



Staff Report – Consent Agenda

March 18, 2024, Council Regular Meeting

Interlocal Agreement between Clark County and the Cities of Vancouver, Washougal and Camas forming the Southwest Region Opioid Abatement Council (Submitted by Cathy Huber Nickerson, Finance Director)

Phone	Email
360.817. 1537	chuber@cityofcamas.us

BACKGROUND: This consent item authorizes the Mayor to sign on behalf of the City to join the Southwest Region Opioid Abatement Council with the cities of Vancouver and Washougal. This group will be considered Participating Local Government in compliance with the One Washington MOU. The Southwest Region Opioid Abatement Council participants will independently receive Opioid Settlement funds and will maintain full discretion over the use and distribution of their allocation of Opioid Funds as long as funds are used solely for approved purposes.

SUMMARY: Under settlements with three opioid distributors, Johnson & Johnson as well as a group of pharmacies, the funds must be used for prevention, treatment and recovery. Washington Attorney General Bob Ferguson announced the completion of the \$518 million settlement along with guidance on how the money can be used and how much cities and counties will receive.

The funds must be used in approved ways, which include improving and expanding treatment, supporting people in recovery by providing wrap-around services like housing, transportation and education, addressing the needs of pregnant women, focusing on youth-focused programs, increasing the availability of the overdose medication naloxone, enhancing the prescription drug monitoring program and supporting first responders.

Currently, Camas is projected to receive approximately \$837.010 over twenty-one years. This estimate excludes what the pharmacy settlements are.

The Southwest Region Opioid Abatement Council will be responsible for:

1. Monitor distribution of Opioid Funds to programs and services within the service area.
2. Develop and maintain a centralized public dashboard or other repository for the publication of expenditure data of Opioid funds.
3. If necessary, require and collect additional outcome-related data to evaluate the use of Opioid Funds.
4. Hearing complaints by other participating Local Governments under the One WA MOU.

BENEFITS TO THE COMMUNITY: The settlement provides for funding to offset the impact of the opioid crisis.

POTENTIAL CHALLENGES: Details about the use of funds and reporting are still in process.

BUDGET IMPACT: The City to date has received approximately \$65,218.42 and staff are working to document uses for the funds with the CWFD EMS services and the Camas Police Department.

RECOMMENDATION: Staff recommends Council authorize the Mayor to sign the Interlocal Agreement between Clark County and the Cities of Vancouver, Washougal and Camas forming the Southwest Region Opioid Abatement Council in compliance with the One Washington Memorandum of Understanding.