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Executive Somers Appoints Dennis Worsham as First Director of Health Department

Worsham will lead public health at a time of significant change

SNOHOMISH COUNTY, Wash., November 16, 2022 – Snohomish County Executive Dave Somers today announced the appointment of Dennis Worsham as the first Director for Snohomish County's Health Department.

Since Mr. Worsham spent time early in his career at the Snohomish Health District (SHD), he will be returning to Snohomish County after an eventful career in other agencies. He has over 29 years of experience in governmental public health in the State of Washington and has been an innovative public health leader at the local, regional, and state level. His most recent job was as interim Director of Public Health – Seattle & King County.

"Dennis is the leader Snohomish County needs to expand direct service, strengthen public health, and prepare us for the next public health challenge," said Executive Somers. "I am looking forward to having his innovative leadership as we navigate the public and environmental health challenges of the next few years. I also want to thank Shawn Frederick for his exceptional service to the Snohomish Health District. He has been a great and trusted partner, and I wish him the best."

"Returning to Snohomish County has always been a goal of mine, and I'm excited to be joining at this critical moment of change," said Worsham. "I know the professionals who will work for the Snohomish County Health Department have a stellar reputation, and I plan to do all I can to support their important work saving lives and keeping people healthy."

The Snohomish Health District is being integrated into Snohomish County government, and on January 1, 2023, the new Snohomish County Health Department will be launched.