

**WHATCOM COUNTY
PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT**

Elizabeth Kosa
Director



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MEMORANDUM

TO: The Honorable Satpal Singh Sidhu, Whatcom County Executive, and the Honorable Members of the Whatcom County Council, collectively serving in their capacity as the Whatcom County Flood Control Zone District Board of Supervisors

THROUGH: Elizabeth Kosa, Public Works Director

FROM: Kraig Olason, Stormwater Program Manager *ko*

DATE: January 2, 2024

RE: 2024 Interlocal Agreement between Whatcom County and the Whatcom Conservation District for Outreach, Education and Technical Assistance with BBWARM Stormwater Programs

Requested Action

Public Works respectfully requests that the County Executive, acting as signatory for the Flood Control Zone District Board of Supervisors, enter into a contract for services between Whatcom Conservation District (WCD) and Whatcom County for the sum of \$107,341.56, for the purpose of providing outreach, education and technical assistance for various stormwater-related programs, with particular emphasis on the communities within the Terrell Creek and Birch Bay watersheds.

Background and Purpose

The WCD will provide outreach and engagement opportunities for residents and rural landowners in the Birch Bay & Aquatic Resources Management (BBWARM) district. Activities will include the development of informational mailers and newsletter articles, participation in education and outreach events, and continued implementation of the Neighborhood Native Landscaping Program (NNLP). The goal for 2024 is to secure 8-10 participating properties within walking distance of each for a total of up to 20,000 ft² of native plant landscaping installed. The WCD will manage the individual NNLP projects, including site identification, outreach and landowner recruitment, feasibility analysis, project design, labor, supplies and materials procurement, and documentation.

In addition, the WCD will offer free technical assistance in the form of confidential risk assessments, farm plan development, and guidance in the implementation of best management practices for rural landowners and small farm owners in the Birch Bay watershed through Task 3 of this contract.

Funding Amount and Source

Contract total of \$107,341.56 will be funded by existing authority in the BBWARM district budget (cost center 169250, work order 19596). Please contact Holly Faulstich at extension 6290 if you have any questions or concerns regarding the terms of this agreement.

Encl.