

Elizabeth Kosa
Director



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Memorandum

To: The Honorable Satpal Singh Sidhu, Whatcom County Executive and
The Honorable Members of the Whatcom County Council

Through: Elizabeth Kosa, Director *EK*

From: James P. Karcher, P.E., County Engineer *JK*
James E. Lee, P.E., Engineering Manager *JEL*

Date: April 25, 2023

Re: Lummi Island Ferry Replacement & System Modernization Project
CRP No. 919008
Federal Aid Project Prospectus and Local Agency Agreement

Enclosed for your review and signature are two (2) originals each of a Project Prospectus and one (1) original of the Local Agency Agreement between the Washington State Department of Transportation (WSDOT) and Whatcom County for the Lummi Island Ferry Replacement and System Modernization Project, CRP No. 919008.

Requested Action

Public Works respectfully requests that the County Council authorize the County Executive to enter into an agreement with WSDOT to receive state funding for the above-referenced project.

Please sign the Local Agency Agreement in **blue ink** and return the original to my office for further processing. We will return a fully executed copy following signature by WSDOT. Please keep one original of the Project Prospectus for your files and return the other original to my office, as it requires no signatures from WSDOT.

Background and Purpose

In July of 2018 the Whatcom County Council approved resolution 2018-026 which established a level of service for the Lummi Island Ferry System and included the Lummi Island Ferry Service Action Plan. Elements of the action plan include construction of a new hybrid diesel-electric ferry vessel, modifications to the existing terminals to accommodate the new vessel, and upland improvements at the Lummi Island terminal including modified queuing and loading lanes, new ADA compliant restrooms and other ancillary improvements. Preliminary engineering work has begun on this project, but significant engineering and environmental permitting work remains to be completed prior to the construction phase of this project.

Whatcom County has received \$5.3 million in state Move Ahead Washington (MAW) funds for this project and this Project Prospectus and Local Agency Agreement are required to obligate these funds so that they can be used for continued engineering phase work on this project.

Funding Amount and Source

This Project Prospectus and Local Agency Agreement obligates \$3,987,575.00 in state MAW funds with a \$5,000.00 road fund contribution. This project is listed as Item No. 44 on the 2023 Annual Construction Program.

Please contact James Lee at extension 6264 if you have any questions regarding this agreement.