



2021-2022 Budget Priorities

Whatcom County Executive's Office



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Constraints

Revenue Uncertainty

- Several months until the impacts of COVID-19 on revenues becomes clearer.
- These impacts will influence our next biennium budget.
- Adjusted 2020 budget will serve as a guideline.

Expense Uncertainty

- Full COVID-19 response expenditures are not yet certain.
- Extent of federal and state reimbursement remains unclear.



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Opportunities

Whatcom County Resiliency

- Whatcom County Government has tools, flexibility and talented staff to navigate economic hardship and emerge stronger.
- Economic resiliency team is preparing roadmap to recovery.

Whatcom County Working Together

- We have more in common than what divides us.
- Consensus is possible with compromise.
- There is an opportunity for civil and meaningful conversations on how to tackle these issues for our next generations.



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Executive's Priorities

COVID Response: Health, Economic and Social Crisis

- Rebuild our economy through support of REP Economic Development programs and by fostering opportunities that encourage Whatcom County Working Together.
- Continue to support our Public Health system as we respond to the COVID-19 pandemic.
- Provide support to most Vulnerable



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Executive's Priorities *(continued)*

County Government Continuity

- Long-term financial stability of County finances.
- Maintain a reasonable level of service
- Maintain Workforce Team and Expertise, as possible
- Maintain County assets and seek opportunities to improve operational efficiency
- Develop reasonable Capital Project Budgets for the long-term needs of Whatcom County.



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Executive's Priorities *(continued)*

Long-term Public Priorities

- Continue Countywide initiatives to improve Housing Affordability, Wetlands Mitigation strategy and Climate Change Mitigation.
- Facilitate WRIA 1 policy and water planning for all stakeholders.
- Expand our cooperation for a meaningful and respectful relationship with both Lummi and Nooksack governments and tribal people.