

PROPOSITION NO. 4

Revising Hearing Examiner System and Appeals

A. Proposed Ballot Title:

The Snohomish County Charter Review Commission has proposed amendments to the Snohomish County Charter concerning County Council authority over appeals of certain administrative decisions. This proposition would restate the County Council’s existing charter authority to adopt a hearing examiner system but eliminate the Council’s review in certain quasi-judicial land use or environmental proceedings, and repeal inconsistent transition provisions. Should this proposition be:

Approved . . . . .

Rejected . . . . .

B. Charter Amendments Required

**AMENDED SECTIONS:**

**Section 2.20 Powers**

All powers of the county, not reserved by the people or vested in specific offices by this charter, shall be vested in the county council. The county council shall exercise its legislative power by adoption and enactment of ordinances, resolutions and motions. It shall have the power:

1. To levy taxes, appropriate revenue and adopt budgets for the county;
2. To establish the compensation to be paid to all county officials and employees and to provide for the reimbursement of expenses, except as provided in Section 6.120;
3. Except as otherwise provided for herein, to establish by ordinance executive departments and to establish their powers and responsibilities;
4. To adopt by ordinance zoning regulations and other land use and development regulations, including improvement plans for the present and future development of the county;
5. To employ legal counsel as allowed by the laws of the state of Washington;

6. To confirm or reject without cause nominations of members of all county boards and commissions, provided, the county council shall have concurrent authority with the county executive to nominate members of the Snohomish county planning commission;
7. To approve contracts or establish by ordinance methods by which any type of contract shall be approved;
8. To set collective bargaining guidelines to be followed by the county executive and to approve any and all collective bargaining agreements negotiated by the county executive;
9. To adopt by ordinance a hearing examiner system to hear and issue decisions in quasi-judicial matters, provided that the county council shall not have jurisdiction to hear appeals of hearing examiner decisions in quasi-judicial land use or environmental proceedings unless required by state law.

The enumeration of particular powers shall not be construed as limiting the powers of the county council.

### **Section 2.140 Motions**

The county council may pass motions to confirm or reject nominations or appointments, to adopt comprehensive plans, to approve interfund loans, to organize and administer the legislative branch, to perform other administrative acts, to issue rulings in quasi-judicial proceedings (~~(except rezone actions)~~) within its jurisdiction, and to request information from any other agency of county government. Motions shall not be subject to veto or the requirements for the introduction, consideration and passage of ordinances.

### **REPEALED SECTIONS:**

#### **~~((Section 11.40 Budget~~**

~~The budget for 2007 which is in effect when this amended charter takes effect, shall remain effective until revised.))~~

#### **~~((Section 11.70 Effective Date~~**

~~This amended charter shall take effect January 1, 2007. The term "effective date of this amended charter" shall mean January 1, 2007.))~~