

PEARANCES	Initial	Date	Date Received in Council Office:	Agenda date	Assigned to:
Originator: Executive's Office			RECEIVED JUL 23 1997 WHATCOM COUNTY COUNCIL	July 29, 1997	Introduction
Division Head:				8/12/97	Public Hearing
Dept. Head:					
Prosecutor:	<i>RW</i>	<i>2/15</i>			
Executive: Pete Kremen	<i>PK</i>	<i>7-22-97</i>			

SUBJECT:

Ordinance allowing for a biennial (two year budget) as recommended for long term Strategic Planning

ATTACHMENTS:

Ordinance
 New Home Rule Charter Section 6.05
 Ballot Title for November Ballot

SUMMARY STATEMENT:

This ordinance allows for a two-year budget cycle but does not restrict Council's ability for annual budgets or annual budgets in specific funds.

Please complete sections of box as appropriate & explain the item below.

Related County contract #:	Should Clerk schedule a hearing? NO / <input type="checkbox"/> / YES / <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> / Requested date: August 12
Amount budgeted for this item/project:\$	Is it (or will it be) within budget? YES / <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> / NO / <input type="checkbox"/> / (Please explain below)
Budget line item number(s):	

ORIGINATOR'S RECOMMENDED ACTION:

Council approval for the 1997 ballot

COMMITTEE ACTION TAKEN:

COUNCIL ACTION TAKEN:

1997 - 268 7/29/97: Introduced
 8/12/97: Public Hearing. Adopted 7 - 0. Ord. #97-042

Ordinance or Resolution Number (this item only):

Ord. # 97-042

SPONSORED BY: Consent

PROPOSED BY: Consent

INTRODUCTION DATE : 7/29/97

ORDINANCE NO: 97-042

**AMENDING THE WHATCOM COUNTY HOME RULE CHARTER, TO BE
SUBMITTED TO THE PEOPLE, REGARDING A BIENNIAL BUDGET**

WHEREAS, the Whatcom County Administration and Council believe in streamlining governmental services and the 1997 Session Laws, Chapter 204 have provided for the ability to create Biennial Budgets; and

WHEREAS, the Whatcom County Administration and Council believe in long range, strategic planning and a biennial budget promotes these goals by increasing efficiency in the use of staff time thereby improving services to its citizens; and

WHEREAS, the Whatcom County Home Rule Charter, Article 6, provides checks and balances necessary to keep expenditures within the appropriations;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT ORDAINED, that we, the Whatcom County Council, bring forth to the voters, a proposed charter amendment to Article 6 providing for a biennial budget thus increasing the level of services to the community as contained in attachment "A" of this Ordinance.

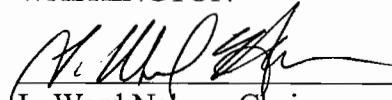
APPROVED this 12 day of August 1997.

ATTEST:



Clerk of the Council,
Dana Brown-Davis

WHATCOM COUNTY COUNCIL
WHATCOM COUNTY,
WASHINGTON



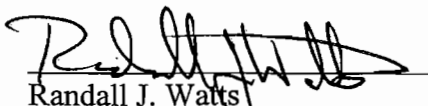
E. Ward Nelson, Chair

APPROVED



Pete Kremen, County Executive

APPROVED AS TO FORM:



Randall J. Watts
Chief Civil Deputy, Prosecuting Attorney

Date: 8-18-97

ATTACHMENT "A"

Section 6.05 - Budget Cycle

The County Council may adopt an ordinance providing for a biennial budget cycle with a mid-biennium review and modification for the second year of the biennium. The County Council may repeal such an ordinance and revert to adopting annual budgets for a period commencing after the end of the biennial budget cycle. The County Council may adopt supplemental and emergency budgets in the same manner and subject to the same conditions as if the County had an annual budget cycle. In lieu of adopting an annual budget, or a biennial budget with a mid-biennium review for all funds, the County Council may adopt an ordinance or a resolution providing for a biennial budget or budgets for any one or more funds for the County, with mid-biennium review and modifications for the second year of the biennium with the other funds remaining on an annual budget. The County Council may repeal such an ordinance or resolution and revert to adopting annual budgets for a period commencing after the end of the biennial budget or biennial budgets for the specific agency fund or funds. The County Council with a biennial budget cycle may adopt supplemental and emergency budgets in the same manner and subject to the same conditions as the County Council adopting an annual budget cycle.

All references to fiscal year within Article 6 of the Whatcom County Charter shall be amended to read budget cycle.

Ballot Title

Shall **Article 6** of the Whatcom County Charter be amended to provide for a two year budget

PUBLIC HEARING NOTICE

Whatcom County Council will have a public hearing on the following at its August 12 meeting or at a later date:


ORDINANCE ALLOWING FOR A BIENNIAL (TWO YEAR BUDGET) AS RECOMMENDED FOR LONG TERM STRATEGIC PLANNING (AB97-268): This ordinance would bring forth to the voters a proposed amendment to the Whatcom County Home Rule Charter, Article 6 providing for a biennial budget. This ordinance allows for a two-year budget cycle but does not restrict Council's ability for annual budgets or annual budgets in specific funds.

Council introduced the above at its July 29 meeting. Public documents are available for review in the Council Office, 311 Grand Avenue, Bellingham. Meetings are in the Council Chambers, same address, unless otherwise announced. One copy of any ordinance or resolution will be mailed, free of charge, to any person requesting one.

People with special needs or disabilities who will be attending this meeting are asked to please contact our office (676-6690, 384-6637, 800-676-6757 or TDD 738-4555) at least 96 hours in advance, so that we may make any needed accommodations. If interpretive services or transportation is needed, please call more than two days ahead of time.

Dated July 30

ATTEST:



Dana Brown-Davis, Clerk of the Council

WHATCOM COUNTY COUNCIL
WHATCOM COUNTY, WASHINGTON



L. Ward Nelson, Council Chair

Publish August 2