

CCC Meeting Minutes 2026-05-18

Library Levy Overview

- Sno Isle Libraries serving 23 locations across Snohomish and Island counties •
- Current levy expires, seeking to restore rate to 47 cents per \$1,000 assessed value (same as 2018)
- Library is 91% funded by property taxes, restricted to 1% annual budget increases
- Represents ~4% of total property taxes for Island County residents

Voting Details

- Ballots mail July 17, 2026
- Election day: August 4, 2026
- Proposition 1 on ballot
- Same levy covers both Snohomish and Island counties

Services & Impact

- System-wide: 3,000+ programs annually, new library card creation at all-time high •
- Focus areas: early childhood (0-5 years), workforce readiness, community connection •
- Shared resources: books rotate between all 23 libraries, economies of scale for purchasing
- Additional services: job assistance, resume help, printing, internet access, daycare worker credentialing
- If levy fails: hiring freeze, reduced hours, fewer programs, deferred maintenance
- If passes: maintains current service levels, enables capital projects

Questions

- **What are the chances of expanding Clinton Library?**
Clinton is **high on the list** for expansion/improvement, but first they need the **levy to pass**. Priority order mentioned: **Arlington Library renovation / A/C project, Mariner project** — a new library in the dense area between **Mill Creek and Mukilteo, Clinton** after those projects
- **County Commissioner Melanie Baker** said she was **unaware of the levy until this meeting** and expressed concern about outreach/awareness.
- **Library government employees cannot directly campaign** for the levy; they can **educate people about it and explain consequences** if it passes or fails.

- **Friends of the Clinton Library meeting: June 18 at 6:00 PM**
Eric Howard was scheduled to attend.
- **How much money from Island County comes back to Island County?** They said it's **hard to calculate** because resources are shared system-wide across all 23 libraries.
Examples of Island County investments/projects mentioned: **Langley remodel, Coupeville renovation, Camano renovation.**

Normal Business

- **Treasurer's report: No new dues, no new costs**
- **Planning Commission**
 - Planning Commission public hearing was set for **May 20 at 6 PM**, with continuation on **May 27** if needed.
 - Then the **County Commissioners** would hold their own public hearing **toward the end of June.**
 - Goal: **finish and approve by end of June**, which would help end the **building moratorium** as soon as possible.
 - Study of the **Clinton NMUGA** was said to be scheduled for **2031.**
 - Likely change to Clinton as a **non-municipal urban growth area** would be considered in **2035** during the next major comp plan revision.
- **Passenger Ferry service**
 - Ferry pilot to Everett starts **June 4**
 - Runs **Thursdays and Saturdays**