

**Whatcom County Business and Commerce Committee**  
**November 15, 2021, 11-1230pm**

**Zoom Meeting**

<https://portofbellingham.zoom.us/j/96684285613?pwd=TFp3YVpKSUJRdlhGSGVTc1JvODBKUT09>

Meeting ID: 966 8428 5613

Passcode: 692089

Dial by your location

+1 253 215 8782 US (Tacoma)

Contact [jennifern@portofbellingha.com](mailto:jennifern@portofbellingha.com) if you would like an invite sent to you.

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

**Agenda**

**Call meeting to order** (5 min)

**Introductions / Comments from the Public** (5 min)

**Administrative business** (5 min)

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

**Update** on EDI proposal to Whatcom County Council and next steps given by committee member Michael Jones, Blaine City Manager (10 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 (10 min)

**Update** on workforce issues and post-secondary education initiatives given by committee member Eva Schulte, Whatcom Community College (15 min)

- Committee member Q&A (10 min)

**Update** on houselessness and parking enforcement situation given by committee member Don Goldberg (10 min)

**Close**

**Next meeting:** Monday, December 20, 2021 11am

*Potential Future Meeting Topics:*

- *Impact of COB Initiatives #2 and #3 passing*
- *Status of American Rescue Plan relief dollars in Whatcom County*
- *WADOT Infrastructure and Operations (rest stop closures on I-5)*
- *Water Rights in Whatcom County – Presentation from PUD, update from Brad Rader*
- *Cherry Point Master Planning / Infrastructure*
- *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)*