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WHATCOM COUNTY COUNCIL  
**Finance and Administrative Services Committee**

August 7, 2019

**CALL TO ORDER**

Committee Chair Satpal Sidhu called the meeting to order at 10:20 a.m. in the Council Chambers, 311 Grand Avenue, Bellingham, Washington.

**ROLL CALL**

**Present:** Tyler Byrd, Carol Frazey, and Satpal Sidhu  
**Absent:** None  
**Also Present:** Barbara Brenner, Barry Buchanan, Rud Browne, and Todd Donovan

**SPECIAL PRESENTATION**

**1. AB2019-394 REVIEW AND UPDATE ON THE DESIGN2LAST SCOPE OF WORK FOR THE EXISTING WHATCOM COUNTY JAIL AND DISCUSSION AND FEASIBILITY OF A SMOKE EVACUATION SYSTEM IN THE JAIL; DISCUSSION WITH WHATCOM COUNTY FACILITIES AND THE DESIGN2LAST CONSULTANT TEAM**

The following people reported and answered questions:

- Rob Ney, Administrative Services Department
- Lauri Strauss, Design2LAST, Inc.
- Brian Moll, SCBC Engineering
- Bill Elfo, County Sheriff
- Rusty Noble, Administrative Services Department

Councilmembers, staff, and consultants discussed the different phases of full scope and contract; ensuring there are enough toilets for female inmates; timing of additional studies; original cost of the smoke evacuation system concept study; impact to concrete panels from modifications to install a smoke evacuation system; the structure impact to the entire building from modifications; whether the smoke evacuation system would be compatible with the heating, ventilation, air conditioning (HVAC) system; relocating inmates during for six months during installation; how to implement safety procedures during an incident; potential evacuation points; how to plan for the long-term until a new jail facility can be built; the end of the Yakima jail contract in December; and next steps.

***Byrd moved*** that this item is moved to Criminal Justice and Public Safety Committee.

The motion carried by the following vote:

**Ayes:** Byrd, Frazey, and Sidhu (3)  
**Nays:** None (0)

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3 **COUNTY EXECUTIVE'S REPORT**  
4

5 Bill Elfo, County Sheriff, reported and answered questions on the end of the contract  
6 with Yakima jail and finding an alternative service.  
7

8 Jack Louws, County Executive, reported on the following items:

- 9
  - 10 • The Birch Bay berm project
  - 11 • Courthouse exterior project
  - 12 • Crisis stabilization facility project

13 The Councilmembers and the Executive discussed a motion to support the  
14 Executive's decision to award the crisis stabilization facility construction bid and move  
15 forward with a budget supplemental and a funding source for the additional cost.  
16  
17

18 **COMMITTEE DISCUSSION AND RECOMMENDATION TO COUNCIL**  
19

- 20 **1. AB2019-409 REQUEST AUTHORIZATION FOR THE COUNTY EXECUTIVE TO**  
21 **ENTER INTO A LOCAL AGENCY AGREEMENT BETWEEN WHATCOM COUNTY**  
22 **AND WASHINGTON STATE DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION (WSDOT)**  
23 **FOR THE LUMMI ISLAND TERMINAL PRESERVATION PROJECT IN THE**  
24 **AMOUNT OF \$820,000**  
25

26 *Byrd moved* to recommend approval to the full Council.  
27

28 Roland Middleton, Public Works Department, answered questions on whether they  
29 will have to move this facility when a new ferry is implemented and using federal ferry  
30 funds.  
31

32 The motion carried by the following vote:

33 **Ayes:** Byrd, Frazey, and Sidhu (3)

34 **Nays:** None (0)  
35

- 36 **2. AB2019-410 REQUEST AUTHORIZATION FOR THE COUNTY EXECUTIVE TO**  
37 **ENTER INTO A LOCAL AGENCY AGREEMENT BETWEEN WHATCOM COUNTY**  
38 **AND WASHINGTON STATE DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION (WSDOT)**  
39 **FOR THE LUMMI ISLAND BREAKWATER REPLACEMENT IN THE AMOUNT OF**  
40 **\$80,000**  
41

42 *Frazey moved* to recommend approval to the full Council.  
43

44 The motion carried by the following vote:

45 **Ayes:** Byrd, Frazey, and Sidhu (3)

46 **Nays:** None (0)  
47

- 48 **3. AB2019-416 REQUEST AUTHORIZATION FOR THE COUNTY EXECUTIVE TO**  
49 **ENTER INTO A LOCAL AGENCY AGREEMENT BETWEEN WHATCOM COUNTY**  
50 **AND WASHINGTON STATE DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION (WSDOT) TO**

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1           **OBLIGATE FEDERAL CONSTRUCTION FUNDS FOR THE BIRCH BAY DRIVE**  
2           **AND PEDESTRIAN FACILITY PROJECT, IN THE AMOUNT OF \$1,861,272**  
3

4           *Byrd moved* to recommend approval to the full Council.  
5

6           Jon Hutchings, Public Works Department Director, answered questions about  
7 whether this project will fix storm damage.  
8

9           The motion carried by the following vote:

10          **Ayes:**       Byrd, Frazey, and Sidhu (3)

11          **Nays:**       None (0)  
12

13   **4.    AB2019-415 REQUEST AUTHORIZATION FOR THE COUNTY EXECUTIVE TO**  
14   **ENTER INTO CONTRACT AMENDMENT NO. 1 TO BGC ENGINEERING INC.**  
15   **CONTRACT FOR SERVICES FOR GLACIER-GALLUP CREEKS ALLUVIAL FAN**  
16   **RESTORATION FEASIBILITY AND ALTERNATIVES ANALYSIS IN THE AMOUNT**  
17   **OF \$163,300 (COUNCIL ACTING AS THE WHATCOM COUNTY FLOOD**  
18   **CONTROL ZONE DISTRICT BOARD OF SUPERVISORS)**  
19

20          *Frazey moved* to recommend approval to the Board of Supervisors.  
21

22          The motion carried by the following vote:

23          **Ayes:**       Byrd, Frazey, and Sidhu (3)

24          **Nays:**       None (0)  
25

26   **5.    AB2019-399 ORDINANCE AMENDING ORDINANCE 81-6, WHICH**  
27   **ESTABLISHED THE COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT FUND, SECOND REQUEST**  
28

29          *Byrd moved* to recommend adoption to the full Council.  
30

31          Tyler Schroeder, Executive's Office, gave a staff report and answered questions.  
32

33          The motion carried by the following vote:

34          **Ayes:**       Byrd, Frazey, and Sidhu (3)

35          **Nays:**       None (0)  
36

37   **6.    AB2019-400 ORDINANCE AMENDING THE 2019 WHATCOM COUNTY BUDGET,**  
38   **REQUEST NO. 10, IN THE AMOUNT OF \$2,650,000**  
39

40          *Frazey moved* to recommend adoption to the full Council.  
41

42          The following people reported and answered questions:

- 43           • Tyler Schroeder, Executive's Office
  - 44           • Michael Jones, Blaine City Manager
  - 45           • Jack Louws, County Executive
- 46

47          Councilmembers and presenters discussed the location of the project property,  
48 potential businesses and services planned for the property, a stormwater pond, and whether  
49 the Economic Development Investment (EDI) funds would be considered a gift of public  
50 funds.

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The motion carried by the following vote:

**Ayes:** Byrd, Frazey, and Sidhu (3)

**Nays:** None (0)

7. **AB2019-406 REQUEST AUTHORIZATION FOR THE COUNTY EXECUTIVE TO ENTER INTO A CONTRACT BETWEEN WHATCOM COUNTY AND THE BELLINGHAM FIRE DEPARTMENT FOR COMMUNITY PARAMEDIC SERVICES, IN THE AMOUNT OF \$321,055**

*Byrd moved* to recommend approval to the full Council.

The motion carried by the following vote:

**Ayes:** Byrd, Frazey, and Sidhu (3)

**Nays:** None (0)

8. **AB2019-413 REQUEST AUTHORIZATION FOR THE COUNTY EXECUTIVE TO ENTER INTO AN INTERLOCAL AGREEMENT BETWEEN WHATCOM COUNTY AND WASHINGTON STATE DEPARTMENT OF ECOLOGY FOR OPERATION OF MODERATE RISK WASTE FACILITIES, IN THE AMOUNT OF \$196,103.50**

*Frazey moved* to recommend approval to the full Council.

The motion carried by the following vote:

**Ayes:** Byrd, Frazey, and Sidhu (3)

**Nays:** None (0)

9. **AB2019-423 REQUEST AUTHORIZATION FOR THE COUNTY EXECUTIVE TO ENTER INTO AN INTERLOCAL LOAN AND GRANT AGREEMENT BETWEEN WHATCOM COUNTY AND THE CITY OF BLAINE IN THE AMOUNT OF \$2,650,000**

*Byrd moved* to recommend approval to the full Council.

The motion carried by the following vote:

**Ayes:** Byrd, Frazey, and Sidhu (3)

**Nays:** None (0)

10. **AB2019-426 REQUEST AUTHORIZATION FOR THE COUNTY EXECUTIVE TO ENTER INTO A CONTRACT BETWEEN WHATCOM COUNTY AND FIRE DISTRICT NO. 7 TO PROVIDE MOBILE INTEGRATED HEALTH SERVICES THROUGH THE COMMUNITY PARAMEDIC SERVICES PROGRAM, IN THE AMOUNT OF \$407,130**

*Byrd moved* to recommend approval to the full Council.

The motion carried by the following vote:

**Ayes:** Byrd, Frazey, and Sidhu (3)

**Nays:** None (0)

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1 Mike Hilley, EMS Manager, answered questions on the funding source and ongoing  
2 funding and why the City of Bellingham rate is lower.  
3

4 **11. AB2019-421 REQUEST APPROVAL OF THE ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT**  
5 **INVESTMENT (EDI) BOARD'S RECOMMENDATION FOR FUNDING OF THE**  
6 **CITY OF BLAINE'S REQUEST FOR A LOAN IN THE AMOUNT OF \$1,766,666**  
7 **AND A GRANT IN THE AMOUNT OF \$883,333**  
8

9 *Frazey moved* to recommend approval to the full Council.

10  
11 The motion carried by the following vote:

12 **Ayes:** Byrd, Frazey, and Sidhu (3)

13 **Nays:** None (0)  
14

15 **12. AB2019-422 REQUEST APPROVAL OF THE ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT**  
16 **INVESTMENT (EDI) BOARD'S RECOMMENDATION FOR FUNDING OF THE**  
17 **BELLINGHAM HOUSING AUTHORITY'S REQUEST FOR A LOAN IN THE**  
18 **AMOUNT OF \$600,275**  
19

20 *Byrd moved* to recommend approval to the full Council.

21  
22 Tyler Schroeder, Executive's Office, gave a staff report and answered questions.  
23

24 Ken Van Winkle Bellingham Housing Authority, submitted and read from a  
25 presentation and answered questions.  
26

27 Councilmembers and presenters discussed funding sources, plans for the site, finding  
28 a way to decrease the cost of building homes, and the appropriate size of the units.  
29

30 The motion carried by the following vote:

31 **Ayes:** Byrd, Frazey, and Sidhu (3)

32 **Nays:** None (0)  
33  
34

35 **COUNCIL "CONSENT AGENDA" ITEMS**  
36

37 **1. AB2019-404 REQUEST AUTHORIZATION FOR THE COUNTY EXECUTIVE TO**  
38 **ENTER INTO AN INTERLOCAL AGREEMENT BETWEEN WHATCOM COUNTY**  
39 **AND WASHINGTON STATE DEPARTMENT OF ECOLOGY FOR TECHNICAL**  
40 **ASSISTANCE AND OUTREACH TO SMALL BUSINESSES IN AN EFFORT TO**  
41 **PREVENT POLLUTION AND PROTECT PUGET SOUND WATER QUALITY, IN**  
42 **THE AMOUNT OF \$258,705**  
43

44 *Byrd moved* to recommend approval to the full Council.

45  
46 The motion carried by the following vote:

47 **Ayes:** Byrd, Frazey, and Sidhu (3)

48 **Nays:** None (0)  
49

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- 1    **2.    AB2019-407 REQUEST AUTHORIZATION FOR THE COUNTY EXECUTIVE TO**  
2    **ENTER INTO AN INTERAGENCY AGREEMENT BETWEEN WHATCOM COUNTY**  
3    **AND WASHINGTON STATE DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE TO RECEIVE STATE**  
4    **FUNDS FOR CONDUCTING WORK RELATING TO THE NEW REVIEW AND**  
5    **EVALUATION (BUILDABLE LANDS) PROGRAM REQUIREMENTS OF STATE**  
6    **LAW, IN THE AMOUNT OF \$450,000**

7  
8        *Frazey moved* to recommend approval to the full Council.

9  
10       Tyler Schroeder, Executive's Office, answered questions about accounting for critical  
11       areas.

12       The motion carried by the following vote:

13       **Ayes:**       Byrd, Frazey, and Sidhu (3)

14       **Nays:**       None (0)

- 15  
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17    **3.    AB2019-408 REQUEST AUTHORIZATION FOR THE COUNTY EXECUTIVE TO**  
18    **ENTER INTO A CONTRACT AMENDMENT BETWEEN WHATCOM COUNTY AND**  
19    **COMMUNITY ATTRIBUTES INC TO PROVIDE PROFESSIONAL SERVICES**  
20    **RELATING TO THE REVIEW AND EVALUATION (BUILDABLE LANDS)**  
21    **PROGRAM REQUIREMENTS OF THE GROWTH MANAGEMENT ACT IN THE**  
22    **AMOUNT OF \$135,000**

23  
24        *Byrd moved* to recommend approval to the full Council.

25  
26       Tyler Schroeder, Executive's Office, answered questions about the timeline and if it's  
27       an opportunity to manage zoning.

28       The motion carried by the following vote:

29       **Ayes:**       Byrd, Frazey, and Sidhu (3)

30       **Nays:**       None (0)

- 31  
32  
33    **4.    AB2019-412 REQUEST AUTHORIZATION FOR THE COUNTY EXECUTIVE TO**  
34    **ENTER INTO AN INTERLOCAL AGREEMENT BETWEEN WHATCOM COUNTY**  
35    **AND WASHINGTON STATE DEPARTMENT OF ECOLOGY FOR THE COMMUNITY**  
36    **LITTER CLEANUP PROGRAM, IN THE AMOUNT OF \$67,000**

37  
38        *Frazey moved* to recommend approval to the full Council.

39  
40       The motion carried by the following vote:

41       **Ayes:**       Byrd, Frazey, and Sidhu (3)

42       **Nays:**       None (0)

- 43  
44    **5.    AB2019-420 REQUEST AUTHORIZATION FOR THE COUNTY EXECUTIVE TO**  
45    **ENTER INTO AN INTERLOCAL AGREEMENT BETWEEN WHATCOM COUNTY**  
46    **AND WASHINGTON STATE DEPARTMENT OF ECOLOGY FOR SOLID WASTE**  
47    **MANAGEMENT COMPLIANCE AND LITTER AND/OR ILLEGAL DUMPING**  
48    **ENFORCEMENT ACTIVITIES, IN THE AMOUNT OF \$109,209.50**

49  
50        *Byrd moved* to recommend approval to the full Council.

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2           The motion carried by the following vote:  
3           **Ayes:**     Byrd, Frazey, and Sidhu (3)  
4           **Nays:**     None (0)  
5

6  
7           **OTHER BUSINESS**

8  
9           There was no other business.

10  
11  
12           **ADJOURN**

13  
14           The meeting adjourned at 12:13 p.m.

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17           ATTEST:

WHATCOM COUNTY COUNCIL  
WHATCOM COUNTY, WASHINGTON

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22           \_\_\_\_\_  
23           Dana Brown-Davis, Council Clerk

\_\_\_\_\_  
Satpal Sidhu, Committee Chair

24  
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27           \_\_\_\_\_  
28           Jill Nixon, Minutes Transcription