



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: September 19, 2025

RE: CDBG DR-26-64211-007 Grant Agreement with Washington State Department of Commerce for reimbursement of the 5% match paid by homeowners participating in the FEMA HMGP-DR-4635-01 and 4635-02 elevation grants

Enclosed is a Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) FEMA Match Elevation Program 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 DR-26-64211-007 FEMA Match Elevation Program Agreement (Agreement) for the reimbursement of the 5% match paid by homeowners participating in the FEMA HMGP-DR-4635-01 and DR-4635-02 elevation grants.

▪ Background and Purpose

In response to the November 2021 flooding, the FCZD applied for and was awarded two FEMA HMGP grants to elevate homes in areas that experienced the most significant flood damage in Whatcom County. The DR-4635-01 grant is currently being spent on elevating the first 11 structures, and the DR-4635-02 grant is awaiting final award to elevate another 16 structures. The HMGP elevation grants reimburse 95% of the budgeted construction cost for each elevation project. The remaining 5% is paid by the homeowner as the match. In June of this year, the FCZD was awarded the CDBG FEMA Match Elevation Program grant, the primary intent of which is to reimburse homeowners for the 5% match, and the remaining balance is to be used for cost overruns.

▪ Funding Amount and Source

The proposed CDBG DR-26-64211-007 FEMA Match Elevation Program Agreement provides \$600,000 of Federal funding by the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD),

which is funded at 100%. The FCZD will have no net obligation, since the grant funds will be passed-through to the homeowners.

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

Encl.