



Elizabeth Kosa
Director

Memorandum

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

Through: Elizabeth Kosa, Director **DWR as Acting Director for EK**

From: Doug Ranney, P.E., County Engineer **DWR**
Josh Cihak, P.E., Engineering Manger **JLC**

Date: July 30, 2026

Re: Birch Bay-Lynden Road & Blaine (SR-548) Road Intersection Improvements;
CRP No. 906001
Local Agency Agreement and Federal Aid Project Prospectus

Public Works respectfully requests that the County Council authorize the County Executive to finalize and enter into a Local Agency Agreement (LAA) and execute the associated Federal Aid Project Prospectus (PP), between the Washington State Department of Transportation (WSDOT) and Whatcom County, to receive federal aid funds for the construction phase of the Birch Bay-Lynden Rd & Blaine (SR-548) Rd Intersection Improvements project, CRP 906001.

Requested Action

Enclosed for your review:

Local Agency Agreement – one (1) copy of the agreement is enclosed. The fully executed original shall be returned to the County Executive's office once signed by WSDOT.

Federal Aid Project Prospectus – one (1) copy enclosed. There is no signature required from WSDOT on this document, but a fully executed original will need to be provided to WSDOT.

NOTE: Per WSDOT's Electronic Signature Procedure, please sign the Local Agency Agreement and Project Prospectus in **blue ink**, which will allow a scanned copy of the documents to be submitted.

Background and Purpose

The Local Agency Agreement and Project Prospectus are required to obligate federal aid funds for the construction phase of the Birch Bay-Lynden Road & Blaine (SR-548) Road Intersection Improvement project, scheduled to begin in the summer of 2027. This planned intersection improvements project is listed as Item No. 5 on the approved 2026 Annual Construction Program.

Funding Amount and Source

Surface Transportation Block Grant (STBG) and Highway Safety Improvements Program (HSIP) federal aid funds shall provide a total of \$2,230,000 for the construction phase of this project in the amounts of \$1,230,000 and \$1,000,000 respectively. The total cost for the project, including the preliminary engineering and right of way acquisition phases is estimated to be \$3,802,670, with \$1,608,079 of Local Road Funds.

Please contact Andrew Tischleder, P.E., at 360-778-6224, if you have any questions/concerns regarding this request.