

Jon Hutchings  
DIRECTOR



**Randy Rydel**

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## MEMORANDUM

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

THROUGH: Jon Hutchings, Public Works Director

FROM: Randy Rydel, Financial Services Manager

DATE: February 26, 2020

RE: **Sumas Mountain/Swift Creek Sediment Management Project**  
Ordinance Establishing the Swift Creek Capital Projects Fund and a Project Based  
Budget

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### **Requested Action**

Enclosed for your review and approval is an ordinance to establish the Swift Creek Capital Projects Fund and a project based budget.

### **Background and Purpose**

The Washington State Legislature awarded Whatcom County an appropriation totaling \$6.4 million for the Sumas Mountain/Swift Creek Sediment Management Project and identified \$10.7 million of projected costs to be allocated in future biennia.

In 2018 the Department of Ecology (Ecology) and the County entered into a no-match grant agreement which incrementally advances the state appropriations to the County as the funds are expended. To date, \$1,182,841 of the state appropriation has been spent on preliminary engineering, permitting, and maintenance.

In 2019 Ecology, the County, and other defendants entered into a Consent Decree (CD) which lays out the scope of work and overall schedule for this ongoing, multi-year project.

The project based budget will account for the revenues and expenditures related to implementing the capital work identified in the CD. The initial budget is intended to cover land acquisition, design, permitting, and the first phases of construction for this multi-year project.

### **Funding Amount and Source**

This ordinance will establish the Swift Creek Capital Projects Fund with an initial project based budget of \$5,217,159.

Please contact Randy Rydel at extension 6217 if you have any questions or concerns regarding this request.