## WHATCOM COUNTY PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT

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## **MEMORANDUM**

TO: The Honorable Whatcom County Council

The Honorable Satpal Singh Sidhu, Whatcom County Executive

THROUGH: Elizabeth Kosa, Public Works Director DWR for EK

FROM: Gary Stoyka, Natural Resources Manager

Chris Elder, Senior Planner

RE: Designating Authorized Representative for RCO Community Forest Grant

DATE: February 20, 2024

## **Requested Action**

Staff request Council's approval of the attached Application Resolution/Authorization Form to designate County Executive Satpal Sidhu as the authorized representative as it relates to Recreation and Conservation Office (RCO) Community Forest Program Grant #22-1301.

## **Background and Purpose**

Whatcom Land Trust has applied for a \$3,000,000 grant from the RCO Community Forest Program to support acquisition of Phase 2 of the Stewart Mountain Community Forest. Whatcom County is listed as a Secondary Sponsor for this grant. As part of the application process, RCO is requiring Whatcom County to designate an Authorized Representative to execute the agreement. This form designates the County Executive as the Authorized Representative. Approval of this authorization does not commit Whatcom County to enter into a grant agreement. Staff will engage with Council in the next few months to have a focused discussion of Stewart Mountain Community Forest and identify next steps prior to the Executive entering into a grant agreement.

Please contact Chris Elder at extension 6225, if you have any questions or concerns regarding the terms of this agreement.