



MEMORANDUM

TO: Satpal Sidhu, County Executive

FROM: Rod Lamb, Design & Development Manager

THROUGH: Bennett Knox, Director

DATE: May 27, 2026

RE: Silver Lake Lagoon Bridge – Aquatic Lands Enhancement Act (ALEA) Grant Application Authorizing Resolution

Enclosed you will find an Authorizing Resolution requesting authorization from the County Council to make an application and enter into a grant agreement with the Washington State Recreation and Conservation Office for funding through the Aquatic Lands Enhancement Act (ALEA) Program.

If awarded, this \$500,000 grant will be used to complete the renovation of the Lagoon Bridge and other bike and pedestrian accessibility improvements at Silver Lake Park. Through this grant, Whatcom County will be able to complete three critical access improvements including; 1) creating an ADA compliant pathway connecting the Silver Lake Lodge to the Lakeside Cabin rentals, 2) Replacing the aging lagoon bridge structure with a barrier-free over-water structure connecting the swimming beach and Lakeside Cabins, and 3) Upgrading an existing Lakeside hiking trail to meet outdoor accessibility standards.

The renovation of the lagoon bridge has been a long-standing priority of the department as evidenced by inclusion on the Whatcom County Comprehensive Plan, Appendix F - Six-year CIP since 2016, and through community feedback affirming how important these facilities are to supporting access to fishing, swimming, nature viewing, and the many other recreational attractions of Silver Lake.

Please feel free to contact Rod Lamb, Design & Development Manager at extension 5858 if you have any questions or concerns.