



## ***News Release***

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### **Efficiency, prevention efforts and capital assistance throughout King County**

King County Flood Control District approves 2019 Budget

The King County Flood Control District Board of Supervisors today unanimously approved a 2019 District Budget that maintains current flood protection services. It funds increased efficiency while taking the necessary steps to prepare the region in preventing potential disasters that might occur due to a dam or levee failure.

The \$93 million budget will continue to help prevent, and when necessary mitigate, the impact of floodwaters in King County.

The Flood District continues to look for ways to improve its planning and project delivery to ensure that vital flood protection infrastructure is in place as quickly as possible. This budget funds the continued effort to streamline and expedite the planning process. A process that once took up to four years from concept to design has been cut in half.

Additional highlights of this year's budget:

- Reaffirming the District's commitment to working with jurisdictions to complete flood prevention projects in several cities;
- Continued investment for the Middle Fork Snoqualmie, allowing the District to have a complete look at the needs of all its major river basins;
- Makes \$5.6 million in repairs to levees and flood protection infrastructure. These repairs are in the Snoqualmie, Cedar and Green rivers;
- Continued funding for Implementation of Dam Report Recommendations. The Dam Safety Emergency Planning Gap Analysis Report (Dam Report) commissioned by the District to identify gaps in the Emergency Action Plans (EAPs) of the dams in King County.
- Implements recommendations from Levee Breach Study to identify gaps in Evacuation and Shelter in Place Plans. Hurricanes Florence and Michael underscore the need to prepare for the extremely low but real risk of a levee breach in King County.
- \$14 million in funding for grant programs, such as the Subregional Opportunity Fund, Cooperative Watershed Management Plan grants and Flood Reduction grants

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#### ***QUOTES***

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"This year's budget continues our commitment to protecting people and property in King County from the damage caused by flooding. As we have seen in recent years with the devastation we've

experienced as the result of heavy rains and snow melt, it is critically important to build up our flood protection infrastructure.”

*--Flood Control District Chair Reagan Dunn*

“This budget supports the Flood Control District’s important work of protecting people, property, and businesses from flood damage. I’m happy to see our continued investments in projects across the county.”

*--Flood Control District Vice Chair Dave Uptegrove*

“This budget advances the great work we started in our capital investment strategies and allows us to quickly respond to emerging issues that result from flood events. I’m excited for the project list this year, including the Stossel Bridge Repair and Shake Mill Left Bank, which will improve public safety and protect vital infrastructure.”

*--Flood Control District Supervisor Kathy Lambert*

“I am pleased with the investments the 2019 Flood Control District Budget makes across our region. These projects emphasize public safety in communities like Pacific that are especially vulnerable to the devastating effects of flooding.”

*--Flood Control District Supervisor Pete von Reichbauer*

*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 [www.kingcountyfloodcontrol.org](http://www.kingcountyfloodcontrol.org).*

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