

1 Adopted: Jan. 21, 2009  
2 Effective: Jan. 1, 2009

3  
4 SNOHOMISH COUNTY COUNCIL  
5 Snohomish County, Washington

6  
7 ORDINANCE NO. 09-001

8  
9 ESTABLISHING THE 2009 REIMBURSEMENT RATE FOR VEHICLE EXPENSES  
10 OF CERTAIN ELECTED OFFICIALS PURSUANT TO SCC 3.36.035

11  
12 WHEREAS, SCC 3.36.035(2) provides that elected officials designated in SCC  
13 3.36.030 using their own vehicles for travel for county purposes may be paid a monthly  
14 vehicle allowance at a rate not to exceed 99 percent of the average monthly ER&R cost  
15 for replacement, maintenance, insurance and fuel expenses of a standard size county  
16 pool vehicle as determined by the Director of Public Works and established by  
17 ordinance effective January 1st of each year; and

18  
19 WHEREAS, pursuant to SCC 3.36.035, the Public Works Director has reviewed  
20 the average monthly ER&R cost for replacement, maintenance, insurance and fuel  
21 expenses of a standard size county pool vehicle and prepared the attached  
22 memorandum for purposes of establishing the 2009 reimbursement rate; and

23  
24 WHEREAS, notwithstanding its prior establishment of reimbursement rates for  
25 elected official use of a personal vehicle for county purposes at the maximum rate  
26 provided for in SCC 3.36.035, the Council finds that the economic crisis in which the  
27 2009 annual budget was developed and adopted calls for reimbursement in 2009 at the  
28 lesser rate provided for herein;

29  
30 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT ORDAINED:

31  
32 Section 1. The County Council finds that the Director of Public Works has  
33 provided a memorandum, attached hereto as Exhibit A, stating the average monthly  
34 ER&R cost for replacement, maintenance, insurance and fuel expenses of a standard  
35 size county pool vehicle. Based upon this memorandum, the Council establishes the  
36 average monthly cost for replacement, maintenance, insurance and fuel expenses of a  
37 standard size county pool vehicle at \$587.39 as required by SCC 3.36.035.

38  
39 Section 2. The reimbursement rate for elected official use of a personal vehicle  
40 for county purposes shall be 45 percent of the cost established by Section 1 of this  
41 ordinance in the amount of \$264.33 per month for 2009. In addition to the monthly rate,  
42 any elected official designated in SCC 3.36.030 may claim reimbursement for mileage

1 traveled by personal vehicle outside Snohomish County for county purposes at the rate  
2 established in SCC 3.36.020.

3  
4  
5 Section 3. This ordinance shall be effective January 1, 2009.

6  
7 PASSED this 21<sup>st</sup> day of January, 2009.

8  
9 SNOHOMISH COUNTY COUNCIL  
10 Snohomish County, Washington

11  
12 Mike Cooper  
13 Chairperson

14  
15 ATTEST:

16  
17 Barbara Sikorski  
18 Asst. Clerk of the Council

19  
20  APPROVED

21  
22  EMERGENCY

23  
24  VETOED

25 DATE: January 28, 2009

26  
27  
28 Mark Soine  
29 County Executive

30  
31 ATTEST:

32  
33 Cora Palmer

34  
35 Approved as to form only:


36  
37 Rick Robertson  
38 Deputy Prosecuting Attorney


# M E M O R A N D U M

**DATE:** December 11, 2008

**TO:** Aaron Reardon, Snohomish County Executive

**VIA:** Peter Camp, Executive Director

**VIA:** Steve Thomsen, Public Works Director 

**FROM:** Allen Mitchell, Fleet Manager 

**SUBJECT:** Elected Officials' Vehicle Reimbursement For 2009

---

## Summary

SCC 3.36.030(1) (2002) requires Council to establish a monthly vehicle reimbursement allowance for elected officials based upon an annual review of ER&R costs by the Director of Public Works. SCC 3.36.035 (2002) requires that such payment not exceed 99% of the monthly ER&R cost. Council set the 2008 allowance at \$563/month. As required by SCC 3.36.035, the Director of Public Works conducted an annual review of the average monthly ER&R cost. The average monthly cost increased by \$19. Council therefore may set the 2009 elected official reimbursement allowance up to a maximum of \$582.

	2008	2009
Average Monthly Cost	\$569	\$587
99% Maximum	\$563	\$582

## Background

The operational costs for an average vehicle is based on actual 8/07 through 7/08 data for 80 mid size sedans used by county departments. The miles accumulated on these vehicles are representative of miles traveled by county officials conducting county business.

**TABLE I - OPERATING COSTS**

Annual Fuel Cost For Mid-size Vehicles	\$79,989.48
Annual Maint. And Repair Cost For Mid-size Vehicles	\$73,708.26
Annual Miles Traveled By Mid-size Vehicles	629,726 miles
Average Fuel Cost Per Mile	\$.127
Average Repair And Maintenance Cost Per Mile	\$.117

The 2009 purchase price is based on Washington State Contract #05105 for a 2008 Chevrolet Impala sedan with air conditioning and other options usually purchased by the county plus 4.0% annual inflation in new car prices. The following table shows the methodology for establishing ownership costs over a six year vehicle life.

**TABLE 2 - OWNERSHIP COSTS**

2008 Estimated Purchase Price Including Sales Tax	\$20,210.04
Assuming A Six Year Vehicle Life:	
Plus: Inflation ( 4.0% Inflation x 6 Yrs. Compounded)	+\$5,362.11
Less: Estimated Residual Value (Trade-In Value):	-\$5,815.00
<b>NET OWNERSHIP COST:</b>	<b>\$19,757.15</b>

The following table uses the information obtained in tables 1 and 2 and adds insurance costs to obtain average total vehicle costs to be used for developing the monthly reimbursement amount.

**TABLE 3  
DEVELOPMENT OF MONTHLY COST OPTION**

<b>1. Monthly Depreciation:</b> \$19,757.15 (From Table 2) divided by 72 months =	\$274.40
Monthly operating and maintenance cost: Based upon an average of 656 miles per month of usage of vehicles on county business by elected officials.	
<b>2. Monthly Repair and Maint. (Cost/Mile And Mileage from Table 1):</b> @ \$.117 x 656 miles x 3.2 % Seattle Area service inflation factor* =	79.21
<b>3. Monthly Fuel(From Table 1):</b> @ \$.127 x 656 miles x 26.9% Seattle Area gas inflation factor =	105.72
<b>4. Insurance (Per Safeco Quote 10-15-07) * 1.03</b> =	<u>\$128.06</u>
<b>TOTAL MONTHLY OWNERSHIP AND OPERATIONAL COST =</b>	<b>\$587.39</b>

\* NOTE: The fuel price index rate was obtained from the State of Washington Office of Forecast Council's Washington Economic and Revenue Forecast on Nov 20, 08.