

ORDINANCE NO. 2016-08-026

**AN ORDINANCE RELATING TO THE COUNCIL WARDS OF THE CITY, PROVIDING FOR THE REDISTRICTING OF SUCH WARDS, AND AMENDING BELLINGHAM MUNICIPAL CODE CHAPTER 1.16 WHICH DESCRIBES EACH WARD BY ELECTION PRECINCTS**

**WHEREAS**, the Bellingham City Charter, article 1, section 5, requires the wards of the City to be redrawn every four years if the number of registered voters in any one ward exceeds the number of registered voters in any other ward by more than fifteen (15) percent; and

**WHEREAS**, the City most recently amended the ward boundaries in April 2008; and

**WHEREAS**, staff members conducted an analysis in 2012 and determined that no amendments to the ward boundaries were needed at that time; and

**WHEREAS**, the maximum deviation in the number of registered voters between wards in City currently exceeds fifteen (15) percent; and

**WHEREAS**, RCW 29A.76.010 requires the City to periodically redistrict its governmental unit based on population information from the most recent federal decennial census; and

**WHEREAS**, the City has not redistricted its boundaries since receiving the most recent federal decennial census; and

**WHEREAS**, the maximum deviation in total population between wards should not exceed ten (10) percent to ensure equal representation throughout the City; and

**WHEREAS**, the maximum deviation in total population between wards currently exceeds ten (10) percent; and

**WHEREAS**, RCW 29A.76.010(5) requires the City to hold at least one public hearing on the redistricting plan prior to its adoption; and

**WHEREAS**, the City held the required public hearing on the proposed redistricting plan on July 25, 2016; and

**NOW THEREFORE, THE CITY OF BELLINGHAM DOES ORDAIN:**

Sec 1. BMC 1.16.020 is amended to read as follows:

The first ward shall include all of that part of the city of Bellingham within the boundaries depicted upon the map which is attached to the ordinance codified in this chapter as Exhibit A. The boundaries of the six wards shall be defined in terms of precincts as described in this chapter and depicted on a map approved by the City Council. A copy of the map entitled "City of Bellingham Ward Boundaries Map 2016" shall be published on the City's web-site.

City of Bellingham  
City Attorney  
210 Lottie Street  
Bellingham, Washington 98225  
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Sec. 2. BMC 1.16.030 is amended to read as follows:

The precincts of the first ward are as follows: ~~201, 202, 203, 204, 205, and 206,~~ 201, 202, 203, 204, 205, 206, 207, 209, 210, 222, and 268. The description of the boundaries of these precincts are as set forth in the amended and updated files of the Whatcom County election department.

Sec. 3. BMC 1.16.050 is amended to read as follows:

The precincts of the second ward are as follows: ~~208, 209, 210, 211, 212, and 214~~ 208, 211, 212, 213, 214, 215, 217, 218, 219, 220, and 269. The description of the boundaries of these precincts are as set forth in the amended and updated files of the Whatcom County election department.

Sec. 4. BMC 1.16.070 is amended to read as follows:

The precincts of the third ward are as follows: ~~207, 213, 215, 216, 217, 218, 219, 220, 222, and 231~~ 216, 223, 224, 225, 226, 227, 228, 230, 231, and 232. The description of the boundaries of these precincts are as set forth in the amended and updated files of the Whatcom County election department.

Sec. 5. BMC 1.16.090 is amended to read as follows:

The precincts of the fourth ward are as follows: ~~223, 224, 225, 226, 227, 228, and 229~~ 221, 229, 233, 234, 235, 237, 238, 239, 240, 241, 242, and 243. The description of the boundaries of these precincts are as set forth in the amended and updated files of the Whatcom County election department.

Sec. 6. BMC 1.16.110 is amended to read as follows:


The precincts of the fifth ward are as follows: ~~221, 230, 232, 233, 234, 235, 236, 237, 238, and 239~~ 244, 245, 246, 247, 248, 249, 250, 252, and 253. The description of the boundaries of these precincts are as set forth in the amended and updated files of the Whatcom County election department.

Sec. 7. BMC 1.16.130 is amended to read as follows:

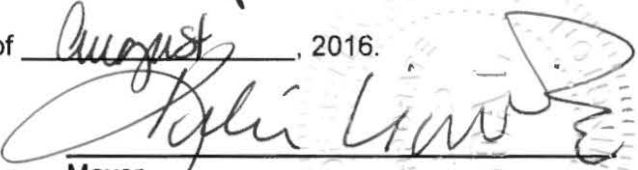
The precincts of the sixth ward are as follows: ~~240, 241, 242, 243, 244, 245, 246, and 247~~ 251, 254, 255, 256, 257, 258, 259, 260, 261, 262, 263, 264, 265, and 266. The description of the boundaries of these precincts are as set forth in the amended and updated files of the Whatcom County election department.

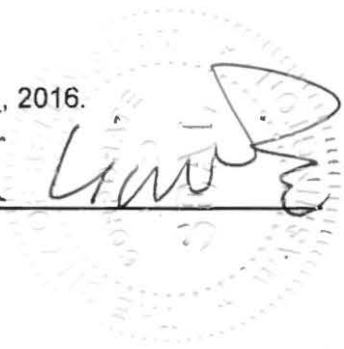
**PASSED** by the Council this 8<sup>th</sup> day of August, 2016.

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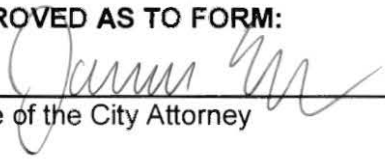
  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Council President

APPROVED by me this 16<sup>th</sup> day of August, 2016.

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Mayor



ATTEST:   
\_\_\_\_\_  
Finance Director

APPROVED AS TO FORM:  
  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Office of the City Attorney

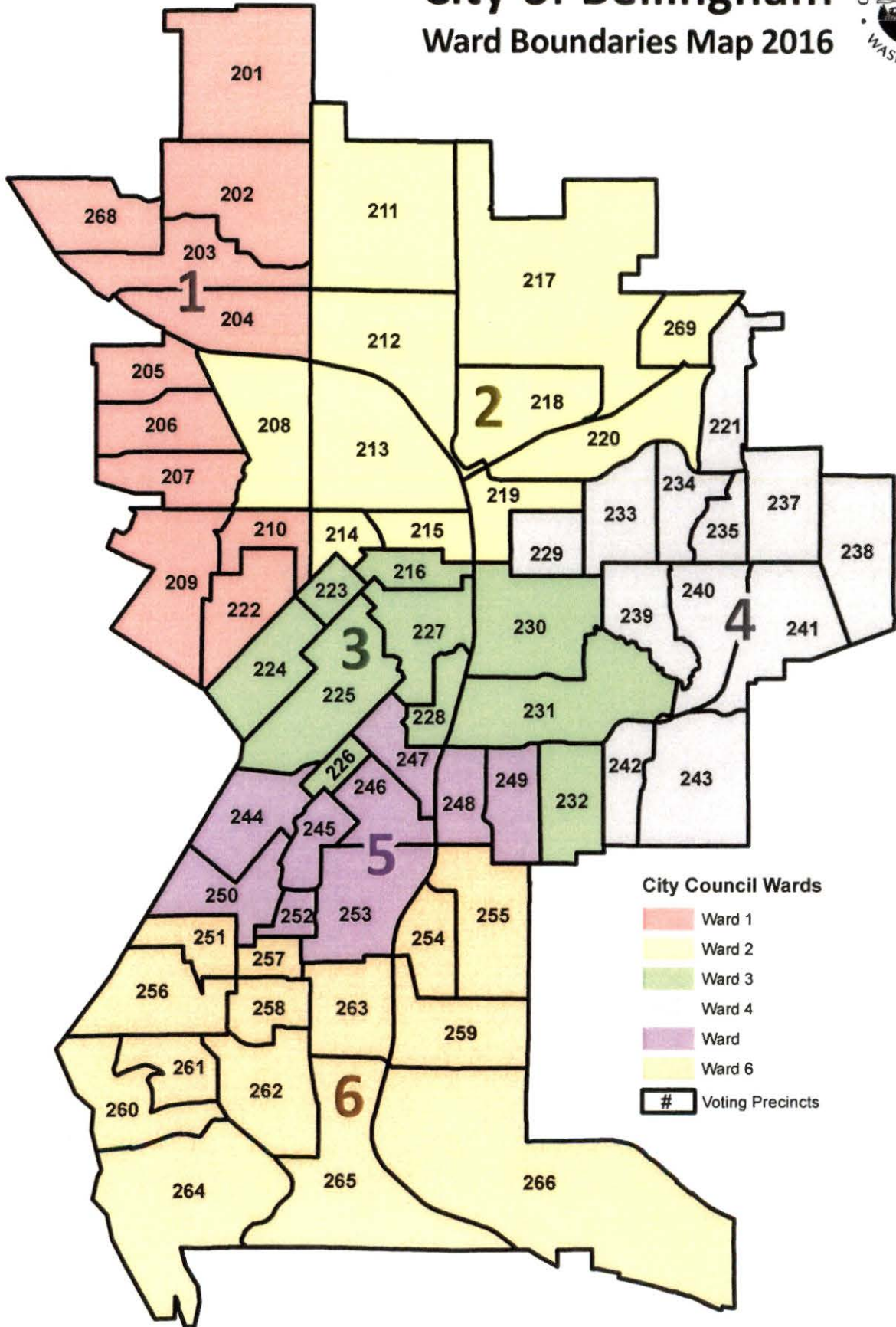
Published:

August 12, 2016

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# City of Bellingham

## Ward Boundaries Map 2016



**City Council Wards**

- Ward 1
- Ward 2
- Ward 3
- Ward 4
- Ward 5
- Ward 6
- # Voting Precincts