



MEMORANDUM

TO: Satpal Sidhu, County Executive

FROM: Charlene Ramont, Interim Director

RE: Washington State Health Care Authority – Alternate Response Team Program Grant Agreement Amendment #3

DATE: August 5, 2025

Attached is a grant agreement amendment between Whatcom County and Washington State Health Care Authority for your review and signature. This amendment extends the contract for two years and adds funding and deliverables for the extended contract period.

▪ **Background and Purpose**

This contract provides funding for Whatcom County Health and Community Services' ART Program, which provides critical services to community members in crisis or at risk of being in crisis. ART aims to reduce the burden on Bellingham law enforcement by diverting lower-risk calls to a behavioral health team. ART responds to low-risk, low-acuity, and non-criminal calls. ART is deployed by staff based at WhatComm 911, 10 hours/day, 5 days per week (currently Monday – Friday).

▪ **Funding Amount and Source**

This amendment adds \$1,174,000. Total funding for this grant is \$4,561,000. These funds are included in the 2025 budget. Council authorization is required per WCC 3.06.010 as the additional funding provided by this amendment exceeds \$40,000.

▪ **Differences between Previous Contracts**

Section	Differences
Section 3	Extends contract through 06/30/2027
Section 4	Adds funding and deliverables for two additional fiscal years
Schedule A1 – Statement of Work	Adds a statement of work and deliverables for the extended agreement period

Please contact Vanessa Martin at 602-501-3595 (VMartin@co.whatcom.wa.us) if you have any questions or concerns regarding this request.

