

Elizabeth Kosa  
Director



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## Memorandum

**To:** The Honorable Satpal Singh Sidhu, Whatcom County Executive and the Honorable Members of the Whatcom County Council

**Through:** Elizabeth Kosa, Director *LBF*

**From:** Douglas W. Ranney II, P.E., County Engineer *DWR*  
James E. Lee, P.E., Engineering Manager *JEL*

**Date:** June 7, 2024

**Re:** Ferry Boat Program Federal Funds for Lummi Island Ferry Operating Costs  
**Local Agency Agreement and Federal Aid Project Prospectus**

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Enclosed for your review and signature are two (2) originals each of a Federal Aid Project Prospectus and one (1) original of the Local Agency Agreement between the Washington State Department of Transportation and Whatcom County. The final documents will be provided to the Executive after finalization by WSDOT.

### Requested Action

Public Works respectfully requests that the County Council authorize the County Executive to enter into an agreement with WSDOT to obligate \$1,099,507 in federal Ferry Boat Program (FBP) funds for Lummi Island Ferry operating costs.

Please sign the Local Agency Agreement in **blue ink** and return the original to my office for further processing. We will return a fully executed copy following signature by WSDOT. Please keep one original of the Project Prospectus for your files and return the other original to my office, as it requires no signatures from WSDOT.

### Background and Purpose

The scope for this project will entail the use of 2021 and 2022 federal FBP funding awards for a portion of Whatcom County's Lummi Island Ferry's operating costs which will include ferry staffing expenses. This Local Agency Agreement and Project Prospectus are required to obligate these FBP funds.

These FBP funds had originally been slated for use on the Lummi Island Ferry Replacement and System Modernization Project. However, during development of this project we became aware that the \$25 million in federal Maritime Administration funds awarded for this project and the FBP funds can't be used on the same project. The FBP funds applied towards ferry operating costs will be used to offset the equivalent road fund contribution which will then be applied to the Lummi Island Ferry Replacement and System Modernization Project.

### Funding Amount and Source

The total cost for the project is estimated to be \$1,675,700, with \$1,099,507 of federal FBP funds and \$576,193 of local funds. Please contact James Lee (x6264) if you have any questions or concerns regarding this request.