

**WHATCOM COUNTY
PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT**

Jon Hutchings
Director



STORMWATER
322 N. Commercial, Suite 224
Bellingham, WA 98225
Main: (360) 778-6210
FAX: (360) 778-6201
www.whatcomcounty.us

MEMORANDUM

TO: The Whatcom County Flood Control Zone District Board of Supervisors and
The Honorable Jack Louws, County Executive

THROUGH: Jon Hutchings, Public Works Director *JH*

FROM: Kraig Olason, Stormwater Program Manager *KO*

DATE: September 5, 2019

RE: Interlocal Agreement between Whatcom County Flood Control Zone
District and Birch Bay Water and Sewer District

Requested Action

Please find attached for your review and approval two (2) originals of an interlocal agreement between the Birch Bay Water and Sewer District (BBWSD) and Whatcom County Flood Control Zone District (FCZD) concerning implementation of mutually beneficial programs.

Background and Purpose

BBWSD works regularly with the FCZD through its Sub-Flood Zone, the Birch Bay Watershed and Aquatic Resources Management (BBWARM) district. Both districts share the same goals of protecting Birch Bay's water quality, managing stormwater and providing critical utility services to rate payers in the districts. During major storm events, significant volumes of stormwater effluent enter the BBWSD's sanitary sewer system. Excessive stormwater increases treatment plant costs and sewer rates.

The majority of BBWARM rate payers are also BBWSD rate payers. Collaborative efforts that seek to improve stormwater drainage options can often result in reduced quantities of stormwater entering the systems, which can reduce the amount of effluent requiring treatment and subsequent treatment costs. In 2011, an interlocal agreement (ILA) was signed by the two districts that describes the relationship between the two agencies, common areas of concern and shared goals. This agreement also provides a rationale for dispensing with charging fees by either party and emphasizes the types of planning, programming and collaborative projects that would be undertaken. This agreement expired at the end of 2016. Due to a collaborative construction project in 2019, the attached five-year ILA includes minor revisions to reflect recent changes and updates.

Funding Amount and Source

No funding source is required; fees are more than off-set by collaborative programs and current costs of stormwater treatment.

Please contact Holly Faulstich at extension 6290 if you have any questions or concerns regarding the terms of this agreement.

Encl.