

RESOLUTION REGARDING WTA BOARD COMPOSITION

WHEREAS, the Whatcom Transportation Authority (WTA) provides transit service to Bellingham and to the rest of Whatcom County; and

WHEREAS, 90.2% of WTA boardings occur inside the City of Bellingham; and

WHEREAS, 40.1% of the county's population resides in Bellingham; and

WHEREAS, 68% of countywide sales tax revenue which goes to WTA comes from the City of Bellingham; and

WHEREAS, 90% of fairbox revenue and 100% of the funds from Western Washington University for transit service are collected in the City of Bellingham; and

WHEREAS, state law requires a periodic review of the composition of the governing body for a public transportation benefit area; and

WHEREAS, nine elected officials currently serve on WTA's Board of Directors, as follows:

<u>Name</u>	<u>Representing</u>
Mark Asmundson, Mayor	Bellingham
John Watts	Bellingham
Barbara Ryan	Bellingham
Jerry Landcastle, Mayor	Ferndale
Jack Louws, Mayor	Lynden
Pete Kremen, County Executive	Whatcom County
Seth Fleetwood	Whatcom County
Jim Ackerman	Nooksack/Sumas/Everson
Mike Myers	Blaine; and

WHEREAS, 90% of WTA's riders, and roughly 75% of WTA's income comes from the City of Bellingham, but only 33.3% of the members of the board of directors represent the City of Bellingham;

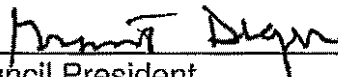
NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF BELLINGHAM:

City of Bellingham
City Attorney
210 Lottie Street
Bellingham, Washington 98225
360-676-6903

Barbara Ryan, Bellingham's designated representative to the Whatcom Transportation Authority Board Composition Review Committee, strongly urge that the Committee:


- 1) Reduce the number of WTA Board members 7, as it was until 2003; and
- 2) Allot three seats on that Board to the City of Bellingham, the same number that it currently has, giving the City of Bellingham minority (43%) representation, but a less egregious minority than it currently enjoys; and
- 3) That Barbara Ryan and John Watts, Bellingham's two representatives to the WTA Board of Directors, communicate the city's interest to all other members of the current Board of Directors and to the other designated representatives on the Board Composition Review Committee.

PASSED by the Council this 21ST day of MARCH, 2005.



Council President

APPROVED by me this 25TH day of MARCH, 2005.



Mayor

ATTEST: 

Finance Director

APPROVED AS TO FORM:



Office of the City Attorney

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