

2019-2020 REGIONAL POLICY PRIORITIES

Economic Alliance Snohomish County is a non-profit serving as a combined economic development organization and countywide chamber of commerce. We bring together private-public partners to create a unified voice for Snohomish County.

We are committed to growing and nurturing a vital regional economy that is globally competitive. We achieve this by expanding partnerships, developing key resources and building the infrastructure systems creating local and regional employment centers.

Economic Alliance Snohomish County is a catalyst for economic vitality resulting in stronger communities, increased job creation, expanded educational opportunities, and improved infrastructure.

TRANSPORTATION & INFRASTRUCTURE

\$3.2 B IN UNMET NEEDS, INCLUDING \$798 M IN PRIORITY NEEDS

60% OF JOBS TIED TO INTERNATIONAL TRADE

Support efficient and timely delivery of Snohomish County regional projects funded in Connecting Washington, ST2, ST3, and the I-405 Express Toll Lanes. Encourage any revenue and project cost savings to be reinvested in the region.

Provide options and tools to local governments and agencies to sufficiently fund local road, transit, and infrastructure improvements that promote community and economic development.

Consistent with the priorities of the Snohomish County Committee for Improved Transportation (SCCIT):

- Authorize new ways to leverage private funding for major projects. Identify funding options to replace the westbound section of the US Hwy 2 Trestle Bridge.
- Support the modernization of the Port of Everett's International Seaport through capital investments in dock, rail, and surface transportation improvements.
- Develop planning and funding solutions that increase the throughput on state roadways, including key north-south and east-west corridors such as US Hwy 2, SR 522, and SR 9.
- Fund multimodal transit connections needed to support the build-out of ST2 and ST3 and complete the high-capacity transit network in Snohomish County.
- Support projects which improve freight mobility and safety at-grade railroad crossings.
- Continued investment in tools such as the Public Works Assistance Account (PWAA) and The Community Economic Revitalization Board (CERB)

EDUCATION & WORKFORCE

20% OF WORKFORCE IN SNOHOMISH COUNTY IS MANUFACTURING

84% OF BUSINESSES IN SNOHOMISH COUNTY HAVE DIFFICULTY FINDING QUALIFIED EMPLOYEES

Provide appropriate capital and program funding for UW Bothell, WSU Everett/Everett University Center & partners such as Western Washington University, Edmonds CC, Everett CC, Medical Pathways Facility at Everett High School, and the WSU College of Medicine to expand STEM and other high-demand programs.

Provide funds for K-3 classrooms along with adequate resources and tools for school retrofits, construction and expansion due to population growth and seismic safety concerns.

Priorities DRAFT SEPT 2018

Support Career Connected Learning by fully funding CTE programs, continued funding STEM networks including Snohomish STEM, and allocation of funds for career pathway programs and facilities.

Confront the basic education funding shortfalls, particularly in special education, and revise the new levy cap formula to mitigate inequities and hold districts harmless of local levy authority cuts.

Language supporting North County Trade School (falls into language above and will be a specific ask in the session once that shapes up closer to then)

Language Supporting NMA efforts (if needed)

Advance policies and programs that set students on the pathway to high-demand, family-sustaining careers.

Guided pathways

ECONOMIC PROSPERITY & COMPETITIVENESS

One of the fastest growing counties in the nation

292,000 JOBS IN SNOHOMISH COUNTY

Promote the importance that our highly skilled workforce, educational institutions, and tax policies all play in economic prosperity and competitiveness. These attributes are vital to attracting and retaining aerospace and non-aerospace companies and jobs in Snohomish County.

Maintain local economic development organizations' state funding (i.e. ADO funding and economic development tools such as the strategic reserve fund).

Continued investment in the Department of Commerce economic development, international trade, and sector lead programs.

Support programs and tools that promote tourism and recreation in Snohomish County.

Support the long-term funding in the MTCA account for the Port of Everett's Mill A/Seaport Environmental Cleanup.

COMMUNITY VITALITY & RESILIENCY

50% OF ALL RENTERS AND MORE THAN **1/3** OF ALL HOMEOWNERS IN SNOHOMISH COUNTY ARE COST BURDENED

NEW DATA POINT THAT CLEARLY POINTS TO THE LACK OF HOUSING IN SNOHOMISH COUNTY FOR ALL?

Honor longstanding partnerships between the State and local governments by avoiding further reductions in shared revenues, and any other actions that hamper the ability of cities, counties and public agencies to provide essential for funding coordinated services to citizens.

Expand access and funding for behavioral health and substance dependent treatment that enable residents to fully participate and succeed in the local workforce and contribute to the community.

Priorities DRAFT SEPT 2018

Advocate for local and state funding programs, and development regulations that seek to optimize an adequate supply and robust choice of housing at various price points that are accessible to residents of all socioeconomic levels throughout Snohomish County.

SNOHOMISH COUNTY QUICK STATS WHAT STORY DO WE WANT TO TELL WITH THESE STATS?

55% OF RESIDENTS WORK OUTSIDE THE COUNTY (IS THE FOCUS PEOPLE ON ROADS? IF SO HOW CAN WE BETTER CONVEY THAT?)

1st CONCENTRATION OF MANUFACTURING JOBS ON THE WEST COAST

PORT OF EVERETT IS **#1 Customs Export District**

90% OF WORKERS WILL NEED A CREDENTIAL, SOME COLLEGE, OR TRAINING
AND ONLY **31%** OF WASHINGTON STUDENTS RECEIVE ONE

ECONOMIC IMPACTS OF AEROSPACE

\$8.2 B IN WAGES

\$39.85 B IN BUSINESS REVENUES

92,450 IN JOBS

This document reflects the input of diverse participants in sectors ranging from life sciences, health care, advanced manufacturing, aerospace, higher ed, our ports, tech, local cities, chambers, several Snohomish County school districts, and local businesses.