



BILL BRIEF

HB 1080 – 2021-23 Capital Budget

Key provisions

- Spends \$6.3 billion, \$3.9 billion of which is from the sale of general obligation bonds.
- Leaves \$82 million in bond capacity for the 2022 supplemental capital budget.

Background

The biennial capital budget makes appropriations for projects tangible in nature that have a long useable life, such as schools and other public buildings, behavioral and mental health facilities, parks, low-income housing, water infrastructure, and habitat. It is funded through a variety of fund sources, including general obligation bonds, dedicated cash accounts, federal funds, and alternative financing contracts.

This biennial capital budget spends \$6.3 billion, \$3.9 billion of which is from the sale of general obligation bonds. The remaining \$2.3 billion is comprised of a combination of federal funds, alternative financing authorizations, and other dedicated funding sources. It leaves \$82 million in bond capacity for the 2022 supplemental capital budget.

Due to the passage of federal legislation, the state is expected to receive federal funds to be used for diverse purposes. This capital budget appropriates \$189 million from the Coronavirus Capital Projects Fund, which is provided to enable work, education, and health monitoring, and \$400 million from the Coronavirus State Fiscal Recovery Fund for investments in water, sewer, and broadband infrastructure.

Highlights

- **K-12 School Construction**
 - \$730.6 million for the 2021-23 School Construction Assistance Program (SCAP), providing state funds for public school buildings across the state.
 - \$40 million for seismic safety retrofits to school buildings at risk of severe earthquake damage.
 - \$42 million for the Small District and Tribal Compact School Modernization program, providing grants to small, rural school districts to modernize school buildings.
- **Mental and Behavioral Health**
 - \$200.7 million to begin construction of the behavioral health teaching hospital run by the University of Washington ([HB 1593](#)).
 - \$95 million in Behavioral Health Capacity grants for community mental health services.
 - \$52.9 million for two state-operated, community mental health facilities in Clark and Lewis counties.
 - \$74 million to increase capacity and service for civil and forensic patients at Western State Hospital, Eastern State

Key messages

This budget makes significant investments in water, sewer, and broadband infrastructure with the help of one-time federal funds.

We are continuing to make mental and behavioral health care a priority by increasing capacity at community- and state-run mental health facilities. We are also funding the construction of the new behavioral health teaching hospital at the University of Washington, which will provide much-needed capacity for patients and educate the next generation of health professionals focused on mental and behavioral health.

Broadband Internet is quickly becoming a necessary utility for families across the state. Large investments in the State Broadband Office, the Public Works Board, and the Community Economic Revitalization Board broadband grant programs will pave the way for high-speed internet access across the state.

Bill Status as of April 25, 2021: Passed Legislature.

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Hospital, and state-run community settings.

- \$51 million to design a new, 350-bed forensic hospital on the Western State Hospital campus.
- \$22.7 million for patient safety and other necessary upgrades at Western and Eastern State Hospitals.
- **Higher Education Facilities**
 - \$733 million, including \$558.5 million in bonds, for the state's four-year institutions.
 - \$45.4 million for the University of Washington's Interdisciplinary Education and Research Center for the College of Engineering.
 - \$52.6 million for construction of the Life Sciences building at Washington State University Vancouver.
 - \$55.5 million to renovate and expand Nicholson Pavilion at Central Washington University.
 - \$51 million for design and construction of a new electrical engineering and computer science building at Western Washington University.
 - \$45 million for renovation of the Science Building at Eastern Washington University.
 - \$512 million, including \$442.6 million in bonds, for the community and technical college system.
- **Public Works**
 - \$129 million from the Public Works Assistance Account to issue grants and loans to local governments for infrastructure projects.
 - \$326 million to the State Broadband Office for broadband infrastructure projects, including \$50 million in bonds to leverage other federal funding.
 - \$60 million to the Public Works Board for broadband projects in unserved areas of the state.
 - \$25 million to the Community Economic Revitalization Board for broadband infrastructure projects in rural, underserved communities.
- **Housing**
 - \$175 million for the Housing Trust Fund, including:
 - \$20 million to preserve aging affordable housing units.
 - \$8.8 million for community housing and cottage communities.
 - \$5 million for housing for people with developmental disabilities.
 - \$42 million for Utility Connection Fee Reduction grants to assist local governments with the cost of infrastructure associated with affordable housing projects.
 - \$25.9 million for grants to increase enhanced shelter capacity.
 - \$10 million for Weatherization grants to assist homeowners with critical upgrades that reduce heat loss.
 - \$10 million for the Continuing Affordability in Current Housing program to ensure affordable housing stays affordable.
 - \$5 million for the Rural Rehabilitation Loan Program that provides deferred loans to rural, low-income households that need necessary repairs and improvements on their homes.
- **Department of Commerce Community Grant Programs**
 - \$160 million for Local & Community Projects statewide.
 - \$30 million for the Building Communities Fund.
 - \$17.7 million for the Library Capital Improvement Program.
 - \$16 million for the Building for the Arts grant program.
 - \$3.7 million for the Youth Recreational Facilities grant program.
- **Natural Resources**
 - \$72.6 million to the State Parks & Recreation Commission for improvements to state parks statewide, including the creation of a new state park in Nisqually.
 - \$100 million for the Washington Wildlife & Recreation Program.
 - \$50.9 million to reduce flood risks and restore floodplains through Floodplains by Design.
 - \$70 million for the Office of Chehalis Basin for projects to reduce flood damage and restore fish habitat.
 - \$42 million for the Yakima River Basin.
 - \$45 million for Office of Columbia River.

To find projects in your district, visit <http://fiscal.wa.gov/CapitalProjectListDistrictBien.aspx>.

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