Erika Lautenbach, MPH, Director

WHATCOM COUNTY Health Department



Amy Harley, MD, MPH, Co-Health Officer Greg Thompson, MD, MPH, Co-Health Officer

MEMORANDUM

TO: Satpal Sidhu, County Executive

FROM: Erika Lautenbach, Director

RE: City of Bellingham – Alternative Response Team Pilot Program Contract Amendment #1

DATE: February 21, 2023

Attached is a contract amendment between Whatcom County and City of Bellingham for your review and signature.

Background and Purpose

The Alternative Response Team (ART) Pilot Program takes a collaborative approach that brings law enforcement, emergency medical response, human services, and other community responders together to create individualized plans to minimize the impact of individuals identified as having a very high impact on each of those systems. ART will be deployed by staff based at What-Comm, 10 hours/day, 7 days/week and there will be a dedicated communication channel and work station for ART at the What-Comm call center.

This contract dedicates funding from the City of Bellingham for staffing and implementation of the ART Pilot Program. This amendment increases 2023 funding by \$62,969 to support additional supplies, equipment, travel, training and evaluation.

Funding Amount and Source

Funding for this contract is provided by the City of Bellingham in an amount not to exceed \$322,179 in 2023. These funds are included in the 2023 budget. Council approval is required as the additional funding provided by this amendment exceeds \$40,000, per WCC 3.06.010.

Differences from Previous Contracts

Section	Revision Purpose
General Terms – Section 5.	Increases 2023 funding by \$62,969 and adds provisions for the County to
	submit documentation of expenditures of the additional funds.

Please contact Malora Christensen, Response Systems Manager at 360-778-6163 (MChriste@co.whatcom.wa.us) or Kathleen Roy, Financial & Administrative Manager at 360-778-6007 (KRoy@co.whatcom.wa.us), if you have any questions or concerns regarding this request.

