

**WHATCOM COUNTY CONTRACT  
INFORMATION SHEET**

Whatcom County Contract No.  
**202010024**

Originating Department:	Whatcom County Assessor's Office
Division/Program: <i>(i.e. Dept. Division and Program)</i>	
Contract or Grant Administrator:	Rebecca Xczar
Contractor's / Agency Name:	The Master's Touch, LLC

Is this a New Contract?    If not, is this an Amendment or Renewal to an Existing Contract?    Yes     No

Yes     No     If Amendment or Renewal, (per WCC 3.08.100 (a)) Original Contract #: \_\_\_\_\_

Does contract require Council Approval?    Yes     No     If No, include WCC: \_\_\_\_\_

Already approved? Council Approved Date: \_\_\_\_\_ (Exclusions see: Whatcom County Codes 3.06.010, 3.08.090 and 3.08.100)

Is this a grant agreement?    Yes     No     If yes, grantor agency contract number(s): \_\_\_\_\_ CFDA#: \_\_\_\_\_

Is this contract grant funded?    Yes     No     If yes, Whatcom County grant contract number(s): \_\_\_\_\_

Is this contract the result of a RFP or Bid process?    Contract \_\_\_\_\_

Yes     No     If yes, RFP and Bid number(s): \_\_\_\_\_ Cost Center: 300

Is this agreement excluded from E-Verify?    No     Yes     If no, include Attachment D Contractor Declaration form.

If YES, indicate exclusion(s) below:

Professional services agreement for certified/licensed professional.     Goods and services provided due to an emergency

Contract work is for less than \$100,000.     Contract for Commercial off the shelf items (COTS).

Contract work is for less than 120 days.     Work related subcontract less than \$25,000.

Interlocal Agreement (between Governments).     Public Works - Local Agency/Federally Funded FHWA.

<p>Contract Amount:(sum of original contract amount and any prior amendments): \$ <u>22,600</u></p> <p>This Amendment Amount: \$ _____</p> <p>Total Amended Amount: \$ _____</p>	<p>Council approval required for; all property leases, contracts or bid awards <b>exceeding \$40,000</b>, and professional service contract amendments that have an increase greater than \$10,000 or 10% of contract amount, whichever is greater, <b>except when:</b></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Exercising an option contained in a contract previously approved by the council.</li> <li>2. Contract is for design, construction, r-o-w acquisition, prof. services, or other capital costs approved by council in a capital budget appropriation ordinance.</li> <li>3. Bid or award is for supplies.</li> <li>4. Equipment is included in Exhibit "B" of the Budget Ordinance.</li> <li>5. Contract is for manufacturer's technical support and hardware maintenance of electronic systems and/or technical support and software maintenance from the developer of proprietary software currently used by Whatcom County.</li> </ol>
<p>Summary of Scope:</p>	

Provide printing, mailing, and delivery services including eNotices for change of value notices provided to taxpayers. Provide printing, mailing, and delivery services including eNotices for personal property asset listings.

Term of Contract: Ond year	Expiration Date: September 30, 2021
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Contract Routing:	1. Prepared by: <u>Kathy Zegers</u>	Date: <u>10/6/20</u>
	2. Attorney signoff: <u>Brandon Waldron</u>	Date: _____
	3. AS Finance reviewed: <u>M Caldwell</u>	Date: <u>10/7/2020</u>
	4. IT reviewed (if IT related): _____	Date: _____
	5. Contractor signed: _____	Date: _____
	6. Submitted to Exec.: _____	Date: <u>10/22/2020</u>
	7. Council approved (if necessary): _____	Date: _____
	8. Executive signed: _____	Date: _____
	9. Original to Council: _____	Date: _____

Whatcom County Contract No.  
202010024

**CONTRACT FOR SERVICES**  
**Between Whatcom County and The Master's Touch, LLC**

The Master's Touch, LLC, hereinafter called **Contractor**, and Whatcom County, hereinafter referred to as **County**, agree and contract as set forth in this Agreement, including:

- General Conditions, pp. 3 to 9,
- Exhibit A (Scope of Work), pp. 10 to 11,
- Exhibit B (Compensation), pp. 12 to \_\_\_\_\_,

Copies of these items are attached hereto and incorporated herein by this reference as if fully set forth herein.

The term of this Agreement shall commence on the 1st day of October, 20 20, and shall, unless terminated or renewed as elsewhere provided in the Agreement, terminate on the 30th day of September, 20 21.

The general purpose or objective of this Agreement is to: provide printing, mailing, and delivery services including eNotices for change of value notices provided to taxpayers, as more fully and definitively described in Exhibit A hereto. The language of Exhibit A controls in case of any conflict between it and that provided here.

The maximum consideration for the initial term of this agreement or for any renewal term shall not exceed \$ 22,600. The Contract Number, set forth above, shall be included on all billings or correspondence in connection therewith.

Contractor acknowledges and by signing this contract agrees that the Indemnification provisions set forth in Paragraphs 11.1, 21.1, 30.1, 31.2, 32.1, 34.2, and 34.3, if included, are totally and fully part of this contract and have been mutually negotiated by the parties.

Each person signing this Contract represents and warrants that he or she is duly authorized and has legal capacity to execute and deliver this Contract.


**IN WITNESS WHEREOF**, the parties have executed this Agreement this 22nd day of October, 20 20.

**CONTRACTOR:**

*The Master's Touch, LLC*

\_\_\_\_\_  
*Jim Cote, President*

Each signatory below to this Contract warrants that he/she is the authorized agent of the respective party; and that he/she has the authority to enter into the contract and to bind the party thereto.

DocuSigned by:  
 10/28/2020  
\_\_\_\_\_  
AB0ED5E4DD5B4A8  
*Jim Cote, President*

[masters@themastertouch.com](mailto:masters@themastertouch.com)

**WHATCOM COUNTY:**

**Recommended for Approval:**

Rebecca Xezar 10/22/2020  
Rebecca Xezar, County Assessor Date

**Approved For Form:**

Brandon Waldron 10/26/2020  
Brandon Waldron, Civil Prosecuting Attorney Date

**Approved:**

Accepted for Whatcom County:

DocuSigned by:  
Satpal Sidhu 10/28/2020  
By: Satpal Singh Sidhu, Whatcom County Executive

**CONTRACTOR INFORMATION:**

\_\_\_\_\_  
*The Master's Touch, LLC*

\_\_\_\_\_  
*Jim Cote', President*

Address:

\_\_\_\_\_

Mailing Address:

1405 N. Ash St  
Spokane, WA 99201

## GENERAL CONDITIONS

### **Series 00-09: Provisions Related to Scope and Nature of Services**

#### 0.1 Scope of Services:

The Contractor agrees to provide to the County services and any materials as set forth in the project narrative identified as Exhibit "A", during the agreement period. No material, labor, or facilities will be furnished by the County, unless otherwise provided for in the Agreement.

### **Series 10-19: Provisions Related to Term and Termination**

#### 10.1 Term:

Services provided by Contractor prior to or after the term of this contract shall be performed at the expense of Contractor and are not compensable under this contract unless both parties hereto agree to such provision in writing. The term of this Agreement may be extended by mutual agreement of the parties; provided, however, that the Agreement is in writing and signed by both parties.

#### 10.2 Extension:

The duration of this Agreement may be extended by mutual written consent of the parties, for a period of up to one year, and for a total of no longer than three years.

#### 11.1 Termination for Default:

If the Contractor defaults by failing to perform any of the obligations of the contract or becomes insolvent or is declared bankrupt or commits any act of bankruptcy or insolvency or makes an assignment for the benefit of creditors, the County may, by depositing written notice to the Contractor in the U.S. mail, first class postage prepaid, terminate the contract, and at the County's option, obtain performance of the work elsewhere. Termination shall be effective upon Contractor's receipt of the written notice, or within three (3) days of the mailing of the notice, whichever occurs first. If the contract is terminated for default, the Contractor shall not be entitled to receive any further payments under the contract until all work called for has been fully performed. Any extra cost or damage to the County resulting from such default(s) shall be deducted from any money due or coming due to the Contractor. The Contractor shall bear any extra expenses incurred by the County in completing the work, including all increased costs for completing the work, and all damage sustained, or which may be sustained by the County by reason of such default.

#### 11.2 Termination for Reduction in Funding:

In the event that funding from State, Federal or other sources is withdrawn, reduced, or limited in any way after the effective date of this Agreement, and prior to its normal completion, the County may summarily terminate this Agreement as to the funds withdrawn, reduced, or limited, notwithstanding any other termination provisions of this Agreement. If the level of funding withdrawn, reduced or limited is so great that the County deems that the continuation of the programs covered by this Agreement is no longer in the best interest of the County, the County may summarily terminate this Agreement in whole, notwithstanding any other termination provisions of this Agreement. Termination under this section shall be effective upon receipt of written notice as specified herein, or within three days of the mailing of the notice, whichever occurs first.

11.3 Termination for Public Convenience:

The County may terminate the Agreement in whole or in part whenever the County determines, in its sole discretion, that such termination is in the interests of the County. Whenever the Agreement is terminated in accordance with this paragraph, the Contractor shall be entitled to payment for actual work performed at unit contract prices for completed items of work. An equitable adjustment in the contract price for partially completed items of work will be made, but such adjustment shall not include provision for loss of anticipated profit on deleted or uncompleted work. Termination of this Agreement by the County at any time during the term, whether for default or convenience, shall not constitute breach of contract by the County.

**Series 20-29: Provisions Related to Consideration and Payments**

20.1 Accounting and Payment for Contractor Services:

Payment to the Contractor for services rendered under this Agreement shall be as set forth in Exhibit "B." Where Exhibit "B" requires payments by the County, payment shall be based upon written claims supported, unless otherwise provided in Exhibit "B," by documentation of units of work actually performed and amounts earned, including, where appropriate, the actual number of days worked each month, total number of hours for the month, and the total dollar payment requested, so as to comply with municipal auditing requirements.

Unless specifically stated in Exhibit "B" or approved in writing in advance by the official executing this Agreement for the County or his designee (hereinafter referred to as the "Administrative Officer") the County will not reimburse the Contractor for any costs or expenses incurred by the Contractor in the performance of this contract. Where required, the County shall, upon receipt of appropriate documentation, compensate the Contractor, no more often than monthly, in accordance with the County's customary procedures, pursuant to the fee schedule set forth in Exhibit "B."

21.1 Taxes:

The Contractor understands and acknowledges that the County will not withhold Federal or State income taxes. Where required by State or Federal law, the Contractor authorizes the County to withhold for any taxes other than income taxes (i.e., Medicare). All compensation received by the Contractor will be reported to the Internal Revenue Service at the end of the calendar year in accordance with the applicable IRS regulations. It is the responsibility of the Contractor to make the necessary estimated tax payments throughout the year, if any, and the Contractor is solely liable for any tax obligation arising from the Contractor's performance of this Agreement. The Contractor hereby agrees to indemnify the County against any demand to pay taxes arising from the Contractor's failure to pay taxes on compensation earned pursuant to this Agreement.

The County will pay sales and use taxes imposed on goods or services acquired hereunder as required by law. The Contractor must pay all other taxes, including, but not limited to, Business and Occupation Tax, taxes based on the Contractor's gross or net income, or personal property to which the County does not hold title. The County is exempt from Federal Excise Tax.

22.1 Withholding Payment

In the event the County's Administrative Officer determines that the Contractor has failed to perform any obligation under this Agreement within the times set forth in this Agreement, then the County may withhold from amounts otherwise due and payable to Contractor the amount determined by the County as necessary to cure the default, until the Administrative Officer determines that such failure to perform has been cured. Withholding under this clause shall not be deemed a breach entitling Contractor to termination or damages, provided that the County promptly gives notice in writing to the Contractor of the nature of the default or failure to perform, and in no case more than 10 days after it determines to withhold amounts otherwise due. A determination of the Administrative Officer set forth in a notice to the Contractor of the action required and/or the amount required to cure any alleged failure to perform shall be deemed conclusive, except to the extent that the Contractor acts within the times and in strict accord with the provisions of the Disputes clause of this Agreement. The County may act in accordance with any determination of the Administrative Officer which has become conclusive under this clause, without prejudice to any other remedy under the Agreement, to take all or any of the following actions: (1) cure any failure or default, (2) to pay any amount so required to be paid and to charge the same to the account of the Contractor, (3) to set off any amount so paid or incurred from amounts due or to become due the Contractor. In the event the Contractor obtains relief upon a claim under the Disputes clause, no penalty or damages shall accrue to Contractor by reason of good faith withholding by the County under this clause.

23.1 Labor Standards:

The Contractor agrees to comply with all applicable state and federal requirements, including but not limited to those pertaining to payment of wages and working conditions, in accordance with RCW 39.12.040, the Prevailing Wage Act, the Americans with Disabilities Act of

1990; the Davis-Bacon Act, and the Contract Work Hours and Safety Standards Act providing for weekly payment of prevailing wages, minimum overtime pay, and providing that no laborer or mechanic shall be required to work in surroundings or under conditions which are unsanitary, hazardous, or dangerous to health and safety as determined by regulations promulgated by the Federal Secretary of Labor and the State of Washington.

**Series 30-39: Provisions Related to Administration of Agreement**

30.1 Independent Contractor:

The Contractor's services shall be furnished by the Contractor as an independent contractor, and nothing herein contained shall be construed to create a relationship of employer-employee or master-servant, but all payments made hereunder and all services performed shall be made and performed pursuant to this Agreement by the Contractor as an independent contractor.

The Contractor acknowledges that the entire compensation for this Agreement is specified in Exhibit "B" and the Contractor is not entitled to any benefits including, but not limited to: vacation pay, holiday pay, sick leave pay, medical, dental, or other insurance benefits, or any other rights or privileges afforded to employees of the County. The Contractor represents that he/she/it maintains a separate place of business, serves clients other than the County, will report all income and expense accrued under this contract to the Internal Revenue Service, and has a tax account with the State of Washington Department of Revenue for payment of all sales and use and Business and Occupation taxes collected by the State of Washington.

Contractor will defend, indemnify and hold harmless the County, its officers, agents or employees from any loss or expense, including, but not limited to, settlements, judgments, setoffs, attorneys' fees or costs incurred by reason of claims or demands because of breach of the provisions of this paragraph

30.2 Assignment and Subcontracting:

The performance of all activities contemplated by this agreement shall be accomplished by the Contractor. No portion of this contract may be assigned or subcontracted to any other individual, firm or entity without the express and prior written approval of the County.

30.3 No Guarantee of Employment

The performance of all or part of this contract by the Contractor shall not operate to vest any employment rights whatsoever and shall not be deemed to guarantee any employment of the Contractor or any employee of the Contractor or any subcontractor or any employee of any subcontractor by the County at the present time or in the future.

31.1 Ownership of Items Produced and Public Records Act

All writings, programs, data, public records or other materials prepared by the Contractor and/or its consultants or subcontractors, in connection with performance of this Agreement, shall be the sole and absolute property of the County. If the Contractor creates any copyrightable materials or invents any patentable property, the Contractor may copyright or patent the same, but the County retains a royalty-free, nonexclusive and irrevocable license to reproduce, publish, recover, or otherwise use the materials or property and to authorize other governments to use the same for state or local governmental purposes. Contractor further agrees to make research, notes, and other work products produced in the performance of this Agreement available to the County upon request.

Ownership. Any and all data, writings, programs, public records, reports, analyses, documents, photographs, pamphlets, plans, specifications, surveys, films or any other materials created, prepared, produced, constructed, assembled, made, performed or otherwise produced by the Contractor or the Contractor's subcontractors or consultants for delivery to the County under this Contract shall be the sole and absolute property of the County. Such property shall constitute "work made for hire" as defined by the U.S. Copyright Act of 1976, 17 U.S.C. § 101, and the ownership of the copyright and any other intellectual property rights in such property shall vest in the County at the time of its creation. Ownership of the intellectual property includes the right to copyright, patent, and register, and the ability to transfer these rights. Material which the Contractor uses to perform this Contract but is not created, prepared, constructed, assembled, made, performed or otherwise produced for or paid for by the County is owned by the Contractor and is not "work made for hire" within the terms of this Agreement.

Public Records Act. This Contract and all records associated with this Contract shall be available for inspection and copying by the public where required by the Public Records Act, Chapter 42.56 RCW (the "Act"). To the extent that public records then in the custody of the Contractor are needed for the County to respond to a request under the Act, as determined by the County, the Contractor agrees to make them promptly available to the County at no cost to the County. If the Contractor considers any portion of any record provided to the County under this Agreement, whether in electronic or hard copy form, to be protected from disclosure under law, the Contractor shall clearly identify any specific information that it claims to be confidential or proprietary. If the County receives a request under the Act to inspect or copy the information so identified by the Contractor and the County determines that release of the information is

required by the Act or otherwise appropriate, the County's sole obligations shall be to notify the Contractor (a) of the request and (b) of the date that such information will be released to the requester unless the Contractor obtains a court order to enjoin that disclosure pursuant to RCW 42.56.540. If the Contractor fails to timely obtain a court order enjoining disclosure, the County will release the requested information on the date specified.

The County has, and by this section assumes, no obligation on behalf of the Contractor to claim any exemption from disclosure under the Act. The County shall not be liable to the Contractor for releasing records not clearly identified by the Contractor as confidential or proprietary. The County shall not be liable to the Contractor for any records that the County releases in compliance with this section or in compliance with an order of a court of competent jurisdiction.

The Contractor shall be liable to the requester for any and all fees, costs, penalties or damages imposed or alleged as a result of the Contractor's failure to provide adequate or timely records.

This provision and the obligations it establishes shall remain in effect after the expiration of this contract.

31.2 Patent/Copyright Infringement

Contractor will defend and indemnify the County from any claimed action, cause or demand brought against the County, to the extent such action is based on the claim that information supplied by the Contractor infringes any patent or copyright. The Contractor will pay those costs and damages attributable to any such claims that are finally awarded against the County in any action. Such defense and payments are conditioned upon the following:

A. The Contractor shall be notified promptly in writing by the County of any notice of such claim.

B. Contractor shall have the right, hereunder, at its option and expense, to obtain for the County the right to continue using the information, in the event such claim of infringement, is made, provided no reduction in performance or loss results to the County.

32.1 Confidentiality:

The Contractor, its employees, subcontractors, and their employees shall maintain the confidentiality of all information provided by the County or acquired by the Contractor in performance of this Agreement, except upon the prior written consent of the County or an order entered by a court after having acquired jurisdiction over the County. Contractor shall immediately give to the County notice of any judicial proceeding seeking disclosure of such information. Contractor shall indemnify and hold harmless the County, its officials, agents or employees from all loss or expense, including, but not limited to, settlements, judgments, setoffs, attorneys' fees and costs resulting from Contractor's breach of this provision.

33.1 Right to Review:

This contract is subject to review by any Federal, State or County auditor. The County or its designee shall have the right to review and monitor the financial and service components of this program by whatever means are deemed expedient by the Administrative Officer or by the County Auditor's Office. Such review may occur with or without notice and may include, but is not limited to, on-site inspection by County agents or employees, inspection of all records or other materials which the County deems pertinent to the Agreement and its performance, and any and all communications with or evaluations by service recipients under this Agreement. The Contractor shall preserve and maintain all financial records and records relating to the performance of work under this Agreement for three (3) years after contract termination, and shall make them available for such review, within Whatcom County, State of Washington, upon request. Contractor also agrees to notify the Administrative Officer in advance of any inspections, audits, or program review by any individual, agency, or governmental unit whose purpose is to review the services provided within the terms of this Agreement. If no advance notice is given to the Contractor, then the Contractor agrees to notify the Administrative Officer as soon as it is practical.

34.1 Insurance: *Not Applicable*

34.3 Defense & Indemnity Agreement: *Not applicable*

35.1 Non-Discrimination in Employment

The County's policy is to provide equal opportunity in all terms, conditions and privileges of employment for all qualified applicants and employees without regard to race, color, creed, religion, national origin, sex, sexual orientation, age, marital status, disability, or veteran status. The Contractor shall comply with all laws prohibiting discrimination against any employee or applicant for employment on the grounds of race, color, creed, religion, national origin, sex, sexual orientation, age, marital status, disability, or veteran status, except where such constitutes a bona fide occupational qualification.

Furthermore, in those cases in which the Contractor is governed by such laws, the Contractor shall take affirmative action to insure that applicants are employed, and treated during employment, without regard to their race, color, creed, religion, national origin, sex, age, marital status, sexual orientation, disability, or veteran status, except where such constitutes a bona fide occupational qualification. Such action shall include, but not be limited to: advertising, hiring, promotions, layoffs or terminations, rate of pay or other forms of compensation benefits, selection for training including apprenticeship, and participation in recreational and educational activities. In all solicitations or advertisements for employees placed by them or on their behalf, the Contractor shall state that all qualified applicants will receive consideration for employment without regard to race, color, religion, sex or national origin.

The foregoing provisions shall also be binding upon any subcontractor, provided that the foregoing provision shall not apply to contracts or subcontractors for standard commercial supplies or raw materials, or to sole proprietorships with no employees.

35.2 Non-Discrimination in Client Services: Not Applicable

36.1 Waiver of Noncompetition: Not Applicable

36.2 Conflict of Interest

If at any time prior to commencement of, or during the term of this Agreement, Contractor or any of its employees involved in the performance of this Agreement shall have or develop an interest in the subject matter of this Agreement that is potentially in conflict with the County's interest, then Contractor shall immediately notify the County of the same. The notification of the County shall be made with sufficient specificity to enable the County to make an informed judgment as to whether or not the County's interest may be compromised in any manner by the existence of the conflict, actual or potential. Thereafter, the County may require the Contractor to take reasonable steps to remove the conflict of interest. The County may also terminate this contract according to the provisions herein for termination.

37.1 Administration of Contract

This Agreement shall be subject to all laws, rules, and regulations of the United States of America, the State of Washington, and political subdivisions of the State of Washington. The Contractor also agrees to comply with applicable federal, state, county or municipal standards for licensing, certification and operation of facilities and programs, and accreditation and licensing of individuals.

The County hereby appoints, and the Contractor hereby accepts, the Whatcom County Executive, and his or her designee, as the County's representative, hereinafter referred to as the Administrative Officer, for the purposes of administering the provisions of this Agreement, including the County's right to receive and act on all reports and documents, and any auditing performed by the County related to this Agreement. The Administrative Officer for purposes of this agreement is:

Rebecca Xczar, County Assessor  
311 Grand Avenue, Suite 106  
Bellingham, WA 98225

37.2 Notice:

Any notices or communications required or permitted to be given by this Contract must be (i) given in writing and (ii) personally delivered or mailed, by prepaid, certified mail or overnight courier, or transmitted by electronic mail transmission (including PDF), to the party to whom such notice or communication is directed, to the mailing address or regularly-monitored electronic mail address of such party as follows:

The Master's Touch, LLC

1405 N. Ash St  
Spokane WA 99201

Attention: Jim Cote'

Telephone: (509) 326-7475  
1-800-301-1347

Email: [masters@themastertouch.com](mailto:masters@themastertouch.com)



Any such notice or communication shall be deemed to have been given on (i) the day such notice or communication is personally delivered, (ii) three (3) days after such notice or communication is mailed by prepaid certified or registered mail, (iii) one (1) working day after such notice or communication is sent by overnight courier, or (iv) the day such notice or communication is sent electronically, provided that the sender has received a confirmation of such electronic transmission. A party may, for purposes of this Agreement, change his, her or its address, email address or the person to whom a notice or other communication is marked to the attention of, by giving notice of such change to the other party pursuant to this Section.

- 37.3 If agreed by the parties, this Contract may be executed by Email transmission and PDF signature and Email transmission and PDF signature shall constitute an original for all purposes.
- 38.1 Certification of Public Works Contractor's Status under State Law: Not Applicable
- 38.2 Certification Regarding Federal Debarment, Suspension, Ineligibility and Voluntary Exclusion - Lower Tier Covered Transactions: Not Applicable
- 38.3 E-Verify: Not Applicable

**Series 40-49: Provisions Related to Interpretation of Agreement and Resolution of Disputes**

- 40.1 Modifications:  
Either party may request changes in the Agreement. Any and all agreed modifications, to be valid and binding upon either party, shall be in writing and signed by both of the parties.
- 40.2 Contractor Commitments, Warranties and Representations: Not Applicable
- 41.1 Severability:  
If any term or condition of this contract or the application thereof to any person(s) or circumstances is held invalid, such invalidity shall not affect other terms, conditions or applications which can be given effect without the invalid term, condition or application. To this end, the terms and conditions of this contract are declared severable.
- 41.2 Waiver:  
Waiver of any breach or condition of this contract shall not be deemed a waiver of any prior or subsequent breach. No term or condition of this contract shall be held to be waived, modified or deleted except by an instrument, in writing, signed by the parties hereto. The failure of the County to insist upon strict performance of any of the covenants and agreements of this Agreement, or to exercise any option herein conferred in any one or more instances, shall not be construed to be a waiver or relinquishment of any such, or any other covenants or agreements, but the same shall be and remain in full force and effect.
- 42.1 Disputes:
- a. General:  
Differences between the Contractor and the County, arising under and by virtue of the Contract Documents, shall be brought to the attention of the County at the earliest possible time in order that such matters may be settled or other appropriate action promptly taken. Except for such objections as are made of record in the manner hereinafter specified and within the time limits stated, the records, orders, rulings, instructions, and decisions of the Administrative Officer shall be final and conclusive.
  - b. Notice of Potential Claims:  
The Contractor shall not be entitled to additional compensation which otherwise may be payable, or to extension of time for (1) any act or failure to act by the Administrative Officer or the County, or (2) the happening of any event or occurrence, unless the Contractor has given the County a written Notice of Potential Claim within ten (10) days of the commencement of the act, failure, or event giving rise to the claim, and before final payment by the County. The written Notice of Potential Claim shall set forth the reasons for which the Contractor believes additional compensation or extension of time is due, the nature of the cost involved, and insofar as possible, the amount of the potential claim. Contractor shall keep full and complete daily records of the work performed, labor and material used, and all costs and additional time claimed to be additional.
  - c. Detailed Claim:  
The Contractor shall not be entitled to claim any such additional compensation, or extension of time, unless within thirty (30) days of the accomplishment of the portion of the work from which the claim arose, and before final payment by the County, the Contractor has given

the County a detailed written statement of each element of cost or other compensation requested and of all elements of additional time required, and copies of any supporting documents evidencing the amount or the extension of time claimed to be due.

- d. Arbitration: Not Applicable
- e. The parties may agree in writing signed by both parties that a claim or dispute may be brought in Whatcom County Superior Court rather than mediation or arbitration.

*Unless otherwise specified herein, this Contract shall be governed by the laws of Whatcom County and the State of Washington.*

43.1 Venue and Choice of Law:

In the event that any litigation should arise concerning the construction or interpretation of any of the terms of this Agreement, the venue of such action of litigation shall be in the courts of the State of Washington in and for the County of Whatcom. This Agreement shall be governed by the laws of the State of Washington.

44.1 Survival:

The provisions of paragraphs 11.1, 11.2, 11.3, 21.1, 22.1, 30.1, 31.1, 31.2, 32.1, 33.1, 34.2, 34.3, 36.1, 40.2, 41.2, 42.1, and 43.1, if utilized, shall survive, notwithstanding the termination or invalidity of this Agreement for any reason.

45.1 Entire Agreement

This written Agreement, comprised of the writings signed or otherwise identified and attached hereto, represents the entire Agreement between the parties and supersedes any prior oral statements, discussions or understandings between the parties.

**EXHIBIT "A"**  
(SCOPE OF WORK)

The following specifications apply to all statement printing and mailing services provided under this Agreement.

Contractor will provide assistance as needed by the Assessor to help create the project.

The Assessor will forward raw data file to contractor and contractor will print statements on a form provided by contractor.

Data files will be submitted by the Assessor via email or by using Contractor's file transfer service: tmt.wetransfer.com. Contractor will confirm receipt of data file the same day or the following day.

Contractor will provide PDF proofs of the file before printing. Assessor is allowed up to 3 variable data proofs at no charge.

Upon final proof approval, contractor will begin final production.

The contractor will perform all Coding Accuracy Support System (CASS) updating and presorting for automation first class mailings. Contractor will process addresses through NCOA to comply with USPS Move update and report defective addresses to customer.

The contractor will image the variable data to face of 8 ½ x 11 form. Contractor will format printed pages for intelligent inserting. Contractor will fold and insert the notices into a #10 window mailing envelope. Contractor will group identical name and address statements into #10 envelopes.

Contractor will seal and presort for best automation discount postage.

Contractor will quality check and sleeve.

Contractor will deliver notices to the USPS sectional center facility on prior agreement or 7-10 workdays after final approval.

The contractor will provide one PDF file with a copy of all statements.

A postage deposit will be required in advance of mailing.

One 3.5 x 8.5 eNoticesOnline informational insert and one 3.5 x 8.5 Covid19 insert will be added to each envelope.

The contractor will not remove duplicates and will mail to all records.

Contractor will provide Online presentment of PDF statement a replica of what is mailed with Email notification to owner that statement is ready for viewing.

Contractor will provide One Code Authentication for multiple parcels when name and address are identical between two or more parcels.

Contractor will upload to eNotices PDFs of exact statements mailed within five workdays after final production PDF proof approval.

Contractor will image variable data two colors to face and back of 8 ½ x 11 Statement white 24#.

When two or more statements mail to the exact same name and address, contractor will enclose 2-8 statements in commercial size envelopes up to a maximum of 3 envelopes. Only the first envelope will include any collateral material (inserts, reply envelopes, etc.). After that, a large, flat size envelope will be used to enclose all.

Contractor to provide security for storage and handling of data and imaged forms and will have a back-up facility to handle the project in the event production stoppages of any kind.

All writings, programs, data, public records or other materials prepared by the Contractor in connection with this job will be the sole and absolute property of Whatcom County.

The vendor will maintain the confidentiality of all information provided by the Assessor or acquired by the vendor in performance of this job.

**EXHIBIT "B"**  
(COMPENSATION)

As consideration for the professional services, the County agrees to reimburse the contractor as follows:

Real Property

- A. Statement Printing (exclusive of postage): ..... \$0.07 ea
- B. Paper Stock – Statement white 24# ..... Included in cost of Line A
- C. #10 Universal Window envelope on 24# white wove ..... \$0.032 ea
- D. One-time setup of \$500 ..... Fee Waived
- E. One PDF file with a copy of all statements ..... \$0.00
- F. COVID19 Insert ..... Billed separately
- G. eNoticesOnline information insert – 3.5 x 8.5 ..... \$0.15 ea

Personal Property

- A. One-time setup fee for mailing ..... \$500
- B. Statement Printing (exclusive of postage) ..... \$0.126 per parcel
- C. Paper Stock – Statement white 24# ..... Included in cost of Line B
- D. Additional 8 ½ x 11 sheet ..... \$0.04 ea
- E. One PDF file with a copy of all statements ..... \$0.00
- F. #10 Universal Window envelope on 24# white wove ..... \$0.04 ea
- G. “Hand Insert” for many page listings – 9 x 12 envelope
- H. Return Envelope – 24# yellow wove..... \$0.05 ea
- I. eNoticesOnline information insert – 3.5 x 8.5 ..... \$0.15 ea

Mail Services

- A. Postage Deposit ..... Billed in Advance
- B. Automation postage ..... 5 digit rate at \$0.389

eNotices

- A. One-time setup fee..... \$800.00
- B. Registered eNoticesOnline.com statements..... \$0.12 per statement
- C. PDF Upload (includes PDF generation, processing, upload and storage for all PDFs – Also includes maintenance and online help system) ..... \$0.01 per parcel
- D. Printed logo advertisement on #10 outgoing envelope..... No charge