



Snohomish County
Office of the Executive
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Salary Commission proposes cost-of-living increases

The Snohomish County Citizens' Commission on Salaries of Elected Officials will discuss Monday a proposed schedule for increasing elected officials pay during 2009 and 2010.

The commission is recommending a cost-of-living increase for elected officials each year with no increase to the base salary.

Under the proposal, the five county council members, executive, assessor, auditor, clerk, sheriff and treasurer would see a cost-of-living increase each of the two years. The cost-of-living increase is estimated to be between 3 percent and 4 percent each year and is the same increase a non-represented county employee will receive.

The prosecuting attorney's salary, however, would still be set by the state salary commission's increases for judicial officials as it has been since 2002.

The public is invited to comment on the proposal Monday night, and the commission is tentatively expected to vote following public comment.

Once a schedule is approved, it will go into effect without approval from the council or executive. By law, salary recommendations must be made by May 1 for the next two-year period, and a 2006 amendment to the county charter eliminated the need for council and executive approval of the salary changes.

The commission is an independent group that meets every two years to set the salaries of elected officials in Snohomish County. Elected officials whose salaries are determined by the commission are the members of the county council, the executive, assessor, auditor, clerk, prosecuting attorney, sheriff and treasurer.

The commission is made up of 10 members, nominated by the county executive and confirmed by the county council.

All meetings of the salary commission begin at 6 p.m. and will be held in the 6th Floor Executive Board Room, 3000 Rockefeller Ave., Everett. The meetings are open to the public.

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Snohomish County Salary Commission: www.snoco.org, search term "salary commission."