

CITY OF LYNDEN

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY



Meeting Date:	May 20, 2019	
Name of Agenda Item:	Public Defender Contract Amendment	
Section of Agenda:	New Business	
Department:	Administration	
Council Committee Review:	<input type="checkbox"/> Community Development <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Finance <input type="checkbox"/> Parks	<input type="checkbox"/> Public Safety <input type="checkbox"/> Public Works <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____
	Legal Review: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes - Reviewed <input type="checkbox"/> No - Not Reviewed <input type="checkbox"/> Review Not Required	
Attachments:		
1) Original Contract 2) Contract Amendment		
Summary Statement:		
<p>Individuals who appear in Municipal Court and who are unable to afford a private attorney are assigned a public defender. The attorney who performs that service in Lynden is Dan Parsons. Mr. Parsons has asked that Section VII of his current contract with the City (attachment 1) be modified so as to lower his malpractice insurance coverage, thus lowering his cost.</p> <p>His current contract requires him to have \$1 million in malpractice insurance coverage for each occurrence and \$2 million in the aggregate. The amendment (attachment 2) being proposed here requires him to have \$500 thousand for both individual and aggregate malpractice insurance. The City Administrator has researched the request and determined that the lower malpractice insurance is adequate for the misdemeanor offenses heard by the Lynden Municipal Court.</p> <p>There are no other changes to the contract. It expires December 31, 2020.</p>		
Recommended Action:		
Approve the contract amendment.		