



# MEMORANDUM

**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:** Elizabeth Kosa, Public Works Director *ek*

**From:** Gary Stoyka, Natural Resources Program Manager *gs*  
Julie Anderson, River and Flood Manager *JA*

**Subject:** Cooperative Agreement between the Whatcom County Flood Control Zone District (FCZD) and the US Army Corps of Engineers (USACE) for Rehabilitation of Flood Control Works – Bylsma Levee Repair – Project No. NSK-01-26

**Date:** 06/04/2026

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Enclosed please find one (1) original of a Cooperation Agreement between the Flood Control Zone District (FCZD) and the US Army Corps of Engineers (USACE) for your review and signature.

## Background and Purpose

High flows along the Nooksack River from the December 2025 flood event have caused scouring and bank erosion along the riverward slope and toe of the Bylsma levee including loss of riprap and embankment material. The damage occurred along the left bank of the Nooksack River between the Hannegan Road and Guide Meridian Road (SR539) bridges south of the City limits of Lynden. The proposed project will repair approximately 475 linear feet of the levee to better withstand future high-water events. The segment of levee to be repaired provides a 10 to 25-year level of protection (undamaged condition) and primarily protects high value agricultural lands and associated infrastructure, low density development and other public infrastructure (roads and bridges).

## Funding Amount and Source

The total cost shared rehabilitation costs are estimated to be \$665,800, of which 80% or \$532,640 will be funded by the USACE, and 20% or \$133,160 is the responsibility of the FCZD or local sponsor. The repair work is located within the Lynden Everson (LE) Subzone. Accordingly, the LE Subzone Advisory committee met and discussed the project at their meeting held on June 3, 2026 and approved a motion in support of contributing \$30,000 toward the local sponsor share. The budget authority for this expenditure is included in the adopted 2026 budgets for the FCZD for emergency repairs and LE Subzone. Council authorization is required pursuant to RCW 39.34.030(2) for agreements between public agencies.

WHATCOM COUNTY  
PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT

ELIZABETH KOSA  
DIRECTOR



**RIVER AND FLOOD**  
322 N. Commercial Street, 2<sup>nd</sup> Floor  
Bellingham, WA 98225-4042  
Phone: (360) 778-6230  
Fax: (360) 778-6231

**Recommended Action**

Public Works respectfully requests that the County Executive, and the County Council, acting as the FCZD Board of Supervisors, enter into a cooperative agreement for repairs to the Bylsma levee along the left bank of the Nooksack River.

Please contact Travis Bouma (Project Manager) at extension 6293 if you have any questions or concerns.

Encl.