

**WHATCOM COUNTY
SHERIFF'S OFFICE**

BILL ELFO
SHERIFF



PUBLIC SAFETY BUILDING
311 Grand Avenue
Bellingham, WA 98225-4038
(360) 778-6600

MEMORANDUM

TO: Jack Louws, County Executive
FROM: Bill Elfo, Sheriff
RE: 2020 Island County Interlocal Northwest Minichain Agreement
DATE: November 7, 2019

Enclosed are two (2) originals of the 2020 Interlocal Cooperative Agreement for Mini-Chain Services between Whatcom County and Island County for your review and signature.

▪ **Background and Purpose**

Whatcom County runs the northern leg of the Northwest Shuttle Transport System down the I-5 corridor. This system, part of an informal statewide relay system that began in 1970 to move offenders who were wanted in one county but who had been arrested in another, allows us to generate revenues to help off-set the costs of moving these offenders. Prior to the creation of the Shuttle system, the individual Counties were responsible for retrieving offenders throughout the State who were wanted in their County. This meant that deputies from multiple agencies were traveling to other jurisdictions, sometimes on a daily basis.

As part of the overall shuttle, approximately 14 years ago Whatcom County began contracting with the Counties north of Seattle, and some smaller cities, to move their offenders to and from a central hub. In 2011, Snohomish County decided to discontinue contracting with us, leading us to some changes in the way the northern leg was operated. We continue to contract with Skagit County, Island County, Marysville and Oak Harbor and receive in-kind support from Snohomish County. This agreement allows for Island County to pay for inmates being transported for their agency.

▪ **Funding Amount and Source**

This revenue is paid to Whatcom County for services rendered. It is based on Island County's estimated percentage of the total County cost of running this system. This year's contract with Island County will be a total of \$4,626.00.

▪ **Differences from Previous Contract**

This contract is reviewed annually to ascertain the cost of the upcoming year's expenditures. Island County's contract reflects only actual Island County transports. Since the number of transports for Island County decreased in 2019, their per diem rate for 2020 has decreased by \$5,096.00.

Please contact Wendy Jones at extension 6505, if you have any questions or concerns regarding the terms of this agreement