

SNOHOMISH COUNTY BOARD OF HEALTH AGENDA

July 9, 2024 3:00 PM

Auditorium, 3020 Rucker Ave, Everett, WA 98201 or Remote:; https://us02web.zoom.us/j/87098263636

- 1. Call to Order
- 2. Roll Call
- 3. Approval of Agenda Contents and Order
- 4. Approval of Minutes
 - a. Approval of Minutes of the Regular Meeting of June 11, 2024
- 5. Public Comment
- 6. Special Business
 - Welcome Summer Hammons
- 7. Briefings
 - a. Food Permitting Process and Timelines (SR 24-016; Ragina Gray, Robert Eviue)
 - b. Code Revision Enforcement (SR 24-014B; Robert Evjue)
 - c. Prevention Services Refugee Health (SR 24-017; Keri Moore)
- 8. Director's Report
- 9. Information Items
 - a. Upcoming Meetings
- 10. Adjournment

Board of Health members:

Jared Mead, Megan Dunn, Heather Logan, Joseph Hund, Lisa George, Janet Anderberg, Desmond Skubi, Julie Smith-Hopkins

The public is invited to attend. Parking and meeting rooms are accessible for persons with disabilities.

Questions or additional information about the board meeting may be obtained by contacting Sarah de Jong at 425.339.5210; Relay: 711; Email sarah.dejong@co.snohomish.wa.us. To request reasonable accommodations, please contact Ms. de Jong by the Friday prior to the board meeting. It's customary at each regular meeting of the full Board to include an assigned period for public comment from individuals present at the meeting. Generally, the public comment occurs near the beginning of the meeting and comments are limited to no more than three minutes per person. The Chair of the board may, as circumstances require at each meeting, reduce the time allotted to individuals or reduce the overall time assigned for public comments.



BOARD OF HEALTH STAFF REPORT () JULY 9, 2024 APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Approval of Minutes of the Regular Meeting of June 11, 2024								

ATTACHMENTS:

Description

Draft Minutes - June 11, 2024





Snohomish County Board of Health Board of Health Minutes June 11, 2024

The regular meeting was held in the auditorium of the Rucker Building and via Zoom conference call/video.

Members Present

Heather Logan, Councilmember, Arlington, Board Vice Chair (In person)
Janet Anderberg (Virtual)
Lisa George (Virtual)
Julie Smith (Virtual)
Joseph Hund, Councilmember, Sultan (Virtual)
Desmond Skubi (In person)
Jared Mead, County Councilmember (Virtual)

Members Absent

Megan Dunn, County Councilmember, Board Chair

Comings and Goings

Lisa George arrived at 3:02 p.m. Joseph Hund arrived at 3:04 p.m.

Call to Order

The regular meeting of the Board of Health was called to order using a hybrid setting at 3:00 p.m. by Ms. Heather Logan.

Roll Call

Roll call was taken by Ms. Sarah de Jong who reported there was a quorum present.

Approval of Agenda Contents and Order

It was moved by Mr. Desmond Skubi and seconded by Ms. Julie Smith to approve the agenda contents and order. The motion passed unanimously with one absent (Dunn).

Approval of Minutes

It was moved by Mr. Skubi and seconded by Ms. Janet Anderberg to approve the minutes of the regular meeting of May 14, 2024. The motion passed unanimously with one absent (Dunn).

Public Comment

Ms. Logan opened the floor for public comment. No one from the public volunteered to speak and Ms. Logan closed public comment.

Public Hearings

Ordinance BOH24-02 Regarding Reorganizing the Board of Health Code (SR 24-008D; Ragina Gray) Vice Chair Logan opened public hearing for this item. No member of the public volunteered to speak and Ms. Logan closed the public hearing.

It was moved by Mr. Hund and seconded by Ms. Lisa George to approve Ordinance BOH24-02. The motion passed with 7 ayes, 0 nays, and 1 absent (Dunn).



Board of Health

Ordinance BOH24-03 Regarding Board of Health Administrative Rules (SR 24-011C; Nicole Thomsen) Vice Chair Logan opened public hearing for this item. No member of the public volunteered to speak and Ms. Logan closed the public hearing.

It was moved by Ms. George and seconded by Mr. Hund to approve Ordinance BOH24-03. The motion passed with 7 ayes, 0 nays, and 1 absent (Dunn).

Briefings

Code Revision – Enforcement (SR 24-014; Robert Evjue)

Environmental Health Specialist Robert Evjue provided a briefing regarding revising code language around the enforcement and appeals process. Board members were invited to share their preferred level type of involvement in this process.

Prevention Services – Substance Use Disorder (SR 24-015; Abi Sauer, Brenna Smith)
Ms. Abi Sauer and Brenna Smith provided a presentation on the substance use disorder program.

Health Officer's Report

Dr. James Lewis provided a briefing on public health within the state and Snohomish County.

Information Items

Upcoming Meetings

Ms. Logan noted the dates of the next Board of Health meetings.

Adjournment The meeting was adjourned at 4:42 p.m.	
Megan Dunn Board of Health, Chair	Dennis Worsham, Director



BOARD OF HEALTH STAFF REPORT () JULY 9, 2024 SPECIAL BUSINESS

Welcome Summer Hammons		

BOARD OF HEALTH STAFF REPORT (SR 24-016) JULY 9, 2024 BRIEFINGS



Food Permitting Process and Timelines (SR 24-016; Ragina Gray, Robert Evjue)

Division:

Environmental Health / Ragina Gray, Director

Background

On Saturday, June 15, 2024, the Everett Herald published an article about food truck owners in Snohomish County and the regulatory and economic hurdles they are facing. In the aftermath of the article, Board Members expressed concerns and raised questions about the process and what the Health Department is doing to address the issues.

This briefing will cover the following topics:

- What is new food establishment plan review a description of the process and types
- Mobile food unit permits and commissary requirements
- · Metrics for plan review
- A description of plan review barriers for staffing
- How we plan on achieving our turnaround time goals in the short term
- How we plan on achieving our turnaround time goals in the long term
- Some specific points of clarification and context behind the information in the Herald article
- A demonstration of the Application Status webpage

Board Authority

Recommended Motion

Briefing only.

ATTACHMENTS:

Description

New Food Establishment Plan Review Presentation



Food Safety Program

- 26 total people
- 3 teams of 8-9 people
 - Supervisor
 - Lead
 - EHS
 - Permit Techs
 - Health Educator / HDS

Food Safety Lead - Alicia Susinger Assistant Supervisor -Food safety EHS - Hasnia Wong Director **Chris Stringer** Food safety EHS - Randy Teters - Tony Food safety EHS - Phebe Wall Colinas FBI, Health Educator - Leah Tax complaints Health Delivery Specialist - Teresita Co Supervisor -Food safety EHS - Elaine Hagedo Food safety EHS - Retta Taffesse Michael Food safety EHS - Carina Kirby **Johnson** Food safety EHS - Ramon Rocha Food safety EHS -Karen Paugh Plan Review Permit tech - Roxana Falcon Permit Tech - Toshia Phelps Food Safety Lead - Stella Strock Supervisor -Food safety EHS - Brent French Brenna Food safety EHS - Emily Rhoden Food safety EHS - Faith Maginnis Hoppe Food safety EHS - Melissa Williams Temps, DFDO Food safety EHS - Johanna Marsters

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Food Safety Program

- ~3600 food service establishments
- Each EHS = ~550 inspections per year
- + temps, complaints, DFDOs

Food Safety Lead - Alicia Susinge Assistant Supervisor -Food safety EHS - Hasnia Wong Director **Chris Stringer** Food safety EHS - Randy Teters - Tony Food safety EHS - Phebe Wall Colinas FBI, Food safety EHS - Connor Osterlund Health Educator - Leah Tax complaints Health Delivery Specialist - Teresita Coro Supervisor -Food safety EHS - Elaine Hagedori Food safety EHS - Retta Taffesse Michael Food safety EHS - Carina Kirby Johnson Food safety EHS - Ramon Rocha Food safety EHS -Karen Paugh Permit tech - Roxana Falcon Plan Review Permit Tech - Toshia Phelps Supervisor -Brenna Food safety EHS - Emily Rhoden Food safety EHS - Faith Maginnis Hoppe Food safety EHS - Rachel Williams Food safety EHS - Melissa Williams Temps, DFDO Food safety EHS - Johanna Marsters

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Food Safety Program

- 1 Lead + 2 EHS assigned to plan review
- 2 permit techs to process

Food Safety Lead - Alicia Susinger Assistant Supervisor -Food safety EHS - Hasnia Wong Director **Chris Stringer** Food safety EHS - Randy Teters - Tony Food safety EHS - Phebe Wall Colinas FBI, Health Educator - Leah Tax complaints Health Delivery Specialist - Teresita Co Supervisor -Food safety EHS - Elaine Hagedor Food safety EHS - Retta Taffesse Michael Food safety EHS - Carina Kirby Johnson Food safety EHS - Ramon Rocha Food safety EHS -Karen Paugh Plan Review Permit tech - Roxana Falcon Permit Tech - Toshia Phelps Food Safety Lead - Stella Strock Supervisor -Food safety EHS - Brent French **Brenna** Food safety EHS - Emily Rhoden Food safety EHS - Faith Maginnis Hoppe Food safety EHS - Melissa William Temps, DFDO Food safety EHS - Johanna Marsters

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What is Plan Review

- 1. Ensures that establishments meet the requirements of the food code
- 2. Identifies type and risk level for permit and fees
- 3. Also includes revisions, remodels and changes of ownership

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Plan Review 101



All food service establishments must go through plan review before they are issued a permit



Consultations are encouraged



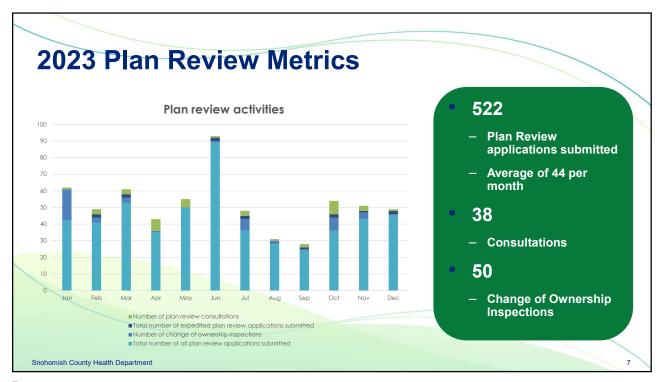
Applications are accepted online or in person

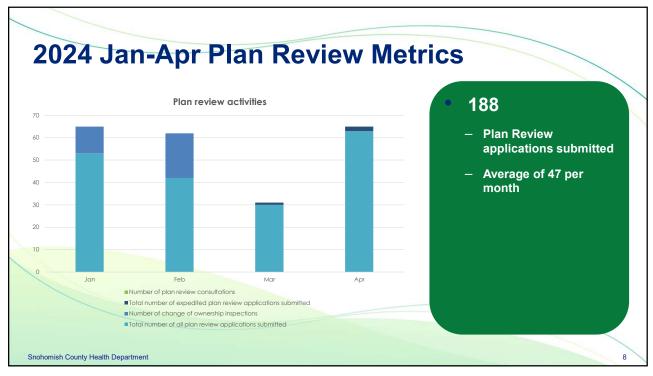


"Estimated time until the first review" is listed on website

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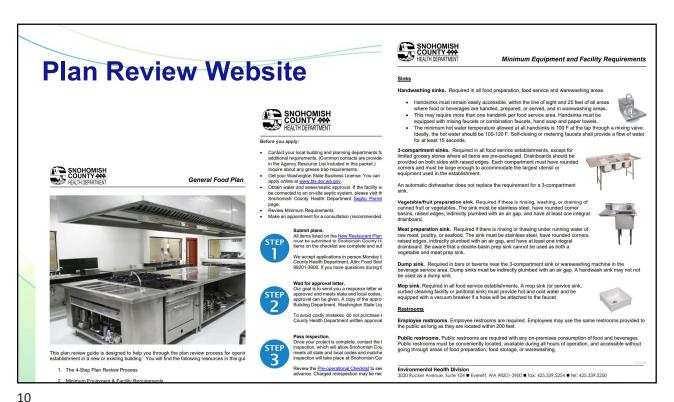
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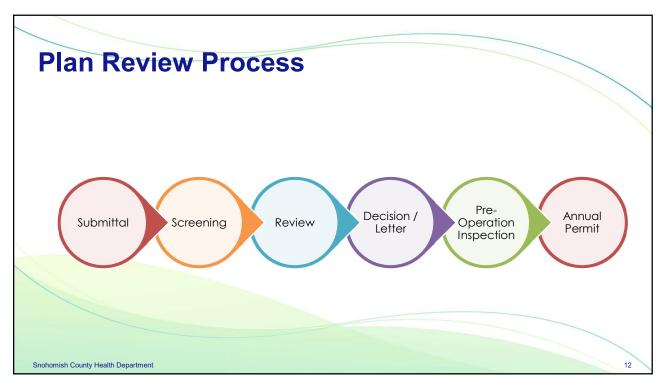
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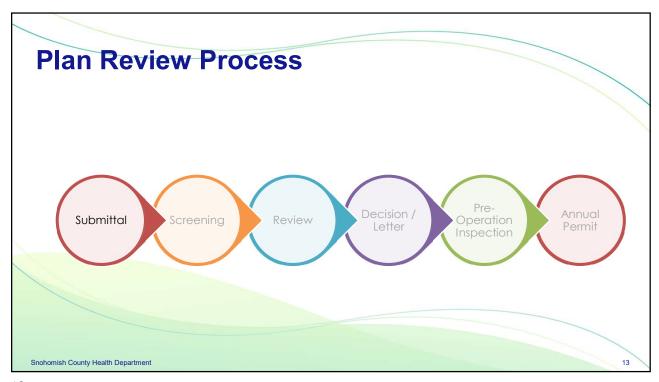
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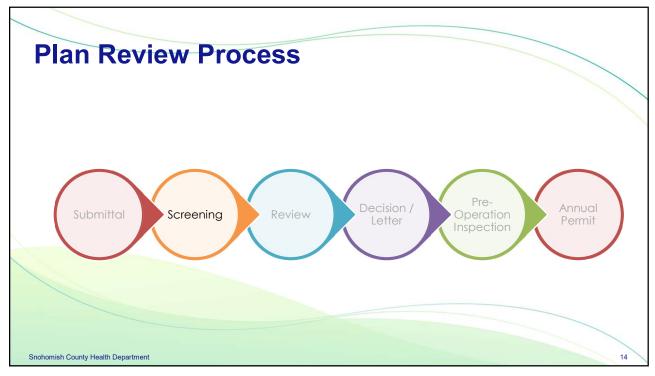
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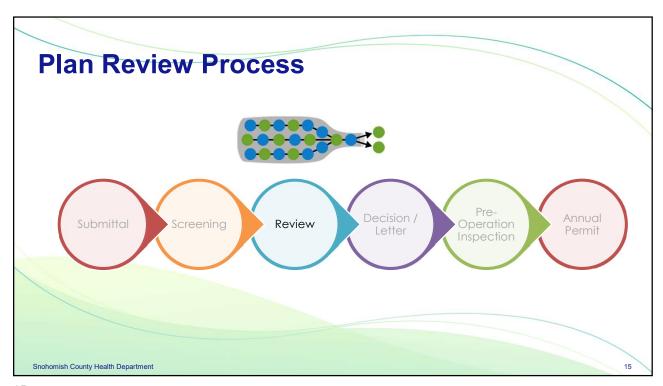
Dian Barrian Wales if	N.	`	SNOHOMISH COUNTY *** HEALTH DEPARTMENT	General Food Plan Review Che	ecklist
Plan Review Website	This with t	check	quired application fee. Inco	complete plan review packet. Submit the completed plan review packet and chemplete plan review packets will not be accepted. Make a copy of this plan revietal. Plan review fees are non-refundable.	
	☑		ITEM	DESCRIPTION	Use
		1	General Application Page	Provide complete Food Plan Review application page.	Intake
		2	Plan Review Questionnaire	Complete the Plan Review Questionnaire form.	
		3	Water and Sewer Review	Complete the Water & Sewer Review form.	
HOW TO TURN IN AN APPLICATION ONLINE		4	Equipment List	Provide make and model numbers of all equipment including countertop appliances and plumbing fixtures. Show location on the floor plan. Only commercial grade, National Sanitation Foundation (NSF) or equivalent equipment is acceptable.	
For instructions on how to turn in an application online, click on a language below:		5	Finish Schedule	Complete the Finish Schedule form. Provide the materials used for all floors, walls, ceilings, counters and cabinets.	
English / Chinese / Korean / Punjabi / Spanish / Thai / Vietnamese		6	Food Sources	Complete the Food Sources form. Include general descriptions of what food items will be received from each supplier.	
		7	Catering Questionnaire and review fee (if applicable)	Provide complete Catering Questionnaire if applicable along with all other requested documents as stated in that form. For caterers utilizing a commissary kitchen, the Commissary Agreement form should also be included.	
		8	Floor Plan	Provide a floor plan of the entire facility. Floor plan must show location of all equipment (sinks, refrigeration, cooking, hoods, blenders, countertop appliances, etc.), restrooms, storage areas, outdoor cooking areas, etc. Floor plan must be drawn to scale, and measurements included.	
		9	Menu(s)	Provide a detailed menu(s) of all the food and beverages you will be serving. All breakfast, lunch, dinner, bar/lounge, happy hour, kids, catering, and other menus must be submitted.	
		10	Food Preparation Steps	Provide a detailed description of how all food and beverages will be prepared using the provided description and examples as a guide.	
		11	Business License	Provide a copy of your Washington State Department of Revenue issued business license.	
		12	Fee	Include application fee.	
Snohomish County Health Department					8.15.238

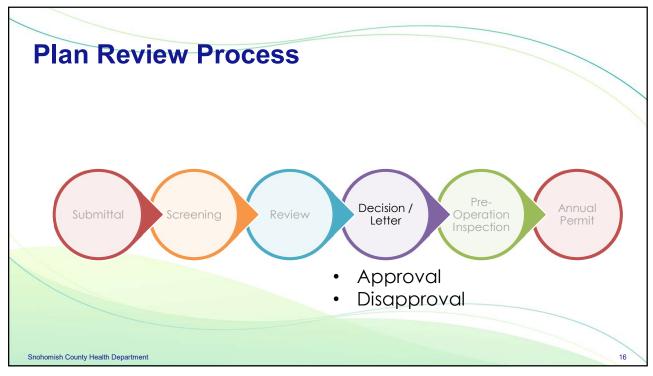


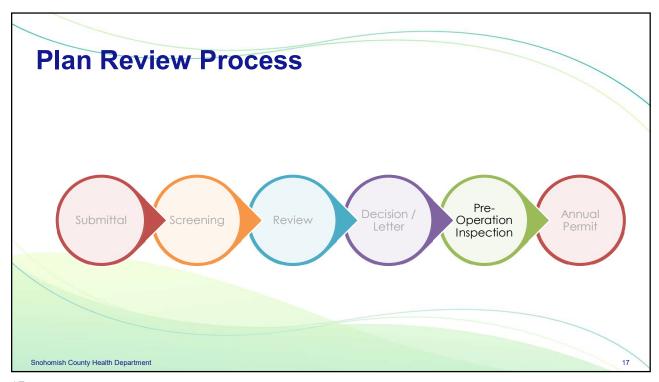
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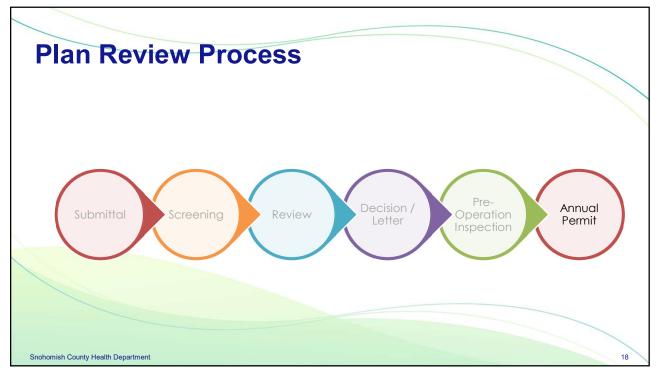


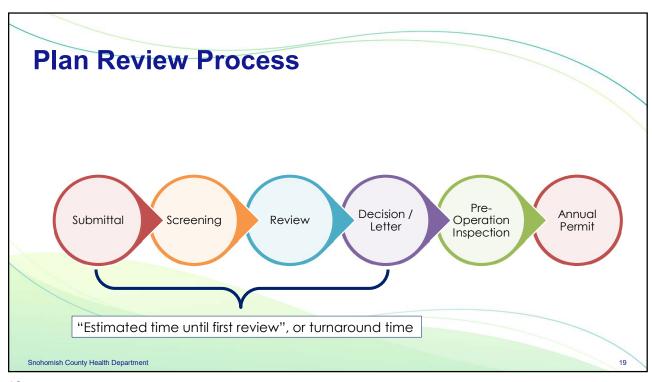












Types of New Establishment Plan Review

- General Food Service Establishment
- Mobile Food Unit
- Mobile Food Unit Reciprocity
- Tap Room and Tasting Room



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Mobile Food Units

- Two legal pathways to obtaining a permit to operate
 - Temporary event permits
 - Annual operating permits



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Mobile Food Units

- Two legal pathways to obtaining a permit to operate
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 - Annual operating permits



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Mobile Food Units

- Two legal pathways to obtaining a permit to operate
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Mobile Food Units

- Two legal pathways to obtaining a permit to operate
 - Temporary event permits
 - Annual operating permits



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Mobile Food Units - Commissaries

- MFUs are required to have a commissary
- MFUs with reciprocity can have commissaries in other counties
- Any brick and mortar food service establishment can choose to be a commissary

~3500 in Snohomish County

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Plan Review by the numbers

- Applications added and removed from plan review queue every day
- Turnaround times



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Why are we taking so long?

- Staffing changes
- Lack of expertise
- Resources to train

Assistant Supervisor -Food safety EHS - Hasnia Wong Director **Chris Stringer** Food safety EHS - Randy Teters - Tony Food safety EHS - Phebe Wall Colinas FBI, Food safety EHS - Connor Osterlund Health Educator - Leah Tax complaints Health Delivery Specialist - Teresita Co Supervisor -Michael Food safety EHS - Retta Taffesse Food safety EHS - Carina Kirby Johnson Food safety EHS - Ramon Rocha Food safety EHS -Karen Paugh Plan Review Permit tech - Roxana Falcon Permit Tech - Toshia Phelps Supervisor -**Brenna** Food safety EHS - Emily Rhoden Food safety EHS - Faith Maginnis Hoppe Food safety EHS - Rachel Williams Food safety EHS - Melissa Williams Temps, DFDO Food safety EHS - Johanna Marsters

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What about the Permit Techs?

- Customer service
- Ensure complete and accurate information



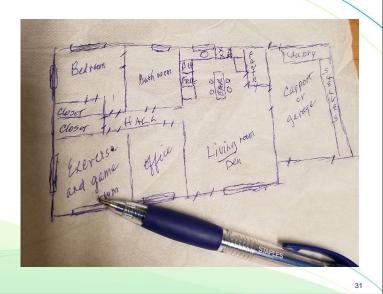
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Why is plan review so hard?

 Quality of materials varies widely



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Why is plan review so hard?

Disapprovals keep circling in the queue



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Why is plan review so hard?Highly political

- High pressure
- Thankless



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Achieving our GOAL: Short Term

- · Currently in crisis management
- Hired 2 Permit Technicians
- Bringing staff in from other programs
- Reassigning changes of ownership and pre-operational inspections

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Achieving our GOAL: Short Term

- Currently in crisis management
- Hired 2 Permit Technicians
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- Reassigning changes of ownership and pre-operational inspections

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Achieving our GOAL: Short Term

- Currently in crisis management
- Hired 2 Permit Technicians
- Bringing staff in from other programs
- Reassigning changes of ownership and pre-operational inspections

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Achieving our GOAL: Short Term

- Currently in crisis management
- Hired 2 Permit Technicians
- Bringing staff in from other programs
- Reassigning changes of ownership and pre-operational inspections

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Achieving our GOAL: Short Term

- Quick changes are not expected
- Are already seeing some decline in wait times
- HOPE to be at 4-6 weeks by fall



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Achieving our GOAL: Long Term

- Reassigning an additional FTE away from routine inspections
- Training additional staff for surge capacity
- Ensure reasonable work loads and political insulation

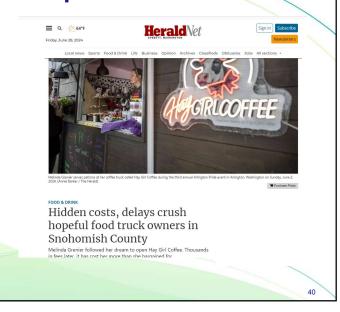


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Everett Herald Article – Some points of clarification

- Commissary kitchens
- # of applicants in queue
- Resubmittals
- Turnaround times



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Everett Herald Article – Some points of clarification

- Commissary kitchens
 - In county are required for in county plan review, not for reciprocity
 - Required by state WAC to ensure safe food / water / waste disposal
 - ~3500 establishments eligible to be a commissary



Hidden costs, delays crush hopeful food truck owners in Snohomish County

Melinda Grenier followed her dream to open Hay Girl Coffee. Thousands in fees later, it has cost her more than she harnained for

Snohomish County Health Department

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Everett Herald Article – Some points of clarification

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- # of applicants in queue
 - 80 **total** applications in queue
 - Have 121 permitted MFUs out of nearly 3600 FSEs



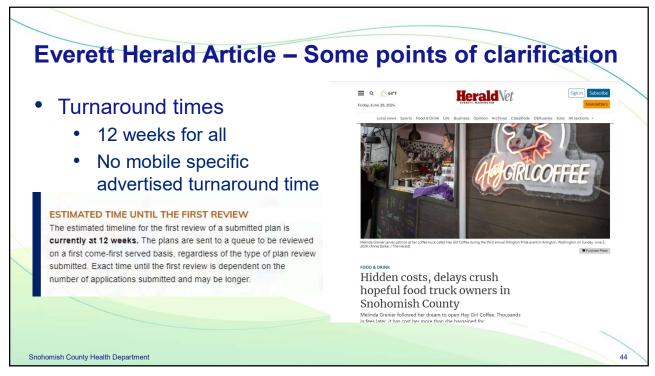
FOOD & DRINK
Hidden costs, delays crush
hopeful food truck owners in
Snohomish County
Melinda Grenier followed her dream to open Hav Girl Coffee. Thousa

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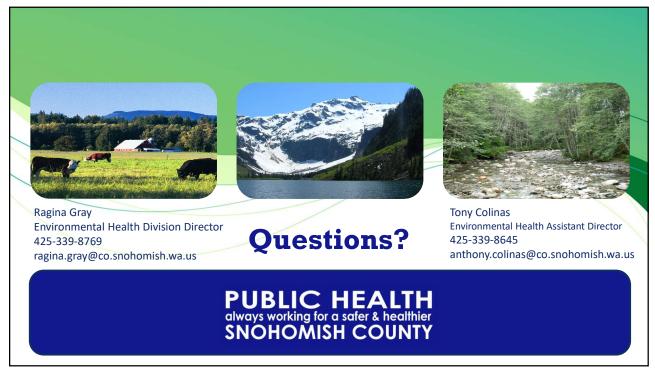
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Code Revision - Enforcement (SR 24-014B; Robert Evjue)

Division:

Environmental Health / Ragina Gray, Robert Evjue

Prior Board Review:

None

Background

At the June 2024 Board of Health meeting, EH staff presented on our next steps with the code update, which included looking at new concepts and updates around our enforcement language. Following the meeting, EH staff learned that the message received by Board members around this topic wasn't in line with our intention, and we'd like to revisit to ensure the Board is clear and comfortable with our next steps.

Our presentation will include the following:

- Some basic metrics on the frequency of a few types of enforcement we utilize right now
- A bit more information about appeals, when we get them, and for what
- How title 1 relates to the other titles in the code and how the uniform enforcement spelled out in title 1 relates to program specific enforcement spelled out in each code
- A basic explanation of how title 1 relates to the department's work, and a commitment to ensuring we're looking into any possible unintended consequences to other divisions
- A basic explanation of who is impacted by our enforcement actions
- A more solid justification of why these changes are needed and what the benefit is to the public
- A reiteration that the list provided in the packet is a suite of potential options that we could explore for future code language, but is not a package proposal
- A reiteration that we're looking for BOH feedback on the suite of options so we have a better idea of which concepts have BOH support to move forward

Staff are interested in obtaining Board member feedback on the list of concepts we are considering exploring. Feedback can take any form each Board member is comfortable with. If Board members are interested in learning more about enforcement, we can host ad hoc meetings with a small group of members, or we can meet with members individually. Staff are flexible with the times, level of commitment and detail, and will meet Board members in any form that works best for them.

Board Authority

RCW 70.05.060 (3) Enact such local rules and regulations as are necessary in order to preserve,

promote and improve the public health and provide for the enforcement thereof.

Recommended Motion

Briefing only.

ATTACHMENTS:

Description

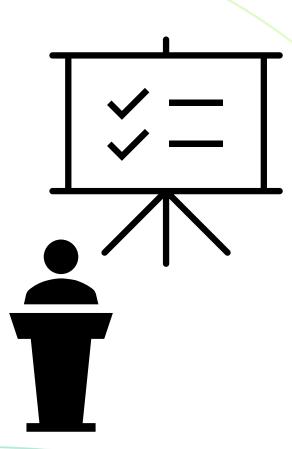
Code Update: Enforcement and Appeals Revisited





Today's Agenda

- Clarification from June BOH Meeting
- Ordinance Creation Roadmap
- Scope of Work for Upcoming Ordinance
- Enforcement & Appeal Metrics
- Overview of Title 1
- Overview of Enforcement
- Comparisons with Local Health Jurisdictions
- BOH Feedback Clarification
- Questions/Comments



Why We're Back

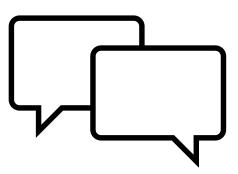
- What we thought we were presenting
 - List of possible concepts
 - Asking for feedback
 - Open to all options



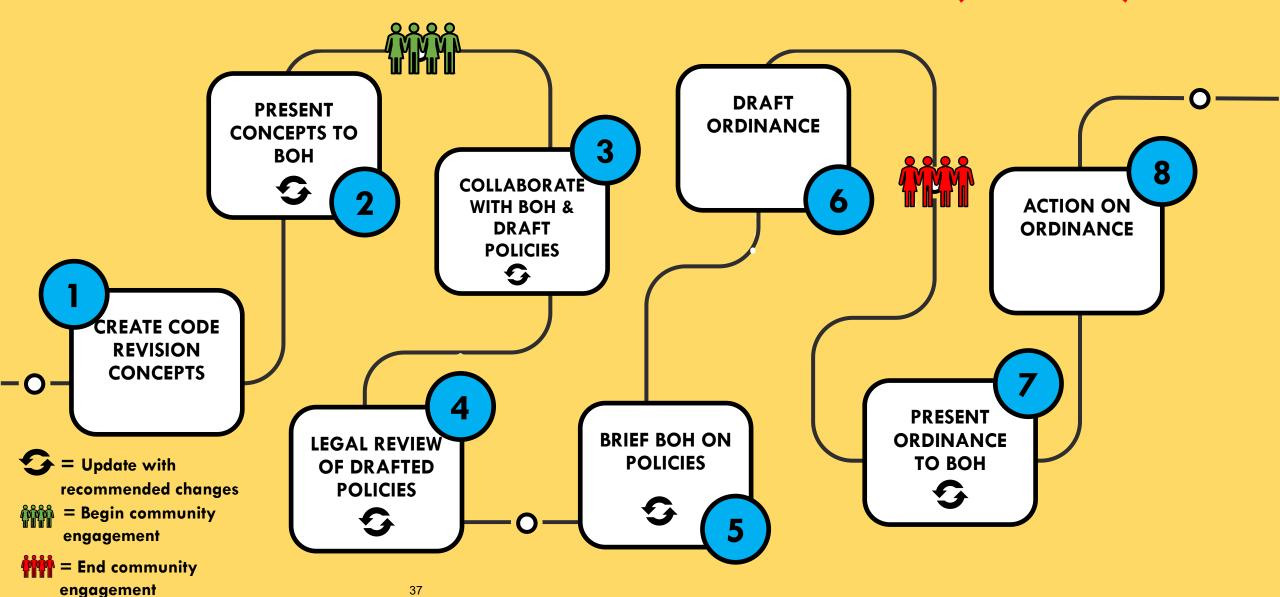
- What you thought we were presenting
 - A package deal
 - A bigger hammer
 - We'll only meet you during business hours

Board of Health Feedback

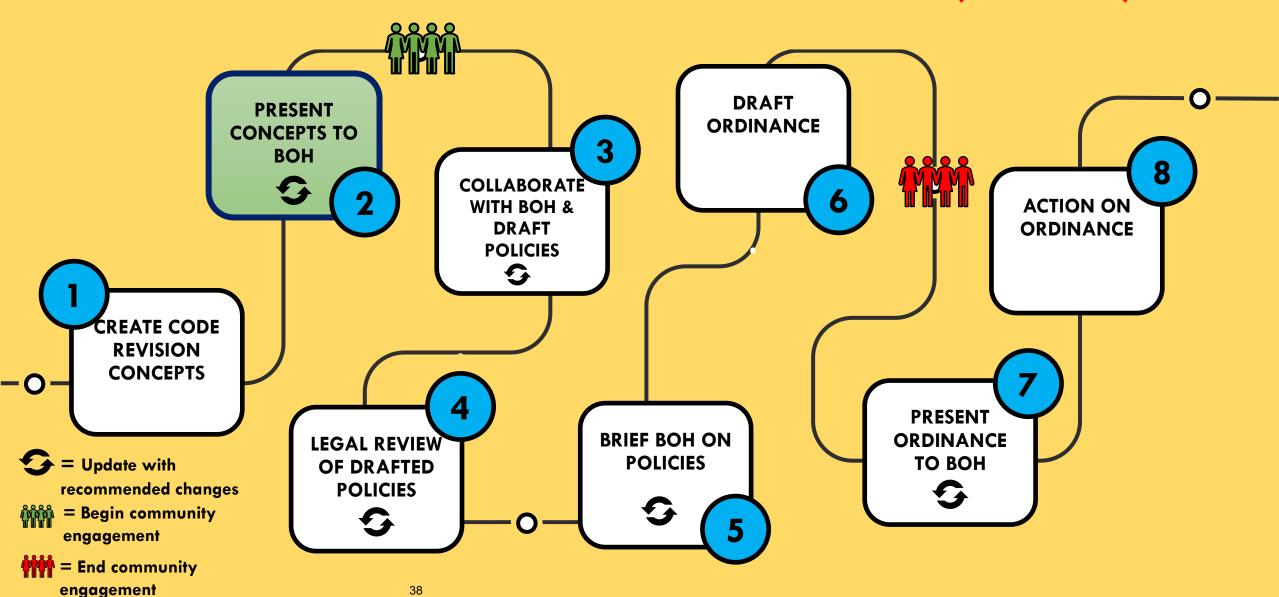
- Your feedback on these concepts will allow us to better focus our efforts and resources
- Still no pressure



ORDINANCE CREATION ROADMAP (DRAFT)



ORDINANCE CREATION ROADMAP (DRAFT)



Scope of Work: Enforcement & Appeals

- Add / expand enforcement options
- Revise appeal procedures
- Consistent nomenclature for how Health Department employees are referenced

Scope of Work: Enforcement & Appeals

- May have multiple ordinances to break up topics
- Will likely spill into 2025

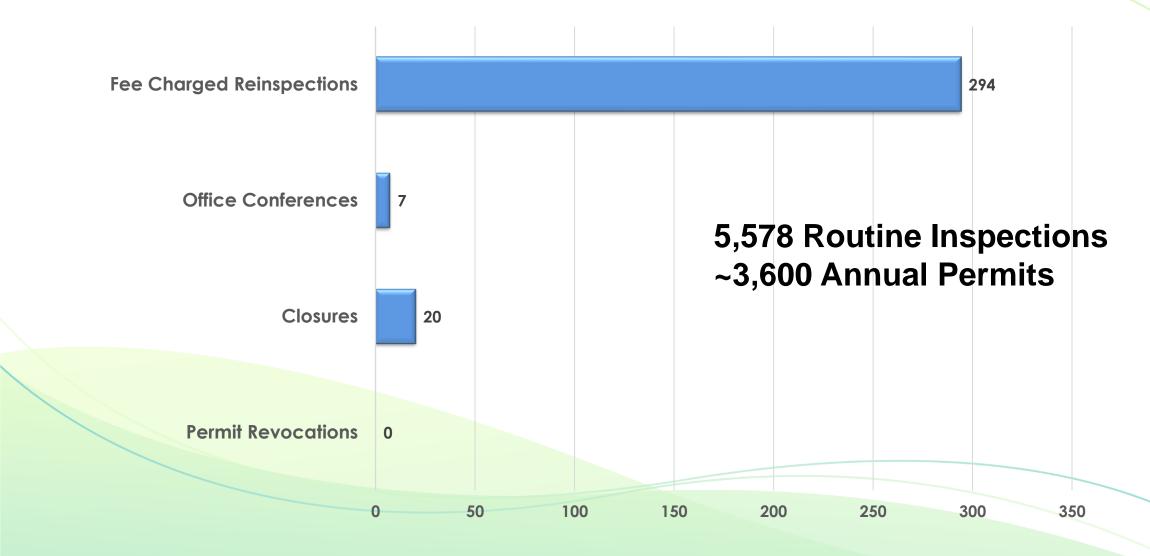


Enforcement & Appeals Metrics

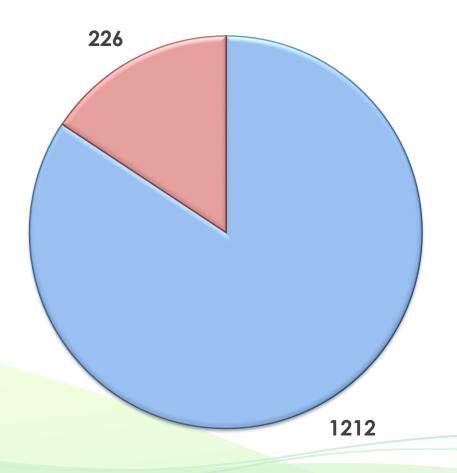
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2023 Food Safety Enforcement



2023 Water Recreation Enforcement



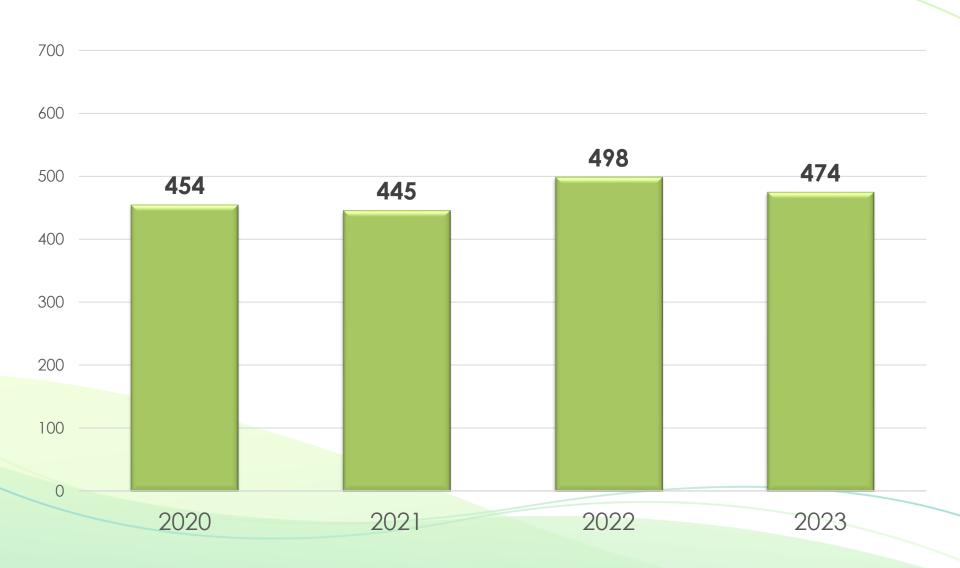
1,438 total routine inspections of pools and spas

Approximately
500 permits
covering around
300 facilities

■ Inspections With No Enforcement Action

■ Inspections Leading to Closure

Solid Waste Complaints Received: 2020-2023



What is Appealable?

- Decisions we make about applications
- The modification, suspension, or revocation of a:
 - Permit
 - License
 - Certification

Appeal Process Currently

Optional Pre-Appeal Conference Step 1 goes to EH Director EH Director renders a decision

Step 2 goes to SnoCo Hearing Examiner Hearing Examiner renders a decision

Court of appeals

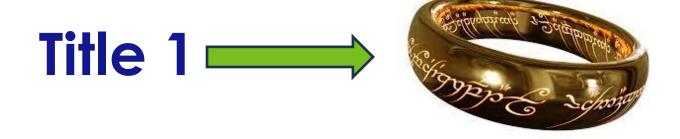
Appeals 2021-2024



Appeals By Type 2021-2024



Will Changes Affect Other Programs?



- Title 1 applies to the entire code
- One purpose is to provide a uniform enforcement and appeals framework for the entire code
- Titles 2-12 are program-specific and if needed, address their unique types of enforcement and appeals

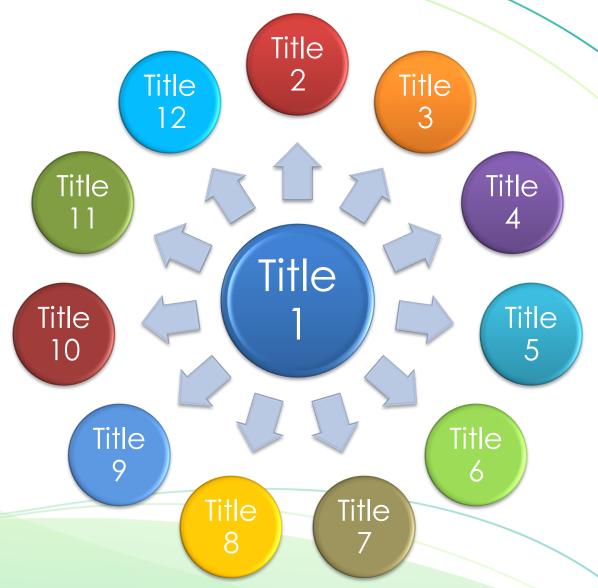


- The intention is that Title 1 only impacts what is written in code
- The goal during this ordinance is to have a better uniform enforcement code



A uniform enforcement code should include clear procedures for:

- •Efficient notice of violations and opportunities to correct violations
- •Penalties/Consequences for not correcting violations in a timely manner
- PermitSuspensions/Revocations
- Appeals
- Cost Recovery
- Abatement and Remediation



Examples of Uniform Enforcement

Title 1
GENERAL PROVISIONS

UPDATED: November 20, 2013

Chapters:

.01 CODE ADOPTION

1.04 GENERAL PROVISIONS (RESERVED)

1.08 UNIFORM ENFORCEMENT CODE



Chapter 24.07
ADMINISTRATIVE NOTICE PROCEEDINGS, CIVIL
PENALTIES AND ABATEMENT

24.07.010 Purpose.

The purpose of this chapter is to establish a uniform system for administrative notices, civil penalties, abatement, hearings, appeals and enforcement for violations of the Whatcom County health code. (Ord. 2005-055 Exh. B; Ord. 2002-070; Ord. 2002-006; Ord. 90-10 Exh. B (part)).







 During legal review, we will screen for possible impact to programs outside of Environmental Health (EH)



Who is Impacted by Enforcement?

- Permitted Facilities
 - Retail Food Establishments
 - Solid Waste Facilities
 - Water Recreation Facilities
 - Land Use



Who is Impacted by Enforcement?



- Unpermitted Facilities / Properties
 - Solid/Hazardous Waste Complaints
 - Monitoring & Maintenance of Septic Systems
 - Illicit Sewage Discharge Complaints
 - Illegal Drug Manufacturing & Storage Sites
 - People/Businesses Operating without a Permit/License

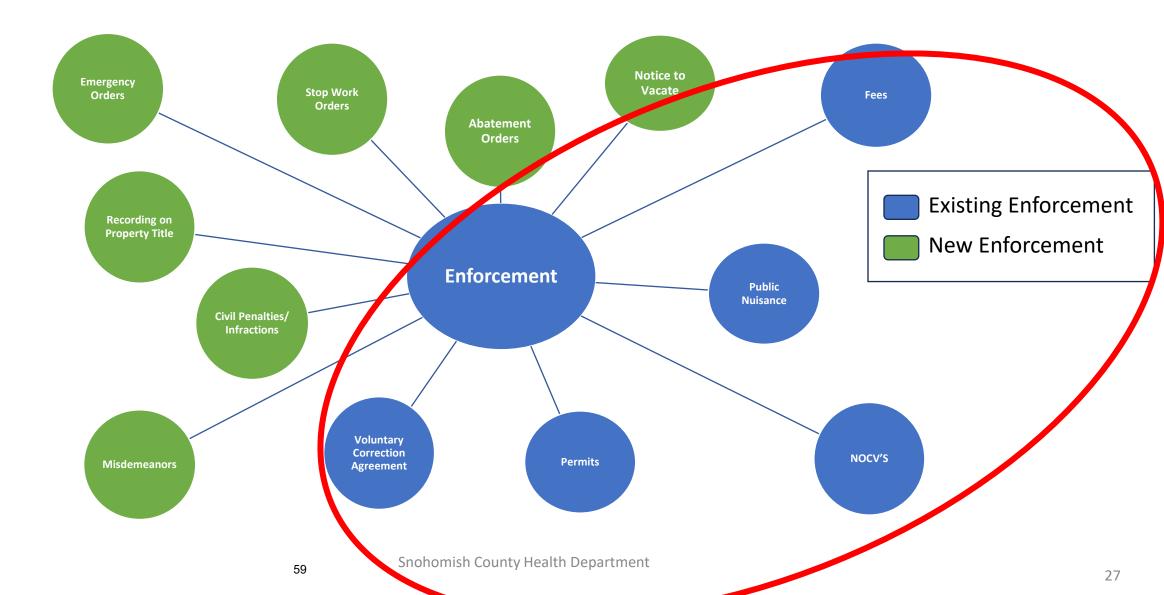
Why do we need enforcement?

- Enforcement provides the following benefits to the community:
 - Protects public health & safety
 - Ensures compliance with regulations
 - Allows the prevention of health hazards
 - Provides clear policy and expectations for all users of the Code
 - Improves community trust and assurance
 - Accountability

Why are Enforcement Changes Needed?

- Lack clarity in some areas
- Inconsistent with other county departments
- Options available are not consistent with neighboring counties

Enforcement Concepts



Enforcement Concepts - Current

COUNTY COMPARISONS									
Health Department	Fees	Permits	NOV/NOCV	Public Nuisance	Voluntary Correction agreements				
Snohomish HD									
Snohomish PDS*									
King					X				
Pierce									
Clark					X				
Thurston					X				
Whatcom					X				

^{*} Planning & Development Services (not a Health Department)

Enforcement Concepts Notice to **Emergency** Vacate Stop Work Orders Fees Orders **Abatement** Orders **Existing Enforcement** Recording on **Property Title New Enforcement Enforcement** Public **Nuisance** Civil Penalties/ Infractions Voluntary Correctin

Permits

Misdemeanors

NOCV'S

Enforcement Concepts - Potential

COUNTY COMPARISONS								
Health Department	Abatement Orders	Civil Penalties	Recording on Property Title	Misdemeanors	Notice to Vacate	Emergency / Stop Work Orders		
Snohomish HD	X		X	X	X			
Snohomish PDS*					X			
King					X	X		
Pierce								
Clark					X	X		
Thurston	X		X		X			
Whatcom			X		X			

^{*} Planning & Development Services (not a Health Department)

Why are options important?

Need different tools for different situations

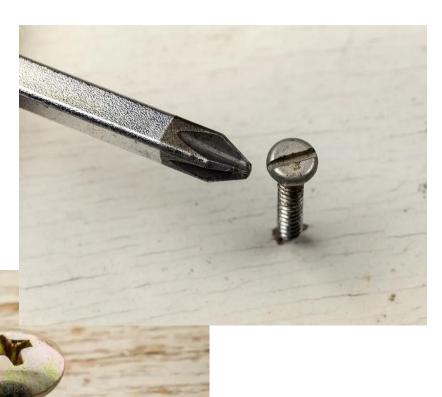








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Enforcement Concepts

- Not fully baked
- Not a package proposal
- Can pursue one, some, or none
- May bring multiple ordinances



Board of Health Feedback

- Your feedback on these concepts will allow us to better focus our efforts and resources
- Feedback can be provided:
 - One on one meetings
 - Small groups (Ad Hoc Meeting)
 - Email
 - BOH Meetings



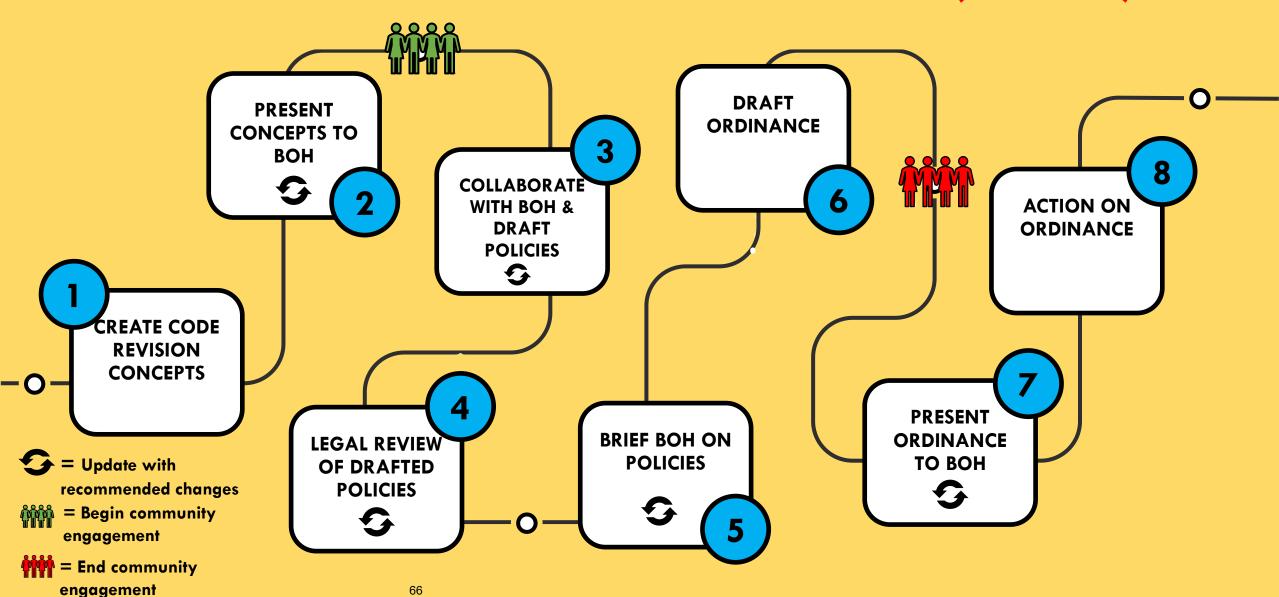






- Flexible on:
 - Dates
 - Times
 - Level of Commitment

ORDINANCE CREATION ROADMAP (DRAFT)



Summary

- Current enforcement is out of parity with other county departments and other local health jurisdictions
- The goal is to a have a uniform enforcement and appeals code
- We're looking to increase the suite of options available to us to achieve code compliance
- This ordinance project is still in its infant stages
- We want BOH feedback on which ones to put time into investigating
- We can be very flexible with BOH members and their schedules to obtain said feedback







Questions?

Robert Evjue Environmental Health Specialist 425-339-8746 robert.evjue@co.snohomish.wa.us

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BOARD OF HEALTH STAFF REPORT (SR 24-017) JULY 9, 2024 BRIEFINGS

Prevention Services -	Refugee Health ((SR 24-017; Keri Moore)	

Division:

Prevention Services / Keri Moore, Refugee Health Program Supervisor

ATTACHMENTS:

Description

Refugee Health Program Presentation





What is a Refugee?

- A refugee is a person who is unable to return to their home country because of persecution, or a well-founded fear of persecution due to race, religion, nationality, membership in a particular social group, or political opinion.
- The Refugee Act of 1980 created The Federal Refugee Resettlement Program to provide for the effective resettlement of refugees and to assist them to achieve economic self-sufficiency after arrival in the U.S. Title IV, Chapter 2 of the Immigration and Nationality Act contains the provisions of the Refugee Act.

Connection to Public Health

 Identify infectious and non-infectious diseases and ensure they are treated, thus improving both individual client and population health

 Refugees are at increased risk for health problems due to challenges accessing healthcare, language barriers, previous inadequate access to food, water, and sanitation, or discrimination in their country of origin.

History of Refugee Health Program

 Contract with DSHS for the past 25 years for comprehensive refugee health services

 Prior to that, provided refugee health services to targeted demographics since mid-1970s

Our Team

- Keri Moore, Program Supervisor 1.0 FTE
- Manreet Nijjer, Public Health Nurse 1.0 FTE
- Samantha Kelleher, Public Health Nurse .5 FTE
- Barb Sheets, Program Assistant II 1.0 FTE
- Anastasiia Bennett, Community Outreach Worker 1.0 FTE
- Brittany Wampler, Maxim Temporary Nurse .5 FTE



Program Goal

To provide trauma informed and culturally competent care to local refugees



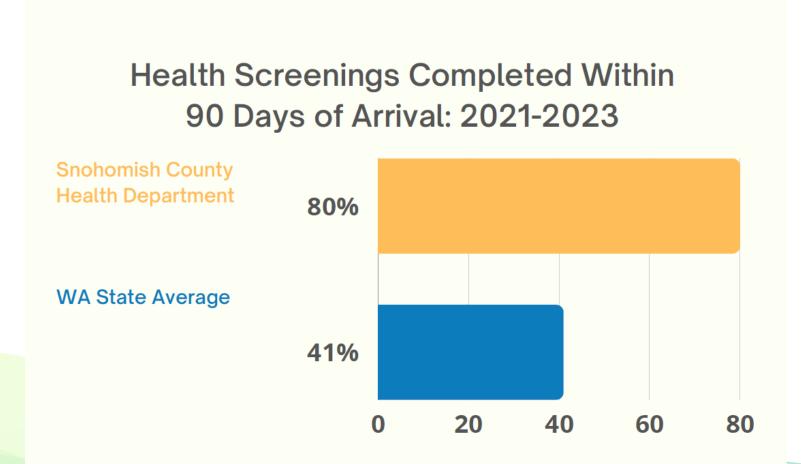
Program Objectives

- To complete initial health screenings within 90 days of client arrival
- To educate clients regarding the importance and safety of immunizations
- To ensure clients are connected to health care including mental, dental, and eye health providers as needed
- To follow up with Class B clients and provide preventive treatment as needed
- To complete I-693 paperwork with returning clients one year after arrival

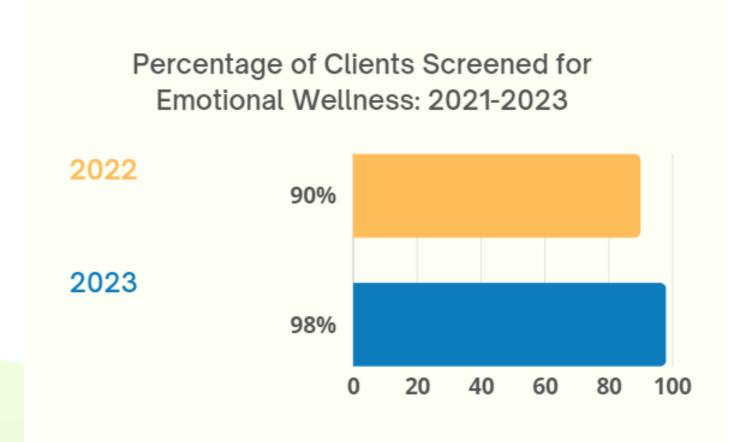
Data

- Washington State is consistently in the top 10 states for refugee resettlement
- Snohomish County Fiscal Year 2021-2023
 - 828 refugees
 - Ukraine and Afghanistan most common
 - Emerging: Syria, El Salvador, Guatemala

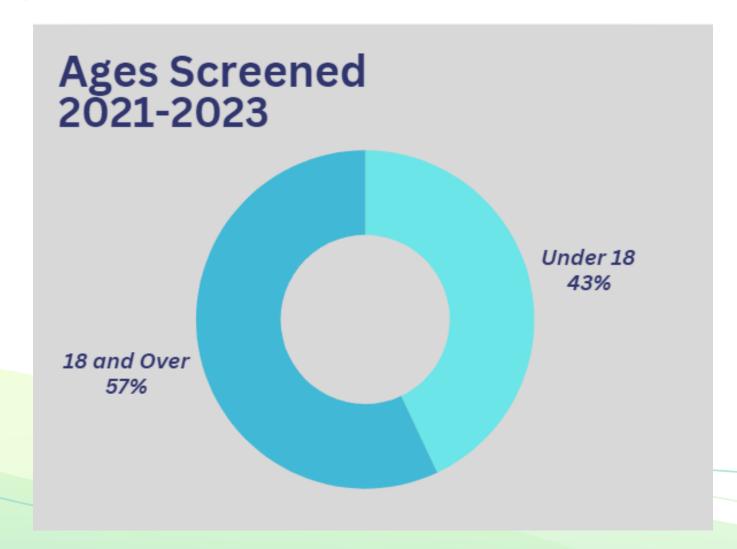
Health Screenings



Emotional Wellness



Client Ages



Lead Screening: 2021-2023 Biennium

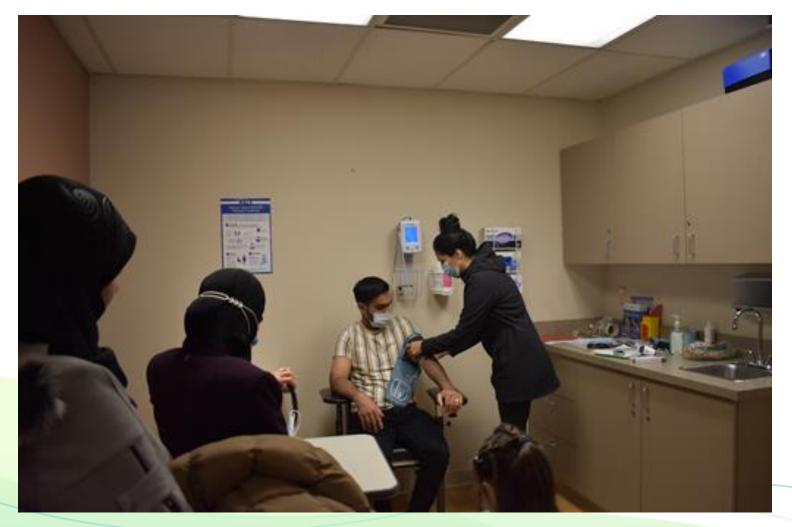
99% of children screened for lead

• 24% of those screened test positive

Identified Needs

- Dental
- Vision
- Emotional distress
- Blood lead level

Exams



Impact



Next Steps

 Continue to complete initial health screenings, I-693 visits, and Class B followup as staffing allows

• FY 2023-2025 projections: 1,175 refugees

Forward progress on vaccine uptake in the Russian and Ukrainian populations

Expand parasite treatment







Questions?

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BOARD OF HEALTH STAFF REPORT () JULY 9, 2024 INFORMATION ITEMS

Upcoming Meetings			

Background

Save the date: Board of Health Retreat - Sunday, August 25, and Monday, August 26. Times and location to be announced.

Upcoming regular meetings: Tuesday, September 10, 3:00 p.m. Tuesday, October 8, 3:00 p.m. Tuesday, November 12, 3:00 p.m.