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## **King County Advisory Committee Meeting Summary - Approved**

July 29, 2021

### **Attendees:**

#### **Committee Members:**

Chair, Mayor Leanne Guier, City of Pacific; Vice Chair, Mayor Dana Ralph, City of Kent; Councilmember Jeremy Barksdale, City of Bellevue; Mayor Carol Benson, City of Black Diamond (SCA); Councilmember Lorri Bodi, City of Lake Forrest Park, SCA Alternate; Mayor Allan Ekberg, City of Tukwila; Ken Hearing, Unincorporated King County; Councilmember Michelle Hogg, City of Duvall (SCA); Linda Johnson, Maple Valley, SCA Alternate; Mayor Matt Larson, City of Snoqualmie; Mayor Rob McFarland, City of North Bend; Mayor Karen Moran, City of Sammamish (SCA); Councilmember Valerie O'Halloran, City of Renton; Councilmember Alex Pederson, City of Seattle; April Putney, King County, Executive Office; Councilmember Chris Stearns, City of Auburn; Mayor Henry Sladek, City of Skykomish, and Councilmember Toni Troutner, City of Kent, Alternate.

#### **Staff:**

Executive Director Michelle Clark; Diana Phibbs, Chief of Staff to Chairman Upthegrove; Megan Smith; Steve Bleifuhs; Lorin Reinelt; Brian Murray; Stella Torres; Sherry Equid; Bob Hennessey; Ryan Larson; Mike Mactutis; Cheryl Paston; Ron Straka, and Jackie Wheeler

#### **Facilitator:**

Kjristine Lund, Lund Consulting

#### **Special Guest:**

Dave Upthegrove, Chairman, Flood District Board of Supervisors

**The meeting was called to order at 3:00 p.m.**

#### **Welcome and Introduction**

Special guest Flood District Board of Supervisors Chairman Dave Upthegrove expressed his thanks to all helping to develop the Flood District's budget and extended a special thank-you to Mayor Larson who is retiring from the Flood District Advisory Committee. He mentioned the changes he initiated to policies of the Flood District around multi-benefits and Equity and Social Justice, and reconfirmed his commitment to those values. He also talked about the procedural changes that were made to enhance transparency of District operations, for example, televising meetings and adding public comment to every agenda. He said that the Executive Director has been asked to work with fiscal staff on the County Council to bring some options to the Board as to what a bonding policy could look like, and there is a formal briefing scheduled in one of the upcoming meetings. Members of the Committee extended their thanks and appreciation to the Chairman for his work on multi-benefits, transparency, and his work with Tribes.

## **Public Comments**

No public comments.

## **Approval of the Meeting Summary from July 7th, 2021**

Mr. Hearing moved to approve the meeting summary, and the motion was seconded by Councilmember O'Halloran. The motion passed unanimously.

## **Executive Director Report**

Executive Director Clark reported that jurisdictions will be contacted regarding sub-regional Opportunity Fund dollars and if there are any projects for which the money should be used in 2022. She also wanted to share how great it is to work with the staff at the Joint Basin Technical Committee meetings. Executive Director Clark gave an update on the County's hiring process for the Project Manager for the Flood Hazard Management Plan Update. She said that some applicants were moved forward to the next step in the hiring process and interviews will take place in the coming week, depending on schedules.

Executive Director Clark shared that FCD Motion 20-07.1, adopted last year, declares commitment to integrated flood control management and multi-benefits. Multi-Benefit has been defined as looking at a minimum of 10 different benefits and trying to balance them where applicable on each project. She noted that the motion set up a stakeholder process and the drafts in member packets reflect working with those stakeholders. She shared the definitions of multi-benefits and draft indicators. She asked for comments and thoughts from the members regarding these definitions. She noted she will be reporting to the Board of Supervisors about the multi-benefits definitions and indicators later this year.

Mayor Larson asked about ways storage of environmentally harmful materials within the floodplain could be addressed. Ms. Clark noted this is a state and local regulatory issue. The District does not have regulatory authority but noted this is an example of how the District can partner with local jurisdictions.

The Committee members discussed the applicability of multi-benefits to flood infrastructure projects and asked questions about how science and multi-benefit goals work together. Some members noted concerns about added costs and whether the multi-benefits approach moves the focus away from science and protecting people and property. Other members noted that the District needs to protect everyone and needs to be cognizant of who is impacted and taking the burden of flood risk management decisions. Other members noted that the District has been mindful of these considerations but can always do better. The Committee members will continue this discussion at the next meeting. (Copies of the multi-benefit definitions are part of the meeting packet)

## **Gate Process for CIP Implementation**

Lorin Reinelt from King County's the River and Floodplain Management Section (RFMS) presented a power point about the Gate Process for Capital Project Delivery. The presentation is available on the District web site. He reviewed the steps of estimating the total project costs, budget

planning, updates to the current year and the 6-year CIP budget forecast. He explained about the 3 “Gates” and FCD approvals. Mr. Reinelt shared examples of how a project is designed, scheduled, and funded. Executive Director Clark explained some of the reasons why there may be delays in approvals for projects and noted that the District will continue implementing this process for all service providers.

### **Black River Pump Station**

Executive Director Clark describes the Black River Pump Station as “a river-system in a box”. The fish-passage at the facility is the top priority for many of the Tribal partners. Stella Torres, King County RFMS, presented an update on the Black River Pump Station Improvements regarding fish passage. She spoke about the potential flooding that may occur if the Pump Station is not working at capacity. She described the Capital needs, including fish passage and exclusion improvements. A copy of the presentation is posted on the District web site.

### **Capital and Operating Budget**

Brian Murray, King County RFMS, provided an update on some of the budget changes since the last meeting:

- Updated the 2021 Operating Budget for the current year.
- Updated the Operation Budget in the financial plan to provide the most up-to-date information.
- Revised the formatting to be clearer.
- The major change to the Operating Budget is funding to increase outreach for the annual Flood Awareness Campaign.
- On the Capital Budget two repair projects were added, following inspections of levee condition. More repairs may come to light before the budget is finalized.
- Also, on the six-year CIP, the year of expenditure for the City of Renton gravel removal project was changed.

### **Comments**

Councilmember Barksdale asked when the Committee will be getting an update to the work plan and when there would be a report on the status of ways to improve capital project delivery. Mayor McFarland requested funding for project #7 be advanced to 2023 to begin project design. He also requested that two projects on the Capital Investment Strategy be added to the CIP. Each of these requests was for \$100,000.

### **Next Steps**

Facilitator Lund reported she would start working on a draft budget recommendation letter for the Committee’s consideration. This would be a topic at the August 12 Advisory Committee Meeting. The meeting time is from 10:00 a.m. to noon. If the letter is able to be approved at that time, there will not be a need for the August 26 Advisory Committee meeting. She also noted that their staff will be meeting next week on August 3 as the Joint Basin Technical Committee. Executive Director Clark summarized what she has heard from the Advisory Committee as the topics to be included in the budget recommendation letter.

They are:

- Continue Advisory Committee meetings throughout year
- Desire to participate in the Flood Hazard Management Plan Update
- Appreciation for expanded grant programs with a commitment to integrated floodplain management with a continued focus on flood need being the first priority
- Feedback on multi-benefit definitions
- Concern about out years of CIP and the cash needs
  - Need to address revenue, financing, delivery
  - Consider trigger/target in monitoring cash balances for projects/rainy day fund
- Specific budget recommendations
  - Operating
  - Capital - Capital budget recommendations to move money around for projects and move other projects up on the list of the 6-year CIP

Lund added one more issue:

- Support for increased transparency

Councilmember Barksdale questioned if there has been a presentation about ESJ in the Flood Control District Advisory committee, and it was determined that there has not. He requested this be added to the draft letter from the Advisory Committee to the Board.

**The meeting was adjourned at 4:55 p.m.**