

	Previous draft (adopted by Committee in March)	Updated Drafted passed by committee (5/24)	Proposal for 6/27 meeting	Updated language passed by committee on 6/27	Proposal for 7/11 meeting	Updated language passed by committee 7/11
1.3.2	Adopt a fair scheduling ordinance (i.e., City of Seattle), designed by essential farm, food, and hospitality workers, to make schedules and breaks more consistent with routines that sustain healthy and safe lives for workers	Adopt a fair scheduling ordinance (i.e., City of Seattle) designed by essential farm, food, and hospitality workers, in consultation with employers , to make schedules and breaks more consistent with routines that sustain healthy and safe lives for workers				
2.1.5	Support land trusts and cooperative projects to develop permanently affordable housing communities adjacent to farmland that provide farmland access for the residents for commercial and non-commercial local food production. Partner with the Ag Program staff in PDS to achieve this.	Support land trusts and cooperative projects to develop permanently affordable housing communities adjacent to farmland that provide farmland access for the residents for commercial and non-commercial local food production. Partner with the Ag Program staff in PDS to achieve this.				
2.1.6	Work with land trusts to determine acreage goals and farmland preservation strategies; focus on community farms and forests that are locally owned and managed, are working lands, and benefit the public	Work with farmers and land trusts to determine acreage goals and farmland preservation strategies; focus on community farms and forests that are locally owned and managed, are working lands, and benefit the public			**this was split out into two actions	Work with farmers and land trusts to determine acreage goals and farmland preservation strategies
2.1.7						Fund cross-sector collaboration to employ a food system lens for preservation and conservation strategies that results in locally-owned farms, forests, and working lands that benefit the public
2.3.3	Collaborate with the county's water districts to implement a sustainable funding mechanism for current Whatcom Conservation District initiatives that support water efficiency (e.g., providing technical assistance to producers, offering rebates for water efficient irrigation equipment)	Collaborate with the county's water districts to implement a sustainable funding mechanisms for current Whatcom Conservation District initiatives that support water efficiency (e.g., providing technical assistance to producers, offering rebates for water efficient irrigation equipment)				
2.3.5	Support efforts to quantify and verify water rights and collaborative efforts to address water supply and salmon recovery	Support efforts to quantify and verify water rights and collaborative efforts to address water supply and salmon recovery				
2.3.6	Create a local water exchange system that coordinates the lease and sale of water rights as they are freed up; prioritize the water rights for local and organic food producers and keep the cost accessible	Removed			Re-add: Create a local water exchange system that coordinates the lease and sale of water rights as they are freed up; prioritize the water rights for local and organic food producers and keep the cost accessible	Support the creation of a local water exchange system that coordinates the lease and sale of water rights as they are freed up; ensuring equal access and affordable rates for diverse scales of locally-owned operations and producers
2.4.1	Incentivize participation in the Whatcom Farmers for Clean Water program managed by the Whatcom Conservation District	Removed				
2.4.2	Increase the number of acres enrolled in the Conservation Reserve Enhancement Program (CREP) to improve both water quality and fish habitat; encourage the Whatcom Conservation District to utilize available state and federal funds to supplement CREP		2.5.1 Increase the number of acres enrolled in the Conservation Reserve Enhancement Program (CREP) to engage more agricultural producers and landowners to plant native trees to enhance wildlife corridors, improve water quality, and protect fish-bearing streams and rivers with consideration of balancing CREP and enough working farmland; encourage the Whatcom Conservation District to utilize available state and federal funds to	none		
2.5.1	Increase the number of acres enrolled in the CREP to engage more agricultural producers and landowners to plant native trees to enhance wildlife corridors and protect fish-bearing streams and rivers			none		

2.4.3	Explore the development of a “working buffers” program: working buffers are an approach to riparian conservation that combines stream restoration with low-impact food production in a way that incentivizes sustainable stewardship of the buffer area by the landowner		Explore the development of a flexible and reasonable “working buffers” program: working buffers are an approach to riparian conservation that combines stream restoration with low-impact food production in a way that incentivizes sustainable stewardship of the buffer area by the landowner	Explore the development of a flexible and reasonable “working buffers” program: working buffers are an approach to riparian conservation that combines stream restoration with low-impact food production in a way that incentivizes sustainable stewardship of the buffer area by the landowner		
2.4.4	Ensure public landscape maintenance by the county adheres to best management practices—including integrated pest management, no-spray road maintenance, and the use of native plants—and does not negatively affect food production and water sources		Ensure public landscape maintenance by the county adheres to best management practices—including integrated pest management, no-spray road maintenance, and the use of native plants—and does not negatively affect food production and water sources. Evaluate and update as best management practices change.	Ensure public landscape maintenance by the county adheres to best management practices—including integrated pest management, no-spray road maintenance, and the use of native plants—and does not negatively affect food production and water sources. Evaluate and update as best management practices change.		
3.1.4	Collaborate with tribes to explore opportunities to increase our fisheries resource (i.e., salmon run size) in Whatcom County		Collaborate with tribes to explore opportunities to increase our fisheries resource (i.e., salmon run size, and wild and enhanced salmon) in Whatcom County	Collaborate with tribes to explore opportunities to increase our fisheries resource (i.e., salmon run size, and wild and enhanced salmon) in Whatcom County		
5.2.4	Develop food waste management programs, including potential programs that connect restaurants with farmers who would use food waste as livestock feed		remove, as this is not legal	removed: Develop food waste management programs, including potential programs that connect restaurants with farmers who would use food waste as livestock feed.		
5.3.1	Promote adoption of farm management practices that maximize soil carbon storage and increase water and nutrient availability		Build on the work many farmers are already doing to promote adoption of farm management practices that maximize soil carbon storage and increase water and nutrient availability	Build on the work many farmers are already doing to promote adoption of farm management practices that maximize soil carbon storage and increase water and nutrient availability		
5.3.5	Reduce the risk of devastating impacts of extreme weather and natural disasters by encouraging food producers to diversify their products		Reduce Consider the risk of devastating impacts of extreme weather and natural disasters and by-encouraging food producers to diversify their products when economically feasible.	Evaluate the risk of devastating impacts of extreme weather and natural disasters and encourage food producers to diversify their products when economically feasible.		
5.4.1	Develop local programming and technical assistance for farm workers and owners about heat stress and wildfire smoke and the impacts on farmworkers				Develop Consider local programming and technical assistance for farm workers and owners about heat stress and wildfire smoke and the impacts on farmworkers	Support local programming and technical assistance for food and farm workers and owners about the impacts of heat stress and wildfire smoke.
5.4.3	Support local, essential farm workers’ advocacy for improvements in protections from extreme weather conditions at the state and local levels. Potential improvements include: defining “extreme conditions”, “frequency of rest breaks”, and “pace of work”; providing access to drinking water during heat and smoke; providing access to shade and/or air conditioned spaces during extreme heat; increasing access to heated spaces during extreme cold; and ensuring no-penalty time off allowances for employees who wish to stay home during extreme weather				recommend strike	Ensure the health, safety, and well-being of Whatcom County’s essential food system workforce, and provide additional support and resources during extreme weather events, as well as the enforcement of local, state, and federal laws protecting workers.

It has never been more urgent for Whatcom County to strategically plan for its food system. The COVID-19 pandemic highlighted the vulnerabilities in our food supply chain and inequitable social systems both within our county and throughout the United States. Severe weather events driven by climate change like flooding, drought, and fires are impacting our ability to grow and harvest food. Farmworkers, farmers, and fishers are subjected to more unhealthy air and higher working temperatures. People in our community, including food system workers, are struggling to afford food. Food banks in Whatcom County saw a 17 percent increase in utilization in 2022. The number of farms in operation is remaining steady; however, only two percent of our farms are organic and most of the food we produce is sold outside of Whatcom County. We produce more waste in our food system than ever before. Organic waste is a significant contributor of greenhouse

7 (third paragraph gas emissions in our county.

in Whatcom county, 93% of farmers are white, while 5% are Asian, and 2.5% are
14 Hispanic or Latino

14

Well-stewarded farm and forestry land provides environmental benefits in addition to
18 food and fiber. These include aquifer recharge...

18 Just 2% of farms in Whatcom County are USDA certified organic.

Participants spoke of the need to support and grow existing natural resource
programs, to support farmers transitioning to organic and regenerative practices, to
19 protect water—both quantity and quality—and restore wildlife habitat.

Many food system activities contribute greenhouse gas emissions to the
atmosphere, which accelerate the warming of our climate. These activities include
emissions from fossil fuels used on-farm and in the transport of food, emissions
from ranching and animal agriculture, and the greenhouse gas emissions released

35 (first paragraph when wasted food decomposes.

Changed language (riley calls this flavor text)

It has never been more urgent for Whatcom County to strategically plan for its food system. ~~Growing economic pressures on traditional model for farming had already strained the viability of our local food system. These challenges were compounded by the~~ COVID-19 pandemic highlighted the vulnerabilities in our food supply chain and inequitable social systems. ~~both within our county and throughout the United States~~ Severe weather events driven by climate change like flooding, drought, and fires are impacting our ability to grow and harvest food. Farmworkers, farmers, and fishers are subjected to more unhealthy air and higher working temperatures. People in our community, including food system workers, are struggling to afford food. Food banks in Whatcom County saw a 17 percent increase in utilization in 2022. The number of farms in operation is remaining steady; ~~however their long-term economic viability remains in question. however, only two percent of our farms are organic and~~ Despite efforts to emphasize local consumption, most of the food we produce is sold outside of Whatcom County. We produce more waste in our food system than ever before. Organic waste is a significant contributor of greenhouse gas emissions in our county.

removed

Approximately 58.2% of WIC-eligible Whatcom County residents are not enrolled in WIC. Well-stewarded farm and forestry land provides environmental benefits in addition to food and fiber. These ~~benefits~~ include aquifer recharge... Two percent of farms in Whatcom County are USDA certified organic

Participants spoke of the need to support and grow existing natural resource programs, to support farmers transitioning to ~~organic and~~ regenerative practices, to protect water—both quantity and quality—and restore wildlife habitat.

~~Our food system is on the front lines in confronting the challenges of climate change. As one of the largest land uses in our county, agriculture can be a critical force for impacting our climate, for better or for worse.~~ Many food system activities contribute greenhouse gas emissions to the atmosphere, which accelerate the warming of our climate. These activities include emissions from fossil fuels used on-farm and in the transport of food, emissions from ranching and animal agriculture, and the greenhouse gas emissions released when wasted food decomposes. ~~However, there are also unique opportunities available as part of our food system to capture carbon and cool a warming planet.~~