

**Six-Year
Capital Improvement Program
For Whatcom County Facilities
2015-2020**

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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 "level of service" standards for County parks, trails, correction facilities, and administrative facilities (i.e. Sheriff's office space). Level of service standards are expressed in miles of trails needed for every 1,000 people in the County, square feet of Sheriff's office space needed to serve each person in unincorporated areas, etc. Capital facility needs are forecasted over the six-year planning period by applying the adopted level of service for a given facility to the expected population in the year 2020 or by considering other relevant factors.~~

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

~~General locations and capacities (trail miles, jail beds, etc.) of proposed County facilities are indicated in this document.~~

~~*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 2014 dollars). There are a variety of funding sources that the County utilizes to pay for capital facilities, including real estate excise taxes, the public utilities improvement fund (also known as the Economic Development Initiative or EDI fund), grants and a variety of other funds. It is anticipated that the County's largest project in the six-year planning period, the new jail, will require voter approval of an additional revenue stream.~~

~~Revenue and expenditure projections for roads and related non-motorized facilities are set forth in documents associated with the six-year transportation improvement program:~~

~~*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. Appropriation for 2015-2016 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 2017-2020 are included for planning purposes and review of potential future needs, but not for budget authorization at this time.~~

~~**Contracting for Services**~~

~~Whatcom County may contract with other entities, such as the Council of Governments and the Northwest Regional Council, for vital community services. These contracts represent County participation in providing essential services, alongside other partners, without the need to construct County owned capital facilities, which can be very costly.~~

Chapter 2 – Parks, Trails, and Activity Centers

Parks

The 2014 inventory of County parks and open space areas is more than 15,000 acres. This inventory is shown below:

Existing Parks

Existing Site No.	Park Name and Location	Acres
1	Bay Horizon Park, 7499 Alderson Rd.	69.80
2	Deming Eagle Homestead Park, Truck Rd.	28.50
3	Hovander Homestead Park and Tennant Lake, 5299 Nielsen Rd.	338.30
4	Interurban Trail/Teddy Bear Cove Parkway, Chuckanut Dr.	11.19
5	Jackson Rd. Beach Access, Birch Bay	0.15
6	Jensen Family Forest Park, Stein Rd. and Birch Bay Lynden Rd.	21.70
7	Josh VanderYacht Park, 4106 Valley Highway	1.99
8	Lake Whatcom Park, North Shore Rd.	4,686.50
9	Lighthouse Marine Park, 811 Marine Dr. in Point Roberts	24.30
10	Lily Point Marine Park, East end of APA Rd. in Point Roberts	274.00
11	Lummi Island Overlook, Nugent Rd.	0.16
12	Maple Beach, Boundary Bay Rd. in Point Roberts	0.50
13	Monument Park, Marine Dr. and Roosevelt in Point Roberts	7.30
14	Northwest Soccer Park/Baseball & Softball Complex	36.50
15	Nugent's Corner Access, 3671 Mt. Baker Highway	16.50
16	Point Whitehorn Marine Reserve, Koehn Rd.	55.30
17	Samish Park, 673 N. Lake Samish Dr.	26.40
18	Semiahmoo Park, 9261 Semiahmoo Parkway	304.00
19	Silver Lake Park, 9187 Silver Lake Rd.	410.40
20	Squires Lake Park, 135 Old Highway 99 North Rd.	82.30
21	Stimpson Family Nature Reserve, Lake Louise Rd.	376.10
22	Sunset Beach, West Shore Dr. on Lummi Island	2.25
23	Sunset Farm, 7989 Blaine Rd.	70.00
24	Ted Edwards Park, Oriental Ave.	3.85
25	Welcome Bridge Access, Mosquito Lake Rd.	0.50
26	Birch Bay Shoreline Properties	11.35
27	Canyon Lake Community Forest	2,266.00
28	Chuckanut Mountain Park	973.10
30	Lookout Mountain Forest Preserve	4,430.30
31	Plantation Rifle Range	60.00
32	South Fork Regional Park	550.30
33	Halverson Park	5.60
34	Roeder Home	1.00
	TOTAL	15,146.14

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 South Fork Park to meet the longer term needs of a growing population.

Proposed Improvement Projects

Park improvement projects, totaling more than \$2 million, are proposed over the six-year planning period. These costs would be paid by real estate excise taxes (REET), the Nessel Foundation and the Park Improvement Fund as shown in the table at the end of this chapter.

Trails

~~Whatcom County currently has 65.46 miles of trails in various locations throughout the County. This inventory is shown below.~~

Existing Trails

Existing 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	15.52
5	Deming Homestead Eagle Park, Truck Rd.	0.30
6	Euclid Park	0.05
7	Hovander Homestead Park	3.20
8	Interurban, Chuckanut area	2.80
9	Jensen Family Forest Park, Stein Rd. and Birch Bay Lynden Rd.	0.67
10	Lake Whatcom Park	4.01
11	Lily Point, Point Roberts	4.16
12	Lookout Mountain Forest Preserve	4.11
13	Maple Creek, off Silver Lake Rd. in Maple Falls	1.28
14	Monument Park, Marine Dr. and Roosevelt in Point Roberts	0.35
15	Ostrom Conservation Site, 4304 South Pass Rd.	0.56
16	Point Whitehorn Marine Reserve, Birch Bay area	0.81
17	Samish Park, 673 N. Lake Samish	1.66
18	Semiahmoo Park	0.63
19	Silver Lake Park, 9187 Silver Lake Rd.	5.75
20	Northwest Soccer Park Trail, Smith Rd. and Northwest Dr.	0.38
21	Squires Lake, 135 Old Highway 99 North Rd.	2.88
22	Stimpson Family Nature Reserve, Lake Louise Rd.	4.02
23	Sunset Farm, 7989 Blaine Rd.	0.56
TOTAL		65.46

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, approximately 70 additional miles of trails would be needed by the year 2020 to serve the people of Whatcom County.~~

Proposed Improvement Projects

~~Trail improvement projects, totaling \$638,000, are proposed over the six-year planning period. These costs would be paid by REET, the Park Improvement Fund, donations and state grants as shown in the table at the end of this chapter. This could potentially add about 58 miles of trails to the County's inventory.~~

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.

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	Everson Senior Center, 111 W. Main
5	Ferndale Senior Center, 1998 Cherry Street
6	Lynden Community Center, 401 Grover Street
7	Plantation Rifle Range, 5102 Samish Way
8	Point Roberts Community Center, 1487 Gulf Road
9	Roeder Home, 2600 Sunset Dr.
10	Sumas Community Center, 461 2nd Street
11	Van Zandt Community Hall, 4106 Valley Highway
12	Welcome Valley Senior Center, 5103 Mosquito Lake Rd.
13	East Whatcom Regional Resource Center, 8251 Kendall Rd.

Note: The Blaine, Everson, Lynden and Sumas Centers are owned by these respective cities. The Point Roberts Community 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 sets a level of service standard of five activity centers for each 100,000 people in the County. The 13 existing activity centers will meet this level of service over the six-year planning period. The County will budget for operation and maintenance of such facilities as needed.

Proposed Improvement Projects

Activity center improvement projects, totaling \$430,000, are proposed over the six-year planning period. These costs would be paid by REET and a state grant as shown in the table below.

<u>Parks</u>	<u>2015</u>	<u>2016</u>	<u>2017</u>	<u>2018</u>	<u>2019</u>	<u>2020</u>	<u>Total Cost</u>	<u>Funding Sources</u>
Canyon Lake Comm Forest—Road Repair		135,000					135,000	2
Birch Bay Park Master Planning		50,000					50,000	2
Hovander Homestead—Roof Replacements	138,000						138,000	2
-								
Lighthouse Marine—Deck & Playground	25,000	225,000					250,000	2
-								
Lummi Island—Overlook Renovation			95,000				95,000	2
-								
Nesset—Farm House Restoration	125,000						125,000	3
-								
Samish—Playground Replacement	85,000						85,000	2
-								
Silver Lake—Utility, Road and Day Use	145,000	235,000	225,000	75,000	100,000	100,000	880,000	2
-								
South Fork—Park Development	129,100	140,900					270,000	2,4
-								
<u>Trails</u>								
Lake Whatcom / Lookout Mt Trails	20,000	20,000	80,000	10,000	80,000	10,000	220,000	4,5,6
-								
South Fork Park Trail			209,000	209,000			418,000	2,6
-								
<u>Activity Centers</u>								
Ferndale Senior Center—Roof		140,000					140,000	1
-								
Plantation Rifle Range—HVAC	290,000	-	-	-	-	-	290,000	1,6
TOTAL	957,100	945,900	609,000	294,000	180,000	110,000	3,096,000	
<u>Funding Sources</u>								
1.—REET I								
2.—REET II								
3.—Nesset Foundation								
4.—Park Improvement Fund								
5.—Donations								
6.—State Grant								

Chapter 3 – Maintenance and Operations

Existing Maintenance and Operations Space

The 2014 inventory of maintenance & operations/facilities management space that serves the County is 44,411 square feet. This inventory is shown below:

Existing Space

Site No.	Facility Name	Square feet
1	Central Shop, 901 W. Smith Rd. (Maintenance and Operations)	35,773
2	316 Lottie St. (Facilities Management)	4,978
3	Minimum Security Correction Facility - 2030 Division St. (Facilities Management Storage)	3,660
TOTAL		44,411

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 projects at the Central Shop, totaling \$267,550, are proposed over the six-year planning period. These costs would be paid by the road fund and shop services mark-ups as shown in the table below:

<u>Central Shop</u>	<u>2015</u>	<u>2016</u>	<u>2017</u>	<u>2018</u>	<u>2019</u>	<u>2020</u>	<u>Total Cost</u>	<u>Funding Source</u>
Replace Roof on Portable		32,550					32,550	1
Replace Vinyl Cover on Salt and Sand Bunker	60,000						60,000	1
-								
Exhaust System	175,000	-	-	-	-	-	175,000	2
-								
TOTAL	235,000	32,550					267,550	

Funding Sources

- 1. Road Fund
- 2. Shop Services Mark-ups

Chapter 4 – General Government Buildings and Sites

Existing Office Space

The 2014 inventory of County government office space is 179,596 square feet at eight locations. This inventory is shown below:

Site No.	Facility Name	Square feet
1	Civic Center Annex (322 North Commercial)	20,279
2	Central Plaza Building (215 N. Commercial)	10,307
3	County Courthouse (311 Grand Avenue)	94,678
4	Forest St. Annex (1000 North Forest St.)	6,487
5	509 Girard St.	13,189
6	3373 Mt. Baker Highway	2,110
7	1500 N. State St.	12,281
8	Northwest Annex (5280 Northwest Dr.)	<u>20,265</u>
TOTAL		179,596

Proposed Improvement Projects

Improvement and maintenance projects on existing buildings and sites over the six-year planning period total almost \$12.2 million as shown below:

	<u>2015</u>	<u>2016</u>	<u>2017</u>	<u>2018</u>	<u>2019</u>	<u>2020</u>	<u>Total Cost</u>	<u>Funding Sources</u>
<u>Courthouse</u>								
Fire Alarm Upgrade	25,000	155,000					180,000	1,2
Replace Roof (Over Juvenile)	5,000	75,000					80,000	1,2
Electrical Duct Heater (Juvenile Detention)		14,000					14,000	4
Panic Alarm Replacement	25,000						25,000	4
Exterior Project	250,000	2,250,000	2,000,000				4,500,000	1,2,3
-								
<u>1500 N. State St./Champion</u>								
Soil Clean-up	40,000	310,000	20,000	20,000	10,000		400,000	2
Remodel	600,000			1,400,000	405,000		2,405,000	2,4
-								
<u>Civic Center</u>								
4th Floor Remodel	200,000	1,050,000					1,250,000	5
2nd Floor Remodel		1,250,000					1,250,000	5
1st Floor Remodel			25,000	240,000			265,000	6

<u>509 Girard</u>								
Sidewalk Repair	13,000						13,000	2
Parking Lot Repairs	9,000						9,000	2
Replace 2 heat pumps & 1 gas pack roof unit		39,000					39,000	2
Minor Remodel		65,000	70,000				135,000	2
Roof Maintenance	5,000	55,000					60,000	2
Upgrade Heating Units	10,000	125,000					135,000	2
Replace Windows	15,000	105,000					120,000	2
-								
<u>Central Plaza Building</u>								
Replace Roof	10,000	115,000					125,000	4
Sidewalk/Asphalt Repair/Tree Removal	35,000						35,000	4
-								
<u>Northwest Annex</u>								
HVAC Cooling Tower Replacement	86,000						86,000	2
-								
<u>Sun House/E. Chestnut St.</u>								
Renovation	230,000						230,000	1,7
<u>Multiple Locations</u>								
HVAC Panel Controller Upgrades	73,340						73,340	4
Parking Lot Repairs	8,000	10,000					18,000	8
Security Video Upgrades	8,000	8,000					16,000	4
Replace Carpets	65,000	65,000	65,000	65,000	65,000	65,000	390,000	4
Painting	50,000	50,000	50,000	50,000	50,000	50,000	300,000	4
TOTAL	1,762,340	5,741,000	2,230,000	1,775,000	530,000	115,000	12,153,340	
Funding Sources								
1- REET								
2- EDI								
3- Inter-fund Loan								
4- State Street Fund								
5- Civic Center Fund								
6- Road Fund								
7- Donations								
8- General Fund								

~~Chapter 5 – Sheriff’s Office~~

~~Existing Sheriff’s Office Space~~

~~The 2014 inventory of Sheriff’s office space is 23,326 square feet serving the unincorporated population. This inventory is shown below.~~

~~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.)	1,800
4	East Whatcom Regional Resource Center (8251 Kendall Road)	144
5	Birch Bay Fire Hall	192
6	Nugent's Corner Fire Hall	<u>88</u>
TOTAL		23,326

~~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.~~

~~Sheriff’s Office facilities include shared space at local fire districts, which is rented or leased space not solely dedicated to Sheriff’s Office use. This space is available depending on Fire District needs and is generally subject to change with short notice.~~

~~Future Needs~~

~~A level of service of 0.26 square feet of Sheriff’s Office space per capita was adopted in the Comprehensive Plan. With anticipated population growth in unincorporated Whatcom County, the existing Sheriff’s Office space would not meet the level of service standard over the six-year planning period. Most Sheriff’s Office functions are currently based in the Public Safety Building adjacent to the Courthouse and are remote from the majority of Sheriff’s Office Bureau of Law Enforcement and Investigative Services functions that take place in unincorporated Whatcom County. This results in inefficiencies and delays. Space and design factors in current facilities preclude consolidating various functions performed throughout the agency (reception, finance, etc.) and result in redundancies. Because of these issues, and the fact that the level of service standards will not be met, existing Sheriff’s Office facilities and associated functions will be consolidated (except for “Resident Deputy” program facilities), and co-located on the site of the proposed new jail.~~

Proposed Improvement Projects

A new 33,000-square foot Sheriff's Headquarters facility, co-located with the proposed new jail on LaBounty Rd. in Ferndale, is proposed within the six-year planning period. The Sheriff's Headquarters facility would cost approximately \$13 million, paid with bond proceeds that would be repaid with REET I funds, as shown below. Additionally, an awning at the existing Sheriff's Office would be replaced.

	<u>2015</u>	<u>2016</u>	<u>2017</u>	<u>2018</u>	<u>2019</u>	<u>2020</u>	<u>Total</u> <u>Cost</u>	<u>Funding</u> <u>Source</u>
Replace Awning	7,500						7,500	1
New Sheriff's Headquarters	-	1,562,600	3,751,800	-3,823,300	-3,862,300	-	13,000,000	2
TOTAL	7,500	1,562,600	3,751,800	-3,823,300	-3,862,300		13,007,500	

Funding Source

- 1. REET I
- 2. Bonds (REET I)

Chapter 6 — Emergency Management

Existing Emergency Management Space

The 2014 inventory of Division of Emergency Management space, which is shared with the City of Bellingham, is 24,000 square feet (2,000 square feet of office space with another 22,000 square feet available for use during emergencies). The Division of Emergency Management space is located in the Whatcom Emergency Joint Coordination Center that is rented by Whatcom County and the City of Bellingham. The Center serves as the emergency operations center for both the County and the City.

EXISTING EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT/EOC FACILITIES

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

Future Needs

The Division of Emergency Management requires both daily office space for Emergency Management and, during an actual emergency, additional space for the emergency operations center (EOC). During an emergency, the EOC may have to accommodate several hundred people in a single day. These people include a combination of elected officials, trained personnel and volunteers, who serve in a variety of capacities during the emergency.

A level of service of 0.011 square feet of emergency operations space per capita was adopted in the Comprehensive Plan. With the 2,000 square feet of shared office space and the 22,000 square feet available for the EOC during emergencies, no additional space would be needed by the year 2020 to meet the adopted level of service.

Proposed Improvement Projects

Approximately \$50,000 in REET I funds will be spent in the six-year planning period to renovate the Joint Coordination Center building, as shown below. Renovations may include enhanced capability for sustained 24/7 operations and locker rooms.

	<u>2015</u>	<u>2016</u>	<u>2017</u>	<u>2018</u>	<u>2019</u>	<u>2020</u>	<u>Total</u> <u>Cost</u>	<u>Funding</u> <u>Source</u>
Whatcom Emergency Joint Coordination Center—Renovation		50,000					50,000	1

Funding Source

1. REET I

Chapter 7—Adult Corrections

Existing Jail Facilities

The County's Main Jail was designed for 148 beds, although it currently has 283 beds due to double bunking, internal remodeling and use of temporary beds. In 2013, the average daily population for the Main Jail was 258. 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 compliance. Whatcom County completed construction of a 150-bed minimum security correction facility on Division St. in 2006. In 2013, the average daily population for the minimum security facility was 126. 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.

EXISTING JAIL BEDS

Site No.	Facility Name	Jail Beds
1	Public Safety Building (311 Grand Ave.)	283
2	Minimum Security Correction Facility (2030 Division St.)	150
TOTAL		433

Future Needs

There are serious concerns among law and justice officials relating to jail facility needs in the community. This need has been documented by recommendations from the *Whatcom County Law and Justice Plan Phase II Report* (June 2000), in a report entitled *Operational Review of the Whatcom County, Washington Jail* (March 2004), in the *Whatcom County Jail Planning Task Force Recommendations* (Dec. 2011 and March 2012), and in the *Whatcom County Adult Corrections Facilities & Sheriff's Headquarters Pre-Design Report* (Sept. 2013).

A level of service of 1.42 beds for every 1,000 people in the County was adopted in 1997 in the *Whatcom County Comprehensive Plan*. However, average daily populations documented by the Corrections Bureau since 2006 have been well above the minimum number of beds required by the current level of service standard. Therefore, the County plans to review and update the existing level of service standard.

Proposed Improvement Projects

In an effort to meet the community need, the County plans to construct a new Adult Corrections Facility on LaBounty Rd. in Ferndale, tentatively scheduled to open with 521 beds. At the time this new jail is opened, the offenders at the minimum security corrections facility would be relocated to the new facility.

Additionally, day-holding facility and sally port improvements are planned at the County Courthouse in Bellingham. The day-holding facility will accommodate

inmates for court activities. The sally port will be connected to the holding facility to allow the safe and secure transfer of inmates to and from the facility.

The cost of the proposed new jail is approximately \$87,000,000. The cost of the day-holding/sally port improvements is approximately \$3,000,000. These costs would be paid with bond proceeds that would be repaid with sales tax, as shown below:

	<u>2015</u>	<u>2016</u>	<u>2017</u>	<u>2018</u>	<u>2019</u>	<u>2020</u>	<u>Total</u> <u>Cost</u>	<u>Funding</u> <u>Source</u>
New Jail	-200,000	10,433,360	25,050,480	25,527,880	25,788,280		87,000,000	+
-								
Day holding Facility & Sally Port	-	-	-1,000,000	1,000,000	1,000,000	-	3,000,000	+
-								
TOTAL	-200,000	10,433,360	26,050,480	26,527,880	26,788,280		90,000,000	

**Funding
Source**

1. Bonds
(Sales Tax)

Chapter 8 — Juvenile Detention

Existing Juvenile Detention Facilities

The 2014 inventory of County juvenile detention facilities includes 32 beds serving the county-wide population. The juvenile detention facility is located on the sixth floor of the County Courthouse at 311 Grand Avenue.

EXISTING JUVENILE DETENTION BEDS

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

Future Needs

A level of service of 0.125 beds per 1,000 population was adopted in the Whatcom County Comprehensive Plan. With projected population growth in Whatcom County over the next six years, no additional beds would be needed by the year 2020 to meet the adopted level of service.

Proposed Improvement Projects

No improvement projects are currently proposed that would increase the number of permanent beds within the six-year planning period.

Chapter 9—Transportation

Existing Roads

The 2013 inventory shows a total of 939.75 miles of County roads. Additionally, there are 217.5 miles of state highways in Whatcom County (including I-5). Therefore, there are approximately 1,157 miles of public roads in Whatcom County.

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 for the years 2015 through 2020 includes preliminary planning for three proposed new road projects:

- Slater Road Connector (between Northwest Drive and Guide Meridian);
- Horton Road Connector (between Northwest Drive and Aldrich Road); and
- Lincoln Road extension (between Harborview Road and Blaine Road).

While these three 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 also includes a number of bridge replacements, several reconstruction projects, and the Birch Bay Drive & Pedestrian Facility improvements, which include pedestrian and non-motorized enhancements along Birch Bay Dr.

In addition to the projects in the Six-Year Transportation Program, the Lincoln Road/Birch Point connector is a developer funded project. The project completion date is unknown.

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

The Whatcom County Comprehensive Plan sets a level of service of 513 ferry passenger trips annually per capita of Lummi Island population. Based upon projected population, the Lummi ferry will not meet the adopted level of service over the six-year planning period. Therefore, it will be appropriate to either make plans to meet the LOS or consider revising the LOS standard during the next comprehensive plan update.

Proposed Improvement Projects

Although the Six-Year Transportation Plan addresses the ferry, no improvement projects that would add ferry capacity are proposed within the six-year planning period.

Total Transportation Costs

The total cost of the County transportation projects in the Six-Year Transportation Improvement Program, including both road and ferry projects, is approximately \$49 million. These costs include about \$36 million of County funds, with the remainder being funded by 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 group in the Surface Water Division of the Public Works Department in 2005. The Stormwater group 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 group 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 Public Works Stormwater group was created in 2005 are listed below:

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	2013



Lake Whatcom Coronado-Fremont Stormwater Improvements

Whatcom County Public Works received an award for the West Tributary of Silver Beach Creek Stormwater Improvements (Existing Site No. 5 above). Silver Beach Creek experiences increased stormwater runoff and greater peak flows due to its developed landscape. This project was designed to substantially improve water quality and reduce flooding in an especially problematic reach of the creek. The project included reshaping and stabilizing the stream channel, installing water quality treatment swales, and installing stormwater vaults. These improvements filter phosphorus-containing sediment, alleviate flooding, reduce erosion, and promote infiltration. Project construction cost was approximately \$500,000 and shared between local real estate excise tax (REET) revenues, a State of Washington Department of Ecology grant, and a federal EPA grant.

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 almost \$4.8 million, are proposed over the six-year planning period as shown below. These costs would be paid by REET, City of Bellingham funds, Flood Control Zone District (FCZD) tax revenues, and a state grant. Where appropriate, matching contributions from other beneficiaries will be sought.

	<u>2015</u>	<u>2016</u>	<u>2017</u>	<u>2018</u>	<u>2019</u>	<u>2020</u>	<u>Total Cost</u>	<u>Funding Sources</u>
<u>Lake Whatcom</u>								
Academy Road Stormwater Improvements	1,049,000						1,049,000	1,2,3,4
-								
Agate Heights Estate/Bay Lane Water Quality Improvements	85,000	25,000	—500,000				610,000	1,3
-								
Beaver Creek Channel Restoration		95,000	—20,000	—450,000			565,000	—1
-								
Cedar Hills/Euclid Stormwater Improvements	25,000	605,000					630,000	1,3
-								
Lewel Dr. and Cedarbrook Court Stormwater Improvements						150,000	150,000	—1
-								
Northshore Dr. at E. North St. Drainage System Upgrades					150,000	50,000	200,000	—1
-								
Silver Beach Creek Channel Restoration				—150,000	50,000	550,000	750,000	1,3
-								
Sudden Valley Drainage System Upgrades			—115,000	25,000	500,000		640,000	—1
-								
<u>Birch Bay</u>								
Cottonwood Dr. Drainage Improvements (matching funds)			—85,000				85,000	—1
-								
Harborview Rd. Culvert Replacement (matching funds)	-	-	-	95,000	-	-	95,000	—1
-								
TOTAL	1,159,000	725,000	—720,000	—720,000	700,000	750,000	4,774,000	
<u>Funding Sources</u>								
1. REET II								
2. City of Bellingham								
3. FCZD tax revenue								
4. State Grant								