

**WHATCOM COUNTY  
SHERIFF'S OFFICE**

**BILL ELFO**  
SHERIFF



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**MEMO**

**To:** Jack Louws, County Executive

**From:** Sheriff Bill Elfo, Director *B. Elfo*  
John Gargett, Deputy Director *J. Gargett*  
Whatcom County Sheriff's Office Division of Emergency Management

**Subject:** Interlocal Agreement between City of Bellingham and Whatcom County  
Install, Maintain, and Repair Communications Equipment

**Date:** August 19, 2019

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Enclosed are two originals of the Interlocal Agreement between the City of Bellingham and Whatcom County that sets forth the terms and conditions upon which the City of Bellingham may install, maintain, and repair communications equipment for the Whatcom County Sheriff's Office.

- **Background and Purpose**

Whatcom County Sheriff's Office is responsible for the public safety communications network, including maintenance and repair services for two-way communications equipment of the backbone infrastructure and for first responder use by the Whatcom County Sheriff's Office and other law enforcement agencies in Whatcom County.

To date, services have been provided on an ad hoc basis using a variety of private companies and public agencies. The City of Bellingham Radio Shop is in the best position to analyze, troubleshoot, and undertake initial steps to remediate problems as they also provide the same services to WhatCOMM-911, Prospect Fire Dispatch, the fire districts, and the City of Bellingham, all of whom are critical users of the Law Enforcement Network. The City of Bellingham Radio Shop, with this interagency perspective, is in the unique position to effectively identify problems in the Radio Network on a 24/7 basis.

This Interlocal Agreement establishes the terms and conditions upon which the City of Bellingham may install, maintain, and repair communications equipment for the Whatcom County Sheriff's Office.

This is an ongoing agreement that may be terminated by either party upon ninety (90) days written notice.

- **Funding Amount and Source**

Funding for this ongoing communications service comes from existing budget authority within the Whatcom County Sheriff's Office and the Northwest Law Enforcement Radio Network (NWLERN).

If you have questions, please contact John Gargett at 778-7160.