

## STATE OF WASHINGTON

## OFFICE OF FINANCIAL MANAGEMENT

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April 7, 2020

**TO:** Agency Directors

FROM: David Schumacher Director

## SUBJECT: CLARIFICATION ON SUSPENSION OF AGENCY CAPITAL PROJECTS

Thank you for your patience as we worked through your questions about agency capital projects the past two weeks. We have received some updated information from the Governor's Office to help interpret the construction guidance issued by the governor on March 25, 2020 and the Office of Financial Management on March 30, 2020.

- 1. If a project supports an end function that is essential, it is allowed to proceed. See the list of essential functions <u>here</u>.
- 2. For other projects with construction contracts managed directly by state agencies, agencies should apply the six criteria from the <u>OFM memo</u> dated March 30, 2020 to determine if the project can proceed.
- 3. State agencies can continue to provide pass-through or grant funding to non-state project sponsors as provided in the capital budget, and grant recipients should make their own determination as to whether their work is essential based on the governor's memo dated March 25, 2020.

Please keep in mind and communicate to your project partners:

- Even if this guidance signals that a project is allowed to proceed, the entity administering the public works contract should evaluate each project and the associated risks to health and safety to make their own determination.
- All active projects must have a COVID-19 protection plan in place, including social distancing and remote work whenever possible.
- Please be aware that this guidance does not require authorities with jurisdiction to inspect, permit, or take other actions necessary for your project to progress.

If you have questions or need assistance, please continue to reach out to your <u>OFM capital budget</u> <u>analyst</u>.

cc: Agency Budget Officers