



WASHINGTON STATE
DEPARTMENT OF
E C O L O G Y

Application for a 2015-2017 Floodplains by Design Project Grant

Submitted applications will be rated to create a ranked list in support of Ecology's FY 2015-2017 Floodplains by DesignS budget request.

Applications must be submitted electronically via email to Ecology by 5:00 pm, **September 8, 2014**. Send applications to:

Adam Sant at Adam.Sant@ecy.wa.gov

With the Subject line: 2015-2017 Floodplains by Design Project Grant Application

You will receive confirmation that your application has been received by close of business on September 15.

Applicants must use this form as provided. No alterations will be accepted.

Project Title: Cedar River Corridor Plan Early Implementation

Organization/Jurisdiction Name: King County Water and Land Resources Division

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Legislative District(s): 5, 11

County: King

WRIA(s): 8

Congressional District: 8

Specific Project Location

STR(s): 23 05 24, 22 06 04, 22 06 09

River Miles: 6.5-8 and 13-15

Lat/Long: 47°,25'N 122°2'W, 47°27'N, 122°6'W GPS coordinates, if available: Multiple

Major Watershed Project is in: Cedar-Sammamish

***Full project (or phase proposed herein) should be completed in 3-4 years.
Project Narrative and Budget are limited to 20 pages.***

Scope of Work, Schedule, Maps and Photos can be in addition to those 20 pages.

1. Short Description of Project (500 words or less)

Please describe the overall goals for this floodplain area that is the focus of your proposal. Include in the description all major components of the project or activity such as breaching a levee, constructing a new levee, restoring a specific number of acres of floodplain, wetland creation or fill, restoration planting, project design planning, public process, or any other appropriate major component. Please indicate if funding is being requested for a phase of a larger multi-year project.

The King County Flood Control District is developing a Corridor Plan for the lower Cedar River, founded on the principle of developing reach-scale projects that address multiple benefits and restore natural riverine processes. This proposal would fund phases of two high priority multi-objective projects on the Cedar River, leveraging information developed for the Corridor Plan. The projects in this proposal advance the goals of existing floodplain management plans including the King County Flood Hazard Management Plan (FHMP), the WRIA 8 Chinook Salmon Conservation Plan, the City of Seattle's Cedar River Watershed Habitat Conservation Plan, and the Lower Cedar River Basin Plan.

The goals of this proposal are to:

1. Relocate vulnerable Cedar River residents from areas with high flood, channel migration and landslide risk;
2. Decrease flood risks to Cedar River residents by creating a wider channel migration zone that will increase local flood storage capacity and decrease local and downstream erosive forces;
3. Provide salmon habitat benefits such as gravel sorting, wood and sediment recruitment, slow water areas, and off channel habitats; and
4. Improve public education opportunities regarding modern floodplain management.

The King County Flood Control District and Seattle Public Utilities will accomplish these goals through:

1. Property Acquisition

We will acquire up to 15 high risk properties and demolish all structures. Target acquisition areas include the Royal Arch and Mouth of Taylor Reaches and behind the Herzman levee in the Riverbend Reach (Figs 1-3).

2. Project Design

We will develop a collaborative design package for two Riverbend Reach (Fig 3) setback projects to include final design for full or partial setback of the Riverbend revetments and conceptual design for setback of the Herzman levee. These projects will restore natural floodplain processes and improve public safety in the Riverbend Reach.

3. Site Preparation

We will acquire permits for the Riverbend setback and initiate site preparation activities such as weed control and utility decommissioning.

4. Corridor Planning

The Cedar River Corridor plan will provide an action agenda for improving flood safety, ecological values, and recreation planning on the river.

Allocating funding to this proposal will leverage substantial acquisition investments to date in the Mouth of Taylor Reach and Royal Arch Reaches (Fig 2). Recent acquisition of the 18.6 acre Riverbend Mobile

Home Park property by the King County Flood Control District opens the door to developing a reach-scale floodplain project that will reconnect 25 recently restored acres of floodplain at the Cedar Rapids site upstream to 55 acres of floodplain in the project area (Fig 3). The design package for the Riverbend Reach projects is anticipated to include the removal of up to 4,000 linear feet of levee fill and create up to 3,100 feet of new setback revetment facilities to protect major regional infrastructure such as SR 169, the Cedar River Trail, and a regional communications line.

Future phases of work beyond what is funded in this grant will include design and construction of floodplain reconnection at the Mouth of Taylor and Royal Arch Reaches (Table 1).

2. Flood hazard / risk reduction (60 points)

Describe your project and how it will reduce the magnitude or frequency of flood damages to people, structures or infrastructure. Projects will be evaluated on the significance of the flood hazard and the ability of the solution to address the hazard. Evidence of flood hazard reduction can be demonstrated via flood storage added (acre-feet), flood stage reduction [reduced BFE (base flood elevation)], conveyance increased (cubic ft/sec), sediment storage added or inputs reduced, number or value of structures and/or development rights removed from hazard area (# or areal extent), critical facilities removed from high hazard area, transportation and infrastructure facilities removed from high hazard areas, and other project-specific goals. Describe both upstream and downstream effects of your project.

Answer question 2 here:

This multi-objective proposal builds on King County's strategy to reduce flooding and channel migration risks, while recognizing flooding as a natural process. Due to substantial investments in acquisitions to date in the Mouth of Taylor, Royal Arch, and Riverbend Project Reaches, King County and the Seattle Public Utilities are now in a position to develop and advance alternatives and long term plans for these areas.

In the highly armored Riverbend Project Reach, fast flood flows put critical infrastructure at risk on the left bank, including SR 169, the Cedar River Trail, and a regional fiber optic communications line (Figure 3). Revetments in this reach include the Cedar Trail Left Bank and Riverbend revetments that protect the recently purchased Riverbend Mobile Home Park. The mobile home park is in the severe channel migration zone and subject to past erosion (Fig 4). A downstream extension of the Riverbend Upper revetment was originally built to protect a gravel mining operation no longer in existence, yet the structure continues to confine flows through this reach. The Brassfield revetment river right protects a residential neighborhood, however this neighborhood is in both the severe channel migration zone and the 100-year flood zone. These revetments work together to force fast flood flows downstream, putting pressure on the Herzman levee and the Cedar Trail 2 revetment protecting SR 169. The reach has seen multiple levee and revetment repairs in the last two decades.

The general approach to reducing flood damages in this area is to open up the floodplain by removing as much of the left bank revetment and levee infrastructure as possible, which will reduce flood elevations and velocities in the reach. We will then construct setback levees to protect SR 169, the fiber optic line, the Cedar River Trail, and remaining homes on the left bank, in combination with a setback of the Herzman levee on the right bank, while retaining the Brassfield revetment. Approximately \$4.6 million of assessed home value is located in the severe channel migration zone on the right bank. The remaining homes would benefit from lower flood elevations and velocities achieved through the extensive levee setbacks in the reach.

This proposal also requests funding for up to 15 home acquisitions (Figure 2), targeting seven homes in the Royal Arch Reach, six homes in the Mouth of Taylor Reach and up to two behind the Herzman levee located in the floodplain, floodway and channel migration zone of the Cedar River. The Herzman acquisition targets are pending design analysis as multiple setback alignments are possible with varying needs for acquisition. These acquisitions are estimated to cost \$6,200,000, which includes relocation of residents and demolition of structures. Other high priority flood buyouts currently targeted along the Cedar River will be pursued if market conditions and seller willingness is an obstacle to acquiring these specific properties. Flooding in these areas can be deep and fast flowing (Fig 6). Following acquisition of properties in this area, design will commence on multi-benefit floodplain re-connection opportunities. Please see project timeline in Table 1 below.

Table 1 - Overview Schedule for Grant Tasks and Related Activities

| Actions | 2014 | 2015 | 2016 | 2017 | 2018 | 2019 | 2020 |
|--|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|
| Cedar River Corridor Plan | | | | | | | |
| Riverbend Preliminary Design | | | | | | | |
| Floodplains by Design Grant Award | | ★ | | | | | |
| Property Acquisition and Demolition | | | | | | | |
| Site prep- Noxious weed control | | | | | | | |
| Data collection and technical studies | | | | | | | |
| Baseline monitoring | | | | | | | |
| Riverbend Final Design | | | | | | | |
| Permitting | | | | | | | |
| Floodplains by Design Grant Closed | | | | | | ★ | |
| Riverbend Construction | | | | | | | |
| Phase 1 - Riverbend Levee setback | | | | | | | |
| Phase 2 - Herzman levee setback | | | | | | | |
| Royal Arch Project Feasibility and Pre-Design | | | | | | | |
| Mouth of Taylor Project Feasibility and Pre-Design | | | | | | | |

Legend

| | |
|----------------------------------|---|
| Grant Funded Actions | |
| Related Actions Funded by others | |
| Grant Beginning and End Dates | ★ |
| Key Dates and deliberables | ▲ |

Summary of Flood Damage Reduction Benefits

Riverbend Reach Project

- Remove up to 4,000 linear feet of revetments and levees that confine the channel including Cedar Rapids Left Bank, Riverbend Upper, Riverbend Lower, and Herzman.
- Construct up to 3,100 linear feet of setback revetments.
- Reduce 100 year flood elevations within the right bank neighborhood by approximately 1-2 ft
- Increase flood storage in the project reach by approximately 49 acre-feet.
- Decrease velocities against revetments protecting critical infrastructure (SR 169, fiber optic) by 20-30% of existing 100 year flood velocities (1-2 fps).
- Change the approach angle of the river to the SR 169 protection revetment (Cedar Trail 2) from a perpendicular to parallel flow path reducing the erosive potential of flood flows on the facility.
- Reduce cost of maintaining and repairing flood protection facilities.

Herzman Levee Acquisitions (Riverbend Reach)

- Acquire and demolish up to 2 flood-prone homes and relocate residents at a value of \$1,000,000.

Mouth of Taylor Acquisitions

- Acquire and demolish up to 6 flood-prone homes and relocate residents at a value of \$2,400,000.
- Opportunity created for future removal and setback of existing armoring on both banks, and potential improved connection of Taylor Creek to the Cedar River on the right bank.
- Reduce cost of maintaining and repairing flood protection facilities and providing emergency response services to residents.

Royal Arch Acquisitions

- Acquire and demolish up to 6 homes and relocate residents at a value of \$2,800,000
- Opportunity created for removal and setback of existing armoring and restoring flows to old floodplain side channels.

3. Floodplain ecosystem protection or restoration element (60 points)

Describe the ecological benefit of the project, its significance, and the ability of the solution to address the overall need in the project area or watershed. Examples include, but are not limited to, reconnecting floodplains, salmon recovery actions, habitat restoration, Channel Migration Zone protections, etc. Evidence of ecosystem benefits include floodplain (including estuary) habitat type (e.g., wetland, side channel, forest) and area restored (# acres), floodplain area protected from bank armoring (# of acres), floodplain area protected from development or other land use change (# acres), hardened bank removal or levee/riprap removal (linear feet), levee setbacks constructed (linear feet, # acres), new side channels or reconnection of old side channels (linear feet or storage volume), salmon species benefitted (# of listed, non-listed species). Secondary evidence includes culvert replaced to restore fish passage or increase conveyance, logjam and or wood structures installed, riparian area planted, and other project-specific goals.

Answer question 3 here:

The proposal focuses on large-scale floodplain reconnection including restoration and/or protection of about 232 acres of floodplain in three key reaches within the lower Cedar River watershed—Riverbend, Royal Arch, and Mouth of Taylor (Table 2). The proposal will acquire land and design projects that will restore channel migration, side channel formation, large wood recruitment and other floodplain processes for flood protection and ESA-listed Chinook salmon habitat restoration.

The Chinook salmon Viable Salmonid Population (VSP) parameters targeted by these projects are juvenile productivity and life history diversity (through the creation of more refuge and rearing habitat in the lower river); in addition, adult spawning habitat will be improved with the river's ability to engage with its floodplain and meander (Table 3). The reaches are salmon recovery priorities in the *Lake Washington/ Cedar/ Sammamish Watershed (WRIA 8) Chinook Salmon Conservation Plan (WRIA 8 Plan)*, flood protection priorities in the *King County Flood Hazard Management Plan (FHMP)*, and protection/restoration priorities in the *Seattle Cedar River Watershed Habitat Conservation Plan (HCP)*. This section of the lower Cedar River supports Chinook (ESA-listed), coho, and sockeye salmon, and cutthroat and steelhead trout (ESA-listed).

Table 2. Habitat Affected

| Reach | Floodplain Acres Affected | Linear Feet of River Affected | Linear Feet of Armoring to be Set Back or Removed in Future ¹ |
|-----------------|---------------------------|-------------------------------|--|
| Riverbend | 80 | 6,000 | 4,000 |
| Mouth of Taylor | 75 | 6,400 ² | 3,900 ³ |
| Royal Arch | 77 | 3,700 | 6,000 ³ |
| Total | 232 | 16,100 | 13,900 |

¹ Approximate length of armored bank affected, ² Includes 1,900 feet of Taylor Creek, ³ Future phases

Table 3. Salmon Species Targeted (source: WDFW Salmonid Stock Inventory)

| Species | Life History Present (egg, juvenile, adult) | Current Population Trend (decline, stable, rising) | ESA Coverage (Y/N) | Life History Target (egg, juvenile, adult) |
|-----------------|---|--|--------------------|--|
| Chinook | Juvenile, adult | decline | Y | Juvenile, adult |
| Steelhead | Juvenile, adult | decline | Y | Juvenile, adult |
| Coho | Juvenile, adult | decline | N (candidate) | Juvenile |
| Sockeye | Juvenile, adult | Stable | N | Adult |
| Cutthroat trout | Juvenile, subadult, adult | Stable | N | All |

Riverbend Reach – After construction, a total of approximately 80 contiguous acres of floodplain habitat will be connected (Cedar Rapids, Riverbend, and Cavanaugh Pond areas), with the potential for setting back or removing about 4,000 linear feet of levee and bank armoring. The reach’s location in the watershed (RM 7) offers the best opportunity for large-scale, process-based restoration in the lower Cedar River. Removing or setting back the existing levees and armoring on the left bank will restore connectivity with the river’s floodplain and increase flood storage capacity in the lower river and significantly increase available rearing and spawning habitat for salmon. Reconnection of the floodplain will allow for unconstrained channel migration and natural side channel formation, benefitting both adult and juvenile salmonids.

Mouth of Taylor Reach – Traveling upstream from the Riverbend Reach, the Mouth of Taylor Reach (RM 13.5) is the next greatest opportunity for large-scale restoration on the Cedar River. It is a high priority for salmon recovery in the WRIA 8 Plan due to the opportunity to reconnect floodplain wetlands and remnant side channels to the mainstem river channel. In addition, the tributary junction with Taylor Creek is a highly productive area for salmon. Land acquisition will support a future restoration project that will affect a total of about 75 contiguous acres in the floodplain (about 18 acres remain to be purchased), preparing the way for future setback of about 3,900 feet of bank armoring. Reconnection of the floodplain will allow channel migration in a reach that is currently artificially constrained, will improve salmon spawning and rearing, and increase flood storage capacity in this reach.

Royal Arch Reach – The Royal Arch Reach (RM 14) is just upstream of Mouth of Taylor, and encompasses about 121 acres of floodplain habitat. A number of relict side channels cross through the floodplain of the reach, and the eventual removal of the existing revetment will allow for restoration focused on reconnecting these side channels to the river, providing off-channel rearing and refuge habitat, increased riparian function, large wood recruitment, and creation of pool habitat. This reach is

an active landslide hazard area. Completing the acquisitions proposed in this application followed by future removal of right-bank armoring will allow for channel migration and side channel re-occupation in the reach. This will facilitate the creation of complex habitat suitable for the salmon species present in the river. In the WRIA 8 2013 Three-Year Work Plan - Capital Project and Program Priorities, the Royal Arch Reach is identified as a high-priority reach (Project #C-247).

4. Is your project in a Puget Sound Partnership Priority Floodplain? (5 points)

(Deschutes, Dungeness, Duwamish/Green, Elwha, Hood Canal, Lake Washington, Lower Skagit, Nisqually, Nooksack, Puyallup, Sauk, Skokomish, Skykomish, Snohomish, Snoqualmie, Stillaguamish, Upper Skagit)

Answer question 4 here: Yes: X No

5. Other benefits (40 points)

Describe how your project maintains or improves agricultural viability, water quality, public open space/recreation access, economic development, or other important local benefits or values, and does not conflict with other objectives of this program. Projects receive points based on the importance of the result produced, the ability of the solution to address the overall stakeholder need and the long-term improvement.

- a. Agricultural viability (evidence of agricultural benefits include reductions in flooding (acres), protection from development (acres), improvement of drainage infrastructure (acres), or other capital or non-capital benefits to agricultural productivity).
- b. Water quality improvement [e.g., through stormwater infrastructure upgrades, treatment of a TMDL or 303(d) issue, reduction in sediment, restoration of wetlands or riparian areas, implementation of related best management practices, etc.].
- c. Public access and recreation (e.g., through land acquisition, the development of trails or other recreational infrastructure, etc.)
- d. Other floodplain values or services of local importance.

Answer question 5 here:

- a) The sites are predominantly zoned and developed for rural residential use and therefore the project is not expected to enhance agricultural use or viability. A horse farm is located approximately ½ mile upstream from Riverbend MHP. Small reductions in flood depth could be expected on this farm.
- b) The project will help protect and improve the high water quality of the Cedar River by removing existing homes, septic systems and impervious surfaces that contribute to non-point source pollution to the river. Reconnecting the river to the floodplain with restored native plant communities will also help slow and redirect flood flows, trap and retain sediment, provide shade and filter pollutants out of water moving through the floodplain.
- c) Implementation of the Riverbend revetments setback will help protect the currently at risk Cedar River Trail which is a heavily used recreational amenity, providing access to over 17.5 miles of the Cedar River from Renton to the City of Seattle watershed reserve at Landsburg. Access to the river will be enhanced by retaining the mobile home park infrastructure including a community center and parking lot (located outside the floodplain) that may be converted to public use by King County Parks as an environmental education center (KC Parks and KC RFMS in discussions about this project).
- d) Removal of historic fill material, both in the Riverbend site and associated with the levee structures will help increase flood storage and provide a broader channel capable of storing sediment and wood.

6. Cost-effectiveness (20 points)

- a. Project will be judged on whether the budget is appropriate to the project scope, and designed for project success.
- b. Describe how the project will be continued or maintained after the grant has been completed.
- c. If project cannot be fully funded, explain how the project could be scaled downward.

Answer question 6 here:

(a) The costs presented in this application are planning level estimates intended to capture the full cost of each project component at a depth commensurate with the complexity of the setting. Cost data from recent projects of similar scale (Rainbow Bend, Upper Carlson, Belmondo, etc) were used to help inform the estimate. The estimate assumes early preparation of detailed reach wide analyses including bathymetric survey, 2-D hydraulic modeling and geomorphic assessment to inform design. The proposed budget also includes funding to cover early coordination and outreach to regulatory agencies, tribal leaders, WSDOT, downstream property owners and recreational users to ensure a design that satisfies the multiple objectives embodied by the floodplain by design initiative. By doing this work collaboratively and on a larger, reach-wide basis, we also can more effectively work with those stakeholders to shift the paradigm of river management away from controlling the river with levees and rock to one that takes advantage of natural floodplain processes.

The FbD funds will build upon the investments already made in the site, reach and basin by King County and its partners. The additional funding will help maintain the momentum achieved by the recent acquisition and relocation efforts; helping to reduce overall project costs by allowing a smooth transition to design. The work planned will also help reduce the costs of future work by allowing technical analyses to be combined to cover a larger reach that might not be affordable on a project by project basis.

(b) The grants funds will be used to accelerate the work already planned in the project reach. Once the scope of the grant is complete, the projects will continue to advance using local funding and grants that have been used to implement similar projects throughout King County. Adaptive management, long term stewardship and site management will be performed by KCRFMS, and/or coordinated with King County Parks at Parks-managed properties. Property acquired using the Floodplains by Design (FbD) funds will further the reach and watershed wide goals and provide the core of property necessary to plan and design future floodplain restoration projects.

(c) Should full funding not be available, the project could be scaled back by 1) acquiring fewer properties and/or 2) reducing the level of plan development from final to sixty percent. Both are possible without undermining the success of the project, but would require securing funds later in time to complete the original scope of this effort.

7. Long-term cost avoidance: (30 points)

- a. Describe how your project minimizes or eliminates future costs for maintenance, operation, or emergency response. **(15 points)**

Answer 7.a. here:

Since 1993 ten repairs have been completed at a cost of approximately \$900,000 (2014 dollars) in the Riverbend and mouth of Taylor reaches. The last two major flood events (2006 and 2009) resulted in four repairs and a cost of \$450,000. Each of these repairs occurred at locations where armored riverbanks create 90-degree turn that direct the erosive force of the river directly at SR-169 and the Cedar River Regional Trail. By setting back the existing levees, the conveyance capacity of the river channel will increase and the erosive force of floodwaters will be allowed to dissipate over the

reconnected floodplain area. By reducing velocity of floodwaters in this reach, the frequency and extent of damages will be reduced. By reducing the potential for damages at these sites, flood patrols will be able to focus on other high-priority sites around King County during flood emergencies.

- b. Describe how your project accounts for expected future changes to hydrology, sediment regimes, or water supply resulting from other floodplain management efforts, land use changes, extreme weather events, or other causes. **(15 points)**

Answer 7.b. here: In the unincorporated areas of the Cedar River basin land use changes are not expected to result in significant changes to hydrology or sediment processes. However, climate change is expected to result in reduced snow pack and high flows that are more frequent and of longer duration. In the absence of levee setbacks in these reaches, longer and more frequent erosive flows are anticipated to result in more frequent repairs in locations where the river is constrained by armored riverbanks. The dam on the Cedar River is operated by the City of Seattle for water supply purposes, and is not authorized to provide flood storage, nor does the dam have capacity to do more than partially mitigate the effect of more frequent high flows. In this context levee setbacks offer the most sustainably long-term solution to adapt to climate change, reduce damages to public infrastructure, and create off-channel habitat for ESA-listed species.

8. Demonstration of need and support (30 points)

- a. Describe how your project is consistent with the intent of existing floodplain management or habitat recovery plans or is specifically identified through existing plans or work programs. (Elements of the project may have been developed through more than one planning process. Please identify the planning process used for each major element if they are not from a common plan.) **(15 points)**

Answer question 8.a. here:

Acquisition of flood-prone homes lining the river's margins and setback of the levees that constrain the river and degrade habitat conditions in the Riverbend, Mouth of Taylor, and Royal Arch reaches are project recommendations in regional comprehensive plans for both habitat restoration and flood risk reduction, including the 1993, 2006 and 2013 King County Flood Hazard Management Plans, the Cedar River Basin Plan, and the WRIA 8 Chinook Salmon Conservation Plan. These areas have been part of King County and the Seattle Public Utilities active acquisitions work programs for decades. King County has invested over \$25,000,000 acquiring flood prone property on the Cedar River since 1994.

Since the start of King County's contemporary floodplain management program, multiple levees and revetments in the Riverbend Project Reach, including both the Cedar Rapids Left Bank and Right Bank Revetments, the Riverbend Revetment, the Herzman Levee, and Cedar River Trail 2a and 2b Revetments have all required repair on at least one occasion. Damages have likely been caused or exacerbated by the extremely constricted channel and the heavy armor in this reach. The Cedar Rapids Left Bank Revetment is currently at high risk of needing repair or setback pending channel migration monitoring in the reach.

A new channel migration study for the Cedar River identified the majority of the Riverbend Mobile Home Park to be in the Severe or Moderate Channel Migration Zone as well as the FEMA 100-year floodplain. All of the reaches in this proposal have been identified as high priority restoration areas in the WRIA 8 Chinook Salmon Recovery Plan.

- b. Describe which flood control authorities, Tribal Nations, local governments, lead entities, key

stakeholders or decision-makers representing floodplain interests located within the river reach or affected by the project have provided letters of support explicitly endorsing the project and its outcomes for their interests. **(15 points)**

Answer question 8.b. here:

This proposal is supported by the key agencies that are working to restore floodplain connectivity for flood and habitat purposes along the Cedar River including WRIA 8, Seattle Public Utilities, and King County Parks (please see attached letters).

9. Readiness to proceed and complete the proposed phase of the project (25 points)

Describe how your project is ready to proceed with the scope of work, and your capacity to complete the project successfully and maintain it over time, including your project schedule and deliverables. Describe your experience with similar projects. If your project is acquisition only, describe how you will complete floodplain restoration subsequent to the acquisition.

Answer question 9 here:

The King County Flood Control District and Seattle Public Utilities (SPU) already have land acquisition programs in place on the lower Cedar River for flood risk reduction and habitat protection and restoration and are prepared to begin working on FbD-funded acquisitions as soon as a grant agreement is in place. Property acquisition in the Royal Arch Reach will be taken on by SPU, while the Flood Control District will spearhead all other acquisitions. King County has been actively engaged in flood buyouts since the mid-1990s, and has successfully acquired and removed 125 structures on 158 acres of land in the Cedar River floodplain as part of that program. Where acquisition of contiguous parcels has provided the opportunity, underlying lands are enhanced to restore habitat conditions. To date, two such large scale levee setback and floodplain restoration projects have been completed, and two are in planning and design stages. SPU has acquired 13 contiguous acres in the Royal Arch Reach as part of a longer-term strategy to eventually reconnect the Cedar River mainstem with the adjacent 112-acre floodplain. SPU continues to actively acquire land in this reach and currently has a signed landowner letter of intent to sell two parcels and an appraisal is underway. Because of limited funds, many of the landowners in the Royal Arch Reach have never been contacted about selling their property, and Seattle Public Utilities intends to actively conduct outreach to landowners in this reach if FbD funding is awarded. A major landslide that occurred in this reach in May 2014 which temporarily blocked the mainstem and pushed river flows onto floodplain properties may provide motivation to landowners to sell in the near future. SPU and King County would deploy land acquisition staff immediately upon execution of a FbD grant agreement and would continue to pursue acquisitions until available funds are expended. In the event that a portion of funds targeted for acquisition are unexpended one year prior to the project termination date, acquisition of Cedar River Corridor Plan target parcels outside of the Mouth of Taylor and Royal Arch Reaches will be pursued.

Both King County and SPU have restoration and stewardship programs in place for properties that would be acquired with FbD funding. Properties are managed and maintained for long term restoration and stewardship of open space and natural resources. Once under SPU ownership, SPU immediately conducts habitat restoration activities including invasive weed removal and native plantings on all acquired properties, and then continues to provide ongoing stewardship. This restoration and stewardship is conducted under the City of Seattle's Cedar River Watershed Habitat Conservation Plan. In King County, a site management plan is prepared prior to each acquisition. This plan takes into account anticipated restoration areas, actions, and timing, in order to determine appropriate short and long term maintenance needs and preliminary restoration elements. Removal of invasive weeds may be

followed immediately by native plantings, or cleared areas may simply be maintained in preparation for restoration work on the near term horizon. Additionally, when complete, the Cedar River Corridor Plan will provide a clear roadmap for restoration of the lands acquired under the FbD program.

King County will manage the Riverbend Reach project designs. King County has a broad depth of Project Management staff with experience in flood control and ecological restoration project design. King County staff will work with partner agencies and on-call consultants to develop the design.

10. Pilot project and leverage opportunities (25 points)

- a. If applicable, describe how your project could serve as a pilot effort or result in changes or results with broader impacts to the state. **(10 points)**

Answer question 10.a. here:

This proposal employs a number of strategies that could be applied in other Western Washington river basins, including the development of river-scale Corridor Plan tools that will use cutting edge GIS techniques to integrate flood hazard, habitat and cultural/economic goals in planning river restoration; and cultivating strong partnerships between governments and non-profits (King County, City of Seattle, City of Renton, Forterra, Friends of the Cedar River Watershed).

- b. If applicable, describe how your project leverages existing investments, such as SRFB, FCZDs, Dike Districts, TMDLs, WWRP, ESRP, NEP, and other funding sources. Evidence of this will be based on the amount and diversity of the leveraged funding sources. **(10 points)**

Answer question 10.b. here:

Acquisitions to date in the target reaches have involved extensive funding from partner agencies, including the Salmon Recovery Funding Board, King County Flood Control District, WA Wildlife and Recreation Program, King County Conservation Futures Tax program, King County Parks Expansion Levy, Surface Water Management Fees, King Conservation District, and the Flood Control Assistance Account Program. Cedar River Corridor Plan Implementation will leverage funding from a wide variety of sources including SRFB, NEP, EPA Puget Sound Watershed Management Assistance Program (2010), Federal Cooperative Endangered Species Act Program, King Conservation District, National Fish and Wildlife Foundation Community Salmon Fund, Aquatic Lands Enhancement Account. Since 2003 SPU has been awarded approximately \$4 million in grant funding for lower Cedar River restoration, which leverages funds SPU expends under its Cedar River Watershed Habitat Conservation Plan (HCP). Under its HCP, which is a 50-year plan for conserving and restoring habitat in the Cedar River Watershed, SPU has expended over \$92 million implementing a variety of watershed habitat conservation and restoration activities since 2000, including, for example, construction (in 2003) and operation of fish passage facilities at the Landsburg Dam, which opened up 21 miles of high quality habitat to anadromous fish that had been blocked since 1900.

- c. If applicable, describe how your project addresses inequity or social justice issue by benefitting underserved communities. **(5 points)**

Answer question 10.c. here:

As part of ongoing stewardship responsibilities on the Cedar River, King County and SPU partner with Forterra (formerly Cascade Land Conservancy) and The Friends of the Cedar River Watershed, to engage

students from elementary, middle and high schools in the Renton Highlands, and from the Boys and Girls Club of Seattle, YMCA youth groups, the Lakeside Middle School LEEP program (Lakeside Educational Enrichment Program--a well-rounded 6-week summer school program that brings in non-Lakeside students from all walks of life), among others, in organized restoration volunteer events on King County and SPU-acquired properties. Many of the children from these groups have never before been to a river environment, even though the Cedar is so close to home, and often find the experience inspirational and motivating. The demographics within the zip code 98118 are among the most ethnically diverse in the US, and it is located in the Cedar River watershed.

Forterra is working with the Friends on a program to recruit (via a small stipend) community liaisons in underserved areas around the Cedar River (Renton, Renton Highlands) to engage people in the work that's happening along the river. The idea is based on a model developed at Forterra to reach underserved communities while creating paid positions in environmental advocacy. Establishing such community liaisons in social justice circles is known as creating a "Leadership Development Pipeline".

11. Budget (add more tasks as needed).

| Task | Amount Requested from Ecology* | Other Funding for Project** (20% of Total Cost Minimum) | Total Cost |
|--|--------------------------------|--|------------------------|
| Task 1- Project Management | \$ 100,000.00 | \$ 50,000.00 | \$ 150,000.00 |
| Task 2 - Property Acquisition | \$ 4,000,000.00 | \$ 2,200,000.00 | \$ 6,200,000.00 |
| Task 3 - Riverbend Reach Project Designs | \$ 800,000.00 | | \$ 800,000.00 |
| Task 4 - Riverbend Levee Setback and Restoration Project Permitting | \$ 100,000.00 | \$ 50,000.00 | \$ 150,000.00 |
| Task 5 - Riverbend Levee Setback and Restoration Project Site Preparation | \$ - | \$ 50,000.00 | \$ 50,000.00 |
| Task 6 - Riverbend Reach Project Baseline Monitoring | \$ - | \$ 50,000.00 | \$ 50,000.00 |
| Task 7 - Cedar River Corridor Plan Development | \$ - | \$ 600,000.00 ¹ | \$ 300,000.00 |
| Total | \$ 5,000,000.00 | \$ 3,000,000.00 | \$ 8,000,000.00 |

¹ Funds to be expended September 2014 – December 2015

*Amount requested from Ecology under this grant program

**Other sources of funding dedicated to this project. Insert narrative below that details what the

source of funding is and whether or not it has been received or applied for but not yet received.
Match must be at least 20% of Total Project cost.

Narrative and/or Table of other funding sources for project, here:

Matching funds for the project will be contributed by the King County Flood Control District and the City of Seattle in accordance with the following table. Matching King County Flood Control District funds come from the Cedar River Acquisition and Cedar River Corridor Plan budgets. Matching funds from City of Seattle are from the Habitat Conservation Program. City of Seattle acquisition funds will be spent only on Royal Arch Reach properties.

| Task | King County | Seattle |
|---|--------------------|--------------------|
| Task 1: Project Management | \$50,000 | \$0 |
| Task 2: King County Property Acquisitions | \$1,200,000 | \$0 |
| Task 2: City of Seattle Property Acquisitions | \$0 | \$1,000,000 |
| Task 3: Riverbend Reach Project Designs* | \$0 | \$0 |
| Task 4: Riverbend Levee Setback and Restoration Project Permitting | \$50,000 | \$0 |
| Task 5: Riverbend Levee Setback and Restoration Project Site Preparation | \$50,000 | \$0 |
| Task 6: Riverbend Reach Project Baseline Monitoring | \$50,000 | \$0 |
| Task 7: Cedar River Corridor Plan Development | \$600,000 | \$0 |
| Totals | \$2,000,000 | \$1,000,000 |

If it's not possible to fully fund this proposal, please describe a *phased* approach that would still significantly advance the effort:

This project has a high degree of flexibility in terms of phasing. Acquisitions could be scaled back to one or two of the three reaches as opposed to all three or a smaller number of acquisitions within each area. The designs for the Riverbend and Herzman setbacks could also be done independently. Either the acquisitions or the design component could be dropped entirely. The purpose of including all of the reaches and designs in the manner presented in this request is to demonstrate that King County and the City of Seattle have project readiness for various phases of high priority floodplain work with significant investment to date that could be accomplished through programs in place by highly trained staff.

12. SCOPE OF WORK:

Project Description

The Cedar River Corridor Plan (in development) will bring together key elements of the King County Flood Hazard Management Plan (2006), the WRIA 8 Chinook Salmon Conservation Plan (2006), the Cedar River Habitat Conservation Plan (2000) along with new floodplain management tools utilizing state of the art remote sensing and modelling techniques in order to develop a comprehensive multi-benefit floodplain management plan. The projects in this funding request are early implementation

elements of this plan as they are already in progress and involve the collaboration of the partners working to develop the Corridor Plan. The development of the Cedar River Corridor Plan will include several key elements that will support project development including the development of existing conditions mapping and identification of key flood and ecological problems in the project reaches. These aspects of the Corridor Plan are scoped to be complete before the Floodplains by Design fund allocation period commences. Please see Table Z below for a summary of how this proposal relates to the Corridor Plan development.

This project includes acquisition of up to 15 residential properties in high flood and landslide risk areas along the Cedar River as well as design and site preparation for a reach scale project to set back several revetments and a levee that in combination create conditions threatening major public infrastructure including SR 169 and a regional fiber optic trunk line.

King County and the City of Seattle have been working together in the last two decades to acquire flood and landslide prone properties along the Cedar River Corridor. Using this funding allocation, the County will continue this great partnership to purchase up to 15 additional properties targeting three main areas, the Royal Arch Reach, the Mouth of Taylor Reach, and two homes behind the Herzman levee. Many residential properties have already been purchased in these areas and in-filling public ownership in these reaches will allow the County and City to work in tandem on floodplain reconnection projects aimed at reducing flood risks. These projects will reduce flood risk by removing residents from harm's way, and increasing flood water storage and conveyance.

These acquisition areas have also been identified as prime Chinook salmon habitat restoration opportunities by WRIA 8. Property acquisition is the first step in the re-establishment of a channel migration zone wide enough to accommodate natural processes that create salmon habitat such as erosion and deposition of sediment and wood and the creation of off channel habitats such as side channels and backwaters. High priority acquisitions outside of the target areas may be considered as seller willingness and market forces play a key role in acquisition viability.

This project also includes developing a final design package for the Riverbend Reach levee setback and floodplain restoration projects, collectively referred to as the Riverbend Reach Project. The project includes the continuation of a reach-scale effort to eliminate channel migration and flooding hazards to vulnerable residential properties and the restoration of natural processes that create floodplain habitat for Chinook salmon and other species. The site is currently in high-density residential use and immediately downstream of the Cedar Rapids levee setback, constructed in 2008. Following relocation of residents from a recently purchased mobile home park, the project will include removal of the Cedar Rapids Left Bank and Riverbend Upper Revetments as well as the possible removal or setback of the Riverbend Lower Levee and Herzman Levees at the downstream end of the reach. Up to 55 acres of floodplain behind the Riverbend and Herzman facilities will then be connected to 25 acres of floodplain upstream at the Cedar Rapids site. These actions will restore the river's natural channel migration zone, allowing the river to carve new and more complex salmon habitat including wood recruitment and development of new off-channel habitats such as side channels and backwater areas. Planting native trees and shrubs on previously impervious surfaces will protect the already high water quality in the river.

The Recipient will perform site preparation activities to prepare the Riverbend levee setback area for construction to include all necessary utility realignment and septic removal as well as noxious weed management.

The Recipient will also perform one year of bathymetric mapping and up to two years of juvenile fish monitoring and slow water habitat mapping in main stem and off-channel habitats following King County WLRD baseline monitoring protocols to establish pre-project baseline habitat conditions at the reach scale.

Project Locations: Cedar River miles 6.5-8, T 23N, R 05E, and
Cedar River miles 13-15, T. 22N, R 06E

Task 1: Project Management

King County will manage the funding allocation in accordance with Ecology guidelines and following the protocols described in the King County Water and Land Resources Project Management Manual (2012). Project management will include coordination with federal, state, and local agencies, as well as Indian tribes as appropriate. This Task also covers expenses to administer the allocation, including, but not limited to: contracting and contract monitoring.

King County Cost: \$50,000
Ecology Cost: \$100,000
Deliverable: Quarterly Progress Reports for all years.

Task 2a: King County Property Acquisitions

King County will purchase properties that are a high priority for King County to bring into public ownership in order to implement the Cedar River Corridor Plan. Funds will be used to target purchase properties in the Mouth of Taylor and Riverbend (Herzman) reaches, however other high priority properties on the river may be considered based on homeowner willingness and market conditions. Properties acquired with State funds will be used for the purposes of enhancing river and reach scale flood protection through levee setback projects that include ecosystem restoration elements.

King County Cost: \$1,200,000
Ecology Cost: \$2,200,000
Deliverable: Acquisition Report to include but not limited to: a map showing the location of properties purchased; list of properties with names / addresses acquired, acquisition documents for each property.
Date Due: June 30, 2018

Task 2b: City of Seattle Property Acquisitions

Seattle Public Utilities will purchase properties that are a high priority for the City of Seattle to bring into public ownership in order to implement the Cedar River Corridor Plan and the City of Seattle Habitat Conservation Plan. Funds will be used to target purchase properties in the Royal Arch reaches, however other high priority properties on the river may be considered based on homeowner willingness and market conditions. Properties acquired with State funds will be used for the purposes of enhancing river and reach scale flood protection through levee setback projects that include ecosystem restoration elements.

City of Seattle Cost: \$1,000,000
Ecology Cost: \$1,800,000

Deliverable: Acquisition Report to include but not limited to: a map showing the location of properties purchased; list of properties with names / addresses acquired, acquisition documents for each property.
Date Due: June 30, 2018

Task 3: Riverbend Reach Project Designs

King County will prepare a final design package for a reach scale levee and revetment system setback and floodplain reconnection project to include two major systems, the Riverbend revetments and the Herzman levee. The project will include full or partial setback of the two Riverbend revetments the Herzman levee. Project design will involve an extensive public involvement process including input from Cedar River fisheries co-managers the Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife and the Muckleshoot Indian Tribe Fisheries Division. The final design package will include two designs, one for the Riverbend revetments and another for the Herzman levee as they may need to be constructed sequentially or independently pending acquisition status behind the Herzman levee and project funding. A basis of design document will be developed incorporating both projects at the reach scale to demonstrate efficient use of project resources in the development of the designs, such as developing bathymetry, 2-D modelling, and geomorphic analyses at the reach rather than project scale. This will be used to demonstrate how the projects will work together to increase flood water storage and conveyance capacity in the reach and reduce flood impacts on SR 169 and a regional fiber optic trunk line downstream of the project areas. Additionally the designs will demonstrate increased contiguous reach scale floodplain connectivity, with increases in the total area, continuity and connectivity of off-channel habitat available for rearing Chinook salmon and other priority native fish species.

King County Cost: \$0
Ecology Cost: \$800,000
Deliverable: Design Plans and Basis of Design Document.
Date Due: March 15, 2018

Task 4: Riverbend Levee Setback and Restoration Project Permitting

King County will ensure that all necessary permits including SEPA, HPA (WDFW), Shorelines (King County), Section 404 and Section 10 are obtained to allow for construction of the Riverbend Levee Setback and Restoration in summer 2018.

King County Cost: \$50,000
Ecology Cost: \$100,000
Deliverable: All Permits
Date Due: March 15, 2018

Task 5: Riverbend Levee Setback and Restoration Project Site Preparation

King County will perform pre-construction site preparation tasks to include utility relocation, septic removal and noxious weed management in the Riverbend reach.

King County Cost: \$50,000
Ecology Cost: \$0
Deliverables: Site Preparation Memo to include mapped areas of vegetation management and utility modifications.
Date Due: June 30, 2017

Task 6: Riverbend Reach Project Baseline Monitoring

King County will conduct baseline project monitoring to include two years of juvenile fish sampling and slow water habitat mapping in main stem and off-channel habitats in the Riverbend reach.

King County Cost: \$50,000
 Ecology Cost: \$0
 Deliverables: Baseline Monitoring Report
 Date Due: June 30, 2017

Task 7: Cedar River Corridor Plan

King County will develop the Cedar River Corridor Plan, a comprehensive plan that will integrate flood inundation, erosion and channel migration risk reduction with habitat restoration needs and opportunities in the lower and middle Cedar River basin, and establish a prioritized set of multi-objective capital improvement projects (CIPs) and actions. Corridor Plan tools such as maps and the public outreach process will be utilized to guide project design and acquisition strategies for this proposal.

King County Cost: \$600,000
 Ecology Cost: \$0
 Deliverables: Cedar River Corridor Plan
 Date Due: December, 2015

Schedule:

| Tasks | Dates |
|---|--------------------------|
| Task 1 - Project Management | July 2015 |
| Task 2a - King County Property Acquisitions | August 2015 – June 2018 |
| Task 2b - City of Seattle Property Acquisitions | August 2015 – June 2018 |
| Task 3 - Riverbend Reach Projects Design | August 2015 – March 2018 |
| Task 4 - Riverbend Levee Setback and Restoration Site Permitting | August 2017 – March 2018 |
| Task 4 - Riverbend Levee Setback and Restoration Site Preparation | June 2016 – June 2017 |
| Task 6 - Riverbend Reach Projects Baseline Monitoring | March 2016 – June 2017 |
| Task 7 – Cedar River Corridor Plan | December 2015 |

13. Maps:
Figure 1. Project Vicinity Map

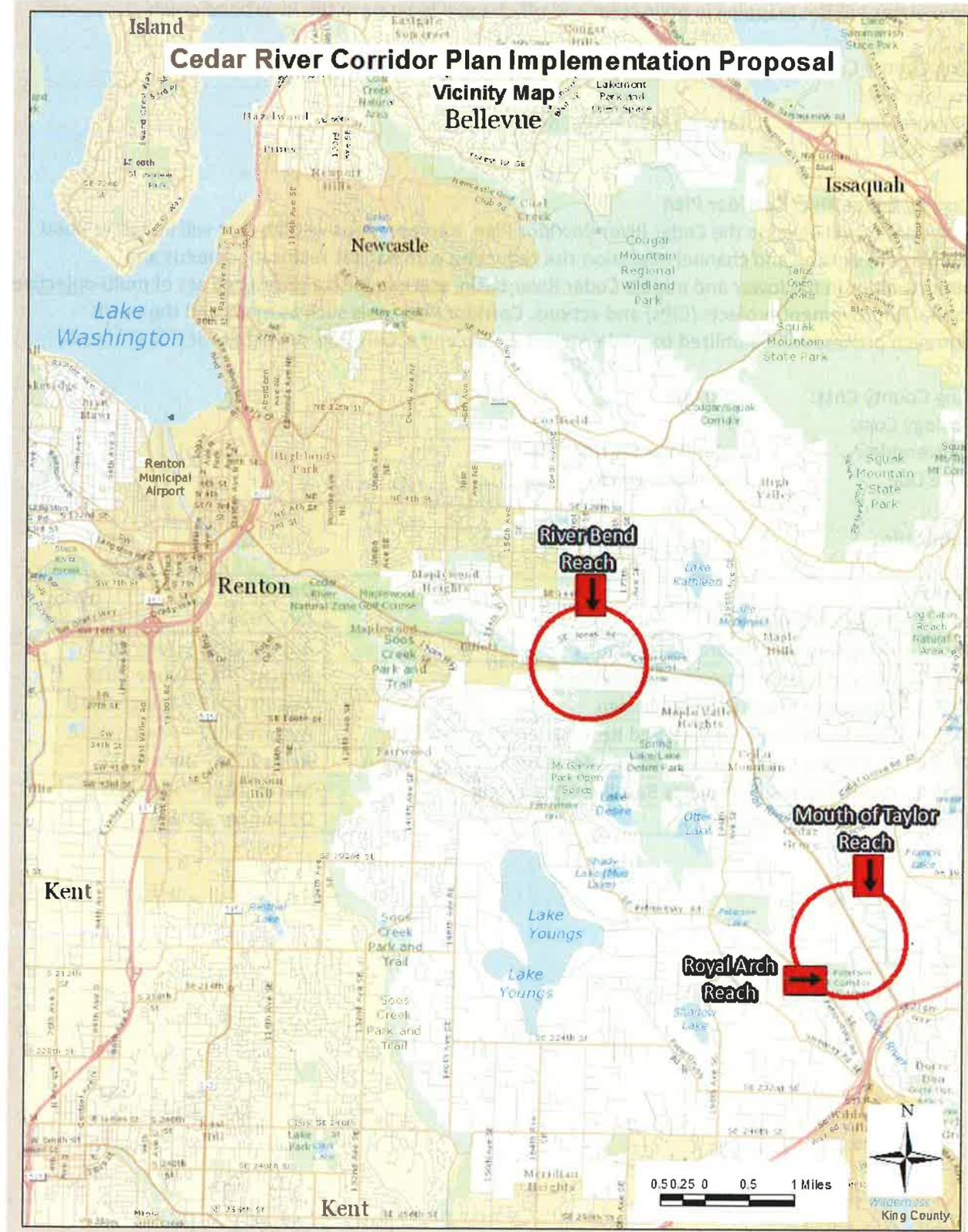


Figure 2. Property Acquisition Map

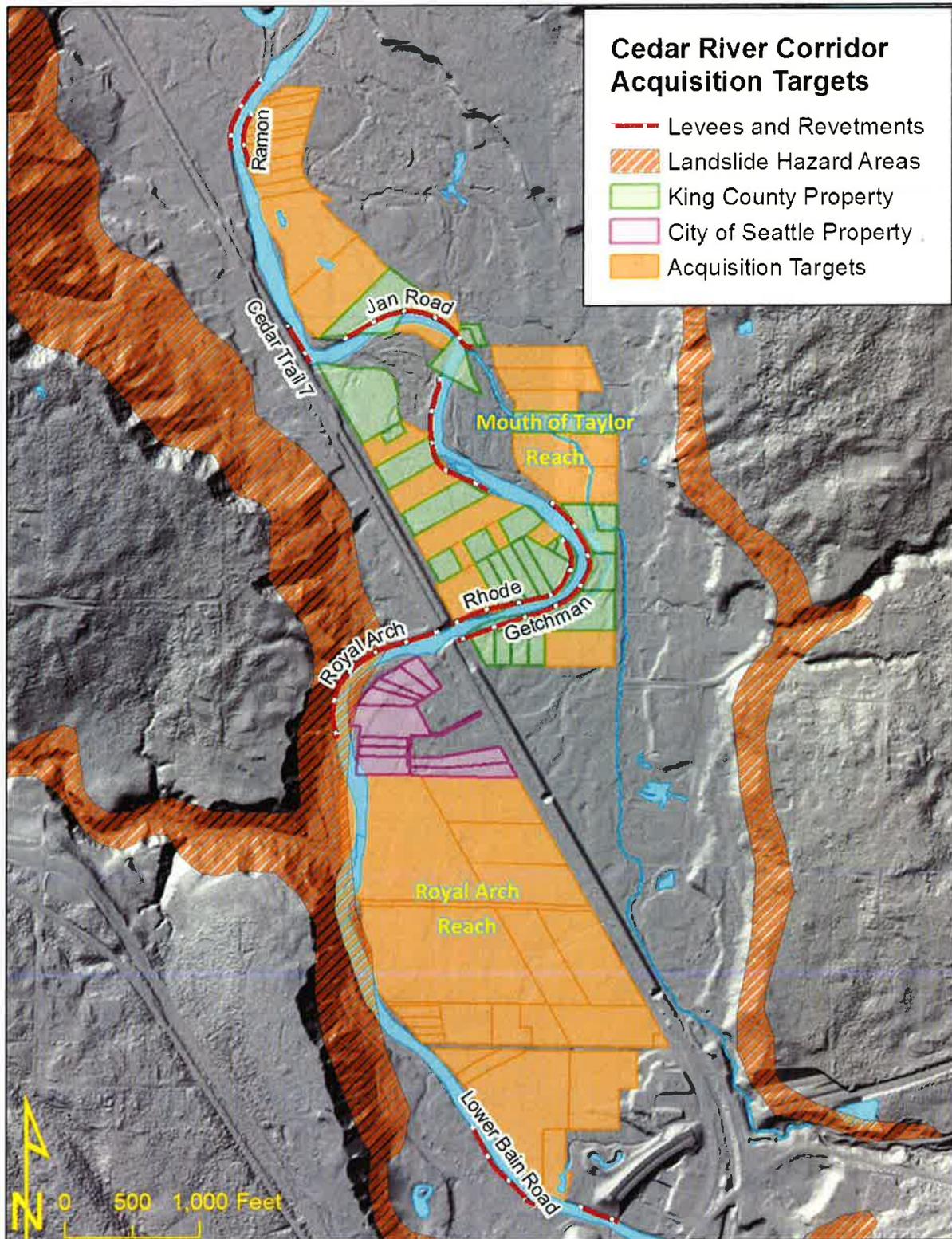


Figure 3. Riverbend Reach Projects Map

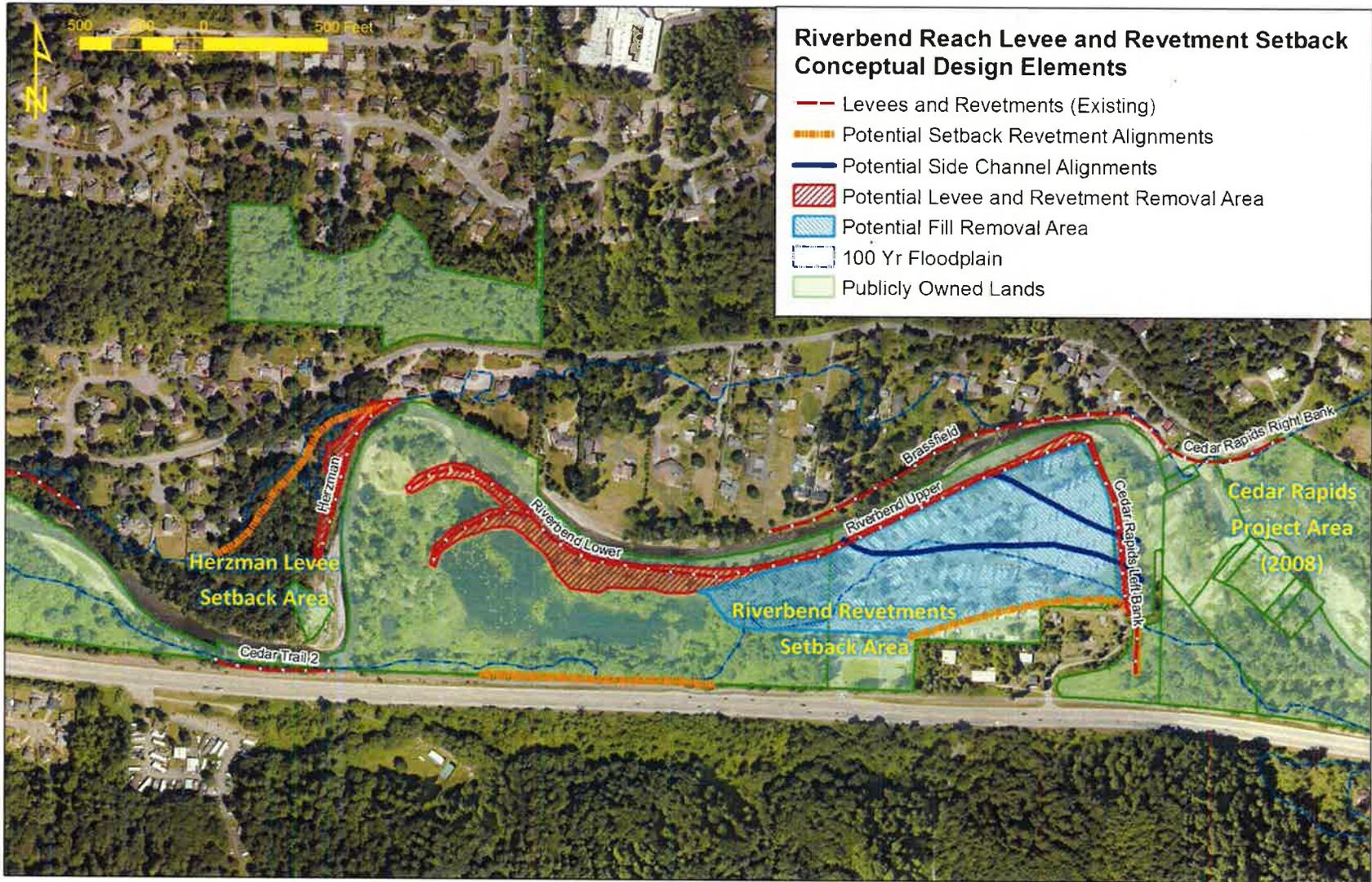


Figure 4. Riverbend Reach in 1936 and 1970.



14. Planting Maintenance/Survival: If your project includes plantings, please provide a description of how you will ensure plant survival and maintenance.

The riverine environment is one of chronic disturbance with significant challenges to establishing native plant communities such as managing weeds and soil moisture. Along King County Rivers chronic weed invaders include knotweeds, butterfly bush, blackberries, Canada thistle, and reed canarygrass. Additional weeds, some of which are required for control under RCW 17.10, may be found on riverine sites. Propagules of riverine weeds are periodically brought into new and established restoration sites by flood flows and this risk will increase in a restored floodplain environment. Establishment of native plant communities requires aggressive weed treatment before and during the establishment period and regular maintenance well after plants are established to ensure native plant communities thrive.

Riverine environments may have coarse, well-drained soils which can create a problematic environment for transplanting nursery-grown plant stock. Nursery stock may need to be watered one to three years following planting in order to ensure survival depending on soil conditions and solar exposure. Getting water to remote riverine sites is challenging and expensive.

King County has devised several measures over the last few decades to ensure native plant survival on river restoration projects and has a very strong record of meeting performance standards included in project permit documents. Plant survival and maintenance measures include:

- Pre-construction weed control for weeds that may be spread by construction activities such as clearing and grading. Particularly important for weeds that spread by fragmentation (e.g. knotweeds).
- Working with high-quality native plant vendors and specifying weed free material.
- Working with high quality contractors or work programs such as the WCC to install plant materials and inspecting plant installations.
- Utilizing seral plant community strategies, such as dense willow plantings, on sites with known weed challenges like well-established reed canarygrass plant communities.
- Scaling watering programs to meet site needs. These range from substantial measures such as mulch and weekly watering on full sun, sandy soil sites versus no or monthly watering on mesic or wet sites.
- Utilizing temporary water withdrawal permits to use river water for plantings.
- Working with KC Noxious Weeds to develop weed maintenance protocols that are appropriate for the site scale and weed infestations. These may range from hand weeding of small patches of noxious weeds to chemical treatment of blackberry on tens of acres sites.
- Formal and informal monitoring of plantings by scientific and maintenance staff to ensure plant communities are establishing as planned.
- Conducting experiments to refine and improve watering and weed treatment programs to increase cost-effectiveness of treatments.

15. Photos:



Figure 5. Riverbend Mobile Home Park structure undermined in November 1990 flood.



Figure 6. Flooding in the Royal Arch (background) and Mouth of Taylor (foreground) reaches January 2009.

16. **Executive order 05-05, Archaeological and Cultural Resources** (online at http://www.governor.wa.gov/office/execorders/eoarchive/eo_05-05.pdf) directs state agencies to review all capital construction projects for potential impacts to cultural resources to make sure that reasonable action is taken to avoid adverse impacts to these resources. If this grant program is funded by the 2015 Legislature, successful grant applicants will be required to submit additional information to Ecology to comply with this Executive Order.

King County is committed to the protection and preservation of important cultural and historic resources. The project team has extensive experience working in the Cedar River and similar settings and has established procedures for assessing and protecting historic and cultural resources that may be present.

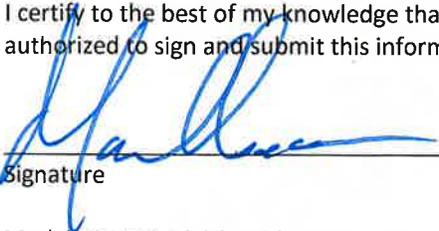
Additional factors in ranking and award: This is a very new funding source. To ensure that projects meet the objectives of the program, these additional factors will be considered in creating the proposed funding list:

- **Balance of project types:** Balance funding ready-to-proceed construction projects with funding pre-construction activities. This balance in project types is vital to ensuring success over time.
- **Geography:** There is strong interest in ensuring that projects in all areas of the state receive funding.
- **Advancing multi-benefit floodplain management:** It is important that the project list advance the principles and practical application of multi-benefit floodplain management.

The acquisition and design efforts proposed in this grant will help advance and accelerate work already underway in the Cedar River to restore the broad range of floodplain functions. The acquisition of flood prone properties in critical resource areas will help reduce existing flood hazards while providing the opportunity to plan, design and implement future floodplain restoration projects. Securing these properties will also reduce the cost of future emergency response, repair and maintenance that would otherwise be required for the adjacent aging flood protection facilities. The project will also build on the partnership developed between King County and the City of Seattle and further demonstrate the combined economic, environmental and public safety benefits of this approach.

Certification

I certify to the best of my knowledge that the information provided above is true and correct and that I am legally authorized to sign and submit this information on behalf of the organization applying for this grant.


Signature

9.8.14
Date

Mark Isaacson, Division Director

Printed name and Title

King County Water and Land Resources Division, Natural Resources and Parks Department

Name of Organization Applying for Grant



City of Seattle
Seattle Public Utilities

August 27, 2014

Adam Sant, Floodplain Project Manager
Washington State Department of Ecology, SEA Program
PO Box 47600
Olympia, WA 98504-7600

RE: King County-Seattle Public Utilities Cedar River Corridor Plan Grant Proposal

Dear Mr. Sant:

I am writing on behalf of Seattle Public Utilities to express support for a grant proposal sponsored by King County and Seattle Public Utilities (SPU) to fund implementation of King County's Cedar River Corridor Plan. Seattle Public Utilities delivers drinking water to 1.3 million people from the Cedar River, and manages its 90,000-acre municipal watershed--the upper 2/3's of the Cedar River watershed--as an ecological reserve to protect both water quality and habitat.

As part of that protection SPU is implementing its Cedar River Watershed Habitat Conservation Plan (HCP), a 50-year program dedicated to protecting and restoring habitats for 83 species of fish and wildlife that live in the watershed. Actions under the HCP span geographically from the headwaters of the Cedar River at the Cascade crest, down to the Hiram M. Chittenden Locks in Ballard. One important action under the HCP is to protect and restore mainstem habitat on the lower Cedar River below Seattle's municipal watershed ownership boundary. We do this by acquiring properties with the greatest potential to provide high-functioning habitat for Cedar River salmon species. SPU has acquired and restored 54 acres of floodplain on the Cedar River mainstem since 2003.

SPU collaborates and coordinates with King County on its lower Cedar protection and restoration program. Our most recent and notable collaboration was for the funding, design and construction of the Rainbow Bend floodplain reconnection project, which reconnected 40 acres of floodplain habitat, the largest such project on the Cedar River to-date. SPU is proud of this important City-County collaboration because it leverages human and financial resources on behalf of current and future generations of City, County and regional residents who will benefit from the many resources and services the Cedar River provides.

The Cedar River Corridor Plan is another important example of agency collaboration because it addresses floodplain, habitat and economic interests that cross jurisdictional boundaries, and it acknowledges Seattle's role in Cedar River watershed management and restoration. The

Ray Hoffman, Director
Seattle Public Utilities
700 5th Avenue, Suite 4900
PO Box 34018
Seattle, WA 98124-4018

Tel (206) 684-5851
Fax (206) 684-4631
TDD (206) 233-7241
ray.hoffman@seattle.gov

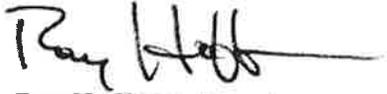
<http://www.seattle.gov/utl>

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considerable financial investments made by both King County and Seattle demonstrate how seriously committed our agencies are to Cedar River restoration, investments that I believe are worthy of further support from the State's Floodplains-by-Design program.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Ray Hoffman", with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Ray Hoffman, Director
Seattle Public Utilities



- Beaux Arts Village
- Bellevue
- Bothell
- Clyde Hill
- Edmonds
- Hunts Point
- Issaquah
- Kenmore
- Kent
- King County
- Kirkland
- Lake Forest Park
- Maple Valley
- Medina
- Mercer Island
- Mill Creek
- Mountlake Terrace
- Mukilteo
- Newcastle
- Redmond
- Renton
- Sammamish
- Seattle
- Shoreline
- Snohomish County
- Woodinville
- Woodway
- Yarrow Point

- Cedar River Council
- Friends of the Cedar River Watershed
- Friends of the Issaquah Salmon Hatchery
- Greater Seattle Chamber of Commerce
- Long Live the Kings
- Mid-Sound Fisheries Enhancement Group
- Mountains to Sound Greenway
- Northwest Marine Trade Association
- Sno-King Watershed Council
- Trout Unlimited
- Water Tenders

- Alderwood Water and Wastewater District
- US Army Corps of Engineers
- Washington Departments:
 - Ecology
 - Fish and Wildlife
 - Natural Resources
- Washington Association of Sewer and Water Districts
- King Conservation District

July 25, 2014

Adam Sant, Floodplain Project Manager
 Washington State Department of Ecology, SEA Program
 PO Box 47600
 Olympia, WA 98504-7600

RE: Support for Cedar River Corridor Plan Implementation Grant Proposal

Dear Mr. Sant:

On behalf of the Lake Washington/Cedar/Sammamish Watershed (WRIA 8) Salmon Recovery Council, I wish to convey our support of King County's Cedar River Corridor Plan Implementation proposal, which is being submitted for inclusion in the 2015 – 2017 Floodplains by Design budget request. The WRIA 8 Salmon Recovery Council is a partnership between 28 local governments, citizens, community groups, state and federal agencies, and businesses working together to implement the *WRIA 8 Chinook Salmon Conservation Plan* (WRIA 8 Plan). King County's proposal directly supports high priority floodplain restoration in the WRIA 8 Plan and the WRIA 8 Three-Year Work Plan and would greatly boost Chinook recovery efforts in our watershed.

The Cedar River is the highest priority sub-basin for Chinook salmon recovery in WRIA 8, and restoring off-channel habitat through property acquisition and floodplain reconnection is central to WRIA 8's Cedar River recovery strategy. King County and the City of Seattle (a partner on the proposal) have acquired properties along the Cedar River for nearly 20 years. Acquisitions enabled significant habitat restoration and reduced flood risks to people, property, and infrastructure.

An example is the recently-completed Rainbow Bend Floodplain Restoration Project, which removed a levee and reconnected the Cedar River to over 40 acres of floodplain. King County's Floodplains by Design proposal is notable because it seeks funding for design of the next large-scale floodplain reconnection project on the Cedar—the Riverbend Levee Setback Project.

In addition to advancing the Riverbend project, King County's proposal supports the development of future Cedar River floodplain restoration projects through strategic property acquisitions in priority reaches. As noted above, King County and the City of Seattle have already secured many key parcels to date, and providing resources for this important reach-scale acquisition work will help accelerate implementation of critical multi-benefit habitat restoration and flood risk reduction projects.

Adam Sant
Page 2 of 2
July 25, 2014

If you have any questions, please feel free to contact Jason Mulvihill-Kuntz, WRIA 8 Watershed Coordinator, either by phone at 206-477-4780 or email at jason.mulvihill-kuntz@kingcounty.gov. Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,



Larry Phillips
Chair, WRIA 8 Salmon Recovery Council
Chair, Metropolitan King County Council

cc: Mark Isaacson, Director, King County Water and Land Resources Division (WLRD),
Department of Natural Resources and Parks (DNRP)
John Engel, Supervising Engineer, King County WLRD, DNRP
Kate Akyuz, Ecologist, King County WLRD, DNRP
Cyndy Holtz, Major Watersheds Business Area Manager, Seattle Public Utilities
Jason Mulvihill-Kuntz, WRIA 8 Watershed Coordinator
WRIA 8 Salmon Recovery Council



King County

Parks and Recreation Division

Department of Natural Resources and Parks

King Street Center, KSC-NR-0700

201 South Jackson Street

Seattle, WA 98104-3855

206-477-4527 Fax 206-296-8686

TTY Relay: 711

September 2, 2014

Adam Sant

Washington State Department of Ecology

Floodplains by Design Project Review Committee

PO Box 47600

Olympia, WA 98504-7600

RE: Cedar River Corridor Plan Early Implementation Grant Proposal

Dear Mr. Sant and/or Grant Review Committee Members:

King County Parks and Recreation Division (Parks) is pleased to submit a letter of support for the King County Water and Land Resources Division's (WLRD) "Cedar River Corridor Plan Early Implementation" grant proposal. This proposal is being submitted for 2015-2017 Floodplains by Design funding consideration.

Parks and WLRD are divisions within the King County Department of Natural Resources and Parks. We work closely between our two divisions to acquire, manage, and restore properties. On the Cedar River, Parks and WLRD each own lands within the river reaches targeted for acquisition and restoration. Parks is the custodial agency for Cavanaugh Pond Natural Area adjacent to Riverbend Mobile Home Park, in the Riverbend Reach project area.

WLRD brings significant expertise in flood hazard management and capital project design to implement project proposals such as those described in the project application. WLRD's approach combines cutting-edge science and restoration techniques with a demonstrated history of successful capital project implementation. The division is committed to working closely with partner agencies, jurisdictions, and the community as they develop their capital projects. WLRD frequently works with Parks to implement major capital restoration projects on our lands. WLRD carries out their projects with expertise, professionalism, sound project design methods, and ongoing monitoring and maintenance.

Washington State Department of Ecology

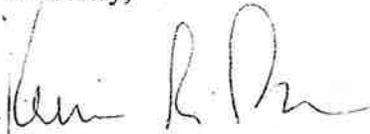
September 2, 2014

Page 2

King County Parks manages natural areas along the Cedar River for both ecological and public access goals. We will be part of project design development and public process, and we will work with WLRD to ensure that restoration projects on lands in our custodianship are well-stewarded over time.

We encourage the review committee to support the WLRD application for this significant multi-objective acquisition and restoration proposal. If you have any questions, please free contact Ingrid Lundin, Natural Lands Program Manager at 206-477-4578 or by email at Ingrid.Lundin@kingcounty.gov.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Kevin Brown", written over a light blue horizontal line.

Kevin Brown

Division Director