Enrollment stabilization (HB 1590 Dolan): Stabilizing schools as we recover from the COVID-19 pandemic by giving districts certainty as they navigate volatile enrollment numbers and staffing challenges.

Outdoor school for all (HB 2078 Rule): Expanding the Outdoor Schools for All program to get more elementary students breathing fresh air, learning about Washington’s natural environment, and building a future where we all can thrive.

Arts instruction (SB 5878 Rolfes): Ensuring visual and performing arts are part of the core content our students learn – on a level playing field with reading and math.

Posthumous H.S. diplomas (SB 5498 Wilson, C.): Allowing for recognition of academic achievement by a student who dies prior to graduation.

Increasing Language access in schools (HB 1153 Orwall): Closing equity gaps in our schools by establishing a language access program for culturally responsive family engagement within our education system.

School seismic safety grants (SB 5933 Frockt): Replacing or retrofitting school buildings in seismically active areas or tsunami zones to keep thousands of Washington students safe.

Student financial literacy (SB 5720 Mullet): Promoting the teaching of financial literacy in elementary, middle and high schools to equip graduates to make smart financial choices that will serve them the rest of their lives.

Imagination library (HB 2068 Stonier): Expanding Imagination Library statewide. Kids five years old and younger in every Washington community can have books mailed to their home free of charge.

Expanding apprenticeship programs (SB 5600 Keiser): Expanding opportunity for current state-registered apprenticeship programs, while also providing resources for the successful adopting of joint labor-management programs in new industries.

Supporting apprenticeships and higher education (SB 5764 Randall): Ensuring that apprentices have access to a broad suite of student support services and greater academic acknowledgment of their education and training.

Establishing a low interest student loan program (HB 1736 Sullivan): Creating a state student loan program with interest rates as low as 1% so Washington students aren’t saddled with ridiculously high interest student loans in order to get a degree.

Hazing prevention (Sam’s Law HB 1751 Leavitt): Requiring colleges and universities to publicly report details about hazing violations and other offenses and add required education and training for students.

Higher education grants (HB 1659 Slatter): Making higher education more affordable and accessible for students by helping our Washington College Grant recipients pay for housing, childcare, food, transportation, and other costs that can prevent students from achieving their degree or credential.

Nurse educator loans (HB 2007 Slatter): Providing loan repayment assistance encouraging nurses to teach and train the next generation of healthcare staff, so we can help prevent future shortages and get people into good, family-wage jobs.

Military student residency (SB 5874 Nobles): Helping service members and their families access affordable education.

EDUCATION AND OPPORTUNITY FOR ALL

The pandemic has created major disruptions for students and their families and worsened educational opportunity gaps that existed prior to the pandemic. This budget adds more school counselors and nurses across the state to meet students’ social and emotional needs. We are ensuring our schools are fully staffed and prepared for a return to pre-pandemic enrollment levels.

BUDGET INVESTMENTS

- **Capital budget**: $100 million for school seismic safety grants.
- $345 million to **stabilize school districts** that experienced enrollment declines because of the pandemic.
- $90 million to add nurses and counselors in schools to meet the physical and social emotional needs of students.
- $37 million to support **expanded nursing education** at state universities and colleges.
- $13 million for **cybersecurity training programs** at state universities and colleges.
- $10 million to support **outdoor education** camps and programs for 5th and 6th grade students.
- $3 million to expand the **financial literacy** curriculum in high schools.
SAFE COMMUNITIES

The pandemic and its effects on mental health and economic wellbeing have led to an increase in some forms of violence nationwide. There’s no simple solution. But we are taking carefully targeted action to address the specific issues that have arisen so people feel safe in every community across the state.

Large capacity magazines (SB 5078 Llias):
Reducing the threat of mass shootings by restricting the manufacture, sale, import or transfer of large-capacity magazines that hold more than 10 rounds of ammunition.

Untraceable guns (HB 1705 Berry):
Restricting untraceable, unserialized weapons or ‘ghost guns’ assembled at home without background checks.

Weapons/certain meetings (HB 1630 Senn):
Ensuring public meeting spaces are free of fear or intimidation by banning the open carry of firearms and other weapons at local government and school board meetings and prohibiting weapons at election offices and vote centers.

Cyber harassment (SB 5628 Dhingra):
Providing prosecutors with a significant tool to protect victims of cyber harassment.

Catalytic converter theft (HB 1815 Ryu):
Addressing the spike in catalytic converter thefts by requiring metal purchasers to require documentation that a catalytic converter came from a vehicle registered in the seller’s name.

Civil protection orders (HB 1901 Goodman):
Updating statutes to provide the tools and knowledge that survivors need to protect themselves and their loved ones.

Missing indigenous persons (HB 1725 Lekanoff):
Establishing a Missing Indigenous Person alert system to prevent the crises of missing and murdered indigenous people in our state from getting worse.

State patrol workforce (HB 2057 Valdez):
Strengthening the Washington State Patrol so it represents the diversity of our state and ensuring sure law enforcement can connect with all the communities they are sworn to protect and serve.

BUDGET INVESTMENTS

- $9 million for law enforcement and investigative personnel trainings for 390 additional law enforcement officers. This funding will increase the number of classes for law enforcement personnel from 30 to 43.
- $2 million to help the Washington Internet Crimes Against Children Task Force combat internet-facilitated crimes against children, promote education on internet safety to the public and minors, and rescue child victims from abuse and exploitation.
- $6 million for training for local law enforcement agencies to help train officers to intervene during a behavioral health crisis and to prevent a person from fleeing the scene of a crime.

WSP minimum salary (HB 1785 Fey): Keeping state patrol salaries competitive to make sure we can recruit and retain the best candidates.

911 communications (HB 1703 Orwall):
Preparing the 911 emergency system to meet the needs of the 988 system, the state’s new behavioral health crisis response & suicide prevention line launching this summer.

Peace officers/use of force (HB 2037 Goodman):
Defines physical force and authorizes officers to use physical force, subject to the reasonable care standard, to stop someone from fleeing a temporary investigative detention.

Military equipment/law enforcement (HB 1719 Bronoske):
Clarifies that law enforcement can use less lethal alternatives like bean bag rounds or rubber bullets.

Peace officers/use of force (HB 1735 Johnson, J.):
Clarifying that officers can use force, subject to the reasonable care standard, in behavioral health, child welfare, and other related circumstances.

CDLs/human trafficking (SB 5631 Kuderer):
Making human trafficking a disqualifying offense for a commercial driver’s license.
HEALTHY FAMILIES & COMMUNITIES

Washington’s future depends on healthy communities, but too many people face barriers to care or support when they need it most. Senate Democrats are making dozens of new investments for our neighbors in need.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Initiative</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Insulin affordability (SB 5546 Keiser):</strong> Capping the price of insulin at $35 a month, bringing it down from $100 a month so Washingtonians that depend on this lifesaving medication can afford it.</td>
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<td><strong>Rx drug affordability board (SB 5532 Keiser):</strong> Creating a prescription drug affordability board to help restrain skyrocketing prescription drug prices.</td>
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<td><strong>Rx drug cost sharing (SB 5610 Frockt):</strong> Protecting health plan consumers from discriminatory copay practices.</td>
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<td><strong>Abortion care (HB 1851 Thai):</strong> Updating laws to reflect current scope of practices and trained providers and ensuring that abortion care is still safely regulated with appropriate oversight while ending unnecessary restrictions.</td>
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<td><strong>Out-of-network health care (HB 1688 Cody):</strong> Protecting consumers from surprise charges for out-of-network health care services.</td>
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<td><strong>Postpartum contraception (HB 1651 Thai):</strong> Supporting maternal and newborn health by increasing access to immediate postpartum contraception for all patients.</td>
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<td><strong>Donor human milk coverage (SB 5702 Trudeau):</strong> Requiring health insurance coverage of donor breastmilk.</td>
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<td><strong>Midwifery (SB 5765 Randall):</strong> Ensuring families receive timely access to care by allowing licensed midwives to treat for common conditions of pregnancies immediately.</td>
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<td><strong>Birth doulas (HB 1881 Harris-Talley):</strong> Creating a birth doula certification to make doulas accessible for the 52% of Washington births covered by Medicaid.</td>
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<td><strong>Charity care (HB 1616 Simmons):</strong> Expands access to free and reduced healthcare to 2.2 million Washingtonians by standardizing the way hospitals in Washington provide and bill for services to patients receiving subsidized care.</td>
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<td><strong>Primary care spending (SB 5589 Robinson):</strong> The Health Care Transparency Board must measure and report on primary care expenditures in Washington and the progress toward increasing it to 12% of total health care expenditures.</td>
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<td><strong>Supporting victims of child abuse (SB 5814 Cleveland):</strong> Creating a permanent funding stream to make medical evaluations easier to access and less traumatic for children suspected of being victims of child abuse.</td>
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<td><strong>Veterans and military suicide (HB 1181 Orwell):</strong> Providing an online database to service members and veterans on mental health and suicide prevention resources.</td>
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<td><strong>Homeless youth/health care (SB 5883 Trudeau):</strong> Ensuring homeless youth have access to health care.</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Dialysate and dialysis devices (HB 1675 Bateman):</strong> Ensuring people undergoing kidney dialysis treatment have the ability to do that in the comfort of their homes by removing unnecessary barriers while maintaining patient safety.</td>
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Dementia support (HB 1646 Bateman): Providing resources for individuals and family members facing dementia and helping them navigating care by strengthening the Alzheimer’s state plan.

Audio-only telemedicine fees (HB 1708 Cody): Preventing hospitals from charging uninsured or out-of-pocket patients a facility fee for audio-only telemedicine.

Improving behavioral health care for children (SB 5736 Frockt): Providing statewide access to evidence-based care for children with severe behavioral health needs through Intensive Outpatient Programs (IOPs) and Partial Hospitalization Programs (PHPs).

Children behavioral health (HB 1890 Callan): Creating a comprehensive, statewide plan to expand access to behavioral healthcare so Washington’s children, youth and young families can get the care they need, when and where they need it.

Assisted outpatient treatment (HB 1773 Taylor): Providing better access to treatment in the community for Washingtonians with serious behavioral health issues.

Behavioral health discharge (HB 1860 Davis): Preventing people from being discharged from behavioral health care into the community without adequate shelter.

Outpatient competency restoration (SB 5664 Dhingra): Improving outpatient competency restoration programs to make our justice system work more fairly and effectively.

BUDGET INVESTMENTS

- **Capital budget:** $98 million for behavioral health, including $72 million for crisis triage & stabilization facilities.
- **100 million to address workforce shortages and improve access to behavioral health services.**
- **$200 million for reinvestment grants** to communities disproportionately harmed by the war on drugs.
- **$350 million to strengthen our state’s groundbreaking paid family leave program.**
- **$30 million for cancer research** (Andy Hill Cancer Research Endowment Account.)
- **$28 million for recent immigrants and refugees** arriving in Washington
- **$10 million to increase access to dental care for children.**
- **$5 million to expand the School-to-Work Program** in all counties to connect students with intellectual and developmental disabilities with supported employment services.
Independent youth housing (SB 5566 Kuderer): Extending the age of eligibility for the independent youth housing program to provide additional housing assistance for foster youth and help cut off the pipeline into homelessness.

Homeless/youth discharge (HB 1905 Senn): Ensuring youth in foster care, juvenile rehabilitation, and in-patient behavioral health treatment are not released into homelessness.

Landlord mitigation/victims (HB 1593 Leavitt): Allows landlords to receive state compensation for damaged property when tenants must vacate because of domestic abuse, sexual assault, stalking, or harassment, helping survivors remove themselves from dangerous living situations without experiencing housing insecurity or additional financial burdens.

DOT property leasing (SB 5853 Billig): Allowing the Department of Transportation to lease public lands between I-90 and the North Central Corridor in Spokane, returning ownership and use of the land for housing and other projects back to the community.

Affordable housing/REET (HB 1643 Hackney): Helping non-profit developers and public housing authorities to preserve existing housing and acquire land for new development by exempting those transfers from the real estate excise tax (REET).

Rent payments (SB 5749 Trudeau): Requiring landlords to accept both electronic and non-electronic forms of rent payment, removing a barrier to the processing of rent payments for both landlords and tenants.

Supportive housing (HB 1866 Chopp): Addressing chronic homelessness as a medical condition so more people can access medically necessary services and find stable housing through the Apple Health and Homes program.

Supportive housing/resources (HB 1724 Macri): Creating an advisory committee to help speed up the availability of Permanent Supportive Housing to address chronic homelessness.

Limited equity coop. Housing (SB 5713 Das): Encouraging more cooperative housing models used to house low-income people by reducing property taxes.

Housing/SEPA and GMA (SB 5818 Salomon): Streamlining certain requirements of the state’s growth management and environmental policy acts to allow faster construction of badly needed housing and lower housing costs.

**BUDGET INVESTMENTS**

- **Capital budget:** $440 million for affordable housing, including $115 million for the Housing Trust Fund, $300 million for Rapid Housing Acquisition to help local governments around the state bring unsheltered people into housing as quickly as possible, and $14.9 million for facilities for homeless youth.
- $45 million for rental assistance to help at-risk families stay in their homes.
- $45 million to help transition people camping on certain public roads and highways to emergency and permanent housing.
- $3 million to assist tenant and landlord relations, including funding for dispute resolution services to indigent tenants involved in an eviction proceeding, and legal advice and assistance to tenants prior to the filing of an eviction action.
- $6 million to expand access to no-barrier, low-barrier, and transitional housing using a housing-first approach.
- $4 million for an emergency adolescent housing pilot, which will provide a supportive housing option for youth aged 16 and older.

**AFFORDABLE HOUSING & REDUCING HOMELESSNESS**

No problem facing our state is more pressing than the crisis of housing and homelessness. Senate Democrats have been taking major steps for several years to increase affordable housing as well as to support renters, mom-and-pop landlords, and homeowners. Our budgets have provided local governments the tools and the funding to take rapid action to bring unsheltered people into housing.

Appliance efficiency (HB 1619 Fitzgibbon): Ensuring the energy we produce is being used as efficiently as possible by requiring high efficiency standards in consumer products.


Reducing landfill methane emissions (HB 1663 Duerr): Preventing methane emissions from landfills by requiring gas capture and control systems.

Kelp and eelgrass conservation (SB 5619 Lovelett): Conserving and restoring 10,000 acres of Washington’s kelp and eelgrass forests and meadows by 2040.

Statewide oil spill plan (SB 5747 Stanford): Updating the state’s response plans to protect state waters from oil spills.

Oil spills responsibility (HB 1691 Gregerson): Ensuring companies transporting oil in Washington’s waters are financially prepared to pay for cleanup costs when a spill occurs.

Organic materials management (HB 1799 Fitzgibbon): Keeping organic waste out of our landfills and connecting surplus food with rescue organizations and food banks to expand access to nutritious foods for families in need.

Derelict vessel removal (HB 1700 Paul): Providing funding to help DNR reduce the significant backlog of derelict vessels and supporting the vessel turn-in program to increase incentives to bring vessels in before they sink.

Energy conservation projects (HB 1768 Duerr): Updating a 35-year-old statute to save more energy, reduce greenhouse gases, and save taxpayer money.

Building responsibly (SB 5042 Salomon): Preventing urban sprawl by extending permit deadlines to block improper permits and invalid development.

Addressing the climate crisis (SB 5842 Carlyle): Clarifying the Climate Commitment Act of 2021 so it can take effect next January.

Streamlining permitting for clean energy facilities (HB 1812 Fitzgibbon): Provides an optional permitting pathway for a greater number of bio refineries and other clean-energy production facilities.

### BUDGET INVESTMENTS

- $180 million for salmon recovery projects across the state.
- $57 million for solar energy infrastructure projects including solar resilience hubs, electric vehicle parking canopies, and solar energy projects that benefit low-income communities.
- $103 million to build electric vehicle charging infrastructure in rural areas, office buildings, multifamily housing, ports, and state and local government offices. Funding to build out a mapping tool that provides locations and essential information of charging and refueling infrastructure.
- $15 million to speed up repairs and improvements at state-owned recreation lands and facilities.
**Diaper subsidy (SB 5838 Nobles)**: Supporting families with additional money to help pay for child-related needs like diapers.

**Personal needs allowance (SB 5745 Liias)**: Helping seniors and those with disabilities to remain in their homes as long as possible by making long-term care more affordable.

**Transitional food assistance (SB 5785 Lovelett)**: Directs the Department of Social and Health Services to provide transitional food assistance to households that no longer receive Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF).

**Identicards (SB 5815 Cleveland)**: Providing ID cards for people without standard IDs such as driver’s licenses to eliminate simple everyday barriers faced by people experiencing homelessness.

**Supporting victims of human trafficking (HB 1748 Entenman)**: Helping victims of human trafficking get back on their feet by giving victims eligibility for certain state assistance programs for basic needs like food and housing.

**Supportive homes for people with developmental disabilities (SB 5268 Keiser)**: Providing Washingtonians with intellectual and developmental disabilities better options for community residential settings.

**Eliminating IQ tests (HB 2008 Taylor)**: Eliminating the dubious use of IQ scores in determining whether people with developmental disabilities are eligible for programs and services.

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**BUDGET INVESTMENTS**

- **$100 million for utility assistance** (federal covid relief).
- **$95 million to increase access to lifelines** for people across the state: Working Connections Child Care, behavioral health services, child visitation, and in-home care.
- **$37 million to increase financial support** for people eligible for the Aged, Blind or Disabled program.
- **$58 million for the Farmers-to-Families Food Box Program** to provide fresh, healthy food to food banks across the state.
- **$9 million for Basic Food program expansions**, including additional funding for children with temporarily enhanced emergency nutrition benefits loaded on EBT cards that are used to purchase food during the school year.

**Census data/incarceration (SB 5583 Trudeau)**: Finally eliminating the practice of prison gerrymandering by bringing local redistricting practices in line with state and congressional redistricting practices as passed in 2019.

**Campaign funds/child care (SB 5855 Lovelett)**: Creating a more diverse and representative government by explicitly authorizing the use of campaign funds for child and dependent care.

**Ballot measures/impact disclosure (HB 1876 Gregerson)**: Giving voters accurate information on the budgetary impacts of ballot initiatives.

**Public meetings (HB 1329 Wicks)**: Encouraging public agencies to provide remote access to government meetings and to record and post recordings of meetings online for at least six months.

**State boards, etc./stipends (SB 5793 Wilson, C.)**: Allowing compensation for personal experience on boards, commissions, councils, committees and other similar groups. Also provides for childcare and travel reimbursement when appropriate.

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**ACCESS TO DEMOCRACY**

At a time when states across the country are suppressing voting rights, Washington has been standing up for the most fundamental right in our democracy. Since Senate Democrats took the majority in 2018, we have led the way in expanding access to the ballot and protecting the right to vote, especially for communities that have historically been shut out of their government.
Nondisclosure/illegal acts (HB 1795 Berry): Prohibiting nondisclosure agreements from being used to block employees from speaking out about harassment, discrimination, retaliation, and wage theft in the workplace.

Wage and salary information (SB 5761 Randall): Requiring employers to disclose salary ranges on job postings so that applicants can make fully informed career decisions that are right for them.

Family and medical leave (SB 5649 Robinson): Provides improved oversight and additional accountability, creates capacity in the Employment Security Department to do needed actuarial analysis, and sets up a process for developing recommendations the Legislature can act on next year to improve the long-term health of the fund.

Minimum wage/disabilities (SB 5763 Randall): Eliminating prevailing wage waivers for workers with disabilities, ensuring a fair and equitable economy for all workers.

Employee assistance programs (SB 5564 Keiser): Preventing employers from penalizing employees who participate in employee-assistance programs, which can be a lifeline for people whose mental health is suffering.

Unemployment insurance (SB 5873 Keiser): Supporting small businesses with $214 million in unemployment insurance tax relief for all employers in Washington, with the lion’s share going to small businesses.

Farmers market prop. tax ex. (SB 5505 Rolfes): Ensuring weekly farmers markets located at churches and nonprofits aren’t forced to close or move because of a change to an obscure tax law.

Dishonored paycheck fees (HB 1794 Hoff): Requiring employers to reimburse fees charged to an employee if a paycheck is returned for insufficient funds.

A JUST ECONOMY FOR ALL

Washington consistently ranks as one of the best states for businesses and, at the same time, one of the best states for workers. Senate Democrats have taken seriously the responsibility to protect the rights and safety of workers on the job during the pandemic and into the future. And we continue to strengthen our nation-leading paid family and medical leave program.

BUDGET INVESTMENTS

- $71 million for programs to help Washington’s small businesses recover and thrive, including a disaster recovery financial assistance program, an innovation fund for non-profit organizations with relationships that encourage small business recovery, startups and growth. We also expand the state Small Business Resiliency network and to establish a Credit Repair Pilot Program.
- More than 125,000 small businesses across Washington will no longer pay the state business tax, saving approximately $50 million each year.
- Waiving liquor license fees for restaurants and bars.
- Tax deferral program for solar canopies on large-scale commercial parking lots and other similar areas.
- A new community solar incentive program to be inclusive of low-income residents.
- Tax incentives to bring clean energy manufacturing jobs to communities across the state.
While making these investments, we don’t pass the cost to working families: Washingtonians have expressed frustration around transportation costs, from car tabs to gas prices to transit fares. We hear these concerns and have created a package that does not punt the cost to everyday Washingtonians. Instead, we are investing in our communities by creating jobs and increasing access to reliable transportation – on both our roads and transit systems.

We build off the success of our democratic majority by utilizing funding from the Climate Commitment Act passed last session to invest in Active Transportation Models like:

- **Safe Routes to School**
- **Complete Streets**
- **Bicycle and pedestrian infrastructure**

Thanks to funding from the Climate Commitment Act, the package also prioritizes investments in carbon emission reduction across Washington by:

- Expanding the availability of zero emissions technology and infrastructure across modes of transportation (ferries, cars, and trains).
- Supporting the transition to alternative fuels in ports and freight zones that are often adjacent to communities overburdened by environmental health disparities.
- Establishing a 2030 EV goal for all new cars and light duty vehicles.
- Additional investments address environmental concerns from stormwater treatment to fish barrier passage removal, fulfilling the state’s obligation.

We also make additional unprecedented investments in:

- A High-Speed-Rail corridor to modernize our transit sector.
- Expanding our multimodal transit system.
- In addition, we are implementing a new policy to allow kids 18 and under to ride free on ALL public transportation (buses, ferries, trains).

**Equity:** Responds to harm we’ve caused in low-income communities, communities of color, and rural communities impacted by past planning decisions, pollution, and a lack of diverse, accessible options for getting around.

- It was important to create a separate pot of funding tribal transit agencies that are typically small and are often not able to be competitive. This package includes $50 million toward to fund projects in communities that have had historic underinvestment in walking and biking infrastructure.

**Transportation needs:** As with every sector, our transportation services have felt the impact of the pandemic. We must deeply invest in our public transit services to ensure everyone can get to their destination.

- $1.2 billion in active transportation and $3 billion in transit programs and investments – including a transit fare access grant program to support local transportation authorities.

**Maintenance and preservation:** $3 billion in investments to our state’s existing highway systems will help to preserve and maintain them for years to come. Investments include funding to ensure continued planning for I-5 and congestion relief.

**New and ongoing projects:** This package preserves our existing infrastructure and honors the commitment to projects we’ve started, while also funding new projects that will help Washington commuters travel more easily and safely.

- We include significant investments for projects our state has been waiting for by providing funding for the I-5 bridge over the Columbia, the US 2 Trestle, widening on SR 18, work towards replacing the Hood River bridge and the I-5 Bridge over the Nisqually, and making improvements to HOV lanes on I-5.
- We deliver on promises from the Connecting Washington Package to move our state ahead that have faced funding shortfalls due to increased costs from the pandemic as well as construction delays.