



# Whatcom County

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

## Agenda Bill Master Report

File Number: AB2021-489

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<b>File ID:</b>	AB2021-489	<b>Version:</b>	1	<b>Status:</b>	Substitute Approved
<b>File Created:</b>	08/05/2021	<b>Entered by:</b>	THelms@co.whatcom.wa.us		
<b>Department:</b>	County Executive's Office	<b>File Type:</b>	Resolution		
<b>Assigned to:</b>	Council Finance and Administrative Services Committee			<b>Final Action:</b>	09/14/2021
<b>Agenda Date:</b>	09/14/2021	<b>Enactment #:</b>	RES 2021-037		

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Primary Contact Email: Tschroed@co.whatcom.wa.us

### TITLE FOR AGENDA ITEM:

Resolution approving the 2022 recommended Convention Center (Lodging Tax) allocations for tourism-related facilities and activities as defined through RCW 67.28.1816 in the amount of \$1,469,575

### SUMMARY STATEMENT OR LEGAL NOTICE LANGUAGE:

Resolution approving the 2022 recommended Convention Center (Lodging Tax) allocations for tourism-related facilities and activities as defined through RCW 67.28.1816 in the amount of \$1,469,575

### HISTORY OF LEGISLATIVE FILE

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<b>Date:</b>	<b>Acting Body:</b>	<b>Action:</b>	<b>Sent To:</b>
09/14/2021	Council Finance and Administrative Services Committee	RECOMMENDED FOR APPROVAL Aye: 3 Browne, Byrd, and Frazey Nay: 0 Absent: 0	
09/14/2021	Council	SUBSTITUTE APPROVED Aye: 7 Browne, Buchanan, Byrd, Donovan, Elenbaas, Frazey, and Kershner Nay: 0 Absent: 0	

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**Attachments:** Proposed resolution, Funding requests - Exhibit A Substitute, Funding requests - Exhibit A

**RESOLUTION NO. 2021-037**

**APPROVING THE 2022 RECOMMENDED CONVENTION CENTER  
ALLOCATIONS FOR TOURISM-RELATED FACILITIES AND ACTIVITIES  
AS DEFINED THROUGH RCW 67.28.1816**

**WHEREAS** on August 4, 2021, the Whatcom County Lodging Tax Advisory Committee (LTAC) held a public meeting to consider 2022 funding for use of Convention Center Funds; and

**WHEREAS**, of the sixteen applications submitted, the LTAC recommends funding for all sixteen eligible applicants in the amount of \$753,800 and further detailed in attachment A; and

**WHEREAS**, the LTAC further recommends a 15% contingency in the amount of \$150,000 to be used in the event eligible applicants seek funding for tourism programs later in the year; and

**WHEREAS**, the 2022 funding recommendations totaling \$903,800 were determined based on the ability to promote and serve tourism activities in Whatcom County as defined in RCW 67.28; and

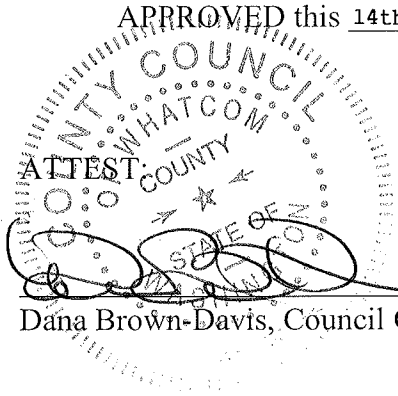
**WHEREAS**, all funding recipients must submit a report to the County describing the actual number of people traveling for business or pleasure on a trip as well as describing the results of the event of activity sponsored by the Convention Center Fund; and

**WHEREAS**, in addition to the above referenced funding allocations directed to Chamber operations, events and festivals the LTAC further supports and recommends special project funding in the amount of \$565,775 for the delayed Wayfinding project developed by MERJE Design and facilitated by Bellingham Whatcom Tourism; and

WHEREAS, the 2022 Convention Center Fund revenue is projected at \$779,284 and the 2022 fund balance is projected to be \$1,585,372; and

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Whatcom County Council hereby authorizes the County Administration to allocate \$1,469,575 from the Lodging Tax Fund for the purposes of tourism related activities as recommended by the Lodging Tax Advisory Committee and detailed in attachment A.

APPROVED this 14th day of September, 2021.

ATTEST:  
A circular seal for the Whatcom County Council. The outer ring contains the text "WHATCOM COUNTY COUNCIL" at the top and "STATE OF WASHINGTON" at the bottom. The inner ring contains "WHATCOM COUNTY". In the center, there are two stars and the text "STATE OF WASHINGTON". A signature is written across the seal.  
Dana Brown-Davis, Council Clerk

WHATCOM COUNTY COUNCIL  
WHATCOM COUNTY, WASHINGTON

A handwritten signature in cursive script, reading "Barry Buchanan".  
Barry Buchanan, Council Chair

APPROVED as to form:

Christopher Quinn per 8/5/21 email  
Civil Deputy Prosecutor

CONVENTION CENTER - HOTEL/MOTEL TAX FUNDS - 2022

Tab	Requesting Agency	2021 Approved	2022 Requests	Committee Approved	Bellingham Funded	Notes
	<b>Chamber VIC or Tourism Bureau</b>					
	Bellingham Regional Chamber of Commerce	\$25,000	\$25,000	\$25,000		
	Bellingham/Whatcom County Tourism	\$290,000	\$290,000	\$290,000	\$200,000	
	Birch Bay Chamber of Commerce - VIC	\$100,000	\$110,000	\$110,000		
	Ferndale Chamber of Commerce	\$12,000	\$12,000	\$12,000		
	Mt. Baker Foothills Chamber/Visitor Center	\$100,000	\$110,000	\$110,000		
	Point Roberts Chamber of Commerce	\$0	\$17,500	\$17,500		
	<b>Chambers &amp; Tourism SUBTOTAL</b>	<b>\$527,000</b>	<b>\$564,500</b>	<b>\$564,500</b>		
	Whatcom County Glacier Restrooms cc: 14131	\$19,500	\$19,500	\$19,500		
	Allied Arts	\$0	\$14,800	\$14,800	\$22,281	
	Bellingham Festival of Music	\$0	\$10,000	\$10,000	\$20,000	
	Cascadia Film Festival	\$0	\$10,000	\$10,000	\$23,500	
	North Cascades Bluegrass Festival	\$0	\$20,000	\$20,000		
	Scottish Dance Society	\$0	\$10,000	\$10,000	\$10,000	
	Seafest	\$0	\$20,000	\$20,000	\$20,000	
	Sustainable Connections	\$0	\$35,000	\$35,000	\$10,000	
	Sylvia Center	\$0	\$25,000	\$25,000	\$15,000	
	Whatcom Events	\$0	\$25,000	\$25,000	\$30,000	
	<b>Event and Festivals SUBTOTAL</b>	<b>\$19,500</b>	<b>\$189,300</b>	<b>\$189,300</b>		
	<b>TOTAL ANNUAL FUNDING REQUESTS</b>	<b>\$546,500</b>	<b>\$753,800</b>	<b>\$753,800</b>		
	16% Contingency used for mid-year allocations	\$100,000	\$150,000	\$150,000		
	<b>TOTAL ANNUAL FUNDING REQUESTS w/Contingency</b>	<b>\$646,500</b>	<b>\$903,800</b>	<b>\$903,800</b>		
	<b>Special Project Request</b>					
	WC Portion of Multi-jurisdictional Wayfinding Project	\$565,775	\$565,775	\$565,775		Pending, project start up
	<b>PROPOSED EXPENDITURE BUDGET</b>	<b>\$1,858,775</b>	<b>\$1,469,575</b>	<b>\$1,469,575</b>		<b>Annual Lodging Tax Funding Allocation</b>