



Memorandum

TO: Whatcom County Council
FROM: Erika Lautenbach, Director
DATE: November 21, 2022
RE: Funding for Unity Street Lease

Funding Sources

The Health Department has funding available for the new Unity Street Lease from the Washington State Department of Health Consolidated Amendment #9 (WC County Contract #202201016) – Foundational Public Health Services (FPHS).

This award for \$2,651,000 spans the period July 1, 2022 to June 30, 2023 and renews annually. These dedicated state funds were established to build the public health system's capacity and increase the availability of Foundational Public Health Services statewide. This grant is in the Health Departments' cost centers 660525, 600525, 610525, 650525, is prepaid and unused funds must be returned to the state.

Currently, the FPHS grant supports 12 FTE, but is underspent due to four additional vacant positions anticipated to be hired in February 2023. This results in \$160,000 in salary lapse savings which is available to support the lease expenses in 2023.

The FPHS award has a significant proposed increase beginning July 2023. More information will be available in spring of 2023 when the state legislative session concludes. This increase would support the Unity facility rent and utility expenses in 2024.

