



Satpal Singh Sidhu
Whatcom County Executive



MEMORANDUM

To: Whatcom County Council Members
From: Satpal Sidhu, County Executive *Satpal*
Through: Tyler Schroeder, Deputy County Executive *TS*
Subject: Economic Development Investment Board – Funding Recommendations
Date: June 1, 2021

County administration recently received three applications for funding through the EDI Program. All three applications reference projects that have formerly sought funding and been brought before the board and the County Council. At the last meeting of the EDI Board, the following recommendations were adopted by the Board and are being presented for confirmation by the County Council.

If these recommendations of the Board are adopted by the Council, the administration will proceed with the preparation of interlocal agreements with the applicant jurisdictions, as well as supplemental budget requests for County Council review and approval.

Applicant	Project	Board Recommendation	Vote
Port of Bellingham	County Rural Broadband	\$2,000,000 grant	11 - 0
City of Lynden	West Front Road Improvements	\$666,667 grant / \$1,333,333 loan	10 - 0 - 1
Bellingham Housing Authority	Samish Way Redevelop-Phase 3	\$725,000 loan	10 - 0 - 1
TOTAL EDI ALLOCATIONS:		\$4,725,000	

The Administration has confirmed that sufficient fund balances are available for council approval of these requests, and that the projects qualify for funding by State statute. The three EDI funding applications are attached for your review as you consider these recommendations at your meeting on June 15, 2021.

Please note, the County Rural Broadband and Samish Way Housing projects may be eligible to utilize American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) funds. The corresponding budget supplemental may include use of ARPA funds, as appropriate.

If you have any questions, please feel free to contact Tyler Schroeder or myself at 778-5200.

- Attachments:
- Bellingham Housing Authority's EDI Program application
 - Port of Bellingham's EDI Program application
 - City of Lynden's EDI Program application
 - Meeting Notes of EDI Board meeting of 5/27/21
 - Rural Sales Tax Fund Projected Cash Balances 12/31/21