



MEMORANDUM

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

THROUGH: Jon Hutchings, Director

FROM: Andrew Hester, Public Works Real Estate Coordinator

RE: Draft Franchise for Cascade Natural Gas Corporation

DATE: May 24, 2022

▪ **Requested Action**

Discuss and provide direction to Public Works staff on the negotiation of an ordinance that grants a franchise to Cascade Natural Gas Corporation allowing it to use and be present in County Rights of Way for the installation, maintenance, operation, repair, modification, replacement, and/or removal of such new or existing pipeline facilities, together with equipment and appurtenances thereto, for the transportation of natural gas within and through Whatcom County per the terms of the franchise agreement, under RCW 36.55 and § 9.30 of the Home Rule Charter.

▪ **Background and Purpose**

Cascade Natural Gas Corporation's existing franchise agreement has expired and they have applied for a new franchise agreement for the purposes of utilizing County rights of way for the transportation of natural gas. A public hearing was held on October 12, 2021 and Council held the ordinance and directed Public Works to continue negotiating the franchise agreement in order to reconsider the terms of the agreement. The Council requested that Public Works consult with the Climate Impact Advisory Committee.

Please contact Chris Quinn at extension 5729 if you have any questions or concerns regarding the terms of this agreement.

Encl.