



Jon Hutchings  
DIRECTOR

## M E M O R A N D U M

**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:** Jon Hutchings, Public Works Director

**FROM:** Paula J. Harris, P.E., River and Flood Manager *PJH*  
Gary Stoyka, Natural Resources Program Manager

**DATE:** August 29, 2022

**RE:** Herrera Environmental Consultants Contract for Services to support Lower Nooksack River Floodplain Integrated Planning – Amendment No. 5

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Enclosed are two (2) originals of an amendment to a Contract for Services between the Whatcom County Flood Control Zone District (FCZD) and Herrera Environmental Consultants for your review and signature.

▪ **Requested Action**

Public Works respectfully requests that the County Executive and Council, acting as the FCZD Board of Supervisors, enter into a contract amendment with Herrera Environmental Consultants to continue supporting the Floodplain Integrated Planning (FLIP) Process along with additional specific tasks to further the technical work needed to advance the ideas generated at the Flow Split Design Charrette held last April. Under this contract amendment, the consultants will produce deliverables as outlined in the scope of work of the Washington State Department of Ecology (WA DOE) Proviso grant.

▪ **Background and Purpose**

Herrera was retained in March 2018 to assist Public Works staff in updating and broadening the scope of the 1999 Lower Nooksack River Comprehensive Flood Hazard Management Plan to integrate flood risk reduction with the needs of salmon and floodplain land-uses. The update will provide a basis for future Whatcom County Flood Control Zone District capital programs and support possible WRIA1 Salmon Recovery Plan updates.

The scope of the initial agreement with Herrera was focused on initial tasks to better define the full scope of the project and included supporting the FLIP Steering Committee, attending FLIP stakeholder and Steering Committee meetings, and compiling a geodatabase for floodplain land uses.

Amendment No. 1 revised the scope and budget to develop a detailed work plan, project timeline and a Quality Assurance Project Plan as early deliverables for the EPA National Estuary Program (NEP) grant which funds this contract. It also included additional scope and budget for supporting the FLIP process through most of 2019.

Amendment No. 3 added additional scope and budget to support the FLIP process and extended the contract through September 2021. The amendment also included budget for the consultants that conducted the existing conditions geomorphic and habitat assessments to support the FLIP Team and Steering Committee and attend the meetings.

Amendment No. 5 adds additional scope for continuing the FLIP process support along with additional specific tasks to further the technical work needed to advance the ideas generated at the Flow Split Design Charrette held last April. Under this contract amendment, the consultants will produce deliverables as outlined in the scope of work of the Washington State Department of Ecology (WA DOE) Proviso grant. In response to the November 2021 floods, the State legislature included a budget proviso in the supplemental budget that provides funding support for the Floodplain Integrated Planning (FLIP) process This amendment also extends the contract through December 2024.

▪ **Funding Amount and Source**

The proposed amendment is for \$606,500 for a total amended contract amount of \$1,199,700. The WA DOE Proviso grant will provide \$500,000 in funding to support this work. The remaining \$106,500 will be funded by FCZD. The 2022 FCZD budget has adequate expenditure authority to fund the proposed amendment.

Please contact Paula Harris at extension 6285 if you have any questions or concerns regarding the terms of this agreement.

Encl.