

WHATCOM COUNTY
Emergency Medical Services
800 E Chestnut, Suite 3C
Bellingham, WA 98225



Mike Hilley
WCEMS Manager

MEMORANDUM

From: Mike Hilley, EMS Manager
Re: EOB/Lateral Paramedic Budget Supplemental Request
Date: March 3, 2023

Enclosed is the 2023 BFD Lateral ILA, C#202303016

Purpose/Background: This ILA will continue to fund the hiring and training of lateral Paramedics in 2023 for the Bellingham Fire Department. When the Department hires an employee that already has experience and is certified as a firefighter/paramedic, this recruiting strategy is described as a **“lateral hire.”** This training and onboarding have been extended into 2023 where two lateral Paramedics will complete training in 2023. The Bellingham Fire Department and the County recognize the financial benefit and reduced training time required when hiring an employee that already holds a national or state paramedic licensure.

- **Funding Amount and Source**

The funding source is the EMS Levy Fund, 130110, not to exceed \$66,916.00.

Rate Details:

- 2023: \$66,916.00 for the wages and benefits, preceptorship, and evaluation of two lateral paramedics

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The County shall pay costs up to and not to exceed \$66,916.00 associated with the preceptorship of lateral Paramedics. This amount includes administrative costs for formal evaluations, salaries and wages for up to **two (2)** Department employees who hire through the lateral Paramedic process, not to exceed 6 months in duration over the next 12 months where the agreement expires December 31, 2023. The Department will pay the costs of all training associated with the duties and responsibilities required to be employed as a City of Bellingham Firefighter/Paramedic.

Please contact Mike Hilley at (360) 927-1155 if you have any questions or concerns regarding the terms of this agreement.