

Whatcom County Council Finance and Administrative Services Committee

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



Meeting Agenda

Tuesday, June 23, 2026

9:50 AM

Hybrid Meeting - Council Chambers

HYBRID MEETING - ADJOURNS BY 11:40 A.M.(PARTICIPATE IN-PERSON, SEE REMOTE JOIN INSTRUCTIONS AT www.whatcomcounty.us/joinvirtualcouncil, OR CALL 360.778.5010); AGENDA REVISION 6.22.2026

COUNCILMEMBERS

Elizabeth Boyle
Barry Buchanan
Ben Elenbaas
Kaylee Galloway
Jessica Rienstra
Jon Scanlon
Mark Stremler

CLERK OF THE COUNCIL

Cathy Halka, AICP, CMC

Call To Order

Roll Call

Announcements

If you require special assistance to participate, please contact the Council Office at 360-778-5010 at least 96 hours in advance. Assistive listening devices are available in Council Chambers, and live captions are available through Zoom for those participating remotely. This committee meeting is also noticed as a meeting of the Whatcom County Council, with the agenda limited to committee business.

Council "Consent Agenda" Items

1. [AB2026-345](#) Request authorization for the County Executive to enter into an interlocal agreement between Whatcom County and the Washington State Department of Transportation for a radio tower lease, in the amount of \$0
2. [AB2026-449](#) Request authorization for the County Executive to enter into a interlocal agreement amendment between Whatcom County and the Port of Bellingham to lower the loan principal amount to \$844,961.62, which reflects the actual amount dispersed and results in a total contract amount of \$2,899,813
3. [AB2026-462](#) Request authorization for the County Executive to enter into an interlocal agreement between Whatcom County and the Washington State Criminal Justice Training Commission for a wellness grant, in the amount of \$41,200
4. [AB2026-464](#) Request authorization for the County Executive to enter into an interlocal agreement amendment between Whatcom County and Washington State Department of Transportation for the renewal of youth zero fare policy, in the amount of \$260,250 for a total of \$363,000
5. [AB2026-466](#) Request authorization for the County Executive to enter into an interlocal agreement between Whatcom County and the Washington State Department of Transportation to move forward with the design phase of the Everson Goshen Road and East Smith Road Intersection Improvements project, in the amount of \$300,000
6. [AB2026-471](#) Request authorization for the County Executive to enter into a cooperative agreement between Whatcom County and the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers to repair the Bylsma Levee on the Nooksack River, in the amount of \$133,160 (Council acting as the Whatcom County Flood Control Zone District Board of Supervisors)
7. [AB2026-474](#) Request authorization for the County Executive to enter into a cooperative agreement between Whatcom County and the US Army Corps of Engineers (USACE) to repair the Ritter Road levee along the left bank of the Nooksack River, in the amount of \$116,100 (Council acting as the Whatcom County Flood Control Zone District Board of Supervisors)

8. [AB2026-477](#) Request authorization for the County Executive to enter into a contract amendment between Whatcom County and Opportunity Council to provide basic needs items to families with children ages 0-5 who qualify, in the amount of \$40,131 for a total amended contract amount of \$151,192
9. [AB2026-481](#) Request authorization for the County Executive to enter into a contract between Whatcom County and Pioneer Human Services to deliver substance use disorder assessments and provide post-assessment treatment coordination as a component of re-entry for individuals released from jail, in the amount of \$101,896
10. [AB2026-482](#) Request authorization for the County Executive to enter into an interlocal agreement amendment between Whatcom County and Washington State Health Care Authority to decrease funding, due to state budget reductions, for the Alternative Response Team (ART) program grant, in the amount of \$176,000, for a total amended agreement amount of \$4,385,000
11. [AB2026-483](#) Request authorization for the County Executive to enter into a contract between Whatcom County and Washington Initiative for Supported Employment (WISE) to provide training and consultation to the County and local agencies related to improving employment outcomes and the inclusion of people with developmental disabilities in their communities, in the amount of \$59,500
12. [AB2026-484](#) Request authorization for the County Executive to enter into a Collective Bargaining Agreement between Whatcom County and the union representing Lummi Island ferry operations workers in the Public Works Department covering 2026 to 2028
13. [AB2026-485](#) Request authorization for the County Executive to enter into an interlocal agreement between Whatcom County and Washington State Department of Social and Health Services (DSHS) for funding for employment and community inclusion services for adults with developmental disabilities, child development services for children ages birth to three years, and community information and training, in the amount of \$6,194,426

Special Presentation

1. [AB2026-444](#) Presentation from the Port of Bellingham on economic development activities in Whatcom County
 2. [AB2026-469](#) Report from the Superior Court Clerk's Office
 3. [AB2026-487](#) Presentation by the Finance Division and Executive's Office on the 2027-2028 biennium budget process
- ITEM REMOVED 6.22.2026**
4. [AB2026-495](#) Update from Director Melissa Keeley on the Human Resources division

Committee Discussion

1. [AB2026-459](#) Discussion of the procurement process for hearing examiner services
2. [AB2026-479](#) Discussion of a draft resolution requiring additional public notice of proposed Whatcom County Council action to increase taxes

Committee Discussion and Recommendation to Council

1. [AB2026-442](#) Ordinance amending the project budget for the 2015 Girard Street Building Improvement Fund, request no. 1
2. [AB2026-450](#) Ordinance amending the 2026 Whatcom County Budget, request no. 9, in the amount of \$7,941,775

Items Added by Revision

Other Business

Adjournment