



# Memorandum

**TO:** Satpal Sidhu, County Executive  
**FROM:** Erika Lautenbach, Director  
**RE:** Lake Whatcom Residential and Treatment Center (LWRTC) – Capital Contract  
**DATE:** JANUARY 21, 2025

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

- **Background and Purpose**

This contract provides funding for the replacement of the HVAC system and windows at LWRTC's Birchwood Facility, located at 1200 Birchwood Avenue in Bellingham. This facility provides 86 assisted living and treatment facility beds that are intended to serve low-income individuals with behavioral health disorders and are needing additional support to live stably.

The work funded by this contract meets the eligibility requirements for HB 1590 funding as LWRTC will rehabilitate a facility that provides supported housing services to individuals with chronic and persistent behavioral health disorders who are at or below 60% of the Area Median Income (AMI) and the completed rehabilitation will result in the capacity to add ten treatment beds.

- **Funding Amount and Source**

Funding for this contract, in an amount not to exceed \$1,000,000, is provided by HB 1590. These funds are included in the 2024 budget. Council authorization is required per WCC 3.08.100, as funding for this contract exceeds \$40,000.

Please contact Ann Beck, Community Health and Human Services Manager at 360-778-6055 ([ABeck@co.whatcom.wa.us](mailto:ABeck@co.whatcom.wa.us)) if you have any questions.

Encl.