

Councilmember Stephanie Wright

September 13, 2016

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Wright Reappointed to International Economic Development Task Force

The National Association of Counties (NACo) Chair Renee Price recently reappointed Councilmember Stephanie Wright to serve as Vice Chair of the International Trade Task Force for the years 2016-2017. This task force facilitates the exchange of information, ideas and resources, and guides NACo programming concerning county-level engagement in international economic development activities.

Wright will also serve on the Community, Economic and Workforce Development policy steering committee. This committee is responsible for all matters pertaining to housing, community and economic development, public works, and workforce development, including the creation of affordable housing and housing options for different populations, as well as residential, commercial and industrial development.

Wright Urges Congress to Find Long-Term Solution for Federal Land Funding

As current President of the Washington State Association of Counties, Stephanie Wright traveled to Washington D.C. to urge members of Congress to support a full investment in the Payments in Lieu of Taxes (PILT) program in Fiscal Year 2017, as well as permanent funding in the future. The PILT program offsets forgone property tax revenue due to

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Who represents you?

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the presence of non-taxable federal land within the county's jurisdiction.

Despite not being able to collect property taxes on federal lands, Snohomish County must still provide many important services for residents and visitors to these areas. The PILT program is intended to support services like law enforcement, emergency medical services, search-and-rescue efforts, road maintenance and waste disposal. Snohomish County received \$1.24million in PILT payments in 2015 alone, but federal funding for the program is currently set to expire at the end of September 2016.

Sound Transit 3 Ballot Issue Forum

The League of Women Voters will be hosting a forum on the Sound Transit 3 (ST3) proposal that will appear on the ballot this November. If passed by voters in King, Snohomish and Pierce Counties, the measure would build a total of 62 miles of light rail with stations serving 37 new areas to the north, south, east and west of the existing light rail route. The proposal would also improve parking in certain transit hubs, as well as create bus lanes on the freeway where possible. In Snohomish County sub-area, \$9.3 billion of the total raised would be used for:

- Parking at Edmonds and Mukilteo Stations
- Bus on Shoulder Program
- I-405 Bus Rapid Transit between Lynnwood and Burien
- Light Rail between Lynnwood and 128th St. SW (Mariner)
- Light Rail between 128th St. SW (Mariner) and Everett Station
- Provisional Station at SR 99 and Airport Road

The forum will be held at the Lynnwood Library on **Monday, September 19th at 7pm**. Speakers will include Sound Transit CEO Peter Rogoff; Shefali Ranganathan, Executive Director of Transportation Choices Coalition, speaking in favor of the measure; and Maggie Fimia, from People For Smarter Transit - No on ST3, who will be speaking in opposition. There will be an opportunity for the public to ask questions. **Lynnwood Library: 19200 - 44th Ave W**

Pedestrian Facility Access Discussion

The Snohomish County Public Works Department is finalizing a self-evaluation study to assess its compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) within the county's pedestrian facility program. An inventory of its facilities has been completed and they are now soliciting comments to help identify and prioritize the removal of barriers that prevent access to its pedestrian facilities. Anyone who wishes to provide feedback on the study can do so at either or both of the following events:

- A public meeting on Thur, Sept. 15th from 5:30-7:30pm in the Everett Station Weyerhaeuser Room. Will include a presentation and Q&A session.
- An online public meeting runs through Mon, Oct. 3 and can be accessed through www.SnoCoADA.org.

Community Forums on Opioids and Heroin

A <u>series of forums</u> will be held at different locations throughout Snohomish County to encourage dialogue and provide information to residents and businesses regarding heroin and opioid use. Sponsored by <u>Snohomish County Human Services</u> and <u>Snohomish Health District</u>, each forum will include a panel of subject matter experts and time for

audience questions. Topics will include a brief history of the epidemic and what is currently being done to fight it, the physical response to opioids, addiction versus dependence, and <u>treatment options</u>. In addition to the forum and resource tables, attendees can stay afterward to receive a brief training on how to use naloxone - the life-saving drug that can reverse the effects of an opioid overdose.

- Thur, Sept 15th at 6:30pm. Cavalero Middle School (8220-24th St. SE, Lake Stevens)
- Tue, Sept. 20th at 6:30pm. Tulalip Resort Orca Room (10200 Quil Ceda Blvd, Tulalip)
- Tue, Sept 27th at 6pm. Byrnes Performing Arts Center (18821 Crown Ridge Blvd, Arlington)
- Thur, Oct. 13th at 6:30pm in Edmonds Community College Woodway Hall (20000 - 68th Ave W, Lynnwood)

Marine Resources Advisory Committee

The <u>Snohomish County Marine Resources Advisory Committee</u> (MRC) is seeking three motivated members to serve as citizen advisors. This committee addresses local marine issues and recommends action to the County Executive and the County Council. Two appointees will represent conservation and environmental interests, and one will represent economic interests. Interested parties are expected to have a willingness to learn about marine conservation, participate in research founded on sound science, and contribute opinions on marine issues.

MRC meetings are in Everett on the third Wednesday of every month from 6:30pm - 8:30pm. Members are also expected to volunteer at least 10hours per month for MRC project planning and implementation. Participants will serve a three-year term that runs from 2016 - 2018. Applications should be turned in by October 15th.

Verdant Offering Fall-Prevention Programs For Free to Older Adults

The <u>Verdant Health Commission</u> is offering the FallsTalk and FallScape programs free of charge to older adults in our community. One out of three older people fall each year, which can cause minor injuries, fractures or other serious injuries, and can result in loss of mobility or independence. Yet fewer than half of those who experience a fall will tell anyone about it.

FallsTalk and FallScape are highly effective prevention programs delivered privately in your home, community of faith or other convenient locations. These programs help you prevent falls by recognizing fall risks that are unique to you and creating your own personal plans to help you continue to enjoy your activities and lifestyle. There are nine screening opportunities in the month of September listed on the Verdant website, along with information about other valuable services and programs they provide to our community.

Greetings, friends!

If you have suggestions or feedback about calendar items, this publication, or about my office, I encourage you to be in touch with me. I want to keep lines of communication open between 3000 Rockefeller and our District. Please contact me at 425-388-3494, or e-mail Stephanie.Wright@snoco.org. If you would like to share this newsletter, select the Forward Email link below.

Thank you for being an involved citizen. It is truly a pleasure and an honor to represent you on the Council! I

am inspired by your active participation and thankful for your ongoing support.

Sincerely,

Stephanie Wright Snohomish County Councilmember, District 3