



Whatcom County Housing Advisory Committee

Meeting Minutes

Meeting Date/Time/Location: 3/14/2024 / 8:30-9:30am / Hybrid: Civic 1st Floor Conference Room & Zoom

Committee Members Present: Ann Beck, Ashley Thomasson, Brien Thane, Bruce Bosch, Dan Dunne, Mary Lou Steward, Paul Schissler, Samya Lutz, Tara Sundin, Von Ochoa

Committee Members Absent: Adrienne Renz, Dawna Morse, Diana Phair, Kayla Schott-Bresler, Teri Bryant

WCHCS Staff/Guest Presenters: Ashley Geleyense, Chris D'Onofrio

Agenda Item	Report/Discussion
1. Call to order, introductions, and roll call	Introductions commenced and quorum present.
2. Agenda Review	There were no requested revisions to the agenda.
3. Approval of Minutes	Samya moved that the minutes from the February 2023 meeting be approved, Ann seconded the motion. The committee voted and the motion passed. Yes: 10; No: 0; Abstain: 0
4. Discussion, Review, and Endorsement of 2025 Comp Plan Recommendations to the Executive	<p>Dan reviewed the committee's task to make general recommendations to the County Executive regarding the 2025 Comprehensive Plan. Dan proposed to review the list of Council Priorities, make suggested changes as recommended by members of the committee, and then review collaboratively one by one to either keep, add, change, or remove.</p> <p>Samya shared that she and Tara met with folks internal to the City of Bellingham, and they suggest adding into the mix the Countywide Planning Policies, an existing document that is part of each city's and Whatcom County's comprehensive plans. The amendments were intended to strengthen the language of the policies related to affordable housing. An edited version of Section G of this document was shared with all members. Samya reviewed the City's recommendation to update numbers two, five, six, and seven and remove number nine. Ashley G. screenshared the document and committee members discussed and collaboratively made additional changes to numbers two and six.</p> <p>Ashley G. screenshared the Council Priorities document and committee members collaboratively reviewed and suggested edits.</p> <p>Tara motioned that the Countywide Planning Policies document that was amended by the committee be included in the memo to the Executive. Ann seconded the motion. The committee voted and the motion passed. Yes: 10; No: 0; Abstain: 0</p>



	<p>Members continued to review items in the Council Priorities document. Time was running out before the end of the meeting, so a quorum of members agreed to extend the meeting by 10-15 minutes to finish the review.</p> <p>Samya moved that the edited list of priorities be included in the memo from the Committee Chair to the County Executive. Ann seconded the motion. Paul recommended one additional change to the document. The committee voted and the motion passed. Tara and Mary Lou were not present for the final vote. Yes: 8; No: 0; Abstain: 0</p>
5. Public Comment	There was no public comment.
Adjourn	The meeting was adjourned.

Next Meeting: Thursday, April 11, 2024, 8:30-10:00am

