



Memorandum

To: The Honorable Satpal Singh Sidhu, Whatcom County Executive and
The Honorable Members of the Whatcom County Council

Through: Elizabeth Kosa, Director *EK*

From: Douglas W. Ranney P.E., County Engineer *DWR*
James E. Lee, P.E., Engineering Manager *JEL*

Date: June 10, 2025

Re: Ordinance Amending the Lummi Island Ferry Replacement & System Modernization
Fund and Project Based Budget

Enclosed for your review and approval is an ordinance amending the Lummi Island Ferry Replacement and System Modernization Project Fund, project based budget and accompanying supplemental budget request.

Requested Action

Public Works respectfully requests that the County Council approves this proposed ordinance to amend the Lummi Island Ferry Replacement and Modernization Fund and project based budget. The ordinance will be introduced at the July 8 Council meeting with the public hearing and action occurring at the July 22 Council meeting.

Background and Purpose

In July of 2018, the Whatcom County Council approved resolution 2018-026, which established a level of service for the Lummi Island Ferry System and included the Lummi Island Ferry Service Action Plan. Elements of the currently proposed project include construction of a new 20-car diesel-electric battery hybrid ferry vessel, modifications to the existing Lummi Island terminal including construction of a passenger only float and miscellaneous upland improvements at the Lummi Island terminal.

The project has been awarded \$10 million through the state County Ferry Capital Improvement Program (CFCIP). These funds will be disbursed in \$500,000 annual payments over 20 years. To date \$1 million in CFCIP funds have been received which are currently held in the road fund and another \$500,000 in CFCIP funds are expected later this year. This proposed ordinance will formally move these funds from the road fund to the Lummi Island Ferry Replacement and System Modernization Project fund. All future CFCIP payments will be deposited directly into this project fund.

Funding Amount and Source

This project fund was established with an initial budget of \$4,237,575.00, and when combined with this proposed ordinance will have an amended budget of \$5,737,575.00. This project is listed as Item No. 52 on the 2025 Annual Construction Program.

Please contact James Lee at extension 6264 or Julia Green at extension 6313 if you have any questions regarding this agreement.