



Whatcom County

COUNTY COURTHOUSE
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Agenda Bill Master Report

File Number: AB2022-523

File ID:	AB2022-523	Version:	1	Status:	Approved
File Created:	09/19/2022	Entered by:	THelms@co.whatcom.wa.us		
Department:	County Executive's Office	File Type:	Resolution		
Assigned to:	Council Finance and Administrative Services Committee			Final Action:	09/27/2022
Agenda Date:	09/27/2022	Enactment #:	RES 2022-041		

Primary Contact Email: THelms@co.whatcom.wa.us

TITLE FOR AGENDA ITEM:

Resolution approving the 2023 Lodging Tax allocations as recommended by the Lodging Tax Advisory Committee

SUMMARY STATEMENT OR LEGAL NOTICE LANGUAGE:

Resolution approving the 2023 Lodging Tax allocations as recommended by the Lodging Tax Advisory Committee

HISTORY OF LEGISLATIVE FILE

Date:	Acting Body:	Action:	Sent To:
09/27/2022	Council Finance and Administrative Services Committee	RECOMMENDED FOR APPROVAL	
	Aye: 3	Byrd, Frazey, and Kershner	
	Nay: 0		
	Absent: 0		
09/27/2022	Council	APPROVED	
	Aye: 7	Buchanan, Byrd, Donovan, Elenbaas, Frazey, Galloway, and Kershner	
	Nay: 0		
	Absent: 0		

Attachments: Proposed resolution, Attachment A

PROPOSED BY: Executive

RESOLUTION NO. 2022-041

**APPROVING THE 2023 RECOMMENDED CONVENTION CENTER
ALLOCATIONS FOR TOURISM-RELATED FACILITIES AND ACTIVITIES
AS DEFINED THROUGH RCW 67.28.1816**

WHEREAS on September 7, 2022, the Whatcom County Lodging Tax Advisory Committee (LTAC) held a public meeting to consider 2023 funding for use of Convention Center Funds; and

WHEREAS, of the fifteen applications submitted, the LTAC recommends funding for fourteen eligible applicants in the amount of \$725,150 and further detailed in attachment A; and

WHEREAS, the LTAC further recommends a contingency in the amount of \$150,000 to be used in the event eligible applicants seek funding for tourism programs later in the year; and

WHEREAS, the 2023 funding recommendations totaling \$875,150 were determined based on the ability to promote and serve tourism activities in Whatcom County as defined in RCW 67.28; and

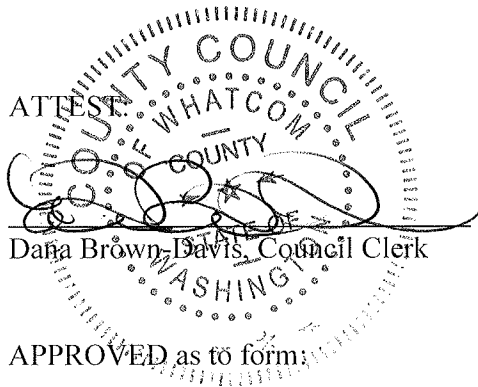
WHEREAS, all funding recipients must submit a report to the County describing the actual number of people traveling for business or pleasure on a trip as well as describing the results of the event of activity sponsored by the Convention Center Fund; and

WHEREAS, in addition to the above referenced funding allocations directed to Chamber operations, events and festivals the LTAC further supports and recommends special project funding in the amount of \$565,775 for the delayed Wayfinding project developed by MERJE Design and facilitated by Bellingham Whatcom Tourism; and

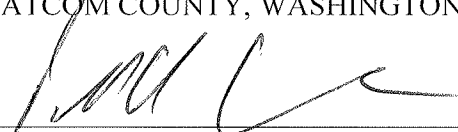
WHEREAS, the 2023 Convention Center Fund revenue is projected at \$1,500,000 and the 2023 fund balance is projected to be \$2,918,284; and

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Whatcom County Council hereby authorizes the County Administration to allocate \$1,440,925 from the Lodging Tax Fund for the purposes of tourism related activities as recommended by the Lodging Tax Advisory Committee and detailed in attachment A.

APPROVED this 27th day of September, 2022.

ATTEST

Dana Brown-Davis, Council Clerk

WHATCOM COUNTY COUNCIL
WHATCOM COUNTY, WASHINGTON


Todd Donovan, Council Chair

APPROVED as to form:

Christopher Quinn per email 09/19/22
Civil Deputy Prosecutor

CONVENTION CENTER - HOTEL/MOTEL TAX FUNDS - 2023

Tab	Requesting Agency	2022 Approved	2023 Requests	Committee Approved	Notes
	Chamber VIC or Tourism Bureau				
	Bellingham Regional Chamber of Commerce	\$25,000	\$30,000	\$30,000	
	Bellingham/Whatcom Co. Tourism - operations	\$290,000	\$250,000	\$250,000	
	Bellingham/Whatcom Co. Tourism - Economic Recovery	\$95,000	\$0		
	Birch Bay Chamber of Commerce - VIC	\$115,000	\$120,000	\$120,000	
	Birch Bay Chamber of Commerce - Restrooms	\$5,000	\$10,000	\$10,000	
	Ferndale Chamber of Commerce	\$12,000			
	Mt. Baker Foothills Chamber/Visitor Center	\$110,000	\$125,000	\$125,000	
	Point Roberts Chamber of Commerce	\$17,500	\$19,400	\$19,400	
	Chambers & Tourism SUBTOTAL	\$669,500	\$554,400	\$554,400	
	Whatcom County Glacier Restrooms cc. 14.131	\$19,500	\$19,500	\$19,500	
	Allied Arts	\$14,800	\$10,500	\$10,500	
	Bellingham Festival of Music	\$10,000	\$0		
	Cascadia Film Festival	\$10,000	\$10,000	\$10,000	
	North Cascades Bluegrass Festival	\$20,000	\$20,000	\$20,000	
	Northwest Tune Up (approved through 2022 contingency)	\$50,000	\$75,000	\$0	
	Scottish Dance Society	\$10,000	\$15,750	\$15,750	
	Seafeast	\$20,000	\$20,000	\$20,000	
	Sustainable Connections	\$35,000	\$40,000	\$40,000	
	Sylvia Center	\$25,000	\$0		
	Whatcom Events	\$25,000	\$35,000	\$35,000	
	Event and Festivals SUBTOTAL	\$239,300	\$245,750	\$170,750	
	TOTAL ANNUAL FUNDING REQUESTS	\$908,800	\$800,150	\$725,150	
	20% Contingency used for mid-year allocations	\$150,000	\$150,000	\$150,000	
	TOTAL ANNUAL FUNDING REQUESTS w/Contingency	\$1,058,800	\$950,150	\$875,150	
	Special Project Request				
	WC Portion of Multi-jurisdictional Wayfinding Project	\$565,775	\$565,775	\$565,775	Pending project review and start-up
	PROPOSED EXPENDITURE BUDGET	\$1,624,575	\$1,515,925	\$1,440,925	