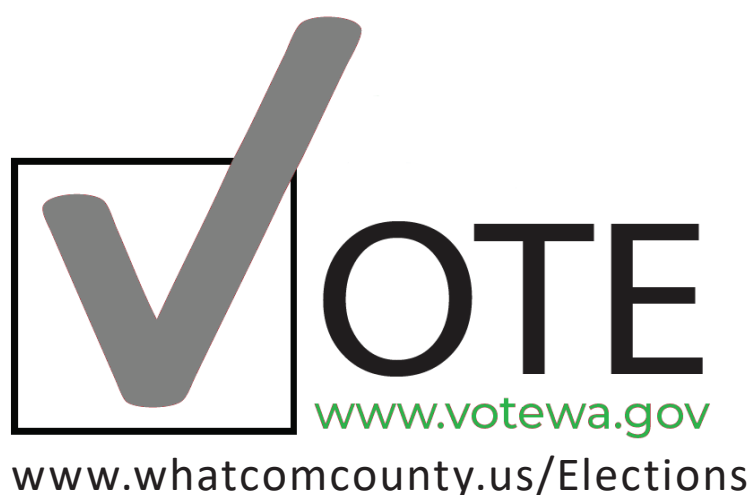


Whatcom County Official Local Voters' Pamphlet

Primary Election Tuesday, August 1, 2023



Ballots are mailed July 12,
if your ballot hasn't arrived by

July 19

contact the Election Division.



Diana Bradrick
Whatcom County Auditor
311 Grand Avenue Suite 103
Bellingham, WA 98225

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PAID
LYNDEN, WA
PERMIT NO. 20



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ADDRESS
CITY STATE ZIP

Table of Contents

Page

	Letter from the Auditor	2
	Election Division Contact Information	2
	Voting in Washington State	3
	Accessible Voting Unit	3
	Voting Instructions	3
	Your Signature Matters	4
	More Information	5
	Sample Ballot	6
	Path of the Ballot	7
	Candidate Statements	
	Whatcom County - Executive, Council District 4, Council At-Large Position B	8-11
	City of Bellingham - Mayor, Council Ward 1, Council At-Large	12-15
	City of Everson - Council Position 5	15
	Ferndale School District 502 - Director District 2	17
	Blaine School District 503 - Director District 2	18
	Lynden School District 504 - Director Position 3	19
	Meridian School District 505 - Director District 5	20
	Sedro-Woolley School District No. 101 - Director District 3	21
	Hospital District 304 - Commissioner Position 2	21
	Ballot Measure	
	Fire Protection District 4	22
	District Maps	16
	Returning Your Ballot	24



Dear Voter,

Exercise your right to Vote! This Primary Election has a number of important races on the ballot including:

- County Executive
- County Council District 4
- County Council At-Large Position B
- City of Bellingham Mayor
- City of Bellingham Council Ward 1
- City of Bellingham Council At-Large
- City of Everson Council Position 5
- Ferndale School District 502 Director District 2
- Blaine School District 503 Director District 2
- Lynden School District 504 Director Position 3
- Meridian School District 505 Director District 5
- Sedro-Woolley School District 101 Director District 3
- Hospital District 304 Commissioner Position 2
- There is also a Fire District 4 levy measure

For each contest, the two candidates who receive the most votes in the primary election qualify for the general election. In order to have a voice, you need to vote, sign and return your ballot. If you don't know who to vote for, or don't know the measure, use this local voters' pamphlet to get informed.

We encourage you to get engaged in the process. You are invited to observe activities in the Election Center where ballot processing occurs. There are links on our website to view 5 live webcams, along with an Observer Guide that explains the many steps we take to count your ballot. We will also be offering tours of the election center starting the week of July 24th. See our website for more details and information on how to sign up for a tour.

Don't let someone else make the decision for you. Vote your ballot and return it. Remember, to make sure your vote gets counted, sign your ballot envelope (make sure it has your name on it) and turn it in on time. This pamphlet lists the ballot drop box locations throughout the county on page 24.

Every vote matters – and remember, democracy is not a spectator sport.

Sincerely,

Diana Bradrick
Whatcom County Auditor



Whatcom County Auditor's Office
Election Division

Services include voter registration, ballot replacement, and accessible voting using visual or audio technology. Contact us for more information.

Hours: Monday - Friday, 8:30 am - 4:30 pm*
*Open until 8:00 pm on August 1

In Person: 311 Grand Ave., Suite 103, Bellingham

Phone: (360) 778-5102

Fax: (360) 778-5101

Email: elections@co.whatcom.wa.us

Web: www.whatcomcounty.us/Elections

TRIVIA

Multiple Choice

- 1) When did voting in Whatcom County switch from poll sites to vote by mail?
 - A. 2001
 - B. 2005
 - C. 2011
- 2) How can you register to vote?
 - A. Online at VoteWA.gov
 - B. Paper form
 - C. In person at Whatcom County Auditor's Office
 - D. All of the above
- 3) If a signature gets challenged on a return envelope, how much time does the voter have to fix it?
 - A. 1 week after your ballot is challenged.
 - B. 2 days before your ballot is challenged.
 - C. The day before the election is certified.
- 4) What would cause a voter registration to become inactive?
 - A. They didn't vote in the last election.
 - B. Their ballot packet was returned undeliverable from the USPS.
 - C. Their signature was challenged and never cured.
 - D. All of the above
- 5) Does a voter have to declare a party affiliation when they register to vote in Washington State?
 - A. No
 - B. Yes
- 6) What if I receive a ballot that is not addressed to me?
 - A. Call the Auditor's Office
 - B. Write "Return to sender, not at this address" on the envelope and put it back in your mailbox.
 - C. Recycle it
 - D. All of the above

True OR False?

- 7) ___ The signature on a return envelope must be in cursive for the ballot to be accepted.
- 8) ___ You must vote on every item in order for your ballot to be counted.
- 9) ___ If you lost or misplaced your ballot, you can print a replacement ballot online.
- 10) ___ Voters need to wait until election day to return their ballot.
- 11) ___ Voters in Washington State need to request an absentee ballot.
- 12) ___ Before your ballot can be counted, election officials verify the signature on your return envelope.
- 13) ___ Ballots are often rejected for being returned late, missing a signature or having a mismatched signature.
- 14) ___ In 2022, 17-year-olds were able to vote in a primary election as long as they would be 18 by the general election.
- 15) ___ If you were convicted of a felony and have served your sentence, you are not allowed to vote.
- 16) ___ Ballots come with a postage-paid return envelope.
- 17) ___ During an election, ballots are processed once a week.

BONUS QUESTION

- 18) In what year was the legal voting age lowered to 18 in the United States?
 - A. 1920
 - B. 1954
 - C. 1971

Answers on page 5



To Register to Vote, You Must Be:

- A citizen of the United States.
- A Washington State resident that meets the requirements for voting mandated by state law.
- At least 18 years old on election day, or 17 years old at the primary and 18 years old by the day of the November general election.
- Not disqualified from voting due to a court order.
- Not serving a sentence of total confinement under the jurisdiction of the Department of Corrections for a Washington felony conviction or currently incarcerated for a federal or out-of-state felony conviction.

How to Register to Vote:



ONLINE: Go to VoteWA.gov on or before **Monday, July 24** if you have a current Washington State Driver License or I.D. card.



PAPER FORM: Complete and return a Washington State Voter Registration Form. **Forms must be received in the Auditor's Office by July 24.** Registration forms are available at city halls, libraries, online, or by contacting the Whatcom County Auditor's Office.



IN PERSON: Come into the Whatcom County Auditor's Office, Election Division, by 8:00 pm on Election Day.

Registration Deadlines:



Voter registration and address changes online or by mail **must be received by July 24.**

Starting July 25, visit our office in person to register to vote or update your current registration by 8:00 pm Election Day.

Washington Votes by Mail Every Election!

- If you are registered to vote in Washington, there is no need to request a ballot. Active voters will be mailed a ballot before each election. Log in and view your registration at VoteWA.gov.
- Voting by mail is accessible, convenient, and gives you time to learn about the candidates and ballot measures.
- ALL signatures are verified before the ballot is counted.
- Results are neither known nor reported before 8:00 pm on Election Day.

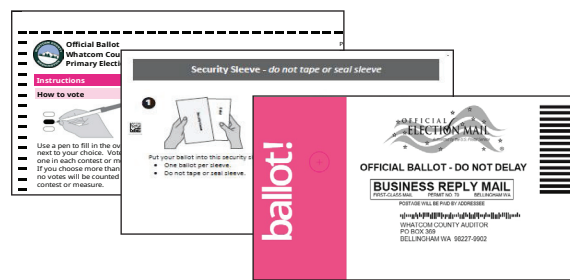


Accessible Voting Unit (AVU)

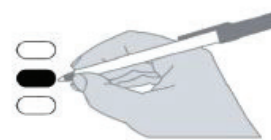
An accessible voting unit (AVU) is equipped with visual and audio technology. Voters requiring reasonable accommodation or assistance may vote on the AVU in the Auditor's Office starting July 12 through August 1.



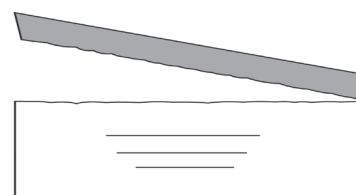
1. The ballot packet for the August 1 Primary Election will be mailed to you on July 12. The packet will include your official ballot, a security sleeve, and a postage-paid return envelope.



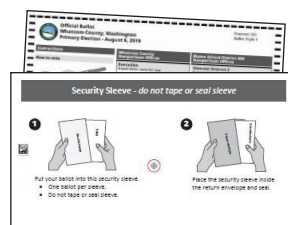
2. To vote the ballot, fill in the oval next to your choice with a blue or black pen. Vote for only one in each contest.



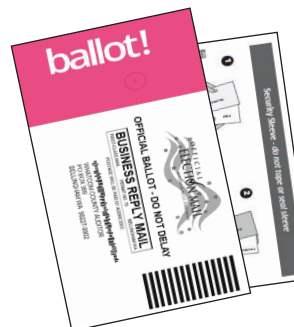
3. Remove the stub at the top of your ballot. *If you forget to remove the stub, your ballot will still be counted.*



4. Place your voted ballot into the security sleeve. *If you forget the security sleeve, your ballot will still be counted.*



5. Put the ballot/security sleeve into the return envelope and seal.

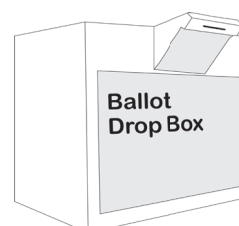


6. Sign and date your return envelope that has your name printed on it. **Your signature on the return envelope is required for your ballot to be counted.**

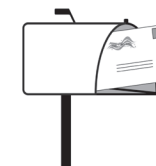
Sign and date below



7. Return your ballot to the Whatcom County Auditor's Office by ballot drop box or mail. See page 24 for more information on returning your ballot.



Or



Ballot must be in the drop box by 8:00 pm, August 1

Or

Ballot must be **postmarked** by August 1



Your Signature Matters

- Sign and date the voter declaration on the return envelope that has *your* name printed on it.

- We compare the signature on your ballot envelope with the signature on your voter registration. This is how we know you voted the ballot. **Every signature** is reviewed and verified.
- *How do we get your signature?*
If you register or update using a paper registration form, we capture your signature from the form. If you register or update through the Department of Motor Vehicles, we capture the signature from your Washington State Driver License or I.D. card.
- Do not sign for another registered voter.
- A Power of Attorney does not have authority to sign for the voter. If a voter is unable to sign, they should make a mark on the signature line and have their mark witnessed by two people. The two witnesses need to sign on the lines provided.
- Our office can have more than one signature on file for you. If you want to provide another signature, please contact us with that request (*Signature Update request*).



Signature FAQs

How are ballots determined to have signature issues?

For every ballot that is returned during an election, Whatcom County Elections staff compare the signature on the return envelope to the signature(s) in the voter registration record for that voter. Any ballot return envelope with a signature that does not match is flagged and reviewed by a second staff member before being challenged and set aside until the voter returns a signature challenge form. This process is required by Washington State law in order to make sure that the voter the ballot was mailed to is the voter who filled out and returned the ballot.

What do I do if I got a letter that my signature on my ballot didn't match or the envelope was unsigned?

If the signature on your return envelope does not match the signature we have in your voter record, or if you forgot to sign your ballot envelope we will send you a letter to "cure" your signature. If your signature didn't match, sign the declaration on the form the same way you signed the return envelope and return it to us in the postage paid envelope provided. If you didn't sign your envelope, sign the way you usually do. If you printed your name on your envelope be sure to print on the form so we can match the signatures. Several days after the election we will call to remind you if you haven't returned the letter. If we have your email address we will also email you a reminder.

Someone showed up at my house with a form to correct my signature, do they work for the Auditor's Office?

The Auditor's Office will **never** show up at your house to get you to sign a signature form and will **never** ask you how you voted. By state law, campaigns can get a copy of the voter list that shows which voters have challenged signatures. They may recruit volunteers to reach out to those voters to get their signatures cured so their votes can be counted. The Auditor's Office has no oversight responsibility for this activity.

Does Whatcom County Elections contact voters with a signature challenge issue?

Yes. All voters who have their signature challenged are sent a letter the next business day that explains the issue and includes a signature challenge form along with a postage-paid return envelope they can use to return the form. If the voter has provided an email address or phone number to Whatcom County Elections, they will also be sent an email and called once to notify them that there is an issue with their signature.

Is my ballot going to be counted if my signature was challenged?

If your signature has been challenged, you must fix the issue with your signature in order to have your ballot counted. You can do this by returning a signature challenge form to Whatcom County Elections before the day the election results are certified on August 15. If you do not fix the signature issue in time, your ballot will not be counted for that election.

Once I've fixed my signature issue, how can I make sure my ballot was counted?

You can always see whether or not your ballot has been accepted by checking the ballot status at VoteWA.gov.

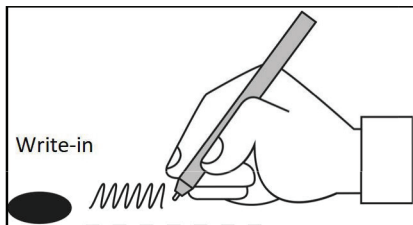


Write-In Voting

Write-in candidates must file a Declaration of Write-In Candidacy to have votes tallied. Write-in candidates have until 8:00 pm on Election Day to file their Declaration.

Write-in candidates do not appear on the ballot, websites, or in the printed Voters' Pamphlet.

To cast a vote for a declared write-in candidate, fill in the oval next to the write-in line on the ballot and write the name of the qualified candidate on the line provided.



You can register to vote or update your address in Washington State with your Washington State ID or driver license at VoteWA.gov.

Once registered, you can view personalized voter information, including:

- Details of your voter registration
- A link to print a replacement ballot
- An online voter guide for each election
- Information on your elected officials
- Locations of ballot drop boxes
- A list of past elections in which you returned a ballot
- Seeing if your ballot has been received



Trivia Answers:

- 1) B - RCW 29A.40.010 Washington State votes by mail.
- 2) D - RCW 29A.08.120 & 29A.08.123 There are three ways to register: Online, by Paper Form, and In Person.
- 3) C - WAC 434-261-050 Sign a copy of the declaration, appear in person or mark the declaration in front of two witnesses, and return it to the county auditor no later than the day before certification of the primary or election.
- 4) B - RCW 29A.08.620 The county auditor shall place a voter on inactive status and send to all known addresses a confirmation notice if any of the following occur: Any document mailed by the county auditor to a voter is returned by the postal service as undeliverable without address correction information.
- 5) A - RCW 29A.08.166 Under no circumstances may an individual be required to affiliate with, join, adhere to, express faith in, or declare a preference for, a political party or organization upon registering to vote.
- 6) B - Please write "Return to sender, not at this address" on the envelope and put it back in your mailbox.
- 7) F - Sign your return envelope how you always sign. It doesn't have to be legible or in cursive. It needs to match the signature we have on file.
- 8) F - WAC 434-261-086 Ballots are counted based on the statewide standard on what is a vote (voter intent).
- 9) T - RCW 29A.40.070 A registered voter may obtain a replacement ballot if the ballot is destroyed, spoiled, lost, or not received by the voter. The voter may obtain the ballot by telephone request, by mail, electronically, or in person. The county auditor shall keep a record of each request for a replacement ballot.
- 10) F - Ballots need to be returned to a drop box by 8:00 pm on election day, OR mailed with a postmark by election day.
- 11) F - WAC 434-250-030 Voters don't need to request an absentee ballot. All active voters are mailed a ballot 18 days before election day.
- 12) T - RCW 29A.40.110 The canvassing board, or its designated representatives, shall examine the signature on the declaration before processing the ballot.
- 13) T - WAC 434-261-050 If a voter neglects to sign a ballot declaration, signs with a mark and fails to have two witnesses attest to the signature, or signs but the signature on the ballot declaration does not match the signature on the voter registration record, the county auditor shall notify the voter by first class mail of the correct procedures for curing the signature.
WAC 434-230-015 In order for the ballot to be counted, it must be either post-marked no later than election day or deposited at a ballot drop box no later than 8:00 p.m. election day.
- 14) T - RCW 29A.08.170 A person who signs up to register to vote may not vote until reaching eighteen years of age unless the person is seventeen years of age at the primary election or presidential primary election and will be eighteen years of age by the general election. A person who signs up to register to vote may not be added to the statewide voter registration database list of voters until such time as he or she will be eligible to vote in the next election.
- 15) F - RCW 29A.08.520 For a felony conviction in a Washington state court, the right to vote is automatically restored as long as the person is not serving a sentence of total confinement under the jurisdiction of the department of corrections.
- 16) T - RCW 29A.40.091 Return envelopes for all ballot packets must include prepaid postage.
- 17) F - RCW 29A.60.165 The county auditor, as delegated by the county canvassing board, shall process ballots and canvass the votes cast at that primary or election on a daily basis in counties with a population of seventy-five thousand or more, or at least every third day for counties with a population of less than seventy-five thousand, if the county auditor is in possession of more than five hundred ballots that have yet to be canvassed.
- 18) C - The voting age before 1971 was 21.



More Contact Information

For a list of people and organizations that donated to state and local candidates and ballot measure campaigns, visit www.pdc.wa.gov.

A special thanks to Election Tools for the use of the icons in this pamphlet (electiontools.org)

Secretary of State - State Elections Division

Email: elections@sos.wa.gov
Phone: 360-902-4180 or 800-448-4881

Contact Information for Major Political Parties in Whatcom County:

Democratic Headquarters
215 W. Holly Street, Suite B-27
Bellingham, WA 98225
Phone: (360) 647-7661

Republican Headquarters
2321 E. Bakerview Road, Suite B
Bellingham, WA 98226
Phone: (360) 734-5215



Not all districts on this sample will appear on your ballot.
Only the races that you are entitled to vote on will appear.

Whatcom County Nonpartisan Offices
Executive
Misty Flowers Alicia Rule Satpal Sidhu Dan Purdy Barry Buchanan Sukhwant Gill
County Council District 4
Mark Stremler Kathy Kershner Katherine Orłowski
County Council At-Large Position B
Atul Deshmane Jon Scanlon Hannah Ordos Jerry Burns
City of Bellingham Nonpartisan Offices
Mayor
Christopher J. McCoy Kim Lund Seth Fleetwood Mike McAuley Kristina Michele Martens
Council Ward 1
Michi Marcher Hannah Stone Eamonn Collins
Council At-Large
Maya Morales Garrett O'Brien Paul Schissler Jace Cotton Russ Whidbee
City of Everson Nonpartisan Office
Council Position 5
Hadia Seddiqi Gary Locke Ashley Brown
Ferndale School District 502 Nonpartisan Office
Director District 2
Brent Bode Adrian Sheridan Antonio Machado Catano
Blaine School District 503 Nonpartisan Office
Director District 2
Tana Perkins Reneau Ben Lazarus Dean Berkeley

Lynden School District 504 Nonpartisan Office
Director Position 3
David E. Vis Terry Montague Jim Verburg
Meridian School District 505 Nonpartisan Office
Director District 5
J. Riley Sweeney Michelle Simmons Craig Mitchell Malia Pickett
Sedro-Woolley School District No. 101 Nonpartisan Office
Director District 3
Dani Baird Russell Tové Schweizer Hannah Oliver
Fire Protection District 4
Proposition 2023-01 Property Tax Levy for Fire Protection and Emergency Medical Services
The Board of Fire Commissioners for Fire Protection District 4 adopted Resolution No. 2023-02 concerning a proposition to maintain and adequately fund District operations. Proposition 2023-01 would restore the District's regular property tax levy to the previous voter-approved rate of \$0.99 per \$1,000.00 of assessed value for collection in 2024, and authorize setting the limit factor at 103% for each of the succeeding five years (but never to exceed the \$1.50 per \$1,000.00 rate limit). The dollar amount of the levy in 2029 shall serve as the base for subsequent levy limitations as provided by RCW 84.55.
Should this proposition be:
Approved Rejected
Hospital District 304 Nonpartisan Office
Commissioner Position 2
Ashley Gregorius Eric Lodjic Debra Lancaster

What is a Sample Ballot?

A Sample Ballot shows **all** the contests in the election. Not all contests will be on your ballot.

To view a list of districts in which you are eligible to vote, visit **VoteWA.gov**

- On your ballot, you may vote for one in each contest or measure.
- You are not required to vote for every contest and measure.
- The votes will be counted for the contests and measures you do vote on.
- The two candidates who receive the most votes in the Primary Election will move on to the General Election

The districts included in the August 1 Primary Election are as follows:

- Whatcom County
- City of Bellingham
- City of Everson
- Ferndale School District 502
- Blaine School District 503
- Lynden School District 504
- Meridian School District 505
- Sedro-Woolley School District No. 101
- Fire Protection District 4
- Hospital District 304

Election Resources

Visit our webpage for election results, maps, voter and candidate resources, historical data, election dates, forms, rules and regulations, and public disclosure information.

www.whatcomcounty.us/elections



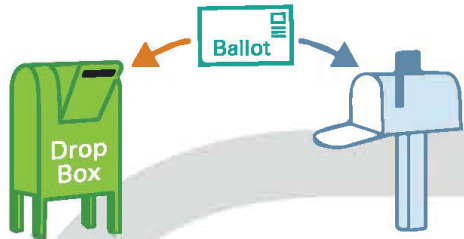


Observe the election process in person or online!

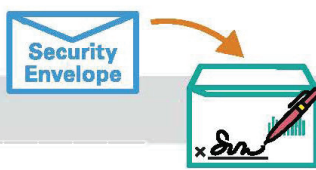
Visit the Observer Resources webpage, www.whatcomcounty.us/3747/Observer-Resources, for access to the live webcams, dates and times for different activities to observe, and more.

Vote By Mail in Washington state

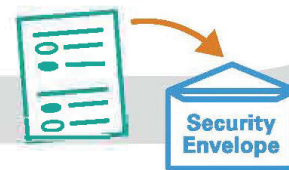
All eligible voters are sent a ballot at least 18 days before election.



Ballot has pre-paid postage and can be returned by U.S. mail or placed in an official ballot drop box. If mailed, must be postmarked by election day. Drop boxes are open until 8 p.m. on election day.



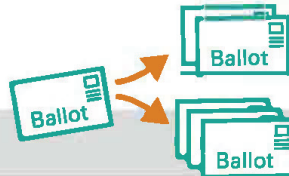
The security envelope or sleeve is put in a return envelope and signed. Voter may add email or phone number in case county needs to contact them.



Voter places marked ballot into a security envelope or sleeve.



Drop boxes are regularly emptied by teams of trained election staff. Ballots are tracked from collection through processing.



At processing facility ballots are sorted into batches. An image of the voter's signature is captured for verification.



Signature is checked against voter registration record. Voter is contacted by available means before processing to "cure" signature if it is missing or doesn't match the voter registration record.



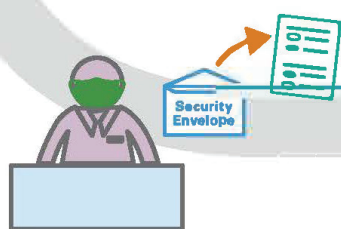
Return envelope is opened and security envelope or sleeve is removed.



Voters can check their ballot status online. Allow 3-4 days for the system to post status updates.



When signature is verified, ballot is marked as "Accepted" in the VoteWA system and the voter is credited for participating, ensuring that if more than one ballot is returned, only one is counted.



Security envelope or sleeve is opened and ballot is removed for processing, resulting in secrecy of the vote.

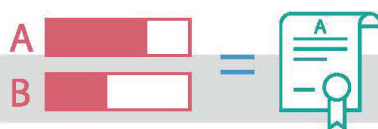


Ballot is reviewed for potential scanning issues like torn corners, then scanned and securely stored.

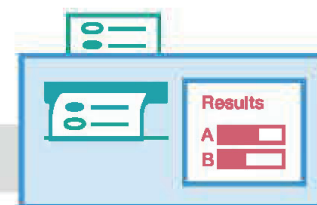


Scanners are not connected to any form of network or internet.

The election is complete, and preparations for the next election cycle begin.



Ballots continue to be processed, cured, and tabulated until certification.



At 8 p.m. on election night, ballots that have already been scanned are tabulated and results reported.



Whatcom County - Executive - Nonpartisan Office - 4 Year Term



Misty Flowers

Elected Experience: No Information Submitted

Other Professional Experience: 20 years owning and operating multiple small businesses which include musical performance, landscape maintenance and health coaching. 2+ years leadership, working with the public on engaging with local government, event planning and management. 2 years operations management of Toad Mountain Coffee in Ferndale, WA

Education: No Information Submitted.

Community Service: Professional leadership in Be Brave Washington, engaging public on community concerns, organization of meetings and events.

Statement: Whatcom County needs effective leadership to respond to challenges we face through identifying and implementing strategic, sustainable solutions. My trustworthy guidance, effective problem-solving and communication skills are needed to support our community. The functions of the county government as laid out in our Charter are my top priorities: advancing justice, inspiring confidence and fostering responsibility. My

effective leadership will provide sound, evidence-based decision-making and a commitment to preserve the many wonders of our unique environment.

In my leadership role for Be Brave Washington, I have brought realistic solutions and solid support to families and businesses affected by government policies. I have also worked tirelessly to create accountability in local government through public engagement.

My goals are to increase affordable housing, fund behavioral health services, improve fiscal responsibility, support transparency of policies and funding, and create the sustainability and stability that our county desperately needs.

I am honored to receive your vote and guarantee my full attention to the executive office of Whatcom County for the full term. My loyalty to Whatcom County is assured.

For More Information:

(360) 201-3650
misty@electmisty.com
www.electmisty.com



Alicia Rule

Elected Experience: State Representative, Blaine City Council Member

Other Professional Experience: My family is fifth-generation Whatcom County, and I'm a small-business owner. As a social worker and mental health professional, I've helped families through adoptions, supported children who are struggling or experienced abuse, and cared for hospice patients.

Education: Meridian High School; Bachelor's Degree, University of Washington; Master's Degree, San Diego State University

Community Service: Founded and served as president of Blaine Downtown Development Association, working with small-business owners to help attract family-wage jobs; organized school supply and backpack drives for children; and led a community-wide health fair to help uninsured children receive healthcare.

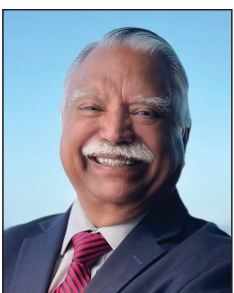
Statement: Whatcom County deserves an executive who works as hard as the people who live here. We have serious issues we need to tackle like

crime, homelessness, attracting working-class jobs, and finally stop talking and start building a new jail that is the right size for our community. These are management problems that I know how to address, using my experience as a small business owner and in state and local government.

As your State Representative, I worked hard to improve healthcare and mental health. I dramatically increased school nurses and counselors and expanded outdoor education. I increased funding for the law enforcement academy, sponsored law changes requested by police, and increased pay for state troopers. I said we need our fair share of state funding, so I got it for inpatient treatment, the Deacon Center, a Wellness Center with Lummi nation, a 23-hour behavioral health urgent care center, the Millworks Project, tiny home villages, and critical road and infrastructure projects. I cut taxes for farmers, families, and small businesses, increased affordable housing, invested in flood recovery and prevention, and made a major investment in restarting the Intalco plant, which I absolutely refuse to give up on. I am 100% pro-choice.

For More Information:

campaign@votealiciarule.com
www.votealiciarule.com



Satpal Sidhu

Elected Experience: Whatcom County Executive (2020-present); County Councilmember (2015-2020)

Other Professional Experience: Professional engineer, senior business executive, and project manager; former Dean of Engineering at Bellingham Technical College; former president of international solar company. Worked in manufacturing, solar and technical education sectors for 40 years.

Education: Fulbright Scholar, MBA, BS Electrical Engineering, BS Physics & Math.

Community Service: Board Member at Northwest Agricultural Business Center; Whatcom Community College Foundation; NW Clean Air Agency; Whatcom Transportation Authority; PeaceHealth Citizen Council; Whatcom Counselling; Psychiatric Clinic; Bellingham Police Diversity Committee; Meridian Public School District Foundation, and more.

Statement: My values are the American ideals of hard work, strong ethics, and community service. I have 40 years of leadership experience, working with people, building companies, managing multi-million-dollar projects, educating

next-generation workers, and making government work for everyone. As County Executive, I submitted responsible and balanced budgets, guided our response to the pandemic and flooding, and took bold steps toward addressing our community's housing needs. I always work to find common ground, listen to diverse views, find points of agreement, and make informed decisions.

I am supported by fellow elected officials, labor leaders and tribal elders, conservation groups and farmers, because they trust my leadership. I am committed to honoring tribal treaty rights, providing water security for all, and addressing climate change while creating 21st century jobs.

I know that what unites is much stronger than anything that divides us. We must work together to address the pressing issues of today and prepare ourselves for tomorrow's challenges.

I am the proud father of my three boys who graduated from Meridian High School. Mudir, my wife of 44 years, and I have lived in Whatcom County for over three decades. I humbly ask for your vote.

For More Information:

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Dan Purdy

Elected Experience: I'm a first time public candidate with significant private sector experience.

Other Professional Experience: Director of Partnerships at a successful firm that manages \$1B in client revenues. Experienced entrepreneur, consultant, published author, and LEAN expert with 25+ years in Fortune 500s, mid-size companies, and start-ups. Worked at BP, HP, Agilent Technologies, AECOM, and Freepport-McMoRan. Owned 4 small businesses since 2005.

Education: MBA, Business Management, Colorado State University; BBA, International Business Administration, Andrews University; Certified Lean Six Sigma Black Belt (LSSBB), Purdue University

Community Service: Teaches life skills to 30 teenagers weekly at church. Volunteered as School Board Chair/Vice-Chair for 7 years.

Statement: Hello, I'm Dan Purdy, an experienced executive ready to serve you. With a background as an entrepreneur, management consultant, and lean professional, I bring over 25 years of expertise from various company sizes and sectors.

Throughout my career, I demonstrated effective leadership and responsible

financial management. My guiding principles include discipline, transparency, and accountability which extends to balancing our \$271M revenue budget. I'm committed to a strategy that reduces rising living costs and unnecessary housing regulations. I'm dedicated to prioritizing environmental stewardship and promoting sustainable development for our county's future.

My wife and three teenagers know that my decision-making process is respectful, fair, and balanced. I'll bring this same approach to the challenges facing Whatcom County. We must support both law enforcement and first responders, while simultaneously increasing mental health services and addiction treatment. By striking a harmonious balance between growth and preservation, we can safeguard Whatcom County's natural beauty and agricultural legacy for future generations.

I'm approaching this campaign as a CEO job interview. I value your input, will actively listen, ask open-ended questions, and consider your perspectives to find reasonable consensus. As one of Whatcom County's taxpayers, what do you value and want in your CEO?

For More Information:

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info@danpurdy.com
www.DanPurdy.com



Whatcom County - Executive - Nonpartisan Office - 4 Year Term



Barry Buchanan

Elected Experience: Whatcom County Councilmember - serving my third term, currently Chair. Former Bellingham City Councilmember, Chair of Whatcom Democrats.

Other Professional Experience: I have a passion for public service and seeing big projects through to completion. I'm a US Navy Veteran and was a Lead Engineer at Lockheed, working on our nation's biggest projects: the Space Shuttle, Hubble Space Telescope.

Education: Bellingham High School; US Navy Advanced Electronics; Ohlone and San Jose Community Colleges.

Community Service: I've led on the issues that matter most: completing a new mental health crisis facility, founding a multi-government homelessness workgroup, countywide affordable childcare, and planning a safe, right-sized jail.

Statement: *Five times*, my fellow County Councilmembers have elected me Council Chair with bipartisan votes— including during the darkest days of the Pandemic— because I'm a bridge-builder and I listen. We need strong, focused leadership in the County Executive's office to make faster progress on serious

challenges: childcare, homelessness, job growth, clean water, a jail and justice center.

I've directed projects for major national companies and started a small business. I served our country in the military and now dedicate my life to public service. You can trust me to manage County employees with respect and be a careful steward of tax dollars when tackling complex projects. I know county issues inside out - I'm ready to lead from day one.

Voters demanded a Cherry Point compromise to preserve good jobs and protect our environment, approved emergency medical service and childcare levies, and called for treatment for neighbors in crisis. I'm proud of my role leading these reforms. I'd be honored by your vote.

I'm a fourth-generation Whatcom resident. I raised my kids here with my wife of 50 years, Judy. I'm endorsed by Senator Sharon Shewmake, Representative Debra Lekanoff, County Councilmember Todd Donovan, and many more - check my website!

For More Information:
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www.electbarry.com



Sukhwant Gill

Elected Experience: Served on Blaine City council.

Other Professional Experience: 25 years managing large budgets and economic development, operating several businesses with many employees in Whatcom, and cross-border advertising. Previous 18 years experience as paymaster and union leader for a municipal electricity department serving a population with more than 15,000 people.

Education: College educated. Certified WA State Nursing Aid.

Community Service: Served on the Blaine Tourism and Advisory Committee. Served as temple president and also worked with Miracle Food Network providing food and clothes for people in need. During covid, offered housing solutions and his stores gave away free milk and bread for several months.

Statement: We need more than smiles and promises. You are the boss, the county executive needs to listen to you and take action.

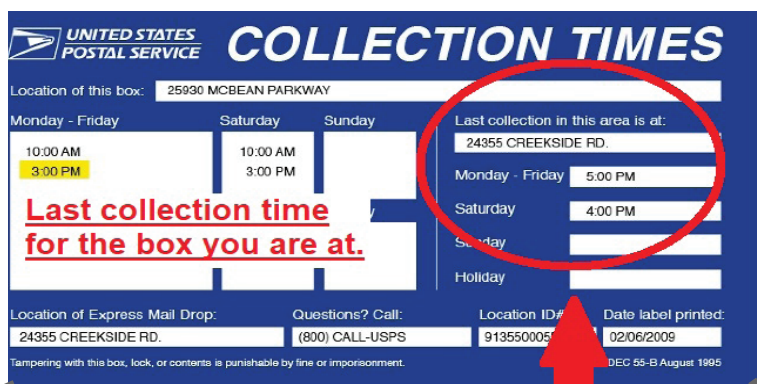
We must find smart ways for Whatcom business and housing to grow and

develop. The public's money must be budgeted effectively to ensure services are running well plus great opportunities for recreation and quality of life.

For water supply, we must reach a partnership that can best serve farmers, tribes, homesteaders, cities, and healthy salmon runs. This will require respectful conversation and care. Housing insecurity and crime issues can be partly mitigated by a productive economy and good incomes that can help families stabilize their basic needs. Beyond that, effective law enforcement must be balanced with more services for employment readiness, mental health, addiction treatment, and other issues that could be solved with healing instead of jail.

With my long track record of leadership and teamwork, I can help steer us the right direction. I will listen to stakeholders and experts, then respond to your concerns with solutions that will have the most benefit and least harm to the businesses and citizens of Whatcom. Our county is a beautiful place with many new possibilities. Let's work together.

For More Information:
No Information Submitted.



If you miss the last collection at your box, there might be a box nearby with a later last collection time.



Return Your Ballot on Time by Mail or In a Drop Box

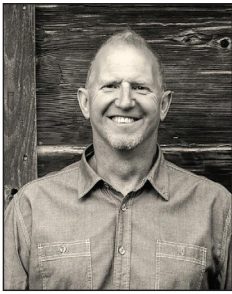
Place it in an official ballot drop box by 8:00 pm on August 1
All ballot drop boxes close at exactly 8:00 pm.

Make sure to check the collection times on the USPS mail box
Your ballot must be postmarked no later than August 1. If you deposit your ballot past the last collection time, your ballot will be late.





Whatcom County - Council District 4 - Nonpartisan Office - 4 Year Term



Mark Stremler

Elected Experience: I'm a first time candidate, running to serve you, the people of Whatcom County.

Other Professional Experience: After owning Stremler Dairy for 12 years, I became a general contractor, working on farms and homes throughout Whatcom County. I'm currently employed with Whatcom County Public Works.

Education: Ebenezer Christian grades 1-8; graduated from Lynden Christian High.

Community Service: For 13 years my wife and I were licensed foster parents to over a hundred children. We represented the dairy industry as 1989 Whatcom County Dairy Family and 1990 Washington State Dairy Family. I served on various church advisory boards, as well as in music and youth group ministries.

Statement: Hi, I'm Mark Stremler. As your district 4 candidate, I am dedicated to restoring affordability, preserving our heritage, and advancing responsible development.

As a lifetime resident of Whatcom County, I've witnessed the challenges

we face, including the unwarranted rise in our property taxes resulting most recently from Proposition 5. You deserve a representative who will protect your values and interests. Growing up on a fourth generation farm in Lynden, I understand the unique challenges of agriculture and water rights. I'm devoted to re-establishing the conservative values that have driven the prosperity of District 4.

Responsible development is essential for our future. I believe in balancing growth, sustainability, and community well-being. By supporting local businesses, attracting new industries, and creating jobs, we can drive economic growth while preserving our resources and County character.

By prioritizing affordability and addressing escalating housing costs, we can secure a prosperous future for our community. Together, let's build a thriving economy that works for you, the people of Whatcom County. As your advocate, I will be your unwavering voice on the County Council. Thank you for voting to establish a brighter future for our County and generations to come.

For More Information:

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ElectStremler.com



Kathy Kershner

Elected Experience: Current Whatcom County Council member - 8 years; Chair, Finance and Administrative Services Committee; Chair, Public Works and Health Committee; Board Member - Northwest Regional Council, North Sound Behavioral Health, Whatcom Council of Governments, Developmental Disabilities; Business and Commerce Advisory Committee.

Other Professional Experience: U.S. Navy Officer, retired – 22 Years. Business owner evaluating state-funded programs enabling adults with developmental disabilities lead safe, independent lives – 19 Years. Partnered in human service agency with a 22 million budget.

Education: Bachelor of Science, Family Resources, University of Hawaii

Community Service: Past Chair – Whatcom County Republican Party; YES – Safe Jail, Healthy Outcomes; Aging Well Whatcom Committee

Statement: You deserve an experienced, steady, crisis-tested voice, ever vigilant and working on your behalf. I'm seeking re-election to continue providing you with smart, effective, accountable, and fiscally responsible representation in your local government.

I'm inspired every day by the acts of kindness, grace, and strength seen across our community. These are enduring hometown values at the heart of Whatcom County. I'm a dedicated public servant who honors these values and fights for you. My priorities are simple: to put you first and solve our problems. This means being a leader who listens, understands, and represents you and doesn't waste your time or money.

Public safety should be the No. 1 priority of local government because we all deserve to feel safe in our communities. That's why I added 10 deputy positions to the Sheriff's department and improved our emergency response countywide. I voted to protect jobs at Cherry Point and remain focused on increasing access to senior housing, transportation, and support services.

My endorsements include Lynden Mayor Scott Korthuis, Marv Enfield (Enfield Farms), Port Commissioner Ken Bell, Sheriff Bill Elfo, and 200+ additional community leaders. I humbly ask for your vote so I may continue to serve you. Thank you.

For More Information:

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votekathykershner.com



Katherine Orlowski

Elected Experience: Whatcom County Council Child & Family Well-Being Taskforce (*Capital Project Recommendations to Council, Accountability*), HomesNOW and Food Bank Boards, Dental Committees, Missoula County Commissioner's Medical MJ Oversight Board and more

Other Professional Experience: Peace Builder Award: Whatcom Dispute Resolution Center, Business Leadership (*Financial, Medical, Transportation, Agriculture*), Financial Advisor Assistant, Semi-Truck Driver, Papa John's National Recognition

Education: Manchester Community College, University of Bridgeport: Fones School of Dental Hygiene, Landmark Forum, WDRC Conflict Mitigation, Pegasus Truck Driving School, Lived Experience

Community Service: Girl Scout Leader, Homeschool Teacher, Crisis Hotline, Native American Business Association, Volunteer Coordinator, Habitat for Humanity, Advocate, Motivational Coach, committed to regulating Artificial Intelligence ethically

Statement: You inspire me! Serving my community through leadership, peace,

and community building makes me feel something better than happiness. My professional and lived experiences have given me priceless perspective and wisdom from the front lines that can transform civic engagement and public service. I have demonstrated success within our county by addressing our most pressing issues with imaginative solutions that unite diverse people in the awareness there are unlimited possibilities.

I stand for integrity, authenticity, accountability, wellbeing, abundance, and love, and I expect you to hold me responsible for upholding those principles. There are only two things for me: love and fear. Choosing love is a choice. Even when I don't like things at times. To me, love encompasses much more than loving your family and friends. It's a series of daily choices I make because all of you are important to me, as is our precious home we call Earth.

I give you my word, as your representative, that I will let these principles direct both my personal conduct and my leadership decisions as I work to foster unity in the belief that "United We Stand"

For More Information:

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See page 16 for a map of Whatcom County Council District 4 and Bellingham Council Ward 1.

An interactive map of Whatcom County Council Districts can be found
www.whatcomcounty.us/3594/Precincts-and-Maps



Whatcom County - Council At-Large Position B - Nonpartisan Office - 4 Year Term

**Atul Deshmane**

Elected Experience: Whatcom Public Utility District Commissioner (2018 Elected): Led organization towards broadband and clean energy deployment. Whatcom County Planning Commissioner (2016 Appointed): Led adoption of wind energy and affordable housing codes.

Other Professional Experience: 1994-1999 Ford Motor Company: Helped engineer first generation hybrid, electric, and fuel cell vehicle technology. 2000-2005

Clean Energy Consultant: Deployed first hydrogen fueling stations. 2006-2018 Whole Energy Fuels: Pioneered renewable natural gas and renewable fuels in state ferries.

Education: Electrical engineer University of Missouri with graduate coursework in industrial engineering University of Michigan

Community Service: Restorative Community Coalition, Sustainable Bellingham, Salish Seed Guild, 3 Rivers Cooperative School, and Jail Stakeholder Advisory Committee.

Statement: I've lived in Whatcom County 21 years and raised my kids here on a small working farm. I have devoted my professional life to big causes. First as an engineer but now as a policy leader which is deeply satisfying to me.

I've worked with our local governments and leaders to implement new policies. I have: spearheaded Whatcom PUD's adoption of countywide broadband; re-envisioned and established new Cherry Point land use practices that protected the environment and jobs; and, prioritized and passed new Wind Energy Codes. I have done the work and earned the trust of our leaders and organizations and will leverage that trust for all of you.

In County Council I have three goals: Resilience, Livability, and Safety. Our community is in a crisis around housing, homelessness, and our justice system. We are facing a water adjudication. Our climate is changing. Whatcom needs seasoned leaders demonstrating maturity, dedication, creativity and persistence. I take a collaborative and positive approach but I challenge others when public interest demands.

I have several patents but I still raise my own meat, eggs, and vegetables. I developed electric vehicle and renewable diesel technology but I still bike commute. I like simple solutions. VoteAtul.com

For More Information:
(206) 446-1333
adeshman@yahoo.com
voteatul.com

**Jon Scanlon**

Elected Experience: First time candidate.

Other Professional Experience: Through my work, I have seen firsthand the importance of good jobs, economic justice, and ending poverty and hunger. I have 20 years experience in public policy and diplomacy at the state, federal, and global level working for: the US State Department, Oxfam America, a US Senator, and a Governor. Today, I consult for conservation nonprofits

and Indigenous communities on climate and human rights.

Education: Masters, Georgia Institute of Technology; Bachelors, Emory University

Community Service: Security Fellow at the Truman National Security Project. Whatcom Democrats Executive Board. RE Sources Board of Directors. Bellingham Community Development Advisory Board.

Statement: Framed by the North Cascades and the Salish Sea, Whatcom County is a beautiful community. But living here shouldn't be a financial burden. Affordability is my top priority, including housing, childcare, and healthcare. When our County government asks voters to trust them with our money— whether for a new jail, childcare, or mental health treatment— those

dollars better be spent as intended. As your next County Councilmember, I'll ensure fiscal transparency and accountability.

I was raised by a tight-knit family of veterans, educators, and healthcare workers. My commitment to public service is deeply ingrained. That's why I've spent 20 years working to make the world a better place and why I'm asking for your vote. I bring a track record of paying attention to details and negotiating in tough situations. I'll work on: climate impacts including flood resilience; homelessness; clean water for salmon and people; vibrant communities surrounded by forests and farmland.

I live in Bellingham with my wife Jennifer, an obstetrician, and our two dogs Carl and Rhone.

I am endorsed by: Washington Conservation Action, County Councilmembers Carol Frazey, Barry Buchanan, and Todd Donovan, Blaine Mayor Mary Lou Steward, Senator Sharon Shewmake, Representative Joe Timmons, PUD Commissioner Jaime Arnett.

For More Information:
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**Hannah Ordos**

Elected Experience: First-time candidate for public office.

Other Professional Experience: Customer support manager, Vitamin Portfolio LLC; previously, leadership positions at T-Mobile, Sterling Life Insurance, Charter College and Amazon. Have worked alongside hundreds of community members.

Education: Bachelor's degree, Human Resource Management, Western Washington University; associate's degree, Accounting, Shoreline Community College; graduated from Nooksack Valley High School. Certifications in nutrition/health, fitness, lean leadership and professional mediation training (Whatcom Dispute Resolution Center).

Community Service: Currently, North Sound Behavioral Health Advisory Board member, Be the One mentor and parent volunteer at Nooksack Valley School District. Previously, Happy Valley PTA president and Mother Baby Center executive board member.

Statement: I'm a fourth-generation Whatcom County resident with extensive education and diverse work experiences. I will listen and work for the people.

Safe neighborhoods, affordable housing, and a strong local economy have begun to feel like a thing of the past. We are experiencing the impact of a local government that just isn't working well for the people it's meant to serve. *My priority will be to work together with all stakeholders to address what matters to our communities over partisan interests.*

I'm committed to promoting community engagement and bringing in people to participate in decisions that impact them directly. I will advocate for transparency and accountability both before and after budget decisions. Taxpayers deserve to know their dollars are being spent on things that matter most and handled with care.

After 20+ years of living in Bellingham, I've recently returned to the county where I was raised and reside in Sumas close to family. All my greatest experiences and milestones have been here, amongst family, friends, and neighbors. Each of these communities has played a part in shaping my life, and I am deeply committed to Whatcom County. *I humbly ask for your vote.*

For More Information:
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hannah4whatcom.com

**Jerry Burns**

Elected Experience: Student Government: Everett Community College early 80s.

Other Professional Experience: 14 years as Washington State licensed counselor, assessment officer, interventionist, and instructor; outpatient counseling office administrator two years. Certified Developing Capable People trainer. EMT and duty engineer at Little Creek Coast Guard Station in Norfolk, Virginia. I worked as a

Psychiatric Technician lock-down, 48 hour hold facility in Skagit County.

Education: EMT School, Portsmouth Naval Hospital, Portsmouth, VA, 1988. Skagit Valley College Human Services, 1992-1998. Everett Community College, Business Administration, 1980-1984.

Community Service: Kendall Summer Fest and Friends of North Fork Community Library. I help beautify our county by removing and recycling junk cars.

Statement: My primary goal is to make Whatcom County government more

fiscally responsible with 100% transparency of all county funds, especially those granted to community organizations.

My second priority is to enhance safety by: A.) streamlining and reducing costs of the permitting process for sand and gravel mining in the Nooksack River, to reduce flood risk to our affected communities, B.) ban the use of herbicides by all county government departments, and C.) I will work towards functional zero homelessness in a fiscally sound way.

My third objective is to get our Sheriff's Department up to full staffing, full funding, and to prioritize mental health training and deescalation techniques in order to enhance safety for our deputies and all our residents.

I love the beauty of our land and recognized the need to preserve both our land and our liberty. I was raised on a family beef and timber farm in Stanwood, where I learned to be a good steward of the land. After military service, I lived just South of Wickersham in Skagit County for 15 years. I began working in Bellingham in 2002 and sold my place and moved to Whatcom County in 2006.

For More Information:
(360) 510-3715



City of Bellingham - Mayor - Nonpartisan Office - 4 Year Term

**Christopher J. McCoy**

Elected Experience: No Information Submitted

Other Professional Experience: Successful business owner and father of two, McCoy has employed hundreds of locals, his innovative and healthy products improve the health of customers and the community. Kombucha Town, founded in 2011, he built into a successful multimillion dollar national brand. He constructed his brewery and restaurant in the Historic Herald Building in downtown Bellingham. Prior, Chris spent a decade working in both restaurants and construction, supporting himself through college.

Education: Bellingham Highschool 2004, Whatcom Community College/2008, Western Washington University/2010, BA Environmental Studies/Economics. Certified Sustainable building advisor. 2018 SBA Emerging Leaders, Seattle Cohort. 2019 Goldman Sachs 10,000 Small business owners executive training.

Community Service: No Information Submitted

Statement: As Mayor I will work diligently in three primary areas.

Make housing accessible to all residents, including people without homes. Greatly expand and streamlining the planning department. Creating programs

for locals to have more access to housing than people moving from outside of town or purchasing investment properties that could be homes. Also aiding and growing local nonprofits that successfully transition residents out of homelessness, crime and drug use into productive members of society.

Ensure living wage jobs to residents, work with local organizations to maintain and increase the quality of life, to attract outside talent and visitors bolstering our local economy. Creating new jobs by incentivizing new and innovative employers to invest in our community. Also invest in protecting and expanding music, arts, food and recreation culture in our community.

Protecting and restoring the natural beauty of Bellingham, preparing for and minimizing the impacts of the climate as it changes. Bolstering environmental organizations, engaging citizens to participate in cleanup and restoration projects. Hold developers accountable to short- and long-term commitments of environmental protection. Expedite waterfront cleanup so the area can more quickly become a booming addition to downtown and greatly expand the waterfront park system.

For More Information:

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www.McCoy4Mayor.com

**Kim Lund**

Elected Experience: First-time candidate

Other Professional Experience: I have diverse leadership experiences in the for-profit and non-profit sectors including engineer and team leader at Intel, small-business owner, and executive director at the Bellingham Public Schools Foundation

Education: Proud graduate of Bellingham's public schools; BS, Chemical Engineering, University of Washington; Leading Sustainable Corporations Certification from Oxford Said Business School

Community Service: Giving back through service is important to me. Appointments: Whatcom County Planning Commission, Bellingham Public Schools Sustainability Advisory Group. Current boards: Brigid Collins - striving to eliminate child abuse, Whatcom Million Trees Project - planting, protecting, and building resiliency. Past boards: CommunityWise Bellingham, Pediatric Brain Tumor Research Fund

Statement: Bellingham deserves experienced, decisive leadership. We are experiencing health and safety crises, a critical lack of housing, and an uncertain climate future. We simply have to do better. Under my leadership, we'll take urgent, community-centered action in a healthy

culture of transparent, pragmatic, data-informed decision-making with clear communication.

I grew up in Bellingham, the first in my family to attend college, and I am raising my children here. I'm a problem solver by nature and an engineer by training, with a track record of dedicated community service. My work as a tech professional, small-business owner, and executive director has centered on solution-oriented results. I have proven to be thoughtful, collaborative and decisive.

I am running for Mayor because I am confident our community can shape our shared future: A safe, flourishing downtown. Small-businesses that feel supported by city government. A housing continuum with good choices for all. Thriving neighborhoods. Protected green spaces where we live, work and play.

I will lead courageously, listen respectfully and be accountable. These are the values I will bring to City Hall. I'm grateful for the support of a diverse, city-wide coalition of people who love Bellingham. I would be honored to earn your vote.

For More Information:

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electkimlund.com

**Seth Fleetwood**

Elected Experience: Two terms Whatcom County Council. Two terms Bellingham City Council. One term Mayor of Bellingham.

Other Professional Experience: Self employed lawyer for 25 years in Fairhaven. Before that, various jobs including house painter, waiter, fisherman, construction trades, and congressional aide.

Education: Sehome High School, Bellingham, WA. 1981. University of Washington, 1986. Willamette University School of Law, 1992.

Community Service: Former or current member: Bellingham's Neighborhood Advisory Commission; Bellingham Growth Forums; Whatcom Council of Governments; Whatcom Transportation Authority; Volunteer Lawyer, Street Law; Bellingham City Club; Countywide Housing Affordability Taskforce; Bellingham Greenways Advisory Committee; Whatcom County Climate Advisory Committee; People for Puget Sound.

Statement: It has been my honor and privilege to serve you during these recent challenging years. Throughout, I have collaborated with people in the disciplined work of advancing policy solutions that address problems. I have earned endorsements from past mayors: Ken Hertz, Tim Douglas, Mark

Asmundson and Kelli Linville. Everything we do is in service to the future we need and toward that end my administration has prioritized action on our City's most important issues while making demonstrable progress.

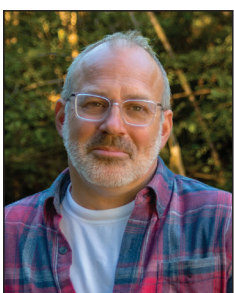
We are: implementing solutions to address public safety staffing shortages; initiating strategies to foster a safe, welcoming downtown; expanding safe shelter options with services for people transitioning to permanent housing; and implementing alternative response services for people suffering addiction and mental health crisis.

We are: establishing the first office of climate to accelerate progress on adaptation and conversion to renewable energy; creating a racial equity commission; working to increase affordable housing options; and building an environmental infrastructure through trails, parks and greenways. On these items and more, I am directing action.

We are creating the hopeful future we need and deserve, a future in which we all work together to do the inspiring work of building a sustainable, equitable and thriving city.

For More Information:

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sethfleetwood.com

**Mike McAuley**

Elected Experience: 8 years Port of Bellingham Commissioner, 1 term PCO

Other Professional Experience: Brambleberry - owner 1999-2005, McAuley Builders - owner 2006-2013, Chuckanut Builders - 2013- 2020, McAuley Design Works, building design 2020 -

Education: Centralia HS, Centralia Community College - Honor Society, The Evergreen State College -BS Urban Studies, Western Washington University -MS Geography

Community Service: Marine Corps - Combat Veteran, Lettered Streets MNAC rep 6 years, Downtown Renaissance Network - board, Recreation Northwest - founding board, Working Waterfront Coalition - board, Sustainable Connections - board (2017), Whatcom Council of Governments x 4, WC Econ Development Board -x 3 time, Puget Sound Partnership - WPPA alternate

Statement: Hi. I'm Mike McAuley. With my depth of experience in urban planning, climate resiliency and local economic development, I am uniquely qualified to lead our city as we navigate challenges like housing access, climate change and economic growth. I am a longtime Bellingham resident,

and as both a renter and small business owner, I have deep personal experience with the impacts of these challenges.

Under my leadership, Bellingham will shift its focus away from endless planning processes and toward concrete action on housing affordability, housing the unhoused, and implementing a comprehensive transportation plan that is relevant to the ways we move around our city now.

My plans for tackling these tough issues are innovative and actionable. For example, to make housing affordable without relying on subsidies, we must make room for ideas like incremental housing, and when we do, working class people will again be able to find a foothold in our local economy, rather than being crushed under the weight of unchecked rent increases.

I have the ideas, experience and drive to lead Bellingham during this exciting, challenging time, and I am eager to roll up my sleeves and get to work. I look forward to earning your support.

For More Information:

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City of Bellingham - Mayor - Nonpartisan Office - 4 Year Term

**Kristina Michele Martens**

Elected Experience: Currently serving in the At-Large Bellingham City Council position, Immigration Advisory Board liaison, Chair of the Climate Action Committee

Other Professional Experience: Proud community activist. Previously, 15 years in restaurants and hotels managing employees and running small businesses. My work in hospitality gave me a first-person understanding of what it's like trying to make ends meet in our modern

economy as a minimum-wage or tipped-wage worker.

Education: Associates in Psychology, Grossmont Community College, Real-world experience as a Black woman in America,

Community Service: Co-Founder of the Whatcom Racial Equity Commission, Ally with Whatcom Intergenerational High School, YWCA board member

Statement: I have found myself in the same position I was in when running for the At-Large position, a desperate need for someone afflicted by the issues plaguing our community to be part of the conversation. I can now see

that is not enough. We need someone to set the tone and workloads of city departments to reflect the true needs of our community.

As Bellingham has no city manager those responsibilities technically fall to the Mayor. To sustain what makes Bellingham such an amazing place to live we need someone who has a vision for the future, not someone who wants to return things to the way they were.

A guiding principle I use for myself is that if it's not a law of nature, it's a law of man. And what men have created we can change at any time, we just have to decide to. I am a true champion of changing the things that are not serving us and ushering in a new way for local government to operate. Finally putting All the people who call Bellingham home at the center, and believing them when they say the solutions that the city has rolled out aren't working.

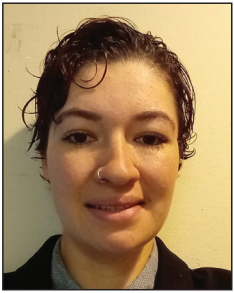
For More Information:

(619) 204-4511

Kristinaformayor@gmail.com

kristinaformayor.com

City of Bellingham - Council Ward 1 - Nonpartisan Office - 4 Year Term

**Michi Marcher**

Elected Experience: No Information Submitted

Other Professional Experience: Over ten years in the service and hospitality industry cleaning rooms and serving food. 3 years personal support worker for a person with developmental disabilities, and 2 years at WCLS

Education: Education: Ferndale High School, AA from Portland Community College, current student in the Law, Diversity and justice program at Fairhaven University

Community Service: Activist experience: Class representative for my fellow workers from The Willows Inn for wage theft, and 2 years organizing protests about their exploitative business practices, sexual harassment, racism and homophobia we experienced from management. I'm currently working with several other activists to unionize my subsidized housing complex.

Statement: As a class representative against wage theft perpetrated by The Willows Inn, I became interested in the lack of effective policy surrounding wage theft. The Willows expose' in the New York Times was the inspiration

for the film The Menu which thematically discusses the class divide and social stratification in our society. Many of these issues we addressed during protests in front of this business. Wage theft is when employers steal wages from workers. Often, these workers are low income and already struggling to make ends meet. Wage theft encompasses more property crime than burglary, robbery, larceny and auto theft combined. Yet there is very little recourse or justice for most victims of wage theft. Adopting the "Willows Initiative" can make Bellingham a leader in wage theft legislation

As a queer low income, single parent living in subsidized housing, I spend a lot of time speaking with my neighbors who are struggling in today's economy. Renters are being squeezed by increasing rents and neglectful management practices that can cause injury to renters. Collective action helps renters have their rights respected and their needs addressed. We are facing a housing crisis we need affordable housing for all of our neighbors.

For More Information:

(360) 746-4105

michiorionmarcher@gmail.com

**Hannah Stone**

Elected Experience: Service on Bellingham City Council as At-Large Representative (2018-2019), Ward 1 Representative (2020-2023), President Pro Tempore (2020), President (2021) (2022), Mayor Pro Tempore (2023)

Other Professional Experience: Attorney, U.S. Immigration and Citizenship Law (2006-Present)

Education: Bachelor of Arts, International Relations, and Spanish Language (1998, Meredith College); Juris Doctor (2005, University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill)

Community Service: AmeriCorps VISTA, American Immigration Lawyers Association (WA State Government Committee Chair), Citizens for Bellingham Schools (Campaign Co-Chair), Communitywise Bellingham (Advisory Board Member), Goodwill Job Training & Education Center (Legal Volunteer), LAW Advocates (Legal Volunteer), Opportunity Council (Board Member), Sunnyland PTA (President), Whatcom County Chapter ACLU-WA (Chair)

Statement: As a City Council Member, I recognize public service is a privilege and accept the responsibilities in earnest. The City Council establishes public

policies, adopts long-range plans, approves the budget, and passes laws to benefit and protect our residents. As an attorney, I am an analytical thinker which means I pay attention to the details and use logic and critical thinking to analyze problems and develop workable solutions. I listen and show respect to everyone, and I speak with honesty and candor. My education, experience, and empathy are invaluable assets to both the community and the Council.

As Bellingham continues to grow, our community faces critical decisions that require astute judgement and forethought on issues related to affordable housing, homelessness, behavioral health, and public safety. We must lead by example. Future generations are dependent upon us to develop solutions to advance our climate action goals, encourage diverse housing options, promote multi-modal transportation, and facilitate a just transition.

Bellingham is our home, and collectively we all have a vested interest in its future. Thank you to my husband Brad, our children Grayson and Skylar, and my mother Wendy for your support, sacrifice, and shared commitment.

For More Information:

(360) 524-2663

Ward1@VoteHannahStone.com

www.VoteHannahStone.com

**Eamonn Collins**

Elected Experience: First-time candidate.

Other Professional Experience: Chemistry and Physics teacher, Lummi Nation School; Legislative Assistant, U.S. Senator Chris Murphy (D-CT); Education Policy Advisor, U.S. House of Representatives, Committee on Education and the Workforce (Democratic Staff)

Education: BA – University of Wisconsin; M.Ed. – Marquette University; MA – Western Governors University

Community Service: Trustee / Treasurer, Kulshan Community Land Trust: building affordable homes for low- and middle-income families; Former tutor, Shuksan Middle School.

Statement: The current city leadership is not acting quickly or decisively enough to relieve strained families and workers from the worsening housing crisis. As a teacher, I know housing insecurity undermines student success, but these damaging effects aren't limited to classrooms. When residents live unsheltered in public, they're vulnerable to crime and illness. When businesses struggle to fill well-paying jobs because employees can't afford housing, the economy suffers.

Affordable homes are the gateway to community health, supporting families, and helping us meet the challenges of climate change. My family relies on my retired parents for childcare. They're able to live affordably because we built an accessory dwelling unit in our backyard. Prioritizing multifamily urban infill reduces sprawl, preserving wildlands and lowering carbon emissions.

Bellingham's complex planning process severely limits affordable housing, leaving federal and state dollars on the table by building too slowly. Meanwhile, tenants are backed into a corner, suffering rent increases while too often dealing with unlivable conditions.

My wife, Komal, and I have a 3-year-old and a newborn. They – and all our residents – deserve a strong community. As a Council member, I'll act urgently to implement bold policies that match the scale of our interconnected challenges.

For More Information:

(360) 209-3203

eamonn@eamonncollins.com

www.EamonnCollins.com



City of Bellingham - Council At-Large - Nonpartisan Office - 2 Year Term



Maya Morales

Elected Experience: First-time candidate

Other Professional Experience: Founder of WA People's Privacy. Community organizer, consultant, university professor, non-profit administrator, artist. Self-supported through degrees: foster youth counselor, retail, waitress, muralist, housepainting, organic gardening, tulip farm, and USFS trail crew.

Education: Bachelor's: University of California at Santa Cruz, Double major - Fine Art: Multimedia & Women's Studies concentration: Race, Class & Ethnicity, Master's: SIT Graduate Institute, Teaching - concentration: English to Speakers of Other Languages (MA TESOL)

Community Service: ACLU WA Tech Equity Coalition. People First Bellingham Campaign, WHRTF Martin Luther King Jr. Human Rights Conference; *countless* social justice events, workshops & festivals; edible gardens; Bernie volunteer! Student Conservation Association.

Statement: One of the *best* things about democracy is that everyday people can bravely step up to lead. To me, a renter and worker, leadership is about sharing power, creating connected community, and courage. Elected leaders must build trust, show their work, and walk their talk. Titles and endorsements

are great, *but can you empower people and create the conditions in which we can all thrive?*

We need leaders who are both practical and visionary. As your city council member, I promise to work for a Bellingham *where everyone belongs*.

With over 25 years of diverse work and life experience – including living and working in three other nations (as a private citizen), learning different civic cultures and languages; I can be counted on to keep an open mind, listen deeply, and work to understand what fellow Bellingham residents, workers, students, families and businesses need. I can be trusted see things from multiple angles and perspectives; and champion solutions that are equitable, respectful, transparent, efficient and *inclusive*.

Addressing housing affordability and availability and ensuring that we create real safety will be a priority. I'll advance environmental, gender, racial, food, tech and economic justice in ways that are creative, sustainable, and effective.

For More Information:

(360) 712-7221
info@electmayamorales.vote
www.electmayamorales.vote



Garrett O'Brien

Elected Experience: City of Bellingham Planning Commission Vice-Chair, Building Industry Association of Whatcom County, Board of Directors

Other Professional Experience: Volonta Corporation President, two terms with the City of Bellingham Planning Commission, Bellingham Home Fund Review Board, Open Public Meetings Act Training (RCW 42.30)

Education: Bellingham Public Schools, grades 1-12, Central Washington University, Bachelor of Science Construction Management

Community Service: Bellingham Public Schools Volunteer, BEATS Program Volunteer, Youth Wrestling Coach, Kulshan Community Land Trust

Statement: Active community engagement is the spirit that animates a thriving city. If elected as your Council member, I commit to renewing the vigor of public outreach and working together to move Bellingham forward.

Our City Charter entrusts the City Council with policy-making responsibilities, maintaining public safety, and adopting Bellingham's Comprehensive Plan, which includes long-range planning for an adequate housing supply, job growth, economic development, environmental protection, and improving public infrastructure.

I will prioritize policies that ensure Bellingham is a safe, affordable, and enjoyable place to live and raise a family. If you would like to learn more about my policy priorities, please visit my website at Bellinghamforward.com.

I'm thrilled to be running for the at-large Council position and would be honored to have your vote.

For More Information:

(360) 927-0591
bellinghamforward@gmail.com
www.bellinghamforward.com



Paul Schissler

Elected Experience: First-time candidate

Other Professional Experience: Community development planner, serving cities, counties, tribes, and nonprofits; self-employed doing public interest work for 29 years after working for Opportunity Council and Swinomish Indian Tribal Community. Ten years as Kulshan Community Land Trust's founding Executive Director.

Education: B.S. Environmental Planning, WWU

Community Service: 40 years of civic leadership, including co-founding Fairhaven Neighbors, RE Sources for Sustainable Communities, KulshanCLT, and Whatcom Housing Alliance. Multiple terms on the Community Development Advisory Board, Conservation Easement Program Oversight Committee and Housing Advisory Committee, serving as Chairperson on each. Started the Bellingham Home Fund in 2011.

Statement: I have dedicated myself to public interest projects throughout my career because I believe we all do better when we *all* do better. I'm eager to bring the knowledge and insights I've gained to our City Council.

My background equips me with a deep understanding of vital issues, including home affordability, economic development, land use, utility funding, and the climate crisis. These are some of City Council's biggest responsibilities. I will make them a priority.

While Bellingham boasts tremendous strengths, there is always room for improvement. I have a talent for identifying innovative ideas and leading impactful initiatives such as the Bellingham Home Fund and Kulshan Community Land Trust. If elected, I'll bring new ideas to address our biggest challenges.

Living in this remarkable city, I am constantly reminded of the privilege I enjoy. Bellingham has been a wonderful place for my wife and me to raise two children, thanks to the support of many and our strong public school system. With the right leadership, there's a lot to be optimistic about. Bellingham can leverage our city's strengths and create a future that uplifts every resident. Let's do this. I humbly ask for your vote.

For More Information:

(360) 961-3002
votepaulschissler@gmail.com
votepaulschissler.com



Jace Cotton

Elected Experience: First-time candidate.

Other Professional Experience: As a professional organizer and campaign director, I've been privileged to work with inspiring groups of workers, retirees, and children's advocates. I led the effort to count *every vote* to pass the Healthy Children's Fund; the 2022 Whatcom Democrats campaign to *ensure a pro-climate action and pro-choice legislature*; and the 2021 campaign to protect

our County Council majority and ban city-funded union-busting. As Campaigns Director for Community First Whatcom, I led drafting of initiatives to *raise the minimum wage* and *protect renters*.

Education: Bachelors in Political Science, Western Washington University.

Community Service: Vice Chair, Whatcom Democrats.

Statement: I hear stories every day of neighbors hurting in a local economy growing more unaffordable. Low-wage workers and retirees whose rent won't stop climbing. Young parents who need second jobs to afford childcare, groceries, and housing. As a former public K-12 paraeducator and pandemic grocery worker, I know many of these challenges personally. I love Bellingham

and believe our community can tackle these problems.

As a professional campaign director, I know how to bring people together to accomplish shared goals. I've helped flip critical seats from red to blue in Whatcom County and passed local initiatives like the Healthy Children's Fund. Running a winning campaign requires strong principles, hard work, building coalitions, and deep community engagement. I'll bring those skills to City Council.

City Council should be the most responsive branch of government, but our Council is often too slow to act. As Bellingham grows, we face growing problems. We need leaders committed to doing the legwork to tackle climate, affordability, and public safety.

Endorsements: Senator Sharon Shewmake, Representative Debra Lekanoff, Representative Alex Ramel, County Councilmember Todd Donovan, County Councilmember Barry Buchanan, City Councilmember Kristina Michele Martens, PUD Commissioner Jaime Arnett. See more at electjacecotton.com

For More Information:

(360) 480-5321
info@electjacecotton.com
electjacecotton.com



City of Bellingham - Council At-Large - Nonpartisan Office - 4 Year Term

**Russ Whidbee**

Elected Experience: Candidate Bellingham City Council At-Large 2021

Other Professional Experience: Financial Advisor (1999-Present); Adjunct Faculty (Accounting), Whatcom Community College (WCC); Accounting Instructor, Bellingham Technical College (BTC)

Education: Western Washington University (WWU), City University of Seattle, Bachelor of Science (Accounting) (1992)

Community Service: Bellingham Planning Commission; Racial Justice Coalition; Kulshan Community Land Trust matching donor; Whatcom Volunteer Center; Whatcom County Board of Equalization (hears and decides property tax appeals); Bellingham Public Schools (BPS), Dollars for Scholars; Brothers and Sisters of Whatcom (BASOW); Bellingham Technical College (BTC) Foundation, Western Washington University (WWU) Men's Basketball Mentor Coach, Mt. Baker Kidney Foundation Legacy Committee; American Federation of Teachers, proud union member.

Statement: Bellingham is facing significant crises. We need a bold and experienced leader who understands our community. My 40+ years of volunteering, working, and raising my family here; combined with my financial

education and experience in accounting make me the City Councilor that Bellingham needs. My training in risk management and accounting principles have prepared me for legislation and budgetary oversight. I will focus on effective solutions as we address drug addiction, homelessness, affordable housing, residential diversity, public safety, and living wage jobs, all under the cloud of climate change.

Through my 40+ years contributing to the vitality of Bellingham, I am recognized as a "Bridge Maker & Change Agent" who works on behalf of our entire community. My approach to public policy decision making is solution oriented through a lens of effective compassion.

I listen to the entire spectrum of voices represented within our city. My integrity and character shall continue to guide me in my work as your City Council member. I will maintain being a servant leader, being responsive and accountable to our community.

I am proudly endorsed by current Council members Lisa Anderson and Kaylee Galloway. Together, we can achieve solutions for a better future for all!

For More Information:

(360) 319-4253
russ4bham@gmail.com
www.trustruss.org

City of Everson - Council Position 5 - Nonpartisan Office - 4 Year Term

**Hadia Seddiqi**

Elected Experience: No Information Submitted

Other Professional Experience: No Information Submitted

Education: No Information Submitted

Community Service: No Information Submitted

Statement: My name is Hadia Seddiqi, I am 37 years old and I have three kids, a dog, and have been married to my best friend for 18 years. My family and I have lived in Washington State for almost 11 years,

and in the city of Everson for eight. I am happy to say that this little city is our forever place. I deeply care about this community and I am looking forward to being more involved and share my views.

For More Information:

(360) 223-1099
h.seddiqi@yahoo.com

**Gary Locke**

Elected Experience: none

Other Professional Experience: Retired mechanic/truck driver, Navy Veteran

Education: No Information Submitted

Community Service: No Information Submitted

Statement: No Information Submitted

For More Information:

(360) 255-3436
glocke380@gmail.com

**Ashley Brown**

Elected Experience: Precinct Committee Officer, Everson City Council Position 5

Other Professional Experience: No information submitted

Education: Human Services

Community Service: I've been a leader on DisAbility advocacy and accessibility as well as empowering engagement for students on a range of Higher Education issues. I've been involved in a number of groups that focus on finding community solutions to broader concerns from both sides of the aisle and a wide range of backgrounds. I've been active in volunteering in Nooksack tribal and community events to serve my local community. I've donated time and resources to voter registration efforts, food banks, Books for Prisoners, and to a number of community and political organizations.

Statement: I offer a diverse perspective due to various life experiences, along with knowledge of how crucial resources/services for homelessness, trauma

survivors, mental health, disAbilities and accessibility are. I have lost people I cared deeply about to suicide, and with this recorded increase of mental health issues in our youth, I am concerned about their health and the environment we have available for them to safely hang out within a rural area, so I am still looking for ideas on how to continue creating those spaces for them. Our youth are the backbone of our future generation and as a community, we need to come together to increase services so as to help their growth. Being a parent and an aunt myself, the youth will always be one of my top priorities.

I come from a strong ancestry that dates many generations within Whatcom county. I look to further my experience growing within this position once re-elected, and creating stronger bonds with my community. I will continue to strive to be a true representative voice of the constituents. We have gone through a lot in our community during my recent term, and I hope to continue doing work for our community.

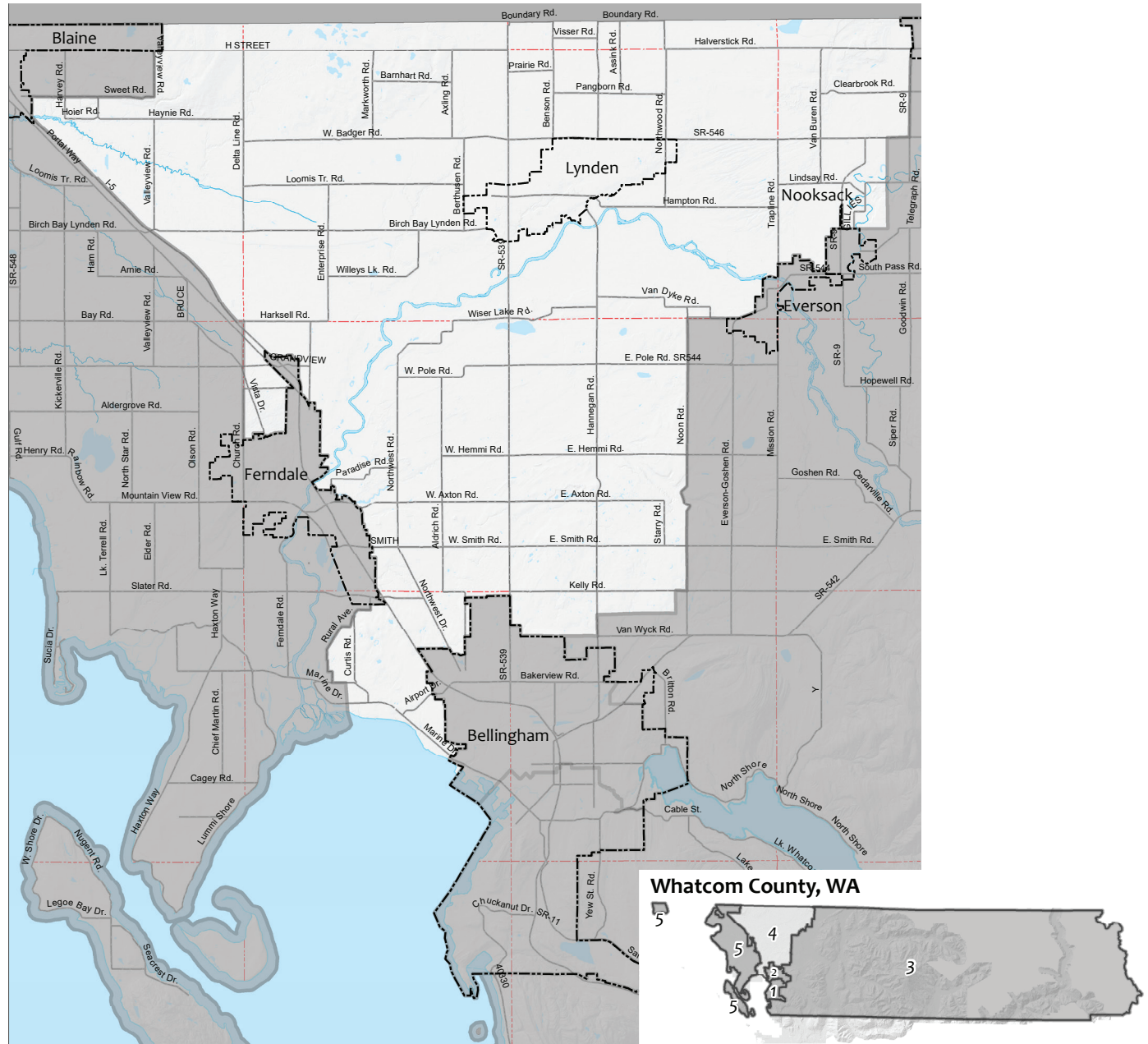
For More Information:

(360) 386-5315
ashleypco@hotmail.com

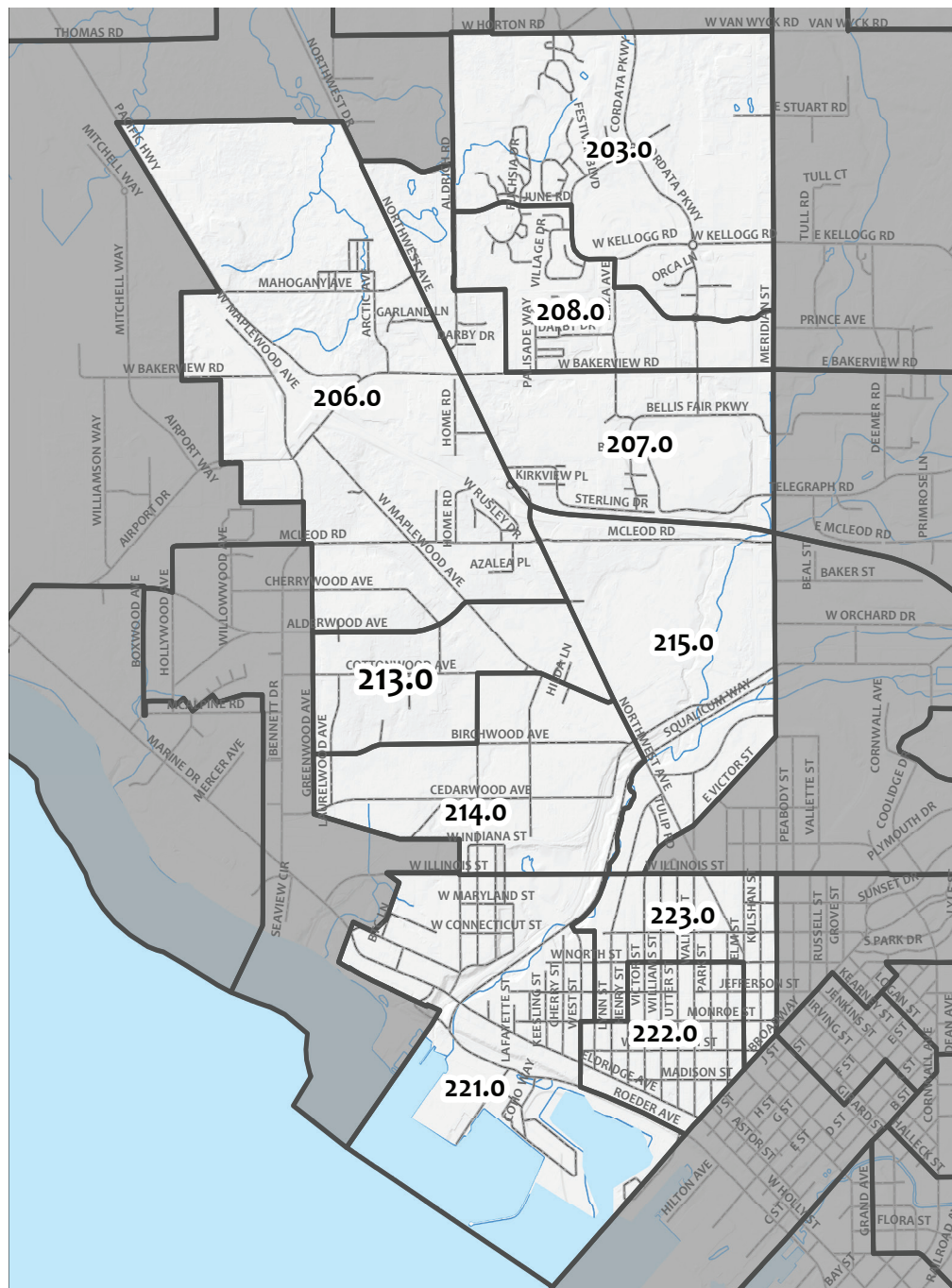


Whatcom County Council District 4

i For primary and general elections, only registered voters in County Council District 4 may vote for the representative for District 4.



City of Bellingham Ward 1



i The map to the left shows the boundaries for the City of Bellingham Ward 1.

In the primary election, only registered voters living in Ward 1 vote for candidates with the top two moving onto the general.

In the general election, all registered voters in the City of Bellingham will vote on this contest.



Ferndale School District 502 - Director District 2 - Nonpartisan Office - 4 Year Term

**Brent Bode****Elected Experience:** First-time Candidate**Other Professional Experience:** I currently serve as Senior Assistant Director of Admissions at Western Washington University in the Office of Admissions, where I have worked for over a decade to promote and provide college access to prospective students in Washington state and beyond.**Education:** Master of Education, Western Washington University, Bachelor of Arts - Environmental Studies and Policy, Western Washington University**Community Service:** City of Ferndale Planning Commission, Pacific Northwest Association for College Admission Counseling (PNACAC) Executive Board member, WWU Professional Staff Organization Executive Committee member**Statement:** As someone with deep family ties to education, I understand so clearly the value of educators who empower students and create inclusive

environments where they can thrive. The focus on service to community has inspired and guided me through my personal education and my professional experience in higher education, where I still think about the educators and administrators who guided me. Now, in my professional experience in higher education, I am honored to see (and help) students succeed in their academic endeavors, and am excited to have the chance to serve the Ferndale community in a similar way. The future of our city is right within our schools, and through this role I want to support the student experience, advocate for the tools and support they need to succeed, and make sure all families have a voice. As someone who sees Ferndale as home, I'd be honored for your consideration to serve on the Ferndale School Board.

For More Information:
(925) 276-2074
bodeforferndale@outlook.com

**Adrian Sheridan****Elected Experience:** First-time candidate**Other Professional Experience:** Volunteer for Bellingham Comic-con, 2016-present**Education:** Graduate from Ferndale High School Class of 2022, currently studying Chemistry at Whatcom Community College**Community Service:** Member of the City of Ferndale Parks, Trails, and Recreation Board, Whatcom Community College Sustainability Club**Statement:** As a recent graduate from the Ferndale school system, I believe that I have a unique perspective to offer to the school board. Young people can often feel disconnected from what happens in school district leadership, even when it directly affects their learning environment. I know this from experience.

As your elected representative, I will be well positioned to serve as an informed member of the board. Being informed is the best way to make good changes, and I think that there is a lot of good information that can be gleaned from simply talking to students and teachers. I hope to use this information to effectuate change throughout Ferndale Schools that will improve the learning environments of our students.

If elected, I will promote transparency regarding potential curriculum changes, improved methods of communication with students, families, and teachers, and I will do my best to learn and grow to make decisions in the best interest of our students and communities.

For More Information:
(360) 594-8795
info@adriansheridan.net
adriansheridan.net

**Antonio Machado Catano****Elected Experience:** First-time candidate.**Other Professional Experience:** Antonio has extensive experience in technical and policy leadership roles for the energy sector including as a liaison between governmental agencies and industry. He has worked for a major local energy producer, a vital contributor to our charming town of Ferndale. Antonio is currently a Senior Manager of Regulatory Affairs for an important trade association representing major energy producers on the West Coast.**Education:** Bachelor of Science in Chemistry, Minor in Business Management - Brigham Young University.**Community Service:** Served from 2018 to 2022 on the Ferndale Chamber of Commerce Board of Directors. President of the Board in 2019.**Statement:** I am a first-generation Latino-American that has enjoyed the opportunities this great country has to offer to those that work hard and persevere. As a husband and a father of three children who attend the Ferndale School District, I have a great desire

to give back and serve the students in our community.

I believe that aside from home the most important place of learning is at school. It is very important to me that schools are a place of safety, quality of learning and positive interactions.

Every student in our district deserves a curriculum that prepares them for the future, and teachers who possess the necessary tools to help them thrive and have success on their academic journey.

I approach challenges with common sense and utilize my analytical abilities to tackle problems with solutions. I am a strong proponent of partnerships between schools, community, and local businesses. By utilizing all the resources available to us we can serve our students in a way that strengthens their confidence and boosts their chances of succeeding in life. When we support and improve the quality of education today, we are investing in the future generations and our community.

For More Information:
(360) 504-8258
voteantoniomachado@gmail.com
www.voteantoniomachado.com

Observe the election process in person or online!**Opportunities to observe:**

Logic & Accuracy Test:

Tabulation Equipment: July 13 at 10:00 am

Ballot Processing: July 12 through August 14, Monday-Friday, 8:00 am - 4:30 pm

Hand Count: August 3 at 10:00 am

Risk Limiting Audit: August 9 at 9:30 am

Canvassing Board - Challenged Ballot Review: TBD

Canvassing Board - Certification: August 15, time TBD

Visit the Observer Resources webpage, www.whatcomcounty.us/3747/Observer-Resources, for updated dates/times, access to the live webcams, and more.



Blaine School District 503 - Director District 2 - Nonpartisan Office - 4 Year Term



Tana Perkins Reneau

Elected Experience: No Information Submitted

Other Professional Experience: Background: teaching and administration. 12 years K-5 teaching, Principal credentials. Life as a parent of a child with disabilities has shaped her heart for cultivating inclusion and belonging for all students.

Education: Bachelors of Arts in Business and Accounting, Linfield University, Masters in Teaching, Washington State University, Administration/Principal Credentials, Washington State University, National Boards Certified Teacher, Doctorate in Education/ Special Education, North Central University: Current study

Community Service: I served teen mothers and children with disabilities while on staff with Young Life. As a family we seek out ways to give back to our community by participating in food drives, beach clean-ups, etc.

Statement: I believe a critical representation on our Board of Directors is electing someone that has done the job. As an educator, I am up on current education research, and understand child development and best teaching practices. I hold a current teaching certificate, current principal credentials, current National Boards Certificate, and on the last steps of my Doctorate in Education/Special Education.

For More Information:
(360) 961-5984
tana.perkins.reneau@gmail.com



Ben Lazarus

Elected Experience: No prior elected experience

Other Professional Experience: Full time instructor at the British Columbia Institute of Technology, teaching aircraft gas turbine and piston engines courses. Part time mechanic performing maintenance on commercial aircraft for several operators. Owner of Westwind Marine boat repair yard for 8 years.

Education: Completed Professional Instructor Diploma Program 2018. Licensed aircraft mechanic, certified on Boeing 737/757/767. Licensed boat captain up to 60 tons. Certified Mercruiser marine engine mechanic. Graduated with honors at Centennial Sr. Secondary School. Graduated as top student from BCIT Aerospace AME-M program. Certified Mercruiser marine engine mechanic.

Community Service: No Information Submitted

Statement: I have two daughters attending BHS who have had their entire education in the Blaine school district. I offer my unique blend of skills to the board including business experience owning a local company, active

experience in industry as an aircraft mechanic, active experience as an instructor at a post-secondary institution, and appreciation for the value of supporting the arts in our schools. I have been a resident of Whatcom County for over 18 years.

Collaboration between the school board, superintendent, administration and teachers is crucial for the success of our students. I will take the time to read through the budgets, consider the comments from parents, teachers, and administration, and search for creative solutions to bring the best education possible for every student in the Blaine school system. There seems to be a lot of misinformation and frustration from all parties, and I will work towards eliminating these issues. Communicating *why* a decision has been made is almost as important as the decision itself. I can't promise miraculous solutions to the problems we are facing, but I will do my best to ensure everyone is heard and their concerns are acknowledged.

For More Information:
(360) 525-5041
lazarus_ben@hotmail.com



Dean Berkeley

Elected Experience: A successful 6 year term as a NWFRS commissioner, Past VP of the Sedro Woolley Fire Fighter Assoc. Current Pres. of our HOA, in Blaine - for 8 years consecutively.

Other Professional Experience: HOA President.

Education: Kwantlen Polytechnic Univ. BCIT, FAG Bearing Tech School. Western Avtech trained as a

private pilot.

Community Service: 14 year Volunteer Fire Fighter. Co-Managed the Custer Brass Kickers national Jr long range shooting team and Team GOTTA our local national Jr speed steel team. Sponsor our Blaine Little league. I am in the process of donating approximately 10K worth of welding equipment to Blaine SD for the Trades Welding shop.

Statement: My main focus will be on special needs and the IEP students that need extra support. We should not be waiting half way through the year to review each child. We need more staff and assistance in this area. We need to get back to the basics and help these children. The Board voted a few years back to disallow teachers to tutor our children after school and felt it was a conflict of interest to help our children. This needs to be reversed right away.

We need to focus on the trades that have been neglected and have the Arts program built up and fully supported. Our children deserve to be recognized.

For More Information:
(360) 661-5868
daberkeley@aol.com

Has your address changed?

Update your registration online at VoteWA.gov

OR

Notify the Election Division:
Phone: (360) 778-5102 We accept relay calls.
Email: elections@co.whatcom.wa.us





Lynden School District 504 - Director Position 3 - Nonpartisan Office - 4 Year Term

**David E. Vis**

Elected Experience: David has served on the Lynden School Board for over Five years.

Other Professional Experience: Private Practice of Law in Bellingham Washington, specializing in Consumer Bankruptcy Law and Debt management for 25 years. Currently Director of Finance and Care Ministry at North County Christ the King Church, Lynden for the past 7 years

Education: Dordt College, Sioux Center Iowa -- Bachelor of Arts in Political Science --1986, University of South Dakota School of Law -- Juris Doctorate, Honors Graduate -- 1989

Community Service: Founding Board Member of Camp Shiloh Christian Camp, Many years as youth baseball coach with Lynden Cal Ripken and Babe Ruth Baseball clubs

Statement: My original desire some five years ago in applying for a vacant board position was simply a community give back. I love this community and the schools, both public and private, have served my children well, with the

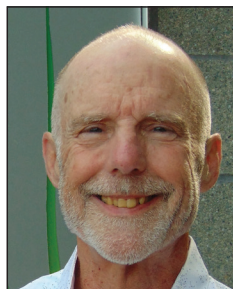
oldest 3 having graduated from Lynden Christian and my youngest 2 from Lynden Public. I had many friends encourage me to apply and I have truly felt it a privilege to serve as a director and have truly enjoyed the steep learning curve that is public education.

Five turbulent years, 3 Superintendents and a global pandemic later, the work ahead remains significant. We are processing the difficult financial realities facing our District and public education more broadly. We need to build awareness and community consensus for a much needed new Lynden High School, while making much needed improvements at our oldest elementary schools as well. We also need to be planning for future growth in Lynden as our community continues to grow.

We have great schools here in Lynden, and we have strong leadership in David VanderYacht and his team, and we have great committed teachers, staff and coaches. I would be honored to continue to serve you on the board.

For More Information:

(360) 303-8258
david.vis@ncctk.com

**Terry Montague**

Elected Experience: No Information Submitted

Other Professional Experience: Project Manager Boeing and IT consulting companies, ESL Instructor Asian Counseling and Referral Service, ESL Instructor McDonalds Corporate, ESL Instructor Lake Washington Institute of Technology, Contract IDEA project Canvas module curriculum development WA State Board of Education

Education: MA TESOL, Seattle University, BS Mathematics, Washington State University

Community Service: Samaritan's Purse - Whatcom County Flood Relief Outreach, Gospel message outreach, Lynden Assisted Living, Teacher Mentor, Talk Time Community outreach, Prayer support for Whatcom County Gideon's outreach, Seattle Marathon Director

Statement: We are in a battle for the minds and souls of our school children. Despite having awesome teachers, our school district OSPI score card is consistently very low.

This must be changed so our graduates can compete for entrance into colleges, trade schools and the jobs of their choice. My background in educational instruction and curriculum development combined with my passion for students makes me superbly qualified for this position. I will prioritize policies that allow our students to thrive, working to replace our one-size-fits-all standardized instruction with a more individualized approach.

Individualized instruction has been implemented in several states and resulted in significant increases in test scores, student motivation, and success after graduation. My commitment to parents and school administration is to continue research on individualized learning to show it works in other states and, when implemented, will ensure each student in our School District reaches their full potential.

Parents deserve a greater voice before the school board and I will ensure their voices are heard and valued. As parents of a special needs daughter, we support stronger parental rights.

For More Information:

(360) 922-8975
trmhunt66@comcast.net

**Jim Verburg**

Elected Experience: First-time candidate.

Other Professional Experience: Jim has extensive experience working in local Whatcom County industries over the past three decades as a technical expert, manager, and policy advocate. He started his career with a major local aluminum producer and more recently worked for a major energy producer. Jim is currently a Senior Director of Regulatory policy for an important trade association representing major energy producers on the West Coast.

Education: Bachelor of Science in Chemistry – Western Washington University

Community Service: Served on Lynden School Health Curriculum and IMC Committees. Youth leader at local church.

Statement: I am the proud son of a 32-year career public school teacher and coach. My daughter has been a student in Lynden since kindergarten and will graduate in 2024. I am keenly aware of the important role our public schools

play in preparing our young people for the future.

My wife and I have resided in Lynden for 20 years in total. After moving away for 5 years in the early 2000s, we moved back after the birth of our daughter because of the quality of Lynden schools. We have never regretted that decision. I believe we must earnestly protect, maintain, and improve the quality of Lynden schools so that the same reasons we moved back will remain for the benefit of future generations of students and parents.

I believe that parents are the most important stakeholders in their children's education on a wide range of issues from school policy to curriculum. I believe in a school district that has a culture of openness and transparency with parents and the community. I believe in fiscal responsibility and good stewardship of our public's resources. I believe that doing the right thing is frequently not synonymous with doing the easy thing.

For More Information:

(360) 526-2317
jimmiejam85@gmail.com



www.whatcomcounty.us/Elections



Meridian School District 505 - Director District 5 - Nonpartisan Office - 4 Year Term



J. Riley Sweeney

Elected Experience: First time on the ballot.

Other Professional Experience: Communication/ Recreation Coordinator for the City of Ferndale, previous work includes nonprofit and private sector experience as well as assisting my wife's small business. Skills include writing, event organizing, public policy development, grant writing, and facilitating community conversations on controversial topics to ensure all viewpoints are

considered by decision-makers.

Education: Proud public school attendee, recovering orchestra and theater kid, and WWU graduate.

Community Service: County Food System Committee Chair working to strengthen our local food system for our hardworking farmers and consumers. Content creator/fundraiser for KMRE 102.3/88.3 FM. Recently elected IRE PTA board member.

Statement: I'm a proud Meridian parent who is impressed by the district's dedicated staff and teachers who give it their all despite difficult budgets, a global shutdown, and the growing impacts of tough economic times. Meridian needs our help and I am ready to fight for the health and well-being of our

schools and children.

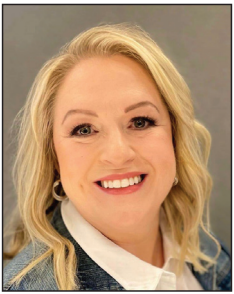
Schools should be where individuals are respected and creativity nurtured. Where teachers are able to encourage inquisitive minds. Where facts and science prevail - and the partisan politics dividing our country are not invited to the table. Schools should be safe places to learn, share, create, and build success without fear.

I will advocate for the salaries, support staff and equipment our schools desperately need so we can recruit and retain quality educators. I will fight for arts, theater, and enrichment programs that engage our children and inspire the next generation.

As Ferndale's recreation coordinator, I create quality experiences for communities to come together. By bringing that same passion and commitment to the School Board, we can make Meridian a place where All students and families are welcome. Please vote for me, J. Riley Sweeney, Position 5. More about my experience and values at www.sweeneyforschoolboard.com.

For More Information:

(360) 441-4191
sweeneyforschoolboard@gmail.com
[sweeneyforschoolboard.com](http://www.sweeneyforschoolboard.com)



Michelle Simmons

Elected Experience: First Time Candidate

Other Professional Experience: Michelle grew up in the raspberry industry. An experienced international businesswoman, excelling in local, state, and global operations, focused on developing teams, business growth and sustainability. Committed to serving her community and raising her children – all of whom have attended Meridian schools. Communication, leading with

transparency and compassion are her strengths.

Education: Meridian High School; Bellingham Technical College

Community Service: Meridian Boosters, Meridian Strategic Planning Committee, Senior Presentations Panelist, MPC Founder, Salvation Army Committees, Laurel Church, former BTC Advisory Board, PTA Chair, Coach, Big Kahuna Scholarship, Leaders and Legends, Relay for Life Captain, Participant in NAMI Stop the Stigma

Statement: I will represent you and will lead our district with a servant's heart for this and future generations. I will advocate for all students and families; while also honoring family values, cultural diversity, and socio-economic

conditions. I will focus on age appropriate educational standards, safety on our campuses, resource availability and a sense of community.

We must have age-appropriate educational standards with accountability in our classrooms and provide environments free of intimidation, where students and families feel welcome. We must develop well rounded citizens who have hope for their futures by providing tools such as mentoring programs, additional mental health, and personal development counselors. I will be proactive in understanding student needs and acknowledge that each student's tools for success are different, and that managing and obtaining resources is our responsibility but must be done without strings attached funding. I believe in grassroots efforts and community involvement.

I believe personal victories and a sense of belonging are keys to achievement. My approach to all matters will be transparent communication and engagement, getting to the root cause and fighting for local results and following through on commitments to our community.

There is no place like this place – we are Meridian.

For More Information:

(360) 303-8832
VoteMichelle5@gmail.com



Craig Mitchell

Elected Experience: Meridian School Board Director since July 2017.

Other Professional Experience: I am a journeyman Boilermaker and certified welder. I operate heavy equipment and trucks to maintain underground utilities.

Education: International Brotherhood of Boilermakers apprenticeship graduate. APWA Institute for Leadership

and Management graduate. WSSDA Fundamentals of Boardmanship certificate holder.

Community Service: I volunteered as a youth sports coach for seven years.

Statement: I was born and raised in Whatcom County. The education and preparation for entering the world after graduation are my biggest concerns. I have the best interests for all student and look forward to the growth of the district.

For More Information:

(360) 220-6679
craigcmwings@aol.com



Malia Pickett

Elected Experience: Skagit Valley College-Federation of Teachers Executive Council

Other Professional Experience: Tenured Faculty - Skagit Valley College; Nursing Department Chair- Skagit Valley College; Tenure and Curriculum Committees - Skagit Valley College; Emergency Department RN - St. Joseph's Medical Center

Education: Doctor of Nursing Practice-Community Health and Cross-Cultural & Global Health, University of Washington 2014; Masters of Nursing-Nurse Education, University of Washington-Tacoma 2010; Bachelors of Science in Nursing, Lewis-Clark State College 2006; K-12 Meridian School District, Class of 2000

Community Service: Peace Health Committee for Health Equity, Diversity and Inclusion (CHEDI), committee member; classroom volunteer at Irene Reither Elementary; Community Nursing Volunteer in Nicaragua

Statement: Malia Pickett has been a life-long resident of Beautiful Downtown Laurel. After graduation, Malia pursued an education in nursing, her life-long passion. She earned her doctoral degree from the University of Washington

then returned to Laurel to raise her own kids in the same great school district.

Malia's familiarity with the Meridian community and the school district as a student and a parent, as well as her experience in education and healthcare have uniquely prepared her to represent the community on the school board. She will provide a thoughtful and rational voice on the school board, with a commitment to weighing evidence and taking into consideration the voices of students, parents, teachers, and community members as she leads.

Meridian's population has been growing and diversifying, and Malia is excited about helping the district maintain its core values of belonging, wellness and inclusion of this close-knit community as it welcomes students from various regions, backgrounds and cultures.

Schools need to be poised to teach and care for students academically, emotionally, socially and physically. Malia's nursing expertise combined with experience in higher education and academia will prove to be valuable assets in serving as a Meridian School District Board Member.

For More Information:

(617) 982-2682
malia.pickett@gmail.com



Sedro-Woolley School District No. 101 - Director District 3 - Nonpartisan Office - 4 Year Term

**Dani Baird Russell**

Elected Experience: Currently serving as school director of District 3, Sedro-Woolley School District No. 101

Other Professional Experience: WA State Real Estate Broker since 2004. Co-owner of John L. Scott Skagit & Sedro-Woolley. Member of the North Puget Sound Association of Realtors.

Education: Graduate of Sedro-Woolley High School, 2002. Graduate of University of Oregon, B.S., Political Science, 2006.

Community Service: Sedro-Woolley Rotarian, Sedro-Woolley Alumni & Schools Foundation Board Member, Sedro-Woolley Little League Coach, SW Youth Soccer Coach, Leadership Skagit 2014 Graduate, Mount Vernon Boys & Girls Club Community Council, Sedro-Woolley HS Fastpitch Volunteer, Big Lake Parent Group Participant, University of Oregon Student-Athlete Development Mentor Program Volunteer.

Statement: As a former K-12 student, a graduate of the Sedro-Woolley School District, and now the mother of two students at Big Lake Elementary, I am deeply committed to the success of every student who walks through our halls and the continued growth of our District.

Whether through volunteering, coaching, or stepping in as an emergency substitute, my active participation in our schools has granted me invaluable insights from the perspectives of both students and educators. Having the opportunity to interact with our students regularly is my favorite part of serving in this position.

I firmly believe in the power of partnerships and the continued engagement with stakeholders, including students, families, local businesses, school staff, and our community members. Each of these entities plays a crucial and integral role in strengthening our schools and advancing student achievement.

The task of educating our students is an ongoing journey. As a District, we must continue to challenge ourselves, seek improvement in student outcomes and proficiencies, provide new learning opportunities, and make strategic investments to address the missed learning in recent years.

I would love your support as we work together towards a brighter future for our students and community.

For More Information:
(360) 202-9818
danibairdrussell@gmail.com
www.danirussell.com

Tové Schweizer

No Information Submitted

For More Information:
(360) 899-8842
Tove@VoteSchweizer.com

**Hannah Oliver**

Elected Experience: Big Lake PCO

Other Professional Experience: Statewide Coordinator, Washington Student Engagement Networks; Volunteer Coordinator, Skagit Habitat for Humanity; Paraprofessional, Mount Vernon School District (MVSD); Student Teacher/Substitute Teacher, Sedro-Woolley School District (SWSD)

Education: Masters in Teaching from Western Washington University (WWU). Bachelors in Political Science from Central Washington University (CWU). Certificate in the Fundamentals of Veterinary Assisting from Northwest Career and Technical Academy (NCTA).

Community Service: Skagit Gleaners volunteer, Cascade Middle School Club Volunteer, Skagit Women's Alliance and Network (SWAN) selection committee member

Statement: We are fortunate to reside in a tight-knit community that values family and its significant impact on our education system. When communities engage with their schools, learning outcomes improve, graduates are encouraged to remain in the area, and the entire community prospers.

As an educator, I possess a strong foundation to tackle the challenges of our education system.

I will leverage my years of experience in community engagement and K-12 Schools to champion initiatives that strengthen the bonds between our schools, families, and community, including regular communication channels, community-driven decision-making, and opportunities for meaningful engagement. Together, we can foster a collaborative environment where everyone feels valued and genuinely invested in our student's education.

When educators, families, and communities come together, we create an environment where all students thrive. With my experience, I will strengthen these connections and make the Sedro-Woolley School District an even stronger education institution for our children.

Together, we can improve our schools.

Thank you for your support.

For More Information:
hannahforswschools@gmail.com

Hospital District 304 - Commissioner Position 2 - Nonpartisan Office - 6 Year Term

**Ashley Gregorius**

Elected Experience: No Information Submitted

Other Professional Experience: I am the Business Operations Manager of an optometry practice and medical spa, where I developed extensive protocols for day-to-day operations and marketing management. Before my healthcare career, I worked in education with children and adults with disabilities and trained as a Behavior Specialist. I taught in various education settings, including School Districts, nonprofits, and childcare centers.

Education: Whatcom Community College AA; Cornell University Executive Healthcare Management Certification and Healthcare Change Certification; Studied Criminal Justice and Communication at WSU

Community Service: President of the Board at Burlington Little School; Previous Board Member at Friendship House; Previous Board Vice Chair at Fildalgo Nature School

Statement: In this position, I will utilize all my experience to ensure we continue providing outstanding programs for Skagit County citizens and implement positive change. Growing up on a five-acre farm, I recognize our

community's needs and healthcare access challenges in rural communities. As a parent in our community, combined with my business expertise, I will ensure people of all ages have a healthy future while maintaining a fiscally responsible board. On this board, I will advocate for more programs and healthcare expansion and continue to fight for our rural communities to have the same level of care as those in the city.

I am active in the community and have had the honor of working alongside many of our nonprofit leaders and local elected officials. I became an advocate for healthcare after eight years of working with people who struggled with mental health issues and disabilities. In addition to building and expanding a successful optometry practice, I volunteered for the people of this community, supported business organizations, and improved early childhood education throughout Skagit County.

I am committed to improving the health and vitality of all those in Skagit County.

For More Information:
(360) 610-7052
ash.gregorius@gmail.com
https://ashley4skagit.com/

Eric Lodjic

No Information Submitted

For More Information:
(360) 840-3483
Info@airhealthservices.com

Debra Lancaster

No Information Submitted

For More Information:
(360) 708-9573
debraforcommissioner@gmail.com



Fire Protection District 4 Proposition 2023-01 Property Tax Levy for Fire Protection and Emergency Medical Services

Language on the Ballot

The Board of Fire Commissioners for Fire Protection District 4 adopted Resolution No. 2023-02 concerning a proposition to maintain and adequately fund District operations. Proposition 2023-01 would restore the District's regular property tax levy to the previous voter-approved rate of \$0.99 per \$1,000.00 of assessed value for collection in 2024, and authorize setting the limit factor at 103% for each of the succeeding five years (but never to exceed the \$1.50 per \$1,000.00 rate limit). The dollar amount of the levy in 2029 shall serve as the base for subsequent levy limitations as provided by RCW 84.55.

Should this proposition be: Approved/Rejected

Explanatory Statement

The District is placing a multi-year lid lift proposition on the August 1 primary ballot. If approved, the proposition authorizes the District to restore its levy rate to \$.99 per \$1,000.00 of assessed property value, as previously approved by voters. Passage of the proposition would allow the levy dollar amount to increase by up to 3% in the succeeding five years. The dollar amount of the levy in 2029 would be used to calculate future levy increase limits. If this proposition passes, a taxpayer with the average home value of \$500,000.00 would anticipate an increased tax of \$15.00 per month.

Statement For:

Given our background in emergency services we have a unique perspective regarding the evolution of our current funding situation. The past aside, current revenue does not cover expenses. We can't go back; we can only move forward.

Times are changing, and if we want to retain our 24-hour staffed fire department, we have to pay for it. While costs have risen and income has not; the question remains what is the value of the life of your family's lives or your home? We need Fire District 4 and the rapid responses offered to us by our firefighters and EMT's. We encourage a strong vote of support when we see the levy lid lift on the ballot.

We won't be left without services even if it doesn't pass, however, they will have to come from much further away and from agencies who have a responsibility to their own communities. This will result in critical delays when we place that 9-1-1 call; delays that, when help is needed quickly, may have a negative impact on our lives and property. We support the Fire District 4 levy because we understand the issues and know that there is really no alternative left!

Statement For prepared by:

Geri Gumley and Leisa Quadt

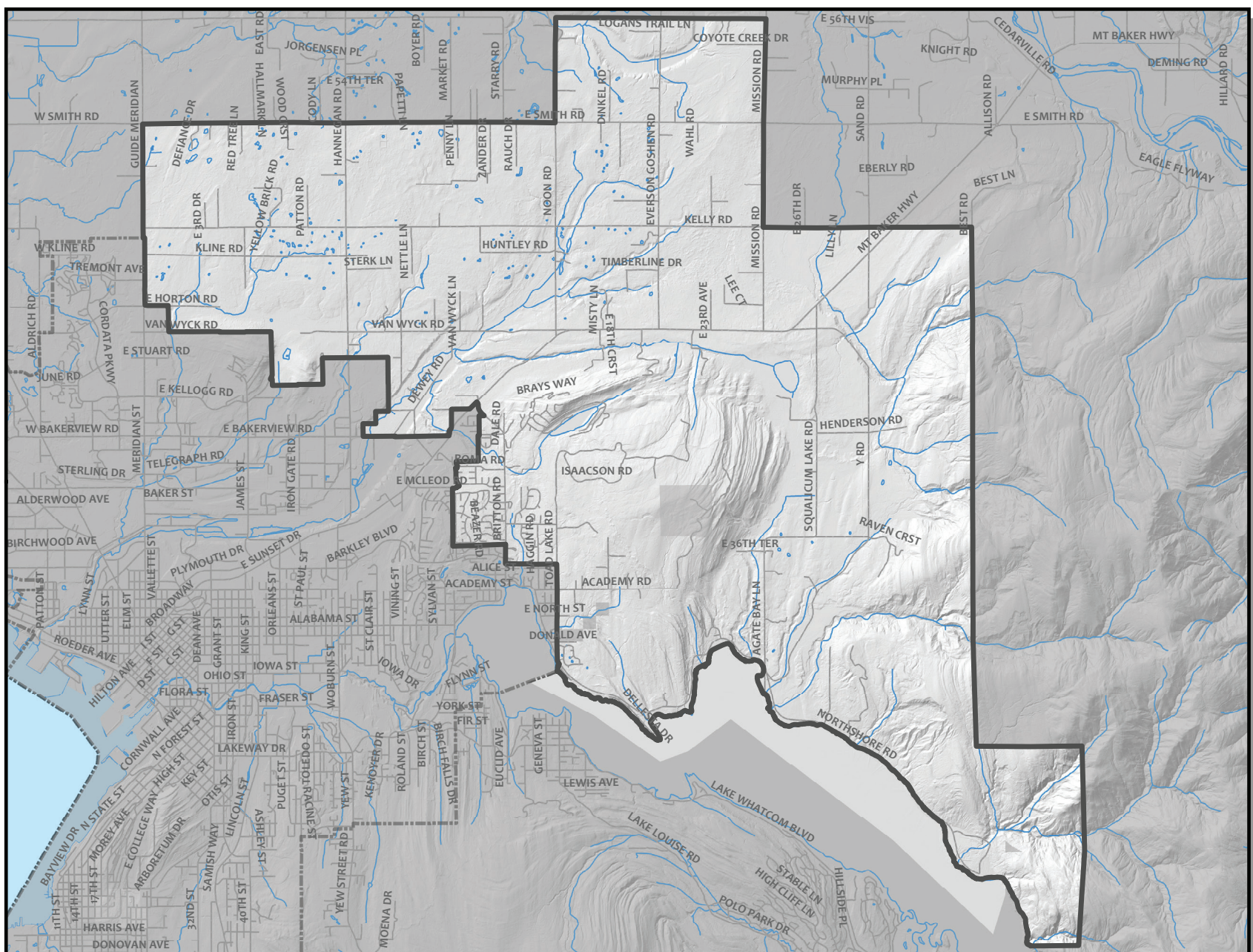
Statement Against:

No statement submitted.

Statement Against prepared by:

No committee formed.

Map of Fire Protection District 4





**Fire Protection District 4
Proposition 2023-01
Property Tax Levy for Fire Protection and Emergency Medical Services**

WHATCOM COUNTY FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT #4

Resolution 2023-02

RESOLUTION PROVIDING FOR THE SUBMISSION OF LEVY

A RESOLUTION OF THE GOVERNING BOARD OF WHATCOM COUNTY FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT NO. 4 (“DISTRICT”) PROVIDING FOR THE SUBMISSION TO THE QUALIFIED ELECTORS OF THE DISTRICT AT AN ELECTION TO BE HELD WITHIN THE DISTRICT ON AUGUST 1, 2023, IN CONJUNCTION WITH THE PRIMARY ELECTION TO BE HELD ON THE SAME DATE, OF A PROPOSITION RESTORING THE DISTRICT’S PROPERTY TAX LEVY RATE TO \$0.99. PER \$1,000.00 OF TRUE AND ASSESSED VALUATION AND ESTABLISHING A LIMIT FACTOR OF UP TO 3 % SUBJECT TO OTHERWISE APPLICABLE STATUTORY LIMITATIONS FOR THE FOLLOWING FIVE YEARS.

Background:

1. **WHEREAS**, it is the judgment of the Board of Fire Commissioners of the District that it is essential and necessary for the protection of the health and life of the residents of the District that the fire and emergency medical services be provided by the District.
2. **WHEREAS**, RCW 84.55 places a 1% limitation on the increase of tax revenue collected by the District annually. Such 1% limitation on the increase would cause a loss of revenue to the District of \$909,515.61 in 2024. Such losses will necessitate reduction in services and increase response times. This resolution and the resultant election would give the voters the opportunity to choose to continue services pursuant to the previously authorized levy rate approved by the voters, waiving the 1% limit of RCW 84.55 (commonly referred to as a “lid lift.”)
3. **WHEREAS**, the Board has determined that the accelerated demands for, and increasing costs of, providing services will necessitate the expenditure of revenues for improved fire protection operations, replacing apparatus and equipment, providing staffing and maintaining emergency medical service levels in excess of those which can be provided by the District’s regular fire tax revenue levied at the current rate of approximately \$.99 per \$1,000.00 of assessed valuation of taxable property within the District as limited by the 101% limitation.
4. **WHEREAS**, the Board believes that establishing a limit factor of up to 3% will ensure that the District can meet service demands it otherwise could not if subject to the 101% limitation set forth in RCW 84.55.
5. **WHEREAS**, the District previously levied its regular property tax at the rate of \$1.50 per thousand of assessed valuation of taxable property as approved by the voters.
6. **WHEREAS**, the Board has determined that it is in the best interest of the District that the dollar amount of the levy in the sixth year of the levy authorized by this Resolution serve as the levy base for purposes of applying the limit factor established by RCW 84.55.010 in subsequent years.

Resolution: NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED by the Board of Fire Commissioners of Whatcom County Fire Protection District No. 4, Whatcom County, Washington as follows:

Section 1. In order to maintain and increase the level of fire protection, prevention, emergency medical services and the protection of life and property in the District, it is necessary for the District to operate and maintain emergency fire and medical service vehicles, to acquire and improve station and other capital facilities and to retain properly trained personnel equipped with proper firefighting and emergency medical equipment.

Section 2. In order to provide the revenue adequate to pay the costs of maintaining and providing the services described in Section 1 above and to assure the continuation and improvement of such services the District shall, in accordance with RCW 84.55.050, remove the limitation on regular property taxes imposed by RCW 84.55.010, and levy beginning in 2023 and collect beginning in 2024, pursuant to RCW 52.16.160, a general tax on taxable property within the District at a rate of \$0.99 per \$1,000.00 of assessed valuation subject to otherwise applicable statutory limits.

Section 3. The proposal set forth below, if authorized by the qualified electors of the District, will allow a levy rate of \$0.99 per \$1,000 of assessed valuation for a one (1) year period, coupled with specified increases in property taxes collected in each of the five (5) consecutive successive years thereafter.

Section 4. The amount levied in 2029 shall serve as the District’s tax levy base for purposes of applying the limit factor established by RCW 84.55.010 in subsequent years.

Section 5. There shall be submitted to the qualified electors of the District for their ratification or rejection, at an election on August 1, 2023, the question of whether or not the regular property tax levy of the District should be restored to \$0.99 per \$1,000.00 of true and assessed valuation for a one (1) year period, coupled with specified increases in property taxes collected in each of the five (5) consecutive successive years thereafter, and applying a limit factor of up to 3% annually, subject to statutory and constitutional limits, which are otherwise applicable; **provided further** that the dollar amount of the levy in the sixth year shall be used for the purpose of computing the limitations on future years’ levies. The Governing Board hereby requests the auditor of Whatcom County, as ex-officio Supervisor of Elections, to call such election, and to submit the following proposition at such election, in the form of a ballot title substantially as follows:

Name of Jurisdiction: Whatcom County Fire Protection District No. 4
Proposition #: Proposition No. 1
Short Title: Property Tax Levy for Fire Protection and Emergency Medical Services.

The Board of Fire Commissioners for Whatcom County Fire Protection District No. 4 adopted Resolution No. 2023-02 concerning a proposition to maintain and adequately fund District operations. Proposition 1 would restore the District’s regular property tax levy to the previous voter-approved rate of \$0.99 per \$1,000 of assessed value for collection in 2024 and permit annual revenue increases of up to 3% for each of the succeeding five years (but never to exceed the \$1.50 per \$1,000 rate limit). The dollar amount of the levy in 2029 shall serve as the base for subsequent levy limitations as provided by Chapter 84.55 RCW.

Should this proposition be: Approved Rejected

Section 6. In accordance with RCW 84.55.050(1), the ballot measure shall require approval of a simple majority of voters.

Section 7. The Board hereby assigns to the Fire Chief or designee the task of appointing members to a committee to advocate voters’ approval of the proposition and to a committee to prepare arguments advocating voters’ rejection of the proposition.

Section 8. For purposes of receiving notice of any matters related to the ballot title, as provided in RCW 29A.36.080, the Board hereby designates the Fire Chief and legal counsel as the individuals to whom the County Auditor shall provide such notice.

Section 9. The Fire Chief is authorized to implement such administrative procedures as may be necessary to carry out the directives of this resolution, including the finalization of an explanatory statement, modifying the text of the ballot title and any other text, language and/or descriptions relative thereto necessary to conform such ballot title, text, language and/or descriptions to the intent of the parties, consistent with the objectives of this resolution.

Section 10. The Chief, or designee, is hereby authorized and directed, no later than May 12, 2023, to provide to the County Auditor a certified copy of this resolution and the proper District officials are authorized to perform such other duties or take such other actions as are necessary or required by law to the end that the proposition described in this resolution appear on the ballot before the voters at the August 1, 2023 election.

Section 11. If any section, subsection, paragraph, sentence, clause or phrase of this resolution is declared unconstitutional or invalid for any reason, such decision shall not affect the validity of the remaining portions of this resolution.

Section 12. Any act consistent with the authority and prior to the effective date of this resolution is hereby ratified and affirmed.

Section 13. This resolution shall take effect and be in force immediately upon its passage.

PASSED AND APPROVED THIS 1ST DAY OF MAY 2023 BY THE BOARD OF FIRE COMMISSIONERS OF WHATCOM COUNTY FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT #4.

ATTEST:

Mark Lann, Commissioner

Steve Cooley, Chairman

Tim Johnson, Commissioner

Jason Van der Veen, Fire Chief

Jennie Sand, Board Secretary

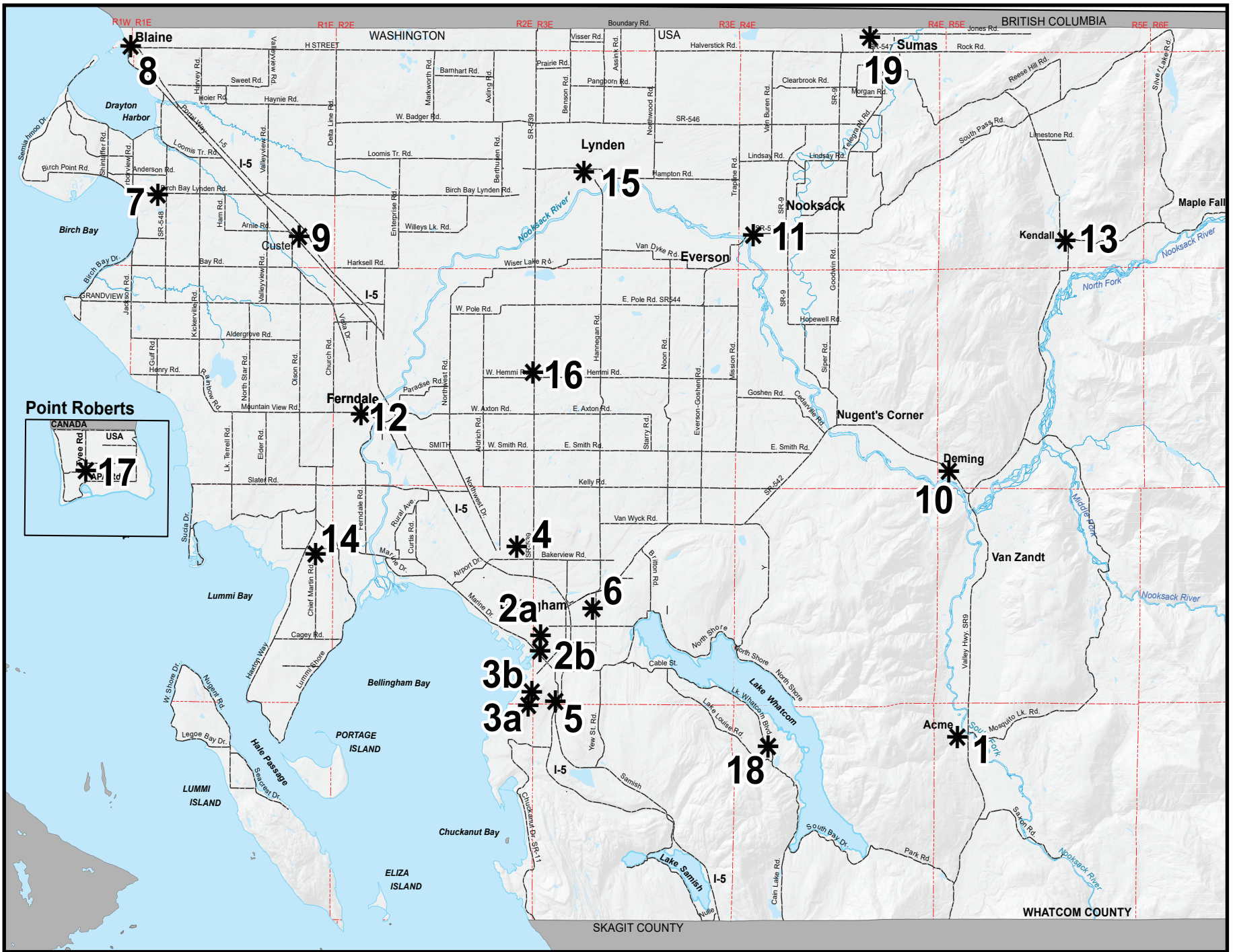


By Drop Box

Boxes open July 12

Boxes close August 1 at 8:00 pm

Map #	City	Ballot Drop Box Location	Address
1	Acme	Acme Elementary School parking lot	5200 Turkington Road
2a	Bellingham	Inside the Whatcom County Courthouse (in rotunda)	311 Grand Avenue
2b	Bellingham	In south parking lot of the Courthouse (enter from Grand Avenue)	247 Grand Avenue
3a	Bellingham	WWU - on campus outside Wade King Student Recreation Center	1880 Bill McDonald Parkway
3b	Bellingham	WWU - on campus outside Bond Hall in Red Square	516 High Street
4	Bellingham	Outside Whatcom Community College ASB building, in parking lot	620 W. Kellogg Road
5	Bellingham	Haggen Sehome Village, northeast corner of parking lot	210 36th Street
6	Bellingham	In theatre parking lot, between Scotty Browns and WaFd Bank	3055 Woburn Street
7	Birch Bay	North Whatcom Fire & Rescue parking lot	4581 Birch Bay-Lynden Road
8	Blaine	Blaine Library parking lot	610 3rd Street
9	Custer	Outside Custer Elementary School	7660 Custer School Road
10	Deming	Deming Library parking lot	5044 Mt. Baker Highway
11	Everson	WECU parking lot	106 E. Main Street
12	Ferndale	Ferndale City Hall parking lot	2095 Main Street
13	Kendall	North Fork Library at Kendall parking lot	7506 Kendall Road
14	Lummi	Lummi Nation Administration Building, outside main entrance	2665 Kwina Road
15	Lynden	Behind the Lynden Library	216 4th Street
16	Meridian	Laurel Grange parking lot	6172 Guide Meridian
17	Point Roberts	Inside the International Marketplace: <i>Only available during store hours</i>	480 Tye Drive
18	Sudden Valley	Outside in the security office turnaround at Gate One	2020 Lake Whatcom Blvd
19	Sumas	Behind the Post Office in parking lot	534 Railroad Avenue



By Mail

No stamp needed

Ballots must be postmarked by August 1

USPS recommends mailing by Tuesday, July 25