

Supplemental Budget Request

Parks & Recreation

Supp'l ID # 5317 Fund 3805 Cost Center 38051000 Originator: Rod Lamb

Year 2 2026 Add'l FTE

Priority 1

Name of Request: West Region Operations and Maintenance Facility

X

Department Head Signature (Required on Hard Copy Submission)

Date

Costs:	Object	Object Description	Amount Requested
	7380	Other improvements	(\$1,200,000)
	8597	Transfers out	\$1,200,000
	Request Total		\$0

1a. Description of request:

Construction of a Regional Operations and Maintenance Facility at Hovander Homestead Park to support the Department's West region has been a Departmental priority since 2010 at which point design drawings were developed but not advanced to construction. Since that time, project plans and specifications have been updated to meet current departmental needs, and are being revised to comply with building codes and regulatory requirements. Regulatory approval of the project plans is anticipated by the Fall of 2026. Current project funding, in the amount of \$1,696,378 was approved under Ordinance# 2024-068 -AB2024-749, and is a part of the approved 2025 Capital Improvements Project List (ORD# 2024 -058).

In response to current capital acquisition initiatives, and in collaboration with the Executive's Office, this request removes \$1,200,000.00 of funding allocated for construction from the Operations and Maintenance Facility budget. The intent of the adjustment is to address a near-term need to achieve targeted acquisition priorities. And, it is with mutual understanding that these near-term pressures on fund balances will be somewhat alleviated by the year 2027, when capital funding sufficient to construct the complete scope of Operations and Maintenance Facility will be reallocated to the project budget.

1b. Primary customers:

Whatcom County Residents, visitors of Whatcom County, and Whatcom County Park Maintenance and Operations staff are the primary beneficiaries of this effort.

2. Problem to be solved:

Near-term pressures on capital funding are at levels that reallocation of existing but unspent funding realizes short-term gains to facilitate high-priority acquisitions. The temporary reallocation of this dedicated funding won't necessarily negatively impact progress of the Operations and Maintenance Facility project because PARKS anticipates advancing the project through final design, engineering, and permit approval over the next 10 to 12 months. Therefore, targeting construction to begin in 2027 when funding is reallocated will maintain approximately the project's current schedule.

3a. Options / Advantages:

In the short-term, this strategy will allow securing strategic acquisitions to facilitate county operations, while maintaining the high-priority departmental initiatives.

3b. Cost savings:

N/A

4a. Outcomes:

Outcomes of this effort will maintain acceptable capital funding balances, while advancing Operations and Maintenance Facility to a "shovel-ready" project status. Once funding has been reauthorized, PARKS anticipates beginning construction in early Spring 2027.

Supplemental Budget Request

Parks & Recreation

Supp'l ID # 5317

Fund 3805

Cost Center 38051000

Originator: Rod Lamb

4b. Measures:

The final measure of success of this effort will be successfully completing multiple priority objectives including strategic acquisitions, and completing construction of Operations and Maintenance Facility at Hovander Homestead Park in 2027.

5a. Other Departments/Agencies:

Yes, Whatcom County Planning & Development Services and the City of Ferndale will be responsible for project review and regulatory permit approval.

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

Rod Lamb, Design and Development Manager

6. Funding Source:

Original funding for this project was provided by REET II. The budgeted transfer will remit funds to the newly created project based budget used to account for revenues and expenditures related to the acquisition of 333 32nd Street Bellingham, WA.