



**MEMORANDUM**

**TO:** Satpal Sidhu, County Executive

**FROM:** Erika Lautenbach, Director

**RE:** Abatement & Decontamination Specialists – Solid Waste Code Enforcement Abatement Contract

**DATE:** July 28, 2022

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Attached is a contract between Whatcom County and Abatement and Decontamination Specialists for your review and signature.

▪ **Background and Purpose**

The Health Department’s Solid Waste Program is responsible for enforcing County Code 24.06, Solid Waste Rules and Regulations. Program staff regularly respond to properties with solid waste violations, which can create a public health nuisance by attracting vectors such as rodents, leaking hazardous materials onto the ground, or exposing people to used syringes. Whatcom County Code 24.07, Administrative Notice Proceedings, Civil Penalties and Abatement, provides the County with the opportunity to abate the property at the owner’s expense, through a lien. Whatcom County intends to follow through with this process only after all existing avenues of mitigating the violation(s) have been exhausted, to no effect.

Through this contract, the Contractor will be available on-call to receive notification of a property requiring services necessary to decrease or eliminate the threat of hazardous or disease-causing materials or vectors on Whatcom County properties with long-term solid waste violations.

▪ **Funding Amount and Source**

Funding for this contract, in an amount not to exceed \$50,000, is provided by the solid waste fund. These funds are included in the 2022 budget. Council approval is required as funding exceeds \$40,000.

Please contact Jennifer Hayden, Environmental Health Supervisor at 360-778-6036 ([JHayden@co.whatcom.wa.us](mailto:JHayden@co.whatcom.wa.us)) or Kathleen Roy, Assistant Director at 360-778-6007 ([KRoy@co.whatcom.wa.us](mailto:KRoy@co.whatcom.wa.us)) if you have any questions or concerns regarding this request.

