

APPENDIX B

Sno-Isle Libraries Funding

Sno-Isle Libraries and partner communities have traditionally secured funding for community library facilities through one or more of the capital investment options or agreements shown below:

City-owned - City or town officials fund or provide a building to serve as a public library. The city/town continues to own and maintain the structure. Sno-Isle Libraries enters into a contract with the city/town to provide library services and regular maintenance through an interlocal agreement.

Library capital facilities – First, a Library Capital Facilities Area must be approved by voters within which taxes can be collected. Then, in a separate measure, voters must approve a property bond levy to authorize the collection of those funds. The library district uses the funds from a library bond levy to improve, construct, renovate or expand a library facility.

Local support - A local organization, such as a Friends of the Library group, raises and uses private funds to purchase, build or improve a library facility and the library district agrees to use that building to provide library service.

Demonstration project – Sno-Isle Libraries works with a community to introduce and provide local library services from a leased building which is converted into a community library facility. This demonstration of library service was the approach used initially on Camano Island.

Funding for General Library Operations and Maintenance

Ninety-eight percent of the funding for Sno-Isle Libraries comes from a general library operations levy (or tax) on property owners within the library district. This levy appears on the property tax statements of all properties in the unincorporated areas of Snohomish and Island County, as well as properties within cities which have voted to annex into the Sno-Isle Libraries district.