

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

**ORDINANCE ESTABLISHING THE AMERICAN RESCUE PLAN ACT FUND AND  
ESTABLISHING A BUDGET FOR THE AMERICAN RESCUE PLAN ACT FUND**

**WHEREAS**, on March 11, 2021 President Biden signed the American Rescue Plan Act of 2021 (ARPA) into law, and

**WHEREAS**, ARPA is intended to combat the COVID-19 pandemic, including the public health and economic impacts, and

**WHEREAS**, ARPA contains \$362 billion for Coronavirus State and Local Fiscal Recovery Funds, and

**WHEREAS**, Whatcom County will directly receive \$44,528,542 in two 50% installments, available beginning May 2021 with the balance delivered approximately 12 months later, and

**WHEREAS**, this funding must be used by December 31, 2024 to support public health expenditures, address negative economic impacts caused by the public health emergency, replace lost public sector revenue, and invest in water, sewer, and broadband infrastructure, and

**WHEREAS**, the County intends to utilize these funds in 2021 to support the continued efforts of urgent COVID-19 Public Health response efforts, replace lost public sector revenue, and to rebuild and strengthen the County's vital public services by retaining, rehiring, and hiring for County jobs to sustain and improve the post-pandemic level of service provided to the constituents of Whatcom County, and

**WHEREAS**, the County also intends to work with the community to provide a long-term framework on how best to utilize this substantial infusion of resources to help turn the tide on the pandemic, provide economic stabilization and lay the foundation for a strong and equitable economy and public health system, and

**WHEREAS**, a new special revenue fund is necessary to properly account for this restricted revenue source,

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT ORDAINED** by the Whatcom County Council that a new fund is hereby established titled American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) Fund. This fund shall be used to account for the revenues and expenditures related to funding received in accordance with ARPA, and

**BE IT FURTHER ORDAINED** that the fund is approved with an initial budget of \$1,732,850 as presented in attached Exhibit A.

**ADOPTED** this \_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_, 2021.

ATTEST:

WHATCOM COUNTY COUNCIL  
WHATCOM COUNTY, WASHINGTON

\_\_\_\_\_  
Dana Brown-Davis, Council Clerk

\_\_\_\_\_  
Barry Buchanan, Chair of the Council

APPROVED AS TO FORM:

( ) Approved      ( ) Denied

Approved by email/C Quinn/M Caldwell  
Civil Deputy Prosecutor

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

Date: \_\_\_\_\_