



STATE OF WASHINGTON

**OFFICE OF FINANCIAL MANAGEMENT**

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March 2, 2020

**TO:** Honorable David Frockt, Vice Chair and Capital Budget Lead  
Honorable Jim Honeyford, Assistant Ranking Member, Capital Budget  
Senate Ways & Means Committee

Honorable Steve Tharinger, Chair  
Honorable Richard DeBolt, Ranking Member  
House Capital Budget Committee

**FROM:** David Schumacher  
Director

**SUBJECT: OFM CONCERNS WITH SENATE AND HOUSE 2020 SUPPLEMENTAL CAPITAL BUDGETS**

I commend you for your efforts to move forward your respective 2020 supplemental capital budgets. As you continue your deliberations, we respectfully raise the following concerns and observations with the Senate and House budgets for your consideration.

**Sheltering**

Thank you for supporting one of the governor's goals for the supplemental budget, which is to address our state's homelessness crisis. Although both budgets are similar in establishing an enhanced shelter capacity grant program for the purposes of shelter improvements, preservation and increased shelter capacity, I ask that you consider funding this program at \$30 million, which was the governor's level of investment.

**Fircrest**

A new nursing facility at Fircrest for individuals with intellectual and developmental disabilities is one of the governor's highest capital budget priorities this session. I appreciate the willingness of the Senate to fund both design and construction, albeit for a smaller facility on the Fircrest campus. I encourage the House and Senate to fully fund this project through construction, as it will replace failing or substandard buildings that are home to 120 vulnerable individuals.

I also ask that you reconsider the language in both the House and Senate capital budgets that gives the Department of Natural Resources authority to develop any part of the Fircrest campus that DNR considers underutilized, including the requirement that the Department of Social and Health Services must amend its lease with DNR if necessary to conform with this authority. This language does not support the needs of both Fircrest School, a residential habilitation center run by DSHS, and the developmental disabilities community. The current language also appears to be in conflict with existing statute.

**Nisqually State Park**

Another priority project for the governor is the construction of a maintenance and operations building at Nisqually State Park. This building will establish a greater presence at the park and provide staff with

space to work and securely store maintenance equipment and supplies. The construction of this facility is also a priority for the Nisqually Tribe, a valued partner in planning the park.

### **Roslyn**

We continue to have concerns about funding for the Roslyn housing project and whether the Legislature's intent can be implemented as written.

### **Investments in State Facilities**

Over the past decade, funding for projects at our state-run institutions has not kept up with demands. Consequently, there are substantial pent-up needs for projects that directly impact vulnerable populations housed or served in state-run institutions. Examples of these projects include the Independent Living Skills Center at the State School for the Blind and the Academic and Physical Education Building at the Washington Center for Deaf and Hard of Hearing Youth. Recognizing the budget pressures you face, we ask you to carefully consider these projects and others like them.

Thank you for your consideration. We look forward to continuing discussions with you and your staff as you work toward a final capital budget. We continue to work with your staff on both technical and policy issues identified by agencies, our staff, and others.

cc: Richard Ramsey, Capital Budget Coordinator, Senate Ways and Means Committee  
Kelci Karl-Robinson, Coordinator, House Capital Budget Committee  
Nona Snell, Assistant Director for Budget, OFM  
Jen Masterson, Senior Budget Assistant, Capital Budget, OFM  
David Postman, Chief of Staff, Office of the Governor