



**WASHINGTON STATE**  
**COUNCIL OF COUNTY AND CITY EMPLOYEES**  
**AFSCME AFL-CIO**

Affiliated with:

American Federation of State, County & Municipal Employees  
Washington State Labor Council

CHRIS DUGOVICH President/Executive Director

January 14, 2021

Mayor Cassie Franklin  
2930 Wetmore Avenue  
Suite 10-A  
Everett, WA 98201  
cfranklin@everettwa.gov

Dear Mayor Franklin:

I was surprised to read the content of "The Report of the Everett Fiscal Sustainability Advisory Committee." I have grown accustomed to seeing these types of documents and recommendations like removing Public Employees from their PERS Pension Plans from business groups but never from a Mayor appointed group.

My surprise subsided when I saw the actual makeup of the group. It is nice that you put a student on the committee, but where is the member of Labor? It is inexcusable.

The Washington State Council of County and City Employees, AFSCME, AFL-CIO, represents over 2,000 union members in Snohomish County, approximately 350 of who work for the City of Everett. Boeing, who employs thousands of Machinist in Everett along with the Teamsters, IBEW at the PUD, and many others, deserved a voice in this group. We all know the City was built on the backs of Woodworkers who worked at the countless number of mills that bordered Port Gardner Bay.

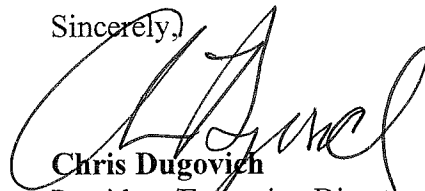
If you had a Labor representative from the section of Labor representing Public Employees, they certainly would have informed you of the firestorm you created by advocating a 401-K contributory Plan versus the PERS Defined Benefit Plan—advocating a Legislative change to our collective bargaining law so you can dominate and lower wages and benefits clearly will get you strong opposition. Isn't it always a rightwing solution to pay people less!

Our Union represents Public Employees in over 180 jurisdictions across the state of Washington with close to 18,000 members, and has a full-time lobbying effort in Olympia. Since it was enacted in 2001, we have been looking for allies to amend I-747 and the 1% property tax cap. We have never seen any such effort from the City of Everett over the years.

Memories can be short, but the members of Local 113 remember who took unpaid furloughs and suffered over 50 layoffs in the Spring of 2020. They are keenly aware that the mayor, who continually refers to them as "team members," has constructed a committee of local business members that view employees' wages and benefits as a cause of the City's financial struggles and have proposed MORE takeaways.

We would expect a more thoughtful process, a better representation of the community putting together a document of this type. At this point, your City holds the distinction of being the jurisdiction that laid off and furloughed without pay more individuals than any other local government jurisdiction out of the 180 we represent. Now it seems it is looking for reasons to do more.

Sincerely,



**Chris Dugovich**

President/Executive Director

WASHINGTON STATE COUNCIL OF  
COUNTY AND CITY EMPLOYEES  
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cc: Miguel Morga, Director of Staff Services  
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Dave Sommers, Snohomish County Executive  
Brian Sullivan, Snohomish County Treasurer  
Megan Dunn, Snohomish County Councilmember  
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