



Memorandum

TO: Satpal Sidhu, County Executive

FROM: Erika Lautenbach, Director

RE: Washington State Department of Ecology –
2023 – 2025 Pollution Prevention Assistance Agreement

DATE: JULY 3, 2023

Attached is an interlocal agreement between Whatcom County and Washington State Department of Ecology for your review and signature.

▪ **Background and Purpose**

The Pollution Prevention Assistance Partnership, which is overseen by the Washington State Department of Ecology’s Hazardous Waste and Toxics Reduction Program, provides support to local government efforts in the Puget Sound Region to control, reduce and eliminate toxic pollution sources. This Agreement provides funding for Whatcom County Health and Community Services’ (WCHCS) Pollution Prevention Assistance Specialists to provide technical assistance and education outreach to small businesses in an effort to promote pollution prevention practices and protect Puget Sound marine water quality.

▪ **Funding Amount and Source**

Funding for this Agreement is provided by the Department of Ecology in the amount of \$275,075. These funds will be included in the 2023 (and 2024/2025) budget. Council authorization is required per RCW 39.34.030(2) for agreements between public agencies.

▪ **Differences from Previous Contracts**

Differences from the 2021-2023 Agreement ending on 06/30/2023 (WC Contract #202109011) include:

1. Section II. Table 2 – Updates unique program elements to require participation in all ‘All Staff Planning Committee’ Workgroup meetings and production of PPA resource materials.
2. Section II. Table 4 – Updates Technical Assistance Targets to include the City of Lynden to support their municipal stormwater permit requirements and commercial nursery operations to support solid and hazardous waste management.
3. Section V. – Updates Product Replacement Program to assist businesses with a) switching to safer alternatives for degreasers in parts washing systems in the automotive repair sector and b) proper management and recycling of mercury containing thermostats.

4. Section V. – Updates the list of additional takeback and replacement programs that Ecology is exploring to include BPA thermal receipts and public-school laboratory clean-outs.
5. Appendix B – Reflects the 2023 – 2025 biennial budget

Please contact Jennifer Hayden, Environmental Health Supervisor at 360-778-6036 (JHayden@co.whatcom.wa.us) or Kathleen Roy, Financial & Administrative Manager at 360-778-6007 (KRoy@co.whatcom.wa.us), if you have any questions.

Encl.