

March 31, 2025

Dear King County Parks Levy Aquatic Facilities Grant Review Committee,

We are writing to express our full support for the proposed Snoqualmie Community Center Expansion project, which includes the addition of a new aquatic facility. As neighboring communities, we recognize the significant positive impact this project will have on the residents of Snoqualmie Valley. To move forward with construction, we support the request for \$4 million in funding, which will enable the City of Snoqualmie to begin this important project. We strongly encourage its approval and funding to enhance the well-being of the local community.

The Snoqualmie Valley faces a severe shortage of aquatic facilities, with only one small, 87-year-old pool available to serve the growing population. This lack of access has left residents without essential swimming and water safety instruction, creating long waitlists for swim lessons. In recent years, many families have been forced to drive outside the Valley, often to multiple locations, just to secure swim lesson spots for their children. This underscores the critical need for additional aquatic resources in our region.

With 30% of Snoqualmie's population under the age of 18, and King County District 3 having the youngest population in King County, public safety is a major concern in an area surrounded by rivers and lakes.

The expansion of the community center and the addition of a new aquatic center will address key community needs while offering numerous benefits, including lifesaving water safety education, specialized programs for individuals with disabilities and elderly residents, and emergency shelter to enhance community preparedness during crisis.

We strongly support the Snoqualmie Community Center Expansion project. This project represents a critical step toward improving public safety, health, and well-being in the Snoqualmie Valley community.

Sincerely,