

DRAFT MINUTES 9.12.2023

Galloway briefed the Councilmembers on the draft ordinance and its purpose.

Councilmembers discussed whether the sunset clause (September 2025) allows for enough time, how much the task force would cost the County, whether we have staff that are available to serve on a task force like this, whether this is something the existing Forestry Advisory Committee (FAC) could have taken on within their own structure, whether Whatcom County would be managing their own forests, whether the discussion should be brought back to this committee on the next meeting date, whether they should be focusing resources and energy on issues that seem more pressing for the county, and the importance of also looking at long-range issues.

Tyler Schroeder, Executive's Office, answered whether the Administration is OK with a timeline of discussing this further on September 26th and stated that would work.

Galloway asked that they keep this in mind as they have discussions about budget priorities later today.