



# Committee of the Whole

Deb Bell

Council Initiated:

☐ Yes

☒ No

**ECAF:** 2025-3644  
**Ordinance:** 25-082

**Type:**

- ☒ Contract  
☐ Board Appt.  
☐ Code Amendment  
☐ Budget Action  
☐ Other

**Requested Handling:**

- ☐ Normal  
☒ Expedite  
☐ Urgent

**Fund Source:**

- ☐ General Fund  
☒ Other  
☐ N/A

**Executive Rec:**

- ☒ Approve  
☐ Do Not Approve  
☐ N/A

**Approved as to**

**Form:**

- ☒ Yes  
☐ No  
☐ N/A

**Subject:**

A Nonexclusive Cable Franchise authorizing limited use of County rights-of-way in Snohomish County.

**Scope:**

Warm Beach Christian Camps and Conference Center (WBC), has applied to Snohomish County for a franchise to construct, maintain, operate, replace and repair water and sewer transmission facilities in County public rights-of-way (for existing service area *only*: Marine Drive, Frank Waters Road, and 81<sup>st</sup> Avenue/Drive NW). The Snohomish County franchise procedure for authorization to grant a nonexclusive franchise is contained in Snohomish County Code Title 13, County Charter Section 9.20, and RCW 36.55.010.

**Duration:**

Initial term of ten (10) years, beginning on the effective date as defined in Section 33 of the franchise, and it would automatically renew for an additional ten (10) years. The County would have the right to unilaterally open negotiations after the initial term.

**Fiscal Impact:**

☐ Current Year ☒ Multi-Year ☐ N/A

County expenses are for the preparation and processing of the Franchise. All costs are to be reimbursed by the applicant prior to acceptance of the Franchise.

Expense	2025	2026	Total
102.50650131011 Administrative Salary	\$500		\$500
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$500</b>		<b>\$500</b>
Revenue	2025	2026	Total
102.30644443895 Reimbursable revenue	\$500		\$500
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$500</b>		<b>\$500</b>

Based on the findings and pursuant to SCC 13.80.040, the County Engineer recommends the County Council grant a right-of-way franchise to Warm Beach Christian Camp and Conference center.

Under the provisions of the franchise, WBC will:

- Obtain a right-of-way permit pursuant to Title 13 SCC prior to commencing any work within the Public ROW, as more fully described in proposed franchise Section 4.
- Comply with all applicable federal, state and local laws, rules and regulations (including but not limited to, the County comprehensive plan, zoning code, and other development regulations, as more fully described in proposed franchise Section 6.
- Promptly, at its own expense, relocate or remove its facilities from county rights-of-way when the County Engineer determines that it is necessary due to traffic conditions; public safety; dedications, improvements and vacations of rights-of-way; and other reasons more fully described in franchise Section 9.
- In no event abandon in place all or any portion of their facilities without the express written consent of the county as more fully described in franchise Section 14.

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- Compensate the county for its expenses incurred in the examination and report of the proposed franchise, as more fully described in franchise Section 15.2.
- Indemnify, defend and hold harmless County Parties from any and all claims arising out of their use of public rights-of-way under the proposed franchise, as more fully described in franchise Section 16.
- Provide the county with adequate insurance appropriate for a water system franchise, as more fully described in franchise Section 18.
- Provide a financial security device sufficient to ensure performance of its obligations when required by the County Engineer, as more fully described in franchise Section 19.
- Not assign any franchise rights or obligations without prior written consent of the county, as more fully described in franchise Section 22.
- Comply with Title VI Assurances and Non-Discrimination requirements, as more fully described in franchise Section 29.

**Authority Granted:** The Snohomish County Council has considered the Engineer' Report of the Department of Public Works and has determined that it is in the public interest to grant a franchise to Warm Beach Christian Camps and Conference Center. This is a legislative authorization to use public rights-of-way, and actual construction and maintenance activities in the public rights-of-way will be subject to administratively approved right-of-way permits after review of specific plans.

The approved franchise is set forth as Attachment A to the ordinance and is incorporated by reference.

**Background:** The Warm Beach Christian Camp and Conference Center is a Washington non-profit corporation, UBI 601-674-260/EIN 91-1710210. It is organized as an integrated auxiliary the Pacific Northwest Conference of the Free Methodist Church and is an exempt organization under section 501(c)(3) and a publicly supported organization as defined in Section 170(b)(1)(A) and 509(a)(1) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986. It is governed by a Board of Directors and a property General Manager. WBC provides year-round camps, conferences, and retreat rental facilities.

This includes the operation of a public water and sewer system for the WBC property and adjoining areas, including the Warm Beach Senior Community (Warm Beach Health Care Center), a church, residential subdivisions, and a mobile home park.

The Snohomish County Council previously granted a utility franchise to Warm Beach Christian Camp and Conference Center by Ordinance No. 06-014, which expired on September 12, 2021.

**Action Requested:** To move the ordinance to GLS on December 10 to set time and date for a Public Hearing, with the suggested date and time of January 7, 2026, at 10:30 am.