



**RECORD OF PROCEEDINGS OF THE  
WHATCOM COUNTY PLANNING COMMISSION  
May 09, 2024**

Public Hearing and Work Session

1

1 **Call to Order**

2 The meeting was called to order by Whatcom County Planning Commission Chair,  
3 Kelvin Barton at 6:31 p.m.

4 **Roll Call**

5 **Present:** Kelvin Barton, Daniel Dahlquist, Atul Deshmane, Jim Hansen, Dominic  
6 Mocerri, Scott Van Dalen

7 Frank James arrived at 6:55p

8 **Absent:** Stephen Jackson, Julie Jefferson

9 **Staff Present:** Steve Roberge, Aileen Kogut-Aguon, Matt Aamot

10 **Other Parties Present:** Rachelle Bradley, Consultant (SCJ Alliance) and Ted Kamp,  
11 Consultant (Leland Consulting Group)

12 **Department Update**

13 Steve Roberge, Assistant Director of Planning and Development Services (PDS), stated  
14 that the next meeting will be about the Heavy Industrial Impact Zone, Bellingham  
15 UGA, and the docket.

16 **Open Session Public Comment**

17 Dave Widner provided a public comment.

18 **Commissioner Comments**

19 There was no commissioner comment

20 **Approval of Meeting Minutes**

21 **Timestamp: 6:38p**

22 **1 Commissioner Hansen moved** to approve the meeting minutes from April 25<sup>th</sup>,  
23 2024.

24 **Commissioner Dahlquist seconded.**

25 **Roll Call Vote: Ayes- Dahlquist, Hansen, Barton, Deshmane**

26 **Abstain- Van Dalen, Mocerri**

27 **(Ayes-4; Nays-0; Abstain-2). The motion carried.**

28 **Public Participation Plan**

29 **Timestamp: 6:40p**

30 Matt Aamot, PDS Planner, provided background information on the Growth  
31 Management Act (GMA). The GMA requires Whatcom County to review and revise its  
32 comprehensive plan and development regulations by December 31<sup>st</sup>, 2025 to include a  
33 public participation plan as part of the update. Mr. Aamot stated that a draft public  
34 participation plan has been developed with the assistance of the County's consultant,  
35 SCJ Alliance, to guide community engagement efforts throughout this process to  
36 ensure early and continuous involvement within the comp plan update.



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1 Rachelle Bradley of SCJ Alliance provided insights into their contributions to the  
2 county's comprehensive plan update. Ms. Bradley stated that the public participation  
3 plan will include public engagement in a variety of formats, including pop-up events  
4 throughout the county, a community survey, participating in advisory committee  
5 meetings and planning commission meetings and hearings.

6  
7 **a) Public Hearing and Work Session Regarding Public Participation Plan**

8 **Timestamp: 7:20p**

9 Kathleen Greenbaum provided public comment

10 Dave Widner provided public comment

11 Danielle Gaughen, executive director for Birch Bay Chamber of Commerce, provided  
12 public comment

13 Mr. Aamot responded to the publics' questions

14 Ms. Bradley responded to Commissioner questions

15 **2Commissioner Deshmane moved** adopt the Public Participation Plan as presented.

16 **Commissioner Van Dalen seconded.**

17 **Roll Call Vote: Ayes- Van Dalen, Dahlquist, Deshmane, Hansen, James, Moceri,**  
18 **Barton**

19 **(Ayes-7; Nays-0; Abstain-0). The motion carried.**

20 **Population Employment Projections and Allocations Work Session**

21 **Timestamp: 7:44p**

22 Matt Aamot provided background information on the GMA's requirement for the county  
23 to update the comp plan that includes undertaking a process to allocate population,  
24 housing and employment growth in and outside of urban growth areas (UGA).

25 Ted Kamp of Leland Consulting Group summarized the Population and Employment:  
26 Growth Projections and Preliminary Allocations Technical Report.

27 **Timestamp:**

28 **Adjournment**

29 **Timestamp:**

30 The meeting was adjourned at 8:30p p.m.

31 Minutes prepared by Aileen Kogut-Aguon.

32 WHATCOM COUNTY PLANNING COMMISSION ATTEST:

33 Handwritten signature of Kelvin Barton in black ink.

34 Kelvin Barton, Chair

Handwritten signature of Aileen Kogut-Aguon in black ink, enclosed in an oval.

Aileen Kogut-Aguon, Secretary