



**MEMORANDUM**

**TO:** Satpal Sidhu, County Executive

**FROM:** Erika Lautenbach, Director

**RE:** U.S. Department of the Treasury – COVID19 Emergency Rental Assistance Grant

**DATE:** January 25, 2021

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Attached is a contract between Whatcom County and the U.S. Department of the Treasury for your review and signature.

▪ **Background and Purpose**

Congressional leaders have executed an emergency COVID-19 relief bill that includes emergency rental assistance grants to U.S. territories, tribal communities, states, and cities. This bill provides financial assistance for back and forward rent and utility payments and other housing expenses. Whatcom County has received an allocation of this grant which will provide assistance to local residents through 12/31/2021.

▪ **Funding Amount and Source**

This grant provides \$6,911,585 in funding directly from the U.S. Department of Treasury. These funds will be included in the 2021 budget. Council approval is required per RCW 39.34.030(2) for agreements between public agencies.

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

Encl.