

Whatcom County Council

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



Meeting Agenda

**Tuesday, July 22, 2025
6 PM**

Hybrid Meeting - Council Chambers

**HYBRID MEETING (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
Kaylee Galloway
Jon Scanlon
Mark Stremmler

CLERK OF THE COUNCIL

Cathy Halka, AICP, CMC

COUNTY COUNCIL

CALL TO ORDER

ROLL CALL

FLAG SALUTE

ANNOUNCEMENTS

The Council is currently holding meetings in hybrid format with options for in-person or remote viewing and participation. For instructions on remote participation, visit www.whatcomcounty.us/joinvirtualcouncil and register by 4 p.m. the day of the meeting to speak remotely. Individuals who require special assistance to participate in the Council's meetings are asked to contact the Council Office at 360.778-5010 at least 96 hours in advance.

Per RCW 42.17A.555 the use of public facilities to support or oppose candidates or ballot issues is prohibited. Members of the public and the legislative body are not allowed to speak in support of, or in opposition to, a ballot measure or individual candidacy during an open public meeting. Please refrain from raising campaign issues when addressing the Council.

The County is accepting applications from county residents to fill vacancies on several boards, commissions, and committees spanning a wide range of important local issues. For more information, visit the Boards and Commissions vacancy webpage on the County website or call the Council Office or County Executive's Office.

COUNTY EXECUTIVE'S REPORT

MINUTES CONSENT

1. [MIN2025-041](#) Special Committee of the Whole for June 3, 2025

PUBLIC HEARINGS

Participants requesting to speak during public hearings may attend in person. To speak remotely, please visit www.whatcomcounty.us/joinvirtualcouncil and register by 4 p.m. the day of the meeting to receive a join link.

All speakers are asked to state their name for the record and optionally include city of residence. When a large group of individuals supports the same position on an issue, we encourage the selection of one or two representatives to speak on behalf of the entire group. Speakers will be given three minutes to address the Council and will be notified when their three minutes are up. Speakers participating on-site in the Council Chambers will speak first, followed by those who have registered to speak remotely.

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1. [AB2025-482](#) Ordinance amending Whatcom County Code section 10.04.095 to establish 20 mph school speed zones on Bennett Drive and Alderwood Avenue for Alderwood Elementary School

OPEN SESSION

Participants requesting to speak during open session may attend in person. To speak remotely, please visit www.whatcomcounty.us/joinvirtualcouncil and register by 4 p.m. the day of the meeting to receive a join link.

During open session, audience members may speak to the council on issues not scheduled for public hearing. All speakers are asked to state their name for the record and optionally include city of residence. When a large group of individuals supports the same position on an issue, we encourage the selection of one or two representatives to speak on behalf of the entire group. Speakers will be given three minutes to address the Council and will be notified when their three minutes are up. Speakers participating on-site in the Council Chambers will speak first, followed by those who have registered to speak remotely.

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Per RCW 42.36.060 Councilmembers are prohibited from engaging in ex parte communications in matters where the Council determines the legal rights, duties, or privileges of specific parties in a hearing or other contested case proceeding. Council serves in a quasi-judicial role as a decision-maker on major project permits, which cannot be discussed by members of the public at Council meetings. Examples of major project permits that cannot be discussed at Council meetings include LSS2024-00001 R and R Acres Long Subdivision and Development Agreement, LSS2022-00001 Red Mountain Long Subdivision and Development Agreement, and MPP2024-00002 ALA Energy, Ferndale Terminal Existing and Planned Improvements.

CONSENT AGENDA

Items under this section of the agenda may be considered in a single motion. Councilmembers have received and studied background material on all items. Committee review has taken place on these items, as indicated. Any member of the public, administrative staff, or council may ask that an item be considered separately.

(From Council Finance and Administrative Services Committee)

1. [AB2025-511](#) Request authorization for the County Executive to enter into an interlocal agreement between Whatcom County and Tacoma Pierce County Health Department to support the Provider Resources Website as a shared service between local health jurisdictions, in the amount of \$0
2. [AB2025-519](#) Request authorization for the County Executive to enter into an interlocal agreement amendment between Whatcom County and Lookout Mountain Holdings LLC to extend the performance period of the radio tower lease for an additional five years at a cost of \$57,084.73, for a total amended contract amount of \$111,084.73

3. [AB2025-520](#) Request authorization for the County Executive to enter into an agreement between Whatcom County and Akin for services related to the Parents for Parents (P4P) program, in the amount of \$112,757
4. [AB2025-521](#) Request authorization for the County Executive to enter into a contract between Whatcom County and RE Sources to improve and expand the commercial recycling infrastructure in Whatcom County, in the amount of \$92,059
5. [AB2025-522](#) Request authorization for the County Executive to enter into a contract between Whatcom County and San Juan Cruises to provide temporary passenger ferry service to and from Lummi Island during the 2026 dry dock period, in the amount of \$118,809.60
6. [AB2025-523](#) Request authorization for the County Executive to enter into an interlocal agreement amendment between Whatcom County and the Mount Baker School District to extend the performance period of a radio tower lease for an additional five years at a cost of \$0, for a total amended contract amount of \$0
7. [AB2025-525](#) Request authorization for the County Executive to enter into an Interlocal Agreement between Whatcom County and Washington State Department of Transportation, for the Whatcom County Ferry with a Youth Zero Fare Policy, in the amount of \$68,500
8. [AB2025-526](#) Request authorization for the County Executive to enter into an Interlocal Agreement between Whatcom County and Washington State Department of Transportation, renewing the operating deficit agreement for the Whatcom County Ferry
9. [AB2025-527](#) Request authorization for the County Executive to enter into an interlocal agreement between Whatcom County and the Washington State Department of Commerce to provide resources to fund homelessness crisis response systems, in the amount of \$18,819,091
10. [AB2025-528](#) Request authorization for the County Executive to enter into a contract amendment between Whatcom County and North Sound Behavioral Health Administrative Services Organization to provide behavioral health services within the North Sound Integrated Care Network in the amount of \$469,534, for a total amended contract amount of \$3,494,669
11. [AB2025-530](#) Request authorization for the County Executive to enter into an interlocal agreement between Whatcom County and the Blaine Birch Bay Park and Recreation District No. 2 for usage of the gymnasium at Bay Horizon Park for recreational programming

OTHER ITEMS

(From Council Finance and Administrative Services Committee)

1. [AB2025-488](#) Ordinance amending the project budget for the Birch Bay-Lynden Road and Blaine Road Intersection Improvements Fund; CRP #906001, request no. 1
2. [AB2025-492](#) Ordinance amending the project budget for the E. Smith/Hannegan Road Intersection Improvements Fund, request no. 4
3. [AB2025-494](#) Ordinance amending the project budget for the Lummi Island Ferry Replacement and System Modernization Fund, request no. 1
4. [AB2025-498](#) Ordinance amending the project budget for the New Public Health, Safety and Justice Facility, request no. 8
5. [AB2025-502](#) Ordinance amending the 2025 Whatcom County Budget, request no. 8, in the amount of \$3,548,146

(From Council Planning and Development Committee)

6. [AB2025-539](#) Resolution amending Resolution 2024-021 to update Business Rules of the Whatcom County Hearing Examiner to approve clarifying changes promulgated by the Hearing Examiner

(No Committee Assignment)

7. [AB2025-507](#) Receipt of the Whatcom County Charter Review Commission's proposed amendments to Whatcom County voters and submittal to the Auditor

COUNCIL APPOINTMENTS TO BOARDS, COMMISSIONS, AND COMMITTEES

1. [AB2025-515](#) Appointment of pro and con committees to write statements for the local voters' pamphlet on charter amendments proposed by the Whatcom County Charter Review Commission

ITEMS ADDED BY REVISION

INTRODUCTION ITEMS

Council action will not be taken. The council may accept these items for introduction (no action) in a single motion. Changes, in terms of committee assignment for example, may be made at this time.

1. [AB2025-537](#) Ordinance amending Whatcom County Code Title 22 to clarify the roles and duties of participants in the Hearing Examiner process
2. [AB2025-538](#) Ordinance amending Whatcom County Code Section 2.11 to clarify the authority of the Hearing Examiner
3. [AB2025-518](#) Receipt of application to a vacancy on the Forest Advisory Committee, position for a forest product manufacturer representing a sawmill that receives wood from Whatcom County, Applicant(s): Adam Ellsworth

COMMITTEE REPORTS, OTHER ITEMS, AND COUNCILMEMBER UPDATES

ADJOURN