



WHATCOM COUNTY PLANNING COMMISSION

5280 Northwest Drive
Bellingham, WA 98226

AGENDA May 26, 2022

The Whatcom County Planning Commission will hold a **virtual*** meeting at 6:30 p.m., with staff located at the Northwest Annex Conference Room, 5280 Northwest Drive, Bellingham.

- Call to Order
- Roll Call
- Flag Salute
- Department Update
- Open Session for Public Comment
- Commissioner Comments
- Approval of Minutes of May 12, 2022
- Unfinished Business – Work Session
 - Proposed Amendments to the Lake Whatcom Watershed Overlay District (WCC 20.51), Water Resource Protection Overlay District (WCC 20.71), and the code-referenced stormwater manual throughout WCC Title 20 (Zoning).
- Adjournment

*** This is a virtual meeting only.**

NOTE: For information on how to watch and participate in the meeting in real time, please visit the following web page: [Participate in Virtual Planning Commission Meeting](#)

Individuals who require special assistance to participate in the meetings are asked to contact "PDS_Planning_Commission@co.whatcom.wa.us" at least 96 hours in advance.

Upcoming Meeting Topics

- Wireless Code Amendments
- Buildable Lands

Pending Items Commissioners would like to address

Code related implications of climate modeling

For more information please contact

**Tammy Axlund at (360)778-5935 or
PDS_Planning_Commission@co.whatcom.wa.us
5280 Northwest Drive, Bellingham WA 98226**



**RECORD OF PROCEEDINGS OF THE
WHATCOM COUNTY PLANNING COMMISSION
May 12, 2022**

Public Hearing

1

1 **Call to Order**

2 The virtual meeting was called to order by Whatcom County Planning Commission
3 Chair, Kelvin Barton at 6:32 p.m.

4 **Roll Call**

5 **Present:** Robert Bartel, Kelvin Barton, Atul Deshmane, Jim Hansen, Julie Jefferson,
6 Kimberley Lund, Dominic Mocerri, Scott Van Dalen

7 **Absent:** Stephen Jackson

8 **Staff Present:** Steve Roberge and Tammy Axlund

9 **Department Update**

10 Steve Roberge, Assistant Director of Planning and Development Services (PDS),
11 discussed upcoming agenda items for the next few Planning Commission meetings. He
12 advised that in addition to some statutory changes to the Open Public Meetings Act,
13 the Governor has rescinded the emergency order that called for meetings be held
14 remotely. Changes to the rules take effect in June. At the next meeting in May, we will
15 provide information and discuss how to adjust our meetings to align with the rules.

16 Mr. Roberge provided a brief update on Planning items at the most recent County
17 Council meeting including a public hearing on Short Term Rentals, Shoreline
18 Management Plan amendments, and a hearings board appeal settlement.

19 **Open Session Public Comment**

20 **Timestamp: 6:43**

21 *Alexander Harris provided public comment on the proposed watershed overlay district
22 amendments.

23 **Commissioner Comments**

24 Commissioner Hansen commended Mr. Harris for setting a fine example of succinct
25 delivery of information.

26 **Approval of Meeting Minutes**

27 **Timestamp: 9:25**

28 **Commissioner Lund moved** to approve the meeting minutes from March 24, 2022.

29 **Commissioner Mocerri seconded.**

30 **Roll Call Vote: Ayes-Barton, Hansen, Jefferson, Lund, Mocerri; Abstain-Bartel,**
31 **Deshmane, Van Dalen; (Ayes-5; Nays-0; Abstain-3). The motion carried.**

32 **Proposed Amendments to the Lake Whatcom Watershed Overlay District**
33 **(WCC 20.51), Water Resource Protection Overlay District (WCC 20.71), and**
34 **the code-referenced stormwater manual throughout WCC Title 20 (Zoning).**

35 **Timestamp: 11:37**



**RECORD OF PROCEEDINGS OF THE
WHATCOM COUNTY PLANNING COMMISSION
May 12, 2022**

Public Hearing

2

1 The Chair announced that due to the absence of a subject matter expert, the work
2 session on this topic would be postponed until the next regular meeting of the Planning
3 Commission, which is scheduled to be held May 26, 2022.

4 Steve Roberge noted that we received proposed amendments from two
5 Commissioners, and they will be included in the next meeting packet. He provided a
6 brief summary of the amendments proposed by staff and offered to take general
7 questions.

8 Commissioner Hansen commended staff on the thoroughness of their work on these
9 matters.

10 **Public Hearing Regarding Proposed Amendments**

11 **Timestamp: 17:21**

12 Michael Feerer and Laura Weiss provided public comment. *See Public Comment Session
13 for additional comments on this item.

14 **a) Work Session**

15 The work session was postponed until May 26, 2022.

16 **Adjournment**

17 The meeting was adjourned at 6:57 p.m.

18 Minutes prepared by Tammy Axlund.

19 WHATCOM COUNTY PLANNING COMMISSION ATTEST:

20 _____
21 Kelvin Barton, Chair

Tammy Axlund, Secretary