



Strickland Delivers for the South Sound Secures Nine Key Projects

Congresswoman Marilyn Strickland secured the following provisions in H.R. 8294, the FY23 appropriations 'minibus' package.

Supporting the Environment and HBCUs:

- **Puget Sound Geographic Program (PSGP):** Secured \$54 million for the Puget Sound Geographic Program (PSGP), a nearly \$20 million increase from FY22, by leading a letter to Appropriators co-signed by all Washington Democrats, Transportation and Infrastructure Chair DeFazio, and Natural Resources Chair Grijalva. PSGP provides grants to local, state, and tribal governments to implement projects to help recover and restore Puget Sound, like improving water quality, rebuilding salmon habitat, and protecting our shorelines.
- **Stormwater Center of Excellence:** Secured \$5 million to establish a Stormwater Center of Excellence program, helping build expertise around best practices for managing stormwater and combating harmful road runoff from 6PPD-quinone
- **Higher Education Emergency Relief Funding (HEERF):** Secured report language urging the Department of Education to use the most flexible interpretation of "use of funds" when considering grants under the Higher Education Emergency Relief Funding (HEERF) program. This language enables HBCUs to make critically important campus safety improvements in the wake of last year's bomb threats and invest in urgently needed deferred maintenance.

Secured funding for nine FY23 Community Project Funding (CPF) requests:

1. **Spanaway Family Services Center**
Recipient: Bethel School District 403
Amount Requested: \$2,250,000.00

Project Description and Explanation: This project supports the construction of a 3600-square-foot building that would house a Mentoring and tutoring youth center, a WIC MultiCare office, and a food and clothing bank. This would be the second phase of buildings providing support from partners in this community.

2. Sheffield Trail – Phase 1 (Fife)

Recipient: City of Fife

Amount Requested: \$800,000.00

Project Description and Explanation: This project allows the City to complete Phase 1 of a two-phase restoration of the Sheffield Trail, which ties into the regional Inter-urban Trail, connects Fife apartment renters and seniors with the community's only grocery store, and creates a direct linkage for patrons of the Pierce County Regional Library and elementary and high-school students of the Fife School District. The trail will also connect the residents of the adjacent apartment and senior housing complexes to the library, grocery store, and regional trails to the north and the city parks to the south. The trail further serves as an emergency lahar evacuation route for students of Columbia Junior High School and others, as it will provide the shortest pedestrian route between the school and high ground in Milton or Fife Heights.

3. The City of Lakewood South Tacoma Way Project

Recipient: City of Lakewood, WA

Amount Requested: \$2,500,000.00

Project Description and Explanation: This project will help clean up a major business corridor connecting the two cities. This corridor has an expansive International Business District which supports a diverse community beyond just Lakewood. The number of businesses between the north project boundary (City limit) to SR 512 is 193, of which 164 are women or minority-owned which translates to 84.5%. The overall population within this corridor is 5,230 with a low mod population of 3,355 or 64.15% LMI.

4. Stewart Road Corridor Completion: White River Bridge

Recipient: City of Sumner

Amount Requested: \$2,800,000.00

Project Description and Explanation: This project replaces the existing two-lane Stewart Road bridge over the White River with four lanes of traffic & shared-use path. This project eliminates a bottleneck that currently delays 10 million tons of freight; it adds safe multi-modal options, provides flood protection for the Sumner-Pacific Manufacturing Industrial Center, the largest manufacturing center in Pierce County, and helps improve the White River habitat as part of a suite of projects that restores 170 acres of floodplain, increasing habitat for native salmon species, a primary food source for the endangered Southern Resident Killer (Orca) Whales.

5. Emergency Food Network of Tacoma and Pierce County
Recipient: Emergency Food Network of Tacoma and Pierce County
Amount Requested: \$1,500,000.00
Project Description and Explanation: Through this campaign, EFN will build an additional warehouse on their campus in Lakewood at 22,000 square-feet, which will increase their storage capacity by 40%, enabling them to take in more donated food and federal food without the fear of running out of storage space.

6. Intercity Transit Zero Fare Bus Stop Access Improvements
Recipient: Thurston County Public Transportation Benefit Area (PTBA) DBA Intercity Transit
Amount Requested: \$1,825,950.00
Project Description and Explanation: This project will renovate 145 frequently used bus stops to increase transit operating efficiency, reduce passenger travel times, and increase passenger safety and access. The purpose of these renovations is to enhance the overall convenience and attractiveness of transit as a viable alternative to driving, making it possible for more people to meet more of their travel needs without having to drive.

7. History and Nature Center at Brewery Park (Tumwater)
Recipient: Olympia Tumwater Foundation
Amount Requested: \$750,000.00
Project Description and Explanation: The proposed new building will include approximately 4,800 square feet of enclosed space made up of event and exhibit spaces, offices, maintenance facilities, restrooms, and common areas. The building will provide interpretation of the natural, cultural, recreational, and historical resources of the landscape and serve as an introduction to regional resources.

8. Pacific Avenue SR-7, Pedestrian and Transit Access Improvements (168th Street East, Tacoma)
Recipient: Pierce County
Amount Requested: \$3,000,000.00
Project Description and Explanation: This project will make necessary improvements to a critical high-priority corridor in Pierce County, improving safety and mobility for pedestrians and for transit, including the approved future Bus Rapid Transit (BRT), while also increasing access and connectivity to and from downtown for the traditionally underserved areas of South Tacoma. It is one of the key pillars of the Parkland-Spanaway-Midland Community Plan, which aims to provide lasting and complete connections between these three widely different communities

9. Garrison Springs Creek Restoration (Steilacoom)

Recipient: Town of Steilacoom

Amount Requested: \$1,500,000.00

Project Description and Explanation: The project improves water quality runoff into the Puget Sound and provides habitat for aquatic and terrestrial species. The Garrison Springs Creek Restoration is part of a broader effort to convert fallow former industrial land to a vibrant community asset, with access to nature, a community park, housing, bike/pedestrian connections, and water access.

U.S. Representative Marilyn Strickland serves on the House Transportation and Infrastructure Committee, and is the only African-American woman who serves on the House Armed Services Committee. She is a member of the New Democrat Coalition, is one of the first Korean-American women elected to Congress and is the first African-American elected to represent the Pacific Northwest at the federal level.