



Snohomish County Council

Committee: Planning & Community Development **Analyst:** Ryan Countryman
ECAF: 2022-1258
Proposal: Proposed Motion 22-522 **Date:** December 6, 2022

Consideration:

Motion 22-522 would appoint Neil Pedersen to the Snohomish County Planning Commission (Planning Commission) in a District 4 position.

Background

One of the positions representing District 4 on the Planning Commission is currently vacant. Neil Pedersen has previously served a full term on Planning Commission but is not currently on the commission.¹ He is interested in serving again. As a District 4 resident, who brings significant experience in business management, including at a Fortune 500 firm, Neil Pedersen has the relevant experience and is well qualified to return to the Planning Commission. His background and availability satisfy the requirements of SCC 2.08.080 for appointment and would help bring balance to the Planning Commission. Councilmember Jared Mead is nominating Neil Pedersen to a new first full term on the Planning Commission.

The Planning Commission has eleven positions, ten of which are currently occupied.² Appointment of Neil Pedersen would fill the only current vacancy.

Current Proposal

Scope: Motion 22-522 would appoint Neil Pedersen to the Planning Commission

Effective Date: Commissioner Pedersen's term would begin upon passage of this motion.

Fiscal Implications: No impact

Handling: Normal

Request: Move to General Legislative Session is to set time and date for a public hearing, suggested time and date is Wednesday, January 4, 2023, at 9:00 a.m.

¹ Neil Pederson's original appointment was by Motion 18-376 to a four-year term that expired in November 2022. His resume and other application materials are available at [this link](#).

² 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.

Exhibit A – Planning Commission Membership Table

Planning Commission Membership – December 6, 2022			
Representing	Commissioner	Term	Term Expiration
Council District #1	Merle Ash	Second	July 1, 2024
	Mark James	First	July 1, 2023
Council District #2	Raymond Sheldon, Jr.	First	July 1, 2023
	Kimberly Busteed	First	November 30, 2026
Council District #3	Robert Larsen, Chair	Second	July 1, 2023
	Christine Eck	First	June 29, 2026
Council District #4	Tom Campbell	First	November 24, 2025
	Vacant*		
Council District #5	Leah Everett, Vice-Chair	Second	June 29, 2026
	Rosanna Brown	First	January 12, 2026
At-Large	Keri Moore	First	October 13, 2025
* Neil Pedersen nominated for appointment			

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 is made up of 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.