



MEMORANDUM

TO: Whatcom County Council

FROM: Tyler Schroeder, Deputy Executive

RE: Whatcom Conservation District – Firewise Program

DATE: 12/08/2022

Enclosed is a contract between Whatcom Conservation District and Whatcom County in support of the Firewise program.

▪ **Background and Purpose**

In 2019 Whatcom County was approached by Whatcom Conservation District to support their Wildlife Risk Reduction Program otherwise known as Firewise. As a result of this initial agreement much needed education and technical assistance services have been provided throughout the county to both communities and individuals. Many who have participated in the program have learned proactive steps they can take to manage fire risk. Homeowners are reducing the risk on their own properties and developing plans for their communities. The work continues as more communities and individuals seek education and risk management techniques.

▪ **Funding Amount and Source**

The approved 2023 – 2024 General Fund budget includes non-departmental funding in the amount of \$40,000 for each year.

▪ **Differences from Previous Contract**

There are no significant changes to the first agreement as the scope and compensation are very similar, however costs have increased by \$15,000/year.

Please contact Tyler Schroeder at extension 5207, if you have any questions or concerns regarding the terms of this agreement.