

LYNNWOOD

TIMES



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Real News ⚡
Real Impact

Legislation regulating police tactics go into effect July 25



Sedro-Woolley Officers responding to an out-of-control man showing signs of substance abuse on June 8, 2021. Source: Body Cam footage from Sedro-Woolley Police Department.

By KIENAN BRISCOE

OLYMPIA, Wash - Governor Inslee signed new legislation that affects law enforcement and how they provide public safety services that will go into effect on July 25 leaving many police departments revising their responses to crime.

HB1054 passed 54-43 at the House level and 27-22 at the Senate, signed by the Governor May 18, establishing requirements for tactics and equipment used by peace officers.

The regulations under this bill include:

- Restricting the use of neck restraints and chokeholds
- Restricting the use of military equipment including firearms and ammunition of .50 caliber or greater, machine guns, armed helicopters, armed or armored drones, armed vessels, armed vehicles, armed aircraft, tanks, long-range acoustic hailing devices, rockets, rocket launchers, bayonets, explosive grenades, incendiary grenades, missiles, directed ener-

gy systems, and electromagnetic spectrum weapons. Law enforcement must return any of these to the federal agency from which they were acquired or destroy the equipment by December 31, 2022.

- Restrictions on tear gas
- Restricting vehicular pursuits unless there is probable cause that the person in the vehicle has committed or is committing a violent crime or is driving under the influence.
- Restricting firing upon a moving vehicle unless necessary to protect against an imminent threat of serious harm
- Restricting no-knock warrants
- Regulating canine teams

HB1310, concerning permissible uses of force by law enforcement and correctional officers, passed 55-42 at House and 26-23 Senate, signed by Gov. Inslee also May 18.

The bill states the following:

“A peace officer may use physical force against another person when necessary to: protect against criminal

conduct where there is probable cause to make an arrest; effect an arrest; prevent an escape; or protect against an imminent threat of bodily injury to the peace officer, another person, or the person against whom force is being used. A peace officer may use deadly force against another person only when necessary to protect against an imminent threat of serious physical injury or death to the officer or another person.”

Adding to the State v. Blake decision in February resulting in the decriminalization of simple possession charges, many police departments throughout Washington state have been scrambling to interpret the intent of the legislation, working with legal advisors to determine legal implications, and creating policies to match the new laws.

“Public safety requires the trust and support of the community, and our law enforcement officers need public support to do their important job. We must get the balance right and thoughtfully ensure that solutions will not make problems worse. We support changes that advance public safety and respect victims and others who need police

help, who are often forgotten in the dialogue. We need to get this right,” Andy J. Hwang, Chief of Police for Federal Way Police Department, said in a public statement.

Snohomish County Sheriff’s Office

Snohomish County Sheriff Adam Fortney, in response to these legislations, presented the following public statement:

“As your Sheriff, I have participated in statewide forums on these very topics, talked with other local law enforcement leaders, and have spent countless hours with Sheriff’s Office Command Staff to determine the best course of action for our community here in Snohomish County. To say that this has been a massive undertaking would be an understatement.”

“I want and need the community to understand that these new bills will change how we deliver police services in Snohomish County. While some of the bills deal with a new statewide

Continued PAGE 08 >>



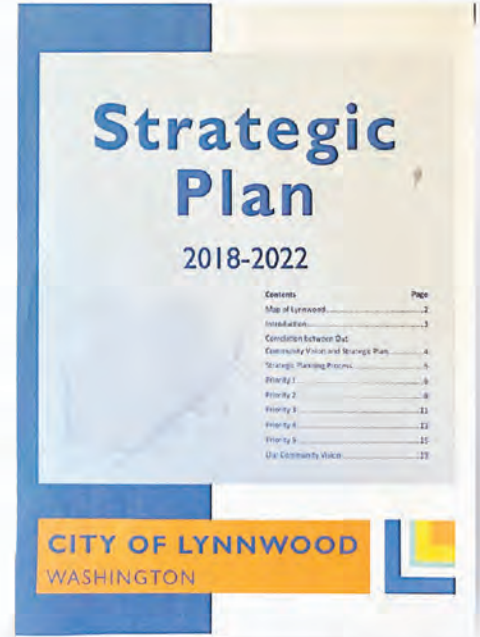
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Lynnwood crime down yet murders skyrocket across the state

By KIENAN BRISCOE

LYNNWOOD, Wash. – In its 2020 Crime in Washington Annual Report by the Washington Association of Sheriffs and Police Chiefs, overall Lynnwood saw a 3.9 percent reduction in crime; however, Washington state experienced a 46.6 percent increase in murders (302 compared to 206) and a 100% increase in manslaughter for 2020.

Due to last year's \$650 million unemployment fraud scheme allegedly by an international criminal organization, fraud claims across the state rose by 131 percent.

Hate crimes across the state is down 13.1 percent or 468 cases; whereas assaults on law enforcement is up 6.2 percent or 2,047 assaults. A total of 59,289 domestic violence cases were reported of which 13,909 were no-contact and protection order violations.

Washington state is now ranked last in the United States for the number of law enforcement officers per thousand residents down from 1.24 to 1.19 officers per thousand people. This can be attributed to the anti-police climate and polices enacted throughout the state, specifically in Seattle.

Crime is down in Lynnwood

Recent statistics released by the National Incident-Based Reporting System (NIBRS) indicate that crime in Lynnwood was down 3.9 percent last

year.

Joanna Small, Public Information Officer for the Lynnwood Police Department, attributed the drop in crime to the pandemic and suggested crime rates may rise now that the state is opening back up. However, she is confident in the Lynnwood Police Department's strategic plan and expects the fully-staffed force is more than equipped to deal with these increases.

Within the last three years, larceny-theft offenses and drug violations remain the leading categories within the city with larceny leading by almost 1,000 reported annual cases. Although larceny increased 18.4 percent from 2018 to 2019, it dropped 18.7 percent from 2019 to 2020. According to Small, the larceny and drug trends are interconnected.

"It is our hope that our strategic response towards the homelessness and opioid issues will also have an impact on drug and larceny offenses, as well as other positive trending impacts. However, another portion of our strategic plan is to improve our intelligence-led policing efforts, analyzing data, and identifying trends so we can become better at directing multi-disciplinary responses to identified crime trends to include not only drug and larceny offenses but other crime categories as well," Small told the Lynnwood Times.

In 2020 the Lynnwood Police Department reported 808 drug-related crimes, a 13.5 percent drop from 2019. Of all

recorded drug offenses in Lynnwood, opioids make up 34 percent – the largest percentage of drug types reported.

In its Strategic Plan 2019-2023, the Lynnwood Police Department mentions a 5-year "Compassions with Boundaries" approach to homelessness and opioid abuse.

Small told the Lynnwood Times that the department will begin the process of re-evaluating its 5-year plan next year.

There was a 59.6 percent jump in "no-contact and protective order" violations. Zero murders were recorded in 2018, 2019, and 2020; however, 14 rapes were recorded in 2020, up 16.7 percent from the three-year average of 12 rapes annually.

Addressing the trend of increasing rape cases, Small told the Lynnwood Times, "Three of the five overarching goals detailed in our strategic plan (ensuring a high quality of life for our community, embrace and integrate technology throughout the agency to include increased utilization of intelli-

gence-led policing inputs, and exploring programs to reduce recidivism a high quality of life for our community) are purposefully designed to address how, as a police department, we handle crime in our community for the specific five-year period.

"A desirable outcome would be that multiple crime categories will be positively impacted by drilling down on the individual objectives and strategies that make up these larger goals of the plan."

While Administrative Services Commander Cole Langdon is currently working on the 2020 report, Small confirmed that the NIBRS report is accurate to the information they are compiling.

"Our Administrative Services Commander is currently compiling and building our 2020 Annual Report. This report will illustrate some of the impacts of the pandemic on trending," Small said.

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- Lynnwood Food Bank volunteer weekly since 2020
- Created and produced children's Japanese Language/Culture class at Lynndale Elementary
- Proposed and Passed Tax Relief Plan for Lynnwood
- Founder and President of The Lynnwood Chamber
- Junior Achievement Instructor at Meadowdale Middle
- Provided Music Lynndale Elementary Walk-a-Thon
- Personally produced/financed Lynnwood Christmas tree lighting for thirteen years (Santa, hot cocoa, kids chorus,)
- Lynnwood Library Board Liaison
- Lynnwood Fire Department Liaison
- Fire and Police Disability Board Member ten years
- Parks Board Liaison
- Human Services Commission Liaison
- Provide music performances to Senior Housing facilities
- State President of the Washington Pilots Association
- Established the Lynnwood Senior Center in Lynnwood
- Washington Air Search and Rescue member
- Neighbors in Need volunteer for over a decade as well as personally providing hot food for the homeless
- Lynn-O-Rama Chairman (Lynnwood Festival) four years
- Produced the Lynnwood fireworks 4th of July Celebration
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- South County Court Advisory Board
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- Assistant Minister at Trinity Lutheran Church
- Senior DeMolay member (Past Master Councilor)
- Lynnwood Rotary Air Fair Advertising Chairman
- Chaired the Lynnwood Jaycee's Easter Egg Hunt



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Islamic Community celebrates the first day of Eid al-Adha



Imam Khalid of Lynnwood Mosque addressing worshippers on July 20, 2021 for the Eid al-Adha celebration at the Lynnwood Convention Center. Source: Lynnwood Times / Kienan Briscoe.

By KIENAN BRISCOE

LYNNWOOD, Wash., July 21, 2021 - Hundreds gathered at the Lynnwood Convention Center on July 20th to celebrate the first day of the Islamic celebration of Eid al-Adha, the festival of sacrifice.

As attendees ushered in, dressed in their finest, masks equipped, paper prayer mats were distributed to those who did not bring their own.

After a prayer service, Imam Khalid of Lynnwood Mosque charismatically took the mic to leave the room with five core messages from the Quran.

The five pillars of Islam are the declaration of faith (shahada), prayer (salah), alms-giving (zakat), fasting (sawn), and pilgrimage (hajj).

“Are you willing, starting from today, to take at least ten minutes to speak with Allah with your own heart, to be vulnerable? Those are questions that should be instigated in our hearts and minds. Remember Allah by feeling it, by tasting it, by living it,” Imam Khalid said. “If you are not sure who you are, then have Allah in your heart. Make good relationships with everyone.”

Imam Khalid has been Lynnwood Mosque’s Imam for three years but has been Imam for over 25 years throughout Oregon, Florida, and Seattle. Outside his commitment to his faith, he is also professor of Clinical Mental Health at Antioch University, a field in which he has his Ph.D.

In attendance at the festival were Mukillteo Councilman Riaz Khan and his wife and current Mukilteo City Council candidate Ayesha Riaz Khan.

Ayesha formed an interest in politics while in India twenty years ago. To her parents, politics for a woman was completely out of question, and they believed she should focus on getting married. Throughout her husband’s campaign, she referred to herself as the person “behind the curtain.”

“I helped him understand what politics is. Many people have said to me, both [of you] will be in politics for the first time and I said ‘yes...buy one, get one free,’” Ayesha Khan joked with the Lynnwood Times.

As an engaged resident of Mukilteo, Ayesha has worked on several projects supporting refugee families, hosting International Women’s Day, and leading the communication panel of ICOM/MAS as a board of director. Her political platform aims to address public safety, expanded sidewalks, and budget allocation.

“This momentum is real and tomorrow is looking great,” Ayesha Khan said.

The Khans typically have a big celebration at their house during Eid al-Adha with food and balloons for the kids. Ayesha belongs to the Islamic Center of Mukilteo but also attends Lynnwood and Everett mosques. As well as a teacher of Islam, she is a substitute teacher in the Mukilteo school district, specializing in English and history.

There are two Eids celebrated each year in the Islamic calendar. On May 12 and ending at sundown on May 13, Muslims celebrated Eid al-Fitr, also known as the festival of breaking fast, typically celebrated at the end of the Muslim month called Ramadan where

they fast for 30 days.

“When you are hungry you don’t have the chance to fight with others. You don’t say anything bad because you don’t have that much energy, and you understand all over the world when people are hungry,” Ayesha Khan told the Lynnwood Times.

Eid al-Adha is the second Eid, marked around two months after Ramadan where many Muslims perform the Hajj pilgrimage in Saudi Arabia, the same pilgrimage the prophet Muhammed made years ago according to Islamic belief.

“It was one of my best ever spiritual experiences of my life,” Hussam Marouf said, who was in attendance at the celebration in Lynnwood and performed the pilgrimage himself eight years ago.

Because Muslims follow the lunar calendar, Eid does not fall on the same day every year but is dictated by a new moon. Eid is celebrated by sacrificing a sheep, goat, or whatever the family can afford as a reminder of Ibrahim’s sacrifice of his son to Allah. After an animal is sacrificed, the meat is dispersed to the poor, to family, and to friends. The day begins with prayer at a mosque where it is obligatory to donate money to charity to help the poor join the celebration.

“We love all of our brothers. Whether

you are a Christian, a Jew, you are all our brothers because we all worship the same God. There are different prophets with different books; Jesus with the Gospel, the Jews with the Torah, and us with the Quran, but we are all united under our faith to God,” Husama, volunteer and member of the Lynnwood Mosque in attendance of the celebration, said.

from page 3 **LYNNWOOD CRIME**

In 2019 Snohomish County jails operated at 74 percent capacity with an average daily population (ADP) of 915, averaging a 16-day length of stay. The daily bed rate in Snohomish county jails is \$118.66.

In 2020 Snohomish County jails operated at a reduced rate of 51 percent capacity with an average daily population of 524.

The crime rates included in the National Incident-Based Reporting System are based on specific crime categories, such as crimes against persons, crimes against property, crimes against society, or violent crimes, as explained by the NIBRS. Each category is adjusted based on city population by indicating the number of offenses per 1,000 persons.

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Snohomish County residents reflect on the state re-opening

By KIENAN BRISCOE

Governor Jay Inslee reopened Washington state June 30, under the Washington Ready plan, just in time for a beautiful Fourth of July weekend. For many Lynnwood residents it was the first time they could socialize with friends and family in over year.

"I definitely missed the concerts. That was the most heartbreaking [over the past year]," Rue, of Lynnwood said.

Rue had purchased tickets to the Harry Styles show at the Tacoma Dome that was postponed after the state shutdown. She was sad to miss celebrating Pride month this year but looks forward to celebrating next year and going back

to the movies with friends now that Washington state reopened. She celebrated the first open weekend by going out to dinner with her family in Seattle.

Yoel Solomon and his friend Yones, two seniors who recently graduated from Mountlake Terrace High School, celebrated their first open weekend by going to Alderwood Mall with no masks.

Under phase 2, Alderwood Mall reopened a year ago, June 10, 2020. This was the first-time masks were optional for vaccinated people and social distancing precautions were lifted. At its opening a year ago, the mall was still operating at 30% capacity and only 40 of its 160 retail and restaurants were

open.

"Our last year in high school was kinda ruined," Solomon said. "It was sad because you couldn't really see everyone and it was our last chance. We still ended up having our prom, but you couldn't get close to anyone so it kinda defeated the point."

The two graduated seniors missed having a normal senior year because it was something they could never get back. Although they thought the hybrid classes and remote learning lacked in both content and socialization, they agreed it was something "out of [their] control."

"I'm just looking forward for things to

go back to normal," Yones added.

Lynnwood residents Gerardo, Charlie, and Bryan all turned twenty-one during the quarantine and are looking forward to taking advantage of experiencing nightlife for the first time. The first thing they did when Washington state reopened was go out to a bar for a drink and took a trip to Las Vegas.

"I'm pretty young. I turned twenty-one when we were all in quarantine so I'm just looking forward to seeing the nightlife in and around Seattle, and just being young," Gerardo said, who looks forward to not having to wear a mask everywhere.

Continued PAGE 06 >>

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"Nick goes above and beyond to look at issues and ask questions. He will be a tremendous asset."

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"Nick is authentic, honest, and innovative. He is a part of our community we need to have represented on our City Council."

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Lynnwood City Councilmember 2013-2021
"Nick has the right background in small business know-how, plus a focus on housing. That is what Lynnwood needs to bring our city forward."

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Snohomish County Courthouse ceremonially re-opens

By KIENAN BRISCOE

EVERETT, Wash. - A ribbon-cutting ceremony was held July 15 to commemorate the reopening of the newly renovated Snohomish County Courthouse after years of planning and setbacks.

The justice building, which was originally built in 1967 and connects to the historic Mission building, has been the topic of debate for almost two decades, teetering between talks of renovation or building a new courthouse across the street.

Snohomish County Councilman Sam Low called the ceremony a “unifying day for everyone involved,” noting that when he came into office in 2016 the project was divided.

“The remodel and opening is positive for our community – a great place for fairness and justice,” Low said. “I’m excited to see the doors open to the courthouse for many years and decades to come.”

Snohomish County Executive Dave Somers, who advocated for the remodel, said that the remodel creates a nice flow from “old to new.”

“We were a county of about 250,000 people, and now we’re closing in on 850,000 people,” Somers said. “The growth in the county made this [the remodel] desperately needed.”

In 2015, the \$162 million project to construct a new building was abandoned a week before groundbreaking. The 2016 ST3 tax proved the plan untenable due to the county budget at the time, according to then-County Councilman Terry Ryan. In 2017 the Snohomish County Council voted 3-2 at their November 8 hearing to proceed with renovations to the existing structure. Council members Sam Low, Terry Ryan, and Nate Nehring voted in favor with then-County Council Chairman Brian Sullivan whilst Councilwoman Stephanie Wright dissented.

Despite her nay vote, councilwoman Wright praised the remodel, saying that



Snohomish County Executive Dave Somers and County Council President Stephanie Wright cutting the ribbon to commemorate the reopening of the Snohomish County Courthouse on July 15, 2021. Source: Lynnwood Times.

with a project as big as, many partners must come together to make it happen. “I’m glad that the project finally came to fruition,” Wright said. “This is a moment to celebrate.”

The cost of the approved plan was projected to be \$72.1 million, renovating 54,000 square feet of the 132,000-square-foot building, focusing on seismic upgrades, expanded space, ADA compliance, and the addition of a five-story tower on the building’s north side that adds 30,000 square feet and expands the courthouse 25 percent. While final costs of the project will settle at \$74.7 million, which includes construction costs and soft costs, Executive Director Ken Klein told the Lynnwood Times.

“The courthouse was not adding employees by building the addition, only making the current functions more efficient. A new building would have been much larger which increases site area, parking, etc.” Klein said.

On August 1, 2017, the city of Everett approved an addendum to the final Supplemental Environmental Impact Statement (SEIS) to allow the construction of the additional building.

The cost of the plan would be funded from \$75 million in bonds the county sold for courthouse improvements in 2013. In addition to the approved renovation, the council approved \$9 million beyond the bond to include heating and air systems, security features, and courtroom audiovisual equipment.

Hoffman Construction Company was brought on board with CBRE Heery as the architect to transform the historic marble and granite building into a “modern temple of justice,” as their website states, with improved operations, security, and circulation.

“Heery Design was selected as the architect due to their experience designing courthouses nationwide,” Klein told the Lynnwood Times.

The firm is now known as SLAM Collaborative. Hoffman Construction Company was selected to be the General Contractor/Construction Manager (GC/CM) for the construction.

Hoffman’s design included discrete levels of circulation for the public, judicial staff, and inmates. In addition

to 20 courtrooms, the building houses a law library and office space for court administrators and county deputy prosecuting attorneys. The design adds shear walls, drag struts, collector plates, and more.

According to Hoffman Construction, the building before renovation contained hazardous materials such as asbestos, lead, and PCBs. Hoffman developed a complex phasing plan to keep occupants safe during the abatement and remodel work and worked through a highly integrated preconstruction phase that included site selection, sustainability, MWESB outreach, and optimizing the budget and schedule.

County Councilman Terry Ryan explained in a 2017 executive session that the remodel was important for the “health and safety” of county employees and the public.

“True leadership includes making tough decisions,” Ryan said. “It’s time to table the discussion and start building.”

In addition to safety improvements, the renovated building now includes ADA compliant restrooms for employees and the public.

The project was expected to open in 2020 but was delayed due to the COVID pandemic and snowstorm earlier this year. According to Klein, these setbacks mainly resulted from labor availability and adherence to COVID distancing protocol which curtailed productivity.

Snohomish County Prosecuting Attorney Adam Cornell appreciates the executive’s office, the county council, and the work that they each did. Cornell remarked that the remodel is an expression of community pride and that it is a safe place for litigants, victims, and community members.

“This makes for a more comfortable and dignified working environment,” Cornell said. “It’s an example of good government and how it should work in our community.”

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from page 5 **STATE RE-OPENING**

“When we were at work, we would always have to wear a face mask,” Charlie, an ironworker, added. “I work up on the iron and it was really annoying when my glasses would always get fogged up. And they made it a big deal having to stay six feet apart but sometimes we’d just have to work close together.”

Lynnwood senior residents Richard and Sterling, on the other hand, didn’t experience much change since the state locked down.

“When I go out to stores, I bring my mask with me,” Richard said. “I re-

spect other people’s space with six feet. I’m still in pandemic-mode. I guess the only difference is it feels a bit freer. Folks are getting out and about a bit more.”

Richard attributed the reopening of the state to economic wellbeing.

“The way I see it, is it’s more an opening of the economy, which there’s a need for,” Rich told the Lynnwood Times.

“People need to work and people need jobs so if that’s the benefit of opening up the state I can see that. But this won’t be the last pandemic. There will be something new next year. But

as long as we keep vigilant about it, I hope it won’t get to this point again.” Sterling is pleased to be continuing family traditions. He played it safe, especially around his elderly mother-in-law.

“This is real. This is a reality. It’s not politically motivated,” Sterling said. “In order to offset the damage this thing did, you have to put in the effort to dissolve the issue. You have to make that sacrifice. By nature, we are social creatures, but you have to make a sacrifice if it’ll help the common good.”

Richard started wearing masks before they were required by mandate, especially when flying on a plane, as

well as taking vitamin C supplements to protect himself from colds. He recalled buying masks off Amazon a few months before the pandemic hit.

“When I was wearing my mask, my significant other told me I was crazy, long before it hit. And now she’ll never admit that I was right,” Richard joked.

Isabelle Del Toro and Malena Vargas, two Snohomish High School students, celebrated their first weekend in an open Washington state by getting vaccinated.

The two high schoolers look forward to life getting back to normal and attending the Evergreen State Fair.

Full council chamber as HAP draft language passes 5-1

By KIENAN BRISCOE

MUKILTEO, Wash., July 20, 2021 – City Hall packed into a full-house Tuesday, July 19, for the second city council meeting since reopening to in-person meetings. Attending in-person were around 26 residents and all council members except Bob Champion, Louis Harris (who attended remotely), and Mayor Jennifer Gregerson, with Sarah Kneller stepping in as Mayor Pro Tem.

The council continued discussion of both usage of American Rescue Plan Act funding and the contentious Housing Action Plan which was adopted at council's June 7 business meeting to many Mukilteo residents' dissatisfaction.

HAP Ballot Language

Following the Councilman Joe Marine's motion to add the high-density concepts to an advisory ballot, which the public will vote on in the General Election, council discussed three language options to be added to the advisory ballot.

The language options included:

1. Should the city study its existing regulations to determine if changes are needed to allow a different range of housing densities?
2. Should the city retain current land use and zoning regulations as they relate to density?
3. Do you think the city should pursue more high-density housing to be built in Mukilteo?

The council voted 5-1 to select the language of option three for the ballot with the revision of the word "encourage" replacing "pursue." All were in favor of the Mukilteo HAP ballot language except Elizabeth Crawford who favored option one.

Councilman Richard Emery expressed that the council already knows the residents are against the HAP, so asking their vote, he believes, is redundant.

"I know people don't want development, and I get that. I'm just trying to figure out what this is going to tell us that we don't already know," Emery said.

Residents unanimously articulated their disdain for the HAP during public comments, reiterating their points that they have made vocal over the course of the meetings, drafting, and eventual adoption.

"The council didn't follow what they said they knew what the citizens wanted on this HAP and now we're stuck with it. I think that putting this on the ballot will produce a much higher level of community input than even what was presented to the council when they voted on the HAP report," Mukilteo resident Charlie Pancerewski said.

"You say you represent us, but why did you vote against what the people wanted if you represent us? So maybe this time you'll get a few thousand people who say they don't want any high-density that will have a bigger impression upon you. Then, when you run for office, you'll be able to take a position that the citizens that you represent really want instead of saying you represent

them but then vote differently. So let's put it on the ballot and still see if you vote in opposition to them."

Call For Pro/Con HAP Ballot Statement Committee Members

The local voter's pamphlet will contain Pro (supporting) and Con (against) statements and rebuttals to the Mukilteo HAP ballot question. The Pro Committee as a group will write a pro statement of up to 250 words and a 75 word rebuttal to the Con Committee statement; conversely, the Con Committee will write a 250 word statement in opposition to the ballot measure and a 75 word rebuttal to the Pro Committee's statement. All must be residents of Snohomish County. The City Council can appoint up to 3 members for each Committee.

If interested, complete a short application to serve on either the PRO or CON Committee.

Deadline to Apply: 5:00 p.m., July 30, 2021. The City Council is scheduled to appoint the committee at the August 2 Regular Council Meeting. PRO and CON statements are due by August 12 with rebuttals due by August 17.

You may also apply in person at Mukilteo City Hall, located at 11930 Cyrus Way, Mukilteo. City Hall open hours are currently Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday from 9:00am to 3:30pm, closed from lunch 12noon-1:00pm. For more information, call (425) 263-8018.

American Rescue Plan Act

On March 11, 2021, the American Rescue Plan Act was signed into law, establishing the Coronavirus State Fiscal Recovery Fund and Coronavirus Local Fiscal Recovery Funds, which together make up the Coronavirus State and Local Fiscal Recovery Funds (SLFRF) program. The city of Mukilteo was awarded almost \$6 million as a result of this act.

The City aims to use discretion with these funds that best suit the needs of the community, as long as the use fits into one of four of the following statutory categories:

- To respond to the COVID-19 public health emergency or its negative economic impacts.
- To respond to workers perform-

ing essential work during the COVID-19 public health emergency by providing premium pay to such eligible workers of the recipient, or by providing grants to eligible employers that have eligible workers who performed essential work.

- For the provision of government services, to the extent of the reduction in revenue of such recipients due to the COVID-19 public health emergency, relative to revenues collected in the most recent full fiscal year of the recipient prior to the emergency Revenue Loss [RL].
- To make necessary investments in water, sewer, or broadband infrastructure.

City Administrator Steve Powers led the second conversation with the council about how these ARPA funds should be allocated, exploring concepts such as an embedded social worker, body cameras and IT support for law enforcement, city support such as website revamps, expanded communication, and IT infrastructure.

Additional concepts include the re-hiring of the Rosehill staff and a local currency concept called 'Muk Bucks,' which could be spent only within the city limits at local businesses.

"My idea the entire time was to take that money that we're getting from the federal government and give it back to the residents who paid it in the first place," Councilman Marine said.

Marine disagreed with allocating funds to businesses to ensure particular establishments were not being favored over others by saying that the residents should make those decisions, not the

government.

"If you have a business that has really great food but your service is lousy, you'll probably be ok. If you have a business with lousy food but good service, you'll probably be ok. But if you have bad food and bad service, you're probably not going to make it, and it's not the government's job to make sure you make it; that's what business is about. I don't believe it's our job to decide which businesses make it and which don't," Marine said.

One concept being discussed on how Muk Bucks might work is mailing out a preloaded debit card that residents could use to buy groceries or other goods from local businesses. Incentives for businesses to accept the local currency could include tax breaks or reimbursements.

"A debit card is a brilliant idea on how this might work," councilman Emery added, discussing how a local currency might be formatted.

Councilwoman and Mayor Pro Tem Sarah Kneller highly advocated for IT infrastructure, noting that many companies are offering cutting-edge technology the city could benefit from.

"Striking while the iron is hot will be really beneficial to the city as a whole," Kneller said.

Although discussion occurred, no decision was made on how funds would be allocated, but the council plans on revisiting this issue in a future meeting.

The projects or programs identified at this time do not require the full amount of ARP funding.

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from page 1 **POLICE LEGISLATION**

structure to address officer misconduct – which isn't necessarily a bad thing – several of the bills took policy discretion away from local leaders and, in effect, wrote policies for local law enforcement at the state level. Some of these policies conflict with other sections of state law, some are left open to interpretation, and some simply had unintended consequences not foreseen by the legislators. These are some of the reasons this has been such a massive undertaking."

Lynnwood Police Department

While many departments question what the future of policing will look like within their jurisdiction, some, such as the Lynnwood Police Department, believe their tactics will, for the most part, remain virtually unchanged.

According to Joanna Small, PIO for Lynnwood Police Department, many of the new regulations in HB1054 were never tactics the Lynnwood police force put into use in the first place. Vascular neck restraints, for example, were banned in a moratorium in July of last year.

"Even if it's not something we regularly use in patrol, or even something

that we necessarily carry, it still has to be written into our policy so all of that has been gone over with a fine-tooth comb," Small told the Lynnwood Times. "Although it won't have an impact on your everyday officer, because we already don't do them, in terms of rewriting policy, we will still have a lot of that."

Aside from policy revisions, Small does not anticipate the Lynnwood Police Department would require much retraining other than the use-of-force bill, HB1310, not because they're implementing different strategies but because the threshold of use of force will be so high.

Additionally, the Lynnwood Police Department, under new legislation which prohibits equipment over .50 caliber ammunition, will have to surrender some of their equipment including their less-lethal launchers that fire rubber bullets and are used, albeit infrequently, to disarm a suspect without using deadly force.

"Those launchers are an essential tool. We don't think the legislator intended we have to get rid of that," Small told the Lynnwood Times.

Although Small said it is difficult to tell whether these bills were in response to

last year's George Floyd protests, stating that legislation has been working to regulate police overuse of force for years, she would not be surprised if the protests influenced their approval.

The Lynnwood Police Department used one of these launchers recently with a suspect who was armed with a machete. To disarm him, they deployed a less-lethal launcher which caused him to comply without hurting himself. According to Small, using these launchers saved a life.

Lynnwood Police Department is still awaiting a department-wide directive later this week to determine how they will respond. They plan to publish a series of videos, following a similar model done by Kent Police Department, discussing the new legislation and how it will affect Lynnwood's Police Department.

Last month in Sedro-Woolley, local officers were called to a scene where an "out-of-control" male was acting erratically and showing signs of substance abuse. He stood on top of his car, stripped off his clothes, and threw debris in the air. Sedro-Woolley Officers requested aid and requested that the Mobile Crisis Outreach Team (MCOT) unit from the Skagit County Sheriff's Office respond to the incident.

On scene, Sedro-Woolley Police Department had two Sergeants who are both trained Crisis Negotiators. Sedro-Woolley Police Department also had two patrol officers who have received the latest in training from the Police Academy in Crisis Intervention. Officers attempted to calm and talk to the subject, but he did not respond and refused to enter the ambulance.

Around 9:46 p.m., all officers and deputies cleared the scene with the male inside the residence still erratic. During this incident, multiple priority calls were left pending. According to Chief Lin Tucker, of the Sedro-Woolley Police Department, a month before this incident the officers could have subdued the individual when their diplomatic approach failed; but because of recent legislative mandates, they were forced to leave the scene.



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