



MEMORANDUM

TO: Satpal Sidhu, County Executive
FROM: Erika Lautenbach, Director
RE: Downtown Bellingham Partnership – COVID-Related Business Expense Support
DATE: October 23, 2020

Attached is a contract between Whatcom County and Downtown Bellingham Partnership for your review and signature.

▪ **Background and Purpose**

This contract is in response to a notification from the Whatcom COVID Employer Support Task Force created by the Whatcom County Public Health Advisory Board (PHAB) to local economic development organizations of federal grant funding available to help mitigate the impacts of the COVID-19 pandemic on their organizations. DBP has been adapting to operational changes necessary to observe COVID-19 risk mitigation measures while continuing efforts to support the economic stabilization of Downtown Bellingham. The purpose of this contract is to provide reimbursement of losses incurred from canceled or postponed events, loss of donor support, and unexpected costs of tools necessary to function as a team during the pandemic.

▪ **Funding Amount and Source**

Funding for this contract may not exceed \$56,033. Funds under the contract are made available by a grant awarded by the US Department of Treasury and subject to Section 601(a) of the Social Security Act, as amended by section 5001 of the Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security Act (CARES Act), and Title V and VI of the CARES Act, passed through the Washington State Department of Health Emergency Preparedness & Response COVID-19 Local CARES Grant (CFDA 21.019). These funds are included in the 2020 budget. Council approval is required as funding exceeds \$40,000.

Please contact Kathleen Roy at extension #6007 if you have any questions regarding this agreement.

Encl.

