



Whatcom County

COUNTY COURTHOUSE
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Agenda Bill Master Report

File Number: AB2021-281

File ID:	AB2021-281	Version:	1	Status:	Approved
File Created:	05/04/2021	Entered by:	CHalka@co.whatcom.wa.us		
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Assigned to:	Council			Final Action:	05/04/2021
Agenda Date:	05/04/2021			Enactment #:	RES 2021-018

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TITLE FOR AGENDA ITEM:

Resolution concluding the work of the Homeless Strategies Workgroup and transferring responsibilities to the Whatcom County Housing Advisory Committee

SUMMARY STATEMENT OR LEGAL NOTICE LANGUAGE:

Resolution concluding the work of the Homeless Strategies Workgroup and transferring responsibilities to the Whatcom County Housing Advisory Committee

HISTORY OF LEGISLATIVE FILE

Date:	Acting Body:	Action:	Sent To:
05/04/2021	Council	APPROVED	
		Aye: 5	Browne, Buchanan, Elenbaas, Frazey, and Kershner
		Nay: 1	Donovan
		Absent: 1	Byrd

Attachments: Resolution, Second Agenda Revision Notice for 5.4.2021

RESOLUTION NO. 2021-018

**RESOLUTION CONCLUDING THE WORK OF THE HOMELESS STRATEGIES
WORKGROUP AND TRANSFERRING RESPONSIBILITIES TO THE WHATCOM COUNTY
HOUSING ADVISORY COMMITTEE**

WHEREAS, Whatcom County partners with a number of agencies to provide access to safe and secure housing and shelter facilities as well as associated programming and services; and

WHEREAS, the Whatcom County Council adopted Resolution 2017-055 on October 24, 2017, establishing an 'ad hoc' Homeless Strategies Workgroup; and

WHEREAS, the Homeless Strategies Workgroup identified strategies to address public health and safety, and strategies to end homelessness; and

WHEREAS, on July 23, 2019, Whatcom County Council approved Resolution 2019-034 to extend the work of the Homeless Strategies Workgroup and expand its membership; and

WHEREAS, Resolution 2019-034 identified the workgroup's purpose to identify additional temporary winter shelters, added capacity for year-round shelters, additional opportunities to address the needs of the county's homeless populations, and strategies to prevent people from having no other option than to sleep outside; and

WHEREAS, on February 25, 2020, Whatcom County Council approved Resolution 2020-010, amending the membership of the Homeless Strategies workgroup to include additional community representatives appointed by Council; and

WHEREAS, on July 7, 2020, Whatcom County Council approved Resolution 2020-028 establishing two-year terms for Council-appointed members; and

WHEREAS, Resolutions 2017-055 and 2019-034 identified that the workgroup shall attempt to complete its work as expeditiously as possible; and

WHEREAS, Whatcom County Health Department Staff presented and received feedback at the Homeless Strategies Workgroup, during their February, March, and April 2021 meetings, on an inventory of current shelter options and a needs assessment; and

WHEREAS, at the April 16, 2021, the Homeless Strategies Workgroup approved short- and long-term recommendations to the Whatcom County Council; and

WHEREAS, the Whatcom County Housing Advisory Committee (WCHAC) is authorized by Whatcom County Code Chapter 3.46.060 to serve in an advisory capacity to the County; and

WHEREAS, the role of the WCHAC is to advise the County on topics of funding affordable and supportive housing, provide guidance on the Plan to End Homelessness, and collaborate with partners for the benefit of the community; and

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2 **WHEREAS**, the Whatcom County Housing Advisory Committee (WCHAC) can assume
3 accountability for progress of the Homeless Strategies Workgroup recommendations.
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5 **NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** that the Council appreciates the commitment
6 and guidance provided by the Homeless Strategies Workgroup and its members; and
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8 **BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that the Whatcom County Council received the final
9 recommendations of the Homeless Strategies Workgroup; and
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11 **BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that the Whatcom County Council asks that the Whatcom
12 County Housing Advisory Committee take responsibility for moving forward the
13 recommendations of the Homeless Strategies Workgroup; and
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15 **BE IT FINALLY RESOLVED** that the Whatcom County Council hereby concludes the
16 work of the Homeless Strategies Workgroup.
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20 **APPROVED** this 4th day of May, 2021.
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25 **ATTEST:**

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30 Dana Brown-Davis, Clerk of the Council

**WHATCOM COUNTY COUNCIL
WHATCOM COUNTY, WASHINGTON**

Barry A. Buch

Barry Buchanan, Council Chair

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33 **APPROVED AS TO FORM:**
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37 Karen Frakes ~ by email 05/04/2021
38 Civil Deputy Prosecutor