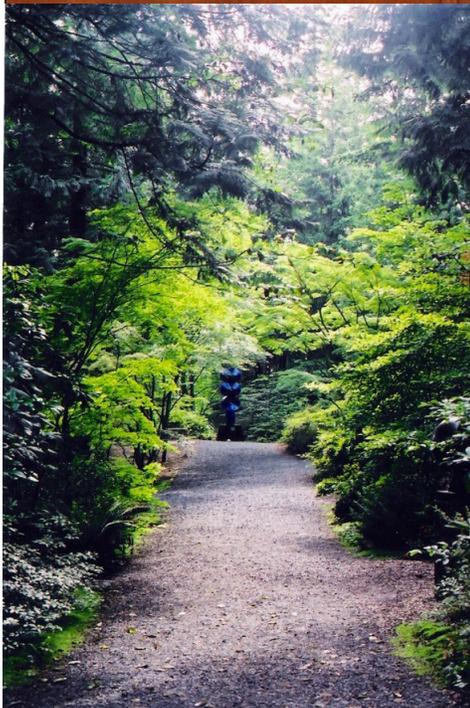


# Bellingham City Council



## 2015 Annual Report



## Clean, Safe Drinking Water

- Participated in a successful advocacy effort with the State Dept. of Ecology for the adoption of high water quality standards
- Cooperatively adopted the Lake Whatcom Management Program 2015-2019 Work Plan outlining the activities and investments to improve water quality in the lake during the next five years

## Healthy Environment

- Supported participation in a two year national competition in energy reduction. Bellingham is currently 8th in the Georgetown University Energy Prize
- Supported the Lummi Nation's request to the Army Corps of Engineers to deny a permit for GPT if impacts cannot be mitigated
- Supported the conversion of 3,600 City-owned streetlights on arterials to energy saving LEDs
- Supported Solarize Whatcom
- Passed an ordinance that bans smoking in parks and trails

## Vibrant, Sustainable Economy

- Adopted the Economic Implementation Strategy
- Advocated for and enacted a series of incentives for business and residential development in Urban Villages
- Passed several new incentives for affordable housing projects to further leverage house levy dollars

## Safe and Prepared Community

- Authorized funding for the implementation of a Rental Registration & Safety Inspection Program to ensure basic health and safety standards for Bellingham renters
- Advocated at the state and federal level for improved oil train safety measures

## Mobility and Connectivity Options

- Supported the implementation of the new Bicycle Master Plan
- Made substantial investments in bicycle infrastructure, transit efficiency, and street maintenance
- Authorized the Orchard Street underpass to James Street
- Supported a major safety and mobility improvement project for Alabama Street

## Equity and Social Justice

- Celebrated the first annual Coast Salish Day at City Hall
- Hosted the annual Martin Luther King, Jr. Celebration at City Hall
- Flew the Pride flag at City Hall during Pride weekend
- Authorized continuation of the Community Paramedic Program
- Supported alternatives to incarceration
- Passed a resolution opposing fast track status for the Trans-Pacific Partnership Agreement

## Access to Quality of Life Amenities

- Created a resolution asking the Governor and State Legislature to pass a Sick & Safe Leave Law
- Passed an ordinance approving Transportation Network Companies
- Approved funding to expand the hours of the libraries in Barkley and Fairhaven

## Sense of Place

- Changed the name of Indian Street to Billy Frank, Jr. Street to honor his legacy of advocating for treaty and environmental rights
- Passed 1% for the Arts to add art to major public building projects
- Celebrated the first year of public access television through Access Bellingham and extended it through December 31, 2016

# From the 2015 President...

Dear Citizens,

We started 2015 by welcoming a new Council Member: Dan Hammill. It is always exciting to welcome a new person's perspective on issues. It often happens that the more diverse our backgrounds and opinions, the more creative and effective we can be in our policy making. Towards the end of the year, we voted on the City's first-ever biennial budget. During that process, we were given detailed and extensive presentations from the City's department heads. During the year, we saw the progression of the implementation of the Rental Registration & Safety Inspection Program, which will result in safer and healthier rentals for our citizens. In addition, we saw the beginning of the Costco project being built. It was a busy year, indeed.

It was a fulfilling year with a lot of interaction between the Council and Mayor Linville's Administration, which is invaluable communication to uphold so we can work together for the public good.

This Annual Report features accomplishments related to the City's Legacies and Strategic Commitments, which were adopted by the Council in 2009. To find out more and to read a scorecard visit [www.cob.org/gov/metrics](http://www.cob.org/gov/metrics). Thanks to the citizens for engaging us and letting us know how well we are representing you.

Sincerely,



Gene Knutson  
Council President 2015

Bellingham City Council  
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Bellingham, WA 98225

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360.778.8200

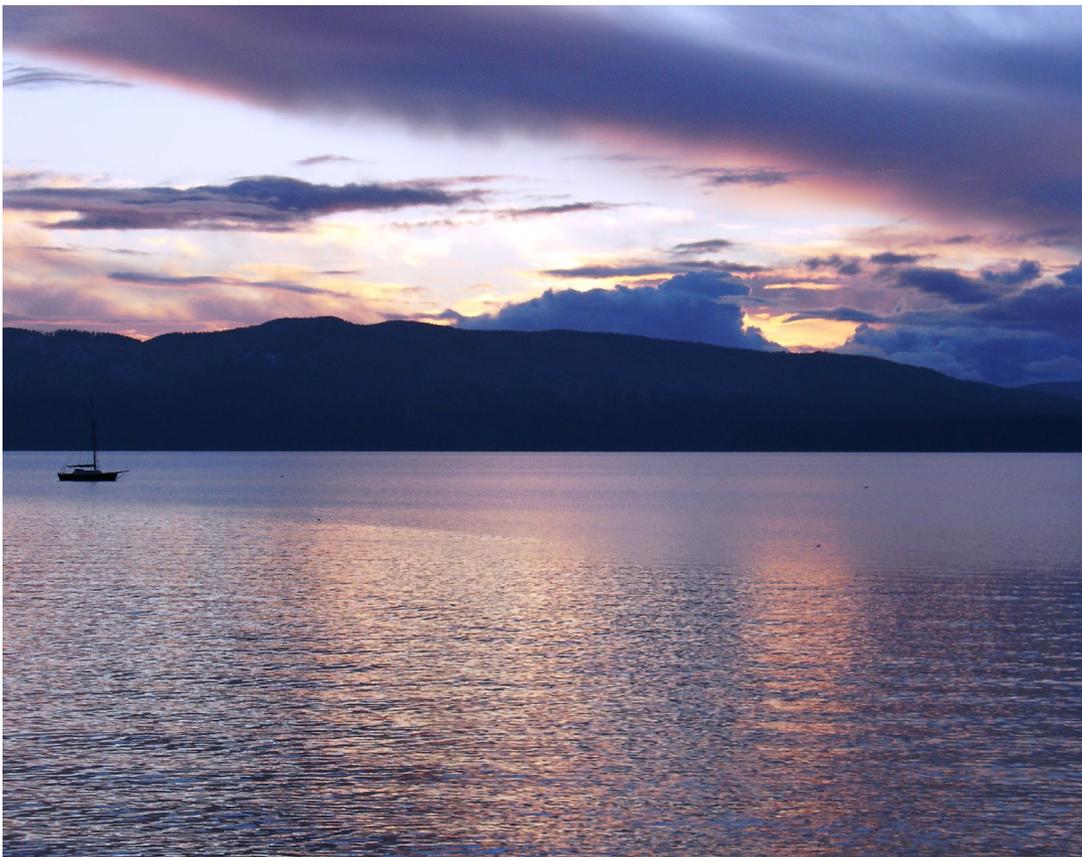


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