



Whatcom County

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

Agenda Bill Master Report

File Number: AB2025-678

File ID:	AB2025-678	Version:	1	Status:	Substitute Adopted
File Created:	09/25/2025	Entered by:	MMiterko@co.whatcom.wa.us		
Department:	Finance Division	File Type:	Ordinance		
Assigned to:	Council Finance and Administrative Services Committee			Final Action:	10/21/2025
Agenda Date:	10/21/2025	Enactment #:	ORD 2025-050		
Related Files:					

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

TITLE FOR AGENDA ITEM:

Ordinance amending the project budget for the New Public Health, Safety and Justice Facility, request no. 9

SUMMARY STATEMENT OR LEGAL NOTICE LANGUAGE:

Requests appropriation of \$2,960,000 to fund wetland mitigation work related to the project for a total project budget of \$18,798,524.

HISTORY OF LEGISLATIVE FILE

Date:	Acting Body:	Action:	Sent To:
10/07/2025	Council	SUBSTITUTE INTRODUCED	Council Finance and Administrative Services Committee
		Aye: 7 Buchanan, Byrd, Donovan, Elenbaas, Galloway, Scanlon, and Stremier	
		Nay: 0	
10/21/2025	Council Finance and Administrative Services Committee	SUBSTITUTE RECOMMENDED FOR ADOPTION	
		Aye: 3 Byrd, Donovan, and Buchanan	
		Nay: 0	
10/21/2025	Council	SUBSTITUTE ADOPTED	
		Aye: 7 Buchanan, Byrd, Donovan, Elenbaas, Galloway, Scanlon, and Stremier	
		Nay: 0	

Attachments: Proposed Ordinance, Supplemental Request, Substitute Proposed Ordinance, Notice of Action
Proposed on 10.7.2025

PROPOSED BY: Executive
INTRODUCTION DATE: 10/07/25

ORDINANCE NO. 2025-050

**AMENDING THE PROJECT BUDGET FOR THE NEW PUBLIC HEALTH,
SAFETY AND JUSTICE FACILITY, REQUEST NO. 9**

WHEREAS, Ordinance 2013-003 established the project budget for a new public health, safety and justice facility construction project; and

WHEREAS, voters approved the referendum necessary to fund a new facility proposed in Ordinance 2023-039; and

WHEREAS, funds to date have been spent on site acquisition, permitting, community collaboration, and related consulting contracts; and

WHEREAS, significant wetland mitigation activity is required to proceed with the project; and

WHEREAS, none of Whatcom County current land holdings are adequate to accommodate the mitigation work necessary for this project; and

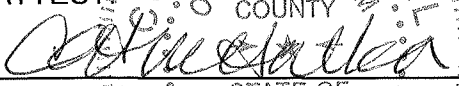
WHEREAS, Whatcom County Facilities and the County's wetland biologist have worked to identify suitable parcels where the necessary mitigation work can take place; and

WHEREAS, the total cost of wetland mitigation work associated with this project is approximately \$3 million which includes the cost of an easement, creation and enhancement work, and review by the United State Army Corps of Engineers and Washington State Department of Ecology review; and

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT ORDAINED by the Whatcom County Council that Ordinance 2013-003 is hereby amended by adding \$2,960,000 of expenditure authority to the current amended project expenditure budget of \$15,838,524, for a total amended project expenditure budget of \$18,798,524, as described in Exhibit A.

ADOPTED this 21st day of _____ October _____, 2025.

ATTEST


Cathy Halka, Council Clerk

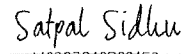
APPROVED AS TO FORM:

Approved by email/B Waldron/A Tan
Civil Deputy Prosecutor

WHATCOM COUNTY COUNCIL
WHATCOM COUNTY, WASHINGTON


Kaylee Galloway, Chair of the Council

(x) Approved () Denied


Satpal Sidhu, County Executive

Date: 10/22/2025

EXHIBIT A

NEW HEALTH, SAFETY AND JUSTICE FACILITY FUND 3502

Account	Description	Current Amended Project Budget	Amendment #9 to Ord. 2013-003	Total Amended Project Budget
Expenditures				
6190	Direct Billing Rate	\$900,000	\$0	\$900,000
6630	Professional Services	\$6,885,789	\$60,000	\$6,945,789
7210	Intergov Professional Services	\$10,000	\$0	\$10,000
7320	Land	\$6,093,491	\$1,400,000	\$7,493,491
7380	Other Improvements	\$0	\$1,500,000	\$1,500,000
8597	Operating Transfer Out	\$1,949,244	\$0	\$1,949,244
		\$15,838,524	\$2,960,000	\$18,798,524
Revenues				
4313	Special purpose tax	\$7,596,000	\$0	\$7,596,000
4337	City of Bellingham tax revenue	\$2,574,000	\$0	\$2,574,000
4337	City of Blaine tax revenue	\$169,000	\$0	\$169,000
4337	City of Everson tax revenue	\$84,000	\$0	\$84,000
4337	City of Ferndale tax revenue	\$438,000	\$0	\$438,000
4337	City of Lynden tax revenue	\$443,000	\$0	\$443,000
4337	City of Nooksack tax revenue	\$42,000	\$0	\$42,000
4337	City of Sumas tax revenue	\$49,000	\$0	\$49,000
8397	Operating Transfer In - Gen Fund	\$2,093,491	\$0	\$2,093,491
8397	Op Trf In - Gen Fund (Not Budgeted)	\$3,000,000	\$0	\$3,000,000
8397	Operating Transfer In - Jail Fund	\$2,700,000	\$0	\$2,700,000
8397	Operating Transfer In - REET I	\$2,300,000	\$0	\$2,300,000
		\$21,488,491	\$0	\$21,488,491