



Whatcom County

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

Agenda Bill Master Report

File Number: AB2025-211

File ID:	AB2025-211	Version:	1	Status:	Adopted
File Created:	02/28/2025	Entered by:	MMiterko@co.whatcom.wa.us		
Department:	Finance Division	File Type:	Ordinance		
Assigned to:	Council Finance and Administrative Services Committee			Final Action:	03/25/2025
Agenda Date:	03/25/2025	Enactment #:	ORD 2025-015		
Related Files:					

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

TITLE FOR AGENDA ITEM:

Ordinance establishing a project-based budget for the East Whatcom Regional Resource Center Sports Court

SUMMARY STATEMENT OR LEGAL NOTICE LANGUAGE:

Establishing the East Whatcom Regional Resource Center Sports Court to facilitate development of a multi-use sports court-a long standing community-identified need in an underserved area in rural, eastern Whatcom County. The East Whatcom Regional Resource Center Sports Court seeks an initial budget of \$1,219,000 as described in Exhibit A. Please see attached.

HISTORY OF LEGISLATIVE FILE

Date:	Acting Body:	Action:	Sent To:
03/11/2025	Council	INTRODUCED	Council Finance and Administrative Services Committee
		Aye: 7 Buchanan, Byrd, Donovan, Elenbaas, Galloway, Scanlon, and Stremmer	
		Nay: 0	
03/25/2025	Council Finance and Administrative Services Committee	RECOMMENDED FOR ADOPTION	
		Aye: 3 Byrd, Donovan, and Buchanan	
		Nay: 0	
03/25/2025	Council	ADOPTED	
		Aye: 7 Buchanan, Byrd, Donovan, Elenbaas, Galloway, Scanlon, and Stremmer	

Nay: 0

Attachments: Proposed Ordinance, Notice of Action Proposed on 3.11.2025

ORDINANCE NO. 2025-015

**ORDINANCE ESTABLISHING A PROJECT BASED BUDGET FOR THE EAST WHATCOM
REGIONAL RESOURCE CENTER SPORTS COURT PROJECT FUND**

WHEREAS, the County has identified a longstanding need for organized athletic facilities in the areas of Kendall and Peaceful Valley and no similar facility exists to serve these areas; and,

WHEREAS, the East Whatcom Regional Resource Center (EWRRC) has been identified as an ideal host for the construction of sports courts due to its location and proximity to the community in need; and,

WHEREAS, costs would include the construction of a multi-use sports court for basketball, pickleball, volleyball, and other athletic activities, including lighting and covers to extend usage into the fall and winter months, as well as pathways connecting the courts to surrounding communities; and,

WHEREAS, the County has been awarded the Community Outdoor Athletic Facility (COAF) Grant from the State of Washington's Recreation and Conservation Office (RCO), to reimburse expenses up to \$1,199,500 upon completion of the project; and,

WHEREAS, the project may be initially funded by a loan from the Public Utilities Improvement Fund for \$1,199,500, which are to be repaid from COAF grant funds; and,

WHEREAS, the project will be initially funded by a transfer from the Public Utilities Improvement Fund for \$19,500; and,

WHEREAS, Section 6.80 of the Whatcom County Home Rule Charter allows for project-based capital budget appropriation ordinances that lapse when the project has been completed or abandoned or when no expenditure or encumbrance has been made for three (3) years.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT ORDAINED by the Whatcom County Council that a new fund is hereby established effective immediately, titled East Whatcom Regional Resource Center Sports Court Project Fund. This fund shall be used to account for the revenues and expenditures of the improvements described above.

PROPOSED BY: Executive
INTRODUCTION DATE: 03/11/25

BE IT FURTHER ORDAINED by the Whatcom County Council that East Whatcom Regional Resource Center Sports Court Project Fund is approved with an initial project budget of \$1,219,000 as described in Exhibit A.

ADOPTED this 25th day of March, 2025.

ATTEST:


Cathy Halka, Council Clerk

WHATCOM COUNTY COUNCIL
WHATCOM COUNTY, WASHINGTON


Kaylee Galloway, Chair of the Council

APPROVED AS TO FORM:

Approved by email/G Roche/A Tan
Civil Deputy Prosecutor

☒ Approved () Denied


Satpal Sidhu, County Executive

Date: 3/31/25

Exhibit A

Supplemental Budget Request

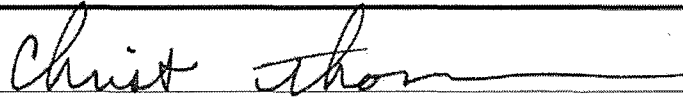
Status: Pending

Parks & Recreation

Suppl ID # 4898 Fund Cost Center Originator: David Bramer

Expenditure Type: One-Time Year 1 2025 Add'l FTE ☐ Add'l Space ☐ Priority 1

Name of Request: EWRRC Covered Sports Court - Companion to 4911

X  2/28/2025
Department Head Signature (Required on Hard Copy Submission) Date

Costs:	Object	Object Description	Amount Requested
	4334.0271	RC-farmland preservation	(\$1,199,500)
	6190	Direct billing rate	\$19,500
	6630	Professional services	\$195,500
	6810	Advertising	\$2,000
	7380	Other improvements	\$1,002,000
	8397.C.32422400	Transfers in	(\$19,500)
	Request Total		\$0

1a. Description of request:

This project will develop a multi-use sports court for basketball, pickleball, volleyball, and other athletic activities for all ages at the East Whatcom Regional Resource Center (EWRRC) located near Kendall. Whatcom County Parks & Recreation is the recipient of the State of Washington's Recreation and Conservation Office's (RCO) Community Outdoor Athletic Facility (COAF) Grant which will reimburse the County for expenses incurred for the development of this project. Funds for this project are a part of the current Seven-Year Capital Improvement Plan (ORD2024-058). This request also provides anticipated direct billing costs for Parks staff to administer the project and must be charged directly to the project.

1b. Primary customers:

Primary users (customers) for this sport court will be residents of Kendall and in the Peaceful Valley area. The facility will be open to the public, so the user base will extend beyond these populations. The facility will also contain a regulation sized high school basketball court. It is foreseeable that the Mount Baker School District could utilize the court for practices or games, as well.

2. Problem to be solved:

For the Peaceful Valley and Kendall Area, a sport court facility has been identified as a long-standing, community-identified need in this underserved area in rural, eastern Whatcom County. There are no other sports courts or other organized athletic facilities that exist in the immediate vicinity. There is a severe lack of spaces for safe gathering of youth and adults alike in this region, with almost no infrastructure to support opportunities to bring community members together for sport and physical activity. There is an open play field located at Kendall Elementary, even so, there are no sidewalks or trails connecting this facility to the larger neighborhood to the north. The proposed EWRRC facility will be open and available year-round, with associated overhead athletic and pathway egress and security lighting to extend the hours of use the fall and winter months. When not scheduled for organized athletic leagues, the facility will be free and open to all. The two classrooms of the Head Start preschool program at the EWRRC will have use of the facility on a daily basis during the school year, with afterschool timeslots reserved for organized athletic activities as the priority.

3a. Options / Advantages:

The sport court has been a part of the plans to add to the EWRRC site since its inception. The public has repeatedly shown the need for adding this to the site. The other option would be to not build this site, which only ignores the longstanding need for more areas for structured sports practice and pick up game

Friday, February 28, 2025

Rpt: Rpt Suppl Regular

Supplemental Budget Request

Status: Pending

Parks & Recreation

Suppl ID #	Fund	Cost Center	Originator:
4898			David Bramer

capacity in the Kendall area.

3b. Cost savings:

The specific cost saving measure is the County will be reimbursed for \$1,199,500 from RCO for developing this project.

4a. Outcomes:

Construction of the sport court is anticipated to begin in late 2025, and be open for public use in the spring of 2026.

4b. Measures:

The sports court will be built and the County will have been reimbursed for its expenses from the RCO Grant COAF Program.

5a. Other Departments/Agencies:

Whatcom County Planning and Development Services (PDS) is responsible for issuing permits for the project.

5b. Name the person in charge of implementation and what they are responsible for:

David Bramer and Rod Lamb with the Parks Department will coordinate implementation with PDS.

6. Funding Source:

Funds from the EDI Fund will pay for the project improvements and Staff direct billing time to manage the project. The RCO's COAF grant funds will reimburse the County's EDI Fund for expense incurred for professional services, development, and construction costs associated with the project. The total project expense to the EDI Fund after reimbursement will be \$19,500.