Human Services/Operating

Department of Social and Health Services – Behavioral health institutional services

Implement acuity-based staffing model at state hospitals

Adjust staffing levels for nurses, mental health technicians and psychiatric attendants. This will better align with the acuity-based staffing model that we implemented at Eastern and Western State hospitals in November 2019. This model dynamically adjusts the daily staffing level recommendations to match client needs at the ward level. This ensures that the staffing resources are not over- or underallocated and that staff can maintain a safe and healthy treatment environment. (\$15.7 million General Fund-State; \$157,000 General Fund-Federal)

Take next steps to plan and design forensic hospital

Create a design and planning team comprised of operational and clinical experts to construct a modernized forensic hospital with 350 beds on the grounds of Western State Hospital. The Behavioral Health Administration was appropriated \$612 million in the 2021-23 capital budget for this facility. (\$5.3 million GF-S)

Support the Child Study and Treatment Center

Increase administrative, quality control, and supervisory staff levels for the new 18-bed cottage that recently opened at the Child Study and Treatment Center. These positions will maintain a therapeutic and safe environment for youth. (\$558,000 GF-S; \$538,000 GF-F)

Department of Social and Health Services – Aging and long-term and developmental disabilities services

Continue COVID-19 rate enhancement

Continue the COVID-19 rate enhancement to support personal care providers and client services in the long-term care and developmental disabilities programs. Funding will cover an enhanced rate during the declared public health emergency from Jan. 1, 2022, through June 30, 2022. The enhanced rate will be phased down every six months in fiscal years 2023 and 2024. (\$180.9 million GF-S; \$318.5 million GF-F)

Reduce penalties for nursing home occupancy issues

The COVID-19 pandemic led to a lower number of patients in skilled nursing facilities and higher costs for staffing and supplies. We can support the nursing home provider network by adjusting the occupancy threshold from 90% to 70% for the July 1, 2022 rate rebase. This will create additional funds to support nursing homes. (\$15.4 million GF-S; \$15.4 million GF-F)

Increase acute care hospital capacity and specialized COVID-19 units

The Delta variant led to a surge in COVID-19 cases from August to November 2021. This caused a critical shortage of acute care hospital beds. By transferring patients from hospitals to long-term care settings and specialized

COVID-19 units, the department helped create more beds for patients with these needs. The budget would offer incentive funding to long-term care settings to take patients from acute care hospitals and maintain hospital capacity. (\$6.6 million Coronavirus State Fiscal Recovery Fund-Federal)

Expand community supports for children

Support families caring for children and youth with significant behavioral needs. The department will expand intensive habilitation services and out-of-home services facilities for children and youth (ages 8 to 21). This includes adding six, three-bed facilities in licensed intensive habilitation services and six, three-bed, long-term, enhanced out-of-home services facilities. (\$5.5 million GF-S; \$3.4 million GF-F)

Transform services for individuals with intellectual and developmental disabilities

Forecast the number of individuals requesting services from the department and examine how many eligible individuals need community and residential services. This includes looking at respite beds and crisis stabilization services, studying Medicaid rates and developing metrics for community residential providers. It also adds Developmental Disabilities Administration services to a new caseload forecast to be implemented in the 2023-25 biennium. (\$348,000 GF-S)

Department of Social and Health Services – Economic Services Administration

Support Afghan refugees

Fund four federal awards that support an estimated 3,361 Afghan refugees arriving in Washington. This funding will focus on the

well-being of these individuals through a holistic approach. This includes:

- Short-term and permanent housing.
- Services to help children successfully integrate into school.
- Immediate and long-term physical and mental health supports that incorporate an understanding of Afghan culture and unique circumstances of the Afghan evacuation.
- Employment, training and case management services.

(\$15 million GF-F)

Health Care Authority – Other

Increase dental provider rate for children

Increase dental procedure rates for children to bring parity between adult and child rates. This rate increase will help maintain provider and network access for children. (\$7.4 million GF-S; \$8.2 million GF-F)

Add more 'well child' visits for children

Increase the number and frequency of 'well child' visits for Apple Health clients to match the Bright Futures well child schedule. These routine visits help parents access health care recommendations and detect early health concerns that, if left unaddressed, could impact the child's health in the future. (\$220,000 GF-S; \$132,000 GF-F)

Expand parent support phone line

Expand the statewide parent support phone line to continue new parent outreach, provide culturally appropriate services, expand language access for clients and add hours for live calls into the weekend and the evening. The Children and Youth Behavioral Health Work Group recommends expanding this Perinatal Support Washington Warmline. (\$500,000 GF-S)

Expand school-based health care services

Improve health care access for schoolchildren by providing the state match associated with Medicaid services for schools that participate in the School Based Health Care Services program. This means the state can reach students in smaller school districts because they can now participate in the program and receive its benefits. (\$4.1 million GF-S)

Renew health care waiver

Renew the Medicaid Transformation Waiver for an additional five years to help Washingtonians live a healthier life. This means we can better support older adults and housing-challenged Washingtonians. More specifically, this renewal will help older adults in their homes, help them move to an independent housing situation and expand the target population that qualifies for employment and housing services.

Fund continuous enrollment for children

Use the Medicaid Transformation Waiver to fund continuous eligibility and health care enrollment for children, zero to 6 years old, who are enrolled in Medicaid and have a family income of less than 215% of the federal poverty level. This policy will keep children connected with their doctors and prevent care disruptions due to income volatility (\$7.8 million GF-S; \$7.8 million GF-F).

Expand services through tribal care management program

Expand tribal primary care case management programs (PCCM). If tribes choose to further develop their PCCM program, they can expand the breadth of services and care coordination that they provide for tribal members. To compensate participating tribes for this

increased responsibility, PCCM payments will increase from \$6 per member each month to \$40 per member each month. (\$136,000 GF-S; \$11.9 million GF-F).

Expand undocumented immigrant health coverage

Implement a medical assistance program for low-income, uninsured immigrants living in Washington. This program, for individuals who don't qualify for federal programs, would mirror the program we have for other Washingtonians with an income below 138% of the federal poverty level. (\$18.4 million GF-S)

Health Care Authority – Community behavioral health

Provide relief to behavioral health providers

Fund one-time assistance payments to behavioral health providers who serve Medicaid and state-funded clients, and who have experienced revenue loss or increased expenses because of the COVID-19 pandemic. This supports a crucial part of the state's mental health workforce that is experiencing an unprecedented demand in services. (\$50 million GF-S)

Increase the behavioral health managed care rate

Fund a 4.5% increase to Medicaid reimbursement for community behavioral health providers that are contracted through managed care organizations. Effective January 2023, this rate increase supports a crucial part of the state's mental health workforce that is experiencing an unprecedented demand for these services. (\$10.7 million GF-S; \$20.7 million GF-Federal)

Increase inpatient beds for children

Increase the number of community contracted beds in the Children's Long-Term Inpatient Program (CLIP) to improve bed access and availability for children who require intensive supports. (\$15 million GF-S; \$15 million GF-Federal)

Fund crisis triage and stabilization facilities operations

Fund the operations of the Trueblood crisis triage and stabilization facility in Spokane and two facilities in King County that were appropriated in the 2021-23 capital budget. (\$4 million GF-S; \$2.4 million GF-Federal)

Continue Trueblood diversion programs

Provide one-time bridge funding for Trueblood diversion programs to identify sustainable, long-term funding sources and review program outcomes and delivery for Trueblood class members. These programs provide incarceration alternatives for people with behavioral health issues who are either class members or potential class members. Services are designed to divert people from jails or the state's mental hospitals, including assessments, mental health services, co-responder programs, substance abuse treatment, case management, employment and social services. (\$8.6 million GF-S; \$219,000 GF-Federal)

Implement youth inpatient navigators

Youth inpatient navigators – through a partnership with Seattle Children's Hospital – will help families and caregivers identify temporary, alternative services when a child who requires intensive supports can't find a long-term, inpatient bed because of availability or geography issues. This will support children

who need continued, intensive care. (\$4.6 million GF-S; \$891,000 GF-Federal)

Department of Corrections

Improve health care outcomes

Implement a proactive and comprehensive approach to health care in correctional facilities. This can happen by investing in health care resources and staffing, and includes the following:

- Hire additional staffing for primary and preventative care.
- Offer specialized care for patients with infectious diseases, serious mental illness, and chronic illnesses such as cancer, diabetes and heart disease.
- Expand medical and behavioral health resources for individuals who violate their conditions of community supervision and frequently require immediate crisis care.
- Offer greater access to mental and behavioral health services for the increasing number of individuals with psychiatric conditions and mental health symptoms so that their serious symptoms can be managed quickly.

(\$45.7 million GF-S)

Increase the accuracy of prison sentence 'end date' calculation and risk classification

Improve how we support the specialized work of calculating the end date of a sentence and identify an incarcerated individual's risk classification. Incorrectly calculating the end date of someone's sentence means they get released too early or confined for too long, creating risks for the incarcerated individuals

and the community. Incorrectly identifying an individual's risk classification means that person may get the wrong community supervision resources. All of this may impact recidivism. Increasing accuracy requires more staffing and information technology resources. Then, the department can update the sentence calculation IT system, employ more staff to verify sentence calculations, and provide quality assurance for the risk classification process. (\$20.4 million GF-S)

Increase correctional environment safety

Implement reforms to address the unique safety concerns of individuals and staff in correctional facilities. Provide resources to collaborate more effectively with the Office of the Corrections Ombuds and address the recommendations for improved operational practices. Reduce the time an individual spends in restrictive housing through evidence-based practices. This will increase out-of-cell time and expand mental health treatment and programming. Fund a feasibility study for an older adult unit at the Washington Corrections Center for Women to provide a safe and healthy living environment for the aging, incarcerated female population. (\$10.6 million GF-S)

Department of Children, Youth and Families – Children and Families

Update practice standards for Indian Child Welfare Act child cases

Fund updated standards for when there is a 'reason to know' a child may be an Indian child based on indication of the child's tribal heritage. The state will also ensure DCYF is making "active efforts" to help parents of Indian children overcome reunification barriers. Recent court decisions expanded the criteria for when there is a reason to know and clarified the extent of active efforts DCYF must make. These changes will make sure DCYF is in compliance with the Indian Child Welfare Act (ICWA), which is a federal law that sets minimum standards for state court child custody proceedings that involve Indian children. (\$9.8 million GF-S; \$2.3 million GF-F)

Better support foster youth placement

Increase rates for placements and service to better support foster youth. This includes starting a housing pilot for older foster youth that will provide them with skill development for eventual independence (along with intensive case management). The state has seen a decreased capacity in behavioral rehabilitation services, which limits existing placement options for foster youth. This will help stabilize and enhance the continuum of care for behavioral rehabilitation services and offer hard-to-place foster youth additional placement options. (\$15.3 million GF-S; \$8.5 million GF-F)

Increase family time rates

Increase the hourly reimbursement rate for family time providers, allow providers to bill visit-supporting functions as separate items, reimburse all mileage, and fund a quality oversight and ICWA compliance contracting structure. DCYF is court-ordered to deliver visitation services, known as family time, for children placed in out-of-home care. These changes are overdue since the hourly rate for family time providers has never been adjusted, visit-supporting functions (such as report writing) are not paid as separate items, mileage is not reimbursed until after the provider's

first 60 miles, and quality oversight and ICWA compliance is not built into the provider's contract structure. This funding will stabilize family time services, which are critical to support timely permanency. (\$23.5 million GF-S; \$5.1 million GF-F)

Increase combined in-home rate

Increase the rate for combined in-home services, which will expand the statewide availability of high-quality, combined in-home services and support the Family First Prevention Services Act. (\$8.4 million GF-S)

Fund workload study

Fund a workload study of the child welfare division within DCYF. This will include evaluating workload impacts from recent court decisions regarding how the state applies ICWA. We have not conducted a workload study for child welfare since 2007. Changes to federal law, state law, and recent court decisions give us the opportunity to look closely at how these changes impact the workloads of case-carrying child welfare workers. (\$800,000 GF-S; \$200,000 GF-F)

Support new behavioral rehabilitation facility

Fund youth placements in a new 30-bed Behavioral Rehabilitation Services facility. Thanks to a Department of Commerce grant in the 2019-21 capital budget, the facility is wrapping up construction now. (\$1.5 million GF-S)

Offer young adults exiting extended foster care stronger support

Contract with a community organization to issue monthly stipends to young adults exiting the Extended Foster Care program.

This would last through the end of the biennium. This funding includes a systems assessment to identify assets and barriers to the existing federal and state benefits that serve this population. It would also make recommendations on how we can improve the supports we offer to an individual transitioning to independent adulthood. Young adults exiting this program at age 21 are particularly vulnerable to the economic consequences of the pandemic. This will provide some economic stability to these young adults and help policymakers gain a better understanding of this demographic's needs and what services are currently offered. (\$200,000 GF-S; \$10.6 million Coronavirus State Fiscal Recovery Fund-Federal)

Department of Children, Youth and Families – Early Learning

Maintain an enhanced rate for providers

Fund a per-slot, quality support rate for Early Childhood Education and Assistance program providers. This will help them continue child and family assessments, research-based curriculum and professional development — all items that a grant previously funded. (\$1.3 million GF-S)

Minimize learning loss among our youngest learners

Fund nearly nine weeks of ECEAP during summer 2022. The program will leverage 2,212 school day slots on two tracks: 2,011 slots of full, in-person learning and 201 slots of wraparound services. This gives parents program choice. It also gives providers flexibility in how they deliver the program during a time when some find it challenging to provide services during summer months. Our youngest learners

lost learning opportunities because of the COVID-19 pandemic and correcting this will take time to overcome. Summer ECEAP will help address this learning loss, reduce isolation and maintain connections to children and families. (\$5.9 million GF-S)

Help with background check fees

Fund background check application and fingerprint processing fees for child care workers. This will reduce how long it takes to complete a background check by an estimated 3-5 days. The pandemic continues to impact employers' ability to recruit and retain a child care workforce. A federal rule that requires a background check for newly hired staff imposes additional hiring challenges when employees cannot start working until their background check is complete. (\$1.3 million GF-S)

Department of Health

Continue efforts to contain COVID-19

Continue statewide efforts to control the spread of COVID-19. The department will also maintain activities to contain the virus through diagnostic testing, case investigation, contact tracing, care coordination and outbreak response. (\$173.2 million GF-S; \$25.2 million Coronavirus State Fiscal Recovery Fund-Federal)

Expand COVID-19 vaccine access

The department will continue mobile vaccine clinics to increase access to vaccines statewide, reach rural and hard-to-reach patients, contract with local health jurisdictions to get vaccine depots, and use health care providers to encourage patients to get vaccinated. (\$99.9 million GF-S)

Maintain core public health systems

Continue funding public health information systems. Funding will support the Rainier Suite, a centralized collection of statewide disease and environmental health conditions; the Rapid Health Information Network that collects, analyzes and distributes syndrome data to hospitals in real time; Washington Immunization Information Systems, which is a web-based application that licensed health care providers use to store vaccine records; and the Data Exchange Service, which is made up of various electronic reporting systems for health care providers. (\$15.9 million GF-S; \$3.2 million GF-F)

Department of Veterans Affairs

Address revenue shortfall

The pandemic decreased how many veterans we could serve at state homes. This was due to staffing shortages and COVID-19 outbreaks but this funding will help us address the revenue gap in these facilities. (\$10 million GF-S)

Department of Labor and Industries Strengthen apprenticeships

Washington is recognized as a leader in developing and maintaining a quality registered apprenticeship system that establishes many high-skill, high-wage careers. In tandem with investments in the state's education budget, this budget proposes to expand on and continue to strengthen the system through the following investments:

• Modernize remote learning technology: Create and administer a one-time grant program so that a state registered apprenticeship can modernize its technology and remote learning infrastructure. (\$2.5 million GF-S)

- Upgrade apprenticeship equipment: Create and administer a one-time grant program to upgrade state registered apprenticeship equipment to better replicate conditions on the job during an apprentice's training. (\$4 million GF-S)
- Conduct a four-year apprenticeship retention study: This study will assess challenges and barriers that apprentices face to participate in and complete a program. The study will help the department implement an 'early alert' response that will connect apprentices with supports to help them finish the program. We will make the data publicly available by trade on an accessible dashboard. (\$205,000 GF-S)
- Upgrade apprenticeship IT system:
 Make enhancements to the Apprenticeship
 Registration and Tracking (ARTS) computer
 system. This will specifically help the
 department align its data collection with
 federal regulations on Equal Employment
 Opportunity and increase its web-based
 document uploading. (\$961,000 Accident
 Account-State and \$169,000 Medical Aid
 Account-State)

Improve options for injured workers

Fund two efforts that focus on improving outcomes for injured workers participating in the Workers' Compensation program. First, we will implement a quality-assurance team to make sure we continuously improve the quality and effectiveness of vocational services for injured workers. Second, we will fund the overhead rent costs from increasing how many Labor and Industries' vocational specialists

are assigned to work in a WorkSource office. This will help injured workers find work when they can't return to their previous employment. These efforts will further reduce the number of individuals with a long-term work disability. (\$897,000 Medical Aid Account-State)

Enhance the Prevailing Wage program

Fund enhancements to the Prevailing Wage program through IT system changes that will be more efficient for external and internal users, and by increasing the number of investigators so that we can address the growing number of prevailing wage complaints. The prevailing wage law is designed to protect workers' wages and benefits. The Department of Labor and Industries establishes and enforces wage requirements for a wide range of occupational activities involved in government construction projects. (\$1.4 million Public Works Administration Account-State)

Department of Services for the Blind Support blind business owners

Fund the remodel of 15 cafés owned by blind business owners who are part of the Business Enterprise Program. This will ensure they are prepared to serve the changing needs of dining that the COVID-19 pandemic has caused. This also includes funding for the program to purchase three food trucks to expand entrepreneurial opportunities. (\$3.1 million GF-S)

Employment Security Department

Reserve funds for hiring unemployment insurance employees

Fund staffing reserves so that the agency is staffed in case of a sudden increase in

unemployment insurance claims (similar to the unprecedented claim surge during the COVID-19 pandemic). (\$4.7 million GF-S)

Replace the WorkSource system

Fund the replacement of the WorkSource Integrated Technology platform, which serves as the state's case management and labor exchange for employers and job seekers. The replacement system will support the statewide workforce administration. This will make sure we adopt the United States Department of Labor's integrated service delivery model and program performance requirements for the state's Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act and other federal grants. (FY 2023: \$4.8 million Employment Services Administrative – State Account)

Update the Paid Family Medical Leave staffing model

Add staffing authority to the Employment Security Department to make sure it has the necessary capacity to process claims and respond to customer inquiries in a timely manner. The Paid Family and Medical Leave program provides a vital benefit to Washington workers when they need to take time off work to care for a family member, themselves or a new child.

Criminal Justice Training Commission

Eliminate training backlog

Fund enough courses each year to eliminate the waitlist for required law enforcement training. The wait for Basic Law Enforcement Academy has a large fiscal impact on local governments that pay salaries for untrained recruits who cannot yet work in the field. Expanding the number of available classes will reduce that expense for cities and counties. (\$6.5 million GF-S)

Office of the Insurance Commissioner

Create a fertility treatment study

Fund a study to analyze the use and cost impacts of making fertility treatment a mandatory-covered treatment for health insurance products in Washington. (\$200,000 Insurance Commissioner's Regulatory Account-State)

Engage a stronger response to the fentanyl and opioid crisis

Opioid addiction was already an epidemic before the pandemic, but the rapid rise of fentanyl overdose is a more recent phenomenon. Current trends demonstrate a disproportionate impact of fentanyl overdose among American Indian and Alaskan Natives as well as those under the age of 30. The governor proposes a three-pronged fentanyl mitigation strategy that will help people from developing the disorder, provide treatment to those already addicted, and focus on quick-acting, emergency overdose prevention.

Minimize the use of fentanyl among Washingtonians

Launch opioid awareness marketing

Create a public messaging campaign for youth through social media channels. This will promote fentanyl awareness, make coordinated resources more available, reduce harm and educate through 'safe use' messaging.

(\$1 million GF-S)

Monthly nonmethadone synthetic opioid (mostly fentanyl) deaths, January 2017–June 2021



Source: Washington State Department of Health

Increase treatment access and opportunity for Washingtonians in need

Bundle opioid treatment provider payments

Improve overall care by increasing the access to the Food and Drug Administration's (FDA)-approved medications. Funding will implement bundled payments based on current Medicare Part B rates for opioid use disorder treatment services. Opioid Treatment Programs (OTPs) are the only provider type that can legally offer three treatment medications. We expect that this rate increase will stabilize and expand the provider network. (\$4.5 million GF-S; \$12.3 million GF-Federal)

Establish mobile opioid treatment

Contract with opioid treatment providers to provide 10 mobile methadone units to fill treatment gaps statewide. This will increase medication access for opioid use disorder in underserved populations, specifically rural locations that do not have a treatment provider within reasonable distance. The federal Drug Enforcement Agency (DEA) released regulations June 28 to add mobile methadone vans to the licensed opioid treatment programs so that the individual can receive all three medications through the mobile van to treat the disorder. (\$8.1 million GF-S; \$2.7 million GF-Federal)

Focus on quick-acting, emergency overdose prevention

Distribute naloxone

Anyone can treat opioid intoxication and overdose with the drug naloxone. The budget will fund 30,000 naloxone kits so that every

Washingtonian in substance use disorder treatment can receive one. It will also provide 40,000 kits to rural law enforcement, 2,000 kits per year at 20 vending machines in strategic areas statewide, and free naloxone at pharmacies. (\$10 million GF-S)

Expand drug checking services

Expand access to free fentanyl and benzodiazepine test strips and community and mail-based spectrometer testing. Test strips allow drug users to test their supply before use. Spectrometer tests will provide public health officials information about the street level drug supply. BTNX fentanyl test strips are highly accurate, correctly detecting the presence of fentanyl and/or fentanyl analogues approximately 98% of the time. Data shows that 66% of individuals who had positive fentanyl test results reduced their risk-taking behaviors. (\$1.4 million GF-S)

Addressing Washington's nurse shortage

The COVID-19 pandemic exacerbated an already critical shortage of registered nurses (RN), licensed practical nurses (LPN), and certified nursing assistants (CNAs). The governor's supplemental budget includes several recommendations from the Nursing Care Quality Assurance Commission and the Health Workforce Council, as well as other strategies, to eliminate the backlog of nursing licenses, attract new candidates to the nursing field, expand the capacity to train RNs, LPNs and CNAs, and recruit and retain staff in these critical positions.

Distribute training placements grants to compensate nurse clinical educators

The budget funds grants for nurses who are willing to train nursing students in health care settings that demonstrate the greatest need. The Nursing Care Quality Assurance Commission will set up a grant program to provide funding for nurse educators. Doing so will help us reduce a shortage of health care sites for students to conduct their clinical hours and bring more nurses into the field. (\$6 million GF-S)

Attract new students to nursing and medical professions

The governor's budget would help the state recruit students of color to medical careers in Washington. Multiple universities, agencies and commissions will provide mentoring, career awareness and career preparation for students of color in sixth – 12th grade who are interested in pursuing a medical career. (\$1 million General Fund-State)

Support low-income students pursuing health fields at community and technical colleges

The governor's budget expands Opportunity Grant funding for students in community and technical colleges who are pursuing high-wage, high-demand health fields. The opportunity grant provides up to one year of college (tuition and fees for up to 45 credits and books and supplies). Students also have access to tutoring, career advising, college success classes, emergency child care, emergency transportation and an industry mentor. (\$8 million GF-S)

Expand health care simulation laboratory capacity

The budget provides funding to purchase and upgrade health simulation laboratory equipment and expand laboratory capacity. This would serve more nursing and health care students by providing more opportunities to fulfill their practicum requirements. The State Board for Community and Technical Colleges, Student Achievement Council and the Office of the Superintendent of Public Instruction will provide health care programs with grants to purchase the simulators and train staff. (\$13 million Workforce Education Investment Account)

Address the long-term care nursing crisis

The Workforce Training and Education Coordinating Board, in collaboration with the Nursing Care Quality Assurance Commission, will manage a stakeholder process and grants for a pilot program. This program will improve the work environment in long-term care facilities to retain quality workers. It will also conduct health workforce surveys. The Nursing Commission will expand nursing assistant training and reduce the time someone needs to complete their nurse certification exam. The commission will also create an apprenticeship pathway to improve job prospects for nursing assistants and licensed practical nurses. (\$3 million GF-S; \$761,000 Health Professionals Account-State)

Human Services/Capital

Behavioral Health

Department of Corrections

Medical support

This budget invests in medical support projects and includes the construction of a mental health building, additional staffing space, predesign for a psychiatric unit, and a unit relocation so that it's closer to medical providers. This will give the staff necessary space for medical services and provide incarcerated individuals access to better medical care. (\$5.3 million bonds)

Department of Corrections and Department of Social and Health Services

McNeil Island support

This budget invests in critical infrastructure and transportation to McNeil Island and the Special Commitment Center. This includes HVAC improvements, electrical upgrades, a fire boat lift, transportation barge design and hybrid passenger ferry design. (\$5.1 million bonds)

Department of Health

Generator for new central boiler plant

This investment funds an appropriately sized emergency generator for the new central boiler plant that is being designed and constructed during the current biennium. The existing public health laboratory generator is not large enough to run the laboratory and the new central boiler plant. (\$1.8 million bonds)

Uninterrupted power supply for public health labs

When the electricity at the Public Health Lab goes out, it takes the existing generator approximately 10 seconds to reach full power. This lapse can cause the lab's sensitive equipment to shut down, invalidating the current run and causing staff to start another run. This fund will install a new uninterrupted power supply in the penthouse of each laboratory wing. (\$3.6 million bonds)