

Community center expansion: Requesting \$5M in state funding to help expand

Snoqualmie's community center and add a swimming pool. This will address over-capacity issues at our community center, provide an opportunity for all children in our city the chance to learn to swim, so they will be safe when recreating in our rivers, and provide health and wellness, senior, youth, and aquatics programs.

Affordable housing: Expand REET authority for state and locals (HB 1628) to fund affordable housing.

Public Safety:

Increased Funding for Crisis Intervention Training: Every agency in the state is required to have 25% of their staff trained in Crisis Intervention Training. King County has proposed cutting funding to the Crisis Intervention Training program at the police academy by 75%. This will reduce the number of classes available from 12 per year to only 3, which will only accommodate 90 students per year. This training protects residents and our law enforcement officers and leads to better, safer, outcomes. Accordingly, we request that funding not only be maintained but increased such that this critical program can be included in every Basic Law Enforcement class at the academy. This will ensure that new officers are equipped with these skills and tools directly out of the gate from CJTC. This will keep our communities safer for everyone

Officer recruitment and retention: Additional funding tools and resources to support officer recruitment and retention, including but not limited to updating the Public Safety Sales Tax to allow an option to implement by councilmanic authority and providing greater flexibility on use of the funds.

Juvenile Access Law: Fix ESHB 1140: Positive intervention by addressing the juvenile access law. Need to provide more thought about when youth require lawyers to be present, otherwise it becomes mandatory to put them in the system.

Police pursuit: Further expand crimes eligible for pursuit to include auto theft and some property crimes.

I-90 and Hiway 18 interchange: Ensure preservation of prior legislative appropriations funding for the Snoqualmie Parkway and SR 18.

- Concern that if the state or federal gas tax is suspended or reduced, it may delay the start of these projects (interchange and highway widening);
- We desire to have communities most impacted by construction involved in an advisory committee, fostering greater public dialogue and support.

Snoqualmie Parkway jurisdiction transfer: Ensure alignment of utilization of infrastructure with taxing jurisdiction. The parkway is a transportation system connector between Highway 18 and State Route 202. The majority of its utilization is through regional commercial trucks. In order to align usage with revenue source most the parkway should be transferred to state control and maintenance.

Property tax cap: Revise the property tax cap to tie it to inflation, up to 3%, and population growth factors, so that local elected officials can adjust the local property tax rate to better serve their communities. The current 1% cap has created a structural deficit in the city revenue and expenditure model, resulting in a reliance on regressive revenues and artificially restricting the use of property taxes to fund community needs.

Request for Regional Transit Collaboration and Support: Transformative projects like the Snoqualmie Valley Health Hub and various tourism development initiatives are projected to significantly boost the number of employees, patients, and visitors in our community. With this growth comes an urgent need to expand and modernize our transportation infrastructure. To ensure that Snoqualmie remains accessible, livable, and economically vibrant, we respectfully request King County's active engagement and partnership in planning and implementing solutions that:

- Improve regional transit access to and from Snoqualmie,
- Reduce traffic congestion on key corridors,
- Support sustainable and equitable growth across the Valley.

Coordinated action is essential. We look forward to working closely with King County to ensure our infrastructure meets the evolving needs of our growing community and supports the long-term success of these vital projects.

Standardized Tribe Fee for Service Agreement: The Snoqualmie Tribe has acquired several major properties within the City of Snoqualmie, including the Salish Lodge, a former hospital, and a large medical office complex. Once placed into federal trust, these properties no longer generate local tax revenues. Despite this, the Tribe continues to rely on City services such as police and fire protection without contributing financially. While the City has been in ongoing discussions with the Tribe on a range of issues, there has been no response to our outreach since Fall 2022, when the Tribal Chairman sent a letter indicating a willingness to pursue a fee-for-service agreement. Despite this, the Tribe continues to expect the City to provide essential municipal services such as police and fire protection, services for which they currently do not contribute financially. Given the Tribe's sovereign status and the limited enforcement mechanisms available to local governments, we are seeking assistance from a higher-level government agency.

This challenge is not unique to Snoqualmie. As more properties are acquired across King County by tribes, other cities will face similar impacts. The City of Snoqualmie respectfully requests that King County work with the City and the Tribe to develop a standardized, countywide fee-for-service framework to ensure sustainable service delivery and intergovernmental collaboration.

Reference:

Council Priorities

Encourage Economic Vibrancy

Goal #1: Encourage and support tourism.

Goal #2: Attract, retain, and protect retail.

Goal #3: Encourage, support, and project hospitality.

Goal #4: Support and protect employment-centered commercial businesses.

Enhance and Preserve Neighborhood Livability and Quality of Life

Goal #1: Support affordable housing development.

Goal #2: Provide inclusive aesthetically pleasing streetscapes.

Goal #3: Implement opportunities to expand recreational programs and activities.

Goal #4: Cultivate an environmentally conscious community.

Goal #5: Provide non-motorized mobility options for connecting neighborhoods and recreational amenities.

Invest in Transportation & Infrastructure

Goal #1: Maintain sustainable streets, parks, facilities, and utility infrastructure.

Goal #2: Work with transportation partners to enhance regional connectivity.

Goal #3: Support infrastructure equity.

Assure a Safe Community

Goal #1: Maintain proactive community public safety services.

Goal #2: Deliver exceptional first responder coverage and response times.

Ensure Fiscal Transparency & Operational Stability

Goal #1: Develop a strategic plan.

Goal #2: Maintain an appropriate financial capacity for present and future levels-of-service.