

Whatcom County Council

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



Meeting Agenda

Tuesday, October 22, 2024

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)**

COUNCILMEMBERS

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

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 receive a join link. 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. [MIN2024-067](#) Joint Health Board and Public Health Advisory Board for October 1, 2024
2. [MIN2024-068](#) Committee of the Whole Executive Session for October 8, 2024
3. [MIN2024-070](#) Committee of the Whole for October 8, 2024
4. [MIN2024-071](#) Regular County Council for October 8, 2024

PUBLIC HEARINGS

Participants requesting to speak during public hearings 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.

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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1. [AB2024-644](#) Resolution approving the Whatcom County 2025 - 2030 Six-year Transportation Improvement Program
IF APPROVED, RESCIND RES. 2024-040 (AB2024-579)
2. [AB2024-639](#) Resolution approving the Whatcom County 2025 Annual Construction Program

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 MPP2024-00001 City of Bellingham Mitigation Bank, LSS2024-00001 R and R Acres Long Subdivision and Development Agreement, LSS2022-00001 Red Mountain Long Subdivision and Development Agreement, PUD2022-00001 Royal Emerald Motors Planned Unit Development, MPP2024-00002 ALA Energy, Ferndale Terminal Existing and Planned Improvements, and CUP2023-00003/DEV2024-00001 Ponderosa Estates Mobile Home Park.

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. [AB2024-636](#) Request authorization for the County Executive to enter into an interlocal agreement between Whatcom County and the Administrative Office of the Courts where the states will reimburse the County for eligible interpreter expenses up to \$90,326
2. [AB2024-665](#) Request authorization for the County Executive to enter into a lease agreement between Whatcom County and PeaceHealth to lease Suite 103 at the Way Station located at 1500 N State Street, in the amount of \$10
3. [AB2024-668](#) Request authorization for the County Executive to enter into an interlocal agreement between Whatcom County and Birch Bay Water and Sewer District for renewal of a 5-year interlocal agreement, in the amount of \$0 (Council acting as the Whatcom County Flood Control Zone District Board of Supervisors)
4. [AB2024-674](#) Request authorization for the County Executive to enter into an interlocal agreement between Whatcom County and Marysville Fire District to reimburse the EMS Levy for the paramedic training program, in the amount of \$66,750
5. [AB2024-675](#) Request authorization for the County Executive to enter into an interlocal agreement between Whatcom County and Camano Fire and Rescue to reimburse the EMS Levy for the paramedic training program, in the amount of \$29,356
6. [AB2024-677](#) Request authorization for the County Executive to enter into an interlocal agreement between Whatcom County and the Administrative Office of the Courts for Pretrial Services Reform, in the amount of \$99,500
7. [AB2024-678](#) Request authorization for the County Executive to enter into an interlocal agreement between Whatcom County and Whatcom County Fire Protection District 7 for the paramedic training costs associated with program administration, student wages and benefits, preceptor training, and class supplies, in the amount of \$167,225
8. [AB2024-679](#) Request authorization for the County Executive to enter into an interlocal agreement between Whatcom County and the City of Bellingham Fire Department for costs associated with the 2024-2026 Paramedic Training Program, in the amount of \$1,144,274
9. [AB2024-681](#) Request authorization for the County Executive to enter into a contract between Whatcom County and Brigid Collins Family Support Center to expand mental health services to children ages 0-5, in the amount of \$452,907

10. [AB2024-683](#) Request authorization for the County Executive to enter into an interlocal agreement between Whatcom County and Ferndale School District to expand mental health services to children ages 3 - 5, in the amount of \$271,817
11. [AB2024-684](#) Request authorization for the County Executive to enter into a contract between Whatcom County and Generations Early Learning to expand licensed infant childcare capacity, in the amount of \$67,000
12. [AB2024-685](#) Request authorization for the County Executive to enter into a lease agreement between Whatcom County and Bellingham Towers LLC to lease Suite 110 at Bellingham Towers located at 119 N Commercial Street, in the amount of \$10
13. [AB2024-686](#) Request authorization for the County Executive to enter into a contract between Whatcom County and Ferndale Community Services to operate an overnight severe weather shelter, in the amount of \$120,000
14. [AB2024-687](#) Request authorization for the County Executive to enter into an interlocal joint funding agreement between Whatcom County and United States Geological Survey (USGS) for the ongoing operation and maintenance of the County's 11 stream gages within the Nooksack River early flood warning system, Jones Creek, and the Sumas River, in the amount of \$167,292 (Council acting as the Whatcom County Flood Control Zone District Board of Supervisors)
15. [AB2024-688](#) Request authorization for the County Executive to enter into a contract between Whatcom County and Insight Public Sector, using the State of WA contract, to provide Neogov Insight recruitment software in the amount of \$50,204.89 through December 31, 2026
16. [AB2024-690](#) Request authorization for the County Executive to enter into a contract between Whatcom County and the Washington State Military Department to receive pass through funding from the Washington State Military Department for What-Comm equipment
17. [AB2024-701](#) Request authorization for the County Executive to enter into a lease agreement between Whatcom County and Best Chopsticks c/o of Yan Hua Chen Cheng for lease of space at 121 Unity Street, Bellingham, in the amount of \$42,099.72

OTHER ITEMS

(From Council Finance and Administrative Services Committee)

1. [AB2024-642](#) Resolution amending the 2024 Flood Control Zone District and Subzones Budget, request no. 6, in the amount of \$11,350 (Council acting as the Whatcom County Flood Control Zone District Board of Supervisors)

2. [AB2024-654](#) Request authorization for the County Executive to enter into a contract between Whatcom County and Ferndale School District to purchase and install an ADA-compliant playground, in the amount of \$700,000
3. [AB2024-657](#) Ordinance amending the project budget for the Plantation Rifle Range Lead Reclamation & Captial Improvement Fund, request no. 2
4. [AB2024-658](#) Ordinance amending the project budget for the Hovander Park Building Improvements Fund, request no. 2
5. [AB2024-660](#) Ordinance amending the 2024 Whatcom County Budget, request no. 13, in the amount of \$2,122,735
6. [AB2024-704](#) Request authorization for the County Executive to enter into a contract amendment between Whatcom County and Pacifica Law Group, LLP for legal services for the Whatcom County Council for the appeals process regarding Initiative 2024-01 for an amended amount not to exceed \$100,000

(From Council Public Works and Health Committee)

7. [AB2024-656](#) Resolution approving the revised Samish Water District Comprehensive Sewer Plan
8. [AB2024-703](#) Letter of support for Washington State Parks' Recreation and Conservation Office grant application

(From Council Committee of the Whole)

9. [AB2024-571](#) Resolution affirming food security as a public health priority
10. [AB2024-662](#) Resolution revising the membership of the Northwest Clean Air Agency by adding San Juan County to the Agency

COUNCIL APPOINTMENTS TO BOARDS, COMMISSIONS, AND COMMITTEES

1. [AB2024-638](#) Appointment to a vacancy on the Forest Resilience Task Force, trust land beneficiary representative, Applicant(s): Tom Smith

ITEMS ADDED BY REVISION

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. [AB2024-680](#) Receipt of application to a vacancy on the Child and Family Well-Being Task Force, Applicant(s): Jessica Goette (deadline for additional applications to this position is 10:00 a.m. on Tuesday, October 29, 2024)

2. [AB2024-691](#) Ordinance amending Whatcom County Code Section 5.04.085 EMS technical advisory board
3. [AB2024-695](#) Ordinance adopting amendments to WCC Titles 20 and 22 to enact SSB 5290 regarding local project review

COMMITTEE REPORTS, OTHER ITEMS, AND COUNCILMEMBER UPDATES

ADJOURN