

May 22nd, 2025

King County Parks Levy Aquatic Facilities Grant Review Committee,

Re: Letter of Support for grant funding of Snoqualmie Valley YMCA expansion project

This is a letter of support for the Community Center Expansion from the City of Snoqualmie Parks and Events Commission. The 5-person Commission supports the application for grant funds associated with the City's Community Center Expansion, part of the City's 2025-30 Capital Improvement Plan. These grant funds are critical in moving the project forward, including providing essential, right-sized aquatic space, which meets the needs of its population and enhances the public health and safety of the community.

The current community center is one-third of the size of what was initially proposed nearly 20 years ago, and there often is more demand than the existing facility can accommodate. Our community continues to grow. The Snoqualmie Valley Community is severely lacking in aquatics space with only one publicly-owned, 86-year old undersized pool to serve the area.

Snoqualmie Valley is home to many beautiful rivers and lakes and people who recreate in them. It is a matter of public safety that Snoqualmie Valley residents have an aquatic facility that provides adequate access to swimming and water safety lessons.

The Community Center Expansion project is poised to become a popular recreational destination, drawing families from across the Snoqualmie Valley. The Community Center's central location, accessibility via Metro bus lines, and availability to all residents through free drop-in hours, daily rates, monthly memberships, and reduced rates for those with demonstrated financial need, ensures that it serves a diverse range of residents and visitors.

Considerable time and resources, deliberation among City leadership, outreach to the community, and staff attention is invested in this effort. Please consider approval of the Community Center Expansion project grant application. This project – nearly shovel-ready once the final funding piece is in place – will significantly enhance our community's health and wellness programming space in addition to improving public safety, providing benefits for all residents, and bolstering the area economically.

Thank you for your thoughtful consideration.

Sincerely,

Emily Anderson,  
Parks and Events Commission Chair

Paul Sweum,  
Parks and Events Commission Vice-Chair

Amanda Frame,  
Commissioner

Rene Price,  
Commissioner

Hadley Evarts,  
Commissioner