

Whatcom County Council Finance and Administrative Services Committee

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



Action Summary

Tuesday, March 24, 2026

9:25 AM

Hybrid Meeting - Council Chambers

**HYBRID MEETING - MAY BEGIN LATE - ADJOURNS BY 10:35 A.M.
(PARTICIPATE IN-PERSON, SEE REMOTE JOIN INSTRUCTIONS AT
www.whatcomcounty.us/joinvirtualcouncil, OR CALL 360.778.5010)**

COUNCILMEMBERS

Elizabeth Boyle
Barry Buchanan
Ben Elenbaas
Kaylee Galloway
Jessica Rienstra
Jon Scanlon
Mark Stremler

CLERK OF THE COUNCIL

Cathy Halka, AICP, CMC

Call To Order

Roll Call

Present: 7 - Elizabeth Boyle, Barry Buchanan, Ben Elenbaas, Kaylee Galloway, Jessica Rienstra, Jon Scanlon, and Mark Stremler

Announcements

Council "Consent Agenda" Items

1. [AB2026-214](#) Request authorization for the County Executive to enter into an amended interlocal between Whatcom County and Washington State Department of Transportation to increase the grant in the amount of \$34,250

RECOMMENDED FOR AUTHORIZATION BY CONSENT

Aye: 7 - Boyle, Buchanan, Elenbaas, Galloway, Rienstra, Scanlon, and Stremler

Nay: 0

2. [AB2026-220](#) Request authorization for the County Executive to enter into an interlocal agreement between Whatcom County and Puget Sound Partnership to provide grant funding for the development of a source control business inspection program that complies with the National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES), in the amount of \$100,817

THIS ITEM WAS CONSIDERED SEPARATELY BELOW.

3. [AB2026-222](#) Request authorization for the County Executive to enter into an interlocal agreement between Whatcom County and the City of Bellingham for the County to provide administrative oversight to the City concerning Domestic Violence Perpetrator Opportunity for Treatment Services (DVPOTS) for a total amount of \$150,000

RECOMMENDED FOR AUTHORIZATION BY CONSENT

Aye: 7 - Boyle, Buchanan, Elenbaas, Galloway, Rienstra, Scanlon, and Stremler

Nay: 0

4. [AB2026-225](#) Request authorization for the County Executive to enter into a contract amendment between Whatcom County and the Washington State Military Department to relocate an All Hazards Alert Broadcast siren in the amount of \$45,000 for a total amended contract amount of \$45,000

RECOMMENDED FOR AUTHORIZATION BY CONSENT

Aye: 7 - Boyle, Buchanan, Elenbaas, Galloway, Rienstra, Scanlon, and Stremler

Nay: 0

5. [AB2026-226](#) Request authorization for the County Executive to enter into a contract amendment between Whatcom County and Opportunity Council to purchase and distribute basic needs items to low-income families with children ages 0-5 in the amount of \$17,250 for a total amended contract amount of \$111,061

RECOMMENDED FOR AUTHORIZATION BY CONSENT

Aye: 7 - Boyle, Buchanan, Elenbaas, Galloway, Rienstra, Scanlon, and Stremler

Nay: 0

6. [AB2026-227](#) Request authorization for the County Executive to enter into a contract amendment between Whatcom County and Whatcom Center for Early Learning to expand mental health support services to low-income children in the amount of \$289,854 for a total amended contract amount of \$688,563

RECOMMENDED FOR AUTHORIZATION BY CONSENT

Aye: 7 - Boyle, Buchanan, Elenbaas, Galloway, Rienstra, Scanlon, and Stremler

Nay: 0

7. [AB2026-228](#) Request authorization for the County Executive to enter into a contract amendment between Whatcom County and Bellingham Food Bank to support operations for procuring/purchasing, warehousing and distributing food and other essentials to low and very low income families in the amount of \$500,000 for a total amended contract amount of \$1,945,000

RECOMMENDED FOR AUTHORIZATION BY CONSENT

Aye: 7 - Boyle, Buchanan, Elenbaas, Galloway, Rienstra, Scanlon, and Stremler

Nay: 0

8. [AB2026-229](#) Request authorization for the County Executive to enter into a contract amendment between Whatcom County and Opportunity Council to expand services to eligible families through a Case Manager Position in the Single Entry Access to Services Program in the amount of \$46,000 for a total amended contract amount of \$86,000

RECOMMENDED FOR AUTHORIZATION BY CONSENT

Aye: 7 - Boyle, Buchanan, Elenbaas, Galloway, Rienstra, Scanlon, and Stremler

Nay: 0

9. [AB2026-230](#) Request authorization for the County Executive to enter into an interlocal agreement between Whatcom County and the Washington State Department of Transportation to execute a Federal Aid Project Prospectus for the design phase of the Birch Bay-Lynden Road and Kickerville Road Intersection Improvements project in the amount of \$260,000

RECOMMENDED FOR AUTHORIZATION BY CONSENT

Aye: 7 - Boyle, Buchanan, Elenbaas, Galloway, Rienstra, Scanlon, and Stremler

Nay: 0

10. [AB2026-236](#) Request authorization for the County Executive to enter into a contract amendment between Whatcom County and Lutheran Community Services Northwest to lease a facility intended for use as a severe weather shelter in the amount of \$32,000 for a total amended contract amount of \$98,455

RECOMMENDED FOR AUTHORIZATION BY CONSENT

Aye: 7 - Boyle, Buchanan, Elenbaas, Galloway, Rienstra, Scanlon, and Stremler

Nay: 0

11. [AB2026-241](#) Request authorization for the County Executive to enter into an interlocal agreement between Whatcom County and Skagit County to Skagit County's servers, in the amount of \$5,000

RECOMMENDED FOR AUTHORIZATION BY CONSENT

Aye: 7 - Boyle, Buchanan, Elenbaas, Galloway, Rienstra, Scanlon, and Stremler

Nay: 0

Council "Consent Agenda" Items Considered Separately

2. [AB2026-220](#) Request authorization for the County Executive to enter into an interlocal agreement between Whatcom County and Puget Sound Partnership to provide grant funding for the development of a source control business inspection program that complies with the National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES), in the amount of \$100,817

RECOMMENDED FOR AUTHORIZATION

Aye: 5 - Boyle, Buchanan, Galloway, Rienstra, and Scanlon

Nay: 2 - Elenbaas, and Stremler

Committee Discussion

1. [AB2026-213](#) Ordinance authorizing a sales and use tax of one-tenth of one percent for criminal justice purposes as authorized by RCW 82.14.345 and adding a new Chapter 3.27 Sales and Use Tax for Criminal Justice Purposes to the Whatcom County Code

DISCUSSED

Committee Discussion and Recommendation to Council

1. [AB2026-114](#) Ordinance establishing the project budget for the Strawberry Point/Lake Whatcom Boulevard stormwater improvements, request no. 1

RECOMMENDED FOR ADOPTION

Aye: 7 - Boyle, Buchanan, Elenbaas, Galloway, Rienstra, Scanlon, and Stremler

Nay: 0

2. [AB2026-134](#) Ordinance amending the project budget for the Courthouse Building Envelope Fund, request no. 7

RECOMMENDED FOR ADOPTION

Aye: 7 - Boyle, Buchanan, Elenbaas, Galloway, Rienstra, Scanlon, and Stremler

Nay: 0

3. [AB2026-143](#) Ordinance establishing the Ferndale Senior Activity Center Improvements Fund and establishing an initial budget for the Ferndale Senior Activity Center Improvements Fund

RECOMMENDED FOR ADOPTION

Aye: 7 - Boyle, Buchanan, Elenbaas, Galloway, Rienstra, Scanlon, and Stremler

Nay: 0

4. [AB2026-181](#) Ordinance amending the project budget for the Eagleridge Stormwater Improvements Project Fund, request no. 1

RECOMMENDED FOR ADOPTION

Aye: 7 - Boyle, Buchanan, Elenbaas, Galloway, Rienstra, Scanlon, and Stremler

Nay: 0

5. [AB2026-183](#) Ordinance amending the project based budget for the Swift Creek Capital Projects Fund, request no. 3

SUBSTITUTE RECOMMENDED FOR ADOPTION

Aye: 7 - Boyle, Buchanan, Elenbaas, Galloway, Rienstra, Scanlon, and Stremler

Nay: 0

6. [AB2026-200](#) Ordinance closing the Bellingham Senior Center HVAC Replacement Fund

RECOMMENDED FOR ADOPTION

Aye: 7 - Boyle, Buchanan, Elenbaas, Galloway, Rienstra, Scanlon, and Stremler

Nay: 0

7. [AB2026-204](#) Ordinance amending the 2026 Whatcom County Budget, request no. 5, in the amount of \$741,113

RECOMMENDED FOR ADOPTION

Aye: 5 - Boyle, Buchanan, Galloway, Rienstra, and Scanlon

Nay: 2 - Elenbaas, and Stremler

8. [AB2026-206](#) Ordinance amending the 2026 Whatcom County Budget, request no. 6, in the amount of \$3,920,278

RECOMMENDED FOR ADOPTION

Aye: 7 - Boyle, Buchanan, Elenbaas, Galloway, Rienstra, Scanlon, and Stremler

Nay: 0

9. [AB2026-238](#) Resolution updating the appendix of the 2022 Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy (CEDS) project list

FORWARDED TO COUNCIL WITHOUT A RECOMMENDATION

Items Added by Revision

Other Business

Adjournment