



MEMORANDUM

TO: The Honorable Members of the Whatcom County Flood Control Zone District Board of Supervisors

THROUGH: Jon Hutchings, Public Works Director *JH*

FROM: Paula J. Harris, P.E., River and Flood Manager *PJH*
Gary Stoyka, Natural Resources Manager *GS*

RE: Engineering Design Contract: Reichhardt & Ebe Engineering, Inc.
Ferndale Levee Improvement Project

DATE: July 13, 2020

Enclosed are two (2) originals of a contract for services between Whatcom County Flood Control Zone District (FCZD) and Reichhardt & Ebe Engineering, Inc. for your review and signature.

Requested Action

The FCZD respectfully requests that the FCZD Board of Supervisors authorize the County Executive to enter into a contract with the selected consultant, Reichhardt & Ebe Engineering, Inc. for engineering design services for the Ferndale Levee Improvements Project.

Background and Purpose

This contract for engineering services will provide technical analysis and engineering design for the Ferndale Levee Improvement Project. The proposed improvement project extends south from the intersection of Front Avenue and Cherry Street for approximately 1.05 miles, and includes levee segments within both Whatcom County and the City of Ferndale.

The current levee system does not provide reliable flood protection to critical infrastructure including two water and one wastewater treatment plants, as well as roads, parks, residences and farmland. The US Army Corps of Engineers has identified multiple deficiencies with the levee system including a gap in the protection, inadequate levee geometry, unwanted vegetation, toe scour and levee penetrations. A capital project was included in the System-wide Improvement Framework (SWIF) developed by the FCZD in 2016 to resolve these deficiency.

The proposed project will be conducted in phases with the first phase focusing on providing alternative analysis and developing a 30% design levee of a preferred alternative. Significant involvement with the City of Ferndale, Whatcom PUD No.1, other stakeholders and local Tribes will occur throughout this project.

Funding Amount and Source

The project is being funded through a Department of Ecology Floodplains by Design (FbD) grant, which provides for 80% reimbursement of project costs. The proposed contract amount for Phase 1 of the Ferndale Levee Improvement Project is \$528,000. Reichhardt & Ebe Engineering was selected as the most qualified consultant through RFP 20-04.

The FCZD capital budget appropriation includes \$300,000 for this project. When the 2020 budget was developed, it was anticipated that the contract would be initiated in 2019 using \$200,000 of 2019 budget authority. Due to delays in initiating the project, the scope of work and budget includes the work originally anticipated to be initiated in 2019 and the work that was to be amended to the contract in 2020. The FCZD has adequate budget authority for this expenditure due to a reduction in the costs of other contracted work.

Please contact Paula Harris at extension 6285, if you have any questions or concerns regarding the terms of this agreement.