



Whatcom County

COUNTY COURTHOUSE
311 Grand Avenue, Ste #105
Bellingham, WA 98225-4038
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Agenda Bill Master Report

File Number: AB2020-166

File ID:	AB2020-166	Version:	1	Status:	Adopted
File Created:	04/01/2020	Entered by:	THelms@co.whatcom.wa.us		
Department:	County Executive's Office	File Type:	Ordinance		
Assigned to:	Council (Special)	Final Action:	04/03/2020		
Agenda Date:	04/03/2020	Enactment #:	ORD 2020-016		

Primary Contact Email: tschroed@co.whatcom.wa.us

TITLE FOR AGENDA ITEM:

Emergency ordinance establishing the COVID-19 Emergency Response Fund and establishing a budget for the COVID-19 Emergency Response Fund

SUMMARY STATEMENT OR LEGAL NOTICE LANGUAGE:

Requesting authorization to establish a new special revenue fund titled "COVID-19 Emergency Response Fund" and appropriate \$1,750,000 in the fund

HISTORY OF LEGISLATIVE FILE

Date:	Acting Body:	Action:	Sent To:
04/03/2020	Council (Special)	ADOPTED	
		Aye: 7	Browne, Buchanan, Byrd, Donovan, Frazey, Elenbaas, and Kershner
		Nay: 0	
		Absent: 0	

Attachments: Emergency Ordinance, Information from the Administration for 4.3.2020.pdf

PROPOSED BY: Executive
INTRODUCTION DATE: 3/24/2020

ORDINANCE NO. 2020-016

**ESTABLISHING THE COVID-19 EMERGENCY RESPONSE FUND AND
ESTABLISHING A BUDGET FOR THE COVID-19 EMERGENCY RESPONSE FUND
(EMERGENCY ORDINANCE)**

WHEREAS, the County Executive has issued a Proclamation of Emergency to combat the spread of the COVID-19 virus; and,

WHEREAS, Whatcom County Code chapter 2.02.135 provides for an emergency ordinance to become immediately effective when approved by two thirds vote of the County Council and signature of the County Executive; and,

WHEREAS, the County Council adopted an initial emergency funding ordinance of \$250,000 in the General Fund on March 10, 2020; and,

WHEREAS, the County Council adopted an additional \$250,000 from the General Fund on March 24, 2020; and,

WHEREAS, it has become apparent that adequate COVID-19 response will require significantly more resources; and,

WHEREAS, the County needs a special revenue fund to account for restricted and committed revenues which will be used for the expanded coronavirus response; and,

WHEREAS, \$250,000 will be transferred from the General Fund to this new special revenue fund; and,

WHEREAS, the County is also anticipating a \$500,000 contribution from the City of Bellingham; and,

WHEREAS, the Executive is also proposing a \$1 million interfund cash flow loan from the Public Utilities Improvement Fund (EDI Fund); and,

FINDINGS: The spread of the COVID-19 virus presents a continuing threat to the health and safety of the citizens of Whatcom County. The County needs additional budget appropriation and a separate fund to adequately account for resources committed to effectively respond to this crisis,

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT ORDAINED by the Whatcom County Council that a new special revenue fund is hereby established titled the "COVID-19 Emergency Response Fund",

BE IT FURTHER ORDAINED, that the fund is approved with an initial budget of \$1,750,000 as presented in attached Exhibit A.

ADOPTED this 3rd day of April, 2020.

ATTEST:


Dana Brown-Davis, Council Clerk

APPROVED AS TO FORM:


Civil Deputy Prosecutor

WHATCOM COUNTY COUNCIL
WHATCOM COUNTY, WASHINGTON


Barry Buchanan, Chair of Council

Approved () Denied


Satpal Sidhu, County Executive

Date: April 3, 2020

Supplemental Budget Request

Status: Pending

Non-Departmental

Suppl ID # 3046

Fund

Cost Center

Originator: M Caldwell

Year 2 2020

Add'l FTE

Priority 1

Name of Request: COVID-19 Emergency Response Fund budget

X  (initial)
 Department Head Signature (Required on Hard Copy Submission) 4/2/2020
 Date

Costs:	Object	Object Description	Amount Requested
	2241	Interfund Loans Payable	(\$1,000,000)
	4337.1001	City of Bham Support	(\$500,000)
	6610	Contractual Services	\$1,750,000
	8301.4530	Op Trf In - Non-Departmental	(\$250,000)
	Request Total		\$0

1a. Description of request:

Funding will be used to provide supplies and contracts needed to address life safety issues in response to the COVID-19 coronavirus emergency in Whatcom County.

1b. Primary customers:

Citizens of Whatcom County

2. Problem to be solved:

Whatcom County needs to be able to take adequate actions to stem the tide of COVID-19 in order to protect our citizens.

3a. Options / Advantages:

There are no other options.

3b. Cost savings:

Funding from the federal government in the form of FEMA assistance is eventually expected to offset 75% of the costs.

4a. Outcomes:

Whatcom County will be successful in limiting the spread of COVID-19 countywide as soon as possible.

4b. Measures:

Decrease in the number and eventual elimination of new cases

5a. Other Departments/Agencies:

Unified Command, City of Bellingham, State Military Department, Health Department, Emergency Management

5b. Name the person in charge of implementation and what they are responsible for:**6. Funding Source:**

Temporary Interfund Loan from EDI Fund, General Fund and City of Bellingham contributions.
 The current EDI Cash balance is \$15,021,000.