



MEMORANDUM

TO: Satpal Sidhu, County Executive

FROM: Erika Lautenbach, Director

RE: Opportunity Council – Whatcom Homeless Service Center Contract Amendment #9

DATE: July 29, 2022

Attached is a contract amendment between Whatcom County and Opportunity Council for your review and signature.

▪ Background and Purpose

The Whatcom Homeless Service Center (WHSC) provides coordinated entry for the homeless housing system. The WHSC makes referrals to partner agencies for housing case management services, cultivates and maintains relationships with local landlords and motel operators, and serves as liaison for homeless housing activities to the network of service providers and other community stakeholders. This amendment increases total funding by \$282,239, as follows:

- \$50,399 to support street outreach engagement and transportation costs per 24 CFR § 576.101
- \$3,360 to compensate participation of board and governing body members with the lived experience of homelessness (as required by Washington State Department of Commerce)
- \$2,800 to cover costs of implementing a language-access plan (as required by Washington State Department of Commerce)
- \$1,680 to cover additional training registrations
- \$224,000 to fund the use of motel rooms as emergency shelter for vulnerable households exiting unsheltered homelessness.

▪ Funding Amount and Source

Funding for this contract, in an amount not to exceed \$2,507,248 during this contract period (01/01/2022 – 12/31/2022) and \$5,015,270 for the entire contract period (01/01/2021 – 12/31/2022) is provided by the Washington State Department of Commerce Consolidated Homeless Grant, (including supplemental Shelter and RRH Grant), the federal Emergency Solutions-CV Grant (CFDA 14.231), general funds, local document recording fees, the Veteran's Assistance Fund, County American Rescue Plan Act funds (CFDA 21.027), and HB 1406. These funds are included in the 2022 budget. Council approval is required as this amendment increases approved funding by more than 10% of the budget approved by Council on 02/22/2022.

Please contact Ann Beck, Community Services Manager at 360-778-6055 (ABeck@co.whatcom.wa.us) or Kathleen Roy, Assistant Director at 360-778-6007 (KRoy@co.whatcom.wa.us), if you have any questions or concerns regarding this request.

