
**Six-Year
Capital Improvement Program
For Whatcom County Facilities
2021-2026**

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Chapter 1 – Introduction

The Growth Management Act requires that the County’s Comprehensive Plan include a “capital facilities plan element” (RCW 36.70A.070(3)). The Whatcom County Comprehensive Plan calls for the County to develop and update the Six-Year Capital Improvement Program (CIP) for County projects every two years. The main purpose of the Capital Improvement Program is to identify priority capital improvement projects and estimated costs, outline a schedule for project completion, and designate funding sources for these projects based on a review of existing and projected population and revenue conditions for the six year planning period.

Growth Management Act Requirements

According to the Growth Management Act, a county’s capital facilities plan must include five items, which are shown below.

- A. An inventory of existing capital facilities owned by public entities, showing the locations and capacities of the capital facilities.*

Current inventories of existing County capital facilities, based upon information provided by various County departments, are included in each chapter of this document.

- B. A forecast of the future needs for such capital facilities.*

Chapter 4 of the Whatcom County Comprehensive Plan establishes numerical “level of service” standards for County parks and trails and contains policies relating to other County facilities. Capital facility needs are forecasted over the six-year planning period by applying the adopted level of service standards to the expected population in the year 2026 and by considering other relevant factors.

- C. Proposed locations and capacities of expanded or new capital facilities.*

General locations and capacities of proposed County facilities are indicated in this document (as applicable).

- D. At least a six-year plan that will finance such capital facilities within projected funding capacities and clearly identifies sources of public money for such purposes.*

This Six-Year Capital Improvement Program presents costs and funding sources for proposed County capital facilities (all figures are in 2020 dollars). There are a variety of funding sources that the County may utilize to pay for capital facilities, including real estate excise taxes (REET), sales tax, the Public Utilities Improvement Fund (also known as the Rural Sales Tax Fund, Economic Development Investment Fund or EDI Fund), Road Fund, state grants, federal grants and a variety of other sources.

- E. *A requirement to reassess the land use element if probable funding falls short of meeting existing needs and to ensure that the land use element, capital facilities plan element, and financing plan within the capital facilities plan element are coordinated and consistent.*

Finally, in accordance with the Growth Management Act, a requirement to reassess the land use element of the Comprehensive Plan if probable funding falls short of meeting existing needs and to ensure consistency between plans already exists in the Comprehensive Plan (Policy 4A-4).

Charter Provisions and the County Budget

In addition to Growth Management Act provisions relating to capital facilities, Section 6.30 of the County Charter also requires the County to include a six-year capital improvement program as part of the budget. Appropriations for 2021-2022 capital projects may be included in the biennial budget or may be adopted through the supplemental budget process. Ultimate funding for capital improvement projects is subject to County Council authorization in the adopted budget. Costs identified for 2023-2026 are included for planning purposes and review of potential future needs, but not for budget authorization at this time.

Chapter 2 – Parks, Trails, and Activity Centers

Parks

The 2020 inventory of County parks and open space areas is over 16,200 acres. This inventory is shown below.

Table 1. Existing Parks

Site No.	Park Name and Location	Acres
1	Alderwood Park, 3479 Willowood Rd.	1.9
2	Bay Horizon Park, 7467 Gemini St.	68.2
3	Birch Bay Beach Park, 7930 Birch Bay Dr.	13.7
4	Birch Bay Conservancy Area, 7000 Point Whitehorn Rd.	45.0
5	Birch Bay Tidelands	151.0
6	Boulevard Park, 471 Bayview Dr.	1.4
7	Broadway Beach Access, 7497 Birch Bay Dr.	0.1
8	Cagey Road, 3130 Haxton Way	20.0
9	Camp 2 RR ROW, 3775 Camp 2 Rd.	2.3
10	Canyon Lake Community Forest, 8300 Mt. Baker Hwy.	2,266.0
11	Chuckanut Mountain Park, 745 Old Samish Rd.	987.9
12	Cottonwood Beach Access, 8191 Birch Bay Dr.	5.1
13	Deming Eagle Homestead Park, 5615 Truck Rd.	33.0
14	Dittrich Park, 319 E Lake Samish Dr.	25.2
15	Drayton Harbor Tidelands	0.3
16	Euclid Park, 1570 Euclid Ave.	2.2
17	Galbraith Mountain Access, 800 Birch Falls Dr.	20.0
18	Glacier Cemetery	0.5
19	Halverson Park, 5075 Anderson Rd.	5.6
20	Haynie Road, 2876 Haynie Rd.	1.9
21	Hegg, 3845 Blue Canyon Rd.	3.5
22	Hovander Homestead Park and Tennant Lake, 5299 Nielsen Rd.	333.4
23	Jackson Rd. Beach Access, 7465 Birch Bay Dr.	0.2
24	Jensen Family Forest Park, 8051 Stein Rd.	21.5
25	Josh VanderYacht Park, 4106 Valley Highway	2.0
26	Kickerville Road, 4110 Bay Rd.	2.6
27	Lake Whatcom Park, 3220 North Shore Rd.	4,853.0
28	Lighthouse Marine Park, 811 Marine Dr. in Point Roberts	20.5
29	Lily Point Marine Park, 2315 APA Rd. in Point Roberts	262.1
30	Little Squalicum Park, 640 Marine Dr.	12.7
31	Lookout Mountain Forest Preserve, 2537 Lake Louise Rd.	4,682.8
32	Lummi Island Beach Access, 2198 N. Nugent Rd.	0.2
33	Maple Beach Tidelands	100.9
34	Maple Creek Park, 7842 Silver Lake Rd.	73.1
35	Maple Falls Community Park, 7470 Second St.	4.2
36	Monument Park, 25 Marine Dr. in Point Roberts	6.9
37	Nugent's Corner River Access, 3685 Mt. Baker Highway	14.2
38	Ostrom Conservation Site, 4304 South Pass Rd.	38.6
39	Phillips 66 Soccer Park, 5238 Northwest Dr.	36.6
40	Point Whitehorn Marine Reserve, 6770 Koehn Rd.	54.1
41	Redwood Park, 3310 Redwood Ave.	0.3
42	Samish Park, 673 N. Lake Samish Dr.	30.6
43	Samish Way, 5170 Samish Way	1.4
44	Semiahmoo Park, 9261 Semiahmoo Parkway	291.9
45	Silver Lake Park, 9006 Silver Lake Rd.	413.4
46	South Fork Park, 1530 Mosquito Lake Rd.	603.0
47	South Lake Whatcom Park, 4144 S Bay Dr.	79.5
48	South Pass East, 4900 South Pass Rd.	0.5
49	South Pass West, 4190 South Pass Rd.	0.4
50	Squires Lake Park, 2510 Nulle Rd.	84.2
51	Stimpson Family Nature Reserve, 2076 Lake Louise Rd.	400.4
52	Sunnyside Landing, 2870 Northshore Rd.	6.3
53	Sunset Beach, 2580 West Shore Dr. on Lummi Island	7.0
54	Sunset Farm Park, 7977 Blaine Rd.	69.5
55	Ted Edwards Park, 4150 Oriental Ave.	3.5
56	Teddy Bear Cove Park, 1467 Chuckanut Dr.	11.2
57	Terrell Creek Access, 7417 Jackson Rd.	0.5
58	Terrell Creek Heron Rookery, 7065 Jackson Rd.	15.0
59	Terrell Creek Point, 7685 Birch Bay Dr.	6.7
60	Turner-Jaeger, 1975 Lake Louise Rd.	3.8
61	Welcome Bridge River Access, 5585 Mosquito Lake Rd.	0.6
TOTAL		16,204.1

Pursuant to RCW 36.87.130, there are also public access properties on right-of-way ends that intersect shorelines.

Future Needs

A level of service of 9.6 acres of developed parkland for every 1,000 people in the County was adopted in the Whatcom County Comprehensive Plan. The County’s existing parks will meet the adopted level of service over the six-year planning period. However, the County is proposing park improvement projects to increase quality of existing park facilities and develop the Birch Bay Community Park to meet the longer term needs of a growing population.

Proposed Improvement Projects

Park improvement projects, totaling almost \$6.5 million, are proposed over the six-year planning period.

Trails

Whatcom County currently has almost 74 miles of trails in various locations throughout the County. This inventory is shown below.

Table 2. Existing Trails

Site No.	Trail Name and Location	Miles
1	Bay Horizon/Bay Crest Trail	0.75
2	Bay to Baker Maple Falls-Glacier	4.00
3	Canyon Lake Community Forest	7.01
4	Chuckanut Mountain / Pine & Cedar Lakes	16.60
5	Deming Homestead Eagle Park, Truck Rd.	0.30
6	Hovander Homestead Park	3.20
7	Interurban, Chuckanut area	3.15
8	Jensen Family Forest Park, Stein Rd. and Birch Bay Lynden Rd.	0.67
9	Lake Whatcom Park	8.50
10	Lily Point, Point Roberts	2.00
11	Lookout Mountain Forest Preserve	6.80
12	Maple Creek Park, 7842 Silver Lake Rd., Maple Falls	1.28
13	Monument Park, 25 Marine Dr. in Point Roberts	0.35
14	Phillips 66 Soccer Park Trail (Used to be Northwest Soccer Park), Smith	0.38
15	Ostrom Conservation Site, 4304 South Pass Rd.	0.56
16	Point Whitehorn Marine Reserve, 6770 Koehn Rd, Birch Bay	0.81
17	Samish Park, 673 N. Lake Samish	1.38
18	Semiahmoo Park	0.63
19	Silver Lake Park, 9006 Silver Lake Rd.	5.28
20	South Fork Park	2.30
21	Squires Lake, 2510 Nulle Rd.	2.88
22	Stimpson Family Nature Reserve, 2076 Lake Louise Rd.	4.02
23	Sunset Farm, 7977 Blaine Rd.	0.56
24	Teddy Bear Cove	0.33
TOTAL		73.74

Future Needs

A level of service of 0.60 miles of trails for every 1,000 people in the County was adopted in the Whatcom County Comprehensive Plan. With projected population growth in Whatcom County over the next six years, about 71 additional miles of trails would be needed by the year 2026 to serve the people of Whatcom County.

Proposed Improvement Projects

Trail improvement projects and associated facilities, totaling approximately \$4.8 million dollars, are proposed over the six-year planning period. These projects would add 9 trail miles (the South Fork Park trails project would add 5 miles and the Lake Whatcom trails project would add 4 miles). Additionally, the Birch Bay Drive & Pedestrian Facility (beach restoration and berm project) will add 1 mile of trail.

While there is a shortfall in trail miles provided by the County, there are other trails that are owned/maintained by a variety of agencies or jurisdictions that provide recreational opportunities for Whatcom County residents and visitors.

Activity Centers

There are currently 13 activity centers that provide a variety of year-round programs for various age groups. The activity center inventory is shown below.

Table 3. Existing Activity Centers

Site No.	Activity Center Name and Location
1	Bay Horizon, 7511 Gemini Street
2	Bellingham Senior Activity Center, 315 Halleck Street
3	Blaine Community Senior Center, 763 G Street
4	East Whatcom Regional Resource Center, 8251 Kendall Rd.
5	Everson Senior Center, 111 W. Main Street
6	Ferndale Senior Center, 1999 Cherry Street
7	Lynden Senior Center, 401 Grover Street
8	Plantation Rifle Range, 5102 Samish Way
9	Point Roberts Senior Center, 1487 Gulf Road
10	Roeder Home, 2600 Sunset Dr.
11	Sumas Senior Center, 461 2nd Street
12	Van Zandt Community Hall, 4106 Valley Highway
13	Welcome Senior Center, 5103 Mosquito Lake Rd.

Note: The Blaine, Everson, Lynden and Sumas Centers are owned by these respective cities. The Point Roberts Center is owned by the Point Roberts Park District. Whatcom County provides and/or contracts for senior activities and recreational programming at these centers.

Future Needs

The Whatcom County Comprehensive Plan does not contain a level of service standard for activity centers. Rather, Comprehensive Plan Policy 4F-5 states:

Continue to provide and support activity centers, including senior centers, to serve the growing population of Whatcom County by the following methods, as needed, which are listed in priority order: (1) implementing programming changes, (2) adding space to existing centers, and/or (3) establishing new centers.

Proposed Improvement Projects

Two activity center projects, involving a boiler replacement at the East Whatcom Regional Resource Center and demolition of a building at Bay Horizon, are proposed. These project will cost about \$591,000 within the six-year planning period.

Six-Year Capital Improvement Program

The park, trail, and activity center projects planned over the next six years are shown below.

Table 4. Park, Trail, and Activity Center Projects Planned Over the Next Six Years

Project #	Funding Source	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025	2026	Totals	
1	Nugent's Corner Buiding Demolition	1	67,713					67,713	
2	Parks Admin Offices HVAC Replacement & Upgrade	1	81,411					81,411	
3	Lighthouse Marine Park Siding & Roofing	1		168,350				168,350	
4	Silver Lake Restrooms & Day-Use Improvements	1	1,430,000	1,450,000	910,000			3,790,000	
5	Birch Bay Beach Park Development	2, 3	140,000	392,825				532,825	
6	Hovander Picnic Shelters	1		53,200	210,000	105,000		368,200	
7	Silver Lake Cabins Capital Maintenance Program	1			250,603			250,603	
8	Hertz Trail Capital Maintenance Program	1				25,000	195,000	220,000	
9	Stimpson Family Nature Reserve Parking Improvements	1		80,075				80,075	
10	Lookout Mtn Forest Preserve Parking Improvements	1			94,218			94,218	
11	Lake Whatcom Park Trailhead	1	352,025			1,350,000	975,000	2,677,025	
12	Lily Point Marine Park Parking Improvements	1					241,136	241,136	
13	South Fork Park Bridges & Connector Trail	1, 2	29,000	125,000	125,000	515,000		794,000	
14	Tennant Lake Interpretive Center Remodel	1				10,000	56,383	66,383	
15	Hovander Park Access Improvements	1, 2					250,000	250,000	
16	Samish Park Parking/Vehicular Circulation Improvement	1				75,000	225,000	300,000	
17	Bay Horizon Hostel Demolition	1					456,248	456,248	
18	Lake Whatcom Trail Development	1	189,000					189,000	
19	Hovander Maintenance Shop	1	175,000					175,000	
20	Maple Falls Park Trailhead Restroom & Parking	1, 2				182,500	750,000	932,500	
21	East Whatcom Regional Resource Center-Replace Boiler	4		134,770				134,770	
Parks Totals			2,464,149	2,404,220	1,589,821	1,995,000	1,678,636	1,737,631	11,869,457
<u>Funding Sources:</u>									
1. Real Estate Excise Tax (REET)									
2. Grants									
3. Parks Special Revenue Fund									
4. Economic Development Investment (EDI) Funds									

Chapter 3 – Maintenance and Operations

Existing Maintenance and Operations Space

The 2020 inventory of maintenance & operations/facilities management space is 70,681 square feet. This inventory is shown below.

Table 5. Existing Space

Site No.	Facility Name	Square feet
1	Central Shop, 901 W. Smith Rd. (Maintenance and Operations)	35,773
2	3720 Williamson Way (Facilities Management)	31,248
3	Minimum Security Correction Facility - 2030 Division St. (Facilities Management Storage)	3,660
TOTAL		70,681

Future Needs

The Whatcom County Comprehensive Plan does not contain a level of service standard for maintenance and operations. The County will budget for improvements to such facilities as needed.

Proposed Improvement Projects

Improvement and maintenance projects on existing buildings and sites over the six-year planning period total over \$812,000 as shown below.

Table 6. Proposed Maintenance and Operations Projects

<u>Maintenance & Operations</u>	<u>Funding Source</u>							<u>Total Cost</u>
		<u>2021</u>	<u>2022</u>	<u>2023</u>	<u>2024</u>	<u>2025</u>	<u>2026</u>	
1. Central Shop - Vactor Building	1	330,000						330,000
2. Central Shop - Road Oil Tank	1	236,500						236,500
3. Central Shop - Roof Replacement	2, 3	232,875						232,875
4. HVAC Programming (3720 Williamson Way)	3	13,000						13,000
TOTAL		812,375						812,375

Funding Sources

1. Road Fund
2. Equipment Rental & Revolving (ER&R) Fund
3. Real Estate Excise Tax (REET)

Chapter 4 – General Government Buildings and Sites

Existing Office Space

The 2020 inventory of County government office space is 331,141 square feet at nine locations. This inventory is shown below.

Table 7. Existing County Government Office Space

Site No.	Facility Name	Square feet
1	Civic Center Annex (322 North Commercial)	30,000
2	Central Plaza Building (215 N. Commercial)	10,307
3	County Courthouse (311 Grand Avenue)	200,000
4	Forest St. Annex (1000 North Forest St.)	14,000
5	509 Girard St.	13,189
6	3373 Mt. Baker Highway	2,110
7	1500 N. State St.	16,820
8	Northwest Annex (5280 Northwest Dr.)	20,265
9	Crisis Stabilization Center (2026 Division St.)	<u>24,450</u>
TOTAL		331,141

Future Needs

The Whatcom County Comprehensive Plan does not contain a level of service standard for general government buildings. The County will budget for improvements to such facilities as needed.

Proposed Improvement Projects

Improvement and maintenance projects on existing buildings and sites over the six-year planning period total approximately \$52.5 million as shown below.

Table 8. Proposed Government Building and Site Improvement Projects

	Funding Source	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025	2026	Totals	
1	Courthouse Maintenance Projects (311 Grand Ave)	1, 2	311,837	1,020,514		500,000	500,000	2,332,351	
2	Northwest Annex Campus	2, 3, 4	1,950,000	12,000,000	12,000,000			25,950,000	
3	Courthouse Exterior Project - Phase 2 (311 Grand Ave)	1, 2	500,000	2,921,000	2,921,000			6,342,000	
4	Improvements, including remodel and HVAC (1500 N. State St)	5, 6			750,000	8,717,000		9,467,000	
5	Improvements, including roof, HVAC, and windows (509 Girard St)	2				80,000	1,380,000	1,460,000	
6	Prosecuting Attorney - Office Update (311 Grand Ave)	1	60,514					60,514	
7	Civic Center - Parking Lot (322 N. Commercial)	1, 4				75,000	400,000	475,000	
8	Civic Center Building Renovation (322 N Commercial)	1, 4	3,000,000	1,600,000	400,000			5,000,000	
9	Interior Painting, Carpets, Asphalt Repairs (various locations)	1	165,000	165,000	165,000	165,000	165,000	990,000	
10	Central Plaza Debt Service (215 N. Commercial)	1	124,000	124,000	124,000			372,000	
11	ADA Compliance (various locations)	1	40,000	40,000				80,000	
Totals			6,151,351	17,870,514	16,360,000	9,537,000	2,445,000	165,000	52,528,865

Funding Sources

1. Real Estate Excise Tax (REET)
2. Economic Development Initiative (EDI)
3. Debt
4. Road Fund
5. State Street Project Based Budget
6. Grants

Chapter 5 – Sheriff’s Office

Existing Sheriff’s Office Space

The 2020 inventory of Sheriff’s office space is 22,902 square feet. This inventory is shown below.

Table 9. Existing Sheriff’s Facilities

Site No.	Facility Name	Square Feet
1	Public Safety Building (311 Grand Ave)	15,102
2	Minimum Security Correction Facility (2030 Division St.)	6,000
3	Laurel Substation (194 W. Laurel Rd.)	<u>1,800</u>
TOTAL		22,902

Notes: The Sheriff’s Office also has storage facilities at various locations in Whatcom County. The County has two mobile homes and an old detention facility in Point Roberts. The resident deputies operate out of their homes or utilize space at the U.S. Customs office at the border.

Future Needs

The Whatcom County Comprehensive Plan does not contain a level of service standard for Sheriff’s Office facilities. Rather, Comprehensive Plan Policy 4D-2 is to:

Maintain Sheriff’s Office adult corrections facilities and headquarters to provide a safe environment for the community, staff and inmates. . . Existing facilities may be expanded, remodeled, and/or new facilities developed in response to changing need.

Proposed Improvement Projects

A new Sheriff’s Office, satellite office, and a new public safety radio system are planned within the next six years. The comprehensive radio system update will include infrastructure (such as towers), radio systems in buildings, radios in vehicles, and hand-held radios. These improvements will cost almost \$22 million, as shown below.

Table 10. Proposed Sheriff’s Office Improvement Projects

Project #	Funding Source	Funding						Totals
		2021	2022	2023	2024	2025	2026	
Sheriff’s Office & Satellite Office	1, 2			1,200,000	14,400,000			15,600,000
Public Safety Radio System	3, 4, 5, 6	1,500,000	850,000	1,425,000	1,575,000	780,000		6,130,000
	Totals	1,500,000	850,000	2,625,000	15,975,000	780,000	-	21,730,000

Funding Source

1. Real Estate Excise Tax (REET)
2. Debt
3. Grants
4. Economic Development Investment (EDI) Fund
5. Fire Districts/Departments
6. Countywide Emergency Medical Services (EMS) Fund

Chapter 6 – Emergency Management

Existing Emergency Management Space

The 2020 inventory of Sheriff’s Office, Division of Emergency Management space is 24,000 square feet, located at the Whatcom Unified Emergency Coordination Center (WUECC). Rented by and shared between both Whatcom County and the City of Bellingham, the WUECC is comprised of 2,000 square feet of office space and an additional 22,000 square feet of support facilities (used for meetings, training, exercises, and during emergencies). The WUECC serves as the Emergency Operations Center for both the County and the City.

Table 11. Existing Emergency Management/EOC Facilities

Site No.	Facility Name	Square feet
1	Whatcom Unified Emergency Coordination Center 3888 Sound Way, Bellingham	24,000

Future Needs

The Whatcom County Comprehensive Plan does not contain a level of service standard for emergency management facilities. Rather, Comprehensive Plan Policy 4D-4 is to:

Maintain adequate facilities for daily emergency management activities and, during an emergency or disaster, for the emergency operations center. The facilities will provide sufficient space for activities relating to emergency/disaster planning, mitigation, response and recovery. Existing facilities may be expanded, remodeled, and/ or new facilities developed in response to changing need.

The County will budget for improvements to such facilities as needed.

Proposed Improvement Projects

There is one emergency management capital improvement project planned over the next six years, as shown below.

Table 12. Proposed Emergency Management/EOC Improvement Projects

Emergency Management	Funding Source	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025	2026	Total Cost
1. Whatcom Unified Emergency Coordination Center Re-Roof Project	1, 2, 3	405,842						405,842
TOTAL								

Funding Sources

1. Real Estate Excise Tax (REET)
2. City of Bellingham
3. Port of Bellingham

Chapter 7 – Adult Corrections

Existing Jail Facilities

The County’s Main Jail was designed and originally built to hold 148 beds, although with some limited remodeling and the use of double bunking, the operational capacity of the main jail should be for the use of 212 beds. Additionally, the jail is currently not in compliance with the Building/Fire Codes for double bunking, although a plan has been approved to bring it into partial compliance. Whatcom County completed construction of a 150 bed minimum security correction facility on Division St. in 2006. The Main Jail is located in the Public Safety Building next to the County Courthouse in downtown Bellingham and the Minimum Security Correction Facility is located in the Bakerview Rd. industrial area.

Table 13. Existing Jail Beds

Site No.	Facility Name	Jail Beds
1	Public Safety Building (311 Grand Ave.)	212
2	Jail Work Center (2030 Division St.)	<u>150</u>
TOTAL		362

Note: As the result of the COVID-19 pandemic, the jail is operating at a reduced capacity to provide for social distancing until such time as the pandemic is declared under control by the Washington State Department of Health. Due to the mix of offenders, a firm population cap has not been set, but is anticipated to remain at approximately 150 offenders at the Downtown Jail.

Future Needs

There continues to be serious concerns among law and justice officials related to jail facility needs in the community. That need has been documented over the years, with the most recent being the *Building Assessment Studies and Cost Estimates for Capital Improvements at the Jail (Public Safety Building)* (Sept. 2017).

The Whatcom County Comprehensive Plan does not contain a level of service standard for jail facilities. Rather, Comprehensive Plan Policy 4D-2 is to:

Maintain Sheriff’s Office adult corrections facilities and headquarters to provide a safe environment for the community, staff and inmates. The number of jail beds in adult corrections facilities will be determined after review of multiple factors, including projected population growth, State sentencing laws, alternative programs, treatment diversion programs, early release programs, the need to separate violent inmates, the need to separate inmates by gender, the need to separate inmates by other classification considerations, average length of stay, peak inmate populations and available funding. Existing facilities may be expanded, remodeled, and/ or new facilities developed in response to changing need.

Proposed Improvement Projects

The adult corrections projects planned over the next six years are shown below.

Table 14. Proposed Improvement Projects

Project #		Funding Source	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025	2026	Totals
1	Public Health, Safety, and Justice Facilities	1			5,000,000	90,000,000			95,000,000
2	Jail Work Center - Hot Water Tanks	2	197,922						197,922
	Totals		197,922	0	5,000,000	90,000,000	0	0	95,197,922

Funding Sources

1. Investigate alternative funding sources outside of debt and sales tax
2. Jail Improvement Fund

Chapter 8 – Juvenile Detention

Existing Juvenile Detention Facilities

The 2020 inventory of County juvenile detention facilities includes 32 beds serving the countywide population. The juvenile detention facility is located on the sixth floor of the County Courthouse at 311 Grand Avenue.

Table 15. Existing Juvenile Detention Beds

Site No.	Facility Name	Beds
1	County Courthouse (311 Grand Ave.)	32

Future Needs

The Whatcom County Comprehensive Plan does not contain a level of service standard for juvenile detention facilities. Rather, Comprehensive Plan Policy 4D-3 is to:

Maintain juvenile detention facilities and alternative corrections programs to provide safe and secure methods to provide accountability and support for minors who break the law. Existing facilities may be expanded, remodeled, and/or new facilities developed in response to changing need.

The County will budget for improvements to such facilities as needed.

Proposed Improvement Projects

There are no juvenile detention capital improvement projects planned in the six-year planning period.

Chapter 9 – Transportation

Existing Roads

The 2019 inventory shows a total of 935.44 miles of County roads.

Future Needs

The Whatcom County Comprehensive Plan sets level of service (LOS) standards for County roads. Future traffic and the level of service for roads can be forecasted using computer-modeling software. The Whatcom Council of Governments forecasts future traffic utilizing a computer transportation model. This modeling effort will inform transportation planning in Whatcom County.

Whatcom County accomplishes planning for County road improvements by approving a Six-Year Transportation Improvement Program each year, as required by RCW 36.81.121.

Proposed Improvement Projects

The Whatcom County Six-Year Transportation Improvement Program includes preliminary planning for two proposed new road projects:

- Horton Road connector (between Northwest Drive and Aldrich Road); and
- Lincoln Road extension (between Harborview Road and Blaine Road).

While these two projects are on the Six-Year Transportation Improvement Program, construction is not anticipated within the six-year planning period. Rather, preliminary engineering to determine project feasibility may be initiated within this time frame.

The six-year plan contains a variety of projects, including bridge replacements, intersection improvements, reconstruction, fish passage projects, and the Birch Bay Drive & Pedestrian Facility improvements, which include pedestrian and non-motorized enhancements along Birch Bay Dr.

Existing Ferry Facilities

Whatcom County currently has one ferry vessel serving Lummi Island. The ferry runs between Lummi Island and Gooseberry Point on a daily basis.

Future Needs

Current Whatcom County Comprehensive Plan Policy 6A-1 establishes the following LOS standard for the ferry:

The Lummi Island Ferry Advisory Committee (LIFAC) is cooperating with Public Works to develop an updated LOS standard. LIFAC will present a revision to this section when that work is complete. The interim LOS is calculated using the scheduled trips, the estimated car units of the ferry and the Small Area Estimates Program (SAEP) population figure. The interim standard is established at 439 (LOS = (Scheduled one way trips X estimated car units for the boat) X 2 / SAEP [Small Area Estimate Program] population figure from OFM for Lummi Island).

The Special Programs Manager for the County Public Works Department confirmed that the ferry service currently meets the interim LOS standard.

Proposed Improvement Projects

The Six-Year Transportation Improvement Program includes construction of ferry terminal improvements, preliminary engineering and design for replacing the Whatcom Chief, and preliminary engineering and right-of-way acquisition for relocation of the ferry terminal.

Total Transportation Costs

Transportation projects, including road and ferry projects, total approximately \$54 million over the six-year planning period. This includes approximately \$39 million in local funds, with the remainder coming from the State and Federal governments.

Chapter 10 – Stormwater Facilities

Existing Stormwater Management Facilities

The Public Works Department is responsible for design, engineering, and construction of county-owned stormwater facilities. Many stormwater facilities are road-related stormwater conveyance systems such as culverts and ditches on and adjacent to county roads. Others are off right-of-way facilities that control storm flows and improve water quality.

In response to increasing federal and state mandates to manage stormwater and the public’s desire to improve stewardship of sensitive watersheds, Whatcom County established a Stormwater Division in 2005. The Stormwater Division is responsible for planning, designing, engineering, and construction of stormwater facilities. Inventories of existing stormwater facilities are maintained by the Public Works Department. The Engineering Services Division maintains an inventory of all road-related facilities. The Stormwater Division maintains an inventory of public and private stormwater facilities in the area covered by the County’s NPDES Phase II permit for Municipal Separate Storm Sewer Systems. This inventory includes ditches, culverts, catch basins, vaults, ponds, and swales. Completed Stormwater Construction Projects since the Stormwater Division was created in 2005 are listed below.

Table 16. Completed Stormwater Construction Projects Since 2005

Existing Site No.	Watershed	Facility Name	Year Completed
1	Lake Whatcom	Geneva Stormwater Retrofits	2006
2	Lake Whatcom	Cable Street Reconstruction & Stormwater Improvements	2007
3	Lake Whatcom	Lahti Drive Stormwater Improvements	2010
4	Lake Whatcom	Silver Beach Creek Improvements - Brownsville Drive to E. 16th Place	2011
5	Lake Whatcom	Silver Beach Creek Improvements - West Tributary	2012
6	Lake Whatcom	Coronado-Fremont Stormwater Improvements	2014
7	Lake Whatcom	Cedar Hills-Euclid Stormwater Improvements	2016
8	Lake Whatcom	Agate Bay Improvements-Phase 1 & 2	2018-2019



Figure 1. Lake Whatcom Cedar Hills-Euclid Stormwater Improvements

Whatcom County Public Works regularly seeks and is awarded grant money that contributes to the design and construction of these stormwater projects that improve water quality through treatment systems and stream stabilization.

Future Needs

An increasing emphasis on the protection of sensitive watersheds has resulted in the adoption of comprehensive stormwater plans, including plans for Lake Whatcom and Birch Bay. The adopted plans identify work towards planning, design, engineering, and construction of capital projects intended to address stormwater issues.

Proposed Improvement Projects

Stormwater improvement projects totaling over \$12 million are proposed over the six-year planning period as shown below. These costs would be paid by Real Estate Excise Tax (REET), Lake Whatcom Stormwater Utility, grants, Road fund, and funding from the Birch Bay Watershed and Aquatic Resources Management District (BBWARM).

Table 17. Proposed Stormwater Improvement Projects

	Funding Source	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025	2026	Totals
1 Silver Beach Creek -Phase 1	1	560,000						560,000
2 Academy Stormwater Facility - Phase 2	1, 2	100,000		300,000				400,000
3 Geneva - Bioretention	1, 3	125,000	730,000	10,000	10,000			875,000
4 Sudden Valley - Stormwater Improvements	1	150,000	600,000					750,000
5 Silver Beach Creek - Stream Bank Erosion Project Phase 2	1	70,000	80,000		600,000			750,000
6 Eagleridge - Stormwater Improvements	1			55,000	100,000	325,000		480,000
7 Strawberry Pt/Lake Whatcom Blvd - Stormwater Improvements	1			120,000	140,000	650,000		910,000
8 Austin Court - Stormwater Improvements	1				42,000	80,000	320,000	442,000
9 Viewhaven Lane - Water Quality and Conveyance	1					66,000	160,000	226,000
10 Geneva St./Lake Louise Rd - Culvert Replacement	1, 4						75,000	75,000
11 Shallow Shore Drive - Culvert Relocation	1	100,000	250,000					350,000
12 Semiahmoo Drive - Stormwater Improvements	1, 5	135,000	480,000					615,000
13 Harborview Rd./Birch Bay Dr - Stormwater Improvements	1, 5	1,100,000	30,000					1,130,000
14 Holeman Ave. - Stormwater Improvements	1, 5	50,000	200,000					250,000
15 Lora Lane - Drainage & Tide Gate Modifications	1, 4, 5	35,000	150,000	1,200,000				1,385,000
16 Wooldridge Ave & Sunset Drive - Stormwater Improvements	1, 3, 5		100,000	120,000	1,000,000			1,220,000
17 Hillsdale - Stormwater Improvements Phase 1	1, 5			100,000	150,000	500,000		750,000
18 Morrison Ave & Terrill Drive - Stormwater Improvements	1, 5				100,000	120,000	700,000	920,000
19 Normar Place - Stormwater Improvements	5					50,000	75,000	125,000
Stormwater Totals		2,425,000	2,620,000	1,905,000	2,142,000	1,791,000	1,330,000	12,213,000

Funding Sources

1. Real Estate Excise Tax (REET)
2. Lake Whatcom Stormwater Utility
3. Grants
4. Road Fund
5. Birch Bay Watershed and Aquatic Resources Management District (BBWARM)

Chapter 11 – Total Costs

Total Costs for the six-year planning period are shown below.

Table 18. Total Costs for the Six-Year Planning Period

	Total Costs 2021-2026	Percent of Total Costs
Parks, Trails, and Activity Centers	11,869,457	4.78%
Maintenance and Operations	812,375	0.33%
General Government Buildings and Sites	52,528,865	21.17%
Sheriff's Office	21,730,000	8.76%
Emergency Management	405,842	0.16%
Adult Corrections	95,197,922	38.36%
Juvenile Detention	0	0.00%
Transportation	53,797,000	21.68%
Stormwater Facilities	<u>12,213,000</u>	<u>4.92%</u>
TOTAL	248,554,461	100.00%

The County plans to undertake capital improvement projects costing approximately \$248 million between 2021 and 2026, which will be financed with a combination of local, state, federal, and other funding sources.