

PRESS RELEASE



County Council

15 September 2008

Via Web Form, E-Mail, Letter or Attend a Council Meeting

County Council Seeks Public's Budget Priorities

Mike Cooper
Dave Gossett
John Koster
Dave Somers
Brian Sullivan

The County Council encourages public participation in the preparation of Snohomish County's first biennial budget for the years 2009 and 2010. Reaffirming their commitment to open, transparent government, the council continues to open new lines of communication, including a targeted web-based response form.

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"A very important part of the budget preparation process is gathering information and priorities from the public," said County Council Chair Dave Somers, who recently announced that the council would be adopting a from-scratch budget for the 2009-2010 biennium, rather than follow past councils' practice of relying primarily on County Executive Aaron Reardon's proposed budget.

The council's budget commentary web form can be found by going to the county's homepage at www.snoco.org and entering "comment of the budget" into the "Search For" box located in the middle top of the homepage. Then click on [Comment on the 2009-2010 Recommended Budget](#), fill out the information requested and enter your comments.

Comments about the 2009-10 proposed county budget will be made a part of the public record, which includes your name, address, city, state, and zip code.

Citizens can also contact the county council directly by e-mail at Contact.Council@snoco.org, or by letter to Snohomish County Council, 3000 Rockefeller Ave. M/S 609, Everett, Washington 98201.

Somers said the council will scrutinize every taxpayer dollar they allocate in the county's 2009-2010 budget through the lenses of three panels that support the council's overarching theme of "**Sustaining & Enhancing the Quality of Life for Snohomish County Residents.**" The panels are:

- **Panel 1 "Mobile, Livable & Sustainable Communities,"** chaired by Councilmember Mike Cooper.
- **Panel 2 "Safe & Healthy Communities,"** chaired by Councilmember Dave Gossett.
- **Panel 3 "Public Accountability,"** chaired by Councilmember John Koster.

- MORE -

The public is welcome to attend and speak at of panel meetings, as well as all meetings and hearing on the budget. The schedule of these meetings and hearings follows”

Committee of the Whole Budget Deliberations

Wednesdays at 11 am: Sept. 17, Sept. 24, & Oct 29

Budget Panel Meetings

- **Panel 1: Mobile, Livable & Sustainable Communities**
— 9 am - 12 pm: Oct. 7, Oct. 14, Oct. 21
- **Panel 2: Safe & Healthy Communities**
— 1 - 4 pm: Oct. 8, Oct. 15, Oct. 22
- **Panel 3: Public Accountability**
— 9 am - 12 pm: Oct. 23

**Public Hearing on the Executive’s Proposed Budget Ordinance
& the Biennial Public Forum of County Operations**

— Wed., Oct. 1, at 11 am

Public Hearing on the 2009-2010 Biennial Budget

— Wed., Nov. 5 at 10:30 am & 6:30 pm

Possible date for continuation of Public Hearing on the 2009-2010 Biennial Budget

— Monday, Nov. 24 at 10:30 am

Most council meetings are held in the **Henry M. Jackson Board Room**, in the **Robert J. Drewel Building**, on the County Campus at 3000 Rockefeller Ave, Everett. Please call 425-388-3494 to confirm meeting schedules.

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All Council Meetings and Hearings Are Webcast Live

To view all county council meetings and hearings live or archived go to the county’s homepage at www.snoco.org and enter “[Council Webcasts](#)” into the “**Search For**” box located in the middle top of the homepage

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