SNOHOMISH COUNTY COUNCIL  
SNOHOMISH COUNTY, WASHINGTON  

ORDINANCE NO. 18-037  

PROVIDING FOR SUBMISSION TO THE QUALIFIED VOTERS OF  
THE COUNTY A PROPOSITION AUTHORIZING A LOCAL SALES  
AND USE TAX OF ONE TENTH OF ONE PERCENT (0.1%) FOR  
EMERGENCY COMMUNICATION SYSTEMS AND FACILITIES;  
ADOPTING A NEW CHAPTER 4.30 SCC  

WHEREAS, the emergency radio system used by 19 local law  
enforcement and 22 fire protection agencies throughout Snohomish County to  
communicate with each other and with countywide 911 emergency dispatch has  
reached the end of its useful life; and  

WHEREAS, uninterrupted critical communications capability and  
infrastructure are necessary to conduct effective emergency public safety  
operations involving first responders; and  

WHEREAS, the health, welfare and safety of the residents, visitors and  
businesses in Snohomish County require that the county, fire districts, cities, and  
towns have emergency communications capability in order to provide life-saving,  
vital police and fire services to the public in a timely, reliable, and effective  
manner; and  

WHEREAS, the Snohomish County Emergency Radio System (SERS)  
Board has requested that Snohomish County authorize funding to provide for the  
purchase, design, installation and operation of a new emergency radio system to  
replace the current emergency radio system that has reached the end of its  
useful life; and  

WHEREAS, RCW 82.14.420 authorizes the county to submit an  
authorizing proposition to the voters to impose a one tenth of one percent (0.1%)  
sales and use tax “for costs associated with financing, design, acquisition,  
construction, equipping, operating, maintaining, remodeling, repairing,  
reequipping, and improvement of emergency communication systems and  
facilities;” and
WHEREAS, revenue raised from this additional sales tax will be expended for these priority purposes: 1) repayment of bonds used to finance emergency communications equipment and infrastructure, 2) setting aside sufficient capital for future equipment replacements - including technology upgrades and infrastructure improvements, and 3) providing funds for maintenance and operation costs paid by system users; and

WHEREAS, the County will enter into an agreement with SERS to own and maintain the new emergency radio system, and

WHEREAS, it is deemed necessary and advisable for Snohomish County to impose an additional local sales and use tax of one tenth of one percent (0.1%) as authorized by RCW 82.14.420 in order to replace the current emergency radio system and to provide consistent levels of emergency radio communications countywide.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT ORDAINED:

Section 1. Submittal to Voters. A ballot proposition shall be submitted to the qualified voters of the county pursuant to RCW 82.14.420 to authorize the county council to fix and impose a local sales and use tax of one tenth of one percent (0.1% -- 10 cents for every $100) to provide funds to be used exclusively for emergency communication systems and facilities in accordance with new chapter 4.30 SCC as set forth in section 4 of this ordinance.

Section 2. Election Authorization. At a special election hereby called by the county council to coincide with the general election to be held on November 6, 2018, a proposition in substantially the following form shall be submitted to the voters of Snohomish County:

SNOHOMISH COUNTY, WASHINGTON

PROPOSITION NUMBER __

EMERGENCY COMMUNICATION SYSTEMS AND FACILITIES SALES AND USE TAX

The Snohomish County Council passed Ordinance No. 18-XXX concerning an emergency communication systems and facilities sales and use tax. This proposition would authorize the imposition of a countywide sales and use tax, in addition to any other taxes authorized by law, of one tenth of one percent (0.1% -- 10 cents for every $100) to be used for emergency communication systems and facilities, as authorized by RCW 82.14.420. Should this proposition be:
Section 3. **Auditor's Duties.** The auditor shall cause notice of the proposed proposition to be published in accordance with the state constitution and general law and place the proposed proposition upon the ballot of the countywide election held on November 6, 2018.

Section 4. **Chapter 4.30 SCC Adopted.**

If a sales and use tax is authorized by a majority of voters in the special election conducted pursuant to Section 2 of this ordinance, the following new chapter is added to Title 4 of the Snohomish County Code:

**Chapter 4.30**

**Emergency Communication Systems and Facilities**

**Sales and Use Tax**

Sections:

- **4.30.010** Imposition of sales and use tax.
- **4.30.020** Rate of tax imposed.
- **4.30.030** Collection and administration.
- **4.30.040** Emergency communication systems and facilities fund.
- **4.30.050** Use of fund.
- **4.30.060** Emergency communication systems and facilities advisory board.
- **4.30.070** Powers and duties of advisory board.
- **4.30.080** Appointment to advisory board.
- **4.30.900** Severability.

**4.30.010 Imposition of sales and use tax.**

There is hereby imposed a sales and use tax, as authorized by RCW 82.14.420, upon every taxable event occurring within Snohomish County. The tax shall be imposed upon and collected from those persons from whom the state sales and use tax is collected pursuant to chapters 82.08 and 82.12 RCW. The sales and use tax imposed pursuant to this chapter shall be in addition to those sales and use taxes imposed under chapters 4.24 and 4.25 SCC.
4.30.020 Rate of tax imposed.

The rate of tax imposed by SCC 4.30.010 shall be one-tenth of one percent (0.1%) of the selling price (in the case of sales tax) or value of the article used (in the case of the use tax).

4.30.030 Collection and administration.

(1) The tax imposed by SCC 4.30.010 shall be collected and administered in accordance with RCW 82.14.420. The county executive is authorized and directed to execute any contracts with the state department of revenue that may be necessary to provide for collection or administration of the tax.

(2) All revenues from the tax imposed by 4.30.010 shall be deposited into the emergency communication systems and facilities program fund created by SCC 4.30.040.

4.30.040 Emergency communication systems and facilities program fund.

(1) There is hereby created the emergency communication systems and facilities program fund. The resources of the fund shall consist of tax revenues into the fund pursuant to SCC 4.30.030 plus any investment or other income to the fund.

(2) The director of the finance department shall serve as fund manager and shall have the duties set out in SCC 4.05.050.

4.30.050 Use of fund.

Monies received from the tax imposed by SCC 4.30.010 shall be used for countywide emergency communication systems and facilities purposes as required by RCW 82.14.420. For purposes of this section, “emergency communication systems” has the same meaning as provided by RCW 82.14.420.

4.30.060 Emergency communication systems and facilities program advisory board.

There is hereby created the emergency communication systems and facilities program advisory board to serve in an advisory capacity regarding implementation and use of the tax imposed by SCC 4.30.010.
4.30.070 Powers and duties of advisory board.

The emergency communication systems and facilities program advisory board shall meet at least annually to make recommendations to the executive and legislative branches of county government relating to implementation and use of the tax imposed by this chapter.

4.30.080 Appointment to advisory board.

The emergency communication systems and facilities program advisory board shall be composed of not more than nine members. Appointments shall be made pursuant to chapter 2.03 SCC. The board shall include one city official and one fire commissioner nominated annually by the SERS Board; two elected city officials; one city police chief and one fire chief nominated annually by the Snohomish County 911 Board; a member of the County Council or designee; the County Executive or designee; and the Snohomish County sheriff or his/her designee. The advisory board shall be chaired by the sheriff.

4.30.090 Effective date.

This chapter shall take effect on __, 2019.

4.30.100 Severability.

If any provision of this chapter or its application to any person or circumstance is held invalid, the remainder of the chapter or the application of the provision to other persons or circumstances is not affected.

Section 5. Notification of department of revenue.

Upon certification of the results of the special election conducted pursuant to Section 2 of this ordinance, if the sales and use tax is authorized by a majority of voters, the executive shall immediately notify the state Department of Revenue of the county's imposition of the sales and use tax.

PASSED this __ day of __, 2018.

SNOHOMISH COUNTY COUNCIL
Snohomish County, Washington

[Signature]
Chairperson
ATTEST:

Clerk of the Council

APPROVED

EMERGENCY

VETOED

DATE: 6/21/18

County Executive

ATTEST:

Approved as to form only:

Deputy Prosecuting Attorney

DAVE SOMERS
County Executive

ORDINANCE NO. 18-XXX
PROVIDING FOR THE SUBMISSION TO VOTERS
OF A PROPOSITION AUTHORIZING A LOCAL SALES
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