

Whatcom County Council Public Works & Health Committee

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



Committee Minutes - Final

Tuesday, March 22, 2022

1:30 PM

Hybrid Meeting

**HYBRID MEETING - ADJOURNS BY 2:20 P.M. (PARTICIPATE IN-PERSON OR
SEE REMOTE JOIN INSTRUCTIONS AT www.whatcomcounty.us/joinvirtualcouncil
OR CALL 360.778.5010)**

COUNCILMEMBERS

Barry Buchanan
Kaylee Galloway
Kathy Kershner

CLERK OF THE COUNCIL

Dana Brown-Davis, C.M.C.

Call To Order

Committee Chair Kathy Kershner called the meeting to order at 1:30 p.m. in a hybrid meeting.

Roll Call

Present: 3 - Barry Buchanan, Kaylee Galloway, and Kathy Kershner

Absent: None

Also Present: Tyler Byrd, Todd Donovan, Ben Elenbaas, and Carol Frazey

Announcements

Special Presentation

1. [AB2022-160](#) Report from the Public Works Department

The following people presented:

- Jon Hutchings, Public Works Department Director
- Jim Karcher, Public Works Department

They answered what FHWA (Federal Highway Administration) stands for as it relates to funding, what they anticipate staffing needs to be in the short and long term, what strategies they have in building that workforce now so the County is not caught without the needed staff, how far behind they will be on Annual Construction Program projects they are having to postpone because of emergency response to November's floods, whether design staff can be hired on contract, what the bottlenecks are in terms of staff for those projects that are going to be delayed, whether they are at any risk of delaying the fish passage and culvert projects, how long the delayed R5 Marshall Hill Rd - Slide Repair / Culvert Replacement project will take, when they expect the B12 Deal Road / Fish Passage Improvement project to start and be completed, and ways in which the Council can help with issues the Public Works Department is facing.

This agenda item was REPORTED.

Committee Discussion

1. [AB2022-167](#) Discussion of proposed ordinance establishing movement restrictions on E. Hemmi Road at the intersection with Hannegan Road

Jim Karcher, Public Works Department, briefed the Councilmembers and stated this discussion covers both AB2022-162 and AB2022-163 which are

on the Council agenda for introduction tonight.

He answered whether the school approved the times of day that the restrictions will be in place, how they plan to post the restrictions and whether there will be signs, whether there will be a special indicator that calls attention to the new signs when they are put in place, whether there are examples of this type of restriction anywhere else in the county (where people cannot turn a certain way within a certain period of time), whether the turn restriction would affect the middle school or whether the start times for the middle school are different, and what the alternate routes would be if a driver is trying to travel south or west from the school.

Buchanan moved to recommend for approval but Karcher stated this was just a discussion.

This agenda item was DISCUSSED.

Items Added by Revision

There were no agenda items added by revision.

Other Business

There was no other business.

Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 2:18 p.m.

ATTEST:

WHATCOM COUNTY COUNCIL
WHATCOM COUNTY, WA

Kathy Kershner-via email 3/26/2022

Dana Brown-Davis, Council Clerk

Kathy Kershner, Committee Chair

Kristi Felbinger, Minutes Transcription

SIGNED COPY ON FILE