

From: Otto, Debbie <dotto@blainesd.org>

Sent: Thursday, May 28, 2026 9:13 AM

To: Satpal Sidhu <SSidhu@co.whatcom.wa.us>

Subject: On Behalf of Dan Chaplik, Blaine School District Resolution in Support of the Long Term Economic & Industrial Viability of Cherry Pt UGA

Dear Executive Sidhu and Members of the Whatcom County Council (bcc'd),

On behalf of the Blaine School District No. 503 Board of Directors and our school community, please find attached Resolution No. 2526-14, formally expressing our support for the long-term economic and industrial viability of the Cherry Point Urban Growth Area.

A strong local economy is essential to thriving schools. Family-wage jobs, economic stability, and a healthy tax base directly affect the students and families we serve. The Cherry Point UGA has long supported employment opportunities and regional economic strength in Whatcom County. Our Board believes thoughtful regional planning is vital. Preserving a stable, predictable environment for heavy industry—while balancing environmental stewardship and community needs—will help ensure long-term prosperity and opportunities for future generations to live, work, and raise families here.

Thank you for your leadership and careful consideration as you evaluate the future of Cherry Point. We appreciate the complexity of this work and value the cooperation among local jurisdictions to support a strong, sustainable future for our communities.

Sincerely,

Dan Chaplik
Superintendent
Blaine School District No. 503

(Attachment: Resolution No. 2526-14)

On behalf of Blaine School District Superintendent Dan Chaplik
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Blaine School District No. 503
Resolution No: 2526-14

A RESOLUTION OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF BLAINE SCHOOL DISTRICT NO. 503, A MUNICIPAL CORPORATION, IN SUPPORT OF THE LONGTERM ECONOMIC AND INDUSTRIAL VIABILITY OF THE CHERRY POINT URBAN GROWTH AREA.

WHEREAS, the Cherry Point Urban Growth Area ("Cherry Point UGA") has long been recognized as a regionally significant area for heavy industrial development and economic activity within Whatcom County; and

WHEREAS, industrial uses at Cherry Point provide substantial economic benefits to local communities through family-wage employment opportunities, tax revenue generation, and secondary economic impacts that support public services, schools, infrastructure, and local businesses; and

WHEREAS, the continued viability of heavy industry within the Cherry Point UGA contributes to economic stability and helps retain employment opportunities for current and future generations within Whatcom County; and

WHEREAS, the Board recognizes the importance of maintaining clear and consistent long-term land use policies that provide certainty for existing and future industrial investment in the Cherry Point UGA; and

WHEREAS, the Board shares concerns previously expressed by other local taxing jurisdictions regarding potential land use changes that could shift the focus of the Cherry Point UGA away from heavy industrial uses and toward uses that may conflict with or compete against adjacent city urban growth areas; and

WHEREAS, the Board supports thoughtful regional planning that balances environmental stewardship, economic opportunity, infrastructure capacity, and compatibility with surrounding communities; and

WHEREAS, the Board recognizes that preservation of industrial lands and living-wage employment opportunities is important to the long-term strength of the regional economy and the ability of local residents and students to build successful futures within Whatcom County;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Board of Directors of Blaine School District No. 503 supports maintaining the long-term industrial viability of the Cherry Point UGA and encourages Whatcom County and regional policymakers to preserve a stable planning environment that supports heavy industrial uses consistent with regional economic development goals; and