

**Contact:**

Debra May  
Planning and Relocation Specialist  
[Debra.May@snoco.org](mailto:Debra.May@snoco.org)  
425-388-3264

## **Snohomish County Welcomes Comments on Draft Housing and Community Development Plans**

**EVERETT, Wash. June 19, 2020** – Today, Snohomish County’s Human Services Department announced they are accepting comments on the draft 2020-2024 Consolidated Plan and the 2020 Annual Action Plan proposed five-year priorities, goals, and strategies to guide investment of federal funds for affordable housing and community development projects. Comments will be accepted through Wednesday, July 8, 2020.

The Snohomish County Consortia are partnerships between Snohomish County and the cities and towns in the county for the receipt of federal funds under the: Community Development Block Grant (CDBG); HOME Investment Partnerships (HOME); and Emergency Solutions Grant (ESG) programs.

The Draft 2020-2024 Consolidated Plan provides a framework to guide the investment of these funds to address local priority housing and community development needs that primarily benefit low- and moderate-income persons and areas of the county. Snohomish County collaborated on the plan with the City of Everett and the City of Marysville, with each city receiving and administering CDBG funds for their own cities, while also participating in the HOME Consortium.

The Draft 2020-2024 Consolidated Plan includes: an executive summary; a summary of the consultation and citizen participation process conducted during development of the plan; a needs assessment; a market analysis; and a strategic plan which identifies priority needs in the community and sets five-year goals for the investment of CDBG, HOME and ESG funds to help meet these needs. The plan covers the period of July 1, 2020 through June 30, 2025.

The draft 2020 Annual Action Plan includes the Consortia’s CDBG, HOME, and ESG spending plan for the 2020 program year which runs from July 1, 2020 through June 30, 2021. It includes descriptions and funding awards for specific activities that will help achieve the five-year goals and actions anticipated to be undertaken under the additional strategies.

Funding recommendations for projects were made by a Technical Advisory Committee and Policy Advisory Board that provided input on use of these funds. Projects selected for funding are sponsored by cities, towns, nonprofits, and public agencies.

The draft plans are available for review and comment through July 8, 2020. A virtual public hearing will be held on June 25, 2020, at 10:00 a.m. to provide information on the draft plans and proposed activities, to obtain resident views, and to respond to questions.

To read an online copy of the plan and to obtain directions on attending the virtual (Zoom) meeting, please go to: <https://www.snohomishcountywa.gov/5645/Consolidated-Plan-for-2020-2024>

Written comments are welcome and will be accepted until 4:00 p.m. on July 8, 2020 by Debra May via email at [Debra.May@snoco.org](mailto:Debra.May@snoco.org) or by mail at: Snohomish County Human Services Department, Housing & Community Services Division -- M/S 305, 3000 Rockefeller Ave, Everett, WA 98201. Comments received will be taken into consideration before the plans are finalized.

Snohomish County strives to provide access to all members of the public. Reasonable accommodations will be made to enable persons with disabilities to fully participate in the virtual public hearing and to provide the information in the draft plans in an alternate format upon request. To request an accommodation or to request an interpreter for the public hearing, please contact Debra May by email at [Debra.May@snoco.org](mailto:Debra.May@snoco.org), by phone at 425-388-3264, or by TTY at 711.

The **Snohomish County Human Services Department** helps all persons meet their basic needs and develop their potential by providing timely, effective human services and building community. The Housing & Community Services Division administers a wide range of programs that provide affordable housing, community development, and related services to low-income and homeless persons.

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