

**PROPOSED BY: AUDITOR**  
**INTRODUCTION DATE: March 22,**  
**2022**

**ORDINANCE NO. \_\_\_\_\_**

**REPLACING WHATCOM COUNTY CODE SECTION 1.14, ELECTORAL  
PRECINCTS, WITH NEWLY ESTABLISHED VOTING PRECINCT  
BOUNDARIES FOR WHATCOM COUNTY**

**WHEREAS**, changes to the Congressional boundary lines removing District 1 and modifying the boundary line of District 2 have been passed by the Washington State Legislature based on the decennial census information and recommendations of the State Redistricting Commission; and

**WHEREAS**, the State Legislative boundary line between the Forty Second (42<sup>nd</sup>) and the Fortieth (40<sup>th</sup>) have been altered by the Washington State Legislature based on the same decennial census information and the recommendations of the State Redistricting Commission; and

**WHEREAS**, the Whatcom County Districting Committee has recommended and the County Council has adopted changes to the Whatcom County Council District boundaries based on the decennial census information; and

**WHEREAS**, RCW 29A.16.050(1) requires every voting precinct must be wholly within a single congressional district, a single legislative district and a single district of the county legislative authority; and

**WHEREAS**, RCW 29A.16.040(2) limits precinct size to 1,500 registered voters and some of the precincts were close to that limit; and

**WHEREAS**, it is desirable to balance the number of registered voters within precincts and some of the precincts were very small; and

**WHEREAS**, it is desirable to limit the number of "splits" within a precinct due to the number of taxing districts within a precinct insofar as is practical; 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 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County Council that all previous ordinances establishing voting precinct boundaries for Whatcom County are hereby repealed.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 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 \_\_\_\_\_, 2022.

**ATTEST:**

**WHATCOM COUNTY COUNCIL  
WHATCOM COUNTY,  
WASHINGTON**

\_\_\_\_\_  
Dana Brown-Davis, County Clerk

\_\_\_\_\_  
Todd Donovan, Council Chair

**APPROVED AS TO FORM:**

( ) Approved ( ) Denied

\_\_\_\_\_  
Royce Buckingham, Civil Deputy Prosecutor

\_\_\_\_\_  
Satpal Sidhu, County Executive

Date: \_\_\_\_\_