

**WHATCOM COUNTY PUBLIC
WORKS DEPARTMENT**

Jon Hutchings, Director



322 N. Commercial Street, Suite 110
Bellingham, WA 98225
Telephone: (360) 778-6230
FAX: (360) 778-6231
www.whatcomcounty.us

MEMORANDUM

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

FROM: Jon Hutchings, Director

DATE: June 29, 2022

RE: Budget Discussion at Public Works & Health Committee on July 12th

Requested Action. Public Works wishes to discuss with the Public Works Committee, our plans to: 1) restore budget capacity for road maintenance and operations that was depleted during emergency flood repairs; and 2) address a number of deficient road conditions throughout the County from the 2021-2022 winter.

Background. Whatcom County suffered substantial damage to its road infrastructure during last winter's flooding. Emergency repairs were paid from previously authorized 2022 budget authority. Public Works has applied and expects to receive reimbursement for much of that damage from the Federal Emergency Management Agency and Federal Highways Administration; however, those reimbursements will not be received in time to cover regular summer maintenance and ongoing flood repairs. Public Works must be granted additional spending authority in order to complete that work. In addition, Public Works is aware that there are a number of deficient road conditions on major collectors in Whatcom County that require attention before the next season of winter is upon us. Several delayed capital projects will have their budgets transferred to paving projects to address the worst-case road conditions throughout the County.

Funding Amount and Source. The budget supplement request authorizes an additional \$2,000,000 of Road Fund expenditure. Budget transfers from delayed 2022 Annual Construction Program Items No. 5 *Marshall Hill Rd Slide Repair* and No.15, *Birch Bay Dr Pavement Rehabilitation* will provide approximately \$2,000,000 of previously authorized capacity.

Contact. Jon Hutchings (360) 778-6205