

**WHATCOM COUNTY
PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT**

**Jon Hutchings
Director**




NATURAL RESOURCES

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MEMORANDUM

TO: The Honorable Satpal Singh Sidhu, County Executive
Honorable Members of the Whatcom County Council

THROUGH: Jon Hutchings, Public Works Director

FROM: Gary Stoyka, Natural Resources Program Manager 

DATE: March 21, 2022

RE: Grant Agreement with the Washington Department of Ecology to develop and Implement a Collaborative Process to Identify Local Solutions for Water Availability

Please find enclosed for your review a copy of the Grant Agreement No. OTGP-2022-WhCoPW-00082 between the Whatcom County and the Washington Department of Ecology to develop and implement a collaborative process to identify local solutions for water availability to conduct supporting technical studies. The authorized interlocal agreement amendment will be signed electronically through DocuSign.

Requested Action

Public Works respectfully requests that the Whatcom County Council authorize the County Executive to sign the grant agreement.

Background and Purpose

The purpose of this agreement is to develop and implement a collaborative process to identify local solutions for water availability issues in the Nooksack Basin and supporting technical work. The process for addressing water availability issues will run parallel to, and complement a potential water rights adjudication process.

Funding Amount and Source

This grant agreement with the Department of Ecology will provide \$250,000 to develop and implement a collaborative process to identify local solutions for water availability issues in the Nooksack Basin and supporting technical work.

Please contact Gary Stoyka at extension 6218, if you have any questions or concerns regarding the terms of this agreement.

Encl.