



Budget Preview: Projections, Projects and Vision



COVID Fiscal Impacts in 2020

- Public health measures to contain COVID-19 had economic repercussions which impacted County revenues.
- Retail tax receipts were down as was income from County services, fees and other sources.
- Property tax receipts have remain largely unchanged compared.
- The cumulative negative revenue impacts compared to the 2020 budget are approximately \$4.35 million.
- Additionally, the County's response to COVID has added significant unbudgeted expenses



2020 Mitigation Measures

- Employee furloughs from July through Sept 2020 have saved \$1.785 million.
- Reduced expenditures have saved \$650,000.
- Hiring freeze has saved approx. \$750,000.
- Funding from the CARES Act will cover new/unbudgeted expenditures related to COVID-19 response in an amount of approximately \$5 million.



Grants Received



CARES Act

Round 1: \$12.3 m

Round 2: \$4.5 m
(11/30/20)

Round 2 (Health Dept): \$4.5 m
(12/31/20)

Community Development Block Grants (CDBG)

Subsistence – \$155K (02/28/21)

Pub Services (subsistence &
microenterprise) – \$472K (6/30/22)

Microenterprise assistance
(childcare & small farms) (*unknown
expiry*)

Plus many more...

Grant total: \$25.8 million

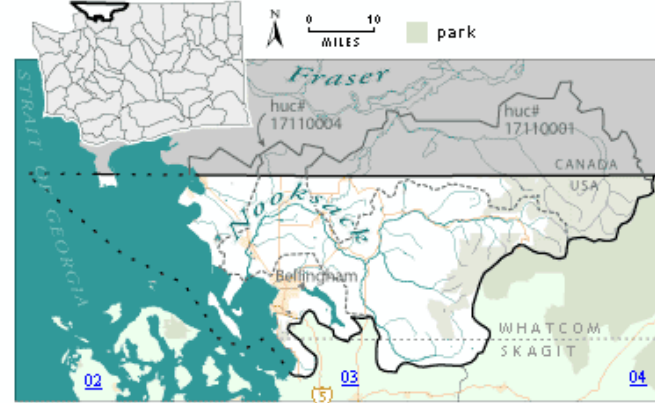


Capital Projects

- Facilities Manager Rob Ney presented the report at the September 15 Council meeting on proposed capital projects
- The Administration's objective is to have several 'shovel ready' projects in case there is Federal stimulus for capital works.
- Projected Capital needs of the County are being scoped out until at least 2030.



Water Settlement Discussions



- Department of Ecology is proposing water adjudication in Nooksack Basin to State Legislature.
- Whatcom County to request funding from Legislature / DOE to support 5-year settlement negotiation plan.
- Administration proposes Senior Manager position for settlement negotiation using Flood Fund money.

Child & Family Action Plan

- Plan to start the Child & Family services program
- Administration's Proposed Budget will include \$150K for each 2021 and 2022
- Collaboration underway with COB for similar Funding
- The Group plans similar funding non-profits and philanthropist Community
- WCHD to provide leadership to grow this program to become a regular program with state, local and non-profit funds



Racial Equity Committee / Commission

- Work has started with initial discussions with interest groups and individuals
- Chuckanut Foundation is providing support through end of 2020
- To be based on models of DV Commission / IPRTF
- Plan to install the Commission by mid-2021
- Funds needed during formation work

