



**MEMORANDUM**

**TO:** Satpal Sidhu, County Executive

**FROM:** Erika Lautenbach, Director

**RE:** Opportunity Council – Access ID Program Contract

**DATE:** November 8, 2022

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

▪ **Background and Purpose**

Having official government identification has become mandatory for fully participating in society. In Washington State, a driver’s license or identification card is required to apply for a job, access government programs and benefits, obtain assistance from private service organizations, and meet basic commercial and household needs, such as banking and housing. Those with resources to drive a vehicle generally use their driver’s license as identification but others often lack identification and may be unaware that another form or state identification card is available.

This contract is awarded as a result of RFP 22-39 and provides funding to operate the Access ID Program in Whatcom County, a program to assist low-income residents with obtaining identification in order to increase opportunities for education, employment, and housing.

▪ **Funding Amount and Source**

Funding for this contract, in an amount not to exceed \$45,000, is provided by general funds and the Behavioral Health Program Fund. These funds will be included in the 2023 budget. Council approval is required as funding exceeds \$40,000.

Please contact Ann Beck, Community Services Manager at 360-778-6055 ([ABeck@co.whatcom.wa.us](mailto:ABeck@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.

