

**Contact:**

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## **Public Comment Welcome on Draft Housing and Community Development Plan**

*Comments on proposed use of \$5.2 million in federal funds for affordable housing and community development projects will be accepted through Tuesday, April 18*

**EVERETT, Wash., March 29, 2016** – Snohomish County has recently released a draft affordable housing and community development plan for the Snohomish County Urban County Consortium that proposes spending more than \$5 million in federal grant funds to improve housing options and living environments for those in need in Snohomish County.

The draft plan is available for review and comment through April 18. A public hearing will be held on April 12.

The plan includes spending \$5.2 million in federal grant funds: including \$2,622,500 for affordable housing; \$1,184,875 for public facility and infrastructure improvements; \$654,691 for service programs; and \$745,601 for grant planning and administration.

The activities will primarily benefit low- and moderate-income people and neighborhoods in our community. The proposed projects will help the County and Consortium reach goals to maintain and expand affordable housing options for all individuals and families in our community. The projects will also enhance quality of life for residents through water and sewer system improvements, food bank renovations, public facility accessibility improvements, purchase of a rescue ambulance, and various services for homeless persons, seniors, victims of domestic violence, and persons with disabilities.

Funding recommendations for projects were made by a Technical Advisory Committee and Policy Advisory Board that provided input on use of these funds. Projects selected for funding are sponsored by cities, nonprofits, and public agencies.

The draft action plan is a required of the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development for receipt of grant funding under the Community Development Block Grant (CDBG), HOME Investment Partnerships (HOME), and Emergency Solutions Grant (ESG) programs.

To read an online copy of the plan, go to <http://www.snohomishcountywa.gov/2892>. Paper copies of the plan are also available at the downtown Everett Public Library, at the Snohomish County branches of the Sno-Isle Regional Library System, at local city and town halls, and at the Snohomish County Office of Housing and Community Development located on the Fourth Floor of the Robert J. Drewel Building, 3000 Rockefeller Ave, Everett, WA 98201.

Written comments are welcome and will be accepted until 4 p.m. on April 18, 2016. Send comments to Sue Tracy, at [Sue.Tracy@snoco.org](mailto:Sue.Tracy@snoco.org) or at the Snohomish County Human Services Department listed above.

A public hearing on the draft plan will also be held on the Snohomish County campus in Everett on Tuesday, April 12 at 3 p.m. The hearing will take place in Public Meeting Room 2, located on the first floor of the Snohomish County Robert J. Drewel Building.

The hearing facilities are accessible. For questions about accessibility or to request a reasonable accommodation such as large print or sign language interpreter, or to request a language interpreter for the hearings, please contact Sue Tracy in the Snohomish County Human Services Department at [Sue.Tracy@snoco.org](mailto:Sue.Tracy@snoco.org) or at 425-388-3269 or at 711 for TTY users.

The **Snohomish County Human Services Department** helps all persons meet their basic needs and develop their potential by providing timely, effective human services and building community. The Housing & Community Services Division administers a wide range of programs that provide affordable housing, community development, and related services to low-income and homeless persons.

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