



## Snohomish County Council

**Committee:** Planning & Community Development      **Analyst:** Ryan Countryman  
**ECAFs:** 2023-0483 and 2023-0484  
**Proposal:** Proposed Motions 23-180 and 23-183      **Date:** May 2, 2023

### **Consideration:**

Two proposed motions to reappoint members of the Snohomish County Planning Commission (Planning Commission). Motion 23-180 (ECAF 2023-0484) would reappoint Raymond “Ray” Sheldon Jr. to the Planning Commission in a Council District 2 position. Motion 23-183 (ECAF 2023-0483) would reappoint Robert “Bob” Larson to the Planning Commission in a Council District 3 position.

### **Background**

The Planning Commission is an advisory body to the County Council and Executive whose members serve for terms of four years. (More details about the Planning Commission are on page 3). Commissioners Larson and Sheldon are nearing completion of their current terms which both expire on July 1, 2023. Details about each appointee are in the agenda materials.

- Motion 23-180 would reappoint Raymond Sheldon, Jr. of Tulalip to a second full term representing Council District 2<sup>1</sup>
- Motion 23-183 would reappoint Robert Larson of Lynnwood to a third full term representing Council District 3<sup>2</sup>

Both planning commissioners have served capably, satisfy the requirements of SCC 2.08.080 for reappointment, and bring balance to the Planning Commission. Councilmember Megan Dunn is nominating Raymond Sheldon, Jr. to a second full term on the Planning Commission. Councilmember Strom Peterson is nominating Robert Larson to a third full term on the Planning Commission.

The Planning Commission has eleven positions, and ten current members.<sup>3</sup>

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<sup>1</sup> Ray Sheldon, Jr. was first appointed to Planning Commission by [Motion 19-167](#).

<sup>2</sup> Robert Larson, current chair of the Planning Commission, was first appointed to the Commission by [Motion 15-256](#) and then reappointed for a second term by [Motion 19-137](#).

<sup>3</sup> Exhibit A provides a table showing the current membership of the Planning Commission. Exhibit B describes the composition of the commission and requirements for appointment to it.

**Current Proposal**

*Scope:* Motion 23-180 would reappoint Raymond Sheldon, Jr. to the Planning Commission.

Motion 23-183 would reappoint Robert Larson to the Planning Commission.

*Effective Date:* Both new terms would be effective July 1, 2023

*Fiscal Implications:* No impact

**Handling:** Normal

**Request:** Move to General Legislative Session May 10 to set time and date for a public hearing on each motion. Suggested time and date for both hearings is Wednesday, June 14, 2023, at 9:00 a.m.

**Exhibit A – Planning Commission Membership Table**

<b>Planning Commission Membership – April 27, 2023</b>			
<b>Representing</b>	<b>Commissioner</b>	<b>Term</b>	<b>Term Expiration</b>
Council District #1	Merle Ash Mark James	Second First	July 1, 2024 July 1, 2023
Council District #2	<b>Raymond Sheldon, Jr.*</b> Kimberly Busted	<b>First</b> First	<b>July 1, 2023</b> November 30, 2026
Council District #3	<b>Robert Larsen, Chair*</b> Christine Eck	<b>Second</b> First	<b>July 1, 2023</b> June 29, 2026
Council District #4	Tom Campbell Neil Pedersen	First First	November 24, 2025 January 4, 2027
Council District #5	Rosanna Brown Vacant**	First	January 12, 2026
At-Large	Angie Sievers	First	July 1, 2025
<b>* Nominated for reappointment</b>			
<b>** A commissioner in this now vacant position resigned on April 26, 2023</b>			

## **Exhibit B – Composition and Requirements of the Planning Commission**

The Snohomish County Planning Commission is an advisory body to the County Council and County Executive. The commission holds public hearings and provides recommendations on proposed changes to the county's comprehensive plan and development regulations. The commission has positions for eleven members, two from each council district and one at-large member nominated by the executive, which serve four-year terms and may not serve more than two complete consecutive terms.

Snohomish County Code (2.03.060 and 2.08.080) provides that the council appoints planning commission members. Requirements are that commissioners:

1. Not be county employees
2. Have sufficient time to attend all scheduled meetings, and
3. Not serve on more than two boards or commissions at the same time (ad hoc or advisory committees do not count against the limit).

County code also provides that nominees should possess attributes including a background in one or more of the following:

- Architecture
- Law
- Farming
- Recreation
- Finance
- Real estate
- Environment
- Construction
- Fisheries
- Engineering
- Appraisal
- Land use planning
- Education
- Related backgrounds, or job knowledge or interests

Nominees should also have knowledge of land use theories and growth management legislation, minimal potential for conflict of interest, a demonstrated interest in the welfare of Snohomish County, and should add balance to countywide representation on the commission.