



MEMORANDUM

TO: The Honorable Satpal Singh Sidhu, Whatcom County Executive, and The Honorable Members of the Whatcom County Council, collectively serving in their capacity as the Whatcom County Flood Control Zone District Board of Supervisors

THROUGH: Elizabeth Kosa, Public Works Director *ek*

FROM: Julie Anderson, River and Flood Manager *JMA*
Gary Stoyka, Natural Resources Program Manager *GS*

RE: WSP USA, Inc.
Engineering Services Contract
Everson-Nooksack Berms Project (No. 19082579)

DATE: February 18, 2026

Enclosed is a contract for services between the Whatcom County Flood Control Zone District (FCZD) and WSP USA, Inc. for your review and signature.

Requested Action

Public Works respectfully requests that the County Council, acting as the FCZD Board of Supervisors, authorize the County Executive to enter into a contract with WSP USA, Inc. to perform engineering and design services for the Everson-Nooksack Berms project.

Background and Purpose

The impetus for the project is largely in response to the November 2021 Nooksack River floods, which caused extensive damage and loss of life in the region. In the aftermath, the County, in partnership with local stakeholders, has prioritized flood risk reduction through the Floodplain Integrated Planning (FLIP) process. The FLIP Steering Committee identified berms as a promising solution to protect vulnerable communities and infrastructure. Additional devastating flooding in 2025 has increased the urgency of this work.

WSP USA, Inc. was selected through a Request for Proposals process (RFP #25-69) to perform the work. This contract is for first phase of work which includes evaluating the feasibility of constructing flood mitigation berms around the cities of Everson and Nooksack and preliminary engineering to define the additional work needed to implement the project. A future contract amendment may be executed to include detailed design and construction support.

Funding Amount and Source

The proposed contract amount is \$752,159.46. The approved 2026 Budget (Resolution 2025-042) was increased to \$775,000 through a budget transfer for this project (Transfer No. BT2026-0021). The project is 100% funded by a U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development Community Development Block Grant (CBDG) sub-awarded through the WA State Department of Commerce.

Please contact Paula Harris at extension 6285 if you have any questions or concerns regarding the terms of this contract.