

**WHATCOM COUNTY  
PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT**

**Jon Hutchings  
Director**




**NATURAL RESOURCES**

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**MEMORANDUM**

**TO:** The Honorable Satpal Singh Sidhu, County Executive  
Honorable Members of the Whatcom County Council

**THROUGH:** Jon Hutchings, Public Works Director

**FROM:** Gary Stoyka, Natural Resources Program Manager 

**DATE:** March 21, 2022

**RE:** Grant Agreement with the Washington Department of Ecology to develop and Implement a Collaborative Process to Identify Local Solutions for Water Availability

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Please find enclosed for your review a copy of the Grant Agreement No. OTGP-2022-WhCoPW-00082 between the Whatcom County and the Washington Department of Ecology to develop and implement a collaborative process to identify local solutions for water availability to conduct supporting technical studies. The authorized interlocal agreement amendment will be signed electronically through DocuSign.

**Requested Action**

Public Works respectfully requests that the Whatcom County Council authorize the County Executive to sign the grant agreement.

**Background and Purpose**

The purpose of this agreement is to develop and implement a collaborative process to identify local solutions for water availability issues in the Nooksack Basin and supporting technical work. The process for addressing water availability issues will run parallel to, and complement a potential water rights adjudication process.

**Funding Amount and Source**

This grant agreement with the Department of Ecology will provide \$250,000 to develop and implement a collaborative process to identify local solutions for water availability issues in the Nooksack Basin and supporting technical work.

Please contact Gary Stoyka at extension 6218, if you have any questions or concerns regarding the terms of this agreement.

Encl.