



Memorandum

TO: Satpal Sidhu, County Executive
FROM: Champ Thomaskutty, Director
RE: Sustainable Connections – Innovative Waste Reduction Contract
DATE: APRIL 30, 2026

Attached is a contract between Whatcom County and Sustainable Connections for your review and signature.

- **Background and Purpose**

This contract provides funding for Sustainable Connections, in partnership with Perennial Zero Waste, to conduct an innovative waste reduction program for large-scale events, laying the foundation for a comprehensive, scalable solution to eliminate single-use waste at large events in Whatcom County. This contract is one of three contracts awarded through RFP 26-13 for innovative waste reduction, recycling, or composting projects that meet the goals of the County's Comprehensive Solid and Hazardous Waste Management Plan.

- **Funding Amount and Source**

Funding for this contract, in an amount not to exceed \$83,588, is provided by the Solid Waste Fund. These funds are included in the 2026 budget. Council authorization is required as funding for this contract exceeds \$75,000.

- **Differences from Previous Contracts**

This is a new contract; however, funding for these services was provided in a previous contract ending 12/31/2025 (WC Contract #202508019). The previous contract estimated education and engagement of 10,000+ Whatcom County residents and elimination of 40,000 pieces of single-use service ware. This contract estimates education and engagement of 10,000 to 25,000 residents and elimination of 30,000 to 50,000 pieces of single-use service ware.

Please contact Jennifer Hayden, Environmental Health Supervisor at 360-778-6036 (JHayden@co.whatcom.wa.us) if you have any questions.

Encl.

