



Whatcom County

COUNTY COURTHOUSE
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Agenda Bill Master Report

File Number: AB2019-548

File ID:	AB2019-548	Version:	1	Status:	Approved
File Created:	10/21/2019	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:	11/06/2019
Agenda Date:	11/06/2019	Enactment #:	RES 2019-053		

Primary Contact Email: Tawni Helms, Administrative Coordinator X5328

TITLE FOR AGENDA ITEM:

Resolution approving the 2020 recommended Convention Center Fund allocations

SUMMARY STATEMENT OR LEGAL NOTICE LANGUAGE:

See attached

HISTORY OF LEGISLATIVE FILE

Date:	Acting Body:	Action:	Sent To:
11/06/2019	Council Finance and Administrative Services Committee	RECOMMENDED FOR APPROVAL	
	Aye: 3	Byrd, Frazey, and Sidhu	
	Nay: 0		
	Absent: 0		
11/06/2019	Council	APPROVED	
	Aye: 7	Brenner, Browne, Buchanan, Byrd, Donovan, Frazey, and Sidhu	
	Nay: 0		
	Absent: 0		

RESOLUTION NO. 2019-053

**APPROVING THE 2020 RECOMMENDED CONVENTION CENTER
ALLOCATIONS FOR TOURISM-RELATED FACILITIES AND ACTIVITIES
AS DEFINED THROUGH RCW 67.28.1816**

WHEREAS on October 1, 2019, the Whatcom County Lodging Tax Advisory Committee (LTAC) held a public meeting to review 2020 funding applications for use of Convention Center Funds; and

WHEREAS, of the twenty-five applications submitted, the LTAC recommends funding for twenty-one eligible applicants in the amount of \$680,250 and further detailed in attachment A; and

WHEREAS, the LTAC further recommends a 5% contingency in the amount of \$34,013 to be used in the event eligible applicants seek funding for tourism programs later in the year; and

WHEREAS, the 2020 funding recommendations totaling \$714,263 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 Wayfinding project developed and sponsored by Bellingham Whatcom Tourism; and

WHEREAS, the 2020 Convention Center Fund revenue is projected at \$787,146 and the 2020 fund balance is projected to be \$1,143,877; and

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Whatcom County Council hereby authorizes the County Administration to allocate \$1,280,038 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 6th day of November, 2019.

ATTEST

[Signature]
Dana Brown-Davis, Council Clerk

WHATCOM COUNTY COUNCIL
WHATCOM COUNTY, WASHINGTON

[Signature]
Rud Browne, Council Chair
TODD DORTCH AS VICE CHAIR

APPROVED as to form:

[Signature]
Civil Deputy Prosecutor

Attachment
"A"

CONVENTION CENTER - HOTEL/MOTEL TAX FUNDS - 2020

Tab	Requesting Agency	2019 Funded	2020 Requested	2019 Committee Recommended	Notes
	Chamber VIC or Tourism Bureau				
2	Bellingham Regional Chamber of Commerce	\$25,000	\$25,000	\$25,000	
3	Bellingham/Whatcom County Tourism	\$290,000	\$290,000	\$290,000	
4	Blaine Chamber of Commerce	New	\$35,000	\$0	2 apps: \$20 for Events Coord/\$15k for Holiday Harbor Lights
5	Birch Bay Chamber of Commerce - VIC	\$100,000	\$120,000	\$100,000	2 apps: \$100,000 Chamber Ops & \$20,000 - (4) wknd events
6	Ferndale Chamber of Commerce	\$12,000	\$12,000	\$12,000	
7	Mt. Baker Foothills Chamber/Visitor Center	\$100,000	\$100,000	\$100,000	
8	Pt.Robert's Chamber of Commerce Visitor's Bureau	\$17,650	\$30,000	\$0	
	Chambers & Tourism SUBTOTAL	\$544,650	\$612,000	\$527,000	
	Event Or Festival				
9	Allied Arts	\$2,500	\$4,500	\$2,250	
10	Bellingham Festival of Music	\$10,000	\$12,000	\$9,000	
11	Bellingham NW Wine Festival	\$2,500	\$5,000	\$2,250	
12	Bellingham SeaFeast	\$10,000	\$25,000	\$9,000	
13	Bellingham Symphony Orchestra	\$10,000	\$7,500	\$7,500	
14	Cascadia International Woman's Film Festival	\$7,500	\$15,000	\$6,750	
	Friends of Birch Bay State Park	\$1,000	\$0		2019 funding awarded but they rescinded. No 2020 app.
15	Lynden Pioneer Museum- Histories Mysteries	\$2,500	\$5,000	\$2,250	
16	Maple Falls Park Group - Bigfoot Art Festival	\$1,225	\$4,200	\$4,200	
	Mount Baker Bicycle Club - Chuckanut Classic	\$1,000	\$0		No 2020 application
17	North Cascades Bluegrass Fest	\$15,000	\$20,000	\$15,000	
18	Pickford Film Center - Doctober Film Festival	\$2,500	\$7,500	\$2,250	
19	Point Roberts Race Week	New	\$15,000	\$15,000	
20	Scottish Dance Society	\$5,000	\$10,500	\$4,500	
21	Sustainable Connections/Whatcom Food & Farms	\$34,800	\$34,800	\$34,800	
22	Sylvia Center for the Arts	New	\$20,000	\$0	
23	Whatcom Events - Ski to Sea/TourdeWhatcom/Mt Baker Hill	\$40,000	\$25,000	\$25,000	
24	Point Roberts Historical Society	New	\$24,120	\$4,500	
	Whatcom County Parks - Brochures	\$11,500	\$0		Every other year purchase of parks brochures/maps
	Whatcom County Glacier Restrooms cc: 14131	\$9,000	\$9,000	\$9,000	(Executive ongoing commitment in 2020 budget)
	Event and Festivals SUBTOTAL	\$166,025	\$244,120	\$153,250	
	TOTAL ANNUAL FUNDING REQUESTS	\$710,675	\$856,120	\$680,250	Allocations from Annual Revenue
	5% Contingency used for mid-year allocations	\$33,475	\$42,806	\$34,013	
	TOTAL ANNUAL FUNDING REQUESTS w/Contingency			\$714,263	
	Funding requests exceeded contingency	\$30,544			2019 Mid-Year allocations exceeded contingency amount
	Special Project Request				
	WC Portion of Multi-jurisdictional Wayfinding Project		\$565,775	\$565,775	Reserve \$1,689,915 - \$565,775=\$1,124,140(inc. \$20kWSOT)
	PROPOSED EXPENDITURE BUDGET	\$774,694	\$1,464,701	\$1,280,038	Annual Lodging Tax Funding Allocation