



City of Sumas Request for Council Action

Meeting Date: April 13, 2026

Subject:

Memorandum of Understanding with Whatcom County Rural Library District

Department: City

Prepared By: Michelle Quinn

Agenda Location:

Public Hearing Old Business New Business Staff Reports

Brief Summary:

Whatcom Co. Library is wanting to add a meeting room within the library and will fund the improvements

Sunny Aulakh, Public Works Director will oversee the construction project after the library submits the building permit with a site plan.

Legal Review: Reviewed Not Reviewed Review Not Required

Staff Recommendation:

Staff recommends a motion for the Mayor to sign the MOU

Senior Staff Review:

- Mayor
- Finance Director
- City Clerk
- Public Works Director

Budget Implications:

- Current Budget
- New Budget Request
- Non-Budgetary

MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING BETWEEN
THE CITY OF SUMAS and WHATCOM COUNTY RURAL LIBRARY DISTRICT

This Agreement, dated March 24, 2026, is made by and between the city of Sumas ("City"), an incorporated city in Whatcom County, Washington, and Whatcom County Rural Library District, doing business as Whatcom County Library System ("WCLS"), a Washington rural library district. Collectively, these entities are referred to as "Parties."

WHEREAS, Whatcom County Library System has provided library services to people in Sumas since 1947; and,

WHEREAS, the City of Sumas was the first incorporated city in the county of Whatcom to join the library system; and,

WHEREAS, the City's mission is to esteem the values that residents of the city hold dear; and,

WHEREAS, WCLS' mission is to connect information, ideas, and community; and,

WHEREAS, WCLS and the City share mutual interests in providing excellent library services to people of all ages to connect information, ideas, and community; and,

WHEREAS, the current library located at 461 2nd St. Sumas, Washington, supports the Sumas community who have a stated need of a dedicated meeting space to conduct and hold meetings; and,

WHEREAS, WCLS and the City share mutual interests in providing access to a pleasing and comfortable library for Sumas residents, visitors, staff and Friends; and,

WHEREAS, WCLS has budgeted funds for capital improvements and maintenance at community libraries; and,

WHEREAS, WCLS has verbally committed to contributing 100% of the costs for the design development and construction of a small meeting space within the library including furniture, fixtures, and equipment; and,

WHEREAS, the Parties acknowledge that the stated improvements to the Sumas Library are desirable and would benefit the public who would have access to this library facility.

NOW, THEREFORE, THE CITY OF SUMAS AND THE WHATCOM COUNTY LIBRARY SYSTEM AGREE AS FOLLOWS:

WCLS will allocate \$40,000.00 to the meeting room project at the Sumas Library.

WCLS will lead the project management process and will submit its designs for permit review and approval by the City.

The project timeline begins in March 2026 and terminates on completion of the meeting room project unless amended by the Parties.

If a dispute arises among the parties concerning the performance of any provision of this MOU or the interpretation thereof, the parties will meet and work actively and in good faith to resolve the dispute.

SIGNATURES:

Bruce Bosch, Mayor
The City of Sumas

Date

Christine Perkins, Executive Director
Whatcom County Library System

Date