

Whatcom County Council

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



Meeting Agenda

**Tuesday, May 27, 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); AGENDA REVISED 5.22.2025; AGENDA REVISED 5.27.2025

COUNCILMEMBERS

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

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. [MIN2025-031](#) Committee of the Whole for May 13, 2025
2. [MIN2025-032](#) Regular County Council for May 13, 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. [AB2025-359](#) Request authorization for the County Executive to enter into a contract amendment between Whatcom County and DentALL, PLLC to add extra hours for Jail Dental Services in the amount of \$69,000 for a total contract amount of \$320,600
2. [AB2025-374](#) Request authorization for the County Executive to enter into a contract amendment between Whatcom County and Glyph Language Services, Inc. to provide language interpretation and translation services for various public health programs in the amount of \$48,329 for a total amended contract amount of \$141,329
3. [AB2025-375](#) Request authorization for the County Executive to enter into a contract between Whatcom County and The Arc of Whatcom County to provide developmental disabilities information, education, and family support, in the amount of \$203,882

4. [AB2025-385](#) Request authorization for the County Executive to enter into a contract between Whatcom County and Opportunity Council to provide behavioral health outreach services, in the amount of \$117,849
5. [AB2025-388](#) Request authorization for the County Executive to enter into a grant amendment between Whatcom County and the State of Washington Department of Ecology to receive funding for WRIA 1 collaborative water supply planning, in the amount of \$214,400, for a total amended amount of \$700,000
6. [AB2025-389](#) Request authorization for the County Executive to enter into an interlocal agreement amendment between Whatcom County and Washington State Military to rearrange the amounts in the budget categories
7. [AB2025-390](#) Request authorization for the County Executive to enter into a contract amendment between Whatcom County and FSi Engineers to provide design and engineering services for the Parks Headquarters HVAC and tenant improvements in the amount of \$35,442 for a total amended contract amount of \$237,050
8. [AB2025-391](#) Request authorization for the County Executive to enter into a contract amendment between Whatcom County and Tiger Construction, Ltd. to complete final mechanical, filtration and ventilation improvements for the Plantation Rifle Range HVAC project in the amount of \$226,476.64 for a total amended contract amount of \$1,393,961.06
9. [AB2025-393](#) Request authorization for the County Executive to award Bid #25-20 and enter into a contract between Whatcom County and Summit Construction Group, Inc. for HVAC replacement and tenant improvements at the Parks Headquarters, in the amount of \$856,256
10. [AB2025-394](#) Request authorization for the County Executive to enter into a contract between Whatcom County and Washington State Department of Transportation (WSDOT) to provide materials fabrication, testing and inspection; asphalt mix design and verification; preparation of "Record of Materials" documents; test drilling; and other engineering/geologic/testing services, in the amount of \$100,000

OTHER ITEMS

(From Council Finance and Administrative Services Committee)

1. [AB2025-355](#) Ordinance authorizing interfund loans to finance cash flow for county road fund up to \$4 million for a term not to exceed two years
2. [AB2025-337](#) Ordinance amending the 2025 Whatcom County Budget, request no. 5, in the amount of \$1,053,510

(From Council Committee of the Whole)

3. [AB2025-221](#) Discussion and motion relating to draft Countywide Planning Policy amendments
4. [AB2025-264](#) Ordinance to amend Whatcom County Code Section 3.08.100, Council approval required, to increase the threshold for contracts that require council approval

ITEMS ADDED BY REVISION

1. [AB2025-400](#) Request for approval of a letter of support for the Deming Log Show's application to the T-Mobile Hometown Grant Program

ITEM ADDED 5.22.2025

INTRODUCTION ITEMS

Council action will not be taken. The council may accept these items for introduction (no action) in a single motion. Changes, in terms of committee assignment for example, may be made at this time.

1. [AB2025-357](#) Receipt of Charter Review Commission resolution approved April 24, 2025
2. [AB2025-372](#) Receipt of application to the Solid Waste Advisory Committee, position for a citizen representative with no financial ties to other included sectors, Applicant(s): Andrew Paterson
3. [AB2025-378](#) Resolution approving the sale of easements on Whatcom County property located at 3645 East McLeod Road to Verizon Wireless

ITEM TITLE REVISED 5.27.2025

4. [AB2025-379](#) Resolution amending the 2025 Flood Control Zone District and Subzones Budget, request no. 2, in the amount of \$445,550 (Council acting as the Whatcom County Flood Control Zone District Board of Supervisors)
5. [AB2025-381](#) Ordinance amending Whatcom County Code Chapter 20.82, Public Utilities, to increase allowable power line voltage to 230 kilovolts in zones currently limited to 115 kilovolts

COMMITTEE REPORTS, OTHER ITEMS, AND COUNCILMEMBER UPDATES**ADJOURN**