

ORDINANCE NO.

**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 is considering an additional \$250,000 from the General Fund in Amendment No. 8 of the 2020 Budget 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, the additional \$250,000 being considered in Amendment No. 8 will be transferred to this new special revenue fund; and,

WHEREAS, the County is also anticipating a \$250,000 contribution from the City of Bellingham; and,

WHEREAS, the Executive is also proposing a \$4 million interfund cash flow loan from the Equipment Rental & Revolving (ER&R) 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 \$4,500,000 as presented in attached Exhibit A.

ADOPTED this ____ day of _____, 2020.

ATTEST:

WHATCOM COUNTY COUNCIL
WHATCOM COUNTY, WASHINGTON

Dana Brown-Davis, Council Clerk

Barry Buchanan, Chair of Council

APPROVED AS TO FORM:

() Approved () Denied



Civil Deputy Prosecutor

Satpal Sidhu, County Executive

Date: _____

EXHIBIT A

Supplemental Budget Request

Status: Pending

Non-Departmental

Suppl ID # 3046 Fund Cost Center Originator: M Caldwell
Expenditure Type: One-Time Year 2 2020 Add'l FTE Add'l Space Priority 1

Name of Request: COVID-19 Emergency Response Fund budget

X
Department Head Signature (Required on Hard Copy Submission) Date

Costs:	Object	Object Description	Amount Requested
	2241	Interfund Loans Payable	(\$4,000,000)
	4337.1001	City of Bham Support	(\$250,000)
	6610	Contractual Services	\$4,500,000
	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 ER&R, General Fund and City of Bellingham contributions