May 13, 2025

# Whatcom County Public Works Road Fund Cash Flow



Whatcom County Public Works

## Agenda

- Road Fund Overview\*
  - » What has changed
  - » How did we get here
- Road Fund Cash Flow
- Proposed Strategy and Policy Options
- Next Steps/Discussion/Questions

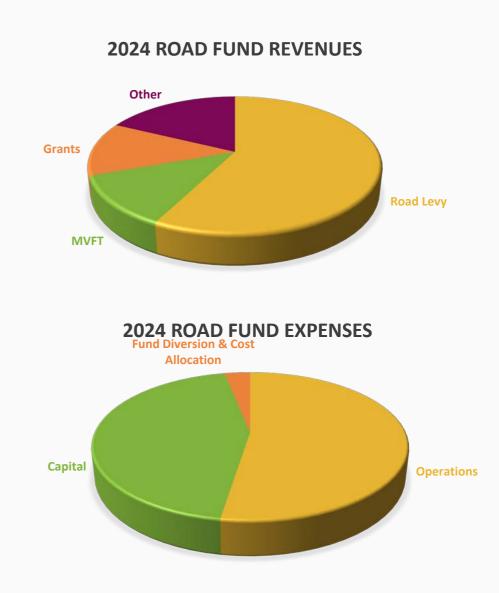


Whatcom County Public Works

\*does NOT include the ferry replacement project

## 2024 Road Fund Overview

- Annual Revenue (\$36.1M)
  - » Road Levy
  - » Motor Vehicle Fuel Tax
  - » Grants
  - » Other
- Annual Expenses (\$38.6M)
  - » Operations
  - » Capital
  - » Fund Diversion & Cost Allocation





### **Structural Imbalance**

	2021 Actual	2022 Actual	2023 Actual	2024 Actual	2025 Budget Adjusted	2026 Budget Adjusted
Beginning Road Fund Balance	19.3 M	15.9 M	10.6 M	11.2 M	8.8 M [1]	0.6 M
Annual Revenue	45.7 M	45.7 M	45.8 M	36.1 M	41.8 M	32.6 M
Annual Expense	(49.1 M)	(50.1 M)	(45.2 M)	(38.5 M)	(50.0 M)	(33.2 M)
Projected surplus (deficit)	(3.4 M)	(5.3 M)	0.6 M	(2.4 M)	(8.2 M)	(0.6 M)
Ending Fund Balance	15.9 M	10.6 M	11.2 M	8.8 M	0.6 M	(0.0 M)
	Footnote	<u> </u>				

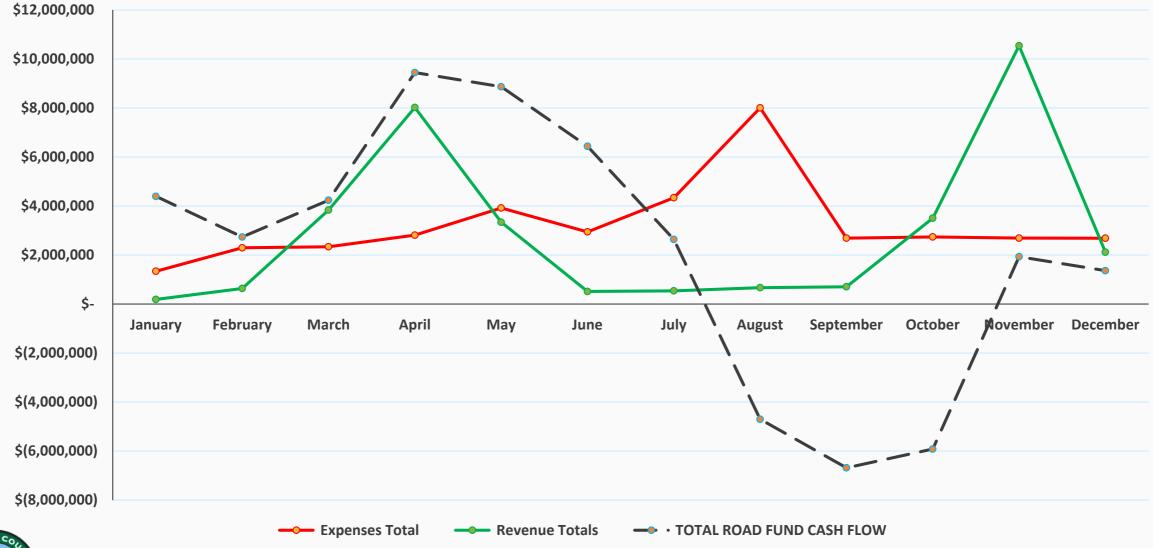
#### Footnotes:

[1] 2025 Beginning Fund Balance is an actual

[2] 2026 Budget excludes 2026 Annual Construction Program



### **Road Fund Cash Flow Before Strategies**





#### Strategies to address the cash flow imbalance

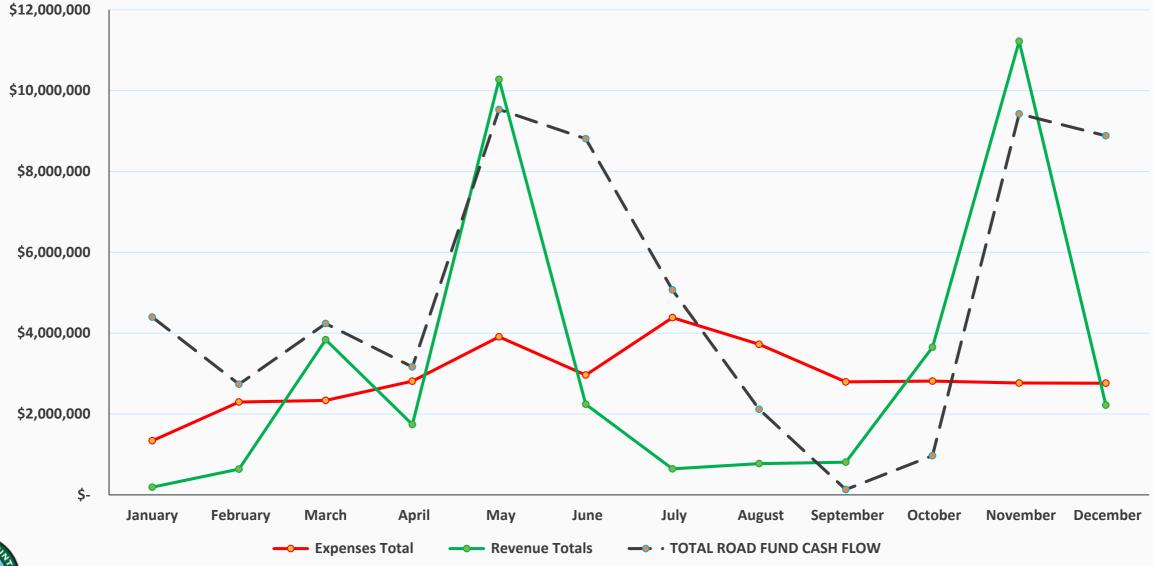
- Delays on Capital
- Cash flow loans from other county funds
- Continue to reduce spending on capital and operating expenses
- Project-Based Budget return
- Selective vacancy freezes

2025 Ro	ad Fund Reduction Proposal						
1	Removal of Capital Projects						
	Small Area Paver	\$	750,000.00				
	subt	total \$	750,000.00				
2	Interfund Loan Ordinance (AB 2025-356)						
	Everson/Goeshen	\$	1,600,000.00				
	Beach Road	\$	1,900,000.00				
	subt	total \$	3,500,000.00				
3	<sup>3</sup> Operating Cuts or funded by General Fund or REET (potential cost to other funds)						
	Chipseal	\$	200,000.00				
	Dust Control	\$	20,500.00				
	subt	total \$	220,500.00				
4	Project Based Budget Return						
	E Smith Hannegan	\$	210,532.00				
	BB Lynden/Blaine RD ROB	\$	172,600.00				
	Goshen/Anderson creek Bridge	\$	201,014.00				
	Jackson Terrell creek Bridge	\$	779,260.00				
	Remove 10% contingency on Central Shop STMWTR	\$	260,000.00				
	subt	total \$	1,623,406.00				
5	Vacancy Freeze						
	14 Full-Time Employees	\$	920,504.67				
	subt	total \$	920,504.67				
	TOTAL CASH FLOW SAVINGS	\$ 10,	014,410.67				



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#### **Road Fund Cash Flow After Strategies**





### **Request for Council Action**

- Cash Flow Loan Ordinance Finance Committee
- Return of Project-Based Budget Road Funds for the outward years
  - » Future supplemental request
  - » Future ASRs



# **Discussion & Questions**



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