



M E M O R A N D U M

TO: Satpal 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: Julie Anderson, River and Flood Manager *JMA*
Gary Stoyka, Natural Resources Program Manager *GS*

DATE: February 9, 2026

RE: CDBG Grant Agreement with Washington State Department of Commerce for reimbursement of the 5% match paid by homeowners participating in the FEMA HMGP elevation and acquisition grants

Enclosed is a Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) HMGP Elevation and Acquisition Match agreement between Whatcom County Flood Control Zone District (FCZD) and the Washington State Department of Commerce for your review and signature.

▪ **Proposed Action**

Review and sign the CDBG 26-64210-102 HMGP Elevation and Acquisition Match Agreement (Agreement) for the reimbursement of the 5% match paid by homeowners participating in the HMGP-DR-4635-01 and DR-4635-02 elevation grants and the 5% local match paid by the FCZD for acquisitions in the HMGP-DR-4481-01 and DR-4635-03.

▪ **Background and Purpose**

In response to the November 2021 flooding, the FCZD was awarded two FEMA HMGP elevation grants and two FEMA HMGP acquisition grants in areas that experienced significant flood damage in Whatcom County. The DR-4635-01 elevation grant is nearing completion, and the DR-4481-01 acquisition grant has been fully expended. The DR-4635-02 elevation grant and the DR-4635-03 acquisition grant are awaiting final award. The HMGP elevation grants reimburse 95% of the budget for each project. The remaining 5% local match is paid by the homeowner or the FCZD.

In June of this year, the FCZD was awarded the CDBG FEMA Match Elevation Program grant, the primary intent of which was to reimburse homeowners for the 5% match. However, certain programmatic and administrative requirements were too inflexible to meet the specific needs of our community and the practical realities of program delivery, and thus, the grant was terminated on January 26, 2026. This new Agreement replaces the former and includes the match for the acquisition grants, as well.

- **Funding Amount and Source**

The proposed CDBG 26-64210-102 HMGP Elevation and Acquisition Match Agreement provides \$1,500,000 of Federal funding by the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD), which is funded at 100%. The FCZD has no net obligation, since the combined funding from HMGP and CDBG total 100% for all four grants.

Please contact Julie Anderson at extension 6258 if you have any questions or concerns regarding the terms of this agreement.

Encl.