



# Memorandum

**TO:** Satpal Sidhu, County Executive  
**FROM:** Erika Lautenbach, Director  
**RE:** Opportunity Council – 22 North Permanent Supportive Housing Contract Amendment #8  
**DATE:** **NOVEMBER 25, 2024**

Attached is a contract amendment between Whatcom County and Opportunity Council for your review and signature. This amendment extends the contract for an additional year, reorganizes the scope of work, and increases reporting and other operational requirements (including a policy for verifying tenant wellbeing). These expanded requirements are intended to capture the progress and efforts made to reduce site challenges. Quarterly reports will be made available to County Council following their submission to Health and Community Services. Further refinement to this contract is expected in mid-2025 following a comprehensive evaluation of the community’s permanent supportive housing programs.

▪ **Background and Purpose**

22 North is a 40-unit apartment building that provides affordable, permanent supportive housing for individuals exiting homelessness. This contract provides funding for the Opportunity Council to provide 24/7/365 on-site supportive services and housing for people who have behavioral health disorders and who require these services to remain stably housed. Special populations to be served at 22 North include Veterans, young adults and individuals with a history of chronic homelessness.

▪ **Funding Amount, Eligibility and Source**

Funding for this contract period, in an amount not to exceed \$648,568, is provided by the Behavioral Health Program Fund and HB 1590. HB 1590 funding requires that households served make less than 60% AMI and Behavioral Health Funds require that all households served under this contract provide confirmation of mental or behavioral health diagnosis. These funds are included in the 2025 budget. Council authorization is required as funding for this contract period exceeds the initial consideration authorized by Council on 06/21/2022.

▪ **Differences from Previous Contracts**

Section	Differences
<b>General Terms – Section 10.2, Extension</b>	Extends contract for an additional year, through 12/31/2025
<b>Exhibit A – Scope of Work</b>	Updates contract language to reflect standardized language for PSH projects, increases reporting and operational requirements, and adds requirement for tenant wellbeing verification.
<b>Exhibit B – Compensation</b>	Update the budget to reflect the 2025 contract period
<b>Exhibit E – Severe Weather Planning Template</b>	Adds plan template to ensure client safety during severe weather and/or air quality degradation events.
<b>Exhibit F – Partner Incident Report Template</b>	Adds template to report facility incidents

Please contact Chris D’Onofrio, Housing & Homeless Services Supervisor at 360-778-6049 ([CDonofri@co.whatcom.wa.us](mailto:CDonofri@co.whatcom.wa.us)) if you have any questions.