



Memorandum

TO: Satpal Sidhu, County Executive
FROM: Erika Lautenbach, Director
RE: Environmental Science Associates – Climate Vulnerability Assessment Contract
DATE: JUNE 21, 2023

Attached is a contract between Whatcom County and Environmental Science Associates for your review and signature.

- **Background and Purpose**

In recent years, threats from extreme heat and wildfire smoke have increased in Whatcom County, particularly for vulnerable populations that face disproportionate health impacts from these threats. This contract provides funding for the Contractor to complete a climate vulnerability assessment (CVA), specifically focused on public health impacts of extreme heat and wildfire smoke on residents of Whatcom County. This CVA pilots an approach to achieve greater impact by narrowing the focus to these two imminent climate issues. Results of the CVA will guide infrastructure, program and policy decisions to enhance and promote health equity.

- **Funding Amount and Source**

Funding for this contract, in an amount not to exceed \$69,997, is provided by Foundational Public Health Services funds from the Washington State Department of Health. These funds will be included in the 2023 budget. Council authorization of this contract is required as funding exceeds \$40,000.

Please contact Sue Sullivan, Environmental Health Manager at 360-778-6026 (SSullivan@co.whatcom.wa.us) or Kathleen Roy, Financial & Administrative Manager at 360-778-6007 (KRoy@co.whatcom.wa.us), if you have any questions.

Encl.