

MEMORANDUM

TO: Whatcom County Council
FROM: Mike Hilley, EMS Manager
RE: Interagency Amendment for 5th Medic Unit
DATE: July 27, 2021

Enclosed is an amendment to the interagency agreement for advance life support (ALS) services between Whatcom County, City of Bellingham Fire Department and Fire Protection District 7.

▪ **Background and Purpose**

This amendment allows for reimbursement of expenses incurred by the City of Bellingham for the implementation of a 5th Medic Unit. The County will reimburse the City for expenses related to the purchase of a rig and related equipment, facility upgrades to accommodate station relocations of existing units and upstaffing firefighter/paramedics to staff the new unit. With the unanimous approval of the EMS Oversight Board, this amendment will allow for the implementation of the 5th medic unit to better serve all residents of the county.

▪ **Funding Amount and Source**

In 2021, the County will reimburse the City for the acquisition cost of a new ALS rig including make ready costs and sales tax. Additionally, alterations to the Stations 3 and 6 due to the relocation of the current ALS units and up to \$131,000 for costs to hire and outfit 10 new firefighters.

In 2022, the County will reimburse the City up to \$80,500 for equipment to outfit the new rig and up to \$1,416 for personnel costs for 10 Paramedics.

Funding source is the EMS Levy Fund.

▪ **Differences from Previous Contract**

This amendment allows for the costs associated with implementing the 5th Medic Unit.

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