

News Release

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Protecting habitat along transportation corridor: Flood Control District adopts Budget that includes protecting road

Reducing flooding on Green River Valley Road

The King County Flood Control District took steps to restore fish habitat while preventing flooding on the Green River Valley Road as part of the adopted 2017 King County Flood Control District (FCD) Budget. Flood District Chair Reagan Dunn was joined by Supervisor Pete von Reichbauer in announcing the funding for the Porter Levee and Floodplain Restoration Project was set aside as part of the \$71.5 million budget.

"I am glad this project supports a mutually beneficial solution to flooding for habitat and local residents on Green River Valley Road," said Dunn.

"This is a prime example of how we can work to protect our communities and our fish habitats at the same time," said Supervisor Pete von Reichbauer. "By listening to the local communities, we can provide a solution to the flooding that takes into account our environmentally sensitive habitats."

The Porter Levee Setback and Floodplain Restoration Project will receive \$720,000 from the King County FCD project for ongoing work to improve salmon habitat and reduce flooding in rural King County east of the City of Auburn. The project is located on the west bank of the Green River upstream from Highway 18.

Since the project's initial design, collaboration with local community members revealed that flooding on Green Valley Road occurs more frequently than previous thought. Annual rain events can cause water to overflow from existing protections and flood the Green Valley Road. Flooding poses a safety hazard for drivers on a road that serves as a major arterial for residents living in the valley.

The funds set aside today will work to raise the Green Valley Road approximately 700 feet along the project area to reduce road flooding and protect against further river erosion. The proposed change in the project design will produce a resilient and effective solution to flooding while maintaining the work to improve local environmentally sensitive habitat.

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The King County Flood Control District is a special purpose government created to provide funding and policy oversight for flood protection projects and programs in

King County. The Flood Control District's Board is composed of the members of the King County Council. The Water and Land Resources Division of the King County Department of Natural Resources and Parks develops and implements the approved flood protection projects and programs. Information is available at kingcountyfloodcontrol.org/.