



**Washington State
Department of Transportation**

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February 9, 2026

Office of Financial Management
ExemptionRequest@ofm.wa.gov
P.O. Box 43113
Olympia, WA 98504-3113

RE: WSDOT Governor's Freeze Submittal

OFM,

This letter serves as the signature by the Agency Director for the exceptions reported by Washington State Department of Transportation.

The enclosure includes the exceptions and describes why the exceptions were necessary to provide critical services related to the two-week reporting timeframe.

Two-Week Reporting Period: January 25, 2026 – February 7, 2026

Report Submittal Date: February 9, 2026

Summary of Details Exceptions:

Goods & Equipment Total Cost: \$ 0

Service Contract Total Cost: \$ 12,982,011.71

Travel Approved Total Cost: \$ 0

Number of Positions Hired: 14

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Julie Meredith".

Julie Meredith, PE
Secretary of Transportation

Enclosure

Hiring Freeze Exception Report to OFM

Agency: WSDOT

Program:

Agency Director signature:

Date Approved	Date of Hire	SAP Position Number (8 digits)	Position Title	Job Class Code	Job Class Title	Fund Source	Rationale for Approving Exception
	2/1/2026	70057496	FISCAL ANALYST 4	143L	FISCAL ANALYST 4	TRANSPORTATION	This position leads the Vendor Payments Team for the Accounting and Financial Services division.
	2/1/2026	70059012	ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT 2	105F	ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT 2	TRANSPORTATION	Position supports budget monitoring, coordinates travel, compiles reports, and manage office records.
	2/1/2026	70060825	TRANSPORTATION ENGINEER 4	530N	TRANSPORTATION ENGINEER 4	TRANSPORTATION	Position supports the Program Development and Delivery team to include managing scoping and grant applications for construction.
	2/1/2026	70061559	TRANSPORTATION TECHNICAL ENGINEER	530P	TRANSPORTATION TECHNICAL ENGINEER	TRANSPORTATION	Position provides technical engineering expertise to the Southwest Region Design Services.
	2/1/2026	71031536	LABOR REL MANAGER - FERRIES DIVISION	WMS03	WMS BAND 3	TRANSPORTATION	Position is needed for the administration of collection bargaining agreements at Washington State Ferries.
	2/1/2026	71112631	CAPITAL PROJECTS MANAGER	WMS02	WMS BAND 2	TRANSPORTATION	This position oversees Freight Rail and Port Electrification grants programs.
	2/2/2026	70057078	TRANSPORTATION TECHNICAL ENGINEER	530P	TRANSPORTATION TECHNICAL ENGINEER	TRANSPORTATION	This position develops design policy for geometrics, roundabout design, and multimodal solutions.
	2/2/2026	70058125	ASST PE - SNO KING	WMS02	WMS BAND 2	TRANSPORTATION	Assistant Project Engineer position managing delivery of a state highway pre-construction and construction program.
	2/2/2026	70095319	IT DATA MANAGEMENT - SR/SPEC	484DM	IT DATA MANAGEMENT - SR/SPEC	TRANSPORTATION	This position is the Data Service Coordinator for the within the Enterprise AI and Data Services group.
	2/2/2026	71043190	SOUND TRANSIT LYNNWOOD LINK LIAISON ENGR	WMS03	WMS BAND 3	TRANSPORTATION	This position ensures alignment of Sound Transit projects within the Seattle-Bellevue-Tacoma Area with WSDOT facilities
	2/2/2026	71083789	TRANSPORTATION ENGINEER 2	530L	TRANSPORTATION ENGINEER 2	TRANSPORTATION	Position preforms inspection duties for highway construction projects.
	2/2/2026	71094391	DEPUTY COMMUNICATIONS DIRECTOR	WMS03	WMS BAND 3	TRANSPORTATION	The position provides direction for agency issues management, media relations, social media, and website content.
	2/2/2026	71103642	TRANSPORTATION ENGINEER 5	530O	TRANSPORTATION ENGINEER 5	TRANSPORTATION	This position provides expertise on the HQ Complete Streets team that supports delivery of all CS projects statewide.
	2/2/2026	71110349	TRANSPORTATION PLANNING SPECIALIST 4	543H	TRANSPORTATION PLANNING SPECIALIST 4	TRANSPORTATION	This position is the Regional Tribal Liaison for the Southwest Region.

Contracts Freeze Exception Report to OFM

Agency: WSDOT
 Program:
 Agency Director signature:

Date Approved	Name of Contractor	Brief Description of Services	Term of Contract	Total Cost	Fund Source	Rationale for Approving Exception
1/27/2026	CH2M, Inc.	Supplement 07 for Y-12103 (I-90/SR 18 Interchange Improvements & Widening) needed for increase of \$125,000 in the authorized amount, due to needed support for stream work and delays with the project substantial completion date expected July 2026, and assumption of six-month closeout process.	Project start date: 2/21/2018	\$125,000.00	20H	Funding increase needed for project substantial completion expected July 2026.
1/27/2026	WSP USA Inc	This amendment modifies the services and budget for work required for the Interstate Bridge Replacement (IBR) Program	7/1/2024 - 6/30/2026	\$732,399.00	26P	Task Order Amendment AF.04 includes new scope, revised deliverable matrix, budget request of \$732,399.00, for the work required for the Interstate Bridge Replacement (IBR) Program and authorizes the CONSULTANT to produce deliverables and provide services with the commensurate budget for the activities
1/27/2026	WSP USA Inc.	This amendment modifies the services and budget for work required for the Interstate Bridge Replacement (IBR) Program	7/1/2023 - 8/31/2026	\$2,581,337.74	26P	Task Order Amendment AE.59 includes new scope, revised deliverable matrix, budget request of \$2,581,337.74. This Task order is required for the Interstate Bridge Replacement (IBR) Program and authorizes the CONSULTANT to produce deliverables and provide services with the commensurate budget for the activities.
1/28/2026	Jacobs Engineering Group	Deliver Planning Phase and Pre-Design of the Reconnecting East Central Spokane, a.k.a. Liberty Park Land Bridge, which includes the Environmental Justice Assessment, Pre-NEPA Environmental, concept design, and pre-design.	Through 12/31/28	\$2,712,500.00	108 26M	This project is approved by Legislative Authorization
1/30/2026	WSP	Section 106 Support Services, including environmental and technical support services and Section 106 Program management, Section 106 commitment tracking, consultation, and compliance work required for the Interstate Bridge Replacement (IBR) Program.	2/2/2026 - 6/30/2027	\$4,927,811.00	26P	This task order is required to perform work necessary to advance the IBR Program into construction.
2/2/2026	HDR Engineering Inc	Y11848 EU - A&E consultant design support for SCL 26kV Re-Alignment Work as part of the SR 520 Portage Bay Bridge and Roanoke Lid Design-Build Project.	14 months	\$72,869.70	17P - SR 520 Civil Penalties	Project/activity is appropriated in the 2025-27 Transportation Budget and is required for progressing design of the SR 520 Portage Bay Bridge Project.
2/2/2026	HDR Engineering Inc	Y11848 EL 03 - A&E consultant support for Community Workforce Agreement administration as part of the SR 520 Portage Bay Bridge and Roanoke Lid Design-Build Project.	5 months	\$195,185.27	20H - Connecting Washington Account	Project/activity is appropriated in the 2025-27 Transportation Budget; funding is provided by bond proceeds.
2/2/2026	Shannon & Wilson	Provide geotechnical support to the State Geotechnical Office and support the NW Region Construction Office in addressing geotechnical needs to the Unnamed to Nookachamps & Hansen Creeks Fish Passage project	12/31/2027	\$15,416.00	108	Shannon & Wilson is the consultant that supported the design phase under Y12544 AY. The subject task order is for submittal review and field support during the construction phase. Given their involvement in the original design and the SGO's lack of available internal staff, Shannon & Wilson is the most suitable and lowest-risk option.
2/2/2026	HNTB	Y13027 Task Order AD is for support for a deed correction on the PCC Rail System.	18 months	\$87,657.00	218	This Task Order authorizes the consultant to provide support to complete the steps necessary to prepare a correction deed for the Hooper and Pleasant Valley Branches of the PCC Rail System.
2/3/2026	WSP & subconsultants	(Revised from 6/11/2025 and 6/24/2025 entries) Y-11918 GEC support for the Gateway SR 167 project includes 1b, 2a and 2b phases. Services include, but are not limited to project management, construction support; communications; and environmental & ESA support. This specific amendment (DP 01) increases the traffic design support, Business Manager support, and business support for the SR 167 2a Project.	7/1/2025 - 6/30/2026	\$68,336.00	20H	These services are necessary for successful, on schedule delivery of Gateway's SR 167 Project and to meet the statutory deadlines associated with project completion, including Federal milestone requirements associated with the Project's Federal funding.
2/2/2026	HDR Engineering	Provide Preliminary Plans for NSC's Children of the Sun Trail (Pedestrian Bridge #4; From Sprague Ave. north to Alki) going to Ad in February 2027.	Through 12/2027	\$74,000.00	215, 20H	To provide the facility as promised to the public by the Governor and the Legislature.
2/2/2026	HDR Engineering	Provide Preliminary Plans for NSC's Children of the Sun Trail (Pedestrian Bridge #4; From Sprague Ave. south to I-90) going to Ad in October 2027.	Through 12/31/2027	\$51,000.00	215, 20H	To provide the facility as promised to the public by the Governor and the Legislature.

Date Approved	Name of Contractor	Brief Description of Services	Term of Contract	Total Cost	Fund Source	Rationale for Approving Exception
2/4/2026	WSP	Task Order for CONSULTANT to provide research, survey, analysis, and communications support to the STATE for the assessment of current fire suppression infrastructure in the 1-5 Washington State Convention Center, 1-90 Mercer Island Tunnel and 1-90 Mount Baker Ridge Tunnel Complex. The assessment will conclude with recommendations on the most cost-effective approach to mitigate the risks associated with design fire scenarios, which will assume that flammable/hazardous cargo must be allowed through these sections of 1-5 and 1-90.	2/4/2026 - 3/1/2027	\$1,238,500.00	108	To mitigate the risks associated with design fire scenarios, which will assume that flammable/hazardous cargo must be allowed through these sections of 1-5 and 1-90.
2/4/2026	University of Washington	The goal of this study is to advance transportation equity by identifying, analyzing, and addressing AT disparities in transportation-disadvantaged rural residential clusters (RRCs), defined as a small, unincorporated cluster of adjacent homes located along a state highway or major county road outside any city/town limits, urban growth area (UGA), or census-designated place (CDP). Develop resources and tools— including a geospatial database, prioritization methodology, and reproducible workflow—to support targeted interventions that improve connectivity, safety, and equitable access for residents of RRCs. These resources will be designed for use by WSDOT and its partners in planning and implementing AT improvements across the state.	12 Months	\$100,000.00	Fund 108 80% Fed & 20% State	We are pursuing this exception in order to carry out WSDOT’s responsibility to conduct transportation research in accordance with our receipt of FHWA’s State Planning and Research, Part B funding (see Title 23 US Code, §505(5)), which requires a 20% match of state dollars to the 80% federal funding. This project is part of WSDOT’s 25-27 research program, approved by the agency’s executive management.

\$12,982,011.71

Goods and Equipment Freeze Exception Report to OFM

Agency: WSDOT

Program:

Agency Director signature:

Date Approved	Description of Goods or Equipment	Total Cost	Fund Source	Rationale for Approving Exception
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NO EXCEPTIONS THIS PERIOD

Travel Freeze Exception Report to OFM

Agency: WSDOT

Program:

Agency Director signature:

Date Approved	Position Title	Total Cost	Fund Source	Rationale for Approving Exception
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NO EXCEPTIONS THIS PERIOD