



Snohomish County Council

Committee: Planning
ECAF: 2021-0198
Proposal: Ord 21-026

Report by: Geoffrey Thomas
Chief of Staff
Date: 05/04/21

Consideration

The proposed ordinance would authorize the executive to sign an interlocal agreement (ILA) with Pacific Northwest Economic Region (PNWER) to provide professional services for planning and facilitating three maritime focused workshops under the 2019 Regional Catastrophic Planning Grant Program, Community Points Distribution Analysis and Training Project.

Background

Snohomish County received a grant for \$1.4 million from the Regional Catastrophic Preparedness Program. The grant's scope was to analyze data and provide recommendations to site community points of distribution across eight counties in the Puget Sound. Community points of distribution (CPODs) are locations and facilities that could receive supplies and then re-distribute those supplies in the event the infrastructure (such as roads, bridges, ferry terminals) become unusable to transport supplies following a significant disaster or catastrophic event (such as an earthquake). In addition to addressing and contingency planning for loss of "traditional" transportation infrastructure, the grant requires contingency planning that includes the maritime industry.

To provide this analysis related to the maritime industry, the County has identified Pacific Northwest Economic Region (PNWER) as an entity that can provide the needed professional services complete this work. PNWER is multi-state and multi-province regional planning and facilitation organization¹ for transboundary policy and planning in the Pacific Northwest. The entity was created by the five states (Washington, Montana, Oregon, Idaho, and Alaska), the provinces of British Columbia, Alberta, Saskatchewan, and the Yukon and Northwest Territories. PNWER had conducted transportation and supply chain workshops in 2013 with a previous RCPGP grant and published a supply chain project and regional maritime transportation disaster recovery exercise program in 2014 based on the 2013 workshops.

The County has determined that PNWER is a sole source as the organization has specific expertise in this field and in this region. The reason for this is that the scope of work for the 2019 grant builds off the work done in 2013 and 2014 by PNWER and other entities were not identified that could fulfill the unique and specific scope of work. The estimated cost for the work, which would be funded by the grant, is \$52,500. It is anticipated the work would be completed by 03/30/22.

An interlocal agreement is required to authorize this work and an ordinance is required to authorize the executive to sign the interlocal agreement with PNWER. Before the Council can decide on the ordinance, a public hearing must be scheduled and held.

¹ SEE RCW 43.147.010 at: [RCW 43.147.010: Terms of agreement. \(wa.gov\)](https://www.wa.gov/legislation/rcw/43.147.010).

Current Proposal

Scope: Approving Ordinance 21-026 would authorize the Snohomish County Executive to sign an interlocal agreement with PNWER to facilitate and develop catastrophic planning workshops with Snohomish County, eight partner counties, four partner cities, other members of the Regional Catastrophic Preparedness Team, and other agencies and private sector organizations. The workshops will focus on the maritime industry's capabilities to transport large goods and supplies by way of the Puget Sound area waterways following a 9.0 seismic event; identify roles and responsibilities for ports, marinas, and other maritime service providers and facilities; identify ways to ship supplies and locate possible locations for receiving, storing, and fulfilling community point of distribution orders by way of waterways, and identify practices for rapid assessment of port and dock facilities. PNWER would produce a summary report of potential roles and responsibilities for maritime partners following a major disaster, would identify locations of maritime facilities to stage and distribute supplies based on potential infrastructure damage, and would provide other similar analyses and assessment tools.²

Duration: The contract would begin upon notice to proceed following Council's approval of the proposed motion and expire on 03/30/22.

Fiscal Implications: The cost of the proposed contract is \$52,500. There is adequate appropriation authority in the 2021 Budget.

2021 Budget: Yes.

Future Budget Impacts: None identified. Note: The proposed ILA extends into the 2022 Budget year. If the project has not been completed, appropriation authority could be extended into 2022, however the contract provides that funding after 12/31/21 is subject to the approval of the County Council.³

Handling: NORMAL.

Approved-as-to-form: YES.

Risk Management: APPROVE.

Executive Recommendation: APPROVE.

Request: Move to GLS on 05/12/21 to consider scheduling a public hearing. Following receipt of public testimony, consider taking action on the proposed ordinance or provide other direction to staff.

² For more information related to the scope of work, please see Exhibit A, Scope of Services, beginning on page 10 of the ILA.

³ SEE Section 2, "Effective Date and Duration" on page 2 of the ILA.