



KING COUNTY

1200 King County Courthouse
516 Third Avenue
Seattle, WA 98104

Signature Report

June 28, 2004

Motion 11962

Proposed No. 2004-0263.2

Sponsors Edmonds

1 A MOTION approving the program of work for the King
2 Conservation District for the year 2005.

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5 WHEREAS, the King Conservation District is a governmental subdivision of the
6 state of Washington and organized under chapter 89.08 RCW to protect and conserve
7 natural resources throughout King County, and

8 WHEREAS, RCW 89.08.400 authorizes the county legislative authority to
9 impose special assessments for conservation districts to implement natural resource
10 conservation programs and activities, and

11 WHEREAS, the King County council adopted Ordinance 10981 on August 16,
12 1993, authorizing an annual special assessment on all nonexempt properties located
13 throughout the district, and approving an agreement between King County and the King
14 Conservation District, and

15 WHEREAS, the King County council adopted Ordinance 13942 on September
16 18, 2000, modifying the agreement between King County and the King Conservation

17 District to extend the terms of the agreement through December 21, 2010, unless
18 rescinded or modified, and

19 WHEREAS, the agreement, adopted under Ordinance 10981, requires the King
20 Conservation District to submit annual work plans on or before June 1 of the year before
21 their effective dates, and

22 WHEREAS, the agreement requires the King County council to approve or
23 recommend modifications to the work plan within two months after receiving the work
24 plan from the district or by August 1, whichever is later, and

25 WHEREAS, the work plan is considered approved as submitted if the King
26 County council fails to act in accordance with the agreement, and

27 WHEREAS, the King Conservation District board of supervisors reviewed and
28 proposed its work plan ("program of work") on April 14, 2004, and

29 WHEREAS, the King Conservation District submitted its program of work for the
30 calendar year 2005 to the council of King County on May 26, 2004;

31 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT MOVED by the Council of King County:

Motion 11962

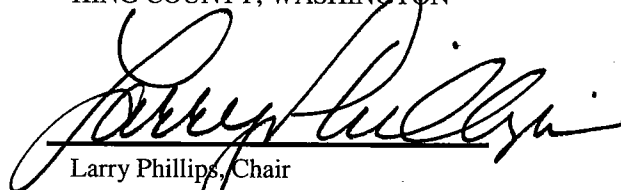
32 The program of work for the King Conservation District for the calendar year
33 2005 is hereby approved.

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Motion 11962 was introduced on 6/1/2004 and passed by the Metropolitan King County Council on 6/28/2004, by the following vote:

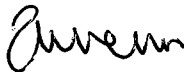
Yes: 13 - Mr. Phillips, Ms. Edmonds, Mr. von Reichbauer, Ms. Lambert, Mr. Pelz, Mr. McKenna, Mr. Ferguson, Mr. Hammond, Mr. Gossett, Ms. Hague, Mr. Irons, Ms. Patterson and Mr. Constantine
No: 0
Excused: 0

KING COUNTY COUNCIL
KING COUNTY, WASHINGTON



Larry Phillips, Chair

ATTEST:



Anne Noris, Clerk of the Council

Attachments A. KING CONSERVATION DISTRICT Calendar year 2005 Program of Work

KING CONSERVATION DISTRICT

Calendar year 2005 Program of Work

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

By agreement and pursuant to King County Ordinance 10981, the King Conservation District submits its annual program of work to the King County Council for review and approval by June 1st of each year. The current package contains the King Conservation District calendar year 2005 Program of Work for review and approval.

The King Conservation District (hereafter referred to as the District) is an independent public entity authorized by state law and formed in 1949. A five-member volunteer Board of Supervisors governs the District. Three of the board members are elected at-large throughout most of King County, two are appointed by the Washington State Conservation Commission.

Pursuant to RCW 89.08.400, special assessments to finance the activities of a conservation district may be requested by a local conservation district and imposed by the legislative authority of the county in which the conservation district is located. The King Conservation District complied with the statutory requirements to hold public hearings and on July 12, 2000 the District Board of Supervisors passed a motion to transmit a resolution to the King County Council (hereafter referred to as the Council) submitting a proposed system of assessment at \$5.00 per parcel on all non-exempt properties within the District. On December 15, 2000 the Council adopted Ordinance 14016 which authorized a special assessment at \$5.00 per parcel to cover the period between 2001 and 2005.

Funds received from this special assessment are allocated for the benefit of lands throughout the District's jurisdiction by action of the Board of Supervisors pursuant to RCW 89.08.220. District projects and activities promote sustainable uses of natural resources through responsible stewardship by:

- Teaching principles of conservation to landowners and the general public,
- Encouraging the development of comprehensive land management plans and implementing practices that promote environmental quality,
- Facilitating productive relationships between individuals, organizations, and government agencies, and/or
- Providing technical assistance and advice to individuals and local governments on the implementation of sound soil, water quality, and habitat conservation practices.

The District is administering a portion of the assessment funds for District activities and the remaining assessment funds are distributed through non-competitive grant awards or conservation service contracts to member cities, King County, and the regional watershed

forums. The funds received from the special assessment during calendar year 2005 will be allocated according to the following work plan outline.

Program of Work

District Strategic Initiatives and Programs

The Board of Supervisors will guide, oversee, and support the development and delivery of a wide variety of work to be performed by the District pursuant to RCW 89.08.220 (7). The annual work plan required by this section of RCW 89.08 will be submitted to the Washington State Conservation Commission (hereafter referred to as the Commission) in accordance with the timelines established by the Commission. Principal components of the District annual plan of work include Farm Conservation Services, Land Management and Conservation Services, Inter-Governmental and Regional Services, Natural Resource Management Education and Outreach Services, and Administrative Services. In addition to its regular program of work, the District will continue to participate in implementing the King County Agriculture Drainage Assistance Program, and work with King County to craft a role for the District under the revised King County Critical Areas Ordinance. Within each work plan component, the District will implement the following:

1. Farm Conservation Services

The District will provide technical assistance in the form of Small Farm Management Planning and Best Management Practices Planning to reduce water pollution from farm and livestock operations, and will coordinate with other agencies to provide cost share assistance to farmers and livestock owners within the boundaries of the District. The District will coordinate with government agencies, non-profit organizations, and volunteer groups to assist farmers and livestock owners to protect, enhance and/or restore aquatic and upland habitats. The District will coordinate activities with King County DNRP and DDES to help landowners participating in the King County Agriculture Drainage Assistance Program (ADAP) and to implement ADAP drainage maintenance projects. The District will also coordinate activities with King County to define the District's in resource management planning associated with the revised King County Critical Areas Ordinance.

2. Land Management and Conservation Services

The District will provide technical and planning assistance to individual landowners, non-profit organizations, citizen groups, schools, and businesses on natural resource management, protection, and enhancement projects, and will coordinate with other agencies to provide cost share assistance to landowners within the boundaries of the District. Services will include, but are not limited to site planning assistance; implementation of soil conservation and water quality Best Management Practices; and conservation and enhancement of aquatic and upland habitat.

3. Inter-Governmental and Regional Services

The District will administer the *King Conservation District Noncompetitive Grant Program* to provide technical assistance and dedicated grant funds to member municipalities (member cities and King County) and the regional King County watershed forums for natural resource management, protection, and enhancement projects. The Noncompetitive Grant Program will include executing and managing individual grant agreements with member cities, King County, and watershed forum designees to complete projects in the area of implementation of soil conservation and water quality Best Management Practices; and conservation and enhancement of aquatic and upland habitat.

Additionally, the District will administer a *Member Municipality Conservation Services Program* to provide technical services above and beyond its current level of service through inter-local agreements with member cities and King County.

4. Natural Resource Management Education and Outreach Services

Because the District recognizes the demand for technical assistance is currently greater than its ability to fund, the District will provide innovative and engaging environmental education services to King County residents to leverage its technical program. The District will sponsor workshops, implement demonstration projects, meet with community interest groups, and utilize other outreach tools to promote responsible stewardship of natural resources.

5. Administration

The District will facilitate the delivery of its services through planning, implementing, and evaluating an innovative program of work, and through sound financial management. In accordance with revised state law and interim legislation, District administrative services will include continued coordination of the board of supervisors elections with the Washington Conservation Commission and with the King County Auditor's office on an as needed basis. Additionally, the District will continue to coordinate with the Washington Conservation Commission, other Washington State departments, and local agencies to deliver its resource conservation services consistent with all applicable state guidelines and requirements.

Budget

The budget for the calendar year 2005 Program of Work includes only those special assessment funds to be collected during calendar year 2005. The District annual budget also includes short-term grants as well as general and directed state and federal funding that enables the District to provide and target higher levels of investment through partnership and leveraging of funds. These other sources of funding are not reflected in the budget for the 2005 Program of Work as their award status is not yet known. The District budget is established by the Board of Supervisors following due consideration of needs and resources.

<u>Assessment Collections</u>	
Special Assessment 2005	\$2,700,000
 <u>Interest Income</u>	
Special Assessments 2005	\$ 70,000
 <u>Total Expenses</u>	
All District Operations 2005	\$2,770,000

King Conservation District Special Assessment collections will be allocated to the King Conservation District, member municipalities (King County and member cities), and the regional watershed forums. Approximately four-fifths of the assessment collections remitted to the District will be made available to member municipalities and the three regional watershed forums less a 1% District fiscal administration fee. The District will hold the member municipality and regional watershed forum allocations in a restricted account until such time as noncompetitive grants are developed, submitted, and approved. Interest accrued on the member municipality and regional watershed forum portions of assessment collections in addition to interest accrued on past assessment collections may be used by the District for King County general election ballot fees associated with District Board of Supervisors elections, assistance on the King County Agriculture Drainage Assistance Program, coordination of a Conservation Reserve Enhancement Program in King County, development of site plans in association with the revised Critical Areas Ordinance, administrative activities associated with the King Conservation District Noncompetitive Grant Program, and other work plan items approved by the District Board of Supervisors in an annual plan of work.

1. District Programs and Projects

Principal components of the District's operations include Farm Conservation Services, Land Management and Conservation Service, Inter-Governmental and Regional Services, Natural Resource Management Education and Outreach Services, and Administrative Services. Specific activities under the Farm Conservation Services program will include but not be limited to the development of 70 new Small Farm Management Plans, the revision of up to 20 existing Small Farm Management Plans, and the revision of up to 10 existing Dairy Nutrient Management Plans. Specific activities under the Land Management and Conservation Services program will include but not be limited to implementing up to 8 stream/wetland/estuarine enhancement projects. Specific activities under the Natural Resource Management Education and Outreach Services program will include but not be limited to 8 land and water stewardship workshops for livestock owners, and up to 8 farm and forest demonstration project site tours.

Estimated total District Services	\$582,000
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2. Municipal Non-Competitive Grants and Inter-local Contracts

Municipal non-competitive grants will be made available to member municipalities (member cities and King County) for the purpose of targeted natural resource

management, protection, and enhancement efforts within such jurisdictions. Applications for the non-competitive grants shall be made to the District for projects that meet the District's statutory purposes under grant funding criteria established by the District Board of Supervisors. Such non-competitive grants shall be made available at the rate of approximately \$1.00 per parcel for each parcel contained within the applicant's jurisdiction. Such non-competitive grants shall be distributed through direct grant agreements with member municipalities and/or other designees that shall act on behalf of the member municipalities.

The District will hold member municipality allocations of assessment collections in a restricted account until such time as non-competitive grants are developed, submitted, and approved. Interest accrued on this portion of assessment collections in addition to interest accrued on past assessment collections may be used by the District for King County general election ballot fees associated with District Board of Supervisors elections, assistance on the King County Agriculture Drainage Assistance Program, coordination of a Conservation Reserve Enhancement Program in King County, development of site plans in association with the revised Critical Areas Ordinance, administrative activities of the King Conservation District Noncompetitive Grant Program, and other work plan items approved by the District Board of Supervisors in an annual plan of work.

Estimated total of municipal non-competitive grants/contracts \$547,000

3. Regional Watershed Forum Non-Competitive Grants and Inter-local Contracts

Regional watershed forum non-competitive grants will be made available to the three King County regional watershed forums for the purpose of targeted natural resource management, protection, and enhancement efforts within the boundaries of the District. Applications for non-competitive grants shall be made to the District for projects that meet the District's statutory purposes under grant funding criteria established by the District Board of Supervisors as well as by consultation with the Regional Water Quality Committee of the King County Council. Such non-competitive grants shall be made available at the rate of approximately \$3.00 per parcel for each parcel contained within the boundaries of the District. Such non-competitive grants shall be distributed through direct grant agreements with municipalities participating on the regional watershed forums and/or other designees that shall act on behalf of the governments participating on the regional watershed forums.

The District shall hold regional watershed forum allocations of assessment collections in a restricted account until such time as non-competitive grants are developed, submitted, and approved. Interest accrued on this portion of assessment collections in addition to interest accrued on past assessment collections may be used by the District for King County general election ballot fees associated with District Board of Supervisors elections, assistance on the King County Agriculture Drainage Assistance Program, coordination of a Conservation Reserve Enhancement Program in King County, development of site plans in association with the revised Critical Areas Ordinance, administrative activities of the King Conservation District Noncompetitive Grant

Program, and other work plan items approved by the District Board of Supervisors in an annual plan of work.

Estimated total of watershed non-competitive grants/contracts \$1,641,000

Accountability

1. District Strategic Plan Initiatives

The District will submit annual reports to the King County Council and the Regional Water Quality Committee. The annual report will include a summary of services provided to local governments, citizens, and others by the District through its programs and projects, the amount of funds distributed to member municipalities and regional watershed forums, and the projects funded.

2. Municipal Non-Competitive Grants and Inter-Local Contracts

Allocation of assessment collections for District approved municipal grant projects will be based on actual King County Assessor collections. Allocations will be available to member municipalities (member cities and King County) after initial calculations of allocations have been completed.

Member municipality annual allocations will be calculated by November 30 of each year. This calculation will cover Assessor collections to date during the year, with additional reconciliation by January 31 of the following year based upon additional Assessor reported collections. Reconciliation will be made thereafter quarterly as funds are received.

Noncompetitive grant recipients will be required to submit biannual financial and project progress reports to the District. Biannual financial and project progress reports will be submitted to the District for review by May 31 and November 30 of each year.

3. Watershed Forum Non-Competitive Grants and Inter-Local Contracts

Allocation of assessment collections for District approved regional watershed forum grant projects will be based on actual King County Assessor collections. Allocations will be available to regional watershed forums, participating members, and/or their designees after initial calculations of allocations have been completed.

Regional watershed forum annual allocations will be calculated by November 30 of each year. This calculation will cover Assessor collections to date during the year, with additional reconciliation by January 31 of the following year based upon additional Assessor reported collections. Reconciliation will be made thereafter quarterly as funds are received.

Noncompetitive grant recipients will be required to submit biannual financial and project progress reports to the District. Biannual financial and project progress reports will be submitted to the District for review by May 31 and November 30 of each year.