

ORDINANCE NO. \_\_\_\_\_

**ORDINANCE TEMPORARILY AMENDING THE FUNDING LIMIT OF CASH FLOW  
LOANS FROM THE ROAD FUND TO NORTH LAKE SAMISH BRIDGE NO. 107  
REPLACEMENT FUND-3905**

**WHEREAS**, Ordinance 2013-022 was passed in order to provide inter-fund loans up to \$1,000,000 to Capital Project Funds from the Road Fund; and

**WHEREAS**, Ordinance 2024-022 was passed in order to increase the limit from \$1,000,000 to \$2,000,000 per Capital Project Fund; and

**WHEREAS**, on January 20, 2025, the Federal Government issued an Executive Order titled "Regulatory Freeze Pending Review" which implemented a 60-day pause on federal funding and financial assistance; and

**WHEREAS**, on January 21, 2025, the Office of Management and Budget issued memorandum "M-25-11" which clarifies that there will be an immediate pause on disbursement of funds appropriated under the Inflation Reduction Act of 2022 (Public Law 117-169) or the Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act (Public Law 117-58); and

**WHEREAS**, the North Lake Samish Bridge No. 107 Replacement Fund-3905 has received \$10,972,210 of federal funding through the Department of Transportation's Highway Planning and Construction grant (grant #LA-10509/BRS-37VV(001)); and

**WHEREAS**, the County has demolished and removed the old bridge and is in the process of constructing the new bridge, which is set to be completed in August of 2025; and

**WHEREAS**, the County has \$1,400,273.27 of outstanding grant invoices due from the Department of Transportation and \$3,505,989.05 in unexpended grant balance; and

1       **WHEREAS,** the Road Fund has already contributed a \$1,500,000 cash flow loan to  
2 allow for project continuation while grant invoices are processed by the Department  
3 of Transportation; and  
4  
5

6  
7       **WHEREAS,** the construction of the North Lake Samish Bridge No. 107 replacement  
8 cannot be delayed and must be completed by August of 2025; and  
9

10  
11  
12       **WHEREAS,** the County has determined it is vital to ensure there is adequate cash  
13 flow to complete the project and pay all contractors on a timely basis, regardless of  
14 the status of grant reimbursements from the Federal Government; and  
15

16  
17  
18       **WHEREAS,** project-committed grant funds in the amount of \$4,906,262.32 are  
19 currently at risk of not being distributed to the County as a result of federal  
20 executive funding directives; and  
21

22  
23  
24       **WHEREAS,** failure to sufficiently fund the project and complete bridge construction  
25 in a timely fashion will result in significant cost increases and other damage to  
26 Whatcom County tax payers; and  
27

28  
29  
30       **WHEREAS,** it is necessary to provide for alternative and supplementay means of  
31 funding the North Lake Samish Bridge No. 107 Replacement Fund-3905 in order to  
32 ensure project completion, which is in the public interest; and  
33

34  
35  
36       **WHEREAS,** the County has determined that increasing the current Road Fund loan  
37 limit from \$2,000,000 to \$6,656,262.32 is the most efficient and cost effective  
38 means to ensure sufficient cash flow to the North Lake Samish Bridge No. 107  
39 Replacement Fund-3905 and completion of the project; and  
40  
41  
42  
43  
44  
45  
46  
47  
48  
49  
50  
51  
52  
53  
54

1       **NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT ORDAINED** by the Whatcom County Council that the  
2       Whatcom County Treasurer is hereby authorized to make inter-fund loans from the  
3       County Road Fund to the North Lake Samish Bridge No. 107 Replacement Fund-3905  
4       for cash flow purposes. The authorized loans shall not exceed a total of  
5       \$6,656,262.32 and shall not be for a term exceeding two years. No interest shall be  
6       charged on the loans.  
7  
8  
9

10  
11       **ADOPTED** this \_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_, 2025.  
12

13  
14       ATTEST:  
15

WHATCOM COUNTY COUNCIL  
WHATCOM COUNTY, WASHINGTON

16  
17       \_\_\_\_\_  
18       Cathy Halka, Clerk of the Council  
19

\_\_\_\_\_  
Kaylee Galloway, Council Chair

20  
21       APPROVED AS TO FORM:  
22

WHATCOM COUNTY COUNCIL  
WHATCOM COUNTY, WASHINGTON

23       approved via email by Christopher Quinn/LB  
24       Christopher Quinn,  
25       Chief Civil Deputy Prosecuting Attorney  
26

\_\_\_\_\_  
Satpal Sidhu, County Executive

(    ) Approved       (    ) Denied

27  
28       Date Signed: \_\_\_\_\_