



**The State of Washington**  
**COMMISSION ON ASIAN PACIFIC AMERICAN AFFAIRS**

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*Improving the lives of Asian Pacific Americans*

June 17, 2013

TO: David Schumacher, Director – OFM

FROM: Michael Itti, Director – Commission on Asian Pacific American Affairs

SUBJECT: BUDGET CONTINGENCY PLANNING FOR THE COMMISSION ON ASIAN PACIFIC AMERICAN AFFAIRS

This letter is in response to your memo dated June 12th, 2013 regarding contingency planning in the event the Legislature fails to make appropriations by July 1st, 2013.

1. The Commission has no services funded by appropriations in the enacted transportation budget (ESSB 5024).
2. The Commission has no services that do not require an appropriation, e.g., from non-appropriated funds.
3. The Commission has no services to continue based on certain constitutional mandates and federal law.
4. The Commission serves in a role as a conduit and consultant between Asian American and Pacific Islander communities and state agencies that may be necessary for the immediate response to issues of public safety. With dozens of ethnicities that speak numerous languages and dialects, disseminating information in a culturally competent manner is vital to reaching populations that may be most impacted by a reduction or loss of state services. The Commission can assist in connecting state agencies to community-based organizations and community leaders that can provide linguistically-appropriate communication to the Asian American and Pacific Islander communities.

If it is deemed that the Commission does not meet any of the four exceptions outlined in the memo, then the agency will cease operations on July 1<sup>st</sup> if there is no budget.

For questions regarding the agency, please contact the executive director, Michael Itti, at 360-725-5666 or [michael.itti@capaa.wa.gov](mailto:michael.itti@capaa.wa.gov).

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**Agency Overview**

The CAPAA was established by the state legislature in 1974 to improve the well-being of Asian Pacific Americans (APAs) by ensuring their access to participation in the fields of government, business, education, and other areas. It has a board made up of 12- governor appointed members that represent the diverse APA communities of Washington State.