

**WHATCOM COUNTY
SHERIFF'S OFFICE**
DONNELL "TANK" TANKSLEY
SHERIFF



PUBLIC SAFETY BUILDING
311 Grand Avenue
Bellingham, WA 98225-4038
(360) 778-6600

MEMO

To: Satpal Singh Sidhu, Whatcom County Executive

From: Sheriff Donnell "Tank" Tanksley, Director 
Matthew Klein, Deputy Director 
Sheriff's Office Division of Emergency Management

Subject: US Department of Homeland Security State Homeland Security Program Grant
Federal Fiscal Year 2025; Grant Agreement Number E26-355

Date: July 9, 2026

Enclosed is the State Homeland Security Program (SHSP) grant agreement for Federal Fiscal Year 2025 between Whatcom County Sheriff's Office Division of Emergency Management and the Washington State Military Department.

- Background and Purpose

Whatcom County Sheriff's Office Division of Emergency Management has been awarded \$58,010.00 from the US Dept of Homeland Security (DHS) State Homeland Security Program (SHSP) for Federal Fiscal Year 2025. This is a pass-through grant from DHS, through the Washington State Military Department, to Whatcom County.

DHS provides SHSP funds to support local efforts that build, sustain, and deliver core capabilities across the Prevention, Protection, Mitigation, Response, and Recovery mission areas essential to achieving the National Preparedness Goal of a secure and resilient nation. Whatcom County will utilize these funds to support planning, training, exercise, community outreach, and equipment projects that will enhance our community's resilience in the face of acts of terrorism and other catastrophic events. The \$25,070 personnel budget will fund, in part, one of DEM's Program Specialist FTEs and includes Management and Administration costs for the grant. Whatcom County has received an SHSP award annually, for similar purposes, since Federal Fiscal Year 2003.

The performance period runs from September 1, 2025 through August 31, 2028. Eligible expenses that occurred prior to the execution of this agreement are reimbursable back to the effective date.

- Funding Amount and Source

Total revenue provided by this agreement is not to exceed \$58,010 and is provided by the Washington State Military Department's Grant Agreement Number #E26-355. Funds originate from the US Department of Homeland Security, FFY2025 State Homeland Security Program, Federal Funding Identification # EMW-2025-SS-05030, Assistance Listings # (formerly CFDA#) 97.067 – 25HSGP

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(SHSP). Council authorization is required pursuant to WCC 3.06.010 for grants exceeding \$40,000 and RCW 39.34.030(2) for agreements between public agencies.

- Difference from Previous Contract

Although Whatcom County has received an SHSP award annually since Federal Fiscal Year 2003, this is the sixth year that DHS has split the award between (1) the traditional Sustainment Projects and (2) the National Priority Area Projects.

- (1) Sustainment Projects, \$58,010: Traditional SHSP funding where the recipient is given flexibility to set its own priorities within several established Sub-Project areas.
 - a. Management & Administration, \$2,570, p 55: Includes funding allotted for management and administration of the grant.
 - b. Regional Coordination, \$28,060, p 51: Includes funding to participate in regional and statewide planning efforts to strengthen multi-agency coordination and operational alignment and support local and regional training efforts.
 - c. Community Resilience, \$2,599, pp 51-52: Includes funding to develop additional public education materials focused on alert and warning messaging and preparedness information for community engagement, translate current and newly developed public education and preparedness materials to improve accessibility for diverse populations, and purchase equipment to support field deployment and operational delivery of Joint Information Center (JIC) and Public Information Officer (PIO) activities, including community engagement and incident response support.
 - d. Redundant & Survivable Communications, \$3,970, p 52: Includes funding to renew satellite data subscriptions, test and validate backup connections, and train personnel on use of mapping software.
 - e. Law Enforcement Specialty Team Equipment, \$20,811, p 53 (counts toward the LETPA \$21,811 earmark): Includes funding to law enforcement to identify and purchase Special Teams supplies/tools/equipment.
- (2) National Priority Area Projects, \$0: Competitive funding awarded for pre-approved projects in four federally-determined National Priority Areas. Whatcom County did not receive any funding for any national priority area projects.

Please contact Matt Klein (360-778-7160) if you have any questions or concerns regarding this contract.