



MEMORANDUM

TO: Satpal Sidhu, County Executive
FROM: Erika Lautenbach, Director
RE: City of Bellingham – Crisis Stabilization Center Operation & Maintenance
DATE: October 9, 2020

Attached is an interlocal agreement between Whatcom County and City of Bellingham for your review and signature.

- **Background and Purpose**

This contract provides funding for all aspects of the ongoing maintenance and operation of the Crisis Stabilization Center. Whatcom County will lease the facility located at 2026 Division Street in Bellingham, to treatment providers who offer behavioral health treatment on site, 24 hours daily, seven days weekly. Services provided at this facility are intended to assist adults who are experiencing a behavioral health crisis and who can be managed successfully in this setting. These services are also intended to divert individuals when appropriate, from hospital utilization, arrest, or incarceration.

- **Funding Amount and Source**

This contract provides partial funding in the amount of \$65,000 for all aspects of the ongoing maintenance and operation of the Crisis Stabilization Center. These funds will be included in the 2021 budget. Council approval is required per RCW 39.34.030(2) for agreements between public agencies.

- **Differences from Previous Agreement**

This is a new agreement, however, funding to support the operation and maintenance of the Crisis Stabilization Center (formerly known as the Triage Facility) has been provided by the City of Bellingham since 1998. In 2020, the Triage Facility will be vacated and in 2021, expanded services will be offered in the Crisis Stabilization Center.

Please contact Kathleen Roy at extension #6007 if you have any questions regarding this agreement.

Encl.

