



516 Third Avenue • Room 1200 • Seattle, WA 98104
 206.296.1020 • info@kingcountyfloodcontrol.org
 www.kingcountyfloodcontrol.org

Staff Report

October 14, 2020	FCD20-07 A MOTION declaring the District's commitment to integrated floodplain management and multibenefit projects...	<u>Materials</u> 1. FCD20-07
------------------	--	---------------------------------

Proposed FCD Motion FCD20-07: A MOTION declaring the King County Flood Control District's commitment to integrated floodplain management and multibenefit projects and to the principles of environmental stewardship, equity and social justice and environmental justice; and redefining how the District plans capital projects and reimagining how the District designs projects.

Proposed Motion FCD20-07 does three things: (1) declares the District's commitment to integrated floodplain management and multibenefit projects; (2) declares the District's commitment to the principles of environmental stewardship, equity and social justice, and environmental justice; and (3) redefines how the District plans capital projects and reimagines how the District designs projects.

The concept of integrated floodplain management acknowledges that flood risk reduction projects can and should include elements that protect, and where practicable, enhance aquatic and riparian habitat. The goal of integrated floodplain management is to improve the resiliency of floodplains in order to protect local communities and the health of the environment.

District projects will align with county adopted policies (e.g., the King County Flood Hazard Management Plan, the Equity and Social Justice Strategic Action Plan, the King County Comprehensive Plan, the King County Strategic Climate Action Plan) as well as align with regional environmental stewardship plans (e.g. the King County Land Conservation Initiative, salmon recovery plans, and the King County Clean Water Healthy Habitat Plan) when practicable. The District will prioritize multibenefit floodplain management projects that will reduce flood risk, ensure public safety and restore river ecosystems while also advancing the inter-related community interest including:

- Equity and Social Justice;
- Environmental Justice;
- Habitat protection and salmon recovery;
- Resilient communities and ecosystems;
- Productive and viable agriculture;
- Sustainable development;
- Jobs and sustainable livelihoods;
- Open Space conservation;
- Sustainable and clean water; and
- Recreation and other opportunities to connect people with nature.

New Policies and Plans

The motion directs the District to adopt two new policies:

- **Acquisition Policy:** If adopted, the District will update its acquisition policy to accommodate an integrated floodplain management approach while also addressing equity and social justice issues and environmental justice concerns. The District will convene a workgroup consisting of interested stakeholders to help develop proposals for the new acquisition policy. The policy shall be developed by December 31, 2021.
- **Equity and Social Justice Policy:** The District will develop an equity and social justice policy that recognizes an integrated floodplain management approach while also addressing equity and social justice issues and environmental justice concerns. The policy shall be developed by December 31, 2021.

The motion directs the District to develop a process to reprioritize and reevaluate its Capital Investment Strategies to prioritize multibenefit projects, encourage an integrated floodplain management approach, and focus on equity and social justice and environmental justice. The reevaluation of existing Capital Investment Strategies will begin with the Cedar River Capital Investment Strategy and the recently initiated Sammamish River Capital Investment Strategy.

Additionally, the District will convene a committee of governments and stakeholders to advise the District as it develops the Lower Green River Corridor Flood Hazard Management Plan and Programmatic Environmental Impact Statement that incorporates multiple benefits and community values.

Attachment: FCD20-07