

Whatcom County Business and Commerce Committee
Tentatively October 25, 2021, 11-1230pm

Via Zoom

Dial by your location
+1 253 215 8782 US (Tacoma)
Meeting ID: 966 8428 5613
Passcode: 692089

Find your local number: <https://portofbellingham.zoom.us/j/ab1hw4BY7l>
Contact jennifern@portofbellingham.com if you would like an invite sent to you.

This is the same Zoom information as the Outlook recurring calendar invite.

Agenda

Call meeting to order (5 min)

Introductions / Comments from the Public (5 min)

Administrative business (5 min)

- Approve minutes from September 2021 meeting
- Open voting member positions: food processing & manufacturing

Update on EDI board proposal regarding the Infrastructure Improvements for Affordable Workforce Housing Program to WC Council by Michael Jones, WCBAC Committee Member (15 min):

- Committee member Q&A (10 min)
- Discuss a motion to recommend to County Council that the EDI board proposal be approved (5 min)

Update on COB zoning changes ‘ranged zoning’ and revised density requirements given by Derek Long, Whatcom Housing Alliance (15 min):

- Committee member Q&A (5 min)

Discussion on COB People’s Initiative 1 and 4, comments given by Guy Occhiogrosso, Bellingham Regional Chamber of Commerce (15 min)

- Committee member Q&A (5 min)
- Discuss next steps (5 min)

Close

Next meeting: Monday, November 15, 2021 11am

Potential Future Meeting Topics:

- *Post-secondary education – private sector opportunities in Whatcom County: job creation, workforce development*
- *Water Rights in Whatcom County – Presentation from PUD, update from Brad Rader*
- *Cherry Point Master Planning / Infrastructure*
- *Status of American Rescue Plan relief dollars in Whatcom County*
- *Status of Permanent Affordability of Child Care in Whatcom County*
- *Status of Affordable Housing in Whatcom County, items related to annexations, Buildable Lands, EDI program, COB Planning Director search, Worker Housing in Whatcom County – Updates from POB Economic Development*
- *Presentation on Bellis Fair Mall Repurpose/Redevelopment*
- *Updates on County financials and budgets, economic resiliency of the County*
- *Port industrial and commercial land report – what is occupied, what is vacant, who is there?*
- *All Sectors: Near term business impacts of the on-going labor shortage (brief update from sectors with +40 employees)*