

WaterWorks Grant Program

Sound investments in clean water and community



King County

Department of Natural Resources and Parks
Wastewater Treatment Division

Presentation to the

Regional Water Quality Committee

July 6, 2022



Today's Presentation

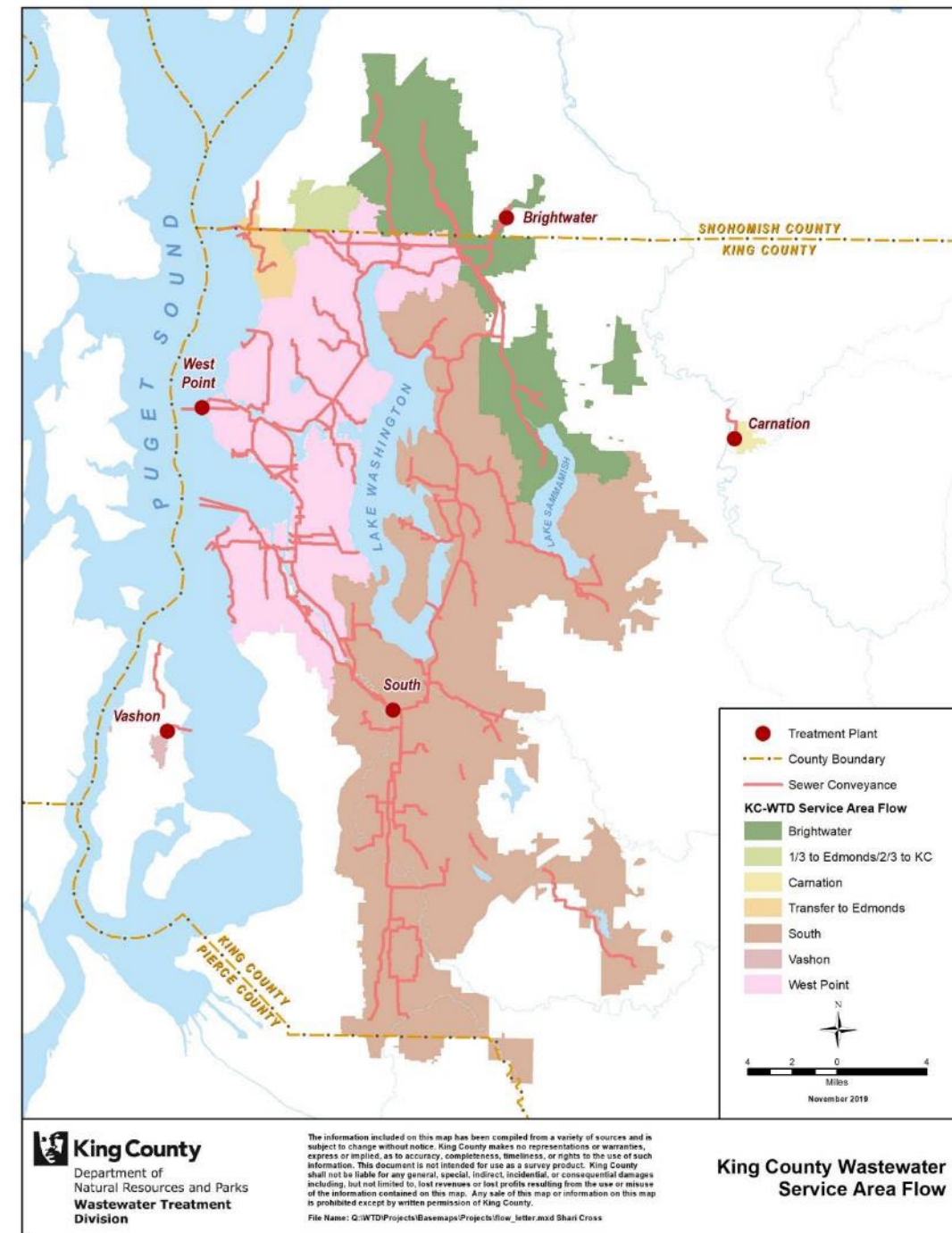
1. Overview of WaterWorks
2. What's funded and how it works
3. Most recent grant cycle – 2021/22
4. Results
5. Next grant cycle—2023/23
6. Q & A

WaterWorks Background

- Based on **FP-8 of the Regional Wastewater Services Plan (1998)** KC code 28.86.160
 - Water quality improvement activities, programs and projects
 - 1.5% of the annual operating budget
 - Established by **Ordinance 18031 (2015)**
 - Award criteria
 - Administrative processes
 - WaterWorks Grant Ranking Committee
 - Amended by **Ordinance 18261 (2016)**
 - Revised committee structure (13 members)
 - Prioritization process
- **RWQC** reviewed and recommended approval of guidelines and amended guidelines

Primary criteria:

- “Create a benefit to or improvement of water quality within WTD’s service area and benefit its ratepayers ”



Examples of water quality benefits*

- Addressing contaminants
- Protecting or improving watersheds, streams, rivers, lakes, wetlands, and tidewaters in the service area
- Providing education, on the ground improvement projects, programs, research, technology development, or related ideas
- Building awareness of water quality and environmental protection and promotion of behavioral changes for improved water quality

**green stormwater
infrastructure
(raingardens
& cisterns)**



**education &
community
engagement**



**research &
monitoring**

**stream &
river bank
restoration**



* From Attachment A Ordinance 18261

Implementation Strength*

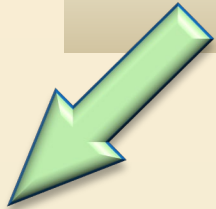
- Leverage resources
- Build community involvement
- Have strong and diverse partnerships and community stewardship
- Have clear goals, outcomes

* From Attachment A
Ordinance 18261



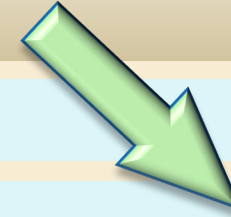
Two Tracks of Funding

approximately \$2.4 M each per budget cycle



SAME: Criteria, Eligibility, Reporting

DIFFERENT: Application and review



Competitive Track

Application Process – WTD

Review Process – Grant Ranking Committee

Council-allocated funding Track

Application Process – Council

Review Process – Council

2015-2022, WaterWorks awarded:

\$17.4 M for **243**
Projects

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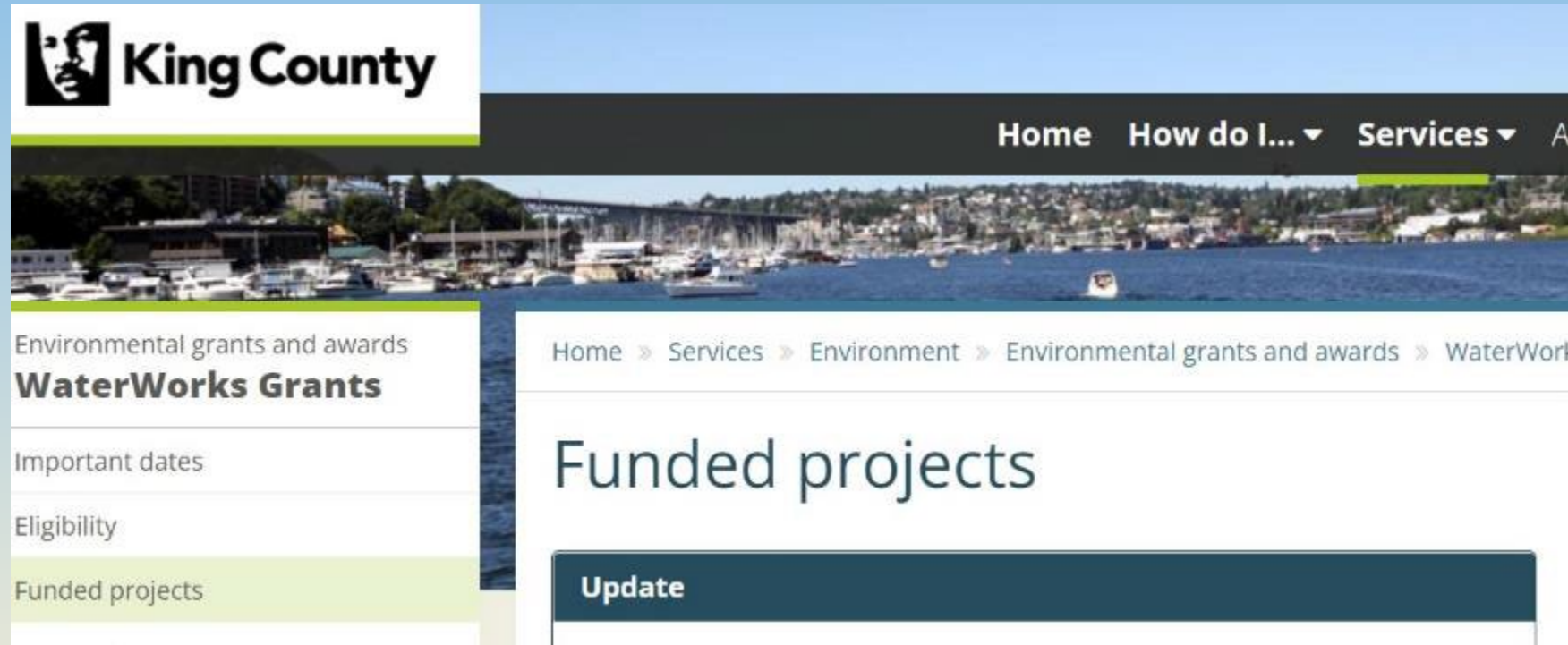
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2021-2022 cycle

- 68 projects – 24 competitive and 44 Council-allocated
- \$5,071,262
- Ordinance 19353 (2021)



Visit www.kingcounty.gov/waterworks-grants

Funded projects – 2021/22 cycle

● **Black Star Farmers– \$200,000**

- *Rainier Valley Water Resilience Project*

● **City of Woodinville– \$30,000**

- *Lake Leota Water Quality Monitoring and Watershed Stewardship Program*

● **Friends of Paramount– \$20,000**

- *Conifer Capacity: Establishing Urban Evergreen Forests to Increase Rainfall Interception*

● **Seattle Good Business Network– \$124,798**

- *Bridging Youth Workforce Development with Green Career and Water Quality Management Pathways*

Funded projects - 2021/22 cycle

● City of Issaquah – \$40,000

- *Issaquah Creek Watershed Bacteria Study*

● Mini Mart City Park- \$73,000

- *Stormwater Infrastructure & Youth Training Program*

● Refuge Federation Service Center– \$146,580

- *Refugee/Immigrant Communities Water Quality Education and Fish Sampling Project*

● UW Green Futures Lab– \$161,000

- *Sweetgrass Marine Living Shoreline Demonstration and Research Prototypes*

Previously-funded projects

Results!

Mini Mart City Park—\$100,000

Green Stormwater Infrastructure (GSI) at Mini Mart City Park



Former Brownfields site

Match = \$80,000

Volunteer hours = 1000

Area managed by GSI = 5300 sq feet

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Kent Meridian High School—\$35,000

2 grants: rain garden & cistern

Student-led project

Cistern= 2,500 gallon

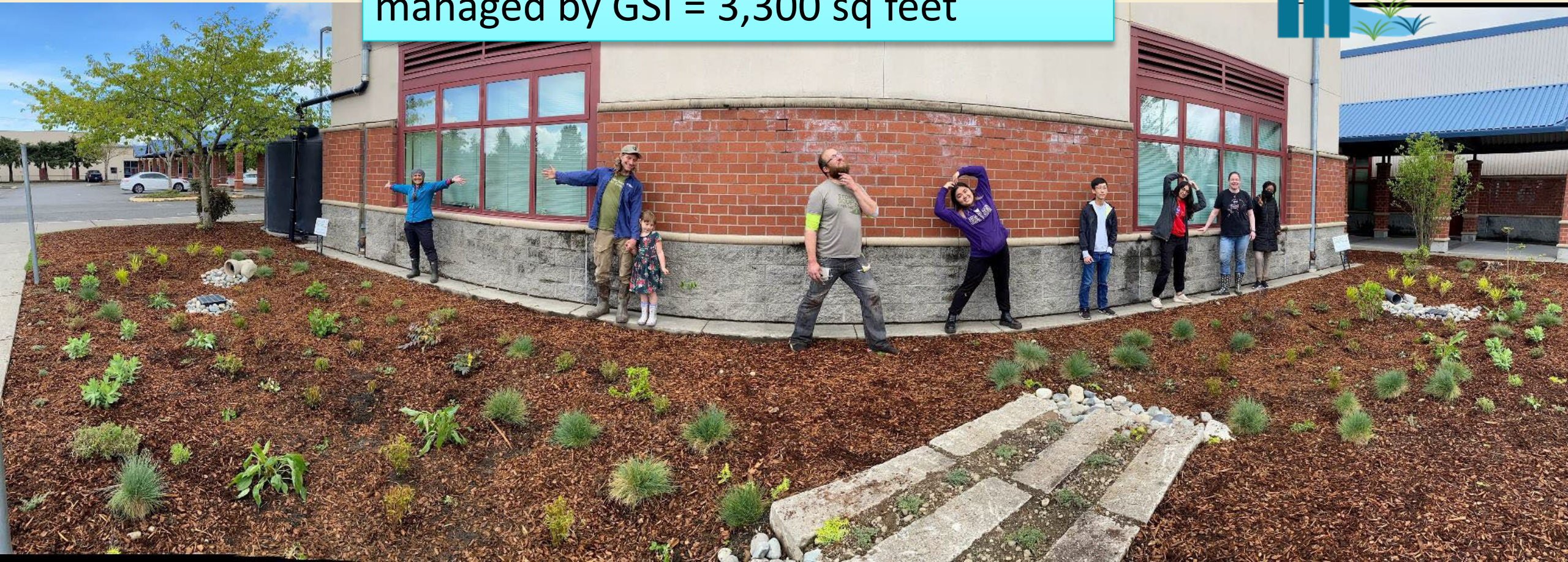
Raingardens area

managed by GSI = 3,300 sq feet

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Restoration: Work parties are back!

Totals for 2021, all projects

2,692 trees planted

5,496 other plants

11,809 volunteer hours



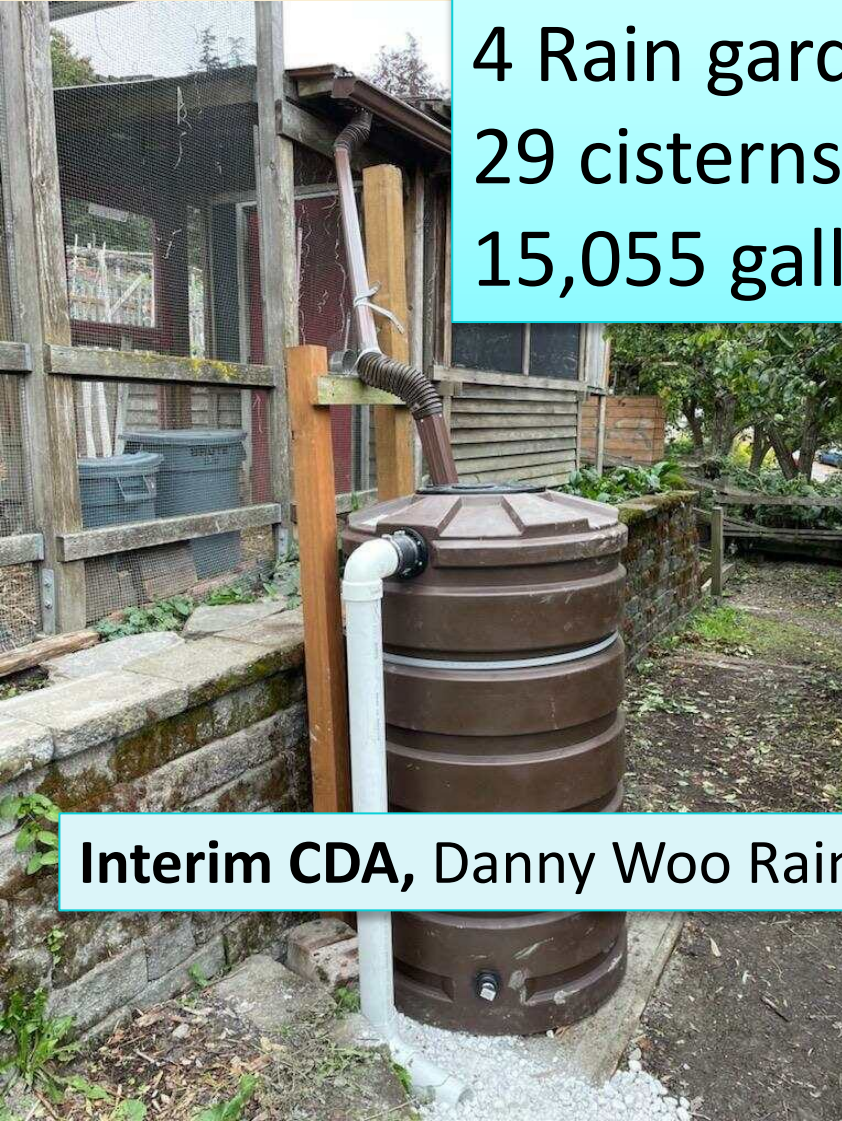
Green Stormwater Infrastructure (GSI)

Totals for 2021, all projects

4 Rain gardens installed

29 cisterns installed

15,055 gallons detained by cisterns



Interim CDA, Danny Woo Rainwater Harvesting



Stewardship Partners, GSI mini-grants

Impact



Seed Funding

Seattle Parks Foundation, Gateway Park N,
\$65,000

>>SDOT \$1.75M to continue the work



Snowball effect: groups working on community science/water quality monitoring

- Sno-King Watershed Council
- Thornton Creek Alliance
- Puget Soundkeeper Alliance
- Unleash the Brilliance
- International Rescue Committee
- Duwamish Valley Sustainability Association

Draft Timeline 2023/24 (competitive track)

Early 2023	RFP released Deadline for letters of intent (LOI's)
Spring	Review and selection
Late Spring	Deadline for full application
Spring/Summer	Review and selection by Grant Ranking Committee
Fall 2023/Winter 2024	Authorization by Executive and Council
Winter/Spring 2024	Projects Begin



Questions?

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