

Agenda for Charter Review Commission Meeting
7 p.m. to 9:30 p.m., May 3, 1995
Courthouse Multi-purpose Room, 311 Grand Ave., Bellingham

Individuals needing information about accessibility or special assistance should please contact the County Council office at 676-6690 at least 48 hours in advance, so that we may make necessary accommodations. Some accommodations, such as assistive listening devices or materials in alternative format may require 7 to 10 days notice.

- I. Call to Order
- II. Roll Call
- III. Approval of the Agenda
- IV. Reading and Approval of Minutes from the April 19, 1995 Meeting
- V. Open Session - Public Comments
- VI. Discussion of Proposed Motions (See attached)
 1. Radke, Section 1.50: addition of new section, "Performance and Strategic Planning"
 2. Goldsmith, Section 1.51: requiring long-term strategic planning and development of performance measurements
 3. Radke, Section 2.50: requiring the Council to specify when the Executive shall provide the annual statement of governmental affairs
 4. Radke, Section 6.41: specifying when quarterly reports can be required more frequently
 5. Radke, Section 8.25: addition of new section, "Non-substantive amendments by the County Council"
- VII. Break (8:20 p.m.)
- VIII. Other Business
- IX. Discussion of Next Agenda
- X. Adjourn

The next scheduled meeting will be Wednesday, May 10, 1995 at 7 p.m. in the County Courthouse, 5th Floor Juvenile Courtroom, 311 Grand Ave, Bellingham.

People are encouraged to write the Charter Review Commission and share their thoughts and concerns. Please mail your comments to: Charter Review Commission, c/o Whatcom County Council Office, 311 Grand Avenue, Bellingham, WA 98225.

**PROPOSED CHANGES TO THE WHATCOM COUNTY HOME RULE CHARTER
MAY 3, 1995**

1. (Ray Radke) I move to amend the Charter by adding the following section:

Section 1.50 Performance and Strategic Planning

The executive and legislative branches shall establish a partnership intended to achieve long-term strategic planning to determine organizational structure, fix priorities, and establish performance measurements.

2. (Yvonne Goldsmith) I move to amend the Charter as follows:

Section 1.51 Cooperation of Branches

Though powers are distributed to the respective branches, each branch shall strive to work in partnership with the other branch for a unified government in order to advance public justice for the people of Whatcom County, which is the primary task of this government. The Executive, Administrative, and Legislative Departments under the budget authority of Whatcom County shall perform long-term strategic planning and develop performance measurements.

3. (Ray Radke) I move to amend the Charter as follows:

Section 2.50 Resolutions.

The County Council shall confirm or reject appointments by the County Executive within thirty (30) days of the date the name or names are submitted to it; may pass resolutions to organize and administer the legislative branch; may pass resolutions to make declarations of policy which do not have the force of law and to request information from any other agency of county government. Resolutions shall not be subject to the veto power of the Executive, and the Council in passing resolutions need not comply with the procedural requirements for the introduction, consideration and adoption of ordinances.

At its first regular meeting of each calendar year, the County Council shall by resolution specify the date on which the County Executive shall provide the annual statement of governmental affairs. This date shall not be less than thirty (30) days nor more than sixty (60) days from the date of resolution.

4. (Ray Radke) I move to amend the Charter as follows:

Section 6.41 Budget Control.

At the beginning of each quarterly period during the fiscal year, and more often if required by resolution of the Council or by events, the County Executive shall submit to the County Council a written report showing the relation between the estimated income and expenses and actual income and expenses to date; and if it shall appear that the income is less than anticipated, the Council may reduce appropriations, except amounts required to meet contractual obligations and for debt, interest and other fixed charges, to such a degree as may be necessary to keep expenditures within the cash income.

5. (Ray Radke) I move to amend the Charter by adding the following section:

Section 8.25 Non-substantive Amendments by the County Council

The County Council may effect amendments to the language of the Charter where the passage of time or changes in law have rendered language moot or obsolete, and the amendment does not constitute a substantive change to the powers, authorities, and duties granted in this Charter. Such changes shall be made by ordinance, have public hearing, and be subject to the veto power of the County Executive.