KING COUNTY FLOOD CONTROL DISTRICT

Staff Report

Agenda Item:	8	**Name:**	Michelle Clark
Proposed No:	FCD2024-11	**Date:**	October 2, 2024

Resolution FCD2024-11: 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") ten 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 grant 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 38 grant requests (118 Original FRG, 10 Culvert Replacement/Fish Passage, 1 Coastal Erosion/Coastal Flooding, and 9 Urban Streams) totaling $28,194,702. The 2024 budget authorized $12,000,000. The review panel unanimously recommends awarding FRGs totaling $13,973,957. The $1,973,957 over the budgeted $12,000,000 is the result of unspent and/or funds from prior grant rounds.

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.

This year, applicants included 13 cities, 7 non-profits, 4 homeowners associations, 3 special purpose districts, 1 church, 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; Morgan Irwin, former state representative and Enumclaw city councilmember and Michelle Clark, King County Flood Control District

Executive Director reviewed the grant requests and met via Teams to make recommendations to the Board of Supervisors.

Given the amount of grant requests exceeded the amount of funds available for the 2024 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; one or two projects when an organization or entity applied for multiple grants, 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 11 projects and partial funding for 20 projects. The review panel recommends denying 7 applications.

Adoption of this resolution does not authorize new money in the 2024 budget, it simply identifies the recipients of previously authorized grant funding.