Battle Ground City Council Special Meeting Minutes
Friday, March 6, 2026

The special meeting of the Battle Ground City Council was called to order in the Battle Ground City Hall, Suite 154, at 9:03 a.m. by Mayor Overholser.

City Clerk Elizabeth Halili called the roll. The following were present:

COUNCIL: Mayor Eric Overholser, Deputy Mayor Vaile, and Councilmembers Troy McCoy, Shane Bowman, Victoria Ferrer (arrived at 9:07 a.m.), Jeanie Kuypers, and Brian Munson

ABSENT: None.

STAFF: City Manager Kristina Swanson, Deputy City Manager Robert Ferrier, Finance and Information Services Director Meagan Lowery, Police Chief Dennis Flynn, Public Works Director Mark Herceg, Community Development Director Kristin Lehto, Acting City Attorney Ken Harper, and City Clerk Elizabeth Halili.

City Manager Swanson welcomed the Council to the meeting, reminded the council of the rules regarding Special Meetings, introduced Acting City Attorney Ken Harper to the Council, and provided a handout of the Ground Rules for the meeting. Ms. Swanson led the council in an icebreaking activity.
Ms. Swanson recognized Mayor Overholser, Deputy Mayor Vaile, and Councilmembers Kuypers and Ferrer for receiving AWC Certificate of Municipal Leadership Awards.

BATTLE GROUND COMMUNITY COURT UPDATE **9:10 a.m.**

***Presented By**: Battle Ground Municipal Court Administrator Carol Landwehr*
***Summary:** The Council received an update regarding the Battle Ground Community Court.*
***Action to follow:** The Council discussed the update and provided direction to staff.*

Battle Ground Municipal Court Administrator Carol Landwehr provided a presentation, including:

- *A brief background of her professional experience*
- *Of the 19 Community Court participants, 18 have been homeless*
- *Battle Ground Municipal Court serves the cities of Battle Ground, Ridgefield, and La Center*
- *Community Court Program Objectives:*
    - *Address Community Challenges*
    - *Reduce Crime*
    - *Strengthening Neighborhoods*
    - *Remove Barriers to Achieve Compliance*

    - *Connect Individuals to Services*
    - *Improve Trust in the Justice System*
- *Community Court Funding:*
    - *Opioid Settlement Funds*
    - *Grant from Administrative Office of the Courts (AOC)*
    - *Cost Sharing among the three participating jurisdictions.*
- *Community Court Schedule*
- *Program Statistics: 19 Participants referred as of February 26, 2026.*
- *Community Court Participant Selection:*
    - *Referrals*
    - *Criminal Court Assessment Tool (CCAT)*
- *Community Court Success Stories (Graduates)*
    - *Provided stories of successful graduates from Community Court*
    - *Ms. Landwehr described the housing procurement process for Community Court participants*
    - *Ms. Landwehr described the peer support process during and after Community Court participants graduate.*
    - *Ms. Landwehr expressed her desire to continue to grow the Community Court Program.*
        - *Agency partnership has grown to 19*

City Manager Swanson noted the Community Court environment is welcoming, encouraging, and supportive of the participants which contributes to its success.

The Council discussed the presentation
Ms. Landwehr responded to questions from the Council including:

- *Community engagement, outreach, and involvement including donations to the program*
- *Participant criminal history shows "graduated program". Graduates also receive a certificate.*
- *Participants sign a Service Plan "opting in" to the Community Court Program.*

City Manager Swanson responded to questions from the Council
Police Chief Dennis Flynn made a brief statement regarding police education and outreach to the community in support of, and in partnership with, the Community Court Program.

CONSENSUS was reached by Council directing staff to provide the presentation to participating jurisdictions.

City Manager Swanson, Director Meagan Lowery, and Chief Flynn responded to questions from the Council regarding funding and outreach.

City Manager Swanson stated a report can be sent to the participating jurisdictions.

The Council discussed mentorship/leadership award opportunities for Community Court Participants after time has elapsed without re-offense.

Ms. Landwehr is in process of applying for next year's grant and anticipates the grant-awarded funds to be higher.

Ms. Landwehr described the services provided by Pier 360 to Community Court participants.

CONSENSUS was reached by Council directing staff to provide a presentation on the Battle Ground Community Court Program to ECHO on the program's one-year anniversary.

Further discussion was held by the Council regarding low-income housing in the City of Battle Ground.

COUNCIL GOVERNANCE AND ETHICS REVIEW **10:09 a.m.**

Presented By: *City Attorney Ken Harper*
Summary: *The Council received a presentation regarding governance topics, including Open Public Meetings Act (OPMA) requirements, City Council meeting procedures—such as First Amendment rights and public comment—and ethical standards for councilmembers.*
Action to follow: *No final action was taken.*

City Attorney Ken Harper provided a handout to Council of the slides of his presentation.

Councilmember Ferrer left the meeting at 10:14 a.m.

City Attorney Ken Harper presented "Open Public Meetings Act, Effective Public Meetings, First Amendment Considerations", including:

- ***Open Public Meetings Act (OPMA)***
  - *Meetings must be open to the public*
  - *Quorum + Action = Meeting*
  - *Meeting Notices*
  - *Appearance of Fairness Doctrine (Quasi-Judicial Actions)*

Councilmember Ferrer rejoined the meeting at 10:18 a.m.

  - Purpose Statement of the OPMA – explanation
  - OPMA Definition of "Meeting"
  - How to Comply if Meeting:
  - OPMA Executive Sessions
  - Penalties for Violating the OPMA

Mayor Overholser left the meeting at 10:41 a.m.
Mayor Overholser rejoined the meeting at 10:44 a.m.

City Attorney Ken Harper responded to questions from the Council.

City Attorney Ken Harper continued his presentation:

- **Conducting Good Meetings:**
  - Before a Meeting:
  - During a Meeting:
- **First Amendment and Public Participation**
  - Actual disruption of the business of the Council is not permitted
  - Freedom of speech is constitutionally protected
  - Disruptive conduct

Attorney Harper responded to questions from the Council.

City Attorney Ken Harper continued his presentation:

- Permitted speech:
- Key Concepts to Retain

Mayor Overholser recessed the meeting at 11:24 a.m.
Mayor Overholser resumed the meeting at 11:34 a.m.
Councilmember Munson rejoined the meeting at 11:35 a.m.

GOVERNANCE MANUAL REVIEW AND COMMITTEE APPOINTMENTS: PRESENTATION/MOTION 11:34 a.m.
Presented By: *City Manager Kris Swanson*
Summary: *The Council discussed potential revisions to the Governance Coordination Manual.*
Action to follow: *Mayor Overholser appointed three Council members to the Governance Manual Committee with confirmation by Council. The Council also provided staff with guidance and direction.*

City Manager Kris Swanson provided information regarding the composition and purpose of the Governance Manual Committee and requested the Council bring forth potential revisions to the Governance Coordination Manual.

Mayor Overholser noted that any recommended revisions to the Manual would be provided as staff direction.

Mayor Overholser stated the Governance Manual Committee consists of three Councilmembers, the City Manager, the City Attorney, and the City Clerk.

The Council discussed the meeting times and schedule for the Committee Meetings and process of bringing forward revisions to the Manual.

CONSENSUS was reached by Council that all future Governance Manual revision recommendations from City Council Members should be directed to the City Clerk. Revisions will be reviewed in Committee and brought before Council during a Study Session, then brought as a new Resolution to Council.

The Council discussed the importance of updating the Governance Coordination Manual to ensure legal compliance.

Councilmembers Munson, Ferrer, and Kuypers expressed interest in serving on the Committee

Mayor Overholser declared his desire to appoint Councilmembers Munson, Ferrer, and Kuypers to the Governance Manual Committee.

MOTION: Councilmember McCoy moved to approve the appointments of Councilmembers Kuypers, Munson, and Ferrer to the Governance Coordination Manual Committee.
SECOND: Councilmember Bowman
VOTE: 7-0

The Council discussed the cost of the attorney serving on the Committee
City Manager Swanson responded that the Attorney would review sections of the final draft.
City Attorney Ken Harper concurred with City Manager Swanson's statement, noting that there are some areas of the Manual that could benefit from review by counsel serving in a supporting role.

The Council further discussed their desire to review and update the Governance Coordination Manual.

CONSENSUS was reached by Council directing Staff to provide a current copy of the Governance Coordination Manual to the Council.

The Council discussed and recommended the Committee review the following:

- *General overall usability of the document*
- *Ethics section*
- *Clarify Guiding Principles and Strategic Goals/Vision section*
- *Clarify the process for Councilmembers to request to add an item to the Council Agenda*
- *Clerical, Grammer, and Spelling Errors*
- *Pages do not match Table of Contents*
- *Hyperlink chapters (in blue)*
- *Revising the language of the Agenda Packet publication date requirement*

The City Clerk responded to questions from the Council.

- *Clarify Board and Committee Appointment processes*
- *Modernize the language of the Manual (example: Audio recording (3. City Clerk – Minutes))*
- *Clarify use of touchpads for voting*

City Manager Swanson responded to questions from the Council.

Mayor Overholser recessed the meeting at 12:30 p.m.

LUNCH **12:30 p.m.**

Mayor Overholser resumed the meeting at 1:01 p.m.

2026 BATTLE GROUND MUNICIPAL CODE UPDATES **1:01 p.m.**

Presented By: *Deputy City Manager Robert Ferrier and Community Development Director Kristin Lehto*
Summary: *The Council received a presentation and discussed proposed updates to the Battle Ground Municipal Code, including those required by the Comprehensive Plan Update.*
Action to follow: *After discussion, the City Council provided staff with guidance and direction.*

Community Development Director Kristin Lehto provided a handout to the Council entitled "Spring 2026 BGMC Update Inventory."
Community Development Director Kristin Lehto provided a brief statement and introduced Deputy City Manager Robert Ferrier.

Deputy City Manager Robert Ferrier provided a brief presentation of the Spring 2026 BGMC Update Inventory to include:

- *Title 2-Administration and Personnel*
    - *Section 2.28 Planning Commission – Clean-up term language*
    - *Section 2.60 Parks and Community Engagement Advisory Board – Youth position age limit*
    - *Section 2.84 Law Enforcement Officers and Firefighter Disability Board – Officer election and term*
- *Title 6 – Animals*

- *NEW: Feral Cats – Free roaming cats and TNR*
- *NEW: Rabbits – Keeping of Rabbits*

The Council discussed the proposed changes regarding feral cats and rabbits, and domesticated cats and rabbits.

- *Title 8 – Health and Safety*
  - *Section 8.32 – Regulatory Standards for Emergency Services – Remove*
  - *Section 8.36 – Special Event Permits – Added circuses*

The Council discussed the definition of "Circus"
Deputy City Manager Ferrier responded to questions from the Council
Director Lehto responded to questions from the Council
The Council discussed traffic control and parking related to special events and what constitutes a special event requiring a special event permit.

- *Title 10 – Vehicles and Traffic*
  - *Section 10.14 - Stopping, Standing and Parking – Adding re-parking language*

The council discussed re-parking
City Manager Swanson responded to questions from the Council
Police Chief Dennis Flynn responded to questions from the Council.

Director Lehto presented the following Spring 2026 BGMC Updates:

- *Title 12 – Streets and Sidewalks*
  - *Section 12.108 – Maintenance of Sidewalks – Added missing state law reference; added process description*
  - *Section 12.116 - Transportation Standards – Added cross section for E Main St; added transit stop language*
  - *Section 12.118 – Construction in Public ROW – Updated definitions; created procedures and clarification for franchises; added language to address bonds*
  - *Section 12.122 – Street Use & encroachment – Updated definitions; updated roles*

- *Title 13 – Water and Sewers*
  - *Section 13.120 Sewer Service – Connection – Added ADU language*
  - *Section 13.126 Sorm Drainage System – Modifications to comply with NPDES (National Discharge Eliminations System) permit*
  - *NEW: Easement Vacations – New Chapter*

- *Title 15 – Building and Construction*
  - *Section 15.104 Building Code – Clarifying language and adding language related to shell buildings*
  - *Section 15.136 Easements – Access to structures w/in easements*

- *Title 17 – Zoning*
  - *Section 17.135 Collective Gardens (medical cannabis) – remove*

City Attorney Ken Harper responded to questions from the Council

  - *Section 17.139 Signs – Political Signs*

Discussion was held by Council

Director Lehto responded to questions from the Council
City Manager Swanson responded to questions from the Council
Ken Harper responded to questions regarding separating Political Signs from other categories of signs in the Code. Noting he supports reviewing and potentially regulating temporary political signs including protecting the right to place them.
Discussion was held by Council regarding the removal of temporary signs in a timely manner.
City Manager Swanson described the proposed process for putting out political signs including requiring the completion of an application.
Further discussion was held by Council.
Director Lehto responded to questions from council.
Attorney Harper noted that the Code might be okay regarding political signs, however the city might want to develop a policy regarding political signs.
Further discussion was held by the Council regarding temporary and political signs in the Right of Way.
City Manager Swanson responded to questions from the Council.
Further discussion was held by the Council regarding allowable quantity of temporary signs including political signs.
Attorney Harper responded and recommended the city define the issues it is seeking to solve regarding Political and temporary signs.
Further discussion was held by Council regarding signs in the Right of Way vs those on private property.
Director Lehto responded to questions from the Council.
The Council discussed temporary Political sign requirements as per statute and the Public Disclosure Commission.
City Attorney Harper responded to questions from the Council.
Director Lehto noted this item will be brought back before Council.

- *Title 18 – Environmental Protection*
    - *Section 18.250 Stormwater Control and Drainage – Modifications to comply with NPDES permit*
    - *Section 18.257 Clearing and Grading – Clarifying calculation of quantities*
    - *Section 18.280 Fish and Wildlife Habitat Conservation Areas – Allows plat note in place of conservation covenant.*

Comprehensive Plan Related items that are required to remain in compliances with the Growth Management Act:

- Definitions added:
    - Emergency housing, emergency shelter, permanent supportive housing, religious organization, transitional housing, accessory swelling unit, co-living, sleeping unit, outdoor encampment
- Allowed uses
    - Indoor emergency shelters, permanent supportive or transitional housing, group homes, residential, mixed use, co-living

Director Lehto responded to questions from Council regarding “co-living”.
Discussion was held by Council

Director Lehto continued her presentation:

- Temporary encampments - Regulatory limits
    - Cottage housing - Updated standards

- Transitional housing, permanent supportive housing, indoor emergency shelters, indoor emergency housing – NEW item
- Residential parking design standards – NEW item
- Co-living – NEW item

The Council discussed the definition of Co-living as it regards renting out a room or rooms in one's residence and parking standards.
Director Lehto responded to questions from the Council
City Manager Swanson responded to questions from the Council
Director Lehto noted she would provide additional information to council

- Affordable housing development density bonuses for religious organizations – NEW item

Director Lehto provided an update on the Comprehensive Plan as follows:

- Battle Ground's Comprehensive Plan is drafted and ready for adoption
- Clark County is actively working through the adoption process with a target of June 2026
- Clark County Planning Commission recommended Battle Ground's preferred alternative with a modification not to remove Meadow Glade from the UGA

The Council discussed the modification not to remove Meadow Glade from the UGA
Director Lehto responded to questions from the Council.

Questions were raised by the Council regarding the formulation of a Code Review Board that includes citizens and businesses from the Battle Ground community.
City Manager Swanson responded to the question.
Director Lehto responded, noting the city engages and partners with businesses and developers to gather additional perspective regarding code revisions.

Further discussion was held by Council.
Director Lehto provided further clarification and responded to questions from the council.
Director Lehto noted she is currently reviewing the Legacy Standards.

CONSENSUS was reached by the Council to schedule a Study Session on Legacy Standards.

Battle Ground Municipal Code Updates - Processing Individually

- NEW – Master Plan
- 17.135.105 – Marijuana development regulations – Consider adding a 2nd retailer

  City Manager Swanson provided a brief statement regarding the codification of only allowing one Marijuana retailer and the request to revise the code to allow for a second retailer.
  The Council discussed the history of the code and the proposed update.
  The Council discussed the potential location of a second retailer.

CONSENSUS was reached by the Council not to revise the Battle Ground Municipal Code to add a 2nd Marijuana Retailer.
DISSENT: Mayor Overholser and Councilmember McCoy

- 17.135.150 – Trailer and Boat Storage

Director Lehto requested the Council further review proposed changes to BGMC 17.135.150.

The Council discussed the proposed draft revisions to BGMC 17.135.150 – Trailer and Boat Storage as requested by Director Lehto and provided guidance via consensus:

Proposed Draft Changes to BGMC 17.135.150 – Trailer and Boat Storage

1. 17.135.150 Storage of recreational vehicles and trailers in residential districts
   Recreational vehicles and trailers are defined as travel trailers, folding tent trailers, motor homes, truck campers removed from a truck or pickup, horse trailers, boat trailers with or without boats, other recreation trailers and utility trailers, and boats.

   Off-street parking of any recreational vehicle or trailer is allowed in residential districts, provided the following conditions are met:

   a. No more than three recreational vehicles or trailers may be parked outside on a single-family lot

   The Council discussed concerns regarding allowing three recreational vehicles or trailers on a single-family lot.
   The Council discussed adding language regarding property size

CONSENSUS was reached by the Council directing staff to leave the draft language in Section 1(a) as proposed.

   b. Recreational vehicles and trailers shall not be parked in the front yard. However, one (1) recreational vehicle or trailer is allowed to be parked on a legally established driveway. A legally established driveway must meet all other city codes related to driveways to be considered – permanent surface

   Discussion was held by Council

CONSENSUS was reached by the Council directing staff to limit the parking of recreational vehicles and trailers on a legally established driveway to one (1) as proposed in the draft language of Section 1(b). DISSENT: Councilmembers Vaile and Ferrer

   The Council discussed permanent surfaces and the ability (or lack thereof) to use gravel as a permissible surface for a driveway on the side of a permanent driveway surface.
   Director Herceg responded to questions from the Council
   Further discussion was held by the Council

   c. Recreational vehicles or trailers must be currently licensed and registered.

   Discussion was held by Council regarding the location of vehicles (front vs back yard) and mandating licensing and registration.

CONSENSUS was reached by the Council directing staff to remove Section 1(c) from the draft language.

   d. Recreational vehicles or trailers shall not extend into the public right of way or obstruct sight visibility

CONSENSUS was reached by the Council directing staff to leave the draft language in Section 1(d) as proposed.

e. Recreational vehicles or trailers must enter the lot via an approved driveway drop.
Discussion was held by the Council

CONSENSUS was reached by the Council directing staff to remove Section 1(e) from the draft language.

2026 CITY COUNCIL PRIORITIES – RECAP AND PROGRESS UPDATE **2:52 p.m.**

Presented By: *City Manager Kris Swanson, Deputy City Manager Rober Ferrier, and City Department Heads*
Summary: *The Council received a progress report on the City's 2026 goals and priorities in alignment with the adopted 2026 Annual Budget.*
Action to follow: *After discussion, the City Council provided direction to staff.*

City Manager Swanson provided a handout to Council entitled "December 2018 Battle Ground Roadmap." Ms. Swanson gave a brief introduction regarding the 2026 City Council Priorities.

Deputy City Manager Robert Ferrier provided a presentation on the Battle Ground Façade Improvement Program, including:

- *2025 Completion of the Old Town Sub-Area Plan*
- *Eligibility*
- *Eligible Improvements*
- *Ineligible Improvements*
- *Façade Improvement Grant scope, process, requirements, approval.*

The Council discussed the Façade Improvement design standards and project completion requirements.
Deputy City Manager Ferrier responded to questions from the Council.
Director Herceg responded to questions from the Council.

Police Chief Dennis Flynn provided a brief presentation of the 2025 & 2026 BGPD Statistics, including:

- *2025 Crime Statistics*
  - *2025 Person Crimes down 7.9%*
  - *2025 Property Crimes down 14.8%*
    - *Due to the increase in Fentanyl use, Chief Flynn anticipates higher property crimes in 2026*
  - *6% increase in traffic stops*
  - *3% increase in traffic tickets*
  - *11% reduction in traffic collisions*
  - *40% reduction in fatal collisions*
- *Patrol Staffing Update*
  - *2025 – 12-hour shifts*
    - *Used data to create peak hours with staggered start times*
  - *2026 – Implemented 11-hour schedule*
    - *Preliminary Results:*
      - *226 more officer initialed events (13.2% increase)*
      - *524 more car stops (45% increase)*
      - *63 more citations*

        - *2026 Overtime Expenses:*
            - *Jan/Feb 2026 Overtime hours have reduced 83% from 2025*
- *Improvements:*
    - *Detective Assignments*
    - *Community Services Officers (CSO)*
- *Target Zero Emphasis: Street Vision*
    - *A new program acquired by the Washington Safety Traffic to aid in traffic safety.*
- *Drone as First Responder (DFR)*
    - *BGPD may partner with nearby agencies to gauge interest and possible grant funding*
- *Community Service Officers (CSO) Updates*
    - *July 2025, the city's Code Enforcement Officer and Parking Enforcement Officer were relocated to the Police Department and reclassified as Community Service Officers*
    - *Provided examples of the code enforcement case backlog*
    - *Provided examples of code enforcement case completion and those that are still in progress.*
    - *Provided examples of long-term open cases.*
    - *There has been a decrease in parking enforcement due to the code enforcement backlog*
- *Out of State License Plate Enforcement*
    - *331 notices have been sent*
    - *Re-checks are currently being conducted with 19 citations written so far.*
    - *Goal is compliance, not fines.*

Councilmember Bowman left the meeting at 3:30 p.m.
Councilmember Boman rejoined the meeting at 3:33 p.m.

The Council discussed the presentation.
Chief Flynn noted that he has received a grant for cerotic artery scans for the Battle Ground Police Department.
Chief Flynn responded to questions from the Council.
The Council discussed BGPD having its own Facebook page
City Manager Swanson responded that an additional FTE would need to be hired to fill this request.
Chief Flynn responded that he is working on this, noting that his salaried admin staff are receiving training regarding posting to social media.

Public Works Director Mark Herceg provided a handout to the Council of the presentation's slides.
Director Herceg provided a presentation on 2026 City Council Priorities Recap & Progress Public Works Department, including:

- *Streets*
    - *Community Survey*
    - *Reconstruction*
        - *NW 20th Avenue (Main to Onsdorff)*
        - *SW 20th Avenue (6th to Scotton)*
        - *SW Scotton Way (503 to Parkway)*
        - *NE Grace Avenue (Main to 10th)*
    - *Mill & Fill*
        - *SW 20th Avenue (Main to 6th)*
        - *SW 20th Avenue (Scotton to Eaton)*

        - *SW Eaton Boulevard (West CL to west of 20th)*
        - *NW 1st Way (20th to 18th)*
        - *Salmon Creek Bridge (on Grace)*
    - *Progress Made*
- *Parks*
    - *Community Survey*
    - *Recap of Decisions Made*
        - *Remy Park*
        - *McConnell Park*
        - *Florence Robison Park*
        - *Kiwanis/Fairgrounds Parks*
        - *Parks Maintenance*
    - *Progress Made (Operations)*
- *Water*
    - *Community Survey*
        - *Parks Maintenance*
    - *Recap of Decisions Made*
        - *Tukes Mountain Reservoir #6*
        - *Wells #12 & #13*
    - *Progress Made*
- *Transportation*
    - *Community Survey*
    - *Recap of Decisions Made*
        - *Parkway/Main Signal Replacement*
        - *E Main Street Improvements*
        - *NE 1st Street Sidewalk*
        - *Grace/Eaton*
    - *Progress Made (Operations)*

The Council discussed the presentation

2027 CITY COUNCIL PRIORITIES – PREVIEW **3:46 p.m.**

Presented by: *City Manager Kris Swanson*

Summary: *The Council was presented with a preview of potential City Council priorities for incorporation into the draft 2027 Annual Budget.*

Action to follow: *Following the discussion, the City Council provided staff with guidance and direction*

Public Works Director Marck Herceg presented potential Public Works priorities for 2027

- *Streets*
    - *Community Survey: Maintenance of City streets is first on the priority list*
    - *Items to Consider:*
        - *Additional Reconstruction/Major Preservation*
        - *Annual Street Preservation*
    - *Information:*
        - *All general fund decisions should keep in mind other priorities*
            - *Eaton/Grace funding gaps as example*

Director Herceg responded to questions from the Council

- *Next Steps*
  - *Street re-ratings are occurring now. Further information will be provided at future meetings*
  - *2026 reconstruction work will provide info on pricing and construction sequencing*

- *Parks*
  - *Community Survey: Quality of city parks is fourth on the priority list*
  - *Items to Consider:*
    - *Remy Park*
    - *Purchasing of Park Land*
    - *Parks Maintenance*
  - *Information*
    - *Parks in PROS Plan abutting/in high growth areas*
    - *Neighborhood Parks – 3-5 acres*
    - *Community Park – 5-10 acres*
    - *Important to acquire land while still available*
  - *Next Steps*
    - *Staff will know more about available funding for Remy later in year (grant and state funding request)*

- *Facilities*
  - *Community Survey*
  - *Item to consider:*
    - *Construction of new facilities at Operations Center*
  - *Information:*
    - *Funding Is available to complete Phase 1 (Operations Center)*
    - *Funding is not currently available to complete Phase 2*
      - *Bonding/Loans? Staff is seeking guidance from Council whether to investigate these.*
  - *Next Steps:*
    - *Staff will provide a presentation on procurement options at a future Council meeting*
    - *Staff will provide information on bonding/loans if requested by Council*

The Council discussed Bonding and Loans
Director Lowery provided additional information regarding Bond/Loan costs.
Further discussion was held by the Council
Director Herceg responded to questions from Council

CONSENSUS was reached by the Council directing staff to investigate bonding and loans and to bring this before Council during a Study Session.

- Transportation
  - Items to Consider:
    - NW 5th Street - Project around school
    - Accommodate more pedestrians and student drop offs
    - Bus accommodation
  - Information
    - WSDOT will not approve RI/RO on SR 503 for Option #2 (NW 5th Street Project)
    - City traffic consultant confirmed there is no City benefit to Option #2

- WSDOT will not require payback of funds already spent, but the city will need to justify why the project won't move forward
- It is likely a funding gap of several million dollars exists.

- Next Steps
  - Dependent on Council direction

The council discussed the NW 5th Street project.
Director Herceg noted that WSDOT would not support Option #2 despite the proposed roundabout.
Director Herceg described the actions taken by engineering to take citizen concerns into account regarding safety.
The Council discussed the safety aspects of the project.

Consensus was reached by Council directing staff to continue the project and bring the item back before Council at a study session

FUTURE COUNCIL RETREAT DATE SELECTION UPDATE **4:11 p.m.**

Presented by: *City Manager Kris Swanson*
Summary: *The City Council discussed meeting dates for the Second Quarter Council Retreat scheduled for June 2026 and the Third Quarter Council Retreat scheduled for September 2026.*
Action to follow: *Upon conclusion of the discussion, the City Council provided staff with direction regarding the selection of dates for the Second and Third Quarter Council Retreats.*

CONSENSUS was reached to schedule the meeting dates for the Second Quarter Council Retreat in mid-June, and the Third Quarter Retreat at the end of September. Council instructed City Manager Swanson to send out a poll to councilmembers regarding preferred dates.

ADJOURNMENT
The special meeting was adjourned at **4:12** p.m.

E:OH
Eric Overholser (Mar 19, 2026 16:12:19 PDT)

Eric Overholser
Mayor

Kelly Jensen for

Elizabeth Halili
City Clerk

Date of approval by the City Council: March 16, 2026

Public Notice:

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- Za informacije na bosanskom jeziku obratite se na adresu *cityclerk.info@cityofbg.org*
- Ang impormasyon ay makukuha sa Tagalog sa pamamagitan ng kahilingan sa *cityclerk.info@cityofbg.org*
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