



Memorandum

TO: Satpal Sidhu, County Executive
FROM: Erika Lautenbach, Director
RE: YWCA Bellingham – Lakeway Emergency Shelter Facility Acquisition Contract
DATE: AUGUST 23, 2024

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

- **Background and Purpose**

This contract provides funding to support the acquisition of a 20-unit emergency shelter facility intended to house up to 30 women and accompanied children. This facility will expand and formalize YWCA's emergency housing and case management programs and assist homeless and chronically homeless female identifying individuals and those with children in seeking and thriving in permanent housing options.

This project meets the eligibility requirements for HB 1590 funding as authorized under RCW 82.14.530, as the facility will provide affordable, emergency/interim housing to residents that are at or below 60% of the Area Median Income and more than 15% of the units will be occupied by residents who were previously living in or near Bellingham.

The facility shall be used actively to provide emergency shelter for women and children for twenty (20) years commencing on October 1, 2024 and as further set forth in this contract.

- **Funding Amount and Source**

Funding for this contract, in an amount not to exceed \$1,000,000, is provided by HB 1590 funds. 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 & Human Services Manager at 360-778-6055 (ABeck@co.whatcom.wa.us) if you have any questions.

Encl.