



MEMORANDUM

TO: Honorable Whatcom County Councilmembers
Honorable Satpal Sidhu, Whatcom County Executive

THROUGH: Mark Personius, PDS Director ^{MP}

FROM: Becky Snijder van Wissenkerke, PDR Program Administrator

RE: Whatcom Land Trust Contract

DATE: December 18, 2020

Enclosed are two (2) originals of the contract between Whatcom Land Trust and Whatcom County for your review and signature.

▪ **Background and Purpose**

Since the creation of the Purchase of Development Rights program in 2002, Whatcom County has partnered with the Whatcom Land Trust to co-hold easements. Through this partnership, a total of 30 conservation easements have been purchased. This contract will continue the Whatcom Land Trust's assistance with conservation easement baseline inventory development, monitoring, and enforcement. This contract uses an updated formula for calculating these associated costs, which accounts for increased property insurance and staffing costs.

▪ **Funding Amount and Source**

Under the new contract, the County will pay Whatcom Land Trust (WLT) as follows:

1. For easement monitoring:
 - a. A minimum fee of \$18,000 per easement, or
 - b. A 5% fee on the easement price, whichever is greater, but not to exceed \$24,000 per easement.
2. In addition, the County shall reimburse WLT for all out of pocket costs incurred in acquiring conservation easements such as, but not limited to, costs associated with the creation of the baseline documentation and surveys.

Funding would come from the Conservation Futures Fund.

Please contact Becky Snijder van Wissenkerke at extension 5956 if you have any questions or concerns regarding the terms of this agreement.

Encl. Contract for Services Agreement