



Department of Commerce

Innovation is in our nature.

Budget Fact Sheet

What Commerce does:

We administer a wide variety of programs and services with federal, state, local and private funding. Our programs support state and local efforts to:

- Attract, retain and expand business activities
- Provide services for managing growth and state energy resources
- Increase international trade and tourism
- Develop affordable housing, community facilities and infrastructure
- Provide support services for vulnerable populations to assist them in times of crisis and help them achieve self-sufficiency

2007-09 Operating Budget	\$ 507,086,000
2009-11 Maintenance Level	\$ 495,849,000
2009-11 Operating Budget	\$ 592,072,000

Reductions and actions we are taking:

- \$28.3 million total General Fund State (GFS) program reductions for the 2009-11 biennium, including:
 - Technical assistance and services to local governments for growth management planning reduced by approximately 40%, with caseload for required annual reviews rising from 27 to 43 per accredited planner, requests for assistance from larger cities and counties will shift to a “respond as available” basis in order to serve the newly-mandated priority to assist smaller jurisdictions first; written guidance materials updated and published online only.
 - Services supporting and promoting Washington State tourism reduced by about one-third.
 - Statewide business recruitment services reduced approximately 20% and pass-through funding to local economic development organizations was also cut.
 - International trade services reduced approximately 25%, may necessitate eliminating one or more overseas trade representative offices.
 - Asset building programs promoting financial literacy and matching programs to help low income individuals and families save for a home down payment, tuition or start a business were reduced by more than half. Success of these programs was reported on [CBS News](#) last year.
 - Dispute resolution centers funding reduced nearly 40%, from \$1.6 to 1 million. Centers provide lower cost alternatives for individuals and families in crisis who can't afford to go to court for custody, marriage dissolution and other legal issues.

Other programs eliminated:

- Washington State Film Office eliminated.
- CASASTART Substance abuse and violence reduction program
- Gang witness program
- Offender re-entry housing pilot
- Urban Forestry program
- Public Broadcast Grants
- Developmental Disabilities Council DSHS Legal Services
- State Human Trafficking Task Force
- Washington State Association of Counties (WSAC) Training pass-through
- UW College of Forest Resources Center for Int'l Trade in Forest Products (CINTRFOR)
- About \$8.5 million in administrative reductions across the agency will be addressed by continuing austerity measures put in place by the Governor in FY09, including reductions in staff, travel, personal service contracts, and purchase of goods and services and equipment.
 - To the extent possible, we are shifting FTE cuts to new programs funded by the federal American Recovery and Reinvestment Act (ARRA). Most of these are two-year temporary positions.
- \$18 million in GFS reductions are replaced by funding from other sources, including increase in the document recording fee surcharge and federal funds.
- Capital budget cuts total \$582 million, excluding re-appropriations, reducing our budget from \$882 million to \$360 million. Funding available to communities through the following program areas is significantly reduced:
 - State Housing Trust Fund - it is possible there will be no competitive funding round for FY2011
 - Local/Community Facilities Projects – reduced 85%, from \$135 million to \$21 million
 - Public Works Board
 - Community Economic Revitalization Board (CERB) – funds available for direct investment in community economic development infrastructure reduced from \$20 million 07-09 biennium to \$6.2 million for the 09-11 biennium

Programs and services we will continue to deliver:

- The majority of Commerce's more than 150 programs remain in service. [Click here](#) for information on Commerce programs.

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