



## MEMORANDUM

**TO:** Whatcom County Council  
**FROM:** Tyler Schroeder, Deputy Executive  
**RE:** Lease Extension for Isolation and Quarantine Facility  
**DATE:** 04/22/2021

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The County Executive requests authorization to enter into a contract amendment between G6 Hospitality for the extended use of the hotel as an isolation and quarantine (I&Q) facility through September 30, 2021.

### ▪ **Background and Purpose**

In April, 2020 Whatcom County entered into a lease agreement with G6 Hospitality for the provision of an Isolation and Quarantine Facility. In February, a request for proposal (RFQ #2021-07) was advertised for a COVID Temporary Housing Facility. Twenty-three establishments were sent direct invitations to respond. The Planning Section of Whatcom Unified Command also worked with Bellingham/Whatcom County Tourism to promote the RFQ to area lodging facilities.

With no responses received for the RFP, the Administration believes it is in the public's best interest to extend the lease agreement through September, 2021. Thankfully, COVID outbreaks are decreasing and numbers are down. However, there still remains a community need for an isolation and quarantine facility that can be used for residents that don't have the opportunity or resources to self-quarantine such as our homeless population and agricultural workers that will be coming to our community to work over the summer.

The extension of this lease for an I&Q facility will continue to help prevent further spread of the COVID-19 virus throughout the larger community.

### ▪ **Funding Amount and Source**

The amendment extends the current lease for an additional four months through September 30, 2021 and increases the reimbursement by \$10,000 for each month, for a total of \$60,000/month, and it is anticipated to be through the American Rescue Plan Act funds or FEMA whichever works in the best interest of the County.

Please contact Tyler Schroeder at extension 5207, if you have any questions or concerns regarding the terms of this agreement.