



News Release

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September 15, 2014

Flood reduction planning focus of special meeting of Flood Control District Executive Committee **North Bend meeting discusses Snoqualmie River Basin preparation**

Residents of communities impacted by flooding in Northeast King County met with the members of the King County Flood Control District Executive Committee today at a special meeting held at the Si View Community Center in North Bend. The committee meeting was an opportunity for residents to learn about the operations and future plans of the Flood Control District as it centered on the Snoqualmie River Basin.

The purpose of the meeting was to review the status of flood reduction planning and projects in the Snoqualmie River Basin. The public presentation included an update on major capital improvement projects in the basin and an update on river corridor planning efforts over the coming months.

"The Flood Control District was created to provide a proactive, regional approach to flood control and we invest resources throughout King County to protect public safety, the regional economy, and critical infrastructure," stated Flood Control District Board Chair Reagan Dunn. "It's important for us to hear directly from area residents who are impacted by flooding and I really appreciate all of the helpful feedback we received."

"Our meeting today was successful due to the attendance of many community members who took the time to attend and voice their concerns," said Supervisor Kathy Lambert, who represents the Snoqualmie Valley on the Flood District. "It is so valuable to hear from those who are affected by the decisions made by the District. Constituent voices add power to our decision-making process."

Along with public testimony, committee members heard from Mayor Ken Hearing of North Bend and Mayor Matt Larson of Snoqualmie about conditions on the river during winter weather.

The meeting focused on areas of current and upcoming river corridor assessment including the South Fork and Middle Fork of the Snoqualmie River Basin, as well as the Tolt River and the Lower Snoqualmie River at the Fall City Reach. River assessment will inform the best approaches to flood reduction and management, including levee retrofits, levee repairs, buyouts, home elevations and barn elevations.

The Snoqualmie River Basin is a river system of more than 600 square miles. It includes the Snoqualmie, Tolt and Raging Rivers and amounts to over eighty river miles with floodplain management needs and 250 flood protection facilities. The Snoqualmie Valley has experienced Phase 2 or higher flooding conditions 23 times since 2006.

Since the inception of the Flood Control District in 2007, the District has completed a number of important projects in and around the Snoqualmie River Basin. King County Flood Control District projects include:

- Forty home buyouts and forty-eight home elevations with more elevations in progress by the District and the City of Snoqualmie.
- Development of twenty-five farm pads, two barn elevations, and one elevated farm platform.
- Twenty-eight levy and revetment repair projects.

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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 www.kingcountyfloodcontrol.org.