

Whatcom County Council Public Works & Health Committee

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



Committee Minutes - Draft Minutes

Wednesday, August 6, 2025

11:15 AM

Hybrid Meeting - Council Chambers

**HYBRID MEETING - MAY BEGIN EARLY - ADJOURNS BY 11:35 A.M.
(PARTICIPATE IN-PERSON, SEE REMOTE JOIN INSTRUCTIONS AT
www.whatcomcounty.us/joinvirtualcouncil, OR CALL 360.778.5010)**

COUNCILMEMBERS

Ben Elenbaas
Jon Scanlon
Mark Stremmler

CLERK OF THE COUNCIL

Cathy Halka, AICP, CMC

Call To Order

Committee Chair Jon Scanlon called the meeting to order at 11:20 a.m. in a hybrid meeting.

Roll Call

Present: 3 - Jon Scanlon, Mark Strempler, and Ben Elenbaas

Also Present: Barry Buchanan and Kaylee Galloway

Announcements

Committee Discussion

1. [AB2025-553](#) Discussion regarding the Public Works Six-Year Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) for the years 2026-2031

Doug Ranney, Public Works Department, stated his purpose for being here is to give councilmembers some background on the process, to talk about the projects, and to get the TIP in front of the councilmembers early before it is introduced at the September 9th Council meeting. He stated the process also involves a public outreach component and he will ask for comments prior to the end of August. The six-year program and the Annual Construction Program are going to run concurrently so they will both be introduced at the September 9th Council meeting.

He summarized key projects and answered questions. He answered whether the Marine Drive II project (R15), which extends bicycle improvements from Alderwood all the way to the railroad bridge, connects with project M1, which is the Bicycle and Pedestrian Advisory Committee Marine Drive to Ferndale/Lummi Reservation Demonstration Project, and stated they are mixed and there are numerous projects in that area. He answered whether the Alderwood Elementary SRTS Improvements project (M3) is exactly what they approved recently (**AB2025-481** and **AB2025-482**) or whether it is the next phase for Safe Routes to School, and stated it is the next phase. He answered what is happening with a big Swift Creek project up above Goodwin Road, and stated that is a massive ongoing project that is going to require maintenance annually to clear out the sediment traps that are up there, and he spoke about other related projects. He answered whether they are seeing a trend that all the bridges in the county are coming to their end of life in light of bridge projects (on page 9 of the "Presentation" on file) being added to the list, and stated our bridges are aging and these projects were added because of things like that. He answered how they determine whether County staff tackles work needed on a bridge or they find an

outside source to do that, and stated they work closely with the County's maintenance crews and discuss their comfort level with repairs that are necessary.

Elenbaas stated he is glad to see the Drayton Harbor Road washout project (R1) in the works.

Scanlon stated it is also nice to see when projects are removed because they are done.

This agenda item was DISCUSSED.

Items Added by Revision

There were no agenda items added by revision.

Other Business

There was no other business.

Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 11:33 a.m.

ATTEST:

WHATCOM COUNTY COUNCIL
WHATCOM COUNTY, WA

Cathy Halka, Council Clerk

Jon Scanlon, Committee Chair

Meeting Minutes prepared by Kristi Felbinger