



**MEMORANDUM**

**TO:** Satpal Sidhu, County Executive  
**FROM:** Erika Lautenbach, Director  
**RE:** FLO Analytics – Solid Waste Landfill Mapping Contract  
**DATE:** December 12, 2022

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Attached is a contract between Whatcom County and FLO Analytics for your review and signature.

▪ **Background and Purpose**

Sanitary landfill data must be accurate to specify the impacts to the water availability process when a property owner seeks to develop their property, using a well. In order to obtain a building permit, the owner must submit a Water Availability application to the Health Department for review, in order to show that the project has adequate water quality and quantity. During that review, staff use the layers in ArcMap to assess the location of the proposed well and one of the critical layers is the location of the solid waste landfill buffer.

This contract provides funding for FLO Analytics to accurately map all Whatcom County solid waste landfills and their associated 1000' buffer zones. Drilling wells within 1000' of any type of landfill may cause a public health risk, potentially degrade the environment and/or contaminate the aquifer. Precise documentation of the 1000' buffer zone will ensure that any well, including drinking water wells, are not constructed within the buffer per Washington Administrative Code 173-160-171 and Whatcom County Code 24.11. The Contractor will work collaboratively with the Whatcom County Information Technology GIS Team to ensure that the appropriate techniques and deliverables used conform to countywide GIS standards.

▪ **Funding Amount and Source**

Funding for this contract, in an amount not to exceed \$51,655, is provided by Foundational Public Health funds passed through the Washington State Department of Health's Consolidated Contract. These funds are included in the 2023 budget. Council approval is required as funding exceeds \$40,000.

Please contact Sue Sullivan, Environmental Health Manager at 360-778-6026 ([SSulliva@co.whatcom.wa.us](mailto:SSulliva@co.whatcom.wa.us)) or Kathleen Roy, Assistant Director at 360-778-6007 ([KRoy@co.whatcom.wa.us](mailto:KRoy@co.whatcom.wa.us)) if you have any questions or concerns regarding this request.

