Mayors and Public Safety Business Leaders for Public Safety

May 5, 2023

Snohomish County Council Robert J. Drewel Building Eighth floor 3000 Rockefeller Ave., M/S 609 Everett, WA 98201

Dear Councilmembers Nehring, Dunn, Peterson, Mead and Low:

On behalf of the undersigned Snohomish County mayors represented by the Mayors and Business Leaders for Public Safety coalition, we are writing to convey our support for Ordinance 23-046, relating to the use and possession of controlled or counterfeit substances.

Currently, cities in Snohomish County and across Washington state are looking to enact laws governing the possession or public use of illegal drugs in our communities. Absent a statewide drug possession statute, we believe the ordinance proposed by the county council will provide a path forward in unincorporated parts of the county that is consistent with what many of our cities are considering.

We understand there are efforts underway in Olympia to craft a new compromise bill that may provide a solution before the current state law expires at midnight on June 30. We hope a compromise can be achieved, but believe it is necessary and prudent to enact legislation at the county and local levels to ensure policies are in place in the event a statewide policy is not enacted.

Thank you for your efforts to address this vital public safety issue. We support this ordinance and urge its passage.

Sincerely,

Cassie Franklin

Mayor, City of Everett

Brett Gailey

Mayor, City of Lake Stevens

Jon Nehring

Mayor, City of Marysville

Russell Wiita

Mayor, City of Sultan

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Barbara Tolbert Mayor, City of Arlington

Janul Hanken

Dan Rankin Mayor, City of Darrington

Christine Frizzell Mayor, City of Lynnwood

Kyoko Matsumoto Wright Mayor, City of Mountlake Terrace

Muchael S. Quin

Kyolso Matrumoto Wnight

Linda Redmon Mayor, City of Snohomish

Mike Quinn Town of Woodway Dale Kaemingk Mayor, City of Brier

Steve Yarbrough Mayor, City of Gold Bar

Ster Garbers

Geoffrey Thomas Mayor, City of Monroe

Joe Marine Mayor, City of Mukilteo

Joe Marine

Sid Roberts Mayor, City of Stanwood