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MEMORANDUM

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

THROUGH: Jon Hutchings, Public Works Director

FROM: Paula J. Harris, River and Flood Manager
Gary M. Stoyka, Natural Resources Manager

RE: Washington State Department of Ecology 2019-20 Floodplains by Design (FbD)
Grant SEAFBD-2019-WhCoPw-0054

DATE: April 7, 2020

Enclosed are two (2) originals of the Shorelands Floodplains by Design Grant agreement "Nooksack River: Floodplains that Work" between the Washington State Department of Ecology (DOE) and Whatcom County Flood Control Zone District (FCZD) for your review and signature. This agreement is time-critical as described below.

Background and Purpose

This grant agreement provides Floodplains by Design grant funding at an 80/20 cost-share for advancing five capital projects in the FCZD's flood hazard reduction program and supporting the agricultural community participation in the Floodplain Integrated Planning (FLIP) process. The capital projects supported by the grant are:

- Jones Creek deflection berm – acquisition of land/easements needed for construction
- Glacier-Gallup alluvial fan restoration – feasibility and preliminary design
- Ferndale Levee improvement – preliminary design
- Reach 4 Levee reconfiguration – acquisition of land/easements
- Lynden Levee improvement – final design and construction

The grant also provides funding to support the agricultural community's consultant and farmers in participating in the FLIP process to update the Lower Nooksack River Comprehensive Flood Hazard Management Plan and implement early action projects consistent with the plan. This grant is supporting the acquisition of a property needed for future levee improvements which has already been approved by the Board of Supervisors and is scheduled to close by the end of April.

This agreement is time-critical because:

- **Funding provided in this agreement is needed for the purchase of property that is scheduled to close by the end of April.**
- **Reimbursable expenditures have been occurring since July 2019. There is a need to minimize the time lapse between expenditures and grant reimbursement. Funding Amount and Source**

The total cost of this grant agreement is \$7,550,000, with \$6,040,000 (80%) provided by the Department of Ecology and \$1,510,000 (20%) provided by the FCZD and project partners. There are sufficient funds in the 2020 Flood Control Zone District budget for expenditures proposed for 2020. Funding for 2021-2023 will be included in those budgets.

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

Encls.