



MEMORANDUM

TO: Satpal Sidhu, County Executive
FROM: Erika Lautenbach, Director
RE: Washington State Health Care Authority – Alternate Response Team Pilot Program Contract Amendment #2
DATE: October 25, 2023

Attached is a contract amendment between Whatcom County and Washington State Health Care Authority for your review and signature. This amendment extends the contract for two years, adds funding to support the extended contract period, and updates deliverables and their due dates.

▪ **Background and Purpose**

This contract provides funding for Whatcom County Health and Community Services’ ART Program, which provides critical services to community members in crisis or at risk of being in crisis. ART aims to reduce the burden on Bellingham law enforcement by diverting lower-risk calls to a behavioral health team. ART responds to low-risk, low-acuity, and non-criminal calls. ART is deployed by staff based at WhatComm 911, 10 hours/day, 5 days per week (currently Monday – Friday).

▪ **Funding Amount and Source**

This amendment adds \$1,174,000. Total funding for this contract, in the amount of \$3,387,000, is provided by the Washington State Health Care Authority’s Division of Behavioral Health and Recovery. These funds are included in the 2023 budget. Council authorization is required as the additional funding provided by this amendment exceeds \$40,000 per WCC 3.06.010.

▪ **Differences between Previous Contracts**

Section	Differences
Section 3	Extends contract through 06/30/2025
Section 4	Adds funding and deliverables for two additional fiscal years
Schedule A – Statement of Work	
▪ Section 3	Removes cost reimbursement of supplies for SFY2024 & SFY2025
▪ Section 4	Updates Quarterly Report and Program Evaluation Report requirements
▪ Section 5	Updates deliverables and their due dates

Please contact Vanessa Martin at 602-501-3595 (VMartin@co.whatcom.wa.us) or Kathleen Roy, Financial and Administrative Manager at 360-778-6007 (KRoy@co.whatcom.wa.us), if you have any questions or concerns regarding this request.