**Washington State Historical Society – Decision Packages funded in the Governor’s Budget**

**Operating Budget**

1. Statewide Outreach – With 39 counties and over 200 small historical societies or heritage organizations alongside the twenty-six federally recognized tribal communities throughout the state, the current needs for heritage outreach for the state of Washington exceeds the Society’s capacity. Currently, the Society is able to offer minimal heritage outreach services through its one staff position dedicated to outreach activities. This package proposes adding staff capacity to enable outreach to occur in a meaningful way across Washington. It also proposes the creation of a position that will allow for a sustained relationship with tribal governments around the state that will build communication and trusting relationships between the tribes and the Society. This will result in events, programs, training, and conferences that will happen throughout Washington to provide heightened support for the preservation and collection of statewide history. - 136,000 FY20, $140,000 FY21
2. Collections – The Washington State Historical Society holds in trust for future generations approximately 83,000 artifacts, 600,000 photographs, 65,000 pieces of ephemera, and over 8 million documents. Of these, only 63% of the artifact collection is fully catalogued and available for research, and only 15% of these artifacts have been photographed, making them available for viewing online. The percentage of photos, ephemera and documents that are catalogued and digitized are even lower. Funding is requested to increase staffing for collections management, with an emphasis on digitization, cataloguing, and online access. - $181,000 FY20, $185,000 FY21
3. Risk Management – The Society has no security personnel posted at its Research Center, where the Society’s extensive artifact and archival collections are housed. This location has experienced vandalism, graffiti, car prowlers, and individuals using drugs in its parking lot. We are requesting funding for a security guard to ensure the protection of our staff at that location, the facility, and its contents. We are also requesting funding to support an assistant for our Director of Human Resources and Administration who has an extensive task list that is unmanageable for one person, especially given the new represented status of most of our employees. - $94,000 FY20, $97,000 FY21

**Capital Budget**

1. Heritage Capital Projects – The Society is recommending $9,981,600 in grant funds to support 36 projects around the state and reappropriation of $8.47M of grant funding from the prior biennium that could not be dispersed due to the one year funding window.
2. Minor Works – Reappropriation of $1.53M in minor works funding to complete projects that could not be accomplished in the one year funding window. Request of $2.5M to support new minor works projects at the museum in the next biennium including HVAC upgrades, exterior improvements, interior upgrades, and continued Great Hall renovation.