

ELIZABETH KOSA
DIRECTOR



M E M O R A N D U M

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

Through: Elizabeth Kosa, Director *ek*

From: Kraig Olason, Stormwater Program Manager *ko*

Date: October 17, 2024

Subject: **Cost Sharing Agreement for Capital Project Coordination with Birch Bay Leisure Park Association and Whatcom County**

Requested Action

We are requesting the Council to authorize the County Executive to enter into a Cost Sharing Agreement (CSA) with the Birch Bay Leisure Park Association (BBLPA). This agreement will facilitate a joint project to replace a failing culvert and will outline the financial responsibilities of both parties.

Background and Purpose

The Birch Bay Leisure Park Association (BBLPA) has initiated the design and permitting process for replacing a portion of a failing culvert on their property, the current design proposes to replace the culvert with an open channel. This culvert has experienced multiple collapses, leading to flooding issues within the development. In parallel, Whatcom County plans to start its own design and permitting efforts in mid-fall 2024 to replace a segment of the same culvert located within the County right-of-way, as well as to replace a failing tide gate to enhance upland drainage. This coordinated approach aims to address the flooding concerns effectively and improve overall drainage in the area.

By executing this Cost Sharing Agreement (CSA), the Birch Bay Leisure Park Association (BBLPA) and Whatcom County will work together to merge two related projects into a single joint initiative. This project spans both BBLPA private property and the County right-of-way.

This collaboration will enable the projects to be bid as one, reducing the community impacts associated with constructing them separately. Additionally, bundling the projects will allow bidders to assess the efficiencies of completing both projects together, potentially leading to cost savings and streamlined construction efforts.

Funding Amount and Source

Capital projects funding sources and amounts are determined on the 6-year Water Resources Improvements Plan (WRIP) and the 6-year Transportation Improvements Plan. This CSA only describes the collaborative process and requirements of defining and constructing capital stormwater project between the County and the BBLPA and the financial responsibility of each of the parties.

Please contact Cody Swan at extension 6265 if you have any questions or concerns regarding the terms of this agreement.