

## GOV. CHRIS GREGOIRE OF WASHINGTON'S STIMULUS PLANS



Leaders in Olympia, Washington are pushing a state stimulus program in order to alleviate some of the recent economic woes. There is no solid arrangements set as of now, however, there is a series of quickly up and coming construction projects, and plans to help businesses and potential employees.

Washington governor Chris Gregoire unveiled a \$1.2 billion economic stimulus package this week. She hopes to alleviate worries among consumers so that they will feel comfortable spending again.

"We have a lack of consumer confidence that is second to none, and we've got to build in their heads the idea that we are going to get through this," Gregoire said. "There's hope for the future."

Barack Obama's promised federal economic rescue plan may be a factor for the growing support of a state-level economic stimulus. Gregoire's plan would include speeding up nearly \$800 million worth of pending construction projects. These projects would likely revolve around colleges and highways. The plan would also take 10 percent of the \$4 billion state unemployment trust fund and divide it up into the creation of better unemployment benefits and employer tax breaks.

You can be prepared to be unemployed (just in case) at [Employment Crossroads](#).