

MEMORANDUM

February 5, 2015

TO: WRIA 9 Watershed Ecosystem Forum

FR: Doug Osterman, WRIA 9 Watershed Coordinator

RE: WRIA 9 Watershed Ecosystem Forum Meeting, Thursday, February 12, 4 to 6:30 p.m., Renton City Hall

The next meeting of the WRIA 9 Watershed Ecosystem Forum is Thursday, February 12, 2015, from 4 to 6:30 p.m., at Renton City Hall, Council Chambers. The agenda for the meeting and the summary of the November 13, 2014 are attached.

Please RSVP to Linda Grob at either 206-477-4704 or linda.grob@kingcounty.gov by Wednesday, February 11 to enable us to have a head county for refreshments and know in advance a quorum is expected.

Duwamish Gardens Project Update and Funding Revision

Ryan Larson, Senior Surface Water Management Engineer, City of Tukwila, will be providing information about the status and funding of the Duwamish Gardens Project. The City of Tukwila will be requesting the WEF for an additional \$250,000 of Puget Sound Acquisition and Restoration funds to cover unanticipated costs. Attached is background information on Duwamish Gardens, the project budget, and rationale for additional funding.

Implementing the Duwamish Blueprint: Mitigation Funding and Restoration

Elissa Ostergaard, WRIA 9 Planning and Stewardship Coordinator, will discuss the status of the Duwamish Gardens project in Tukwila, with a focus on the coordination among the Muckleshoot Tribe, Tukwila, King County, and WRIA 9 to use about \$6 million in Sound Transit mitigation funds to purchase and prepare the Chinook Wind project site in Tukwila for restoration. Concerns were expressed that using mitigation funds for restoration and counting restoration done with mitigation funds toward WRIA 9 restoration goals. There has long been concern that mitigation funding does not result in an overall net benefit to habitat because the funds are the result of damages to habitat. A policy paper is attached that includes the proposed measures for ensuring mitigation and restoration work in tandem.

WRIA 9 2015 Legislative Priorities

Based on feedback received from Tacoma recently on the 2015 WRIA 9 Legislative Priorities as well as recent questions by Management Committee members, the Management Committee is recommending that the WEF revise the Legislative Priorities to incorporate Tacoma's comments regarding the Downstream Fish Passage Facility at Howard Hanson Dam and to clarify a few other Priorities. Attached is the Management Committee's recommended changes to the 2015 Legislative Priorities (changes indicated by underscores and strikethroughs).

WRIA 9 Stormwater Retrofit Project: Summary of Findings

Olivia Wright, Engineer/Hydrologist, King County Water Quantity and Quality Unit, will overview the key findings of the WRIA 9 Stormwater Retrofit Project. As twice before presented to the WEF, with funding

from the Environmental Protection Agency, King County undertook a number of tasks to estimate the number of different types of stormwater treatment facilities, and their costs, necessary to rehabilitate stream flows and water quality within WRIA 9. The study concluded with a report in October 2014. Attached is a short summation of the project and its findings.

WRIA 9 ILA Renewal: Management Committee Recommended Interlocal Agreement

All of the comments received over the past several months on the draft WRIA 9 renewal ILA are listed in the attached comment table. The WRIA 9 Management Committee reviewed all of the comments and pursuant to the comments revised the draft ILA. The attached Management Committee Recommended WRIA 9 ILA will be reviewed at the WEF meeting with the goal to agree that the draft ILA is ready to distribute to each of the ILA local governments for final review and comment. Shortly after the February WEF meeting, the draft ILA will be distributed to each of the WRIA 9 Cities and King County for their internal review (including legal) and comment. The Cities and County will be asked to provide any last comments by mid-April to enable preparation of a final draft ILA for the Management Committee to review at its late April meeting. At its May meeting, the Watershed Ecosystem Forum will be asked to finalize the ILA for distribution to the cities and County for approval/signatures. While the signature process is scheduled from May through December, it is hoped that all cities and the County will renew the WRIA 9 ILA well in advance of December (the renewal schedule for all three WRIA ILAs is attached). Per the schedule, I would like to remind WEF City and County representatives that I am available to provide your City and County Councils with a short presentation on WRIA 9 through May.

WRIA 9 Implementation Progress Report

The WRIA 9 team is working feverishly to update the *WRIA 9 Implementation Progress Report, 2005 - 2011*. Maureen Judge, Communications Coordinator, will briefly describe the effort and foreshadow some of the excellent progress WRIA 9 has made since the last publication of the *Report* in 2012.

As always, I look forward to seeing you at the meeting. Please contact me with questions, and please remember to confirm your attendance with Linda.

Doug Osterman, AICP

Watershed Coordinator
Green/Duwamish & Central Puget Sound Watershed (WRIA 9)
201 South Jackson Street, Suite 600
Seattle, WA 98104-3855

Doug.Osterman@kingcounty.gov

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