

Erika Lautenbach, MPH, Director Amy Harley, MD, MPH, Co-Health Officer Greg Thompson, MD, MPH, Co-Health Officer

Memorandum

TO: SATPAL SIDHU, COUNTY EXECUTIVE

FROM: Jennifer Hayden, Environmental Health Supervisor, Solid Waste

DATE: JUNE 10, 2024

RE: WHATCOM COUNTY DISPOSAL OF TOXICS FEASIBILITY STUDY REPORT

Health and Community Services (HCS) completed their work on a study focused on assessing the feasibility of assuming operational and administrative control of the Whatcom County Disposal of Toxics Facility.

The Disposal of Toxics Facility, which receives, processes, and ships moderate risk waste from Whatcom County residents and small businesses, is one of the cornerstones of the Solid Waste Program. The facility was built circa 2000, and has historically been operated by an outside entity. The current contract with our service provider expires at the end of 2024. Due to rising costs in operations, particularly over the last few years, and concerns related to invoicing and recruitment and retention of facility staff, HCS performed a feasibility study aimed at assessing the financial and administrative costs and benefits of assuming control of the facility.

WCHCS discussed the feasibility study report findings with the Solid Waste Advisory Committee in April. SWAC was supportive of HCS proposing to assume operational control of the facility.

HCS is looking forward to sharing the results of the feasibility study with Whatcom County Council.

Please call Jennifer Hayden at 360-778-6036 if there are any questions. Thank you.

