

WHATCOM COUNTY
Executive Office
311 Grand Avenue, Suite 108
Bellingham, WA 98225



Satpal Sidhu
County Executive

MEMORANDUM

TO: Whatcom County Council

FROM: Jake Logan, Administrative Secretary/Grant Coordinator

RE: Birch Bay Chamber of Commerce

DATE: November 15, 2024

Enclosed is the Contract for Services between Whatcom County and Birch Bay Chamber of Commerce for your review and signature.

▪ **Background and Purpose**

Contractor has received Convention Center funding to pay for the operations of the Birch Bay Visitor Center.

▪ **Funding Amount and Source**

Funding in the amount of \$230,000 for year 2025 will come from the Convention Center Fund (aka Lodging Tax) as recommended by the Lodging Tax Advisory Committee and approved on November 4, 2024 by the Whatcom County Council through Resolution No. 2024-052. This agreement encompasses two years of funding in the amount of \$460,000 (\$230,000 for years 2025 and 2026).

▪ **Differences from Previous Contract**

Annual compensation was increased by \$100,000 due to the growth of tourism in the region and the costs of providing visitor services. The contract is a 2-year agreement consistent with the biennial budget.