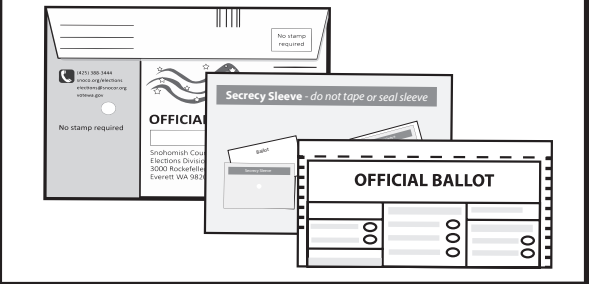

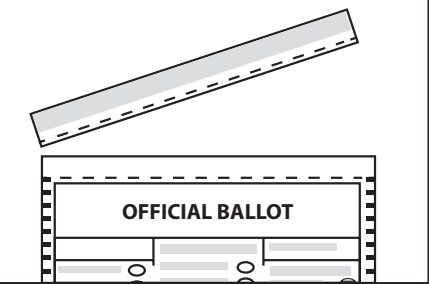


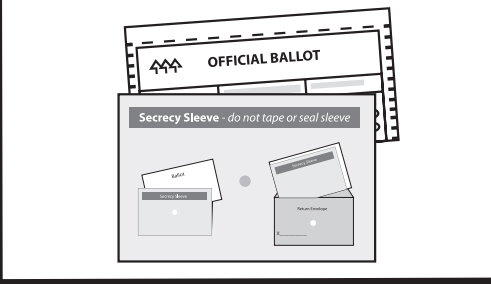
## How to Vote Your Ballot

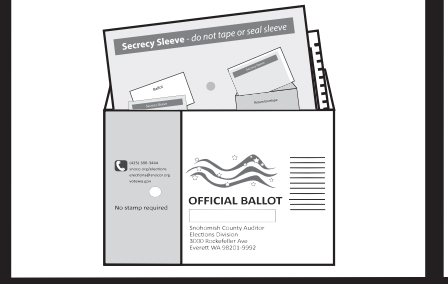
- 1** Open your ballot packet and remove contents. Vote early to ensure your votes will be in Election Night results.

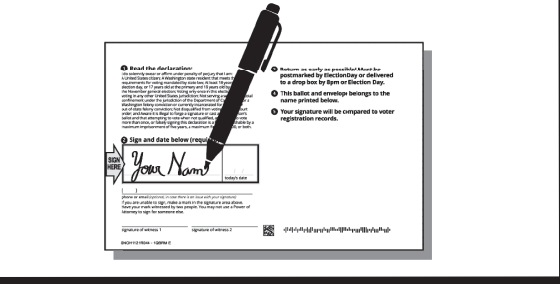

- 2** Follow the instructions included in your ballot packet to mark your choices.

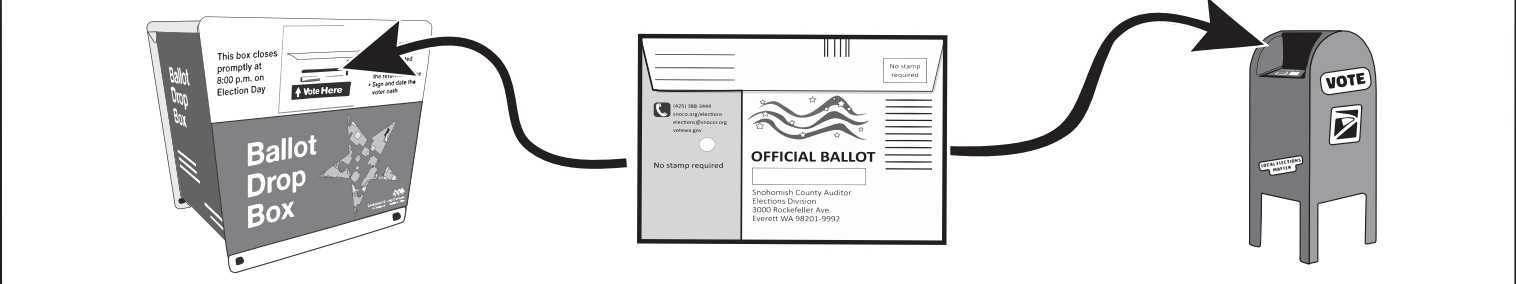

- 3** Remove and discard the stub at the top of your ballot.


- 4** Place your voted ballot in the secrecy sleeve. It will extend beyond the sleeve.


- 5** Place your ballot and secrecy sleeve in the return envelope.


- 6** Sign and seal the return envelope. **Your signature is required for your ballot to be counted.**


- 7** Return your voted ballot in the return envelope by mail (no stamp needed) or to a ballot drop box by 8 p.m. on Election Day, April 22. If you mail your ballot, it must be postmarked by April 22. See the list of ballot drop boxes on the back page.



## Results and Resources

### Election Results Online

Unofficial election results will be available online after 8 p.m. Election Night at [snoco.org/elections](http://snoco.org/elections). Official results will be available after certification, May 2.

### Replacement Ballots

If your ballot is lost, damaged, or spoiled, call us at 425-388-3444 or visit [VoteWA.gov](http://VoteWA.gov).

Visit the VoteWA voter portal to:

- Get a replacement ballot
- Update your voter information
- Track your ballot
- Register to vote
- Find your elected officials

# VoteWA



VoteWA.gov

More information inside

## Ballot Drop Boxes - Open April 3

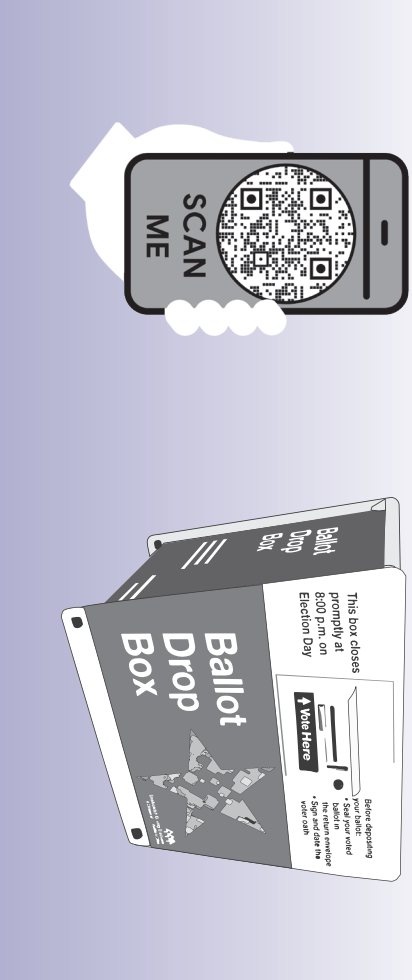
**Only the ballot drop boxes below are open for the April 22 Special Election.**

Ballot drop boxes are available 24/7 until 8 p.m. on Election Day, April 22. No postage needed.

Registered voters in City of Brier and City of Edmonds will get a ballot for the April 22 Special Election.

For maps and directions to the boxes open for the April 22 Special Election, visit [snoco.org/elections](http://snoco.org/elections), [VoteWA.gov](http://VoteWA.gov), or scan the QR code below.

Drop Box Location	Address	Drive-up Box
<b>Brier</b> (near City Hall)	2901 228th St SW	
<b>Edmonds</b> (near library bookdrop)	650 Main St	
<b>Everett</b> (Courthouse Campus)	Rockefeller Ave and Wall St	
<b>Lynnwood</b> (near Edmonds College)	20226 68th Ave W	
<b>Mountlake Terrace</b> (near library)	23300 58th Ave W	
<b>Woodway</b> (near Town Hall)	23920 113th Pl W	



## Snohomish County

### Official Local Voters' Pamphlet

### April 22, 2025 Special Election

#### City of Edmonds

#### Edition 1

### Registration and Accessible Voting Services

Accessible voting equipment is available to assist voters in independently casting a private, secure ballot.

April 14 is the deadline to change an address or update an existing registration by mail or online ([votewa.gov](http://votewa.gov)).

Voters may change their address, update an existing registration, pick up a replacement ballot, get a voters' pamphlet, vote on accessible voting equipment, and register to vote in person through 8 p.m. Election Day, April 22, at the location and during the hours listed below:

Location	Days / Hours
<b>Snohomish County Auditor's Office</b> 1st Floor - Admin West 3000 Rockefeller Ave, Everett	Monday - Friday, 9 a.m. - 5 p.m. Election Day, 8:30 a.m. - 8 p.m.

We have interpreter services! Call us at 425-388-3444.



For TDD service, please call 711.



### Snohomish County Elections

A Division of the Auditor's Office

3000 Rockefeller Avenue, M/S 505  
Everett, WA 98201-4046

(425) 388-3444 | [elections@snoco.org](mailto:elections@snoco.org) | [www.snoco.org/elections](http://www.snoco.org/elections)

**City of Edmonds  
Proposition No. 1**

**Edmonds Seeks Voter Approval to Annex into South Snohomish County Fire & Rescue Regional Fire Authority**

Shall the City of Edmonds be annexed into and be a part of the South Snohomish County Fire & Rescue Regional Fire Authority, effective June 1, 2025, per Edmonds City Council Resolution No. 1563?

Yes  
No

**Explanatory Statement**

This proposition seeks approval to annex the City of Edmonds into South County Fire (“SCF”), which currently provides Edmonds with fire/EMS services by contract. This contract terminates December 31, 2025. Annexation provides a known stable funding source, allowing SCF to continue delivering the current level of fire/EMS services within Edmonds. Alternatively, contracting for services in 2026 would cost similar to SCF’s revenue from Edmonds property owners if annexation is approved, but without the funding source.

**If approved:**

- City’s regular property tax levy will not be reduced;
- City’s EMS levy will be eliminated;
- SCF’s property tax levy and fire benefit charges will be paid directly to SCF by Edmonds property owners, providing a known stable funding source for fire/EMS services.

**If not approved:**

- City would not have a known stable funding source to contract for fire/EMS in 2026 and beyond;
- No changes to property taxes or fire benefit charges would result from this election;
- City would need to raise taxes and/or implement drastic reductions in City operations to pay for the fire/EMS contract;
- City’s ability to maintain current level of service is jeopardized.

More information: [www.edmondswa.gov/rfa\\_info](http://www.edmondswa.gov/rfa_info)

**Argument in Favor**

South County Fire (“SCF”) has capably protected us since 2010 when our fire department was dissolved. Vote “Yes” to strengthen our ties with SCF/Regional Fire Authority (“RFA”) for local representation, control and long-term stability. Joining the RFA is the only way to make sure we continue to have high quality, sustainable and responsive fire, emergency medical services, and disaster preparedness response.

A “Yes” vote will ensure that adequate fire and emergency services will continue after 2025—the City has no known stable funding source beyond that and only a one-year contract for services.

The City commissioned an independent review to analyze annexation compared to other options, including reactivating our own fire department. The best value was annexation.

Edmonds’ current RFA contract cannot be renewed, and all alternatives result in higher costs. Edmonds is the highest user of EMS services in the entire RFA, and our fire/EMS usage is increasing.

All firefighters in Edmonds are employed by SCF and SCF owns the equipment. Edmonds cannot afford its own fire department and has no other viable options. Any option other than RFA annexation will cost more and negatively impact fire, disaster, and emergency response times.

Failure to annex will also increase insurance rates, and cause dramatic cuts in police, parks, and other city services.

Endorsed by Mayor Rosen, Councilmembers Chen, Eck, Nand, Olson, Paine, Tibbott, South County Firefighters, many of your elected State leaders and neighbors.

Vote “Yes”—the responsible, cost-effective way to protect our community. For more information, go to [www.EdWaFireFuture.info](http://www.EdWaFireFuture.info).

**Response to Argument Against**

A wait-and-see approach will mean paying more for less and lead to significant cuts to City services like police, parks, etc. Other options were independently analyzed—annexation was determined the best option. Edmonds *doesn’t currently have local control*, since it’s contracting for fire/EMS now—annexation will finally give Edmonds local representation on SCF board. There is only a one-year contract extension and costs more. Rejecting annexation *will* result in loss of reliable, affordable emergency services.

Argument prepared by: Patrick Hepler, Adam Cornell, and Maria Montalvo

**Argument Against**

Rejecting annexation will *not* result in the loss of our existing emergency services, as a contract extension has already been secured. Despite this, proponents claim annexation into the Regional Fire Authority (RFA) is the best option. In reality, it would impose an unnecessary tax burden on residents without guaranteeing better outcomes. We strongly oppose this proposal due to financial, governance, and service concerns.

Homeowners, renters, and businesses will all feel the pain of higher than needed tax increases by annexation. These higher costs are not justified by any clear, measurable improvements in fire and emergency medical services. Joining the RFA will nearly double the property taxes we pay to support city and fire/EMS services.

Annexation would strip local control from our community. Under an RFA, decision-making authority shifts to a larger, less accountable bureaucratic structure. This means funding priorities, using our tax dollars, could be dictated by regional interests rather than Edmonds’ unique needs.

Finally, this proposal lacks transparency and a compelling justification. Proponents have not demonstrated that an RFA is the best solution, wrongly suggesting only that we’re not paying our fair share. Instead of rushing into a costly and permanent decision, we should explore less costly alternative ways to enhance public safety without sacrificing local governance or imposing excessive taxes. We have other options.

This is not the final offer—it’s the first step in a negotiation. Let’s reject this rushed deal and demand better for Edmonds. Vote *no* on annexation because: Edmonds can do better.

Visit: [Edmondscandobetter.org](http://Edmondscandobetter.org)

**Response to Argument in Favor**

Claiming annexation is the “only way” to protect our community is wrong. Fear-based rhetoric shouldn’t drive a decision that doubles taxes for the same services. You, the taxpayer, are and always have been the stable funding source. Saying Edmonds has “no known funding” ignores this reality. Targeted levies or grants can address funding issues without sacrificing local control or independence. Annexation isn’t the solution—trust yourself and not the politicians to make a responsible decision.

Argument prepared by: James Ogonowski, Theresa Campa Hutchison, and Kevin Fagerstrom