



Memorandum

TO: Satpal Sidhu, County Executive

FROM: Erika Lautenbach, Director

RE: Sustainable Connections – Commercial Waste Reduction & Recycling Education and Technical Assistance Programs Contract

DATE: MAY 24, 2024

Attached is a contract between Whatcom County and Sustainable Connections for your review and signature.

- **Background and Purpose**

This contract supports commercial waste reduction and recycling technical assistance and education to Whatcom County businesses in targeted commercial sectors in order to increase countywide waste reduction rates. Consistent with recommendations in the Whatcom County Comprehensive Solid and Hazardous Waste Management Plan (CSHWMP), Whatcom County Health and Community Services intends to increase countywide solid waste reduction rates by providing commercial waste audits and detailed technical waste assessments, action plans and performance evaluations for companies operating in targeted commercial industries. In alignment with Ecology's statewide *Beyond Waste* initiatives, these services will be implemented in targeted commercial sectors to increase awareness, knowledge, access, and participation in waste reduction, prevention and recycling.

This contract is awarded from RFP 24-18. Sustainable Connections was selected over other respondents because of their thoroughness in providing a detailed program proposal, which included a significant amount of food waste diversion and description of the success of their program.

- **Funding Amount and Source**

Funding for this contract, in an amount not to exceed \$95,000, is provided by the Solid Waste Fund. These funds are included in the 2024 budget and Council authorization is required as funding for this contract exceeds \$40,000, per WCC 3.08.100.

- **Differences from Previous Contracts**

This is a new contract, however, funding for these services has been provided through previous contracts since 2016. This contract includes no significant revisions from the contract ending on 06/30/2024 (WC Contract #201605003).

Please contact Jennifer Hayden, Environmental Health Supervisor at 360-778-6036 (JHayden@co.whatcom.wa.us) if you have any questions.

Encl.