

ORDINANCE NO. _____

**REPLACING WHATCOM COUNTY CODE SECTION 1.14, ELECTORAL PRECINCTS, FOR
CHANGES IN CERTAIN ESTABLISHED VOTING PRECINCT BOUNDARIES IN WHATCOM
COUNTY**

WHEREAS, Districts that were not on the ballot in 2022 were not required to complete their redistricting exercises until November 15, 2022; and

WHEREAS, redistricting was completed for Blaine School District 503, Ferndale School District 502, Meridian School District 505, Mt Baker School District 507, Nooksack Valley School District 506, South Whatcom Fire Authority, Lake Whatcom Water & Sewer, City of Bellingham and City of Blaine; and

WHEREAS, precinct splits and interior director districts have been incorporated into the precinct maps; and

WHEREAS, precincts located on the coast were revised to appropriately extend the precinct boundary into the water; and

WHEREAS, RCW 29A.16.040(2) limits precinct size to 1,500 registered voters; and

WHEREAS, precinct 306 is a new precinct in the City of Blaine; and

WHEREAS, the following precincts have external boundary changes: 102, 103, 105, 113, 114, 117, 118, 128, 131, 135, 146, 152, 155, 156, 157, 175, 176, 178, 201, 202, 301, 302, 303, 304, 305, 601; and

WHEREAS, the following precincts have internal splits added: 106, 109, 115, 126, 129, 131, 132, 136, 137, 139, 146, 147, 148, 151, 153, 156, 158, 161, 166, 169, 170, 171, 174, 175, 177, 178, 202, 237, 305, 401, 503, 507, 508, 509; and

WHEREAS, precinct splits were removed from the following precincts: 111, 112, 113, 114, 118, 164; and

WHEREAS, identifying information has been added to the bottom of all precinct maps; and

WHEREAS, RCW 29A.16.040 provides the county legislative authority shall divide the county into precincts and establish boundaries for the precincts; and this statute further provides that no precinct boundary changes may be made starting fourteen (14) days prior to the first day candidates may file for the primary election through the period ending with day of the general election; and

WHEREAS, RCW 29A.16.070 provides the County Auditor shall transfer and notify any registered voters that may be affected by the change in boundaries.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT ORDAINED by the Whatcom County Council that all previous ordinances establishing voting precinct boundaries for Whatcom County are hereby repealed.

BE IT FINALLY ORDAINED that Whatcom County Code Section 1.14 is hereby replaced in its entirety with newly established voting precinct boundaries and maps and substituted into the "Book of Election Precinct Maps"; said revised Book of Maps available through the Whatcom County Council Office and online through the Election page at the Whatcom County Auditor's Office homepage.

ADOPTED this ____ day of _____, 2023.

ATTEST:

**WHATCOM COUNTY COUNCIL
WHATCOM COUNTY, WASHINGTON**

Dana Brown-Davis, County Clerk

Barry Buchanan, Council Chair

APPROVED AS TO FORM:

() Approved () Denied

Royce Buckingham, Civil Deputy Prosecutor

Satpal Sidhu, County Executive

Date: _____