

RESOLUTION NO. _____

**REFLECTING THE DIVERSITY OF THE COUNTY'S POPULATION
BY IMPROVING WRITTEN ACCESSIBILITY OF PUBLIC SPACE SIGNAGE**

WHEREAS, the County Council approved a Resolution November 24th 2020
Affirming Racism is a Public Health Crisis; and

WHEREAS, the County has a responsibility to serve all county residents irrespective
of race, national origin, or disability; and

WHEREAS, the exception county has traditionally published most public signage, as
well as printed and online materials, are limited to the English language; and

WHEREAS, a lack of public signage and printed and online materials available in
other languages restricts equal access to public resources; and

WHEREAS, the use and accessibility of the original languages used in Whatcom
County by the original Native American inhabitants has been so severely impacted there is
an ever-present risk they could be permanently lost; and

WHEREAS, there are some low-cost methods to address many of these issues
immediately.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that Whatcom County government shall
wherever possible integrate "Google Translate" (which currently supports 108 languages) or
a similar product into County websites.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that Whatcom County government shall replace all
navigation and guidance signs on and in county buildings serving the public with
multilingual signs in the following written languages:

English
Spanish
Lummi
Brail

BE IT FINALLY RESOLVED, that Whatcom County government shall investigate
options to provide multi-language kiosks be place in the lobby of county buildings serving
the public which shall provide a much more comprehensive list of written languages, plus
audio access for those that lack sufficient literacy in any written language.

APPROVED this ____ day of _____, 2020.

ATTEST:

WHATCOM COUNTY COUNCIL
WHATCOM COUNTY, WASHINGTON

Dana Brown-Davis, Clerk of the Council

Barry Buchanan, Council Chair

APPROVED AS TO FORM:

Civil Deputy Prosecutor