2021-23 CAPITAL BUDGET PRIORITIES

**Electrical Engineering/Computer Science Building ($51 million)**
Western’s electrical engineering and computer science programs are the University’s fastest growing majors, but capacity constraints are significantly limiting the number of students WWU is able to accept into these programs each year. The 60,000 square foot EE/CS building will help graduate more majors with hands-on and applied experience to fill vacancies in these high demand fields. The increased capacity will support a 150% expansion in engineering and a 50% increase in computer science graduates per year, as well as shortening students’ time to degree by alleviating current course bottlenecks.

WWU’s Foundation is on-track to secure $15 million in private donations for the building to support and leverage the state’s investment, including funding to ensure the EE/CS building is a net-zero carbon building.

**Coast Salish-style Longhouse ($5 million)**
In partnership and close collaboration with Coast Salish tribal nations and the WWU Native American Student Union, WWU seeks to build a traditional Coast Salish style longhouse to increase representation of Native students and enhance their recruitment, retention and graduation. The Coast Salish longhouse at Western will support American Indian/Alaska Native and First Nation students in academics by providing a sense of place through a dedicated space on the university campus for students to gather, build community and support each other.

The longhouse will include a gathering hall that will support educational, community, and cultural functions, a teaching/warming kitchen, student lounges and other support services. The outdoor spaces will include gathering areas, cooking space, and educational gardens with native plantings that may be used in teaching indigenous science, art, and medicine.

**Minor Works ($22 million)**
This omnibus minor works category represents Western’s highest priority needs for facility renewal, health, safety and code compliance, and infrastructure renewal.

**2021-23 Classroom & Lab Upgrades ($9 million)**
The 2021-23 Classroom and Lab Upgrades would renovate and repurpose approximately 56 individual classrooms and labs throughout campus, extending the useful life of these spaces by approximately 25 years.

**Student Development and Success Center ($225,000 for pre-design)**
This pre-design request would create a consolidated space dedicated to front-line student support services. The current proposal is to build a 40,000 square foot building that will co-locate student advising, financial aid, counseling, and career development into one collaborative facility.

**Environmental Studies Center Renovation ($500,000 for pre-design)**
This pre-design request would renovate the 46-year-old Environmental Studies Center that is woefully outdated, with most internal building systems at the end of their useful life. This building is in a prime location on Western’s campus that has the potential to be an energizing center for STEM activities with adequate modernization and renovation.

**Critical Safety, Access Control, and Fiber Optics Upgrades ($7 million)**
The project will install new hardware on classroom doors to enable locking from the inside in the case of an active shooter emergency and replace the existing damaged and undersized fiber optic communications system between and within buildings.

**Elevator Preservation Safety and ADA Upgrades ($4 million)**
This project will modernize 13 elevators in academic facilities that currently do not conform to current codes and are need of modernization and repair. These elevators are at risk of unplanned service interruptions, cutting off ADA access to educational resources for unpredictable periods of time and causing difficulties for all building users.