

Whatcom County Council Committee of the Whole

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



Action Summary

**Tuesday, July 12, 2022
2:50 PM
Hybrid Meeting**

**HYBRID MEETING - ADJOURNS BY 4:45 P.M.; MAY BEGIN EARLY
(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
Carol Frazey
Kaylee Galloway
Kathy Kershner

CLERK OF THE COUNCIL

Dana Brown-Davis, C.M.C.

Call To Order**Roll Call**

Present: 7 - Barry Buchanan, Tyler Byrd, Todd Donovan, Ben Elenbaas, Carol Frazey, Kaylee Galloway, and Kathy Kershner

Absent: None

Announcements**Special Presentation**

1. [AB2022-398](#) Presentation regarding the proposed 2023-2028 EMS Levy Plan

PRESENTED

Committee Discussion and Recommendation to Council

1. [AB2022-365](#) Ordinance providing for submission to the qualified voters of Whatcom County a proposition renewing the levy of a regular property tax at a rate of \$.199 or less per \$1000 assessed valuation (amended from original request of \$.295) to continue to provide emergency medical services

FORWARDED TO COUNCIL WITH RECOMMENDED MOTION(S)

Recommended for Introduction as Amended

MOTION 1

Motion approved to update the diversity, equity and inclusion language in the 2023-2028 levy plan as noted in blue in the amended substitute version (“Substitute Levy Plan (Frazey) for July 12”).

MOTION 2

Motion approved to amend the Ordinance to include the rate of \$.295 or less per \$1000 of assessed valuation.

MOTION 3

Motion approved to add the following statements as noted in the Ordinance “Galloway amendment proposals for 7.12, 11”:

WHEREAS, the EMS system responds to a broad range of people who will benefit from responders reflecting the diverse communities of Whatcom County; and

WHEREAS, investing in programs and services to improve diversity, equity, and inclusion in the workplace, including training and dedicated personnel to improve and track progress on recruitment and retention, hiring practices, and a workplace culture of inclusion may enhance EMS service delivery and better assist those in need; and

WHEREAS, supporting the EMS Levy, as a primary funding mechanism for countywide EMS, is key to advancing Whatcom County’s diversity, equity, and inclusion priorities; and

Where permissible by law, personnel costs and training should also include essential diversity, equity and inclusion components of recruitment, hiring, retention, and training of personnel.

MOTION 4

Motion approved to recommend that they introduce the ordinance as amended Providing submission to the qualified voters of Whatcom County a proposition renewing the levy of a regular property tax each year for six years, collection beginning in 2023, at a rate of \$.295 or less per \$1000 of assessed valuation to continue to provide emergency medical services.

Committee Discussion

1. [AB2022-378](#) Discussion of an ordinance granting Cascade Natural Gas Corporation a franchise for the transportation of natural gas in Whatcom County

DISCUSSED

2. [AB2022-251](#) Discussion of proposed resolution establishing priorities for Whatcom County’s 2025 Comprehensive Plan update

DISCUSSED

Items Added by Revision

Other Business

Adjournment