



Strickland Secures Funding for the South Sound 14 Key Community-Funded Projects

Congresswoman Marilyn Strickland secured over \$19 million and led provisions for 14 South Sound community projects in the final 2023 appropriations government funding package.

Strickland-led Provisions in FY23 Omnibus:

1. Secured full funding for the Defense Community Infrastructure Program. This brings the total appropriations to \$100 million. Strickland led a letter to the Appropriations Committee to urge the Committee to fully fund DCIP.
2. Led 45 colleagues in requesting the highest possible funding level for the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA), given its critical role in leading substance use efforts at the national level, securing \$7.5 billion in the funding bill. This is an increase of \$970 million from funds appropriated in FY22.
3. Led 82 colleagues in urging the Appropriations Committee to fund the CDC Chronic Kidney Disease Initiative, securing \$4.5 million in the funding bill, a \$1 million increase from FY22. The CDC Chronic Kidney Disease Initiative comprehensive public health strategy was created at the urging of Congress and NKF fifteen years ago to support public awareness, outreach, and tracking of CKD, from which 37 million Americans suffer.
4. Led her colleagues in urging the Appropriations Committee to substantially increase funding for mental health crisis response, securing a \$150 million increase in the Mental Health Block Grant, including increasing funding through the 5% set-aside for mental health crisis systems with the MHBG from \$42 to \$49 million. This set-aside enables states to provide crisis care programming for individuals struggling with substance use disorders or mental health crises. State and local governments can use funds from this program for high-tech crisis call centers, 24/7 mobile crisis units, and crisis stabilization programs.
5. Co-led a letter signed by 131 Members requesting a substantial increase in funding for the Child Care and Development Block Grant (CCDBG), and secured \$8 billion for CCDBG, a \$1.9 billion increase from FY22. This funding helps families cover the high cost of child care and supports states in improving the quality of care.

6. Secured a record \$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.
7. Secured \$65 million for the Pacific Coastal Salmon Recovery Fund, stabilizing this critical State and Tribal resource for salmon recovery.
8. Secured \$3 million for Stormwater Infrastructure Technology, helping build expertise around best practices for managing stormwater and combating harmful road runoff from 6PPD-quinone.
9. Increases funds for HBCUs by \$66 million. Strickland led a letter with 31 of her colleagues urging the Department to allocate \$100 million for HBCU basic research grants and an additional \$30 million for other HBCU programs in DoD. Total funding was \$100.5 million for basic research and \$2 million for SMART diversification programs.
10. The bill increases funding for the basic allowance for housing by \$1.2 billion above the budget request - 11% increase. It is directed that the additional funding shall be applied to incremental costs due to increased inflation or other pricing indexes and shall not be used to address program baseline shortfalls or to fund other unforeseen requirements.
11. The MILCON/VA bill funds a new barrack at JBLM at \$49 million.
12. Congresswoman Strickland secured \$5 million C-17 aircraft protective systems development which will help protect the C-17 pilots at JBLM.
13. Secured passage of the HOMES for our Veterans Act, which will help homeless veterans service providers put more veterans in homes and makes it easier for these providers to meet the unique needs of their communities.

The 14 Community Project Funding requests that secured funding are:

1. Center for Urban Waters - Protecting Salmon from Toxic Chemicals
Recipient: University of Washington Tacoma
Address: 1900 Commerce Street, Tacoma, WA 98402-3100
Amount Requested: \$1,000,000.00
Project Description and Explanation: These funds will allow the University of Washington to acquire improved research equipment to continue efforts in identifying and investigating the many toxic chemicals in tires and the toxic ecological impacts of their use. Recent research conducted at the University of Washington Tacoma's (UW Tacoma) Center for Urban Waters (CUW) has identified the ubiquitous pollutant "6PPD-quinone," which is commonly used in the manufacture of tires, as the primary toxic chemical that is directly

responsible for widespread observations of mortality in Coho Salmon in the Pacific Northwest.

2. 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.

3. Olympia Tumwater Foundation - History and Nature Center at Brewery Park

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.

4. Hope for Heroes Horsemanship Center

Recipient: Hope for Heroes Horsemanship Center

Address: 14528 Avis Lane SE, Yelm, WA 98597

Amount Requested: \$70,000.00

Project Description and Explanation: This funding will support horse feed, care, and instructors to provide therapeutic horsemanship to retired veterans and active-duty military personnel weekly suffering from PTSD, anxiety, chronic depression and other injuries like insomnia and Traumatic Brain Injury.

5. Pierce County - Pacific Avenue SR-7, Pedestrian and Transit Access Improvements (168 Street East)

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.

5. Pierce County Sheriff's Department - Metro Dive Team Equipment

Recipient: Pierce County Sheriff's Department

Address: 930 Tacoma Ave. S., Tacoma, WA 98402

Amount Requested: \$248,000.00

Project Description and Explanation: The Pierce County Metro Dive Team is a regional asset within the Pacific Northwest, and they respond to assist other agencies on a regular basis with body and evidence recovery, ferry security, and subsurface search and recovery missions.

6. Thurston County Sheriff's Department - Rapid DNA Forensic Technology for Investigations

Recipient: Thurston County Sheriff's Office

Address: 2000 Lakeridge Dr SW Olympia, WA 98502

Amount Requested: \$448,000.00

Project Description and Explanation: Rapid DNA will assist the Thurston County Sheriff's Office and their neighboring jurisdictions, who will be invited to participate in this regional Rapid DNA system, by creating investigative leads in cases that are important to our communities even if they are not a priority to our state crime lab. Having a Rapid DNA instrument will also ensure the office can quickly provide answers to the community for victim identification when the next disaster strikes. In addition, this technology will improve community relations by exonerating those innocent individuals falsely accused.

7. City of Fife - Sheffield Trail Widening & Restoration

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.

8. Bethel School District - 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.

9. City of Sumner - 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-model 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.

10. Tacoma Public School District-Professional Pipeline Project

Recipient: Tacoma Public School District

Address: 601 South 8th Street, Tacoma, WA 98405

Amount Requested: \$555,000.00

Project Description and Explanation: The Tacoma Professional Pipeline Project helps to connect students with opportunities to explore their career interests, build skills, and connect with employers in their home community who in turn benefit from the fresh perspective of a diverse and locally engaged applicant pool.

11. 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.

12. Town of Steilacoom - Garrison Springs Creek Restoration Project

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.

13. 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.

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.