



MEMORANDUM

TO: Satpal Sidhu, County Executive

FROM: Erika Lautenbach, Director

RE: Opportunity Council – Housing Case Management Contract Amendment #5

DATE: November 16, 2022

Attached is a contract amendment between Whatcom County and Opportunity Council for your review and signature.

▪ **Background and Purpose**

Housing Case Managers provide assistance to households to access housing, improve housing stability, and reduce homelessness through joint efforts between the Whatcom Homeless Service Center and the Community Services Division of the Opportunity Council. This contract provides funding for case management and supportive services to those individuals and households experiencing or at-risk of experiencing homelessness, or who are newly housed, in order to improve housing stability and reduce homelessness in Whatcom County. This amendment extends the contract for an additional year, updates reporting requirements, removes language and funding for the federal Emergency Solutions Grant-COVID-19, removes language related to system-wide performance measures no longer required by the Washington State Department of Commerce Consolidated Homeless Grant, and increases funding by \$21,998 to support additional case management activities and a full year of the case management position funded by the Veterans Assistance Fund.

▪ **Funding Amount and Source**

Funding for this contract, in an amount not to exceed \$607,235, is provided by local document recording fees, the Veterans Assistance Fund, and the Washington State Department of Commerce Consolidated Homeless Grant. These funds will be included in the 2023 budget. Council authorization is required as the funding provided by this amendment increases funding by more than 10% of the approved budget.

Please contact Ann Beck, Community Services Manager at 360-778-6055 (ABeck@co.whatcom.wa.us) or Kathleen Roy, Finance and Administrative Services Manager at 360-778-6007 (KRoy@co.whatcom.wa.us), if you have any questions or concerns regarding this request.

