

Supplemental Budget Request

Non-Departmental

Suppl ID # 5307 **Fund** 1247 **Cost Center** 12471003 **Originator:** Whatcom County Council

Year 2 2026 Add'l FTE Priority 1

Name of Request: Increase in Food Insecurity Spending - CPF

X

Department Head Signature (Required on Hard Copy Submission) **Date**

Costs:	<i>Object</i>	<i>Object Description</i>	<i>Amount Requested</i>
	6610	Contractual services	\$500,000
	Request Total		\$500,000

1a. Description of request:

Take \$500,000 that was previously recommended by the County Executive for transfer to the capital facilities reserve fund and instead commit it to the Whatcom County Food Bank Network.

This is a companion to supplementals 5219 and 5220.

1b. Primary customers:

Members of the public.

2. Problem to be solved:

Whatcom County's food banks facing unprecedented funding needs given increased numbers of customers and a reduction in federal support.

3a. Options / Advantages:

Current proposed funding for the Whatcom County Food Bank is insufficient to address the increased need, and the county has been unable to secure alternative sources of funding.

3b. Cost savings:

This request is funding neutral but cuts funds from the capital reserves portion of the Community Priorities Fund.

4a. Outcomes:

Food banks across Whatcom County will be able to purchase food supplies to serve the growing need.

4b. Measures:

A transfer of funds from the Community Priorities Fund (capital reserves) to the Whatcom County Food Bank Network

5a. Other Departments/Agencies:

Whatcom County Health Department.

5b. Name the person in charge of implementation and what they are responsible for:

Champ Thomaskutty, Director of Health and Community Services

6. Funding Source:

Community Priorities Fund 1247.

Supplemental Budget Request

Non-Departmental

Suppl ID # 5219 **Fund** 3515 **Cost Center** 35151000 **Originator:** Tawni Helms/Council Amende

Year 2 2026 Add'l FTE Priority 1

Name of Request: Capital Reserve Fund - Transfer in from CPF

X

Department Head Signature (Required on Hard Copy Submission) **Date**

Costs:	<i>Object</i>	<i>Object Description</i>	<i>Amount Requested</i>
	8397	Transfers in	\$500,000
	8397	Transfers in	(\$3,500,000)
	Request Total		(\$3,000,000)

1a. Description of request:

Council has proposed to reduced the transfer from 3.5m to 3m and reappropriated the funds to the Whatcom County Food Bank. See companion supplementals 5220 and 5307.

This SBR would transfer \$3.5 million from the Community Priorities Fund (CPF) to the Capital Facilities Reserve Fund (CRF) (CRF). The CPF was created in 2023 to account for the revenues and expenditures related to general fund savings during the pandemic period. The CRF was established in the 2023 budget to allow the County to plan and save incrementally for future capital projects. Funds were dedicated to the long-term preservation and improvement of our general government and public safety buildings and was initially seeded with funding from the CARES Act (that has since been expended) and the intent was to transfer \$500,000 annually from the GF to the CRF. Due to the structural imbalance in the GF, the 2025-2026 Adopted Biennial Budget suspended that transfer.

The transfer in this SBR will help the County with upcoming capital facility projects (e.g. Sheriff's Office, tenant improvements, maintenance, PDS Office, and a possible needed morgue.)

During the pandemic, the County received \$44.5M in American Rescue Plan Act (APRA) funding. This allowed the county to invest in childcare, housing, homeless services, broadband, criminal justice operations, and much more. The Council set the goal of spending \$25M or 58% of ARPA funding on childcare and housing. Over the course of three years, the Executive successfully contracted \$23.8M of this funding for childcare and housing. The Council had a high-level spending plan allocating the remaining funding to other activities.

Most of that funding has been spent, with \$5M still available that was originally set aside for pandemic response, climate, and behavioral health with no specific commitments or contracts identified. This funding can be allocated toward any general fund eligible expense.

After the transfer in this SBR, and in SBRs 5223 and 5225, \$1.5M will remain in the Community Priorities Fund, which is currently reserved for a Search and Rescue lease.

See companion for transfer out SBR #5220.

1b. Primary customers:

Whatcom County.

2. Problem to be solved:

As noted above, this SBR would provide resources for the County to address pressing capital facility needs, including having funds available to pay for initial Sheriff's Office costs if an acquisition or lease

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Non-Departmental

Suppl ID # 5219

Fund 3515

Cost Center 35151000

Originator: Tawni Helms/Council Amende

opportunity is identified.

3a. Options / Advantages:

The reserve can be used to fund or partially fund future, large-scale capital projects, such as building new facilities, upgrading technology, or repairing infrastructure.

3b. Cost savings:

By creating a reserve, the County in some cases will be able to avoid taking on additional debt for future for capital projects.

4a. Outcomes:

n/a

4b. Measures:

n/a

5a. Other Departments/Agencies:

AS-Facilities Management is lead on most capital facilities project. Any use of the Capital Reserve Fund will require additional Council approval through a future supplemental budget action for a specific project.

5b. Name the person in charge of implementation and what they are responsible for:

6. Funding Source:

Community Priorities Fund

Supplemental Budget Request

Non-Departmental

Suppl ID # 5220 **Fund** 1247 **Cost Center** 12471000 **Originator:** Tawni Helms/Council Amende

Year 2 2026 Add'l FTE Priority 1

Name of Request: *Transfer out Communities Priorities Fund to GF*

X

Department Head Signature (Required on Hard Copy Submission) **Date**

Costs:	<i>Object</i>	<i>Object Description</i>	<i>Amount Requested</i>
	8597	Transfers out	(\$500,000)
	8597	Transfers out	\$3,500,000
	Request Total		\$3,000,000

1a. Description of request:

Funds are being transferred to the Capital Reserve Fund. See companion supplementals 5219 and 5307.

1b. Primary customers:

2. Problem to be solved:

3a. Options / Advantages:

3b. Cost savings:

4a. Outcomes:

4b. Measures:

5a. Other Departments/Agencies:

5b. Name the person in charge of implementation and what they are responsible for:

6. Funding Source:

Communities Priorities Fund

See companion supplemental #5219