KING COUNTY CONSERVATION FUTURES CITIZEN OVERSIGHT COMMITTEE

Recommendations for the Allocation of 2019 Conservation Futures Tax Levy Collections and King County Parks Levy Open Space Acquisition Funds

June 28, 2018

OVERVIEW

Conservation Futures Funding

King County's Conservation Futures tax levy (CFT) is a dedicated portion of property taxes collected throughout King County. CFT funds are used to purchase open space lands and conservation easements in unincorporated King County and in King County's cities. The King County Conservation Futures Citizen Oversight Committee (Committee) is a volunteer citizen advisory board serving King County. Each spring the Committee reviews applications for CFT funding and recommends project funding awards to the King County Executive and King County Council, which then make the final CFT funding allocations in the annual budget ordinance. CFT projects are required to have matching funds that are equal to or greater than the CFT funds allocated to a project, with a goal of gaining broader financial participation through city, state, federal and other funding sources.

This year the Committee received \$20.3 million in requests for an estimated \$12.4 million available fiscal year 2019 CFT funds.

King County Parks Levy Funding

The King County Parks, Trails, and Open Space Replacement Levy is a county-wide, six-year ballot measure approved by voters in August 2013. The funding measure includes dedicated open space acquisition funds for use by King County (these funds are referred to in this report as Parks Levy or PL funds). The King County Council and Executive have requested that the Conservation Futures Citizen Oversight Committee review King County applications for PL open space acquisition funds, and make funding recommendations for PL project allocations. This is done in tandem with the Committee's review of King County applications for CFT funds to help coordinate King County open space acquisition funding decisions.

This year the Committee received \$12.0 million in requests for an estimated \$7.6 million available in fiscal year 2019 PL open space acquisition funds.

Application Review and Funding Recommendation Process

The Committee considered 40 applications for fiscal year 2019 CFT and PL funds: 13 applications submitted by cities, and 27 submitted by King County. Of the 27 applications submitted by King County, two were for properties located within cities, the other 25 were for properties located in unincorporated King County. The preceding project totals do not include three additional applications for funding which were withdrawn due to lack of landowner willingness or reconsideration by applicant.

After receiving applications in March, the Committee viewed the application sites during six evening and weekend field trips in March and April. At the field trip sites, the applicants typically discussed

their projects and answered questions from Committee members. A few sites that the Committee had seen recently were not visited, and applicants presented their proposals at other project sites. The Committee then held two meetings in early May to discuss the applications and make final recommendations on funding awards for each of the projects.

There are many potential open space categories, and the Committee each year strives to provide a balanced package of open space acquisition projects with benefits such as wildlife and salmon habitat, farmland and forest preservation, passive outdoor recreation opportunities, and urban green spaces. The Committee reviews each project considering the adopted Conservation Futures criteria. The Committee also looks at factors related to the likelihood of success for specific projects and broader public policy initiatives – such as landowner willingness to sell a property, meeting equity and social justice goals, the threat of loss of open space resources, once-in-a-generation opportunities, the equitable geographic distribution of projects throughout King County, and other factors.

The Committee has been briefed multiple times about the Land Conservation Initiative, an effort led by King County Executive Dow Constantine to complete the protection of up to 65,000 acres of open space across King County and its cities within the next generation. The Committee is aware of legislation transmitted to King County Council in May 2018 that may lead to additional bonding against Conservation Futures revenues in the near future. Such future bonding may provide more funds next year for some of the larger, multi-year projects, or projects with significant matching funds. The Committee looks forward to further work on how the Land Conservation Initiative may be implemented in the coming years.

The body of this report contains Committee recommendations for City-sponsored projects, Committee recommendations for King County-sponsored projects, a table summarizing the recommendations, and a map showing general location of projects.

City-Sponsored Project Highlights

- There were 13 projects submitted by cities (in addition, two projects sponsored by King County were located in cities).
- Several cities submitted new requests for funding: Des Moines seeks to add a parcel with Puget Sound views to an existing park, Kenmore seeks to preserve land in the Swamp Creek wetland corridor, Kent seeks to add to the trails and habitat protected at Mill Creek Canyon; and Tukwila seeks to create a new urban green space next to the Green River Trail which has Duwamish riverfront access.
- Federal Way returned for the second year of fundraising to help preserve lands at the Weyerhaeuser campus, an effort that is expected to continue to seek funding in the future.
- Issaquah and Snoqualmie continued with ongoing multi-year projects: Issaquah continues creekside acquisitions for habitat restoration and community trail opportunity, and Snoqualmie continues with buyouts of frequently flooded homes along the Snoqualmie River mainstem with a vision for a future riverfront park and trail.
- Seattle proposed projects that include creating a new park within the rapidly developing Aurora-Licton Springs Residential Urban Village, additions to existing greenspaces in several neighborhoods, and acquiring Duwamish Waterway Park from King County in the South Park neighborhood.

King County-Sponsored Project Highlights:

WRIA 7/Snoqualmie Watershed

- Proposed new projects initiate work to connect Moss Lake with the Tolt River Pipeline and Marckworth State Forest, and add to Three Forks Natural Area.
- The County seeks to complete the northern Snoqualmie Valley Trail corridor by securing right-of-way to connect to the Snohomish County line, with future connection to dozens of miles of trails in Snohomish County after eventual trail completion.
- Ongoing projects in WRIA 7 include expansion of the Emerald Necklace Trail Corridor and Mitchell Hill Forest.

WRIA 8/Cedar-Lake Washington Watershed

- The two King County projects located within cities are both in this watershed: the Eastside Rail Corridor is seeking right-of-way acquisition near the NE 8th Crossing in Bellevue, and the third year of application for Wayne Golf Course conservation funding in Bothell.
- At Cougar Mountain, the county is working to acquire 108 forested acres on the southern side of the park, adding to the large landscape of protected forests and providing new trail opportunity at Cougar Mountain.
- Ongoing projects include additions to the Cedar River, Bear and Cottage Lake Creeks.
- The County is working on a new urban greenspace proposal in unincorporated urban areas within WRIAs 8 and 9, to work with the community to add greenspaces in underserved areas.

WRIA 9/Green River Watershed

- Ongoing projects in WRIA 9 add land to the Newaukum and Soos Creek corridors, and continue work to add to Black Diamond Open Space.
- The County is working to preserve the mostly undeveloped Keevie Lake west of Black Diamond, part of a largely forested landscape at the headwaters of Crisp Creek in a rapidly developing part of the county.
- The Middle Green River Open Space Expansion project may begin work to conserve large working forest landscapes southeast of Black Diamond.

Vashon Island

- Additional acquisitions add to the recently acquired community forest at Frog Holler Forest on southwest Vashon Island.
- The County is in initial discussions about conservation of the western portion of Misty Isle Farm, containing working farmland, forests, and streams on south-central Vashon Island.

Farmland

• Farmland proposals seek to match transfer of development rights funding with CFT funding to acquire lands within Agricultural Production Districts (APDs) and in rural areas with clusters of working farms. Projects are located in the Snoqualmie Valley, the Enumclaw/Upper Green River, and the Lower Green River Valley APDs, as well as rural areas near the above APDs and on Vashon Island.

FUNDING RECOMMENDATIONS FOR INDIVIDUAL PROJECTS

CITY-SPONSORED PROJECTS

- Projects are listed in alphabetical order by city.
- Two King County-sponsored projects are located within incorporated cities (WRIA 8/Eastside Rail Corridor located in Bellevue, and WRIA 8/Wayne Golf Course located in Bothell). Those two projects are discussed in the "King County-Sponsored Projects" portion of the report, but listed in the "Projects Located in Cities" portion of the table in the final two pages of the report.

Applying Jurisdiction – Project Name	Funds Requested	Funds Recommended
Des Moines – Van Gasken Property Waterfront Open Space	\$646,000	\$594,000

New CFT Project #1133801

The City of Des Moines seeks to acquire 0.67-acre parcel 200900-3295 located on a bluff above Puget Sound, with sweeping views of the Olympics, Vashon Island, and city waterfront. The parcel will add to dozens of acres protected at nearby parks, which already offer shoreline access, forested habitat, and trails that will include the western terminus of the Lake to Sound Regional Trail. The acquisition will add a new viewpoint to the nearby parks, and offers opportunity for interpretive signage. The property has an older home and a rich history, and cultural resources consultation is underway to help inform the future of the property. The concept of acquisition is actively supported by the Snoqualmie Tribe. The City may consider converting the home to a viewpoint shelter, or creating a new shelter to serve that purpose. To meet impervious surface requirements for CFT funds, the City has removed the footprint of the home and the garage from the CFT-funded portion of the site, which would reduce the estimated CFT-eligible costs to \$594,000. The City has worked with Forterra to buy and hold the property, to ensure it was not sold on the private market before funds could be raised. The City is seeking state Recreation and Conservation Office (RCO) funds as a match to CFT funds. The City indicated that local funds could be used short-term and/or to fill a funding gap in fundraising.

Applying Jurisdiction – Project Name	Funds Requested	Funds Recommended
Federal Way – East Hylebos Watershed Conservation	\$1,000,000	\$500,000

Existing CFT Project #1132069

The City of Federal Way, with strong support from the community and the Save Weverhaeuser Campus group, is working on a regionally significant project to protect open space on the former Weverhaeuser campus. The project targets about 54 acres of Category 1 wetland, wetland buffer, lakefront, and associated forests along North Lake in the headwaters of the East Hylebos Watershed. The campus functions as a community separator near the edge of the urban growth area. The acquisition would preserve a popular trail system adjacent to a Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife (WDFW) boat launch. The long-term vision for conservation of this campus is still being developed (e.g. as related to the nearby bonsai and rhododendron gardens that are outside of the current project scope). The City was awarded \$1 million in 2018 CFT funding, matched with \$1 million in city surface water management funds. The City and Forterra have received \$500,000 in state legislative appropriation toward acquisition. The recommended 2019 CFT award of \$500,000 would fully match those state funds, bring the total amount of funds raised to \$3 million. The City has applied this spring for a matching \$3 million from the state Recreation and Conservation Office, which would result in \$6 million total if awarded. The Committee recognizes that this is a multi-year project, the costs of which will likely exceed \$6 million, and expects the City will return with additional funding requests if more project funding is needed.

Applying Jurisdiction -	- Project Name	
Issaquah – Issaq	uah Creek	Waterways

Existing CFT Project #1047228

The Issaquah Creek Waterways project has multiple goals of preserving riparian habitat, creating an urban greenway and creekwalk opportunity, allowing for future restoration, protecting water quality, and improving the quality of life within the city. Issaquah has protected dozens of acres of natural lands along several miles of Issaquah Creek, a WRIA 8 Tier 1 priority stream which supports threatened chinook. Issaquah is providing local matching funds from a city park bond, which has helped them to continuously and successfully pursue acquisitions as properties become available. Through recent city park planning processes, Issaquah residents have continued to express strong support to preserve open space and add more trails, especially near Issaquah Creek. This year, the priority parcels expand protection along Issaquah Creek on Front Street just south of downtown to the intersection with Newport Way SE, and further downstream on Issaguah Creek near Pickering Farm. The City has also included additional parcels in the long-term scope which could protect upland tributaries and hillsides that provide broader watershed protection, public land connections, habitat conservation, and scenic resource protection. The City still has an existing CFT fund balance in this project. This new award of \$500,000 will supplement those funds, allowing acquisition of an additional three priority parcels, up to two acres in size, based on the current priorities identified in project scope. The City will match the CFT award with funds from the city capital budget and the 2013 City of Issaquah Park Bond.

Applying Jurisdiction – Project Name	Funds Requested	Funds Recommended
Kenmore – Swamp Creek	\$850,000	\$850,000

New CFT Project #1133802

Kenmore proposes a 6.4-acre project that will add to dozens of acres already protected along Swamp Creek. The City seeks to acquire two parcels in an 83-acre wetland that encompasses the creek corridor in northeast Kenmore, providing community separator and visual relief. This large wetland complex provides important wildlife habitat and water quality benefits to salmonid-bearing Swamp Creek (used primarily by coho salmon and cutthroat trout, with historic and potential use by chinook). The two parcels targeted for acquisition contain about 5.8 acres, with additional long-term targets nearby. The parcels may eventually support a future trail connection that the City envisions in this area, with a goal to link Wallace Swamp Creek Park north of the site and Squire's Landing Park south of the site. The City will match awarded CFT funds with city funding, plus the value of a land trade on an additional 0.6-acre parcel that was acquired recently with non-CFT funds at the mouth of Swamp Creek (which will be encumbered with CFT deed restrictions when used as a land match).

Applying Jurisdiction – Project Name	Funds Requested	Funds Recommended
Kent – Upper Mill Creek Canyon	\$445,000	\$445,000

New CFT Project #1133803

Kent seeks CFT funding reimbursement for the 3-acre parcel 292205-9211, adding to 107-acre Mill Creek Earthworks Park. This acquisition satisfies a long-term park development goal to create a southern trailhead and entry point the park. The park links Kent's East Hill neighborhood to Kent's downtown. In the north end of the park there is a renowned landscape Earthworks sculpture (the city's first designated landmark). A 1.5-mile long trail will lead down the length of the canyon from this parcel to the Earthworks. The acquisition preserves mature second-growth forest, adding to wildlife habitat and forest canopy already protected in Mill Creek Earthworks Park. The parcel could have been subdivided into 13 home sites. The parcel is located within 70 feet of Mill Creek.

Preservation of the forest and future restoration supports aquatic health in the upper reaches of this salmon-bearing stream. The property has been acquired this spring by Kent, and City of Kent CIP funds provide the match to CFT. Kent may choose to exclude a small square footage of the property from CFT restrictions for more intensive development than typically allowed under CFT. That determination will be made prior to CFT funding reimbursement in 2019.

Applying Jurisdiction – Project Name	Funds Requested	Funds Recommended
Seattle – Aurora-Licton Springs Urban Village Park	\$500,000	\$500,000

New CFT Project #1133804

Seattle seeks to acquire 0.29-acre parcel 099300-1605 in the rapidly developing Aurora-Licton Springs Residential Urban Village in north Seattle. In the City's 2017 Parks and Open Space Plan, this urban village is identified as having one of the largest open space gaps in the city, with over half of the urban village not served by a park. There is strong community support for creating additional park space in this area. The parcel is sizeable, mostly open grass and landscaping with an older home on one side of the lot. The parcel is surrounded by recently built townhouses and multi-story apartment buildings, with additional buildings under construction. In this challenging real estate market, the City has a unique opportunity to work with a landowner who is interested in seeing the property preserved as a park rather than redeveloped. Seattle will match CFT funding with Seattle Park District funding.

Applying Jurisdiction – Project Name	Funds Requested	Funds Recommended
Seattle – Cheasty Greenspace Addition	\$125,000	\$125,000

New CFT Project #1133805

The City seeks to add 0.24-acre parcel 162404-9095 to the Cheasty Greenspace in southeast Seattle, which provides open space and wildlife habitat on the eastern side of Beacon Hill. The greenspace encompasses the historic and scenic Olmstead-designed Cheasty Boulevard, a scenic corridor which supports soft-surface trails instead of paved sidewalks, and which provides significant visual relief to visitors and drivers as a protected green corridor in a dense urban landscape. Cheasty Greenspace contains about 65 acres, with additional protected lands at adjacent Jefferson Park Golf Course. This area of southeast Seattle is designated as a Neighborhood Revitalization Area where the City strives to achieve revitalization by providing recreation and environmental amenities. The acquisition of this 0.24-acre inholding parcel would prevent development of up to two homes, and avoid disturbance to the boulevard greenway and the trail from new driveway crossings. As part of the Green Seattle partnership, this parcel would be revegetated and restored when it is added to the protected corridor. Seattle will match CFT with Seattle Park District funds.

Applying Jurisdiction – Project Name	Funds Requested	Funds Recommended
Seattle – College Street Ravine Addition	\$300,000	\$300,000

New CFT Project #1133806

Seattle seeks to add 0.28 acres in five parcels to the College Street Ravine. These parcels have been longtime targets to consolidate and complete greenbelt ownership. The College Street Ravine is part of the Duwamish Head Greenbelt, an identified preservation priority for Seattle since the 1993 Urban Green Spaces Policy. Portions of Duwamish Head Greenbelt are visible from downtown Seattle. This ravine and the adjacent Duwamish Head Greenbelt provide important habitat for many birds and small mammals in a dense urban environment, and provide neighborhood separators between

residential and commercial/industrial areas. At College Street Ravine, trails lead through a forested landscape that is actively being restored and maintained by neighborhood and stewardship groups such as Green Seattle Partnership and the Nature Consortium. The City owns most of property on both sides of the ravine. Acquisition of the target parcels located on the edges of the ravine would help preserve the character of this forested corridor, and prevent development of homes that visually impact the greenspace experience of the College Street Ravine (as has happened on one or two nearby parcels along the corridor). Seattle will match CFT with Seattle Park District funds.

Applying Jurisdiction – Project Name	Funds Requested	Funds Recommended
Seattle – Duwamish Waterway Park	\$550,000	\$550,000

New CFT Project #1133807

While Duwamish Waterway Park functions as a Seattle park, the 1.26-acre parcel 732790-1195 that comprises most of the park acreage is actually owned by King County. This area is the site of an old oxbow lake which was filled in during the 1920s. The County has owned this parcel since the early 1900s, operating a dock on this property for the first few decades of its ownership. The site has been used as a park since the 1970s, managed by Seattle Parks under an agreement with King County. In 1974, the City installed a carved wooden whale sculpture and dedicated the park to the Duwamish Indian Tribe as part of the "Rediscover the Duwamish Festival." In addition to this County-owned parcel, the park acreage and protected Duwamish River shoreline enjoyed by visitors are on land owned by Seattle Parks and Recreation, Port of Seattle, and unopened Seattle Department of Transportation rights-of-way. The South Park neighborhood in which this park is located has a significant deficit of green space within the community. This park is an important feature in the neighborhood, providing open space to gather and play, and visual and physical access to the river. The Friends of Waterway Park and more than a dozen other community groups have already been involved in discussions of redesign of the park. While this is already a publicly owned parcel, the original funding source used by King County will be reimbursed through sale of property to Seattle as required by local government accountancy practices. The City of Seattle is seeking funding to acquire the 1.26-acre parcel from King County, matching CFT with Seattle Park District funds.

Applying Jurisdiction – Project Name	Funds Requested	Funds Recommended
Seattle – Madrona Ravine Addition	\$450,000	\$450,000

New CFT Project #1133808

Seattle seeks funding to complete a long-sought acquisition of 0.6-acre parcel 142220-0501 in the Madrona Ravine. Several years ago CFT helped fund purchase of adjacent parcels that were under one family ownership, but this one parcel was held out of the purchase agreement. This parcel currently has a small house. Recent redevelopment proposals include a multi-story home set on the edge of the forested ravine, which would change the character of the site. Acquisition would allow removal of the home and would complete the vision to protect the site. Madrona Creek flows through this forested ravine, through Madrona Park, to Lake Washington. More than a decade ago, a community-initiated project funded in part by WRIA 8 helped to daylight the creek, restore the shoreline, establish creek culverts to allow fish passage, and build new pedestrian paths and bridges. This urban greenspace is an important wildlife corridor supporting small mammals and many bird species (including nesting eagles and Coopers hawks), serving as an upland extension of the 31-acre Madrona Park on the Lake Washington shoreline. Friends of Madrona Woods is actively involved in stewarding the Madrona Ravine greenspace. The City of Seattle will match CFT with Seattle Park District funds.

New CFT Project #1133809

The Orchard Street Ravine is a pocket of open space within a West Seattle neighborhood which serves as visual respite and a neighborhood connector. The undeveloped Orchard Street right-of-way is bordered on both sides by 2.2 acres of Seattle Parks land. The property was acquired in the 1990s to conserve the unique conifer-madrone forest on site (a habitat type present on only 52 acres out of 2,700 acres owned by Seattle Parks). The community actively stewards the park, and helps maintains a network of trails through the site. The City seeks to purchase 0.13-acre parcel 431920-0080 with an abandoned home adjacent to the park, to help buffer the site from adjacent development and allow for restoration. The City of Seattle will match CFT with Seattle Park District funds.

Applying Jurisdiction – Project Name	Funds Requested	Funds Recommended
Snoqualmie – Snoqualmie Riverfront Reach	\$765,500	\$525,000

Existing CFT Project #1047226

The City of Snoqualmie continues with their multi-year Snoqualmie Riverfront Reach project, to remove frequently flooded homes and complete a passive waterfront park and Riverwalk Trail linking the historic downtown to the Snoqualmie Valley Regional Trail. The City seeks to acquire frequently flooded properties in the FEMA-designated 100-year floodway. Restoration will contribute to Snoqualmie River water quality improvement by planting native vegetation and facilitating increased shading on the southern banks of the Snoqualmie (the river is 303(d) listed for temperature). The City has made steady progress on acquisitions in recent years, acquiring more than 66 acres in the broader 2.2-mile reach of the river. Within this specific project area, there are 16 of out of a total of 28 residential properties remaining to be acquired. The City has prioritized four parcels containing approximately one acre of land in its current request. The Committee recommendation will fully match the \$450,000 secured in Flood Control Zone District funds for three parcels, and will provide additional CFT funding that could be matched by Floodplains by Design or other match funding still being sought.

ested Funds Reco	ommended
5,000 \$	\$335,000
5	5,000 \$

New CFT Project #1133810

Tukwila is proposing to acquire 0.93-acre parcel 073300-0225 located next to the Green River Trail to provide riverfront public access and restoration opportunity along the Duwamish River. The property owner has actively worked with public agencies to try to conserve the parcel for public use as open space, rather than pursuing private sale and redevelopment. This site offers passive park opportunity, with trails and viewpoints, in a neighborhood with no other passive parks. The acquisition would allow the removal of two structures, invasive weed control, and restoration. The City will preserve mature trees that shade the southern riverbank, where the property contains 160 feet of tidally influenced shoreline within the Duwamish River transition zone. Public ownership could facilitate shoreline restoration to further salmon recovery efforts (nearby restoration project sites just downstream include Duwamish Gardens, Chinook Wind, and North Winds Weir). The property has scenic resource value because of the Duwamish River and the views of the Duwamish Hill Preserve – another CFT-funded purchase which contains the opposite shoreline and the geologically unique and culturally important hill rising in view across the river. The source of match funding is still to be determined.

KING COUNTY-SPONSORED PROJECTS

- King County projects are listed in the following location order: WRIA 7 (Snoqualmie watershed) – WRIA 8 (Cedar/Lake Washington watershed) – WRIA 9 (Green River watershed) – Vashon – Farmland/TDR.
- Within each location, projects are listed alphabetically.
- Two King County-sponsored projects are located within incorporated cities (WRIA 8/Eastside Rail Corridor located in Bellevue, and WRIA 8/Wayne Golf Course located in Bothell). Those two projects are discussed below in the "King County-Sponsored Projects" portion of the report, but listed in the "Projects Located in Cities" portion of the table in the final two pages of the report.

Applying Jurisdiction – Location Project Name	Funding Type	Funds Requested	Funds Recommended
King County – WRIA 7	CFT	\$0	\$0
Emerald Necklace Trail Corridor	Parks Levy	\$50,000	\$50,000
Existing CFT Project #1129250, Existing PL Project #1123925	Total	\$50,000	\$50,000

The request for feasibility funding will support the next phase of work on the Emerald Necklace Trail northeast of Sammamish. The Emerald Necklace Trail is a planned passive use trail that would circumnavigate the City of Sammamish. The trail is partially completed in several sections. The Issaquah Alps Trail Club, Mountains to Sound Greenway, Sammamish Friends, Sammamish Walks, and Sammamish Wildlife Habitat are supporters of the trail. The funding award is for initial feasibility work on several parcels, which would lay the groundwork for a future request for acquisition funding of fee or easements along the trail corridor. These acquisitions would help support additional trail connectivity in recently protected lands at Soaring Eagle and Patterson Creek Natural Area.

Applying Jurisdiction – Location			
Project Name	Funding Type	Funds Requested	Funds Recommended
King County – WRIA 7	CFT	\$950,000	\$275,000
Mitchell Hill Forest Additions	Parks Levy	\$950,000	\$275,000
Existing CFT Project #1123828, Existing PL Project #1044750	Total	\$1,900,000	\$550,000

The Mitchell Hill Forest Additions project would add to 2,000+ acres of King County lands protected east of Issaquah in the Duthie Hill/Grand Ridge/Mitchell Hill/Canyon Creek/Preston Ridge complex. King County land connects to an additional 2,000+ acres of Washington State Department of Natural Resources (WADNR) lands. The second-growth forest on these public lands provides habitat benefits for upland species (including black bear, cougar, and approximately 80 species of resident birds) and water quality benefits to streams located in the upper reaches of the Patterson Creek, Raging River, and Issaquah Creek basins. King County and WADNR partner to connect, develop, and maintain trails in this area which is popular for hiking, mountain biking, and horseback riding. The funding award will allow acquisition of approximately three or four parcels of the targeted 67 acres (seven parcels) identified for conservation in the project scope – likely focusing on forested parcels adjacent to Canyon Creek Natural Area and parcels at the northeast edge of Mitchell Hill Forest.

Applying Jurisdiction – Location Project Name	Funding Type	Funds Requested	Funds Recommended
King County – WRIA 7	CFT	\$350,000	\$50,000
Moss Lake Natural Area Additions	Parks Levy	\$350,000	\$50,000
New CFT Project #1133811, New PL Project #1133888	Total	\$700,000	\$100,000

More than a decade ago, King County purchased the development rights from the 90,000-acre Snoqualmie Forest. This project is located at the western edge of the Snoqualmie Forest, where lands encumbered by the forest conservation easement extend between Moss Lake Natural Area, the Tolt Pipeline Road, and Marckworth State Forest. King County seeks to acquire the underlying fee to one or more of these parcels on the western edge of Snoqualmie Forest. This acquisition would provide significant public benefit by permanently protecting the trail connections that already exist on these parcels - currently used by mountain bikers, hikers, and equestrians under a permit-based system. These lands would need forest stewardship as there have been recent harvests. The lands contain ecologically important systems such as the drainage upstream of Moss Lake bog and the upper reaches of Stossel Creek. They support wildlife habitat as part of the larger protected forest system. The price of the property should be relatively low as development rights have been removed from the property. King County is exploring whether to pursue additional parcels in future years based on landowner interest, and with possible partnership with Washington State Department of Natural Resources. This project is awarded start-up funding to help with title, appraisal, and due diligence. The Committee anticipates additional award next year as the County makes progress with the landowner to understand full scope and cost of targeted acquisitions.

Applying Jurisdiction – Location			
Project Name	Funding Type	Funds Requested	Funds Recommended
King County – WRIA 7	CFT	\$1,000,000	\$0
Raging River Natural Area	Parks Levy	\$1,000,000	\$0
Existing CFT Project #1132082, Existing PL Project #1132220	Total	\$2,000,000	\$0

Raging River Quarry is a 51-acre property on the mainstem of the Raging River. Two parcels in the scope are zoned for gravel mining, and two parcels are zoned residential. In recent years, a mining operation re-opened on one parcel, and an application has been submitted to the King County Department of Permitting and Environmental Review to expand the mine onto the other mining-zoned parcel. There is strong local community support from individuals and the Raging River Conservation Association to prevent expansion of the mine and to cease mining on the current site. Community concerns include loss of forested cover, potential sedimentation and negative impacts to fish and wildlife, loss of scenic resources, and nuisance impacts from the mining operation. The Raging River supports chinook, coho, and chum salmon, and steelhead and cutthroat trout.

The County and the Trust for Public Land (TPL) are in discussion with the landowner, and the County is considering whether to work with TPL on a buy-and-hold. If the lands are acquired in their entirety, this could be a very expensive project and the applicant may seek a variety of state and local funding sources beyond CFT and PL. The Committee showed its support for initial work last year by awarding \$100,000 CFT and \$100,000 PL in FY 2018 funds to make progress on project start-up.

The Committee is not recommending an additional funding award for FY 2019. The Committee believes that the proposal needs further development to understand whether a purchase agreement will be reached, and what the full scope and costs will be. If the County has TPL proceed with a buyand-hold, it would then have a negotiated number of years to repay TPL, and there will be more clarity on the timeline and cost. With the Land Conservation Initiative potentially leading to CFT bonding next year, this is a project that would likely request a large funding award at that time. The Committee is open to additional discussion about the property, anticipating a project funding request next year.

There was support on the Committee to preserve the 2,200 feet of forested river frontage and upland forest contained in two parcels along the Raging River (i.e. the residential parcel 222407-9035 located on the river, and the mine expansion parcel 222407-9033). However, there were questions within the Committee as to how that mine expansion parcel would be valued without having certainty about the outcome of the mining permit. The value of the mining resources on site mean that the cost of the mining-zoned parcels is significantly higher than if it were zoned for residential use. The Committee questioned whether the currently mined parcel 222407-9011 needs to be purchased, as it is not adjacent to the river, still has a considerable amount of value in the rock, and would have reclamation needs. The Committee did not find that the other residential zoned parcel 222407-9010 north of the mine was a priority to acquire or fund.

Applying Jurisdiction – Location			
Project Name	Funding Type	Funds Requested	Funds Recommended
King County – WRIA 7	CFT	\$187,500	\$106,000
Snoqualmie Valley Trail North	Parks Levy	\$187,500	\$269,000
New CFT Project #1133812, Existing PL Project #1132221	Total	\$375,000	\$375,000

King County seeks to secure an easement or fee ownership on 0.34 miles of parcel 062607-9027, a former railroad right-of-way. This acquisition would complete the northern end of the 31-mile long Snoqualmie Valley Trail corridor, near the Snohomish-King County line. While King County used to own fee title to the railroad right-of-way, the prior landowner of the adjacent property built a dairy barn and outbuildings on the right-of-way. A court settlement granted him ownership of the right-of-way through the parcel, and gave King County a term-limited easement (expiring in September 2019) to route the trail along the banks of the Snoqualmie River. The riverfront route is infeasible due to bank erosion, flood risk, environmental impacts, and negative impacts on working farmlands. The current landowner seems willing to work with King County to resolve the issue. The County received \$25,000 in 2018 PL funds for start-up work. The Committee recommends full funding in 2019, recognizing the importance of connecting the regional trail corridor between King and Snohomish County, and the time-sensitivity of resolving this issue in the next year. The Committee encourages ongoing work between King and Snohomish Counties to ensure that Snohomish County works to secure the necessary portions of the Snoqualmie Valley Trail right-of-way north of the county line.

Applying Jurisdiction – Location			
Project Name	Funding Type	Funds Requested	Funds Recommended
King County – WRIA 7	CFT	\$60,000	\$60,000
Three Forks Natural Area Addition	Parks Levy	\$60,000	\$60,000
New CFT Project #1133813, New PL Project #1133889	Total	\$120,000	\$120,000

This project would acquire nearly 5 acres of parcel 292408-9032 located on the south side of Reinig Road, contiguous with Three Forks Natural Area. The County would acquire the southern portion of one large parcel which would undergo a boundary line adjustment, leaving the north half of the parcel in private ownership and managed for sustainable forestry. The land to be acquired contains a beach along the Snoqualmie River with scenic views of Snoqualmie Valley Trail trestle. This beach is a popular summertime spot for public use, and it would be beneficial for King County Parks to manage the site. The property was identified as potential acquisition in the Three Forks Master Plan. The acquisition would add to the forested riparian habitat preserved at Three Forks Natural Area. The property contains Brockway Creek, which flows south to a slough within Three Forks Natural Area.

There is scenic and historic significance to the site, as this portion of Reinig Road is lined with mature sycamores planted early in the 20th century as part of the Snoqualmie Falls mill town formerly located on this parcel.

Applying Jurisdiction – Location Project Name	Funding Type	Funds Requested	Funds Recommended
King County – WRIA 8	CFT	\$750,000	\$500,000
Cedar River Additions	Parks Levy	\$750,000	\$500,000
New CFT Project #1133814, New PL Project #1133890	Total	\$1,500,000	\$1,000,000

This project includes priority parcels along several miles of the Cedar River between Elliott Bridge Reach and Mouth of Taylor Reach. These areas were identified for habitat restoration and preservation in the Cedar River Legacy program, the WRIA 8 Salmon Conservation Plan, and the King County Flood Hazard Reduction Plan. The Cedar River supports chinook, coho, and sockeye salmon, and steelhead and cutthroat trout. The river and riparian zones provide wildlife habitat, and many of the targeted acquisitions would add to acreage already protected in a natural state along the river. Many lands along the Cedar River offer passive recreation opportunity on backcountry trails, easy access off of the popular Cedar River Trail, and visual and physical access to the river. This funding will allow for the purchase of one or more parcels, likely consisting of 1 to 5 acres total, within the target areas.

Applying Jurisdiction – Location			
Project Name	Funding Type	Funds Requested	Funds Recommended
King County – WRIA 8	CFT	\$0	\$0
Cemetery Pond Open Space Additions	Parks Levy	\$300,000	\$300,000
CFT Project #N/A, New PL Project #1133891	Total	\$300,000	\$300,000

The Cemetery Pond Regional Stormwater Facility is located in East Renton Plateau, the unincorporated urban area east of Renton. The site is a large wetland system with open water and wetland edge features which provides stormwater detention functions. The proposal would acquire 5 acres of adjacent parcels which are primarily forested and/or provide access to the property for visitors. This system provides habitat for waterfowl and other wildlife in an urban area. Preservation and improvement of Cemetery Pond is a goal of the CARE non-profit group and others active in this area. Councilmember Reagan Dunn sponsored Motion 14978 which recommended that the Committee give this project priority consideration during the project review process. This proposal would match existing CFT funding in a Transfer of Development Rights program urban amenity project with the recommended Parks Levy funding, and additional King County Stormwater Services funding.

Applying Jurisdiction – Location Project Name	Funding Type	Funds Requested	Funds Recommended
King County – WRIA 8	CFT	\$1,050,000	\$1,050,000
Cougar Mountain Regional Wildland Park Additions	Parks Levy	\$1,050,000	\$1,050,000
Existing CFT Project #1129253, Existing PL Project #1044596	Total	\$2,100,000	\$2,100,000

This proposal targets 108 acres that are part of a historic family landholding on the south side of Cougar Mountain. The County has worked with the multiple heirs over several years, and the landowners are interested in seeing the County preserve their land. The three parcels targeted for FY 2019 funding (022305-9001, -9002, and -9004) contain mature forest and tributaries to May Creek. The parcels are contiguous with the 3,000+ acres already preserved at Cougar Mountain that, together with adjacent Squak and Tiger Mountains in the Issaquah Alps, provides important wildlife habitat outside of developing urban areas in Bellevue and Issaquah. There are existing trails and forest management roads on the property which would be evaluated for public use and linkage to existing Cougar Mountain trails. These parcels connect to a public road and could provide a new trail entry point on the south side of the mountain. The original funding request totaled \$1,500,000 but during the review process the request increased to \$2,100,000 based on new information about land cost. There are additional parcels adjacent and nearby which may be of future interest to the County. During the Committee review process, King County received Committee approval for a scope addition adding nearby parcels to the scope of current funds already awarded at Cougar Mountain (352405-9010, -9022, -9034, -9021, and 022305-9022).

<u>Note:</u> The following King County-sponsored project is located in the City of Bellevue, and therefore is listed in the "Projects Located in Cities" portion of the funding recommendation table at the end of this report.

Applying Jurisdiction – Location			
Project Name	Funding Type	Funds Requested	Funds Recommended
King County – WRIA 8	CFT	\$250,000	\$0
Eastside Rail Corridor – NE 8 th Street	Parks Levy	\$250,000	\$500,000
Crossing Project	T diks Levy	\$250,000	\$500,000
CFT Project #N/A, New PL Project #1133897	Total	\$500,000	\$500,000

The Eastside Rail Corridor (ERC) is a 42-mile former rail corridor extending from Renton to Snohomish, owned by multiple jurisdictions which are collaborating on multi-use corridor development. King County acquired fee or easement on nearly 19 miles of the ERC between Renton and Woodinville. The target acquisition is in the Wilburton Segment located between I-90 and Kirkland. At the NE 8th Street crossing in Bellevue, Sound Transit is constructing an elevated guideway to the Wilburton Station (anticipated to open in 2023). The ERC will also have an elevated grade crossing at NE 8th Street, running underneath the Sound Transit guideway. The ERC right-of-way is width-constrained on the south side of NE 8th Street, so acquiring the 0.12-acre parcel 332505-9210 in fee will expand the right-of-way to optimize trail design and allow accessibility features such as stairs and/or elevators to reach the elevated trail from NE 8th Street. The recommended award would add to funding sources such as Parks Levy regional trail funds, Sound Transit System Access funds, City of Bellevue contributions and private funding.

Applying Jurisdiction – Location Project Name	Funding Type	Funds Requested	Funds Recommended
King County – WRIA 8	CFT	\$630,000	see below
Middle Bear Creek & Cottage Lake Creek Natural Area Additions	Parks Levy	\$630,000	see below
	Total	\$1,260,000	\$551,500 total
	Funding Type	Funds Requested	Funds Recommended
	CFT	portion of above	\$180,000
Awarded to Bear Creek Waterways Project	Parks Levy	portion of above	\$180,000
Existing CFT Project #1116231, Existing PL Project #1044590	Total	portion of above	\$360,000
	Funding Type	Funds Requested	Funds Recommended
	CFT	portion of above	\$95,000
Awarded to Cottage Lake Creek Project	Parks Levy	portion of above	\$96,500
Existing CFT Project #1122060, Existing PL Project #1127071	Total	portion of above	\$191,500

<u>Note:</u> This funding request combined what has traditionally been two separate project areas. The Committee has recommended two separate funding awards to reflect those separate project areas.

This project has a broad scope that includes two focus areas within the overall Bear Creek watershed – Middle Bear Creek and Cottage Lake Creek. Overall, the proposed project seeks to preserve 12 to 17 acres of riparian corridor, wetlands, and forested upland habitat adjacent to Bear and Cottage Lake Creeks. The broader Bear Creek basin is considered one of three core areas for WRIA 8 chinook salmon populations, with several hundred chinook spawning annually in the basin (2/3 of these in Cottage Lake Creek). In addition to providing habitat to many bird and wildlife species, the Bear Creek basin supports freshwater mussels which are rare in King County.

In the scope specific to Middle Bear Creek, the project proposes to acquire 4 acres in two parcels (062510-0125 & -0136) that would extend public ownership in a reach which already has fairly extensive protection along the creek corridor from past acquisitions. These parcels contain hundreds of feet of Bear Creek and enable additional restoration and preservation. The Committee recommended \$360,000 of funding toward these parcels.

In the scope specific to Cottage Lake Creek, the project focuses on a set of parcels comprising 36 acres that are under one family's ownership. These contain 0.55 river miles of regionally significant chinook spawning habitat on Cottage Lake Creek. The County has sought to work with this family over the past decade, and the family seems ready to begin acquisition discussions with the County at this point in time. This will take multiple years of fundraising, and the Committee recommends \$191,500 toward initial acquisition and purchasing a parcel in this reach.

Within the Middle Bear Creek scope, there were several King County Roads mitigation sites declared surplus in this reach. The Committee did not recommend funding at this time. The Committee requests to receive information in the future about the broader scope of future surplus properties and timing of Roads properties to be declared surplus, the encumbrances these mitigation sites would have, how cost/value is determined, and whether it is an appropriate maintenance burden for Parks to be the long-term custodian of these types of properties.

Applying Jurisdiction – Location Project Name	Funding Type	Funds Requested	Funds Recommended
King County – WRIA 8	CFT	\$250,000	\$25,000
Molasses Creek	Parks Levy	\$250,000	\$25,000
New CFT Project #1133816, New PL Project #1133892	Total	\$500,000	\$50,000

This project proposes to acquire up to five acres of King County Roads properties along Molasses Creek, in unincorporated urban areas east of Renton. Councilmember Reagan Dunn sponsored Motion 14957 which recommended that the Committee give this project priority consideration during the project review process. The 2013 Soos Creek Regional Park Site Management Guidelines generally identified parcels in this area along Molasses Creek as having potential conservation value. Molasses Creek is used by coho and sockeye salmon and cutthroat trout (though use may be limited to the lower reaches downstream of the project site). Conserving wetlands and riparian habitat along the creek can support water quality and quantity in the downstream reaches as it flows to the Cedar River. The southern parcels in the scope are zoned R-6 which theoretically could support six homes per acre, though development would be expected to be constrained by critical areas, the permanently protected mitigation project footprint, and/or stormwater detention areas. The Committee recommended \$50,000 at this time, which could help preserve the northern target parcel 282305-9126 that is adjacent to Soos Creek Park and Trail. The Committee recognizes and supports King County Department of Natural Resources and Parks' (DNRP's) general intent to preserve open space in urban unincorporated areas. The Committee would consider another request for funding on this project next year. As noted above in discussion under Middle Bear Creek, the Committee would appreciate information about the broader scope, timing, and cost/value of Road surplus properties – in particular mitigation sites such as these – to better understand the strategy for management, what covenants to protect the mitigation footprint, and appropriate planning for maintenance.

Applying Jurisdiction – Location			
Project Name	Funding Type	Funds Requested	Funds Recommended
King County – WRIA 8 & 9	CFT	\$0	\$0
Urban Green Space Acquisition	Parks Levy	\$450,000	\$450,000
CFT Project #N/A, New PL Project #1133893	Total	\$450,000	\$450,000

King County DNRP has requested initial project funding to work with communities and acquire greenspaces in underserved areas in the West Hill, North Highline, and Federal Way potential annexation areas (located in both WRIAs 8 & 9). DNRP's goal is generally aligned with the open space equity goals of the Land Conservation Initiative and the Equity and Social Justice Strategic Plan. The recommended funding could allow for initial acquisition work and potentially the acquisition of one parcel. The specific site at which funding would be spent is not yet known, to be determined through additional research and community process. Under the Land Conservation Initiative open space equity work, the focus would likely be on areas not served by existing parks, which also experience low incomes and high rates of environmentally influenced health conditions. Small pockets of greenspace in these urbanizing areas can have important community benefits, as demonstrated to the Committee at the site visit to the Skyway Soul Patch community garden.

<u>Note:</u> The following King County-sponsored project is located in the City of Bothell, and therefore is listed in the "Projects Located in Cities" portion of the funding recommendation table at the end of this report.

Applying Jurisdiction – Location Project Name	Funding Type	Funds Requested	Funds Recommended
King County – WRIA 8	CFT	\$1,200,000	\$650,000
Wayne Golf Course – Back Nine – Phase II	Parks Levy	\$1,000,000	\$0
Existing CFT Project #1126725, Existing PL Project #N/A	Total	\$2,200,000	\$650,000

Wayne Golf Course is situated along the Sammamish River near SE Bothell Way (State Route 522), near the Burke-Gilman and Sammamish River Regional Trails. Wayne Golf Course consists of the Front Nine and the Back Nine golf courses, which were purchased by Forterra in 2016 when the site was threatened with development. This area has significant importance for its scenic open space value along the Sammamish River. There is riparian restoration potential along Waynita Creek and the Sammamish River (a WRIA 8 Tier 1 migratory corridor for several salmonid species). The site has important wildlife habitat and recreational opportunities within a rapidly developing urban area. There is a high degree of citizen interest from the community and OneBothell.

The 50-acre Front Nine was permanently protected in December 2017, when the City of Bothell purchased the underlying fee using city funds (46 acres of the Front Nine had been conserved under a CFT-funded conservation easement 20 years ago, though 4 acres were not encumbered with the easement). The ~37-acre Back Nine was partially protected in December 2017, when a Phase 1 purchase of ~31.4 acres occurred. King County used CFT and Parks Levy funding to pay most of the cost of the transaction in a conservation easement that removed the development rights. Bothell city funds purchased the underlying fee.

The Committee understands that this year's proposal is the final phase of fundraising and land acquisition at the Back Nine, to conserve the remaining five acres of land (parcel 182605-9025). There is \$2.6 million of RCO funding secured for Wayne Golf Course which the Committee understands will be applied to the Back Nine Phase 1 land. The RCO funds will reimburse \$2.6 million in CFT from the Phase 1 purchase. King County should be able to purchase an easement on the remaining five acres with the reimbursed \$2.6 million of CFT, \$284,139 CFT reallocated from the Front Nine, and the above recommended \$650,000 award. Match is provided by RCO and Parks Levy funds used in the Phase 1 purchase. As with Phase 1, Bothell will use city funds to purchase the underlying fee.

Applying Jurisdiction – Location			
Project Name	Funding Type	Funds Requested	Funds Recommended
King County – WRIA 9	CFT	\$0	\$0
Black Diamond Open Space Addition	Parks Levy	\$1,100,000	\$1,100,000
CFT Project #N/A, New PL Project #1132224	Total	\$1,100,000	\$1,100,000

King County is working to acquire 92 acres in four parcels of land adjacent to Black Diamond Open Space, on the northern edge of the City of Black Diamond. This property is owned by a church that has worked in partnership with local mountain bikers to develop a dense network of bicycle trails on site. These trails connect to trails at Black Diamond Open Space, which have grown in popularity over the last decade since the land entered public ownership. Demand will continue to increase as Black Diamond is currently adding 6,000 new homes, and commercial development that will be

located just across SR 169 from the target parcels. King County recently opened two parking lots off of SR 169 and has engaged in a trail development project and a site planning process over the past few years. There may be an equestrian trail corridor designated through the target parcels that would lead east to Ravensdale Ridge. The parcels proposed for acquisition contain second-growth forest which has recently undergone forest stewardship work by the church. The funding recommendation is entirely Parks Levy funds, as the intensity of mountain bike trails and usage these four parcels would exceed acceptable passive recreational use levels under CFT. This recommended award adds to \$200,000 in FY 2018 Parks Levy awarded last year.

Applying Jurisdiction – Location			
Project Name	Funding Type	Funds Requested	Funds Recommended
King County – WRIA 9	CFT	\$750,000	\$200,000
Keevie Lake Natural Area	Parks Levy	\$750,000	\$1,000,000
Existing CFT Project #1132092, Existing PL Project #1132225	Total	\$1,500,000	\$1,200,000

This request is part of a multi-year project to protect approximately 170 acres at Keevie Lake (with a broader scope that includes adjacent forested lands). Keevie Lake is located west of Black Diamond in the headwaters of Crisp Creek, where the Muckleshoot Indian Tribe has its Keta Creek Hatchery downstream. The lake offers habitat for a diversity of bird species, and is located within several hundred acres of forest which offer wildlife habitat for large and small mammals and other species. Scenic Keevie Lake is relatively undeveloped which is rare in the county, and this is a unique opportunity to preserve this lake in its entirety. Immediately north of the target parcels the headwaters of Crisp Creek and associated wetlands are already preserved in more than 200 acres of land held as sensitive area tracts in Homeowner Association ownership. The Green River Coalition is a partner in advocating for protection, and for potential future stewardship of the site. This land is located very close to where 6,000 new homes are being built in Black Diamond. King County Parks would manage the site as a natural area with appropriately sited backcountry trails. The recommended award for FY 2019 funding adds to the \$1,000,000 FY 2018 funding previously awarded. The Committee anticipates additional applications as the County works on the next phases of its purchase.

Applying Jurisdiction – Location Project Name	Funding Type	Funds Requested	Funds Recommended
King County – WRIA 9	CFT	\$645,000	\$250,000
Lower Newaukum Creek	Parks Levy	\$645,000	\$250,000
Existing CFT Project #1126743, Existing PL Project #1127075	Total	\$1,290,000	\$500,000

The Lower Newaukum Creek project seeks to protect riparian and adjacent upland habitat in the lower Newaukum Creek basin, one of the two most significant chinook and steelhead spawning habitat areas in the Green River Watershed. The Newaukum ravine is one of the largest in western Washington, four miles long and 2/3 mile wide at its widest point. The ravine's slopes primarily support mature forest on both sides of the creek, and this area is part of a corridor for wildlife movement linking to thousands of acres of protected state and county lands along the Green River. Newaukum Creek is on the Clean Water Act Section 303(d) list and has a Total Maximum Daily Load (TMDL) Improvement Plan for water quality. Preserving forest cover potentially helps improve water quality. Each year, there are a range of parcels identified in the scope of the project. This year, the scope focused on three parcels at the southern end of the ravine (two of which are part of a larger landholding in one family ownership), one parcel located about 1.5 miles north, and two parcels located along the Green River near Whitney Bridge Park. During the Committee review process, King County received approval for a scope addition adding two parcels to the existing scope (parcel

732770-0050 on the Green River, and parcel 112107-9011 in the Kanaskat area which was already in the Middle Green River Restoration project scope). There was also a scope clarification that the project is prioritizing parcel 282106-9004 which was formerly scoped as a secondary parcel.

Applying Jurisdiction – Location Project Name	Funding Type	Funds Requested	Funds Recommended
King County – WRIA 9	CFT	\$553,000	\$250,000
Lower Soos Creek	Parks Levy	\$553,000	\$250,000
Existing CFT Project #1129256, Existing PL Project #1114770	Total	\$1,106,000	\$500,000

This project focuses on protecting land in the lower reaches of Soos Creek and its tributaries. The lower three miles of Soos Creek are core spawning and rearing areas for Green River fall chinook salmon and steelhead, and are an important corridor for other fish and wildlife species. The character of the creek varies through this reach, at some points meandering with off-channel wetlands and at other points located in more of a forested ravine. This area is impacted by noise from adjacent Pacific Raceways. Soos Creek is on the Clean Water Act Section 303(d) list. The state, in partnership with local jurisdictions, are developing Total Maximum Daily Load (TMDL) projects to assess Soos Creek conditions, with a longer term plan to develop a water quality improvement plan. Preserving forest cover potentially helps improve water quality. Development is scattered along these reaches of Soos Creek, with homes on both sides of the creek (requiring bridges to cross the creek at various points). Acquisition helps prevent construction of new homes and access routes, and allows for removal of existing structures and site restoration. The recommended funding should allow acquisition of one or two parcels.

Applying Jurisdiction – Location			
Project Name	Funding Type	Funds Requested	Funds Recommended
King County – WRIA 9	CFT	\$250,000	\$250,000
Middle Green River Open Space Expansions	Parks Levy	\$250,000	\$250,000
New CFT Project #1133817, New PL Project #1133894	Total	\$500,000	\$500,000

The County is exploring forest land protection in several areas of southeast King County, primarily southeast of Black Diamond, working with an owner of significant landholdings in the area. This is an initial funding request to help develop the proposal, which could lead to a longer-term project that helps to preserve thousands of acres of forest. These properties are part of the working forest landscape in this area, however the lands could be sold for residential uses in the future, resulting in a loss of working forest land base and habitat fragmentation. The County is still developing a strategy to protect these lands as working forest over the long term, which may include easement or fee acquisition, and may include partners such as Washington State agencies or private partners. Depending on the acquisition strategy that is developed, these lands could offer trail opportunities. Many of these properties connect to publicly owned lands under Washington State or King County ownership. Across the landscape, these areas offer scenic benefits, provide habitat to many kinds of wildlife, and provide water quality and water quantity benefits within their watersheds. There may be potential to enroll these lands in a carbon credit program that is under development by the County, and to transfer development rights off of the properties.

Applying Jurisdiction – Location			
Project Name	Funding Type	Funds Requested	Funds Recommended
King County – WRIA 9	CFT	\$440,000	\$225,000
Middle Newaukum Creek & Wetland	Parks Levy	\$440,000	\$225,000
Preservation			
Existing CFT Project #1126744, Existing PL Project #1121445	Total	\$880,000	\$450,000

This project is an ongoing multiple-parcel riparian habitat acquisition project that will provide additions to the Big Spring/Newaukum Creek Natural Area. The goal is to protect salmon habitat and water quality on Newaukum Creek, and to maintain cold water flow conditions from Big Spring Creek into Newaukum Creek (as described above, Newaukum Creek has a TMDL Improvement Plan for water quality). The targeted parcels contain important salmonid, bird and wildlife habitat, and are part of a much larger wetland system that used to extend across the plateau. Many of the targeted parcels have been farmed or used for livestock but are historically wetlands and are seasonally inundated. The applicant works with the County agriculture program to refine the approach to acquisition in Agricultural Production District. These lands are also very close to the edge of Enumclaw and acquisitions can help define the urban boundary between the city and the rural area. The recommended award will provide funding a few parcels in several stretches of Newaukum and Big Spring Creek, to allow for restoration, and possibly to remove structures built in or near wetlands.

Applying Jurisdiction – Location Project Name	Funding Type	Funds Requested	Funds Recommended
King County – Vashon	CFT	\$500,000	\$500,000
Frog Holler Forest	Parks Levy	\$500,000	\$500,000
Existing CFT Project #1132091, Existing PL Project #1129476	Total	\$1,000,000	\$1,000,000

The County has recently started a multi-year project with a goal to conserve more than 500 acres of upland forest on the south end of Vashon Island, creating a community forest with passive recreational opportunities. The County opened Frog Holler Forest after making a first acquisition in 2016, and the site has been embraced by the community. Additional funding was awarded in 2018, and acquisition of an additional ~12 acres is nearly complete. This year's application targets a 39-acre parcel 242202-9016 (with 5-acre parcel 242202-9052 also in the scope). These acquisitions extend Frog Holler Forest to the north, with an eventual vision to connect via fee and easement acquisitions to Fisher Creek Forest and Misty Isle Farm. The broader vision also includes conservation of additional large forested landholdings with trail opportunities to the south of Frog Holler Forest. This site contains mature Douglas-fir and Pacific Madrone forests, offering significant wildlife habitat opportunity as part of the hundreds of forested acres in this part of Vashon Island. These forested uplands help support the water quality and quantity of tributary streams draining to Puget Sound. These acquisitions would preserve local-use trails in permanent public ownership, and expand the new community forest.

Applying Jurisdiction – Location Project Name	Funding Type	Funds Requested	Funds Recommended
King County – Vashon	CFT	\$250,000	\$0
Misty Isle Farm	Parks Levy	\$250,000	\$200,000
New CFT Project #1133818, New PL Project #1133895	Total	\$500,000	\$200,000

King County is exploring acquisition opportunities on up to 280 acres of Misty Isle Farm, which is located on south-central Vashon Island. The County is focusing on the portion of the estate west of Old Mill Road SW, where 181 acres are already enrolled in the Farmland Preservation Program (FPP), and where the annual Vashon Sheepdog Classic is held. The property contains pasture, streams, wetlands, and various types of forest habitat – including nearly 100 acres of forest along Fisher Creek. This forest is an important wildlife corridor and the creek supports cutthroat trout, coho and chum salmon downstream of a man-made pond on the property. There is an equestrian trail network through the land that links to nearby Paradise Ridge Equestrian Park. Misty Isle Farm trails are part of the long-term vision to connect trails from Frog Holler Forest to the south, to Judd Creek and Island Center Forest to the north. The large land holding is unusual in size, and it provides scenic value to the surrounding area, as well as containing many scenic views of Mount Rainier. King County is working on partnerships to help conserve this land, working with the Vashon-Maury Island Land Trust and other local groups, and considering how keep the FPP-enrolled lands in farm production. The Committee recommends a start-up funding award, recognizing that these initial discussions could lead to larger funding requests in the near future.

Applying Jurisdiction – Location			
Project Name	Funding Type	Funds Requested	Funds Recommended
King County – Vashon	CFT	\$200,000	\$400,000
Piner Point	Parks Levy	\$200,000	\$0
Existing CFT Project #1129267, Existing PL Project #1121452	Total	\$400,000	\$400,000

This project is a multiple-year effort to purchase properties on Piner Point on the south end of Maury Island. Piner Point is a bluff-backed shoreline where sand and gravel from the hillside naturally erode to the beach, feeding an intertidal shoreline sediment drift cell that flows to the north with the Puget Sound currents. The properties contain a madrone-dominated forest that is unusual in Puget Sound lowlands. King County has been acquiring properties at Piner Point for several years to remove shoreline armoring and to restore the natural beach functions. This area contains spawning areas for three species of forage fish (pacific herring, surf smelt, and sand lance), eelgrass beds, and other nearshore features important for juvenile salmonid habitat. These features help support the food chain for many types of terrestrial and marine wildlife and birds. This is a regionally important project for its preservation of Puget Sound and Mount Rainier. The current proposal seeks funds to continue to acquire small inholding parcels between Piner Point and Northilla Natural Areas – targeting 1.75 acres across five parcels. The applicant has been successful in securing significant state RCO funding for this project. The recommended award is entirely Conservation Futures funding, as RCO funds serve as match.

Applying Jurisdiction – Location			
Project Name	Funding Type	Funds Requested	Funds Recommended
King County – <i>Farmland/TDR</i>	CFT	\$1,500,000	\$500,000
Enumclaw and Green River Valley	Parks Levy	\$0	\$0
Farmland	T arks Levy	ψΟ	ΦΟ
Existing CFT Project #1129269, PL Project #N/A	Total	\$1,500,000	\$500,000

The goal of this project is to preserve prime agricultural lands within the Enumclaw Plateau and Green River Valley Agricultural Production Districts (APDs), and in nearby rural areas important to the farming economy. The continued loss of farms reduces the availability of valuable agricultural soils, and lessens the number farms which can support and maintain the economic basis for healthy agricultural production. This project helps King County to both protect viable farmland and support the broader agricultural economy.

The matching funds for the project are Transfer of Development Rights (TDR) funds. A TDR interlocal agreement with Seattle preferentially favors agriculture-based TDRs as a way to help support farmers markets in the city, and has led to the sale of several million dollars' worth of TDRs into the city. The revenue from the TDR sales is then revolved to purchase additional TDRs from farm properties. The recommended CFT award provides partial funding at an amount lower than the TDR money which is available as match. The Committee recognizes that the amount of CFT awarded is not a limiting factor to succeeding in purchases this coming year, as the easements can be purchased with TDR funding and be reimbursed with CFT in future awards.

The current project scope includes 14 farms totaling 735 acres. The full funding request would have funded five to seven transactions, on which the County would acquire conservation easements and transfer development rights on a few of the farms in the full scope. Many of these lands are farms which grow food or flowers, or which support the local dairy industry through hay production, livestock grazing, or other dairy infrastructure.

Applying Jurisdiction – Location			
Project Name	Funding Type	Funds Requested	Funds Recommended
King County – <i>Farmland/TDR</i>	CFT	\$235,000	\$235,000
Lower Green River Valley Farmland –	Dorles I any	\$0	\$0
Sanders Estate	Parks Levy	\$ 0	φU
Existing CFT Project #1129272, PL Project #N/A	Total	\$235,000	\$235,000

This project seeks to acquire a conservation easement and transfer development rights to permanently protect one farm and its forested wetlands in the Lower Green River APD. The Sanders Estate is a 23-acre parcel (352204-9019) located on S. 277th Street. The parcel mostly is located within the Lower Green River APD, with a portion located in unincorporated urban King County just east of Kent. The Sanders Estate is a wedding venue, where the landowners seek to return 5 to 6 acres of the property to agricultural use, as a potential source for flowers and produce used for wedding activities. The easement would cover up to 20 acres of the property, encompassing some of the wetlands on site. Acquiring this easement may allow for a slight expansion of the APD to match the boundary of the easement footprint.

Applying Jurisdiction – Location Project Name	Funding Type	Funds Requested	Funds Recommended
King County – Farmland/TDR	CFT	\$1,000,000	\$500,000
Snoqualmie Valley Farmland	Parks Levy	\$57,500	\$57,500
New CFT Project #1133819, New PL Project #1133896	Total	\$1,057,500	\$557,500

Similar to the focus of the Enumclaw & Green River Valley Farmland project listed above, the goal of this project is to preserve prime agricultural lands within the Snoqualmie Valley APD and in nearby rural areas important to the farming economy. The continued loss of farms reduces the availability of valuable agricultural soils, and lessens the number farms which can support and maintain the economic basis for healthy agricultural production. This project helps King County to both protect viable farmland and support the broader agricultural economy.

The matching funds for the project are Transfer of Development Rights funds. A TDR interlocal agreement with Seattle preferentially favors agriculture-based TDRs as a way to help support farmers markets in the city, and has led to the sale of several million dollars' worth of TDRs into the city. The revenue from the TDR sales is then revolved to purchase additional TDRs from farm properties. The recommended CFT award provides partial funding at an amount lower than the TDR money which is available as match. The Committee recognizes that the amount of CFT awarded is not a limiting factor to succeeding in purchases this coming year, as the easements can be purchased with TDR funding and be reimbursed with CFT in future awards.

The current project scope includes 14 farms totaling 950 acres. The full funding request would have funded five to seven transactions, on which the County would acquire conservation easements and transfer development rights on a few of the farms in the full scope. Many of these lands are farms which grow food or flowers, or which support the local dairy industry through hay production, livestock grazing, or other dairy infrastructure. A small amount of Parks Levy funding will contribute to a trail easement in the Fall City area which will help connect Fall City Park to the Snoqualmie Valley Trail.

Applying Jurisdiction – Location			
Project Name	Funding Type	Funds Requested	Funds Recommended
King County – <i>Farmland/TDR</i>	CFT	\$500,000	\$300,000
Vashon/Maury Island Farmland	Parks Levy	\$0	\$0
New CFT Project #1133820, PL Project #N/A	Total	\$500,000	\$300,000

Similar to the focus of the other farmland projects listed above, this project seeks to preserve agricultural lands on Vashon and Maury Islands where there are clusters of agricultural land uses and which are important to the farming economy. The continued loss of farms reduces the availability of valuable agricultural soils, and lessens the number farms which can support and maintain the economic basis for healthy agricultural production. This project helps King County to both protect viable farmland and support the broader agricultural economy. Farmlands in the rural area may be more vulnerable to conversion to other land uses than farms protected with agricultural zoning in the APDs.

The matching funds for the project are Transfer of Development Rights funds. A TDR agreement with Seattle strongly favors agriculture-based TDRs as a way to help support farmers markets in the city, and has led to the sale of several million dollars' worth of TDRs into the city. The revenue from the TDR sales is then revolved to purchase additional TDRs from farm properties. The recommended CFT award provides partial funding at an amount lower than the TDR money which is available as match.

The Committee recognizes that the amount of CFT awarded is not a limiting factor to succeeding in purchases this coming year, as the easements can be purchased with TDR funding and be reimbursed with CFT in future awards.

The project scope includes ten farms totaling 104 acres on Vashon and Maury Islands where there are clusters of agricultural land uses. The requested funding would allow the project to complete one or two transactions, on which the County would acquire conservation easements and transfer development rights on a portion of the farms in the full scope.

King County Conservation Futures Citizen Oversight Committee Summary of FY 2019 CFT & King County Parks Levy Funding Recommendations

Projects Located In Cities

Location	Project Name	CFT	CFT	PL	PL	Total	Total	Acres in	CD
	.	Requested	Recommended	Requested	Recommended	Requested	Recommended	Scope*	
Des Moines	Van Gasken Property Waterfront Open Space	\$646,000	\$594,000	\$0	\$0	\$646,000	\$594,000	0.67	5
Federal Way	East Hylebos Watershed Conservation	\$1,000,000	\$500,000	\$0	\$0	\$1,000,000	\$500,000	54	7
Issaquah	Issaquah Creek Waterways	\$750,000	\$500,000	\$0	\$0	\$750,000	\$500,000	2.07	3
Kenmore	Swamp Creek	\$850,000	\$850,000	\$0	\$0	\$850,000	\$850,000	5.78	1
Kent	Upper Mill Creek Canyon	\$445,000	\$445,000	\$0	\$0	\$445,000	\$445,000	3	5
King County (in Bellevue)	Eastside Rail Corridor NE 8th Street Crossing Project	\$250,000	\$0	\$250,000	\$500,000	\$500,000	\$500,000	0.12	6
King County (in Bothell)	Wayne Golf Course - Back Nine - Phase II	\$1,200,000	\$650,000	\$1,000,000	\$0	\$2,200,000	\$650,000	5	1
Seattle	Aurora-Licton Springs Urban Village Park	\$500,000	\$500,000	\$0	\$0	\$500,000	\$500,000	0.29	4
Seattle	Cheasty Greenspace Addition	\$125,000	\$125,000	\$0	\$0	\$125,000	\$125,000	0.24	2
Seattle	College Street Ravine Addition	\$300,000	\$300,000	\$0	\$0	\$300,000	\$300,000	0.28	8
Seattle	Duwamish Waterway Park	\$550,000	\$550,000	\$0	\$0	\$550,000	\$550,000	1.26	8
Seattle	Madrona Ravine Addition	\$450,000	\$450,000	\$0	\$0	\$450,000	\$450,000	0.27	2
Seattle	Orchard Street Ravine Addition	\$125,000	\$125,000	\$0	\$0	\$125,000	\$125,000	0.13	8
Snoqualmie	Snoqualmie Riverfront Reach	\$765,500	\$525,000	\$0	\$0	\$765,500	\$525,000	1	3
Tukwila	Duwamish River Habitat Corridor	\$335,000	\$335,000	\$0	\$0	\$335,000	\$335,000	0.93	8
15 projects	Subtotal - Projects in Cities	\$8,291,500	\$6,449,000	\$1,250,000	\$500,000	\$9,541,500	\$6,949,000	75	

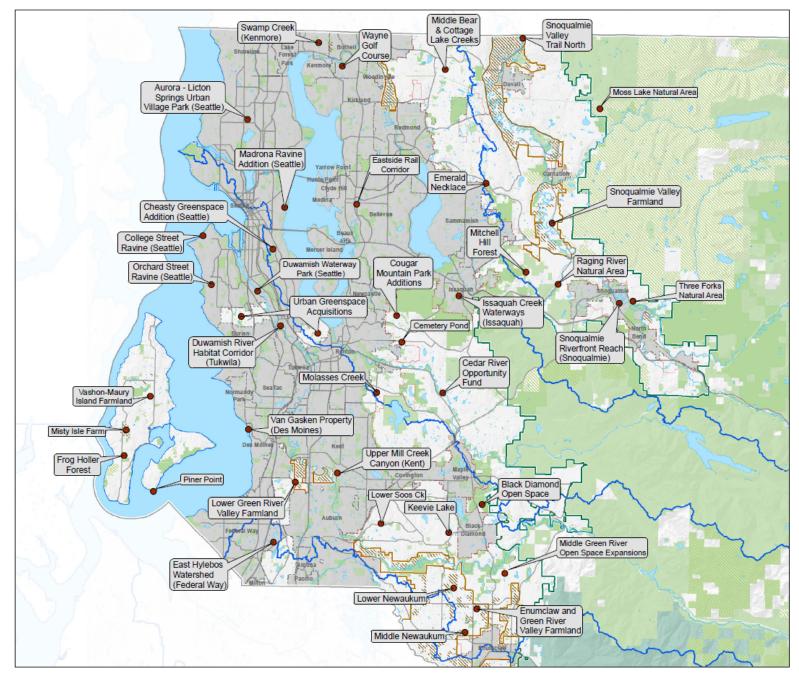
*Acres listed above are the total acres eligible for acquisition within the project scope. Many projects, particularly King County projects, are multiple-parcel/multiple-year efforts. Not all of the acreage will be purchased in one year, but partial progress can be made. Partial funding awards typically result in fewer acres acquired than listed above. Please see the Committee's report for project-specific discussions and details.

Table continues on next page

Projects Located in Unincorporated King County

Location	Project Name	CFT	CFT	PL	PL	Total	Total	Acres in	CD
Location	•	Requested	Recommended	Requested	Recommended	Requested	Recommended	Scope*	CD
	Emerald Necklace Trail Corridor	\$0	\$0	\$50,000	\$50,000	\$50,000	\$50,000	TBD	3
	Mitchell Hill Forest Additions	\$950,000	\$275,000	\$950,000	\$275,000	\$1,900,000	\$550,000	67	3
Snoqualmie	Moss Lake Natural Area Additions	\$350,000	\$50,000	\$350,000	\$50,000	\$100,000	\$700,000	630	3
WRIA 7	Raging River Natural Area	\$1,000,000	\$0	\$1,000,000	\$0	\$2,000,000	\$0	56	3
	Snoqualmie Valley Trail North	\$187,500	\$106,000	\$187,500	\$269,000	\$375,000	\$375,000	4.1	3
	Three Forks Natural Area Addition	\$60,000	\$60,000	\$60,000	\$60,000	\$120,000	\$120,000	4.7	3
	Cedar River Additions	\$750,000	\$500,000	\$750,000	\$500,000	\$1,500,000	\$1,000,000	10	9
	Cemetery Pond Open Space Addns	\$0	\$0	\$300,000	\$300,000	\$300,000	\$300,000	5	9
	Cougar Mountain Park Additions	\$1,050,000	\$1,050,000	\$1,050,000	\$1,050,000	\$2,100,000	\$2,100,000	108	9
Cedar/Lake Washington	Middle Bear (part of Middle Bear/Cottage Lake Creek appl.)	\$630,000	\$180,000	\$630,000	\$180,000	\$1,260,000	\$360,000	7	3
WRIA 8	Cottage Lake Creek (part of Middle Bear/Cottage Lake Creek appl.)	N/A	\$95,000	N/A	\$96,500	N/A	\$191,500	10	3
	Molasses Creek	\$250,000	\$25,000	\$250,000	\$25,000	\$500,000	\$50,000	9	9
	Urban Green Space Acquisition	\$0	\$0	\$450,000	\$450,000	\$450,000	\$450,000	1	2/8
	Black Diamond Open Space Addn	\$0	\$0	\$1,100,000	\$1,100,000	\$1,100,000	\$1,100,000	92	9
	Keevie Lake Natural Area	\$750,000	\$200,000	\$750,000	\$1,000,000	\$1,500,000	\$1,200,000	93	7
Green	Lower Newaukum Creek	\$645,000	\$250,000	\$645,000	\$250,000	\$1,290,000	\$500,000	97	9
WRIA 9	Lower Soos Creek	\$553,000	\$250,000	\$553,000	\$250,000	\$1,106,000	\$500,000	23	7
	Middle Green River Open Space Exp.	\$250,000	\$250,000	\$250,000	\$250,000	\$500,000	\$500,000	116	9
	Middle Newaukum Creek/Wetlands	\$440,000	\$225,000	\$440,000	\$225,000	\$880,000	\$450,000	21	9
Value	Frog Holler Forest	\$500,000	\$500,000	\$500,000	\$500,000	\$1,000,000	\$1,000,000	44	8
Vashon/	Misty Isle Farms	\$250,000	\$0	\$250,000	\$200,000	\$500,000	\$200,000	280	8
Maury	Piner Point Natural Area	\$200,000	\$400,000	\$200,000	\$0	\$400,000	\$400,000	1.75	8
	Enumclaw/Green River Valley Farms	\$1,500,000	\$500,000	\$0	\$0	\$1,500,000	\$500,000	735	7
Farmland/ TDR	Lower Green River Valley Farmland - Sander's Estate	\$235,000	\$235,000	\$0	\$0	\$235,000	\$235,000	20	5
IDK	Snoqualmie Valley Farmland	\$1,000,000	\$500,000	\$57,500	\$57,500	\$1,057,500	\$557,500	950	3
	Vashon/Maury Island Farmland	\$500,000	\$300,000	\$0	\$0	\$500,000	\$300,000	104	8
25 Projects	Subtotal – Projects in King County	\$12,050,500	\$5,951,000	\$10,773,000	\$7,138,000	\$22,823,500	\$13,089,000	3488	

		CFT Requested	CFT Recommended	PL Requested	PL Recommended	Total Requested	Total Recommended	Acres
40 Projects Total	TOTALS - ALL PROJECTS	\$20,342,000	\$12,400,000	\$12,023,000	\$7,638,000	\$32,365,000	\$20,038,000	3563

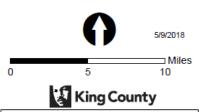


2018 APPLICATION ROUND

REQUESTS FOR 2019 CFT/PARKS LEVY FUNDS

LEGEND





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