

Whatcom County Council Public Works & Health Committee

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



Committee Minutes - Final

VIRTUAL MEETING - ENDS NO LATER THAN 2:15 P.M.

Tuesday, June 16, 2020

1:15 PM

Virtual Meeting

COUNCILMEMBERS

Todd Donovan
Carol Frazey
Kathy Kershner

CLERK OF THE COUNCIL

Dana Brown-Davis, C.M.C.

Call To Order

Council Chair Carol Frazey called the meeting to order at 1:16 p.m. in a virtual meeting.

Roll Call

Present: 3 - Carol Frazey, Todd Donovan and Kathy Kershner

Absent: None

Also present: Rud Browne, Barry Buchanan and Tyler Byrd

Announcements

Committee Discussion

1. [AB2020-251](#) Discussion regarding bicycles/pedestrians safety on Marine Drive
Clerk's Note: This item was discussed later in the meeting after AB2020-184.

Committee Discussion and Recommendation to Council

1. [AB2020-184](#) Consideration of citizen appeals of address change due to correction of address number sequence
Doug Ranney, Public Works Department, briefed the Councilmembers.

Browne suggested a motion be made that anybody who is affected by a change of address that is instigated by the County receives \$1000 to defray the costs of having to notify everybody of their change of address, to change the signage on their house and to otherwise deal with redirection and mail issues going forward.

Ranney answered what the main problem is with having address numbers out of sequence.

Jon Hutchings, Public Works Department Director, and Ranney answered whether these were residences as opposed to businesses, how many properties are affected, and whether the situation that they are proposing to correct is a result of a misapplication by the County in addressing or a byproduct of scattered shop development.

Karen Frakes, Prosecuting Attorney's Office, addressed the suggested motion and stated it would not be appropriate as it would be a gift of public funds.

Councilmembers, Frakes, and Hutchings discussed the suggested motion. If a citizen feels they have suffered monetarily and they want to make a claim, that claim can be filed and the County will evaluate it. The result of the Council's action today may set a precedent and will inform how similar situations will be handled down the road.

Satpal Sidhu, County Executive, asked Frakes about County liability if there was an emergency and emergency response was dispatched but went to the wrong house.

Browne withdrew his suggested motion.

Ranney answered how many times a year this type of address change happens, how many more of these changes they have left to do, and whether the County can disentangle past administrative mistakes associated with development.

Councilmembers and staff continued to discuss.

Donovan moved that the appeal be RECOMMENDED FOR DENIAL. The motion carried by the following vote:

Aye: 3 - Frazey, Donovan and Kershner

Nay: 0

Absent: 0

Committee Discussion

1. [AB2020-251](#) Discussion regarding bicycles/pedestrians safety on Marine Drive

Clerk's Note: This is a continuation of the discussion from earlier in the meeting.

Jon Hutchings, Public Works Department Director, briefed the Councilmembers. He answered questions about whether the cost of an at-grade railroad crossing would be similar to ones at Boulevard Park or Clayton Beach and what the costs would be.

This agenda item was DISCUSSED.

Other Business

There was no other business.

Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 2:05 p.m.

ATTEST:

WHATCOM COUNTY COUNCIL
WHATCOM COUNTY, WA

Carol Frazey-via email 7/10/2020

Dana Brown-Davis, Council Clerk

Carol Frazey, Committee Chair

Kristi Felbinger, Minutes Transcription

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