TITLE OF DOCUMENT: Ordinance Establishing a new Whatcom County Ferry System Fund

ATTACHMENTS:
Cover Memo
Ordinance

SEPA review required? ( ) Yes ( X ) NO
SEPA review completed? ( ) Yes ( ) NO

SUMMARY STATEMENT OR LEGAL NOTICE LANGUAGE: (If this item is an ordinance or requires a public hearing, you must provide the language for use in the required public notice. Be specific and cite RCW or WCC as appropriate. Be clear in explaining the intent of the action.)

This ordinance will create a “Ferry System Fund” in the County’s accounting system. This will allow the Public Works Department to plan for and track all expenditures associated with the Lummi Island Ferry System, independent of other transportation issues. Revenue from all sources, including user fees, will also be deposited in this dedicated fund.

COMMITTEE ACTION:
12/6/2005: Committee recommends approval

COUNCIL ACTION:
11/22/2005: Introduced
12/6/2005: Adopted 7-0, Ord. #2005-094

Please Note: Once adopted and signed, ordinances and resolutions are available for viewing and printing on the County’s website at: www.co.whatcom.wa.gov/council.
ORDINANCE NO. 2005_094

ESTABLISHING A NEW WHATCOM COUNTY FERRY SYSTEM FUND

WHEREAS, the County Ferry System is a complex enterprise requiring long-range planning and significant managerial and administrative oversight; and,

WHEREAS, a unique financial and operational relationship exists between the County, the State of Washington, and Lummi Island Ferry System users affecting both ferry related revenues and expenditures; and,

WHEREAS, Whatcom County Code 10.34 (Ferry Rates) states that it is the intent to recover a defined portion of the operating cost of the Whatcom County Ferry System from user fees; and,

WHEREAS, the revenue generated by these fees, together with certain designated funds received from the State of Washington, must be used by the County exclusively to operate its Ferry System; and,

WHEREAS, the balance of revenue necessary for operating and improving the Ferry System is from various federal and state grant programs and the Whatcom County Road Fund.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT ORDAINED by the Whatcom County Council that a new fund is hereby established, January 1, 2006, titled the "Whatcom County Ferry System Fund". This new fund shall be dedicated to accounting for all financial aspects of the County Ferry System.

BE IT FURTHER ORDAINED that any interest income generated by the Whatcom County Ferry System Fund shall benefit the same.

APPROVED as of 11/22/2005.

Daniel Gibson
Civil Deputy Prosecuting Attorney

[Signatures]

WHATCOM COUNTY COUNCIL
WHATCOM COUNTY, WASHINGTON

Laurie Caskey-Schreiber, Council Chair

Pete Kremen, County Executive