

Historic County Courthouse Rehabilitation Grant Program



Photos, top to Bottom: Historic Courthouses in Columbia, Klickitat, Jefferson, and Clark Counties

Background

Based on an assessment of county courthouses conducted in 2003 that identified over \$95 million in capital needs, the program is designed to assist with the rehabilitation of historic county courthouses statewide. Since 2005, over \$18 million from the State Capital Budget has been allocated to the Courthouse Rehabilitation Grant Program. Grants are awarded as matching funds to counties, with grant awards working to leverage more than \$48M million in overall capital improvements to date. Since its inception, the program has been run through the Department of Archaeology & Historic Preservation (DAHP).

Benefits

Based on survey information, 33 of Washington's 39 counties possess courthouses eligible for designation in a variety of historic registers. The grant program works to assist counties as they endeavor to preserve these diverse and valuable landmarks while at the same time serving as a tool for local economic development.

Accomplishments

Since 2005, the program has achieved the following:

- 59 grant awards have been made to 26 counties statewide, with 58% of funds going to 14 eastern WA counties and 42% of funds going to 12 counties in western WA.
- \$18 million in grant funds have worked to leverage more than \$48 million in overall capital improvements, leading to a return approaching \$3 for every \$1 in contributed funding.
- Preservation of key features that define and characterize these community landmarks.

Local Economic Stimulus

- Rehabilitation projects utilizing grant funds have created hundreds of construction jobs;
- Historic rehabilitation work is more labor intensive than new construction;
- Rehabilitation supports local contractors, subcontractors, and specialty craftspeople;
- Sales tax revenues remain in-state at the local level.

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2019-2021 Biennium

The Courthouse Steering Committee has recommended \$1.69M to fund 10 courthouse projects statewide. The Governor's proposed Capital Budget includes \$1.321M to fund the top 8 projects in the 2019-21 biennium. The Washington Trust for Historic Preservation strongly supports full funding as recommended by the committee for all 10 projects.

HISTORIC COUNTY COURTHOUSE REHABILITATION GRANT PROGRAM

Priority Recommendation List for 2019-21 Biennium

1. Columbia	\$122,250	5. Clark	\$38,500	9. Pend Oreille	\$127,500
2. Benton	\$34,000	6. Jefferson	\$300,000	10. Snohomish	\$239,975
3. Lewis	\$120,000	7. Spokane	\$400,000		
4. Klickitat	\$304,220	8. Douglas	\$2,575	Total:	\$1,689,020

Total Funding Summary - 2005-2019

County	Number of Grants Received	Total Grant Awards	Total Capital \$
Adams	1	\$219,230	\$346,768
Benton	1	\$350,000	\$1,954,023
Clallam	3	\$559,657	\$1,413,498
Clark	2	\$95,118	\$180,670
Columbia	3	\$102,127	\$185,623
Cowlitz	1	\$82,555	\$168,409
Douglas	3	\$48,918	\$41,339
Ferry	3	\$472,262	\$897,782
Franklin	2	\$2,774,607	\$10,278,705
Garfield	1	\$1,000,000	\$1,976,046
Grant	2	\$1,995,312	\$5,222,112
Jefferson	4	\$1,350,000	\$3,993,183
King	2	\$932,812	\$858,711
Klickitat	3	\$418,000	\$876,300
Lewis	4	\$645,391	\$1,099,857
Mason	2	\$1,050,000	\$2,246,397
Okanogan	1	\$310,864	\$1,989,266
Pacific	4	\$1,582,193	\$3,146,796
Pend Oreille	2	\$71,500	\$113,722
San Juan	2	\$404,173	\$780,281
Skagit	1	\$600,000	\$511,052
Snohomish	2	\$222,670	\$862,588
Spokane	5	\$2,247,849	\$6,044,305
Stevens	3	\$320,303	\$649,774
Wahkiakum	1	\$40,000	\$78,556
Walla Walla	1	\$220,500	\$2,119,669
Totals:	59	\$18,116,041	\$48,035,432



Before



After

Wahkiakum County Courthouse
Front Entry Rehabilitation