# WASHINGTON STATE UNIVERSITY
# 2019-2021 Capital Budget Request and 10 Year Plan
# Narrative Overview

## STRATEGIC GROWTH FOR A HEALTHY WASHINGTON

**This capital plan and its associated capital budget request emphasize investments in animal and human health and STEM facilities supporting Washington's public and economic health. In addition, these investments promote modernization and preservation of existing university facilities and infrastructure.**

Consistent with its land grant mission, the university's capital plan renews the commitment to Washington residents to provide world-class educational opportunities in high demand fields at multiple locations. It provides facilities for research and scientific discoveries that will increase innovation to protect and spur the state's economy. The successful and timely completion of these projects will allow program delivery outlined in the university's strategic plan while also supporting the governor's *Results Washington* priorities.

Results from WSU's capital planning process are reflected in the near-term 2019-21 project requests but also in the 10-year project list. The highest prioritized academic and research needs over time, grouped by theme, are modern space in the Life and Physical Sciences areas, modern space to house other STEM programs and renovations to provide student collaboration space. Some of these needs will be met by construction projects and some by modernization and some by retrofitting existing campus space.

- **WSU's top capital budget priority is to secure $36.4 million to finish construction of the Global Animal Health Building Phase II.** The 2018 Legislature provided $23 million to build the structure, building envelope, underground utilities, elevators and mechanical, electrical and plumbing mainline rough-ins (behind the wall services) and site work. Should the $36.4 million request be appropriated in 2019-21, it will allow a seamless transition between biennia to continue with the interior buildout and complete the fully functional, mission critical Washington Animal Disease & Diagnostics Laboratory (WADDL) containing testing and necropsy laboratories.

  WADDL is on the front line of the nation's defense against foreign animal diseases, human diseases transmitted from animals, and food-borne illness. It is the only accredited veterinary diagnostic laboratory in Washington. WADDL testing is vital for early disease detection, protecting public health and food security, and protecting Washington's $1.5 billion animal agriculture industry.

- **Washington State University requests predesign funds for two projects, one in Spokane and one in Pullman.**

  **$500,000 is requested for predesign of a biomedical and health sciences building in Spokane** on the university's growing health sciences campus where the colleges of medicine, nursing and pharmacy are headquartered. The co-location of these colleges has created unique educational and research synergy. Already the largest producer of nurses in Washington, the College of Nursing is operating at full capacity even as the demand for nurses soars. New educational space is needed to expand enrollment. The College of

Pharmacy and Pharmaceutical Sciences is equally stretched, having launched a successful off-campus expansion in Yakima to help meet the state's needs. The College of Medicine has just enrolled its second class of 60 Washington students selected from an applicant pool of almost 1,200. This new building will facilitate further growth in research and health sciences academic programming on the growing campus and capitalize on its surging momentum.

**$500,000 in predesign funding for the Pullman campus would provide the planning and programming funds for a new Life/Physical Sciences Building** that will replace 56-year-old Heald Hall. Sustained increases in student enrollment and interest in STEM programs at WSU are pushing current space resources to the limit and restricting opportunities for program growth and expansion at both campuses. The new Pullman building, dedicated to foundational life and physical sciences will provide high-quality academic, collaborative, and investigative spaces and directly support the growth of programs in biological sciences, chemistry, physics, and environmental sciences. This will replace facilities with inadequate structural capacity to support modern laboratory equipment. Aging Pullman campus buildings, limited laboratory space, and student demand are significant negative influences on the university's ability to continue providing high-quality science education and training. This facility will improve WSU's ability to deliver world-class STEM education and training.

- **Design funds of $4 million are requested for the Vancouver Life Sciences Building.** Sustained increases in student enrollment and interest in STEM programs at WSU are pushing current space resources to the limit and restricting opportunities for program growth and expansion at multiple campuses. This project will fill a critical need by providing teaching and research laboratories in high demand STEM related fields. Expansion of lab space is important to continue to serve the needs of undergraduate students in southwest Washington who are pursuing STEM careers, but the Vancouver campus is out of space for new labs. The integration of teaching and research labs in one building will increase the opportunities for undergraduate students to participate in research, enhancing their learning and skill development for future STEM careers. New labs for neuroscience, molecular biology and nursing research will provide opportunities for new discoveries to solve societal problems in the areas of health. The facility will also include specialized, dedicated vivarium space to house animals for research labs and federally-funded research programs.

- **The university requests $27 million for construction of the WSU Tri-Cities Academic Building.** WSU Tri-Cities was granted the authority to expand to a four-year campus in 2007, leading to accelerated enrollment growth. This growth rate is increasing due to - WSU's strategic academic goals that focus on growth in STEM programs. The campus facilities, however, are inadequate to accommodate all the students and existing faculty. For example, the campus currently has only one suitable space for offering chemistry laboratory sections. Biology labs have to be offered off campus in leased space. Many of the campus teaching laboratories (used previously for upper division and graduate courses only), are too small and/or not equipped for teaching undergraduate lab sections of 24 students. Leasing instructional and faculty office space in several locations off campus is inefficient and costly. Growth will be impossible without expanding teaching and research facilities on campus and consolidating laboratory and classroom facilities to meet strategic needs.

- **WSU requests $4.9 million for Pullman STEM Undergraduate Teaching Labs** This is the second step in a long-range plan to upgrade the aging learning spaces in the sciences at WSU. This project will renovate, refurbish, and modernize heavily used biology and microbiology teaching laboratories in Eastlick Hall and the related building support systems. It will provide critical upgrades in high-enrollment biological science learning spaces that will

extend the useful life of one of the core facilities on the Pullman campus, improve safety, and enable the university to better meet high student demand for STEM programs. These lab renewals will invigorate students' hands-on laboratory experience in high-demand STEM degrees, increase programmatic options, and bolster the "citizen scientist" experience for all students. The availability of modern lab space, through renovations of existing space and new construction, continues to be the university's top capital need.

- **WSU requests funding for two renovation projects that will provide student collaboration space and services** for current and future academic programs that supports student success and graduation. The projects located in Holland Library and Dana Hall will make better use of existing space and meet current educational standards. In response to changes in disciplines and based on employer demands, academic programs are requiring more collaborative work from their students, developed through digital or interpersonal efforts. The spaces supporting this type of student academic work, however, are few in number and limited in size as the campus faces record enrollment. There is a demand for student study and collaborative spaces with flexible seating and modern technology that enables students to form small groups to work together on course materials and projects. Flexibility in teaching and learning spaces is a key to greater student engagement and academic success. The projects also include building systems improvements in the facilities that are both over 50-years-old.

  The first project, **Student Success: Collaboration Space (Holland), requests $9.8 million** request for critical upgrades in Holland Library that will free up and reconfigure prime space in the center of campus. This project will renovate a section of the library to provide student collaboration spaces and relocate least accessed library materials to specialized high-density, mobile, compact shelving in the basement. Collaborative pedagogies and skills are emphasized in high-demand fields such as engineering, business, and STEM disciplines. Project results would include more efficient use of existing space in the Holland Library and will help meet the demand for this new type of instructional-related space across disciplines.

  The second renovation project, **STEM/Student Success (Dana Hall), is for $9.6 million** to reconfigure and modernize space for co-located teaching and learning and student support services in College of Engineering and Architecture space. The college offers many student support programs that serve high demand fields such as engineering, computer science and construction management. However, the programs are not co-located, are undersized, and do not have modern learning technologies. College advisors are located in four buildings and capstone, design, and hands-on-learning support services are in six buildings. Spaces meant for students to work and learn together are blocks away. Undergraduate students, particularly those in the high-demand, engineering disciplines, will significantly benefit from co-located services and collaborative spaces in one location.

- **WSU's request includes $43 million minor works preservation and $22 million minor works program projects.** Minor capital preservation funding is needed to prevent the continued decline and degradation of existing facilities (43% of which are over 50-years-old), which adversely impact the university's ability to perform its primary mission of teaching and research. These funds extend the life of buildings by replacing or repairing elevators, roofs, fire alarms, HVAC systems, pumps, masonry, windows, flooring, painting, and building network cabling and electronics. The request includes funding for minor infrastructure and projects to ensure compliance with modern health, safety and code regulations. Minor works program funding is also essential. These funds allow older facilities to be retrofitted to support modern teaching and research and also include omnibus equipment acquisitions.

Continued modernization of facilities and infrastructure is essential, both to protect the state's investments and to recruit and retain the best available faculty and students.

- **$10 million is requested for Infrastructure: Life/Physical Sciences.** This funding would provide a major renewal of the underground utilities and associated road surface reconstruction in the College Avenue-Spokane Street section of the Pullman campus. Much of this infrastructure is far beyond its expected useful life, is increasingly unreliable, and represents a significant risk to maintaining university operations. The systems are overdue for replacement to address their deteriorated condition, and to accommodate current STEM-related teaching and research programs, campus growth and facilities serving the life and physical sciences and the Voiland College of Engineering and Architecture. This project is the highest priority out of an overall $450 million university infrastructure backlog and is the first of several multi-biennia requests for major infrastructure renewal in WSU's 10-year capital plan.

- **Washington State University requests $10 million for a strategic real estate acquisition in Everett.** Washington State University requests $10,000,000 for the purchase of 5-10 acres of land currently owned by the Everett Housing Authority (EHA). Although EHA has not yet completed its formal appraisal of this property, WSU is proposing to purchase between 5-10 acres of the property based on current market values. Given the forthcoming sale of EHA's property, it is critical that WSU Everett move forward with its proposed land acquisition now, as this opportunity will not be available in the future. This purchase, to accommodate WSU Everett's future growth, is critical to improve access to public baccalaureate and graduate degree programs across the region. The Everett strategic plan addresses issues surrounding access to STEM-related and other high demand disciplines in the SIS counties and aligns with the access and success goals of the Governor's *Results Washington* plan.