PROPOSED BY: Executive

SOLUTION NO

## APPROVING THE 2020 RECOMMENDED CONVENTION CENTER ALLOCATIONS FOR TOURISM-RELATED FACILITIES AND ACTIVITIES AS DEFINED THROUGH RCW 67,28,1816

WHEREAS on October 1, 2019, the Whatcom County Lodging Tax Advisory Committee (LTAC) held a public meeting to review 2020 funding applications for use of Convention Center Funds; and

WHEREAS, of the twenty-five applications submitted, the LTAC recommends funding for twenty-one eligible applicants in the amount of \$680,250 and further detailed in attachment A; and

WHEREAS, the LTAC further recommends a 5% contingency in the amount of \$34,013 to be used in the event eligible applicants seek funding for tourism programs later in the year; and

**WHEREAS**, the 2020 funding recommendations totaling \$714,263 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 Wayfinding project developed and sponsored by Bellingham Whatcom Tourism; and

**WHEREAS,** the 2020 Convention Center Fund revenue is projected at \$787,146 and the 2020 fund balance is projected to be \$1,143,877; and

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED,** that the Whatcom County Council hereby authorizes the County Administration to allocate \$1,280,038 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 day of	, 2019.
ATTEST:	WHATCOM COUNTY COUNCIL WHATCOM COUNTY, WASHINGTON
Dana Brown-Davis, Council Clerk	Rud Browne, Council Chair
APPROVED as to form:	
Clee	

Civil Deputy Prosecutor