



# NEWS RELEASE

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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## **Statement from Mayor Cassie Franklin on City's continued support of Everett AquaSox**

EVERETT, Wash. – At the Nov. 29, 2023 City Council meeting, council members voted to authorize the mayor to sign two professional services agreements related to the Everett Stadium Project, which would serve as a new home for Everett's minor league baseball team, the AquaSox. This action is in alignment with the [commitment made by Council](#), in partnership with Snohomish County, to explore the feasibility of different options for renovating Funko Field or building a new stadium that meets the requirements of Major League Baseball and prevents Everett from losing its team.

This is a statement from Cassie Franklin, Mayor of the City of Everett:

"I want to thank our council members for their continued support of the important work our city has undertaken in partnership with Snohomish County, the AquaSox, community leaders and others, to explore our options to keep our beloved Minor League Baseball team. I also want to thank all the community members who have shared their support recently.

The AquaSox have been an important part of our greater Everett community for nearly 30 years and MiLB has been here even longer. There are relatively few options locally for affordable family fun and a night out at the ballpark is one our residents and visitors from across the county cherish.

In addition, the team has a significant economic impact on our area, bringing in millions in revenue and creating jobs, including employment opportunities for our youth.

The elevation of our team to a Class High-A has brought a higher caliber of play, an expanded schedule and new requirements for their stadium. While it's important to invest in the necessities for our community, I believe it's also incredibly important to keep quality of life assets like the AquaSox. These are the things that help make Everett a great place to live and

visit.

To date, we have made significant progress towards identifying the most feasible and economically beneficial options either renovating Funko Field or building a new stadium elsewhere. In addition, we secured the largest grant award of \$7.4 million from the State to go towards this project. The professional services agreements approved by Council will provide the expert support we need to move efficiently through the environmental review, site evaluation, project development and design stages.

I'm proud that our city's elected leadership is committed to doing everything we can to maintain this vital economic development and recreation asset and ensure the AquaSox remain our home team for generations to come."

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