

October 30, 2024

Whatcom County Public Works 2025-2026 Biennial Budget



Whatcom County Public Works

Agenda

- Mission Statement & Structure
- Budget overview
- Additional Service Requests Overview
- Deficiencies
- Accomplishments



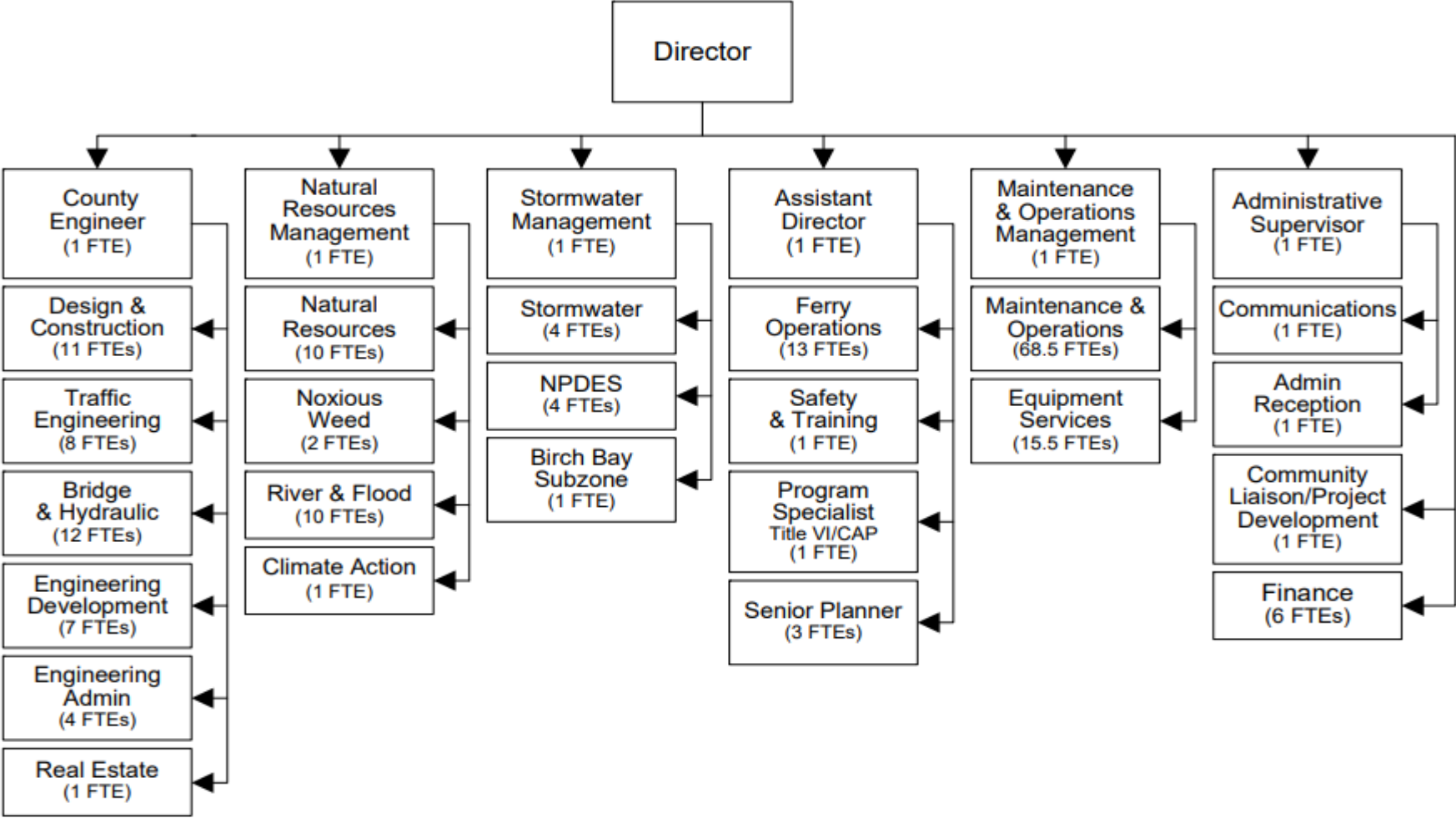
Mission Statement

Public Works' mission is to protect public health, safety, and welfare by maintaining and improving the County's transportation and surface water infrastructure, and by preserving the natural environment.

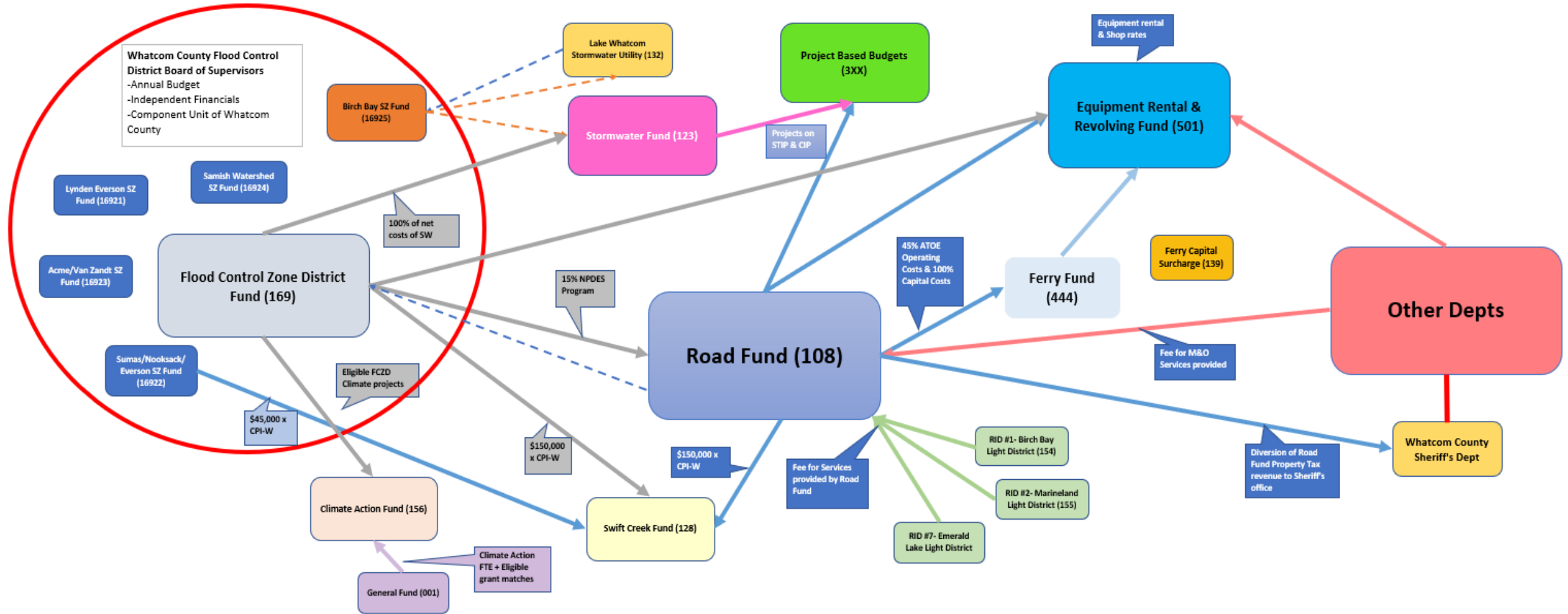


Full Time Positions:

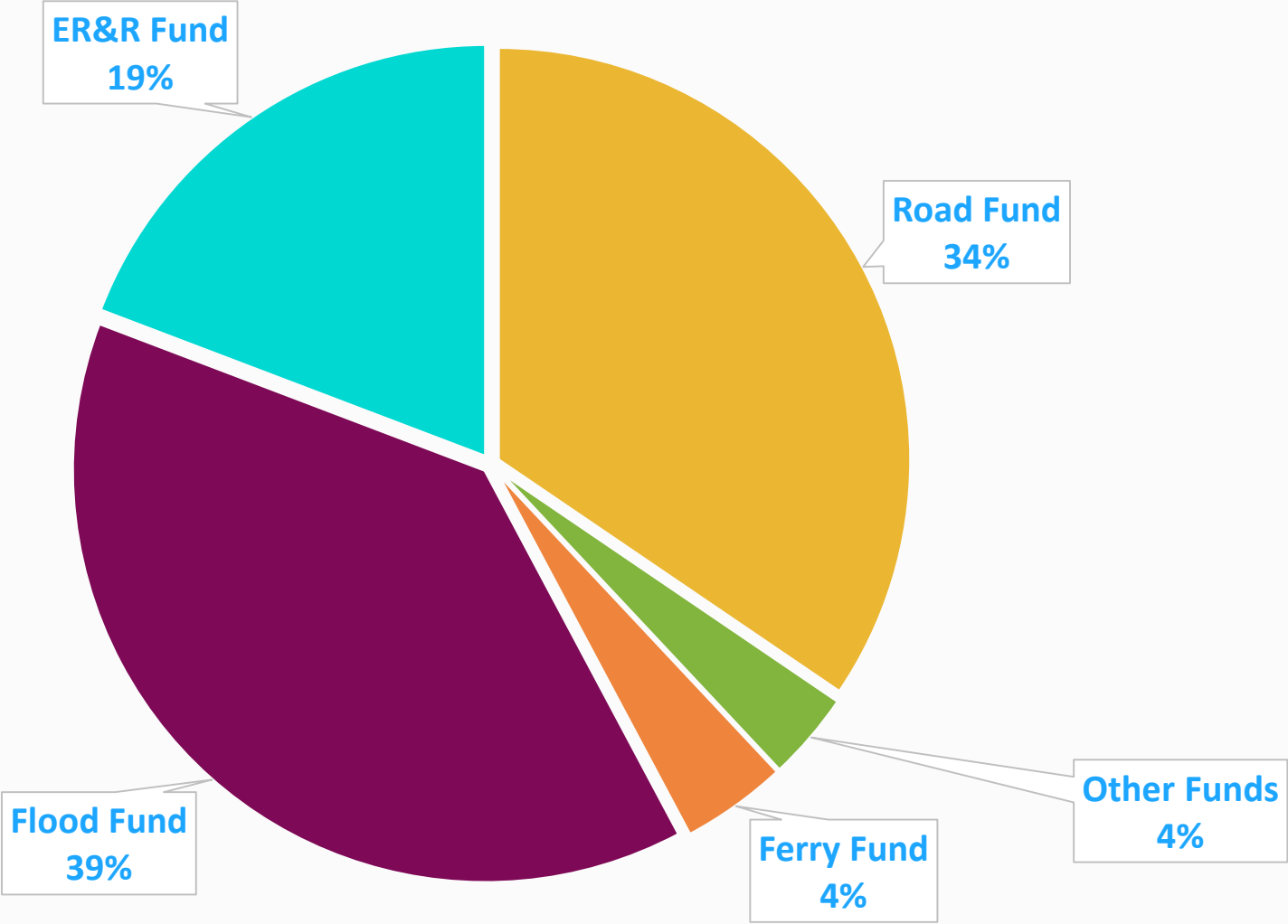
Year	2022	2023	*2024	*2025	*2026
FTEs	177.00	185.00	191.00	192.00	192.00



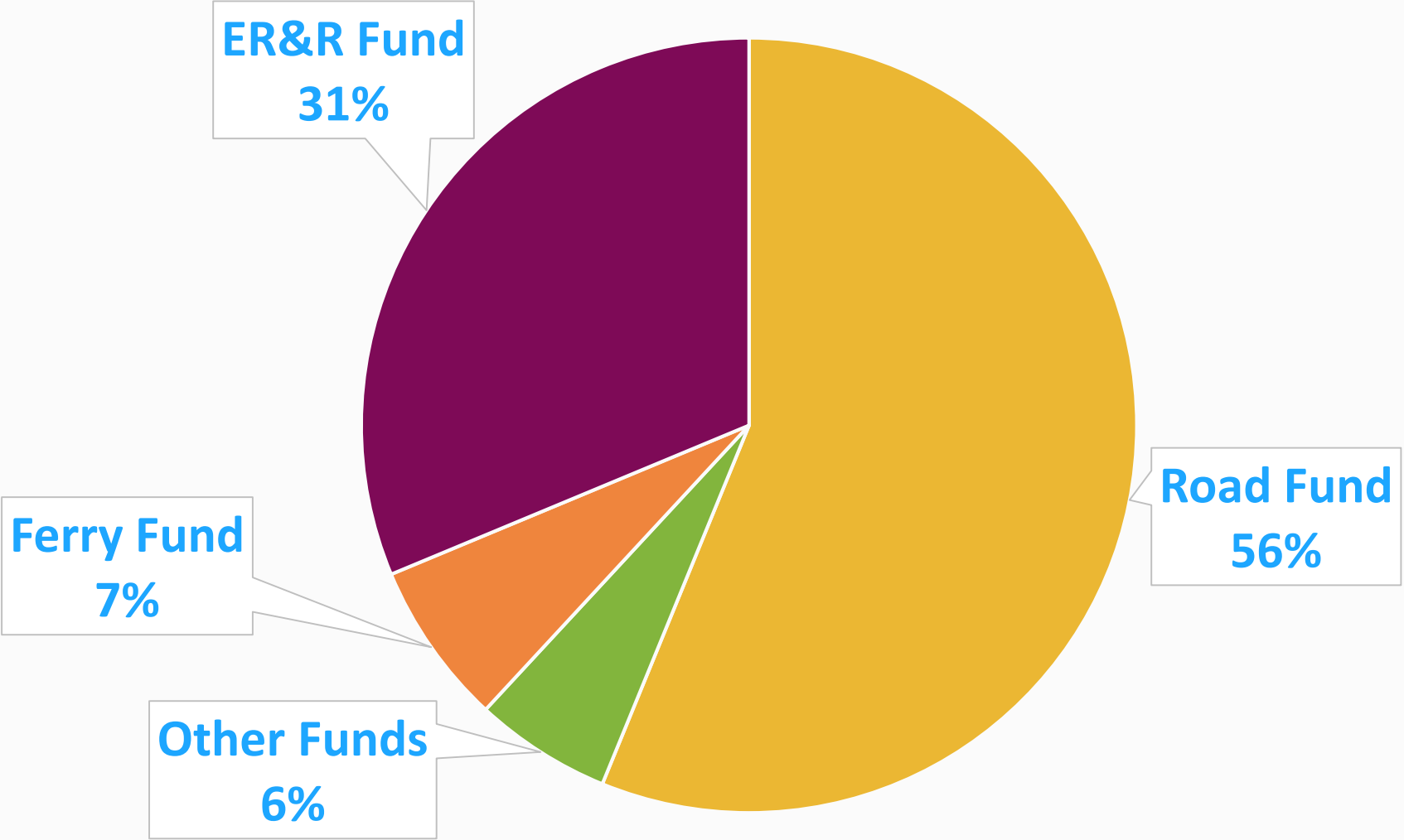
Public Works: a collaboration of restrictive funds



2025 Public Works Operating with Flood



2026 Public Works Operating without Flood



2025 Operating Budgets

	Submitted to PW	Exec Proposed	Increase/(Decrease)
Road Fund	36,705,077	33,669,985	(3,035,092)
Flood Fund	37,639,994	37,639,994	-
ER&R Fund	18,305,142	18,747,881	442,739
Ferry Fund	4,031,757	4,092,615	60,858
Other Funds	3,693,360	3,424,067	(269,293)
Total	100,375,330	97,574,542	(2,800,788)



2026 Operating Budgets

	Submitted to PW	Exec Proposed	Increase/(Decrease)
Road Fund	37,709,524	33,228,409	(4,481,115)
Flood Fund	-	-	-
ER&R Fund	18,367,697	16,916,824	(1,450,873)
Ferry Fund	4,040,877	4,053,303	12,426
Other Funds	3,433,553	2,615,893	(817,660)
Total	63,551,651	56,814,429	(6,737,222)



ASR requests

	2025 Increased Revenues	2025 Increased Expenses	2026 Increased Revenues	2026 Increased Expenses
Road Fund	68	(1,451,489)	68	(712,361)
Flood Fund	-	(491,143)	-	-
ER&R Fund	-	(422,569)	-	(232,150)
Ferry Fund	471,000	(51,425)	471,000	(54,422)
Other Funds	760,000	(633,500)	-	(77,000)
Total	1,231,068	(3,050,126)	471,068	(1,075,933)



Road Fund ASRs

- **Regular ASRs**
 - Completion of the Pt Roberts Drainage Study in 2025
 - Traffic Counters
 - M&O Training
 - NPDES Catch Basin Repair & Vegetation Maintenance
- **Cost Maintenance ASRs**
 - Supplies and Training for FTEs through SBRs between 2023-2024 (were not included in base budget)



Flood Fund ASRs

- **Regular ASRs**
 - Grant funded work for Water Adjudication, Collaborative Processes, & MRC
 - Climate Action
 - Natural Resources SUV
- **Cost Maintenance ASRs**
 - Supplies and Training for FTEs through SBRs between 2023-2024 (were not included in base budget)



ER&R Fund ASRs

- **Regular ASRs**
 - Fleet-Focus Asset Management Software- new ongoing costs
 - Purchase of new vehicles requested by County
- **Cost Maintenance ASRs**
 - Fuel, repairs, shop tools, gravel survey cost increases
 - Training
 - Whatcom Chief Drydock Professional Services



Ferry Fund ASRs

- **Regular ASR- None**
- **Cost Maintenance ASRs**
 - Drydock Passenger Ferry
 - Ferry Insurance Increase
- **Increases accommodated by making additional base budget cuts**
 - Lummi Nation Tidelands lease expense increase
 - Ongoing light maintenance for Lummi Island Parking lot



ASRs that didn't make the cut

- **FTE requests**
 - For a higher LOS, Road Fund- 5 RMW and 2 SRMW
 - ER&R- Purchasing Coordinator
 - Ferry- WCFAC Temp
- **Delayed Projects**
 - PW Enterprise Asset Management System
 - Would have implemented a modern geographic information system, which would have replaced BridgeWorks, GISMO, CivicPlus, while integrating with the new E1 JDE software.



Remaining Challenges

- Hiring
- Meeting Service demands
- Central Shop Stormwater
- Central Shop underground Fuel Tank removals
- Archaeological Oversight
- Road, ER&R & Ferry Fund Balances
- Ferry Replacement and Ferry Operation Funding
- Point Roberts Drainage
- Swift Creek State Funding
- Northwest Annex
- Climate Action
- River Management & Coastal Flooding
- Fish Barrier Removal
- Water Adjudication
- Trash and Hulk Remove



PW Accomplishments

- Significant Capital Work completed (highlights)
- Significant amount of Grant Funding Awarded
- Operational Work (highlights)
- Storm Response
- Notable Accolades
 - County Engineer of they year
 - Program managers of the year
- Social Media (FB, X, Nextdoor), Outreach, Podcast, news letters, improvements to travel planner, etc.
- Title VI – translations services



Discussion & Questions

