



WHATCOM COUNTY

WASHINGTON

Planning & Development Services

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Memorandum

TO: Whatcom County Council

FROM: Lucas Clark, Planner II

THROUGH: Mark Personius, Director

DATE: December 30th, 2025

SUBJECT: Compliance with Land Supply and Construction Cost Charter Amendment

The voters of Whatcom County approved an amendment to Article 9 of the Charter to include the following language:

Section 9.70 Reducing Compliance and Construction Costs

To reduce compliance and construction costs related to land use and development for housing not specifically authorized by the county code, the County Executive shall publish a credible analysis of how land supply and construction costs could be affected before amending any land use or construction section of the County Code.

To ensure compliance with the charter amendment, PDS has prepared this Memo with the following table.

Amendment	Potential Effects on Land Supply	Potential Effects on Construction Cost
Proposed amendment to Title 20 (Zoning). This amendment will allow food preparation for off-site consumption when accessory to and located within an approved community center.	The amendment does not change lot size requirements and is not a substantive change that would affect land supply.	The amendment does not change construction standards and is not a substantive change that would affect housing construction costs.