



MEMORANDUM

TO: Whatcom County Council

FROM: Kayla Schott-Bresler, Deputy Executive

RE: City of Ferndale – Water Treatment Plant Upgrades

DATE: September 10, 2024

Enclosed is the Interlocal Agreement between Whatcom County and the City of Ferndale for your review and signature.

▪ **Background and Purpose**

On June 11, 2024 the Economic Development Investment Board adopted a recommendation for funding that included the City of Ferndale's Water Treatment Plant Upgrades. The recommendation for funding passed unanimously. The proposed project includes completion of the construction of planned improvements to the City's Water Treatment plant following the transition from Nooksack River water to well water that occurred in the early 2010's. The other phase of the project consists of drilling a second deep well into the deep aquifer to provide additional capacity for City growth and provide necessary redundancy to the City's existing wells. Funding request to support both of the above-mentioned projects, as the actual project costs significantly exceeded engineer's estimates by approximately \$4 million.

The EDI Board recommendations were unanimously approved by the County Council at their July 23, 2024 council meeting.

Funding Amount and Source

This project will be funded through the EDI Fund in the amount of a \$1,000,000 grant and a \$2,000,000 loan for a total of \$3,000,000.

If you have any questions, please contact Kayla Schott-Bresler (kschottb@co.whatcom.wa.us).