

GOVERNMENTAL OPERATIONS

Agency 355

Department of Archaeology and Historic Preservation

Recommendation Summary

Dollars in Thousands

	Annual FTEs	General Fund State	Other Funds	Total Funds
2005-07 Expenditure Authority	16.6	1,473	1,541	3,014
Total Maintenance Level	16.6	1,483	1,822	3,305
Difference		10	281	291
Percent Change from Current Biennium	0.0%	0.7%	18.2%	9.7%
Performance Changes				
Maintain Grant-Funded GIS System		120		120
Meeting Archaeology Demand	1.0	188		188
Information Technology Support		250		250
Revise Pension Gain-Sharing #		(4)	(2)	(6)
Nonrepresented Staff Health Benefit		9	5	14
Nonrepresented Staff Salary Change		81	63	144
Self Insurance Premium		2		2
Subtotal	1.0	646	66	712
Total Proposed Budget	17.6	2,129	1,888	4,017
Difference	1.0	656	347	1,003
Percent Change from Current Biennium	6.0%	44.5%	22.5%	33.3%
Total Proposed Budget by Activity				
Creation and Management of Cultural Resource Data	5.1	892	207	1,099
Protecting Archaeological and Historic Resources	4.6	443	395	838
Preserving and Enhancing Historic Places	7.9	585	1,208	1,793
Other Statewide Adjustments		209	78	287
Total Proposed Budget	17.6	2,129	1,888	4,017

PERFORMANCE LEVEL CHANGE DESCRIPTIONS

Maintain Grant-Funded GIS System

From 1999 to 2003, the Department of Archaeology and Historic Preservation (DAHP) developed its geographic information initiative, a set of geographic information system (GIS) tools to help public agencies avoid damage to archaeological and historic sites during the environmental planning process. DAHP's GIS system was built using interagency grants and consists of a series of maps showing the location of recorded archaeological and historic sites. The cost to operate and maintain the system has been covered through a combination of grant funding and one-time budget savings, but the agency's base operating budget cannot continue to absorb these costs. Ongoing funding is provided for support and maintenance of the GIS applications.

GOVERNMENTAL OPERATIONS

Meeting Archaeology Demand

The Department of Archaeology and Historic Preservation is responsible for reviewing local government applications for construction-related archaeological and historic site impacts under statutes such as the State Environmental Policy Act and Shoreline Management Act. For the five-year period ending in 2005, the number of application reviews increased more than 100 percent to 2,800, and review time increased from three to 24 days, exceeding the statutory review limit of 14 days. Technical assistance needs of local government clients have increased as well. Delays in application review and technical assistance increase the risk of damage to archaeological materials, burial sites, and other cultural resources. A combination of one-time and ongoing funding and full-time staff are provided to meet this increasing workload, and to reduce application review turnaround time to under 14 days.

Information Technology Support

Following the establishment of the Department of Archaeology and Historic Preservation (DAHP) as an independent agency, its information technology system was relocated from the Department of Community, Trade, and Economic Development to the Department of Information Services (DIS). The decision to move the system to DIS resulted in increased maintenance costs not currently included in DAHP's budget. This ongoing item funds the additional maintenance costs associated with an independent system hosted and maintained at DIS.

Self Insurance Premium

Funding for the Department's self insurance premium is increased to reflect claims experience.

ACTIVITY DESCRIPTIONS

Creation and Management of Cultural Resource Data

This activity manages a number of databases and official registers of archaeological sites and historic places, including the State Archaeological Database, the Washington state component of the National Register of Historic Places, and the Washington Heritage Register (the state complement to the National Register). These inventories and registers are used by the public; local governments for GMA planning purposes; federal and state agencies and tribes for compliance with the National Historic Preservation Act and federal Environmental Policy Act; and tribes and government agencies at all levels for compliance with the state Environmental Policy Act. DNR uses the archaeological database to ensure that archaeological sites are not impacted by forest practices.

Protecting Archaeological and Historic Resources

Under state and federal law, this activity reviews proposed federal or state funded construction projects, federal licenses and/or federal permits for potential impacts on archaeological artifacts, human remains and the historic built environment. In cases where project sponsors must apply for an archaeological permit, or develop a Memorandum of Agreement governing archaeological mitigation, this activity reviews applications, establishes archaeological methodologies, identifies required conditions that must be met during construction, consults with Tribes, and, as applicable, issues state permits or signs federal agreements. When archaeological artifacts or burial sites have been disturbed, this activity conducts investigations and takes enforcement action. For historic sites: historic bridges, districts, structures, or buildings, this activity proposes the appropriate mitigation or adaptive reuse when a federally funded, licensed or permitted undertaking would have an adverse effect on the property. The activity results in the signing of a federal MOA for the historic property. This activity also works with Tribes on balancing cultural resource protection with project delivery, as well as facilitating environmental streamlining initiatives for federally funded, licensed or permitted undertakings as well as state or locally funded projects.

Preserving and Enhancing Historic Places

Under the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966 (NHPA) and complimentary authority under state law, this activity provides technical and financial assistance to 35 local governments certified by the National Park Service as eligible for federal assistance. This activity also conducts the technical review and approval of applications for federal tax incentives related to rehabilitation of historic properties. In addition, DAHP develops a statewide historic preservation plan every five years and reviews historic preservation plans developed under GMA.

Other Statewide Adjustments

This item reflects proposed compensation and other adjustments that were not allocated to individual agency activities. The agency will assign these costs to the proper activities after the budget is enacted.