

ORDINANCE NO.

**ESTABLISHING THE COVID-19 EMERGENCY RESPONSE FUND AND
ESTABLISHING A BUDGET FOR THE COVID-19 EMERGENCY RESPONSE FUND
(EMERGENCY ORDINANCE)**

WHEREAS, the County Executive has issued a Proclamation of Emergency to combat the spread of the COVID-19 virus; and,

WHEREAS, Whatcom County Code chapter 2.02.135 provides for an emergency ordinance to become immediately effective when approved by two thirds vote of the County Council and signature of the County Executive; and,

WHEREAS, the County Council adopted an initial emergency funding ordinance of \$250,000 in the General Fund on March 10, 2020; and,

WHEREAS, the County Council is considering an additional \$250,000 from the General Fund in Amendment No. 8 of the 2020 Budget on March 24, 2020; and,

WHEREAS, it has become apparent that adequate COVID-19 response will require significantly more resources; and,

WHEREAS, the County needs a special revenue fund to account for restricted and committed revenues which will be used for the expanded coronavirus response; and,

WHEREAS, the additional \$250,000 being considered in Amendment No. 8 will be transferred to this new special revenue fund; and,

WHEREAS, the County is also anticipating a \$250,000 contribution from the City of Bellingham; and,

WHEREAS, the Executive is also proposing a \$4 million interfund cash flow loan from the Public Utilities Improvement Fund (EDI Fund); and,

FINDINGS: The spread of the COVID-19 virus presents a continuing threat to the health and safety of the citizens of Whatcom County. The County needs additional budget appropriation and a separate fund to adequately account for resources committed to effectively respond to this crisis,

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT ORDAINED by the Whatcom County Council that a new special revenue fund is hereby established titled the "COVID-19 Emergency Response Fund",

BE IT FURTHER ORDAINED, that the fund is approved with an initial budget of \$4,500,000 as presented in attached Exhibit A.

ADOPTED this ____ day of _____, 2020.

ATTEST:


WHATCOM COUNTY COUNCIL
WHATCOM COUNTY, WASHINGTON

Dana Brown-Davis, Council Clerk

Barry Buchanan, Chair of Council

APPROVED AS TO FORM:

() Approved () Denied



Civil Deputy Prosecutor

Satpal Sidhu, County Executive
Date: _____

Supplemental Budget Request

Status: Pending

Non-Departmental

Suppl ID # 3046 **Fund** **Cost Center** **Originator:** M Caldwell

Year 2 2020 Add'l FTE Priority 1

Name of Request: COVID-19 Emergency Response Fund budget

X  3/30/2020
Department Head Signature (Required on Hard Copy Submission) **Date**

Costs:	Object	Object Description	Amount Requested
	2241	Interfund Loans Payable	(\$4,000,000)
	4337.1001	City of Bham Support	(\$250,000)
	6610	Contractual Services	\$4,500,000
	8301.4530	Op Trf In - Non-Departmental	(\$250,000)
	Request Total		\$0

1a. Description of request:

Funding will be used to provide supplies and contracts needed to address life safety issues in response to the COVID-19 coronavirus emergency in Whatcom County.

1b. Primary customers:

Citizens of Whatcom County

2. Problem to be solved:

Whatcom County needs to be able to take adequate actions to stem the tide of COVID-19 in order to protect our citizens.

3a. Options / Advantages:

There are no other options.

3b. Cost savings:

Funding from the federal government in the form of FEMA assistance is eventually expected to offset 75% of the costs.

4a. Outcomes:

Whatcom County will be successful in limiting the spread of COVID-19 countywide as soon as possible.

4b. Measures:

Decrease in the number and eventual elimination of new cases

5a. Other Departments/Agencies:

Unified Command, City of Bellingham, State Military Department, Health Department, Emergency Management

5b. Name the person in charge of implementation and what they are responsible for:

6. Funding Source:

Temporary Interfund Loan from EDI Fund, General Fund and City of Bellingham contributions. The current EDI Cash balance is \$15,021,000.

ORDINANCE NO.

**AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING AN INTERFUND LOAN TO FINANCE CASH FLOW
FOR COVID-19 EMERGENCY RESPONSE
(EMERGENCY ORDINANCE)**

WHEREAS, the County Executive has issued a Proclamation of Emergency to combat the spread of the COVID-19 virus; and,

WHEREAS, Whatcom County Code chapter 2.02.135 provides for an emergency ordinance to become immediately effective when approved by two thirds vote of the County Council and signature of the County Executive; and,

WHEREAS, the County is establishing a COVID-19 Emergency Response Fund to track restricted and committed revenues in response to the coronavirus outbreak; and,

WHEREAS, adequate cash flow is needed to fund this response due to the processing time required to receive expected local, state, and federal FEMA assistance and reimbursements; and,

WHEREAS, the Public Utilities Improvement Fund (EDI Fund) is an appropriate source to provide a temporary cash flow loan to be used for expanded COVID-19 response; and,

FINDINGS: The spread of the COVID-19 virus presents a continuing threat to the health and safety of the citizens of Whatcom County. The County needs temporary cash flow assistance to effectively respond to this crisis,

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT ORDAINED by the Whatcom County Council: The Whatcom County Treasurer is hereby authorized to make an interfund loan from the Public Utilities Improvement Fund to the COVID-19 Emergency Response Fund for cash flow purposes. The loan shall not exceed \$4,000,000 and shall be for a term not exceeding eighteen months. One-half percent interest shall be charged on the loan.

ADOPTED this ____ day of _____, 2020.

ATTEST:


WHATCOM COUNTY COUNCIL
WHATCOM COUNTY, WASHINGTON

Dana Brown-Davis, Council Clerk

Barry Buchanan, Chair of Council

APPROVED AS TO FORM:

() Approved () Denied



Civil Deputy Prosecutor

Satpal Sidhu, County Executive

Date: _____