

Scott Murphy criticizes Mayor Franklin's failure on homelessness: "The Numbers Don't Lie"

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EVERETT, WA — Today, Scott Murphy issued a sharp rebuke of Everett Mayor Cassie Franklin's record on homelessness, citing recently released Snohomish County Point-in-Time (PIT) count data that shows the number of people experiencing homelessness in Everett has nearly doubled under her watch — in stark contrast to progress being made in the rest of Snohomish County.

"When Mayor Franklin took office in 2018, Everett's PIT count was 166 unsheltered individuals. This year, it's 324 — a staggering 95% increase," said Murphy, a former Everett City Councilmember. "And it's not just a long-term trend. In just the past year, homelessness in Everett has jumped another 18%. That's not just a number — that's more unsheltered people sleeping in tents, under overpasses, and on sidewalks in our community."

According to the 2025 PIT count, with the exception of Granite Falls (10 unsheltered individuals), the number of unsheltered individuals has declined in every other part of Snohomish County since 2024, while Everett continues to spiral in the wrong direction.

"This is not just a policy failure — it's a leadership failure," said Murphy. "Other communities in Snohomish County are seeing improvements, while Everett becomes ground zero for a crisis the Mayor can't or won't get under control."

Murphy pointed to the lack of urgency, transparency, and collaboration from the Mayor's office as key contributors to the worsening crisis.

"For years, we've heard the same talking points and seen the same half-measures, while the numbers keep climbing," Murphy said. "Everett residents are compassionate — but they also expect results. They want a city that's safe, clean, and humane. We deserve a mayor who can deliver on that."

Murphy called for a more accountable and results-driven approach to homelessness that includes real partnerships with service providers, public safety improvements, and greater oversight of housing and shelter initiatives and has released his own 6-point plan to tackle this crisis. His plan includes:

1. Be honest and transparent about what's working and not working.
2. Support and increase safe housing for unhoused individuals and families.
3. Work with service providers to strengthen outreach and provide access to mental health and addiction treatment.
4. Ongoing assessment with providers of results and outcomes and a willingness to make mid-course corrections.
5. Eliminate unsanctioned encampments and RV parking in parks, on streets and in alleys.

6. Annual progress report to the community on the status of Homelessness in Everett.

“It’s time for leadership that faces the facts, takes responsibility, and gets Everett back on track,” said Murphy.

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