

Whatcom County Council

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



Meeting Agenda

Tuesday, March 11, 2025

6 PM

Hybrid Meeting - Council Chambers

**AGENDA REVISED 3.7.2025 - HYBRID MEETING (PARTICIPATE IN-PERSON,
SEE REMOTE JOIN INSTRUCTIONS AT www.whatcomcounty.us/joinvirtualcouncil
OR CALL 360.778.5010)**

COUNCILMEMBERS

Barry Buchanan
Tyler Byrd
Todd Donovan
Ben Elenbaas
Kaylee Galloway
Jon Scanlon
Mark Stremler

CLERK OF THE COUNCIL

Cathy Halka, AICP, CMC

COUNTY COUNCIL

CALL TO ORDER

ROLL CALL

FLAG SALUTE

ANNOUNCEMENTS

The Council is currently holding meetings in hybrid format with options for in-person or remote viewing and participation. For instructions on remote participation, visit www.whatcomcounty.us/joinvirtualcouncil and register by 4 p.m. the day of the meeting to speak remotely. Individuals who require special assistance to participate in the Council's meetings are asked to contact the Council Office at 360.778-5010 at least 96 hours in advance.

Per RCW 42.17A.555 the use of public facilities to support or oppose candidates or ballot issues is prohibited. Members of the public and the legislative body are not allowed to speak in support of, or in opposition to, a ballot measure or individual candidacy during an open public meeting. Please refrain from raising campaign issues when addressing the Council.

The County is accepting applications from county residents to fill vacancies on several boards, commissions, and committees spanning a wide range of important local issues. For more information, visit the Boards and Commissions vacancy webpage on the County website or call the Council Office or County Executive's Office.

COUNTY EXECUTIVE'S REPORT

MINUTES CONSENT

1. [MIN2025-010](#) Committee of the Whole for February 11, 2025
2. [MIN2025-011](#) Regular County Council for February 11, 2025
3. [MIN2025-012](#) Committee of the Whole Executive Session for February 25, 2025
4. [MIN2025-013](#) Committee of the Whole for February 25, 2025
5. [MIN2025-014](#) Regular County Council for February 25, 2025

PUBLIC HEARINGS

Participants requesting to speak during public hearings may attend in person. To speak remotely, please visit www.whatcomcounty.us/joinvirtualcouncil and register by 4 p.m. the day of the meeting to receive a join link.

All speakers are asked to state their name for the record and optionally include city of residence. When a large group of individuals supports the same position on an issue, we encourage the selection of one or two representatives to speak on behalf of the entire group. Speakers will be given three minutes to address the Council and will be notified when their three minutes are up. Speakers participating on-site in the Council Chambers will speak first, followed by those who have registered to speak remotely.

Per RCW 42.17A.555 the use of public facilities to support or oppose candidates or ballot issues is prohibited. Members of the public and the legislative body are not allowed to speak in support of, or in opposition to, a ballot measure or individual candidacy during an open public meeting. Please refrain from raising campaign issues when addressing the Council.

1. [AB2025-140](#) Resolution vacating a portion of Camp 2 Road
2. [AB2025-149](#) Ordinance adopting amendments to Whatcom County Code 24.05, Onsite Sewage System Regulations
3. [AB2025-157](#) Review final project performances on the Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) Home Repair Program and the CDBG Microenterprise Assistance Program
4. [AB2025-183](#) Ordinance amending Whatcom County Code 1.28 Standards for Correctional Facilities

OPEN SESSION

Participants requesting to speak during open session may attend in person. To speak remotely, please visit www.whatcomcounty.us/joinvirtualcouncil and register by 4 p.m. the day of the meeting to receive a join link.

During open session, audience members may speak to the council on issues not scheduled for public hearing. All speakers are asked to state their name for the record and optionally include city of residence. When a large group of individuals supports the same position on an issue, we encourage the selection of one or two representatives to speak on behalf of the entire group. Speakers will be given three minutes to address the Council and will be notified when their three minutes are up. Speakers participating on-site in the Council Chambers will speak first, followed by those who have registered to speak remotely.

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Per RCW 42.36.060 Councilmembers are prohibited from engaging in ex parte communications in matters where the Council determines the legal rights, duties, or privileges of specific parties in a hearing or other contested case proceeding. Council serves in a quasi-judicial role as a decision-maker on major project permits, which cannot be discussed by members of the public at Council meetings. Examples of major project permits that cannot be discussed at Council meetings include MPP2024-00001 City of Bellingham Mitigation Bank, LSS2024-00001 R and R Acres Long Subdivision and Development Agreement, LSS2022-00001 Red Mountain Long Subdivision and Development Agreement, PUD2022-00001 Royal Emerald Motors Planned Unit Development, MPP2024-00002 ALA Energy, Ferndale Terminal Existing and Planned Improvements, and CUP2023-00003/DEV2024-00001 Ponderosa Estates Mobile Home Park.

CONSENT AGENDA

Items under this section of the agenda may be considered in a single motion. Councilmembers have received and studied background material on all items. Committee review has taken place on these items, as indicated. Any member of the public, administrative staff, or council may ask that an item be considered separately.

(From Council Finance and Administrative Services Committee)

1. [AB2025-186](#) Request authorization for the County Executive to enter into an interlocal agreement amendment between Whatcom County and Washington State Department of Children, Youth and Families in the amount of \$8,840, for a total amended agreement amount of \$827,677.20
2. [AB2025-192](#) Request authorization for the County Executive to enter into a contract between Whatcom County and Axon Enterprises, Inc. in the amount of \$229,668.06

3. [AB2025-195](#) Request authorization for the County Executive to enter into a contract between Whatcom County and Aha! Childcare & Family Learning Center to increase kindergarten readiness for enrolled children at a licensed childcare facility, in the amount of \$106,773
4. [AB2025-197](#) Request authorization for the County Executive to enter into a lease agreement between Whatcom County and Whatcom County Fire District 19 to lease the property located at 9186 Mt Baker Highway, in the amount of \$1.00 per year
5. [AB2025-199](#) Request authorization for the County Executive to enter into an interlocal agreement amendment between Whatcom County and Washington State Health Care Authority to provide funding for the Law Enforcement Assisted Diversion (LEAD) Program in the amount of \$40,262, for a total amended agreement amount of \$1,216,096
6. [AB2025-200](#) Request authorization for the County Executive to enter into a contract amendment between Whatcom County and Sustainable Connections to provide funding for the Food Recovery Program in the amount of \$11,667, for a total amended contract amount of \$113,542
7. [AB2025-201](#) Request authorization for the County Executive to enter into a contract amendment between Whatcom County and Lifeline Connections to provide behavioral health services in the Whatcom County Jail, Work Center, and for Court Involved Youth in the amount of \$211,000, for a total amended contract amount of \$3,402,810
8. [AB2025-204](#) Request authorization for the County Executive to enter into an Interlocal Agreement between Whatcom County and the City of Bellingham for Correctional Services
9. [AB2025-206](#) Request authorization for the County Executive to enter into a loan and grant agreement between Whatcom County and Habitat for Humanity for the acquisition of property that will allow for the construction of at least 40 affordable homes in the amount of a \$231,000 grant and a \$469,000 loan for a total of \$700,000
10. [AB2025-207](#) Request authorization for the County Executive to enter into an interlocal agreement amendment between Whatcom County and Mount Baker School District to provide funding for renovations necessary to construct a school-based health center in the amount of \$55,000, for a total amended agreement amount of \$85,000
11. [AB2025-209](#) Request authorization for the County Executive to enter into an interlocal agreement amendment between Whatcom County and Washington State Department of Health to provide funding for various public health services in the amount of \$53,403, for a total amended agreement amount of \$5,318,686
12. [AB2025-214](#) Request authorization for the County Executive to enter into an interlocal agreement between Whatcom County and Ferndale School District to increase kindergarten readiness for students ages 3-5, in the amount of \$149,000

13. [AB2025-215](#) Request authorization for the County Executive to enter into a contract between Whatcom County and Cozy Bears Early Learning to increase kindergarten readiness and expand licensed childcare capacity, in the amount of \$43,500

OTHER ITEMS

(From Council Finance and Administrative Services Committee)

1. [AB2025-046](#) Request authorization for the County Executive to enter into an interlocal agreement between Whatcom County and the Attorney General of Washington for cy pres funding, in the amount of \$125,000

(From Council Climate Action and Natural Resources Committee)

2. [AB2025-171](#) Resolution amending the 2006 Birch Bay Comprehensive Stormwater Plan to include four Subwatershed Master Plans (Council acting as the Whatcom County Flood Control Zone District Board of Supervisors)

(From Council Planning and Development Committee)

3. [AB2025-194](#) Resolution docketing Comprehensive Plan and Development Regulation amendments

COUNCIL APPOINTMENTS TO BOARDS, COMMISSIONS, AND COMMITTEES

1. [AB2025-180](#) Appointment to vacancies on the Whatcom County Ferry Advisory Committee, Applicant(s): Daniel DeMay, Marcus Dee Stidham, Kristen Fox
2. [AB2025-190](#) Appointment to a vacancy on the Noxious Weed Control Board, District 4 position, Applicant: Alexander Vondrell

CONFIRMATION OF EXECUTIVE APPOINTMENTS TO BOARDS, COMMISSIONS, AND COMMITTEES

Per Whatcom County Code 2.03.070(B), the council must confirm or reject executive appointments within 30 days of submission to the council. County code deems the appointee confirmed if council does not take action within this time.

1. [AB2025-187](#) Request confirmation of the County Executive's appointment of Jessica Stugelmayer to the Whatcom County Library System's Rural Library Board
2. [AB2025-189](#) Request confirmation of the County Executive's appointment of Zelda Rood to the Whatcom County Developmental Disabilities Board

ITEMS ADDED BY REVISION

1. [AB2025-224](#) Non-binding multi-jurisdictional resolution regarding population, housing and employment allocations

ITEM ADDED 3.7.2025

2. [AB2025-225](#) Request motion to appoint a councilmember representative to the Forest Advisory Committee

ITEM ADDED 3.7.2025

3. [AB2025-226](#) Request motion to appoint a councilmember representative to the Economic Development Investment Board

ITEM ADDED 3.7.2025

INTRODUCTION ITEMS

Council action will not be taken. The council may accept these items for introduction (no action) in a single motion. Changes, in terms of committee assignment for example, may be made at this time.

1. [AB2025-196](#) Ordinance temporarily amending the funding limit of cash flow loans from the Road Fund to North Lake Samish Bridge No. 107 Replacement Fund -3905 from \$2,000,000 up to \$6,656,262.32 for a term not to exceed two years

ITEM TITLE REVISED 3.7.2025

2. [AB2025-211](#) Ordinance establishing a project-based budget for the East Whatcom Regional Resource Center Sports Court

3. [AB2025-212](#) Ordinance authorizing an interfund loan for the construction of the East Whatcom Regional Resource Center Sports Court

4. [AB2025-213](#) Ordinance establishing a project-based budget for the Silver Lake Boat Launch at Silver Lake Park

5. [AB2025-220](#) Ordinance amending the 2025 Whatcom County Budget, request no. 3, in the amount of \$1,485,889

ITEM TITLE REVISED 3.11.2025

6. [AB2025-218](#) Receipt of application to a vacancy on the Business and Commerce Advisory Committee, Agriculture representative, Applicant(s): Rich Appel (Deadline for additional applications to this position is 10:00 a.m. on Tuesday, March 18, 2025)

COMMITTEE REPORTS, OTHER ITEMS, AND COUNCILMEMBER UPDATES

ADJOURN