



MEMORANDUM

TO: Satpal Sidhu, County Executive
FROM: Erika Lautenbach, Director
RE: City of Bellingham – Crisis Stabilization Center Operation & Maintenance Agreement
DATE: October 22, 2021

Attached is an Interlocal Agreement between Whatcom County and City of Bellingham for your review and signature.

▪ **Background and Purpose**

This Agreement provides funding for all aspects of the ongoing maintenance and operation of the Crisis Stabilization Center. Whatcom County will lease the facility located at 2026 Division Street in Bellingham, to treatment providers who offer behavioral health treatment on site, 24 hours daily, seven days weekly. Services provided at this facility are intended to assist adults who are experiencing a behavioral health crisis and who can be managed successfully in this setting. These services are also intended to divert individuals when appropriate, from hospital utilization, arrest, or incarceration.

▪ **Funding Amount and Source**

This Agreement provides partial funding in the amount of \$65,000 for all aspects of the ongoing maintenance and operation of the Crisis Stabilization Center. These funds will be included in the 2022 budget. Council approval is required per RCW 39.34.030(2) for agreements between public agencies.

▪ **Differences from Previous Agreement**

This is a new Agreement, however, funding to support the operation and maintenance of the Crisis Stabilization Center (and the former County Triage Facility) has been provided by the City of Bellingham since 1998. This new Agreement includes no significant changes from the current Agreement (WC Contract #202010118).

Please contact Perry Mowery, Human Services Supervisor at 360-778-6059 (PMowery@co.whatcom.wa.us) or Kathleen Roy, Assistant Director at 360-778-6007 (KRoy@co.whatcom.wa.us), if you have any questions or concerns regarding this request.

