

Elizabeth Kosa  
Director



Douglas W. Ranney II, P.E.  
County Engineer  
322 N. Commercial Street, Ste 301  
Bellingham, WA 98225-4042  
Phone: (360) 778-6210  
Fax: (360) 778-6211

## Memorandum

**To:** The Honorable Satpal Singh Sidhu, Whatcom County Executive, and  
The Honorable Members of the Whatcom County Council

**Through:** Elizabeth Kosa, Director

**From:** Doug Ranney, P.E., County Engineer *DWR*  
James E. Lee, P.E., Engineering Manager *JEL*

**Date:** July 25, 2023

**Re:** **Swift Creek Sediment Management Action Plan Implementation**  
Grant Agreement between Whatcom County and the State of Washington  
Department of Ecology

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### Requested Action

Public Works respectfully requests that the County Council authorize the County Executive to enter into a new grant agreement with the Washington State Department of Ecology (Ecology) to provide for continued implementation of the Swift Creek Sediment Management Action Plan (SCSMAP) Projects.

### Background and Purpose

To date, the Washington State Legislature has awarded Whatcom County appropriations totaling \$8.4 million for the SCSMAP Program. In 2019 Ecology, the County, and other defendants entered into a Consent Decree which lays out the scope of work and overall schedule for this ongoing, multi-year project. Ecology will continue to request future additional state funding to carry out the objectives of the Consent Decree.

To best manage these state funds moving forward, the existing grant agreement, Whatcom County Contract No. 201810012-8, will terminate and this new grant agreement will be utilized to advance an additional \$4 million in state funds to Whatcom County which have been appropriated in the 2023-2025 state biennium budget. These funds will provide for continued capital construction, engineering and permitting work for future project elements.

### Funding Amount and Source

Ecology is using state funding to provide a no-match grant for this project. This agreement has been prepared in conjunction with the Ecology and will be executed via DocuSign. After execution of this grant agreement a separate ordinance will be submitted to the Council to deposit these funds into the Swift Creek Project Based Budget fund.

Please contact James Lee at extension 6264 if you have any questions regarding this request.