

Whatcom County Council Committee of the Whole

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



Action Summary

Wednesday, November 5, 2025

1 PM

Hybrid Meeting - Council Chambers

**HYBRID MEETING - ADJOURNS BY 4:30 P.M. (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 Stremmer

CLERK OF THE COUNCIL

Cathy Halka, AICP, CMC

Call To Order**Roll Call**

Present: 7 - Barry Buchanan, Tyler Byrd, Todd Donovan, Ben Elenbaas, Kaylee Galloway, Jon Scanlon, and Mark Stremmer

Announcements**Special Presentation**

1. [AB2025-778](#) Update from the Department of Health and Community Services on housing and homeless services programs

PRESENTED

Committee Discussion

1. [AB2025-754](#) Discussion of preliminary Planning Commission recommendations on Whatcom County Comprehensive Plan Chapter 12, Climate, associated with the 2025 Comprehensive Plan Update
2. [AB2025-513](#) Presentation by the Whatcom County Planning and Development Services Director and discussion relating to preliminary preferred alternatives for the Final Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) associated with the 2025 Comprehensive Plan Update

DISCUSSED
DISCUSSED AND MOTION(S) APPROVED

MOTION 1:

Motion approved to rescind the motion from the October 21, 2025 Committee of the Whole meeting, which was: A motion that Blaine's UGA proposals do not include expansions in Birch Point.

MOTION 2:

Motion approved to confirm council support for Blaine's UGA not including expansions in Birch Point (areas 3, 4, and 6 on the draft EIS maps) south of Lincoln Road.

MOTION 3:

Motion approved to rescind the motion from the October 21, 2025 Committee of the Whole meeting, which was: A motion to accept the Bellingham UGA proposal.

MOTION 4:

Motion approved to confirm council support for the Bellingham UGA proposal (as represented on the Map UGA-2 (page 9) of the Bellingham UGA Proposal (on file).

MOTION 5:

Motion approved to rescind the motion from the October 21, 2025 Committee of the Whole meeting, which was: A motion to retain Ferndale's 2016 map as proposed (Map UGA-4) on page four of the Ferndale UGA Proposal.

MOTION 6:

Motion approved to confirm council support for retaining Ferndale's 2016 map as proposed (Map UGA-4) on page four of the Ferndale UGA Proposal.

MOTION 7:

Motion approved to rescind the motion from 10/21 COTW, which was a Motion to accept Lynden's proposal as described on Map UGA-5.

MOTION 8:

Motion approved to confirm council support for Lynden's UGA proposal as described on Map UGA-5.

3. [AB2025-706](#) Discussion of a resolution amending Resolution 2025-027 to docket an additional Comprehensive Plan and zoning amendment related to Whatcom County Code 20.51 to strengthen protection of the Lake Whatcom Watershed

DISCUSSED

Committee Discussion About Levy and Budget Items

4. [AB2025-785](#) Discussion of a resolution authorizing the levy of taxes for the Whatcom County Flood Control Zone District for 2026 (Council acting as the Flood Control Zone District Board of Supervisors)

DISCUSSED

5. [AB2025-786](#) Discussion of an ordinance authorizing the levy of taxes for County Road purposes for 2026

DISCUSSED

6. [AB2025-789](#) Discussion of an ordinance authorizing the levy of taxes for County and State purposes in Whatcom County, Washington, for the year of 2026

DISCUSSED

7. [AB2025-707](#) Ordinance amending the 2026 Whatcom County Budget, request no. 1, in the amount of \$20,970,606

THIS ITEM WAS DISCUSSED IN MORE DETAIL BELOW

More Detailed Discussion on AB2025-707

7. [AB2025-707](#) Ordinance amending the 2026 Whatcom County Budget, request no. 1, in the amount of \$20,970,606

DISCUSSED

COMMITTEE DISCUSSION CONTINUED

8. [AB2025-656](#) Discussion with County Executive's Office and Columbia Policy Advisors on 2026 State Legislative Session

DISCUSSED

Items Added by Revision

Other Business

Adjournment