

Whatcom County Council

**COUNTY COURTHOUSE
311 Grand Avenue, Ste #105
Bellingham, WA 98225-4038
(360) 778-5010**



Meeting Agenda

Tuesday, June 24, 2025

6 PM

Hybrid Meeting - Council Chambers

**HYBRID MEETING (PARTICIPATE IN-PERSON, SEE REMOTE JOIN
INSTRUCTIONS AT www.whatcomcounty.us/joinvirtualcouncil, OR CALL
360.778.5010)**

COUNCILMEMBERS

Barry Buchanan
Tyler Byrd
Todd Donovan
Ben Elenbaas
Kaylee Galloway
Jon Scanlon
Mark Stremler

CLERK OF THE COUNCIL

Cathy Halka, AICP, CMC

COUNTY COUNCIL

CALL TO ORDER

ROLL CALL

FLAG SALUTE

ANNOUNCEMENTS

The Council is currently holding meetings in hybrid format with options for in-person or remote viewing and participation. For instructions on remote participation, visit www.whatcomcounty.us/joinvirtualcouncil and register by 4 p.m. the day of the meeting to speak remotely. Individuals who require special assistance to participate in the Council's meetings are asked to contact the Council Office at 360.778-5010 at least 96 hours in advance.

Per RCW 42.17A.555 the use of public facilities to support or oppose candidates or ballot issues is prohibited. Members of the public and the legislative body are not allowed to speak in support of, or in opposition to, a ballot measure or individual candidacy during an open public meeting. Please refrain from raising campaign issues when addressing the Council.

The County is accepting applications from county residents to fill vacancies on several boards, commissions, and committees spanning a wide range of important local issues. For more information, visit the Boards and Commissions vacancy webpage on the County website or call the Council Office or County Executive's Office.

COUNTY EXECUTIVE'S REPORT

MINUTES CONSENT

1. [MIN2025-036](#) Committee of the Whole for June 10, 2025
2. [MIN2025-037](#) Regular County Council for June 10, 2025

OPEN SESSION

Participants requesting to speak during open session may attend in person. To speak remotely, please visit www.whatcomcounty.us/joinvirtualcouncil and register by 4 p.m. the day of the meeting to receive a join link.

During open session, audience members may speak to the council on issues not scheduled for public hearing. All speakers are asked to state their name for the record and optionally include city of residence. When a large group of individuals supports the same position on an issue, we encourage the selection of one or two representatives to speak on behalf of the entire group. Speakers will be given three minutes to address the Council and will be notified when their three minutes are up. Speakers participating on-site in the Council Chambers will speak first, followed by those who have registered to speak remotely.

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Per RCW 42.36.060 Councilmembers are prohibited from engaging in ex parte communications in matters where the Council determines the legal rights, duties, or privileges of specific parties in a hearing or other contested case proceeding. Council serves in a quasi-judicial role as a decision-maker on major project permits, which cannot be discussed by members of the public at Council meetings. Examples of major project permits that cannot be discussed at Council meetings include LSS2024-00001 R and R Acres Long Subdivision and Development Agreement, LSS2022-00001 Red Mountain Long Subdivision and Development Agreement, and MPP2024-00002 ALA Energy, Ferndale Terminal Existing and Planned Improvements.

CONSENT AGENDA

Items under this section of the agenda may be considered in a single motion. Councilmembers have received and studied background material on all items. Committee review has taken place on these items, as indicated. Any member of the public, administrative staff, or council may ask that an item be considered separately.

(From Council Finance and Administrative Services Committee)

1. [AB2025-443](#) Request authorization for the County Executive to enter into a contract between Whatcom County and Opportunity Council to administer Whatcom County's coordinated entry system through the Whatcom Homeless Service Center, in the amount of \$544,578
2. [AB2025-444](#) Request authorization for the County Executive to enter into a contract between Whatcom County and Opportunity Council to authorize and distribute rental assistance through the Whatcom Homeless Service Center, in the amount of \$7,274,164
3. [AB2025-445](#) Request authorization for the County Executive to enter into a contract between Whatcom County and Catholic Community Services to provide on-site supportive services and housing at Francis Place, in the amount of \$277,723

4. [AB2025-446](#) Request authorization for the County Executive to enter into an interlocal agreement between Whatcom County and the City of Bellingham to provide funding for the Alternative Response Team Program, in the amount of \$375,000
5. [AB2025-447](#) Request authorization for the County Executive to enter into an interlocal agreement between Whatcom County and U.S. Department of Agriculture, Animal and Plant Health Inspection Services - Wildlife Services for wildlife management services, in the amount of \$87,677.87
6. [AB2025-448](#) Request authorization for the County Executive to enter into an agreement between Whatcom County and the Port of Bellingham for the acquisition of 58.81 acres equipped with two 3,000 square foot buildings located at 6211 Northwest Avenue for the purposes of establishing a Whatcom Agricultural Research Station, in the amount of a \$1,966,542 EDI grant and \$933,271 EDI loan, for a total of \$2,899,813
7. [AB2025-449](#) Request authorization for the County Executive to enter into a two-year program agreement between Whatcom County and the State of Washington Department of Children, Youth & Families to provide detention services at the Whatcom County Jail for Juvenile Rehabilitation youth eighteen years and older, in the amount of \$26,000 per year
8. [AB2025-450](#) Request authorization for the County Executive to enter into a contract amendment between Whatcom County and Lydia Place to provide rapid rehousing, case management, and coordinated entry access services, in the amount of \$473,162, for a total amended contract amount of \$722,242
9. [AB2025-454](#) Request authorization for the County Executive to enter into a contract amendment between Whatcom County and Lydia Place to provide permanent housing and supportive services in the amount of \$258,976, for a total amended contract amount of \$388,463
10. [AB2025-461](#) Request authorization for the County Executive to enter into a contract amendment between Whatcom County and Whatcom Long Term Recovery Group to expand local assistance to homeowners participating in the Hazard Mitigation Grant Program, in the amount of \$80,000, for a total amended contract amount of \$120,000 (Council acting as the Whatcom County Flood Control Zone District Board of Supervisors)
11. [AB2025-462](#) Request authorization for the County Executive to enter into a cost reimbursement agreement amendment between Whatcom County and the Nooksack Indian Tribe to compensate the Nooksack Indian Tribe for staff time to support the Floodplain Integrated Planning process, in the amount of \$64,000, for a total amended agreement amount of \$88,000 (Council acting as the Whatcom County Flood Control Zone District Board of Supervisors)

12. [AB2025-463](#) Request authorization for the County Executive to enter into a contract amendment between Whatcom County and Lydia Place to provide funding for the emergency shelter program, in the amount of \$436,352, for a total amended contract amount of \$680,728
13. [AB2025-464](#) Request authorization for the County Executive to enter into an interlocal agreement between Whatcom County and The Administrative Office of the Courts for reimbursement of services related to the Uniform Guardianship Act, in the amount of \$67,740
14. [AB2025-465](#) Request authorization for the County Executive to enter into a six-month contract amendment between Whatcom County and Northwest Regional Council for Jail Nursing Services, in the amount of \$1,354,508.50 for a total contract amount of \$11,009,534.17
15. [AB2025-466](#) Request authorization for the County Executive to enter into an agreement between Whatcom County and the Department of Children, Youth and Families for services relating to evidence-based programming for juveniles under the supervision of Juvenile Court
16. [AB2025-467](#) Request authorization for the County Executive to enter into a contract amendment between Whatcom County and Opportunity Council to provide housing case management services in the amount of \$2,007,866, for a total amended contract amount of \$2,927,247
17. [AB2025-468](#) Request authorization for the County Executive to enter into an interlocal agreement between Whatcom County and the Washington State Department of Social and Health Services, Developmental Disabilities Administration to ensure a coordinated system of local services for persons with disabilities, in the amount of \$6,129,076
18. [AB2025-473](#) Request authorization for the County Executive to enter into a contract between Whatcom County and Opportunity Council to administer the Housing and Essential Needs Program, in the amount of \$3,409,883
19. [AB2025-474](#) Request authorization for the County Executive to enter into a lease agreement between Whatcom County and Ferndale Youth Sports for maintenance and operation of the baseball fields at the Northwest Sports Complex, in the amount of \$1

OTHER ITEMS

(From Council Finance and Administrative Services Committee)

1. [AB2025-451](#) Ordinance amending the 2025 Whatcom County Budget, request no. 7, in the amount of \$1,500,000

2. [AB2025-453](#) Ordinance amending the 2025 Whatcom County Budget, request no. 6, in the amount of 16,735,908.

(From Council Criminal Justice and Public Safety Committee)

3. [AB2025-479](#) Discussion and request for motion regarding draft Justice Project Stakeholder Group Charters

COUNCIL APPOINTMENTS TO BOARDS, COMMISSIONS, AND COMMITTEES

1. [AB2025-434](#) Appointment to a vacancy on the Business and Commerce Advisory Committee, for-profit health care position, Applicant(s): Dave Chase, Elizabeth Hampton

CONFIRMATION OF EXECUTIVE APPOINTMENTS TO BOARDS, COMMISSIONS, AND COMMITTEES

Per Whatcom County Code 2.03.070(B), the council must confirm or reject executive appointments within 30 days of submission to the council. County code deems the appointee confirmed if council does not take action within this time.

1. [AB2025-476](#) Request confirmation of the County Executive's appointment of Kyann Flint to the Whatcom County Americans with Disabilities Act Compliance Committee

ITEMS ADDED BY REVISION

COMMITTEE REPORTS, OTHER ITEMS, AND COUNCILMEMBER UPDATES

ADJOURN