

Whatcom County Council Planning and Development Committee

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



Committee Minutes - Final

ESTIMATED TIME - MEETING MAY BEGIN EARLIER/LATER THAN 3:30 P.M.

Tuesday, October 22, 2019

3:30 PM

Council Chambers

COUNCILMEMBERS

Barbara Brenner

Tyler Byrd

Todd Donovan

CLERK OF THE COUNCIL

Dana Brown-Davis, C.M.C.

Call To Order

Committee Chair Tyler called the meeting to order at 3:35 p.m. in the Council Chambers, 311 Grand Avenue, Bellingham, Washington.

Roll Call

Present: 3 - Barbara Brenner, Tyler Byrd and Todd Donovan

Absent: None

Also present: Barry Buchanan, Carol Frazey, and Rud Browne

Special Presentation

1. [AB2019-519](#) Report from Planning and Development Services

Mark Personius, Planning and Development Services Department Director, submitted and read from a handout (on file) and reported on permitting statistics, customer service improvements including a new electronic permit tracking system and two new Natural Resource Division guidance manuals, major planning project and permit center highlights, legislative docket initiatives, and upcoming Planning issues addressing 5G technology and repetitive building permit renewals and occupancy approvals.

He answered questions about tracking staff responses to customer phone calls in the permitting process, information about the Green Apple Renewable Fuels Project and the Governors Point Long Plant/Development Agreement applications, a P66 Refinery International Maritime Organization (IMO) Marine Fuel Storage Tanks SEPA appeal, the process and advisory groups for the Point Roberts Special District Code amendments, whether there will be code changes about gravel mining in the river, the process of appealing the Critical Areas Ordinance, recent Planning Commission discussions to delete the proposed greenhouse gas mitigation requirements for renewable fuel facilities that reduce lifecycle greenhouse gas emissions as it relates to Cherry Point Fossil Fuel amendments, what tension exists between the counties and the Federal Communications Commission (FCC) concerning 5G technology, and whether allowing park models and tiny homes within mobile home parks will be factored into the Whatcom County Code.

This agenda item was REPORTED.

Committee Discussion

1. [AB2019-479](#) Discussion of proposed ordinance amending Whatcom County Code Chapters 11.16 and 11.20 to protect Lake Samish shoreline properties and Lake Samish water recreation

The following staff answered questions:

Ryan Ericson, Planning Department, submitted a handout on a 2015 report (on file)

Michael King, Sheriff's Office

Tyler Schroeder, Executive's Office

Mike McFarlane, Parks Department

Councilmembers and staff discussed getting exact coordinates to be listed in the ordinance, a 2015 report about wave erosion and how it is affected by distance of boats from the shore, newer types of boats and the size of the wakes they create, natural erosion vs boat-induced erosion and determining what percent is caused by boats, putting up "wake-responsibly" signs to provide public education, and whether the Sheriff's Office can enforce rules about distance and specific activities.

This agenda item was HELD IN COMMITTEE.

Other Business

There was no other business.

Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 4:45 p.m.

ATTEST:

WHATCOM COUNTY COUNCIL
WHATCOM COUNTY, WA

Dana Brown-Davis, Council Clerk

Tyler Byrd, Committee Chair

Kristi Felbinger, Minutes Transcription

SIGNED COPY ON FILE