



**UPDATED Staff Report**

<b>Agenda Item:</b>	7	<b>Name:</b>	Michelle Clark
<b>Proposed No:</b>	FCD2022-12	<b>Date:</b>	October 11, 2022

**Resolution FCD2022-12:** A Resolution relating to the operations and finances of the King County Flood Control District; authorizing the expenditure of District funds for the projects and activities in accordance with the Flood Reduction Grants.

The King County Flood Control District's ("District") created the Flood Reduction Grant Program ("FRG") eight years ago to fund smaller non-CIP projects supporting local communities (cities, homeowner associations, school districts, businesses, non-profits, etc.). This program provides grant funding for projects with flood reduction benefits, including but not limited to, surface water overflows, near shore flooding, lake flooding due to outflow blockage, or the clearance of clogged agricultural drainage systems. In March of 2020, the District expanded the FRGs to include three new grants categories providing funding for projects addressing the countywide flooding issues of urban streams, coastal erosion/coastal flooding, and culvert replacement/fish passage restoration. Governments, tribes, and non-profits are eligible for these three new grant streams.

This year the District received 57 grant requests (25 Original FRG, 18 Culvert Replacement/Fish Passage, 2 Coastal Erosion/Coastal Flooding, and 12 Urban Streams) totaling \$39,124,118. Available funding in 2022 is \$14,037,730. The review panel recommends awarding FRGs totaling \$14,037,558.

Grant availability was announced this Spring through press releases, direct emails to public works staff in each jurisdiction in King County, posting to the District website, and outreach by supervisors and their staff. The original deadline of May 27<sup>th</sup> was extended to June 3<sup>rd</sup>.

This year, applicants included 24 cities, 7 non-profits, 6 homeowners associations, 1 watershed improvement district, 1 drainage district, 1 maintenance district, 1 conservation district, 1 housing authority, and 1 county.

King County Water and Land Resources Division grants, fish passage, and stormwater staff reviewed the projects for eligibility and visited project sites for technical review. A review panel consisting of Josh Baldi, Director of King County Water and Land Resources Division; Austin Bell, former Burien city councilmember and Michelle Clark, King County Flood Control District Executive Director reviewed the grant requests and met twice via Teams to make recommendations to the District Board of Supervisors.

Given the amount of grant requests almost tripled the amount of funds available for the 2022 Flood Reduction Grants, in addition to their traditional practice of recommending "phasing" the projects, the review panel prioritized geographic

equity; equity and social justice; matching funds; and partnerships with other grant funds including the Flood District Sub Regional Opportunity Grants, the Flood District Cooperative Watershed Management or WRIA Grants, and Conservation Futures Grants. This year, there was at least one grant application from every King County Council District. The review panel unanimously recommends full funding for 15 projects and partial funding for 34 projects. The review panel recommends denying 8 applications.

The Executive Committee unanimously recommended the proposed resolution to the Board of Supervisors for approval at its September 28<sup>th</sup> meeting.