

Chapter 6 – Emergency Management

Existing Emergency Management Space

The 2020 inventory of Sheriff’s Office, Division of Emergency Management space is 24,000 square feet, located at the Whatcom Unified Emergency Coordination Center (WUECC). Rented by and shared between both Whatcom County and the City of Bellingham, the WUECC is comprised of 2,000 square feet of office space and an additional 22,000 square feet of support facilities (used for meetings, training, exercises, and during emergencies). The WUECC serves as the Emergency Operations Center for both the County and the City.

Table 11. Existing Emergency Management/EOC Facilities

Site No.	Facility Name	Square feet
1	Whatcom Unified Emergency Coordination Center 3888 Sound Way, Bellingham	24,000

Future Needs

The Whatcom County Comprehensive Plan does not contain a level of service standard for emergency management facilities. Rather, Comprehensive Plan Policy 4D-4 is to:

Maintain adequate facilities for daily emergency management activities and, during an emergency or disaster, for the emergency operations center. The facilities will provide sufficient space for activities relating to emergency/disaster planning, mitigation, response and recovery. Existing facilities may be expanded, remodeled, and/ or new facilities developed in response to changing need.

The County will budget for improvements to such facilities as needed.

Proposed Improvement Projects

There ~~is one~~ ~~are no~~ emergency management capital improvement projects planned over the next six years, as shown below.

Emergency Management	Funding	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025	2026	Total
	Source							Cost
1. Whatcom Unified Emergency Coordination Center Re-Roof Project	1, 2, 3	405,842						405,842
	TOTAL							

Funding Sources

- 1. Real Estate Excise Tax (REET)
- 2. City of Bellingham
- 3. Port of Bellingham

Chapter 11 – Total Costs

Total Costs for the six-year planning period are shown below.

Table 17. Total Costs for the Six-Year Planning Period

	Total Costs 2021-2026	Percent of Total Costs
Parks, Trails, and Activity Centers	11,869,457	4.78%
Maintenance and Operations	812,375	0.33%
General Government Buildings and Sites	52,528,865	21.13%
Sheriff's Office	21,730,000	8.74%
Emergency Management	<u>405,842</u>	<u>0.16%</u>
Adult Corrections	ϕ	<u>0.00%</u>
Juvenile Detention	0	0.00%
Transportation	53,797,000	21.64%
Stormwater Facilities	<u>12,213,000</u>	<u>4.91%</u>
TOTAL	<u>248,554,461</u> 248,148,619	100.00%

The County plans to undertake capital improvement projects costing approximately \$248 million between 2021 and 2026, which will be financed with a combination of local, state, federal, and other funding sources.