



2007 Goals

Adopted by the Bellingham City Council, February 2007

Preamble:

These goals, and the objectives adopted to achieve them, are intended to identify the City Council's priorities for 2007, ensure resources are used efficiently and effectively, and establish a basis for measuring the City's success. They are representative only, not intended to be a complete or prioritized list, and are numbered for discussion purposes only.

Goal 1: Maintain or improve the current level of City services, ensure that all City programs and services help protect or enhance the quality of life in Bellingham and assure that the City's financial and human resources are allocated to effectively and efficiently achieve the Council's Goals.

Goal 2: Protect and improve the quality of drinking water in the Lake Whatcom Reservoir.

Goal 3: Continue to develop a vibrant downtown that includes a mix of residential, commercial, educational, retail, and cultural uses and amenities with connections between the downtown and waterfront areas.

Goal 4: In partnership with the Port of Bellingham and the broader community, establish and implement a plan to redevelop the central waterfront to substantially reduce contaminants and improve environmental health, increase living-wage jobs, provide public access, recreation and housing, and complement the City's other neighborhoods.

Goal 5: Develop and implement plans that preserve and shape Bellingham as a city of neighborhoods that function interdependently as a vibrant, livable community with a distinct sense of place.



Preserving undeveloped land is essential to protecting water quality in the Lake Whatcom Reservoir. City officials will consider ways to acquire additional development rights in the watershed as one of several actions to achieve Goal #2.



The Bellingham Public Library supports the power of information, the discovery of new ideas and the joy of reading. City officials expect to review proposals and adopt measures to improve library services to the entire community in 2007.

Goal 6: Protect and enhance the City's cultural, educational, recreational, and environmental assets.

Goal 7: Improve coordination of transportation, parking and land use decisions to provide a system that effectively moves people and goods through and around the City.

Goal 8: Support development of a more diverse and sustainable economy by providing services that maintain a high quality of life. Work with businesses and agencies to support economic development activities that increase living-wage jobs in Bellingham.



The City, in partnership with the Port of Bellingham and the broader community, will make significant progress this year on plans to redevelop the central waterfront.

Goal 9: Improve communication between the City and its citizens about all goals, priorities, and challenges.

Goal 10: Support programs and provide facilities that serve low income families and individuals.

Goal 11: Improve the City's disaster preparedness and response capability.



The Polar Bear Dip held annually at Lake Padden is among the dozens and dozens of unique, lively, low-cost events and activities hosted by the City each year that make Bellingham one of the best places to live in the nation. Maintaining and enhancing City services that protect and enhance our quality of life – from hosting recreation programs, delivering safe drinking water and providing traffic signals, to responding to public safety calls, building trails, and much, much more – is our top priority.

For more details about the City's 2007 Goals, including the specific objectives identified and resources allocated to meet these goals, see the 2007 Budget posted on the city's website at www.cob.org.

