

CLERK OF THE COUNCIL
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WHATCOM COUNTY COUNCIL

November 18, 2025

The Honorable Sharon Shewmake
The Honorable Alicia Rule
The Honorable Joe Timmons
Washington State Secretary of Transportation Julie Meredith

Re: Support for a Traffic Signal at SR 542 and Mitchell Road

Dear Senator Shewmake, Representatives Timmons and Rule, and Secretary Meredith,

The Whatcom County Council urges your support for installing safety measures such as a roundabout, school speed zone modification, or a traffic signal at the intersection of Mitchell Road and SR 542. This intersection has a long history of serious collisions, including fatal accidents, and it continues to pose a clear safety risk for the Mt. Baker community.

Mitchell Road is the primary access point to Mt. Baker High School, Mt. Baker Junior High, district athletic fields, and the Mt. Baker Cooperative Preschool. Every day, young drivers, school buses, families, and staff must turn across fast-moving traffic with limited gaps. The pattern of crashes at this location shows that current conditions are not sufficient to protect students and other road users.

A more controlled intersection will reduce the likelihood of further tragedies and provide a much safer route for the thousands of people who travel to and from the Mt. Baker school campus. We respectfully request your assistance in securing the necessary support and funding for WSDOT to move this improvement forward.

Sincerely,

Kaylee Galloway, Chair
Whatcom County Council