



MEMORANDUM

TO: Whatcom County Council

FROM: Kayla Schott-Bresler, Strategic Initiatives Manger

RE: Sustainable Connections - Office of Healthy Housing Study

DATE: January 10, 2025

Enclosed is a contract agreement between Sustainable Connections and Whatcom County for the purpose of funding an Office of Healthy Housing Study.

▪ **Background and Purpose**

This contract is funded through the Department of Commerce grant award in the amount of \$190,000 approved by Council on November 6th. The County initiated RFP #WC 24-0012 on the MRSC Roster and selected respondent Sustainable Connections to enter into a contract for services.

Funding is to be used to study the potential of creating an inter-jurisdictional coordinating body focused on improving the housing market for tenants, landlords, and those interested in becoming landlords. The study will examine the potential for an Office of Healthy Housing that increases the supply of healthy housing, develops educational programs to assist landlords and tenants to understand best practices for rental housing and develops a sustainable funding model for this new office.

▪ **Funding Amount and Source**

This agreement is funded through the Department of Commerce for a total of \$190,000.

If you have any questions, please contact Kayla Schott-Bresler at x5220 (kschottb@co.whatcom.wa.us).