

Agency 390

Washington State Historical Society

Recommendation Summary

Dollars in Thousands

	Annual FTEs	General Fund State	Other Funds	Total Funds
2005-07 Expenditure Authority	51.9	6,662	1,912	8,574
Total Maintenance Level	51.4	5,989	1,962	7,951
Difference	(.5)	(673)	50	(623)
Percent Change from Current Biennium	(1.0)%	(10.1)%	2.6%	(7.3)%
Performance Changes				
Historic Document Preservation		43		43
Permanent Exhibit Partnership		125	349	474
Women's History Consortium Support	1.4		475	475
Revise Pension Gain-Sharing #		(10)	(2)	(12)
Nonrepresented Staff Health Benefit		28	7	35
Nonrepresented Staff Salary Change		370	133	503
Self Insurance Premium		2		2
Subtotal	1.4	558	962	1,520
Total Proposed Budget	52.8	6,547	2,924	9,471
Difference	.9	(115)	1,012	897
Percent Change from Current Biennium	1.7%	(1.7)%	52.9%	10.5%
Total Proposed Budget by Activity				
Acquire and Maintain Historic Collection	7.0	804	113	917
Agency Administration	4.4	682	83	765
Community Outreach Activities	10.4	1,113	831	1,944
Historical Education	6.0	526	175	701
Member, Donor and Public Relations	7.0	239	921	1,160
Museum Operation and Facilities Maintenance	12.0	1,661	228	1,889
State Historical Exhibits	6.0	868	467	1,335
Other Statewide Adjustments		654	106	760
Total Proposed Budget	52.8	6,547	2,924	9,471

EDUCATION - OTHER

PERFORMANCE LEVEL CHANGE DESCRIPTIONS

Historic Document Preservation

The Washington State Historical Society's (WSHS) collection includes nearly 39,000 nitrate negatives that provide a record of Washington's people, places, and events between 1900 and 1940. Cellulose nitrate film deteriorates at normal room temperatures, producing toxic and highly flammable fumes. WSHS has received capital funding to construct a special fire-rated and refrigerated storage chamber to house its negatives. This biennium, WSHS will purchase packaging materials for the slides and hire contract workers to do the packaging work. In addition, WSHS will repackage and store an additional 4,000 nitrate negatives from the Parks and Recreation Commission's collection. This arrangement will preserve the Parks collection without the expense of building another refrigerated chamber.

Permanent Exhibit Partnership

The Washington State Historical Society has partnered with the Mercantile Library of St. Louis, Missouri to develop a major exhibit on the impacts of the transcontinental railroads on the West. Many of the themes and stories are based on the Washington experience. The exhibit, "The West the Railroads Made," is scheduled to open in Tacoma in March 2008. After the exhibit completes its cross country tour in 2010, it will become a permanent interpretive device at Iron Horse State Park in Cle Elum. Funding is provided for 15 percent of the total project cost. Remaining funding will come from WSHS, the Mercantile Library, private contributions, and rental income. (General Fund-State, Local Museum Account-Washington State Historical Society-Nonappropriated)

Women's History Consortium Support

The Legislature created the Women's History Consortium in statute in 2005, with the expectation that the consortium would seek private and local funds to supplement the ongoing state support of \$190,000 per biennium. When additional funding is secured, the consortium will use it to hire an outreach educator, provide additional technical support for the consortium partners, develop an on-line curriculum, expand the oral history program, and add materials to the women's history collection. (Local Museum Account-Washington State Historical Society-Nonappropriated)

Self Insurance Premium

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

ACTIVITY DESCRIPTIONS

Acquire and Maintain Historic Collection

The Washington State Historical Society collects, catalogs, and preserves artifacts, manuscripts, maps, ephemera, photographs and books that are irreplaceable and related to the interpretation of our state's history. We make the collections available to the public and to internal interpretive service departments, including digital assets accessible on-line.

Agency Administration

The Society's administration provides executive leadership, policy development, strategic planning, accounting, budgeting, personnel management, labor relations, risk management, investment management, purchasing, and records management functions.

Community Outreach Activities

The Society engages students/teachers, organizations, agencies and communities statewide through outreach and effective partnerships using National History Day, Heritage Capital Projects, traveling exhibits, heritage conferences, workshops, and technical assistance. We coordinate access to Women's history information/resources at WSHS and partner institutions for the Women's History Consortium, for which WSHS is the lead agency and will develop a plan for the 2010 centennial commemoration of women's suffrage

Historical Education

The Society provides interpretive services to K-12 students, teachers, and the general public through school field trips, teacher professional development training, and public programs. We also create online curricula closely aligned with state assessment requirements for public use in schools statewide in keeping with the society's Education Digital Initiative (EDI) and the state's commitment to increased student academic achievement.

Member, Donor and Public Relations

The Society promotes Washington state heritage using publications such as Columbia: the Magazine of Northwest History and other media. We maintain customer relationships with members, the public, donors, and other key stakeholders.

Museum Operation and Facilities Maintenance

The Society provides a safe and enjoyable museum experience by maintaining safe, well-functioning museum facilities. We preserve the state's investment in our facilities by preventive maintenance and building systems upgrades.

State Historical Exhibits

The Society provides interpretive services to museum visitors using permanent and temporary exhibits. We also provide interpretive services to local museums and community centers using traveling exhibits.

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.