



March 4, 2021

Snohomish County Council
3000 Rockefeller Avenue
Everett, WA 98201

Re: Ordinance 21-004 Related to Lot Coverage

Dear Councilmembers,

On behalf of the approximately 2,800 member companies of the Master Builders Association of King and Snohomish Counties I am writing to urge your support of the proposed changes to lot coverage allowances.

Home builders will better be able to utilize scarce buildable land supply within our urban growth areas, furthering Snohomish County planning policies and goals of the Growth Management Act. We note that the proposal does not increase density – it simply helps make certain that planned for density is achieved.

It is important to note that environmental issues related to critical areas, stormwater, drainage, and others are strictly regulated and there is clear required compliance with those regulations, no matter what the lot coverage allowance numbers are. A change to lot coverage will not alter in any way environmental protections.

Existing lot coverage numbers were adopted largely before our existing stringent rules related to critical areas, stormwater and drainage came into existence. In that sense, the current lot coverage numbers are out of date, and in need of revision so that Snohomish County can meet the housing demand of a growing population in a responsible way.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Mike Pattison

Mike Pattison
Snohomish County Manager

