

Budget Savings Options 2020

Dollars in Thousands

Agency: Environmental and Land Use Hearings Office

Agency Priority H, M, L	Impact 1-5	Program/Activity	GF-S				Other Funds				FTE Change		Brief Description and Rationale	Effective Date (MM/YY)	Impacts of Reductions and Other Considerations	Law/Reg. Change Required (cite)
			FY 20	FY 21	FY 22	FY 23	Fund	FY 20	FY 21	FY 22	FY 23	FY 20				
H	2	Furloughs for all Board members and staff		250								2.1		7/20	PCHB/SHB Hearings will be pushed out 9-14 months with less time available, when the turnaround is usually 3-4 months. This keeps the projects in question on hold for longer. GMHB hearings may miss legislative deadline of 180 days.	RCW 36.70A300(2) RCW 43.21B.160
H	3	Eliminate new case mgmt. system		30										7/20	The elimination of this funding to start the process of building an electronic appeals filing and case mgmt. system forces ELUHO to continue to rely on paper case files and evidence, often hundreds of pages, which must be sent to all appropriate board members. WATech recommends new system to replace 12 year old system. Additionally, ELUHO is relying on an inadequate vendor for website maintenance and updates, often leaving interested parties uninformed of any updates such as office closures and hearing information.	RCW 43.21B.005 (6) RCW 36.70A.270(8)
H	2	Eliminate all training for all Board and staff members		8										7/20	Attorney-Board members would not have continuing legal education funded, putting the burden back onto each member; support staff would not receive office and administrative education.	None
H	2	Severely reduce travel to \$1,000 per year per Board. Reduce travel for administrative staff.		35										7/20	Eliminating travel means no in person hearings or site visits as has been the practice for 50 years. Petitioners would come to Olympia or have Zoom hearings.	RCW 43.21B.160
M	2	Reduce Attorney General funds		10										7/20	Should tort claims or other legal issues arise ELUHO would have to request supplemental budget funding.	None
M	1	Eliminate one on-line legal search company (Westlaw) and use less expensive company (Lexis).		22										7/20	Staff and board members will need to adapt to a new online search engine.	None
M	2	Reduce administrative expenses		12										7/20	Will require training and adoption of new technology and the office to function with fewer supplies.	None
L	1	Expected salary savings from staff transitions		29										7/20	Savings from salary adjustments. No impact.	None

Priority:

L = Low priority agency activity or program
M = Medium priority agency activity or program
H = High priority agency activity or program

Impact:

1 = Allows continuation of the program/activity at a reduced level
2 = Eliminates the ability to perform program objectives
3 = Eliminates agency function
4 = Long term implications (moves the problem to next biennium)
5 = Short term (reduction to one time increase)