



DRAFT

**2027-2032
Transportation
Improvement
Program (TIP)**

Kim Lund, Mayor

Joel Pfundt, Public Works Director

2026 City Council Members

Hannah Stone – 1st Ward, Council President

Hollie Huthman - 2nd Ward, President Pro Tempore

Dan Hammill - 3rd Ward

**Edwin H. “Skip” Williams - 4th Ward, Mayor Pro
Tempore**

Lisa Anderson - 5th Ward

Michael Lilliquist – 6th Ward

Jace Cotton - At Large Ward

Public Hearing June 1, 2026

Adopted June __, 2026

Resolution #2026-__

City of Bellingham
2027-2032 Transportation Improvement Program

Table of Contents

What is the Six-Year Transportation Improvement Program (Six-Year TIP)?.....2
2027-2032 TIP Project Map4
2027-2032 TIP Project List5

What is the Six-Year Transportation Improvement Program (Six-Year TIP)?

[RCW 35.77.010](#) requires that cities and towns in Washington State develop and adopt a Six-Year TIP. The Six-Year TIP is a short-range transportation planning and funding document that is updated annually.

Development of the Six-Year TIP is guided by the Bellingham Comprehensive Plan and other adopted long-range transportation planning documents. The Six-Year TIP includes projects that the City of Bellingham is planning to design and build over the next six years, as well as the planned funding sources and amounts for each of these projects. Projects listed in the first three years of the document are shown as having secured funding while projects in the last three years can be partially, or completely, unfunded. Projects included in the last three years of the City’s Six-Year TIP are reasonably expected to be funded through a combination of city and outside funding sources.

Bellingham uses the Six-Year TIP to guide development of the Six-Year Transportation Capital Plan in the City’s Budget. The Six-Year TIP’s dual role as both a planning and funding document provides a valuable bridge between the City’s adopted long-range transportation plans and the City’s budget process, which focuses more on the near-term and is fiscally constrained.

Bellingham voters approved the [Transportation Fund](#) in November 2020, which is a 0.2% sales tax, that will remain in effect until December 31, 2030. Funds generated by the City’s Transportation Fund are allocated to three priority programs identified in the Six-Year TIP:

- Street Preservation
- Nonmotorized Transportation Improvements
- Clean Energy Transportation

Funds generated by the Transportation Fund are also allocated to specific large-scale projects identified in the Six-Year TIP that relate directly back to the three priority programs listed above.

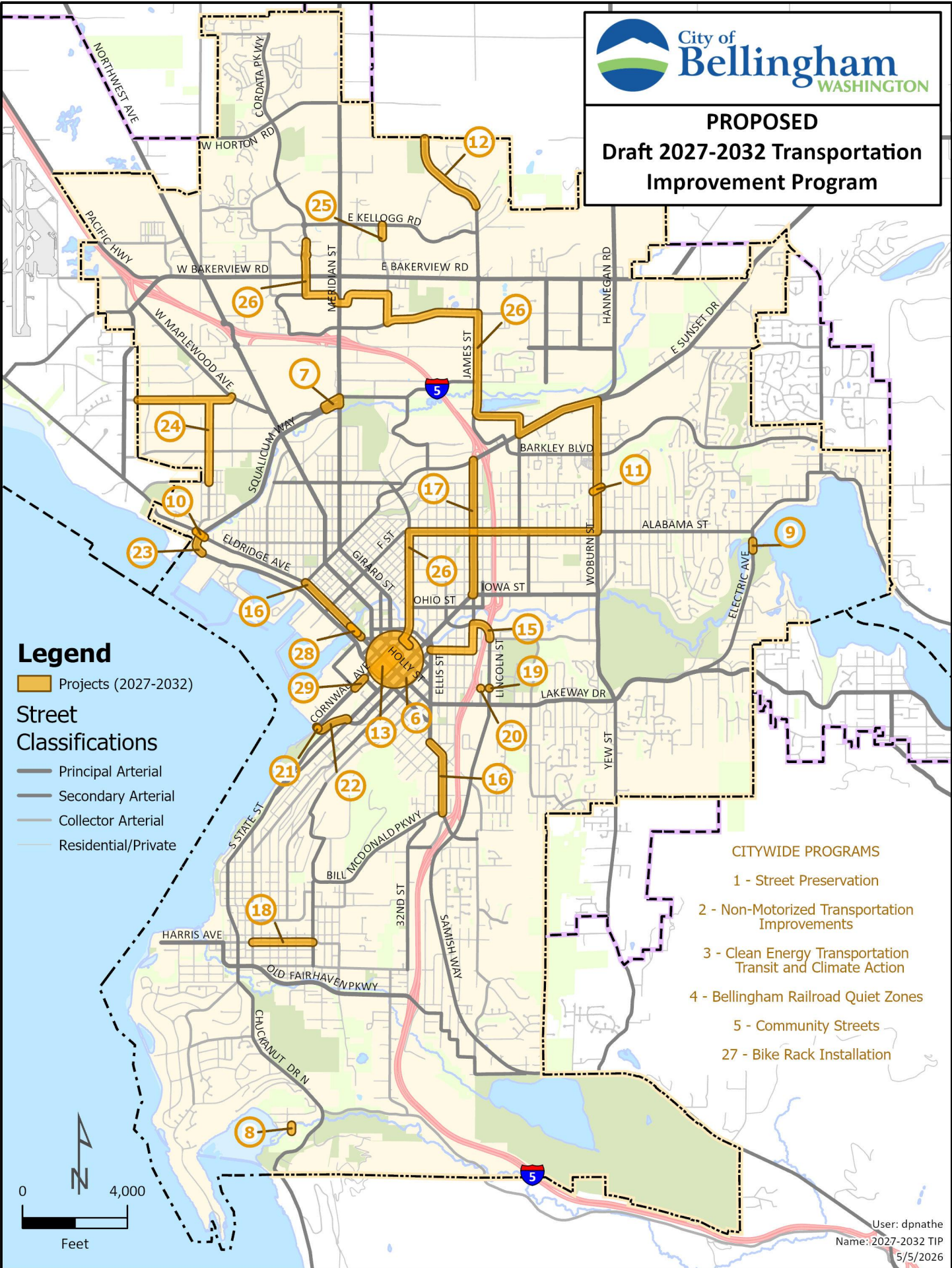
At the regional and state level, the Six-Year TIP is used to qualify projects for grant opportunities. So, the Six-Year TIP also helps guide Bellingham's transportation related grant application strategy.

The RCW states that jurisdictions must review and update the Six-Year TIP every year. It also requires that cities hold a public hearing on the Six-Year TIP prior to Council adoption. The deadline for adoption is July 1 of the year prior to the first year of the TIP (for example, the 2001-2006 TIP needs to be adopted by July 1, 2000). Then, within 30 days of adoption, the TIP must be filed with the state secretary of transportation.

Please Note: The Washington State Department of Transportation also maintains a separate "TIP" in coordination with state, local, tribal, and public transportation agencies. The full name of this document is the Statewide Transportation Improvement Program, also referred to as the "STIP". It is a four-year multimodal transportation program required by the United States Department of Transportation and only includes projects that will receive Federal funding. Although these two documents are both called Transportation Improvement Programs, serve similar purposes, and are used to inform one another, they are not the same document. This can cause confusion.



**PROPOSED
Draft 2027-2032 Transportation
Improvement Program**



Legend

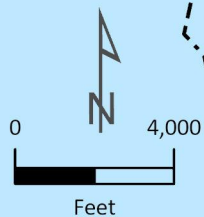
Projects (2027-2032)

Street Classifications

- Principal Arterial
- Secondary Arterial
- Collector Arterial
- Residential/Private

CITYWIDE PROGRAMS

- 1 - Street Preservation
- 2 - Non-Motorized Transportation Improvements
- 3 - Clean Energy Transportation Transit and Climate Action
- 4 - Bellingham Railroad Quiet Zones
- 5 - Community Streets
- 27 - Bike Rack Installation



2027-2032 Transportation Improvement Program Project List

NO.	TITLE	DESCRIPTION (PROJECT #)	FUNDING SOURCE	Cost Estimates (\$ 000's)						PROJECT TOTALS	
				PREVIOUS BUDGET	FUNDED			UNFUNDED			
					2027	2028	2029	2030	2031		2032
PROGRAMS											
1	Street Preservation Program	Repair and resurfacing of streets, adjoining curb, gutter and sidewalk, as well as installing accessible curb ramps. Pavement resurfacing is an annual maintenance program to protect the City's investment in public roadways and to ensure an adequate quality walking, riding, and driving surface at an optimized life-cycle cost.	T-Fund Resurface	--	4,050	4,099	4,250	3,900	3,400	4,100	
			Subtotal	--	4,050	4,099	4,250	3,900	3,400	4,100	23,799
2	Nonmotorized Transportation Improvements Program	Construct safe and equitable connection and street crossing projects for people walking, bicycling, and rolling to help complete and enhance the citywide pedestrian and bicycle transportation network and improve access to the Whatcom Transportation Authority (WTA) transit network. Specific improvement projects are prioritized based on safety, equity, accessibility, connectivity, and trip potential; scale and complexity; cost; and grant competitiveness.	T-Fund Non-Motorized	--	1,350	2,338	1,500	1,600	3,200	3,500	
			Subtotal	--	1,350	2,338	1,500	1,600	3,200	3,500	13,488
3	Clean Energy Transportation Program Transit and Climate Action Programs	Construct transportation projects that implement Bellingham's Climate Protection Action Plan goals for clean energy (carbon-free) transportation, as well as WTA's 2040 Long-Range Transit Plan. Examples of eligible projects include transit speed and reliability improvements, WTA fleet electrification and charging facilities, electric vehicle charging stations, Bellingham Station expansion, and other capital expenditures for clean energy transportation.	T-Fund Climate Action	--	0	1,070	760	950	450	1,350	
			Subtotal	--	0	1,070	760	950	450	1,350	4,580
4	Bellingham Railroad Quiet Zones Program	Construct safety improvements at at-grade BNSF railroad street crossings to establish Downtown Bellingham Quiet Zone. Fairhaven Quiet Zone was established as of March 10, 2025. At-grade crossing treatments will vary depending on the needs of the specific site. Preliminary cost estimates are approximately \$1,000,000 or more per crossing.	REET 2	--	0	250	250	250	250	250	
			Subtotal	--	0	250	250	250	250	250	250
5	Community Streets Program	Implement creative, data informed, and community-driven solutions for local traffic issues, which are identified through an inclusive and equitable community engagement process.	Street	--	200	200	200	200	200	200	
			Subtotal	--	200	200	200	200	200	200	1,200
PROJECTS											
6	Downtown Connections Plan Implementation	Programming for first implementation project of Downtown Connections Plan. Exact project to be determined during plan development. (#ES598)	REET 2			500	2000				
			Subtotal			500	2000				2500

NO.	TITLE	DESCRIPTION (PROJECT #)	FUNDING SOURCE	Cost Estimates (\$ 000's)							PROJECT TOTALS
				PREVIOUS BUDGET	FUNDED			UNFUNDED			
					2027	2028	2029	2030	2031	2032	
7	Meridian/Birchwood Multimodal Transportation Improvements	Improve operations on critical freight and transit route, and multimodal transportation link by merging Squalicum Pkwy with Birchwood Ave and decommission the Squalicum Pkwy and Meridian Ave traffic signal. Construct greenway trail connecting to Cornwall Park, remove fish barriers and improve salmon habitat in Squalicum Creek. Phase 2 will reconstruct traffic signal at Squalicum and Birchwood as a roundabout. Acquisition of BNSF railroad right-of-way is required. (#ES564)	T-Fund Resurface			151					
			T-Fund Non-Motorized			250					
			Transportation Impact		1,200	1,200					
			SJ Hospital IMP (SEPA)	126							
			Federal STBG, TA & CRP	2,800	8,475						
			Parks Greenways Trail	550							
			Port of Bellingham		150						
			County EDI	1,000	1,625						
	Subtotal		4,476	11,450	1,601					17,527	
8	Rainier Avenue Bridge Replacement (Chuckanut Creek)	Replace temporary bridge installed over Chuckanut Creek after original bridge was washed out during November 2021 floods. Bridge design is underway. (#ER017)	Street	250	100	100					
			Federal FEMA	790	2,000	2,000					
			Subtotal	1,040	2,100	2,100					5,240
9	Electric Avenue Bridge Reconstruction (Bloedel-Donovan)	Reconstruct and widen existing bridge (built in 1959). New bridge would include one vehicle travel lane in each direction, separated bike lanes and sidewalks on both sides. (#ER019)	Federal Bridge Program	1,582		8,878					
			REET 2			1,385					
			Subtotal	1,582		10,263		0	0		11,845
10	Eldridge Avenue Bridge Reconstruction (Squalicum Creek)	Reconstruct and widen existing bridge (built in 1937). New bridge would include one vehicle travel lane in each direction, separated bike lanes and sidewalks on both sides. (#ER018)	Federal Bridge Program	3,200		21,800					
			Street			3,402					
			T-Fund Non-Motorized			1,062					
			Subtotal	3,200		26,264					29,464
11	Railroad Trail Bridge Over Woburn Street	Construct grade-separated pedestrian-bicycle bridge, as identified in Barkley Urban Village Environmental Impact Study (EIS), that is accessible for all ages and abilities. As a designated truck route, bridge would be designed to meet current WSDOT bridge clearance requirements. (#ER020)	Pvt Mitigation							2,500	
			Subtotal								2,500
12	North James Street Multimodal Arterial Connection between Gooding Ave and Van Wyck Rd	Construct street extension with one vehicle lane in each direction, turn lanes, streetlighting, and separated bike lanes and sidewalks on both sides. This is a long-term project required to be built by future phases of private development. (#ES574)	Pvt Mitigation	600							10,000
			Subtotal	600							10,000

NO.	TITLE	DESCRIPTION (PROJECT #)	FUNDING SOURCE	Cost Estimates (\$ 000's)							PROJECT TOTALS
				PREVIOUS BUDGET	FUNDED			UNFUNDED			
					2027	2028	2029	2030	2031	2032	
13	Downtown Signalized Intersection Accessibility & Safety Improvements	Replace and upgrade six intersections in downtown (Cornwall and Railroad at Magnolia, Holly, and Chestnut) with new traffic signals and curb treatments to improve accessibility and safety. (#ET037)	REET 2	328	425	1,450					
			Federal HSIP	1,043	639						
			Subtotal	1,371	1,064	1,450					3,885
14	Holly Street Multimodal Improvements Broadway to Champion Street	Replace and improve Holly St Bike Lane, improve transit stops and vehicle operations between Ellis St and Bay St applying lessons learned from bike lane pilot project installed in May 2024, and extend bike lane west, and improve pedestrian and transit facilities from Bay St to Broadway. (#ES601)	T-Fund Non-Motorized	3,000							
			Transportation Impact		3,400						
			Subtotal	3,000	3,400					6,400	
15	Meador Avenue/Lincoln Street/James Street/York Street Multimodal Improvements between Ellis Street and Fraser Street	Construct 12-ft multiuse path along north/east side of curved section of Meador/Lincoln through I-5 undercrossing and improve transit stop. Install traffic signal or compact roundabout at Lincoln and Fraser intersection. Add markings and signs on James and York to delineate bike boulevard connecting Meador Ave and Ellis St. (#ES577)	T-Fund Non-Motorized			500	100				
			Transportation Impact				1,200				
			Unknown				2,500				
			Subtotal			500	3,800		4,300		
16	Samish Way/Maple Street Overlay and Streetlight Improvements between Bill McDonald Parkway and Ellis Street	Repave roadway. Install electrical services and upgraded streetlights on Samish Way and Maple St within the Samish Way Urban Village to improve safety and comfort for people traveling the corridor. (#ES593)	Federal NHS Asset Mgt	300	2015						
			Subtotal	300	2,015				2,315		
17	James Street Multimodal Improvements between Iowa Street and Sunset Drive	Construct protected bicycle lanes, improved crossing for pedestrians and cyclists, and improved safety and comfort for all users of the corridor. This would be accomplished by rechannelizing the street to one vehicle travel lane in each direction and center turn lane, as well as removing some on-street vehicle parking. Project would also improve existing mid-block crossings, and upgrade transit stops and streetlighting. (#ES578)	T-Fund Non-Motorized				100	500			
			T-Fund Resurface				100	600			
			Subtotal				200	1,100		1,300	
18	Harris Street Multimodal Corridor Improvements between 14th Avenue and 21st Avenue	Construct sidewalks and protected bicycle lanes on both sides of street, upgrade curb ramps and transit stop locations, and improve streetlighting. (#ES579)	T-Fund Non-Motorized	540		1,500	1,600				
			Subtotal	540		1,500	1,600		3,640		
19	Lincoln Street and Potter Street Roundabout	Construct roundabout, as well as connecting facilities for walking and biking to improve multimodal safety. Project will also improve transit and vehicle operations, and create a transit layover and transfer point. (#ES580)	T-Fund Climate Action	550	1,550						
			SRTS		950						
			Subtotal	550	2,500				3,050		

NO.	TITLE	DESCRIPTION (PROJECT #)	FUNDING SOURCE	Cost Estimates (\$ 000's)						PROJECT TOTALS	
				PREVIOUS BUDGET	FUNDED			UNFUNDED			
					2027	2028	2029	2030	2031		2032
20	King Street and Potter Street Roundabout	Construct roundabout, as well as connecting facilities for walking and biking. Will improve multimodal safety, as well as transit and vehicle operations. (#ES594)	Transportation Impact					1,200	1,300		
			Subtotal					1,200	1,300	2,500	
21	Pine Street BNSF Crossing	Downtown Bellingham Quiet Zone project will improve safety at the mainline and maintenance spur crossings at Pine Street. The project includes comprehensive gate upgrades, pedestrian and bicycle improvements, and vehicle travel lane channelization. It also includes a shared use path connection adjacent to Wharf St between the South Bay Trail and Waterfront District/Salish Landing Park. (#WF023)	T-Fund Non-Motorized	90	607						
			REET 2	547	250						
			Federal Section 130	400	550						
			Subtotal	1,037	1,407					2,444	
22	Wharf Street Improvements	Reconstruction of roadway and retaining wall to eliminate load restriction and provide secondary connection to Port facilities. Construct shared use path between the South Bay Trail and Waterfront District/Salish Landing Park via new crossing at Pine Street. (#WF025)	REET 2	303	2,000						
			Greenways	340	625						
			T-Fund Non-Motorized	305	2,000						
			Unknown				2,074				
			Subtotal	948	4,625		2,074			7,647	
23	Squalicum Creek Estuary Restoration	Address three fish passage barriers, including the Roeder Avenue overcrossing, and restore the degraded estuary at the mouth of Squalicum Creek. Improve pedestrian and bicycle facilities on the new Roeder Avenue bridge. (#EN060)	Federal Culvert AOP	1,840							
			Dept. of Ecology	300							
			Port of Bellingham	80							
			Unknown					20,000			
			Subtotal	2,220					20,000	22,220	
24	Birchwood Safe Routes to School	Improve walking and biking to Birchwood Elementary and Shuksan Middle School by adding sidewalk to Pinewood Avenue between Cottonwood and W. Illinois and Cottonwood Avenue between Greenwood Avenue and Maplewood Avenue. Add flashing crosswalk at Pinewood Avenue and Bay-to-Baker trail crossing. (#ES586)	T-Fund Non-Motorized			150	400				
			Transportation Impact				1,200				
			Unknown				2,300	1,150			
			Subtotal			150	3,900	1,150		5,200	

NO.	TITLE	DESCRIPTION (PROJECT #)	FUNDING SOURCE	Cost Estimates (\$ 000's)						PROJECT TOTALS	
				PREVIOUS BUDGET	FUNDED			UNFUNDED			
					2027	2028	2029	2030	2031		2032
25	Deemer Road Complete Street between Archer Drive and Kellogg Road	Complete existing half street improvement with bike lanes and sidewalk on east side of street, as well as streetlighting, to improve connectivity for pedestrians and cyclists and enable future WTA transit connection. (#ES587)	T-Fund Climate Action					200	800		
			Unknown						1,700		
			Subtotal						2,500	0	2,500
26	Gold Line Traffic Signal Prioritization	Development of system architecture of enhanced transit signal prioritization. Implementation of system at traffic signal on Gold Go Line and WTA busses to further Enhanced Go Line project. (#ET039)	T-Fund Climate Action			300					
			Unknown					1,485			
			Subtotal					1,485			1,485
27	Bike Rack Installation	Funding for continued installation of bike racks citywide	T-Fund Climate Action		20	30	40	50	50	50	
			Subtotal		20	30	40	50	50	50	240
28	Holly Street Bridge Reconstruction (Whatcom Creek)	Reconstruct existing bridge. New bridge would include one vehicle travel lane in each direction, separated bike lanes and sidewalks on both sides. (#ER021)	Unknown							18,900	
			Subtotal								18,900
29	Cornwall Street Bridge Preventative Maintenance (BNSF Spur)	Resurface the bridge deck of Cornwall Ave Bridge and address settlement by replacing bridge approach slabs. The sidewalk and curbs damaged by the settlement will also be repaired or replaced. (#ES022)	Unknown					200	839		
			Subtotal					200	839		1,039

2027-2032 TIP PROJECT FUNDING SOURCE SUMMARIES										
PROJECT DESCRIPTION	FUNDING SOURCE	Cost Estimates (\$ 000's)								PROJECT TOTALS
		Previous Budget	FUNDED			UNFUNDED				
			2027	2028	2029	2030	2031	2032		
STREET FUNDS		250	300	3,702	200	200	200	200	200	5,052
TRANSPORTATION IMPACT FEES		0	4,600	1,200	0	2,400	1,200	1,300		10,700
TRANSPORTATION FUND - Resurfacing		0	4,050	4,250	4,250	4,000	4,000	4,100		24,650
TRANSPORTATION FUND - Nonmotorized		3,935	3,957	3,650	3,650	3,800	3,700	3,500		26,192
TRANSPORTATION FUND - Climate Action & WTA Transit		550	1,570	1,100	1,100	1,200	1,300	1,400		8,220
REAL ESTATE EXCISE TAX (REET) 2		1,178	2,675	3,585	2,250	250	250	250		10,438
STATE FUNDS (TIB, WSDOT, Gas Tax, WWU, WCC, etc)		0	950	0	0	0	0	0		950
FEDERAL FUNDS (STBG, SRFS, HSIP, TA, CRP, Bridge, etc)		11,955	13,679	32,678	0	0	0	0		58,312
PRIVATE MITIGATION FUNDS (SEPA-TIA; MTIF; Other)		726	0	0	0	0	0	12,500		13,226
OTHER (Parks, Port, County, EDI, WTA, BSD, etc)		2,270	2,400	0	0	0	0	0		4,670
UNKNOWN FUNDS		0	0	0	0	8,559	3,689	38,900		51,148
TOTAL 2027-2032 TIP FUNDS		20,864	34,181	50,165	11,450	20,409	14,339	62,150		213,558