



Board of Supervisors

Staff Report

Agenda Item:	6	Name:	Rick Bautista
Proposed No.:	FCD 2013-06	Date:	April 29, 2013

SUBJECT

A RESOLUTION authorizing the chair to enter into a grant agreement with the State of Washington Department of Ecology, relating to the Briscoe-Desimone levee improvement project on the Green River in the city of Kent.

SUMMARY

The scope of this grant agreement focuses on the portion of the levee segment that is between River Mile 15.98 and 16.36. This DOE grant is intended to achieve levee certification along this segment of the Green River. The terms of the agreement (see Attachment 1 of the staff report for details) requires the District to perform the following tasks:

Task 1: Project Coordination and Administration

Coordinate throughout the grant period with Ecology and other federal, state, local agencies, and Indian tribes. This Task also covers expenses for the recipient to administer the grant including, but not limited to: contract monitoring; coordinating with the Corps of Engineers, FEMA, the City of Kent, and other parties.

Task 2: Right of Way (ROW) Plans and Property Acquisitions

Acquire ROW necessary for project, including 15 foot maintenance easement on the landward side of the constructed flood wall. All properties acquired will be used to enhance the levee system or used in perpetuity for open space purposes only. Restrictions from future development will be placed on the deeds and will be recorded on the titles (per Exhibit C of the agreement). Ecology must complete documentation before payment is released for the acquisition.

Task 3: Design Plans

Prepare a detailed set of design plans for construction of an I-beam flood wall that will meet or exceed FEMA accreditation requirements.

Task 4: Project Permits

Acquire all permits and approvals necessary for project completion in a timely manner and in accordance with the schedule below. This task includes obtaining required federal, state, and local project permits and approvals, as well as preparation of all necessary technical studies, engineering studies, and habitat assessments. If a Letter of Map Revision (LOMR) is necessary, then the Conditional LOMR process shall be utilized.

Task 5: Construction

Construct project in accordance with approved plans, specifications, permits, and generally accepted engineering practices.

BACKGROUND

Briscoe and Desimone levees

The Briscoe and Desimone levees which are on the right (eastern) bank of the Green River between River Miles (RM) 14.3-17.00 in the cities of Kent and Tukwila. Levees are aging earthen levees with over-steepened slopes, a levee crest less than 12 feet wide, and toe scour protection that is generally missing or inadequate. The adjoining river channel lacks adequate in-stream and aquatic edge habitat structure, such as deep pools, large woody debris, and overhanging cover.

While originally built to provide flood risk reduction to farmland in the Kent Valley, these aging levees now protect \$2.8 billion worth of urban structures and contents. A levee breach or overtopping in this location would have serious implications including threats to public safety, damage to public infrastructure, impacts on the regional economy, and damage to private structures (including homes and businesses). Single-flood damage estimates for a failure of containment by these levees exceed \$830 million. The economic disruption to the valley would be measured in years. Businesses with expensive and difficult to relocate or replace industrial machinery are particularly at risk.

Because of these significant risks, improvements to this levee segment are a very high priority to the City of Kent and the King County Flood Control District.

State DOE Grant Funding

In the 2012 Legislative Session, the Legislature passed ESHB 6074 appropriating \$7 million to the King County Flood Control Zone District for the Briscoe-Desimone levee improvement project on the Green River in the City of Kent.

The Executive Committee recommended approval of this grant agreement at its April 15, 2013 meeting.

ANALYSIS

The grant agreement has been reviewed by the District's legal counsel and is consistent with previous grants the District has with the Department of Ecology.

AMENDMENTS

None

ATTACHMENTS

1. Resolution 2012-06, with attachments