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## King County Flood Control District grants to go toward community efforts in Tukwila to protect WRIA 9 Duwamish and Green Rivers

Today the King County Flood Control District approved \$100,000 in grants going toward Tukwila community efforts to protect the Duwamish and Green Rivers or Watershed Resource Inventory Area (WRIA) 9. These funds were part of \$4.6 million the District approved as part of the Cooperative Watershed Management Grant Program.

"I strongly support the funds we're investing in the Green/Duwamish watershed," said Supervisor Joe McDermott. "These waterways are vital to our local ecosystem."

"When we invest in restoring King County's critical habitats we invest in the future of our region's ecosystems," said Reagan Dunn, Chair of the Flood Control District. "I look forward to seeing the results of these projects throughout our four major watersheds."

The Tukwila Community Center Shoreline Restoration project sponsored by EarthCorps will receive \$50,000. These funds will be used to provide restoration to the Tukwila Community Center, including installing and maintaining shade plantings on the Duwamish River in a highly visible location. Young adult crews and community stewards will be doing this work for the community.

"I'm most supportive of the partnership between the City of Tukwila and King County in repairing and enhancing the Green/Duwamish Watershed," said Tukwila Mayor Allan Ekberg. "The Green and Duwamish waterways are valuable natural green spaces for our wildlife and residents, and I look forward to the future of our river's shorelines."

Tukwila's "Green the Green" Shoreline Revegetation Project, Phase 2 sponsored by the City of Tukwila will receive \$50,000. These funds will be used to provide two years of maintenance for two in-progress restoration sites along the Green River.

As part of these efforts, Boeing Employees Credit Union (BECU) sponsors a Duwamish River clean-up project and encourages employees to support the initiative by offering paid volunteer hours. With BECU's help, more than 60,000 square feet of the shoreline are under restoration, which includes clearing invasive species, planting native vegetation and trees, and mulching selected areas.

King County Flood Control District grant recipients participating in the Cooperative Watershed Management Grant Program must address high priority habitats or watershed processes that significantly influence productivity in each basin. To ensure high quality projects, only those that have been scientifically vetted and ranked competitively by their respective WRIA Forum are candidates for funding. Cities, towns, special districts, public schools, King County, federally recognized tribes and non-profits are eligible to apply for the grants.

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