. The

government overpays for property, then overpays for the union-labor construction, then overpays for the materials . . . pretty soon, what should have been a few million dollar project is in the hundred-millions. I know what you're thinking, of course all that overspending helps generate revenue and jobs! Sure, but with more of OUR money that we didn't ask you to spend! And with the result of exacerbating inflation. I work closely with the construction sector and I know private developers that prepare whole SFR lots for no more cost than \$150-200k a lot and then sell that for profit! Yet, what you propose really would cost \$350,000+ per unit of apartments or condos? That's not affordable housing from the taxpayers' wallet's point of view. Preposterous!

Didn't you get enough of the thousands and thousands in property taxes and sales tax that my parents have paid in over the 50+ years they've been residents? The only thing this raise in sales tax could possibly do is exacerbate a vicious circle of a growing problem. Our Washington State legislature and governor doesn't seem to get it either. Continuing to tax and inflate doesn't fix anything, it just creates a perpetually growing poverty class. There's just less and less incentive to work at all. I don't like where my tax dollars go. It's sad and depressing, really, that you think continuing to steal from the working class to fund low income families will do anything but continue the cycle and keep dragging the middle class (who are all struggling) through the mud on a constant basis. Then you'll want to build more affordable housing. Then more taxes to fund it. It will never end. We all need help sometimes, but the social services we have in place are not only an economical problem, but a social one, too. Our existing programs and services we have in place are broken and have become nothing but a hand-out expectation anymore. Some classes of people are just allowed to own a house or apartment and raise a family carefree, without even attempting to better themselves, while the rest of us toil to support them. It's not fair. And it should not be this way. The divide of inequality just continues to widen among us all as a result of what you and our State is doing.

I just don't understand why continuing raising taxes is literally the only tool in the toolbox of our leaders now. I guess if you have to raise sales tax, then why don't you up the sales tax on legalized Marijuana in Snoco? Then the people that will actually need the housing can pay for it themselves. Lately, with growing inflation and all these new taxes, I'm certain an increasing number of families are going in the red. Couple that with the Washington workers Inslee forcefully ousted from their positions, and what have you got? I actually find it funny that some of the jurisdictions in Snohomish County have the highest sales tax rate of all counties in WA state, and yet, budgets are cut in the areas we actually need them, and you still can't do any better than this.

I have to admit I've thought of registering to vote lately as I've been deeply disturbed by the recent goings-on of the government of Washington State in tandem with local governments lately, to include my recent learning of this new government crime. However, when I think about all the things I would like to vote on, it would literally be useless. What's the point in becoming a voter when all the decisions that impact taxpayers are made without consent of the people? What happened to our leaders that they've just become drunk with power and have started to ignore the voices of those that elected them? What of our freedom and right to voice our opinions? What ever happened to where we get taxed but have no right to say how they are used in our communities? Are we just slaves now? I thought we took pride in abolishing oppression. I'll bet our forefathers would be proud to see the kind of Country that we've become.

In short, you supposedly took office to continue to make Snohomish County "a good place to work, live, and play". Well, with your continued tax hikes, how can anyone play when they are just struggling to simply work and live? I've lived in this County my whole life, and it used to be a good place to live. Now it just reeks of Seattle's leftovers. Personally, I'm getting sick of being run over, getting sick of not being heard, getting sick of being backed into a corner, and having my comfort of living THAT I WORK FOR robbed from me. Perhaps most of all, I am SICK of MY freedoms being taken away. Our government (I wish I was proud to say MY GOVERNMENT) becomes less American every day. How dare you do this, and turn your back every person who pays your wages with their taxes.

This really goes without saying, but voted or not, I want you to know my voice is strongly and fervently saying NO MORE TAXES for SOCIAL SERVICES. Period.

Sincerely,

Katie



Virus-free. www.avast.com