



MEMORANDUM

TO: The Honorable Jack Louws, Whatcom County Executive for the
Whatcom County Flood Control Zone District Board of Supervisors

THROUGH: Jon Hutchings, Public Works Director, #

FROM: Gary Stoyka, Natural Resources Program Manager, (bn)
Paula J. Cooper, P.E., River and Flood Manager, #

RE: Hazard Mitigation Grant Agreement Amendment for Acquisition of
Flood-Prone Properties in Marietta

DATE: October 22, 2019

Enclosed are two (2) originals of a Hazard Mitigation Grant Program (HMGP) grant amendment between the Whatcom County Flood Control Zone District (FCZD) and the Washington State Military Department for your review and signature.

▪ Background and Purpose

The Lower Nooksack River Comprehensive Flood Hazard Management Plan, adopted in 1999 by the FCZD Board of Supervisors, recommends acquisition of flood-prone properties in Marietta as they become available. This Hazard Mitigation Grant Program agreement provides for state and federal funding for voluntary acquisition of six flood-prone residential properties in Marietta and the removal of all associated structures. One property proposed for acquisition under this grant was a former gas station and the granting agency requires that we demonstrate that the site is not contaminated before funding will be released to purchase the property. An environmental site assessment of the site revealed that gas tanks still exist on the property but soil samples collected next to the tank were not contaminated; the tanks must be removed before the grant funding can be used to purchase the property. This grant amendment allows for additional time to remove the gas tanks and to test the soil under the tanks to confirm the property is not contaminated. The grant funding will then be used to purchase the property and remove the structures. In accordance with FEMA requirements, deed restrictions will be placed on the properties to ensure the property remains in open space in perpetuity. The grant provides for the reimbursement of \$87.5% of the acquisition and demolition cost.

▪ Funding Amount and Source

Total funding for this project is \$512,350. The budget for first phase of the grant was \$342,737 for acquisition of five properties. This amendment provides funding for the second phase of the project to complete acquisition and restoration of the final property included in the grant. FEMA provides reimbursement for 75% of eligible costs and the State Military Department provides an additional 12.5%, for a net FCZD expenditure of \$64,044. This project is included in the 2019 Flood Control Zone District budget. Please contact Paula Harris at extension 6285 if you have any questions or concerns regarding the terms of this agreement.

Encl.