

Date 10.27.2025

Snohomish County Council
Robert J. Drewel Building, Eighth Floor
3000 Rockefeller Ave
Everett, WA 98201

Letter sent by email to: contact.council@co.snohomish.wa.us

RE: Support for Motion 25-336

Dear Snohomish County Councilmembers:

These comments are provided in support of Motion 25-336 to include the Northshore School District and Vangemert properties in the UGA. We appreciate the Snohomish County Council for bringing this proactive measure forward in advance of a proposal to build schools by the Northshore School District.

We want you to know that the community supports proactive planning. While a vocal minority may complain about this proposal, those people do not represent the community.

I am concerned because they seem to misunderstand the purpose of this motion. This motion would simply ensure future development on the Northshore and Vangemert properties utilizes sewer instead of large septic systems and it built to urban standards. That's it. The arguments from the vocal minority are focused on preserving the Northshore property as park for their use in perpetuity. This motion has nothing to do with that and focusing on that is naïve and unrealistic. The property can already be utilized for schools and uses allowed in the R-5 zone are greater and would have more impact than those allowed in the proposed zoning. Uses such as landfills and mining.

I am concerned that community members are ignoring this instead of making sure that future development, if permitted, is built to the best standards to protect our environment. This motion accomplishes that, and I urge you to pass it. I appreciate your consideration.

Regards,

ESSIE NAVARRO, Woodinville WA

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Date 10-28-25

Snohomish County Council
Robert J. Drewel Building, Eighth Floor
3000 Rockefeller Ave
Everett, WA 98201

Letter sent by email to: contact.council@co.snohomish.wa.us

RE: Support for Motion 25-336

Snohomish County Councilmembers:

These comments are provided in support of Motion 25-336. Specifically, these comments address and support the parcels owned by the Northshore School District and Vangemert properties.

While we want to make sure future development meets all county codes requirements, we understand that this motion does not permit any future uses of these properties. Any use proposed in the future will have to meet county code requirements or they will not be permitted by the county. We also love the environment, and this proposal will provide the most protective measures if development is allowed in the future.

The following outlines why we support this proposal:

- Schools are allowed under the current proposed zoning. However, if these properties are brought into the UGA, they will have to utilize sewer vs. septic systems. That's better for the environment.
- When schools are proposed in the future they will be built to urban standards rather than rural standards for improvements such as roads and sidewalks. This would be safer for kids.
- Being in the UGA limits future uses. In review of the code, there are uses allowed under the current zoning of R-5 which would have much greater impacts than what is possibly allowed on the Northshore School District and Vangemert properties under the proposed zoning.

Waiting until schools are proposed in the future is too late. There is already a demonstrated lack of land available within the Northshore School District as evidenced by the building of the Ruby Bridges Elementary School in the R-5 zone.

I read on the Puget Sound Regional Council website that between 2017-2050, 1.8 million people are expected to move to King, Snohomish, Pierce, and Kitsap Counties

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and 1.2 million jobs will be added. We will need new schools to accommodate this growth.

This measure is proactive and ensures any future permitted uses protect the environment and are built to keep our kids and community safe.

Sincerely, Austin J. Vangemert

A handwritten signature in black ink, reading "Austin J. Vangemert". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large, stylized "A" and a long, sweeping underline.