



Jon Hutchings
Director

Memorandum

To: The Honorable Satpal Singh Sidhu, Whatcom County Executive, and
The Honorable Members of the Whatcom County Council

Through: Jon Hutchings, Public Works Director *JHK*

From: James P. Karcher, P.E., County Engineer *QPK*

Date: September 29, 2021

Re: Deer Trail Slide Damage Repair, CRP No. 921020
Emergency Proclamation Update

Requested Action

There is **no action** requested of the County Council with this discussion item. Per Whatcom County Code 3.08.060(B), Public Works is informing the Council on the status of the June 10th Emergency Proclamation to repair Deer Trail, a local access road in the Birch Bay Community.

Background and Purpose

In early January 2021 severe winter storms, high winds and flooding caused erosion and a collapse of a portion of Deer Trail, a Whatcom County local access road on the north end of Birch Bay. Reconstruction of approximately 150 lineal feet of this roadway is necessary to mitigate the emergency situation and restore the sole source of accessibility this road provides to 70+ single family residential homes. Public Works sought an Emergency Proclamation, signed by Executive Sidhu on June 10, 2021, after a professional geotechnical engineering evaluation, conducted in the spring of 2021, determined that the road could fail again during the next rainy season. Whatcom County has selected Stremler Gravel, Inc. as the contractor to perform the needed roadway repairs under the authority of the Proclamation of Emergency.

Public Works executed a not-to-exceed contract with Stremler Gravel, Inc. on September 24, 2021 in the amount of \$700,000 which utilizes an Equipment Rental Agreement. Said agreement relies on *blue book* rental rates for equipment, invoices for materials used, and prevailing wages for labor that are verified by certified payroll. In addition, it provides for an industry standard profit margin for the Contractor. There will be a full-time inspector on the project site at all times to ensure compliance with contract, check equipment & materials used and verify hours worked.

Funding Amount and Source

The not to exceed amount estimated in this emergency contract is \$700,000. This work will be funded with Local Road Funds. There is sufficient budget authority for this expenditure in the Unanticipated Site Improvements CRP 921020 in conjunction with unused construction funds in the Mosquito Lake Rd. / Hutchinson Creek Tributary project CRP 919006, which was delayed and will not be constructed in 2021.

Please contact Jim Karcher at (360) 778-6271 if you have any questions or concerns regarding this request.