

CITY OF LYNDEN

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY – City Council



Meeting Date:	August 3, 2020	
Name of Agenda Item:	CARES Act Interlocal Agreement	
Section of Agenda:	New Business	
<u>Council Committee Review:</u>	<input type="checkbox"/> Community Development <input type="checkbox"/> Finance <input type="checkbox"/> Parks	<input type="checkbox"/> Public Safety <input type="checkbox"/> Public Works <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____
<u>Legal Review:</u>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes - Reviewed <input type="checkbox"/> No - Not Reviewed <input type="checkbox"/> Review Not Required	
Attachments:	1) CARES Act Interlocal Agreement and Addendum	
Summary Statement:	<p>Congress passed what is known as the Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security (CARES) Act in March. Among many other things, it gives direct grants to cities for costs associated with the COVID-19 pandemic. Whatcom County and all its cities have pooled some of their CARES funds to provide a unified response to the COVID crisis. That money will be redistributed to qualifying entities, including Lynden and all small businesses and non-profits in the 98264-area code. Attachment 1, titled the Interlocal Cost Sharing Agreement Related to the COVID-19 Crisis, describes that arrangement.</p> <p>Total funding in the pool is \$16.3 million and Lynden proposes contributing \$150,000 to that amount. Participating in this program gives Lynden the ability to potentially triple its contribution by gaining access to the larger pool.</p> <p>The money will be distributed in “micro grants” of \$15,000 or less. Agencies apply for a grant, and a Business Assistance Team will vet the applications. The Team is comprised of representatives from the Chamber of Commerce, the Downtown Business Association and a local businessman. The deadline for applying was July 31. At the time of this writing, 35 small businesses and non-profits in the 98264 area code had applied for grants.</p> <p>All local governments in the County have or will soon, approve the agreement. However, timing issues precluded inclusion of certain edits. We recommend signing the agreement tonight, but we would like Council to be aware of our recommended edits.</p>	
Recommended Action:	Ask the City Attorney to describe the edits that were not included in the Agreement, then authorize the Mayor to sign it.	