

**WHATCOM COUNTY CONTRACT
INFORMATION SHEET**

Whatcom County Contract No.

202301033

Originating Department:	Planning & Development Services
Division/Program: (i.e. Dept. Division and Program)	Long Range Planning 2620/262025/2527
Contract or Grant Administrator:	Matt Aamot
Contractor's / Agency Name:	Cities of Bellingham, Blaine, Everson, Ferndale, Lynden, Nooksack, and Sumas
Is this a New Contract? If not, is this an Amendment or Renewal to an Existing Contract? Yes <input type="radio"/> No <input checked="" type="radio"/> Yes <input checked="" type="radio"/> No <input type="radio"/> If Amendment or Renewal, (per WCC 3.08.100 (a)) Original Contract #: _____	
Does contract require Council Approval? Yes <input checked="" type="radio"/> No <input type="radio"/> If No, include WCC: _____ Already approved? Council Approved Date: <u>12/6/2022</u> (Exclusions see: Whatcom County Codes 3.06.010, 3.08.090 and 3.08.100)	
Is this a grant agreement? Yes <input type="radio"/> No <input checked="" type="radio"/> If yes, grantor agency contract number(s): _____ CFDA#: _____	
Is this contract grant funded? Yes <input type="radio"/> No <input checked="" type="radio"/> If yes, Whatcom County grant contract number(s): _____	
Is this contract the result of a RFP or Bid process? Yes <input type="radio"/> No <input checked="" type="radio"/> If yes, RFP and Bid number(s): _____ Contract _____ Cost Center: <u>N/A</u>	
Is this agreement excluded from E-Verify? No <input type="radio"/> Yes <input checked="" type="radio"/> If no, include Attachment D Contractor Declaration form.	
If YES, indicate exclusion(s) below: <input type="checkbox"/> Professional services agreement for certified/licensed professional. <input type="checkbox"/> Contract work is for less than \$100,000. <input type="checkbox"/> Contract for Commercial off the shelf items (COTS). <input type="checkbox"/> Contract work is for less than 120 days. <input type="checkbox"/> Work related subcontract less than \$25,000. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Interlocal Agreement (between Governments). <input type="checkbox"/> Public Works - Local Agency/Federally Funded FHWA.	
Contract Amount:(sum of original contract amount and any prior amendments): \$ <u>N/A</u> This Amendment Amount: \$ <u>N/A</u> Total Amended Amount: \$ <u>N/A</u>	Council approval required for; all property leases, contracts or bid awards exceeding \$40,000 , and professional service contract amendments that have an increase greater than \$10,000 or 10% of contract amount, whichever is greater, except when: 1. Exercising an option contained in a contract previously approved by the council. 2. Contract is for design, construction, r-o-w acquisition, prof. services, or other capital costs approved by council in a capital budget appropriation ordinance. 3. Bid or award is for supplies. 4. Equipment is included in Exhibit "B" of the Budget Ordinance. 5. Contract is for manufacturer's technical support and hardware maintenance of electronic systems and/or technical support and software maintenance from the developer of proprietary software currently used by Whatcom County.
Summary of Scope:	
Interlocal Agreement with the Cities of Bellingham, Blaine, Everson, Ferndale, Lynden, Nooksack, and Sumas Concerning Countywide Planning Policies Amendment Procedures.	
Term of Contract: When signed by all parties	Expiration Date: December 31, 2032

Contract Routing:	1. Prepared by: <u>MA</u>	Date: <u>12/7/2022</u>
	2. Attorney signoff: <u>R Buckingham</u>	Date: <u>12/7/2022</u>
	3. AS Finance reviewed: _____	Date: _____
	4. IT reviewed (if IT related): _____	Date: _____
	5. Contractor signed: _____	Date: _____
	6. Submitted to Exec.: _____	Date: <u>01/09/23</u>
	7. Council approved (if necessary): <u>(AB2022-643)</u>	Date: <u>12/6/2022</u>
	8. Executive signed: _____	Date: <u>3/17/2023</u>
	9. Original to Council: _____	Date: _____

WHATCOM COUNTY

Planning & Development Services
5280 Northwest Drive
Bellingham, WA 98226-9097
360-778-5900, TTY 800-833-6384
360-778-5901 Fax



Mark Personius
Director

Memorandum

January 9, 2023

TO: The Honorable Satpal Sidhu, Whatcom County Executive

FROM: Matt Aamot, Senior Planner

THROUGH: Steve Roberge, Assistant Director

RE: Interlocal Agreement - Countywide Planning Policies Amendment Procedures

The Growth Management Act (GMA) required the County to adopt countywide planning policies in cooperation with the cities (RCW 36.70A.040(4) and RCW 36.70A.210). Countywide planning policies establish a framework for developing city and county comprehensive plans and ensuring these plans are consistent. The County Council originally adopted countywide planning policies in 1993 and amended these policies in 1997, 2005, and 2021.

As the City/County Planner Group discussed the GMA requirement to amend the countywide planning policies in association with the Buildable Lands Program, we came to the conclusion that we needed to establish an interim procedure for making countywide planning policy amendments. The Group established a subcommittee that reviewed other jurisdictions' procedures for countywide planning policy amendments, drafted a proposed interlocal agreement, and brought it back to the City/County Planner Group for consideration.

The County Council's Special Committee of the Whole (SCOTW) met on September 10, 2019 and January 28, 2020 to discuss the draft interim interlocal agreement. The SCOTW approved a motion to accept the proposed Interlocal on February 11, 2020 (7-0 vote). All 7 cities signed the Interim Interlocal Agreement. After County Council authorization, the Executive signed the Interim Interlocal Agreement on July 14, 2020 (Whatcom County Contract No. [202007014](#)).

The cities and County have now developed a long-term Interlocal Agreement establishing procedures for amending countywide planning policies to replace the Interim Interlocal Agreement.

The County Council held a public hearing and approved a motion authorizing the County Executive to sign the Interlocal Agreement on December 6, 2022 (AB2022-643). The Agreement is now ready to proceed through the DocuSign signature process.

Thank you for your consideration of this matter.

INTERLOCAL AGREEMENT
BETWEEN
WHATCOM COUNTY AND THE CITIES OF BELLINGHAM,
BLAINE, EVERSON, FERNDALE, LYNDEN, NOOKSACK, AND SUMAS
CONCERNING PROCEDURES FOR AMENDING THE
COUNTYWIDE PLANNING POLICIES

This agreement is made by and between Whatcom County (herein after referred to as the “County”) and the Cities of Bellingham, Blaine, Everson, Ferndale, Lynden, Nooksack, and Sumas (herein after referred to as the “Cities”).

WHEREAS, the Growth Management Act (GMA) required the County to adopt countywide planning policies in cooperation with the Cities (RCW 36.70A.040(4) and RCW 36.70A.210); and

WHEREAS, the GMA states countywide planning policies are used “. . . solely for establishing a countywide framework from which county and city comprehensive plans are developed and adopted pursuant to this chapter. This framework shall ensure that city and county comprehensive plans are consistent . . .” (RCW 36.70A.210(1)); and

WHEREAS, the County Council adopted the original countywide planning policies in April 1993 (Resolution 93-024); and

WHEREAS, the County Council amended the countywide planning policies in March 1997 (Resolution 97-011); and

WHEREAS, the County Council amended the countywide planning policies in January 2005 (Ordinance 2005-022); and

WHEREAS, the County Council amended the countywide planning policies in February 2021 (Ordinance 2021-003); and

WHEREAS, the County and the cities entered into an interlocal agreement containing interim procedures for amending the countywide planning policies in 2020 (Whatcom County Contract No. 202007014); and

WHEREAS, cooperative relationships and coordination between the County and Cities are mutually beneficial; and

WHEREAS, the Cities and County desire to agree on procedures for amending the countywide planning policies in this interlocal agreement; and

WHEREAS, the Cities and County find that establishing procedures for amending the Countywide Planning Policies is in the public interest and will further the goals of the GMA; and

NOW, THEREFORE, subject to the terms and conditions contained herein, the Cities and County agree as follows:

Section 1. Procedures for Amending the Countywide Planning Policies

The Cities and the County agree to the following procedures for amending the countywide planning policies:

1. **Authority to Initiate Amendment** – Any of the following may initiate a proposed amendment to the Countywide Planning Policies by submitting a written proposal to the County Planning Director:
 - a. The Whatcom County Executive;
 - b. The Whatcom County Council;
 - c. Any City Council;
 - d. Any City Mayor.

2. **Required Information** - The proposed amendment shall include:
 - a. The language of the proposed amendment shown with underlining and strikethroughs.

 - b. An explanation of the need for the proposed amendment. This may include, as appropriate, the factors, changed conditions, data, analysis, and/or experience with existing countywide planning policies that show a need for the proposed amendment.

3. **Tribal and Federal Agency Participation** - The County Planning Director will invite the Lummi Nation, Nooksack Tribe, and appropriate federal agencies to participate in and cooperate with the countywide planning policy amendment process in accordance with RCW 36.70A.210(4). The City/County Planner Group will identify appropriate federal agencies to invite.
4. **Recommendation** - Within 10 days, the County Planning Director shall refer proposed amendments to the City/County Planner Group, which shall be comprised of the planning directors or designees from the County and each of the seven Cities. The City/County Planner Group will review and issue recommendations on the proposed amendments as follows:
 - a. The City/County Planner Group will strive to reach consensus but if consensus cannot be reached, recommendations will be by majority vote of the eight jurisdictions (the County and seven cities).
 - b. The City/County Planner Group's recommendations will be issued within 180 days of receiving the proposed amendments. The process of forming recommendations will allow time, within this 180-day period, for individual jurisdictions to consult with their respective planning commissions and/or elected officials, at the discretion of each jurisdiction. The 180-day time period may be extended by 90 days by majority vote of the eight jurisdictions
5. **SEPA** – Whatcom County will conduct SEPA review, if required, on the recommended Countywide Planning Policy amendments.
6. **Whatcom County Planning Commission Review** – The Whatcom County Planning Commission will hold a public hearing and issue recommendations on the proposed countywide planning policy amendments. City planners will be invited to the hearing.
7. **Whatcom County Council Review** – The County Council will invite County and City planners to a committee of the whole meeting to discuss the proposed countywide planning policy amendments. The County Council's committee of the whole will take a vote whether or not to send final draft countywide planning policy amendments to the cities for review and approval.

8. **City Approval Process** – The respective city legislative authorities must act upon final draft countywide planning policy amendments within 90 days of the County Council vote to send the amendments to the cities for review and approval.

City approval means a vote by the legislative authority to approve or disapprove the countywide planning policy amendments (up or down vote). Final draft countywide planning policy amendments may not be modified during the city approval process.

If a city does not notify the County Planning Director of the action taken within the 90-day period, that city shall be deemed to have approved the amendments.

9. **Whatcom County Council Adoption** – Following approval of the countywide planning policy amendments by the cities under subsection 8 above, the County Council may, after conducting a public hearing, adopt the countywide planning policy amendments. Final draft countywide planning policy amendments may not be modified during the County Council adoption process.

10. **Ratified Amendments** - In order to become effective, countywide planning policy amendments must be approved (pursuant to subsections 8 and 9 above) by:

- a. Jurisdictions (the County and cities) representing at least 85% of the total population of Whatcom County and at least 50 percent of the total number of jurisdictions; or
- b. At least 75% of the total number of jurisdictions, provided that Whatcom County must be one of the jurisdictions to approve the amendments (i.e., the County and at least 5 of the 7 existing cities).

11. **Notification of Ratified Amendments** - The County Planning Director shall notify the Cities and the Governor's office in writing within fourteen (14) days of County Council adoption of the countywide planning policies, as set forth in subsection 9 above.

Section 2. Effective Date, Duration and Termination

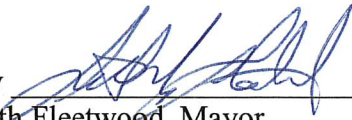
This interlocal agreement shall be effective upon signature by the Mayor and/or City Manager of each of the seven Cities and the Whatcom County Executive. This interlocal agreement shall remain in effect until December 31, 2032, unless modified or terminated by written agreement of all of the parties.

Section 3. Termination of Interim Procedures

The County and the Cities agree that the interlocal agreement containing interim procedures for amending the countywide planning policies in 2020 (Whatcom County Contract No. 202007014) will terminate on the effective date of this interlocal agreement.

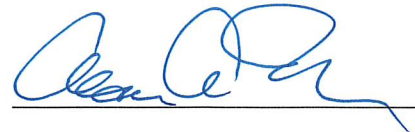
Each signatory below to this agreement warrants that he/she is the authorized agent of the respective party; and that he/she has the authority to enter into the agreement and bind the party thereto.

CITY OF BELLINGHAM

By 
Seth Fleetwood, Mayor

Date 12/15/20

Approved as to form:
Office of the City Attorney



Each signatory below to this agreement warrants that he/she is the authorized agent of the respective party; and that he/she has the authority to enter into the agreement and bind the party thereto.

CITY OF BLAINE

DocuSigned by:
Michael L Harmon
By _____
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Michael Harmon, City Manager


Date 2/6/2023

Approved as to form:
Office of the City Attorney

DocuSigned by:
JON SITHIN 2/6/2023
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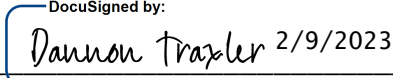
Each signatory below to this agreement warrants that he/she is the authorized agent of the respective party; and that he/she has the authority to enter into the agreement and bind the party thereto.

CITY OF FERNDALE

By  _____
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Greg Hansen, Mayor

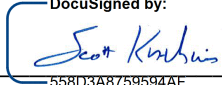
Date 2/10/2023

Approved as to form:
Office of the City Attorney

 _____
E955AEEA227C4C9...
Dannon Traxler 2/9/2023


Each signatory below to this agreement warrants that he/she is the authorized agent of the respective party; and that he/she has the authority to enter into the agreement and bind the party thereto.

CITY OF LYNDEN

DocuSigned by:

By _____
558D3A8759594AF...
Scott Korthuis, Mayor

Date 2/18/2023

Approved as to form:
Office of the City Attorney

DocuSigned by:
 2/17/2023

FBBD741692F406...

Each signatory below to this agreement warrants that he/she is the authorized agent of the respective party; and that he/she has the authority to enter into the agreement and bind the party thereto.

CITY OF NOOKSACK

DocuSigned by:
Kevin W Hester
By _____
Kevin Hester, Mayor
1A741560280F41A...

Date 2/24/2023

Approved as to form:
Office of the City Attorney

DocuSigned by:
Bob Carmichael 2/17/2023

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Each signatory below to this agreement warrants that he/she is the authorized agent of the respective party; and that he/she has the authority to enter into the agreement and bind the party thereto.

CITY OF SUMAS

DocuSigned by:
Bruce Bosch
By _____
Bruce Bosch, Mayor
4D2EF23683634B1...

Date 3/17/2023


Approved as to form:
Office of the City Attorney

DocuSigned by:
James Wright 3/17/2023

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Each signatory below to this agreement warrants that he/she is the authorized agent of the respective party; and that he/she has the authority to enter into the agreement and bind the party thereto.

WHATCOM COUNTY

By 
Tyler Schroeder, Deputy County Executive

Date 3/17/2023

Approved as to form:
Whatcom County Prosecutor

