



**County Council**

Stephanie Wright, Chair  
Megan Dunn, Vice-Chair  
Nate Nehring  
Sam Low  
Jared Mead

**News Release:** November 10th, 2021

**Contact:** Cassie Fannin - Council PIO, [cassie.fannin@snoco.org](mailto:cassie.fannin@snoco.org)

## **Snohomish County Council Adopts 2022 County Budget**

On November 9th, 2021, following months of analysis and deliberation, the Snohomish County Council passed a 2022 operating budget. The adopted budget passed on a 4-1 vote.

“We worked together to create a budget that makes significant investments in public safety, with additional deputies, crime prevention officers, crisis responders, and detectives focused on domestic violence and crimes against children,” said Council Chair Stephanie Wright. “We have focused on improving essential services to the public, while finding new ways to increase housing options, address environmental concerns, and improve the quality of life for all residents.”

Council Vice-Chair Megan Dunn added, “I was proud to vote in favor of the 2022 county budget and adjustment in revenue structure because it will pave the way for Snohomish County to better meet the community’s needs while making critical long-term investments in our county. Our residents will see their return on investment through improved public safety and better staffing levels to provide basic county services. It also considers forward thinking programs like therapeutic courts with an emphasis on a veteran's treatment court tract, equity and social justice work, a new land conservation initiative to protect our forests and open space, and a new CPACER program to allow property owners financing for energy efficiency and resiliency at little cost to the county.

A few highlights of the 2022 adopted budget include:

- Body camera program for sheriff deputies and park rangers,
- Expansion of the number of detectives to address crimes against children and domestic violence,
- Hiring more Designated Crisis Responders,
- Addition of three crime prevention officer; one per precinct,

- Investments to reduce the law and justice system backlog,
- Set up a Carnegie Employment Support Services Program to improve access to jobs,
- Make investments in long-term shelter and housing options,
- Invest in Snohomish County's Paine Field Airport to ensure this center of job creation will continue to provide the most economic impact of any airport in the state,
- Continue improving solid waste, roads, and infrastructure
- Additional funds for the Food and Farming Center at McCollum Park to help our farmers,
- Invest \$5 million to expand broadband access,
- Approximately \$36 million for projects within our Environmental Stewardship Strategy, including fish passages, land conservation, habitat restoration, forest health, and climate change action plan.

Fellow councilmembers shared their thoughts about the 2022 budget.

“Although I voted against the 2.5% General Fund property tax increase in the 2022 budget,” said Councilmember Sam Low, “I worked hard to make sure public safety was fully funded with five new deputies and that we have increased investments in county roads and infrastructure.”

“I am proud to be a part of a council that is committed to working in a bipartisan way to meet the needs of Snohomish County families,” added Councilmember Jared Mead. “As we begin to see a light at the end of the tunnel of a difficult and dynamic two years, we were able to put together a package that moves us forward and makes significant investments for the future of our communities.”