

Duwamish Gardens Construction
Request for Additional Funding
May 7, 2015

Project Description:

The City of Tukwila will create shallow water habitat on a 2.5 acre site on the right bank of the Duwamish River immediately downstream of river mile 7.0. The site is in the high priority "transition zone" between fresh and salt water, which provides the appropriate range of salinities for juvenile Chinook and chum to transition to salt water. Off-channel and shallow water habitats in this stretch of the Duwamish will provide opportunities for juvenile fish to move out of the main channel to habitats where they can eat, rest and grow. Longer residence times in the estuary allow for larger, healthier smolts prior to ocean migration. When restored, the site will be the largest off-channel habitat between the Codiga Farms restoration at RM 8.5 and North Wind's Weir restoration at RM 6.4.

The new habitat will be created by excavating approximately 30,000 cubic yards of material to establish approximately one acre of shallow water mudflat and marsh habitat and approximately one and a half acres of uplands planted with native vegetation.

The project will provide another viewpoint on the river across from the popular Green River Trail. The viewpoint will include interpretive signs on the cultural resources, historical, and ecological features of the site. Tukwila is one of the most diverse cities in the nation. This project addresses equity and social justice by providing much needed open space and river access for the community.

Cost Increase Request:

The City of Tukwila is requesting an additional \$200,000 from the WRIA 9 Watershed Ecosystem Forum in returned King Conservation District funds, or other funding which may become available, to cover unanticipated costs for the Duwamish Gardens project. Additional funding is required because the construction bid received by the city is higher than expected. Several factors contributed to this increase including rising construction costs due to an improving economy, mitigation measures required after cultural resources were found on-site, and added site area resulting from a pending land exchange that will extend the project downstream to encompass an additional 250 feet of shoreline. The overall funding shortfall is approximately \$400,000. In addition to the \$200,000 requested from the WRIA 9 Ecosystem Forum, Tukwila staff is requesting approval from the Tukwila City Council to use city funds for the remaining \$200,000 shortfall.

Previous grants awarded for construction include King County Cooperative Watershed Management, King Conservation District (WRIA 9 Forum), Salmon Recovery Funding Board, Puget Sound Acquisition and Restoration, and City of Tukwila. The project is expected to go to construction in July 2015.

In order to meet this request for \$200,000, we are requesting approval to use \$36,423 from 2015 Puget Sound Acquisition and Restoration funding and approval to allocate any other returned funds or additional funding that becomes available up to this amount.

Project Costs:

Construction Bid (low bidder)	\$2,447,346
<i>Contingency</i>	244,734
Total Funding Needed	\$2,692,080
Funding Available	\$2,292,080
FUNDING SHORTFALL	\$400,000