

Lower Frew Levee Setback Project

Snoqualmie Forum Meeting - September

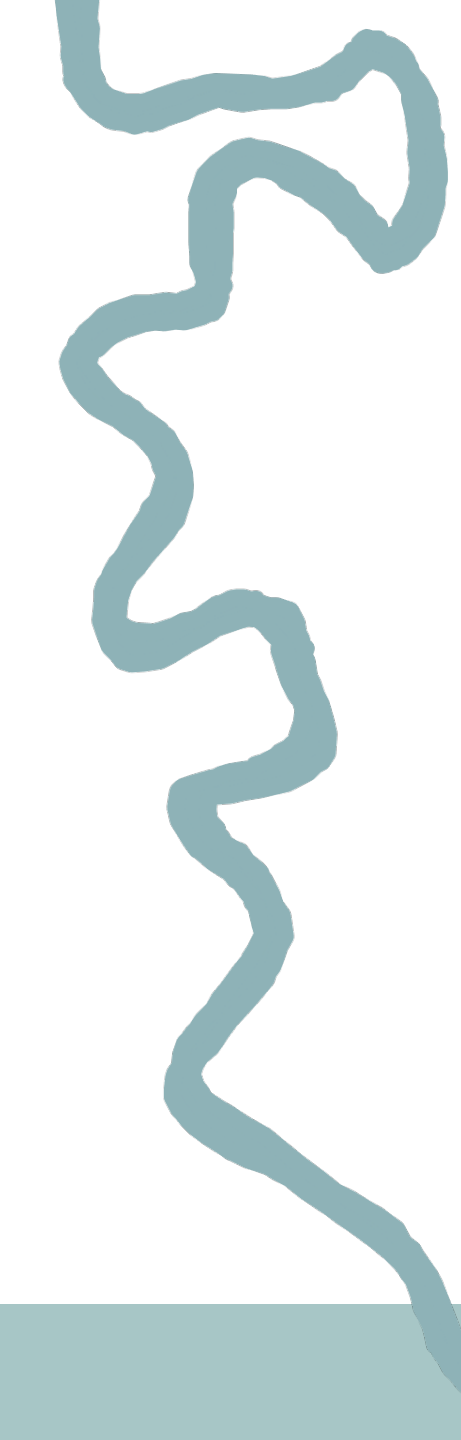
September 16, 2026

Sarah McCarthy, Outgoing Project Manager

Kaitlin Harris, Incoming Project Manager

Service Provider to the King County Flood Control District

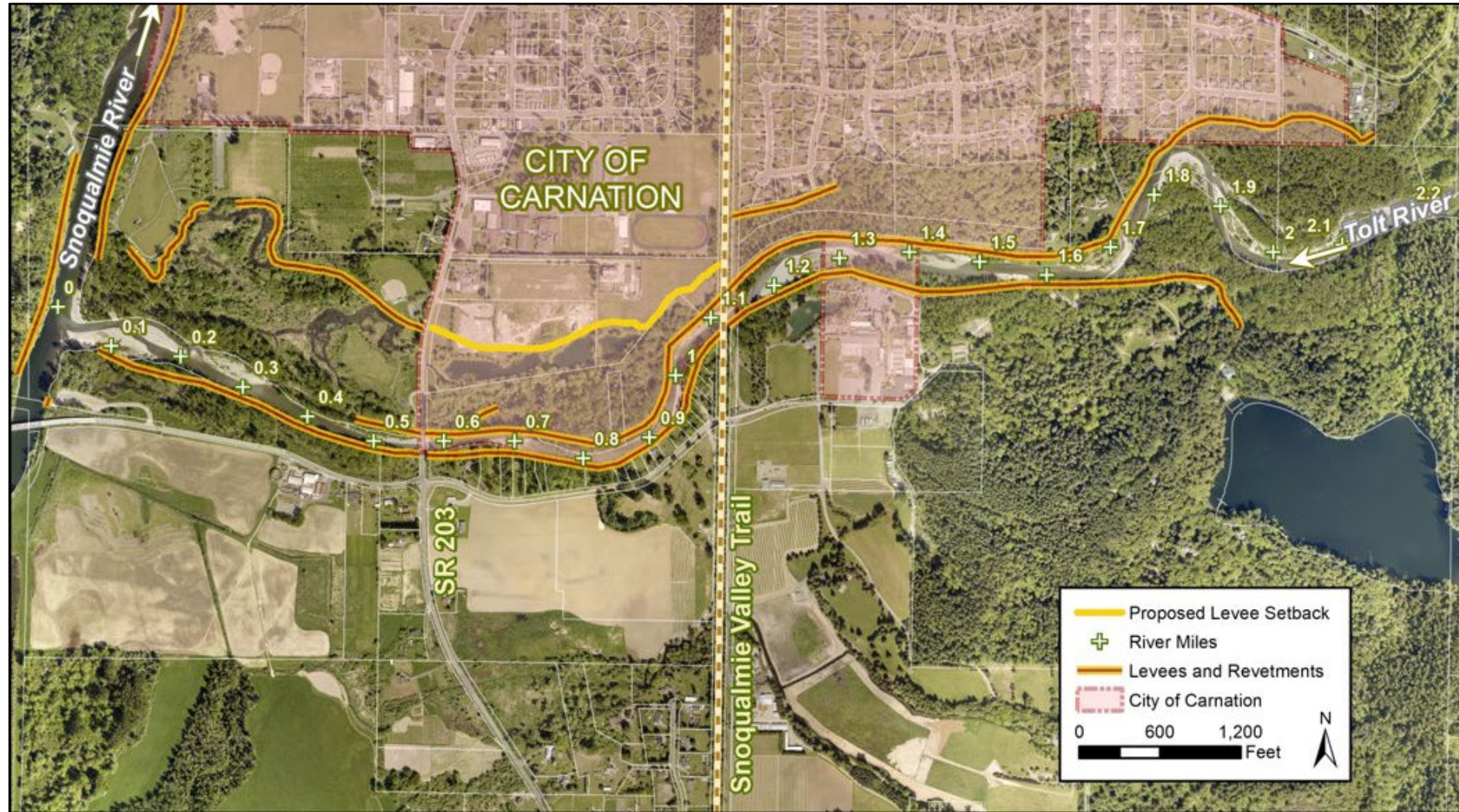




Meeting objectives

- Provide overview on project need, proposed design concepts, and benefits
- Provide update on project status and schedule
- Q & A

Lower Tolt River – project location



Map of project location

Project need



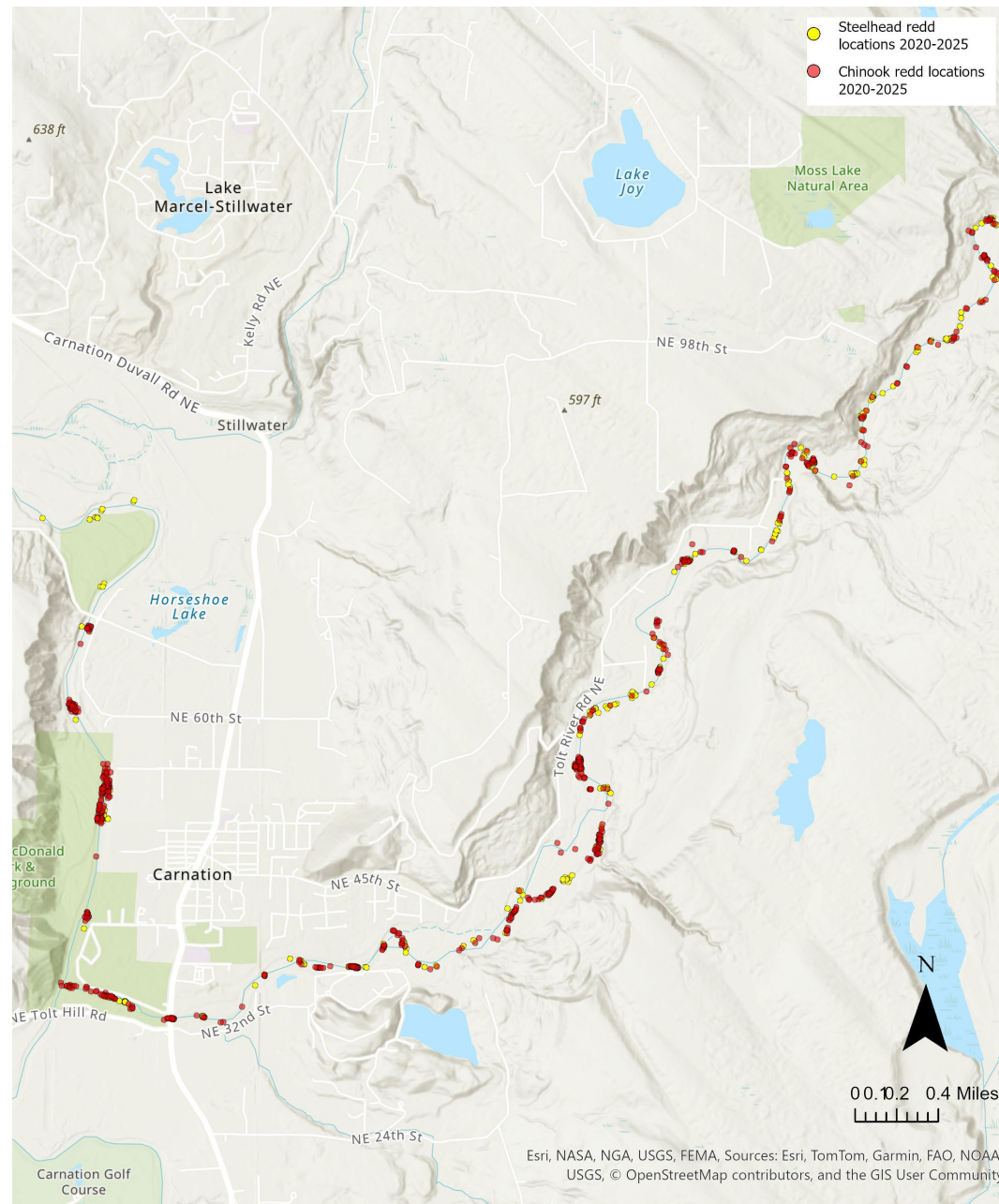
Tolt and Snoqualmie Rivers flooding, January 2009

Project need

- Restricted access to core spawning area
- Prevention of large wood from moving through system
- Increased flood velocities through main channel



Existing side channel



Steelhead and Chinook redd locations, 2020 - 2025

Project goals

1. Reduce risk to people, property, and infrastructure due to flooding and channel migration hazards
2. Restore river processes and functions to improve salmon spawning and rearing habitat
3. Provide safe trail access and public use of the site consistent with current use and in consideration of future ecological conditions



*Flooding on SR
203, Jan 2009*



Juvenile Chinook Salmon



Tolt River Trail

Project considerations

1. Consistency with project goals
2. Nearby property and infrastructure
3. Durability, resiliency, and long-term performance
4. Input from Tribes, public, City of Carnation, regulatory agencies, WSDOT, KC Parks, and others



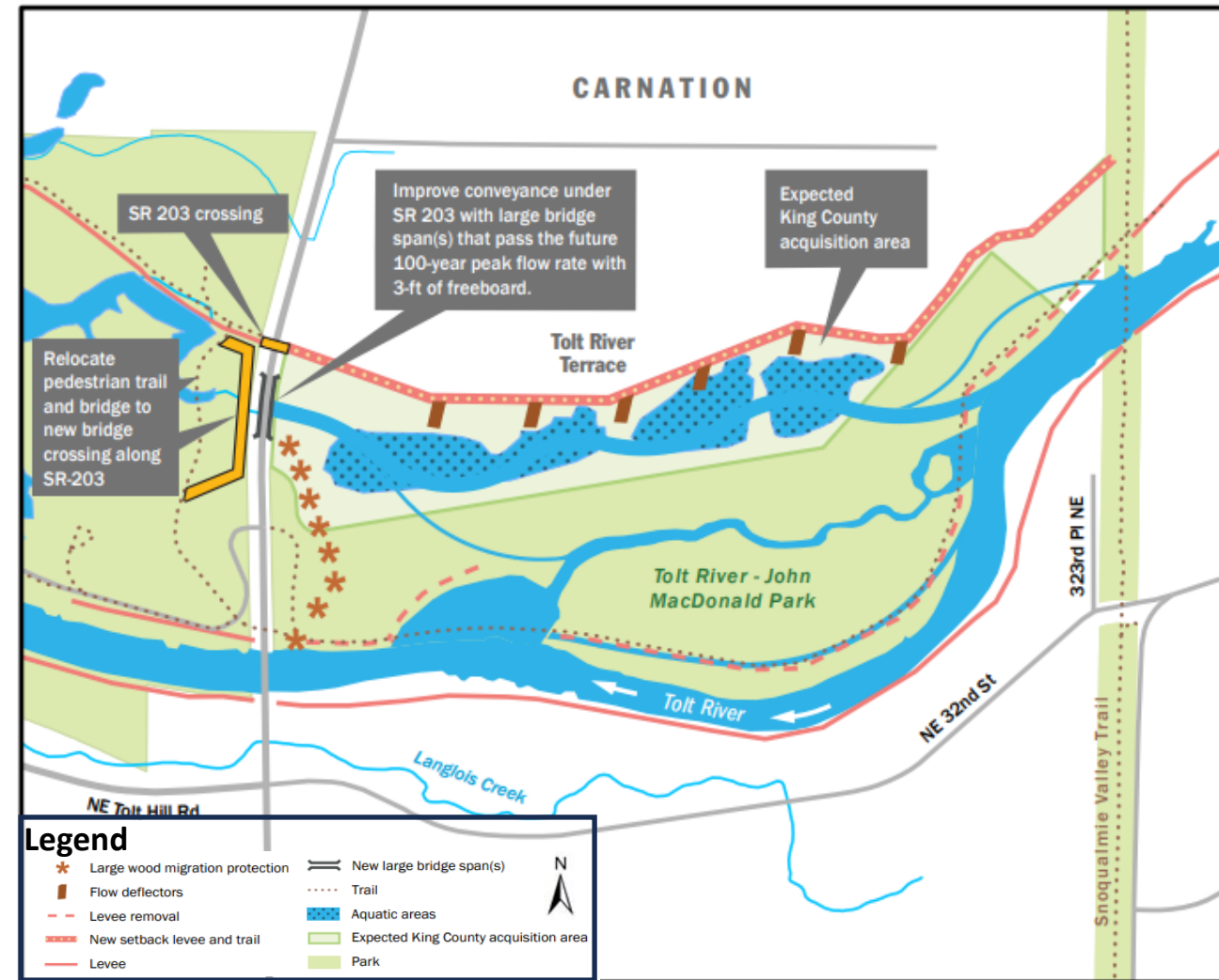
Existing culvert under SR 203



Public event in 2025

Selected alternative

- Highest scores for flood risk reduction, habitat restoration, and benefit-cost ratio
- Focus on process-based restoration
- Most resilient design for changing climate conditions at SR 203
- Trail with undercrossing at SR 203 and connection to Snoqualmie Valley Trail
- Preferred by Tribes and City of Carnation



Selected project alternative 4B graphic

30% Design conceptual graphic



Lower Tolt River integrated with project conceptual design

30% Design conceptual graphic



Project footprint rendering

Cross-sections: levee setback

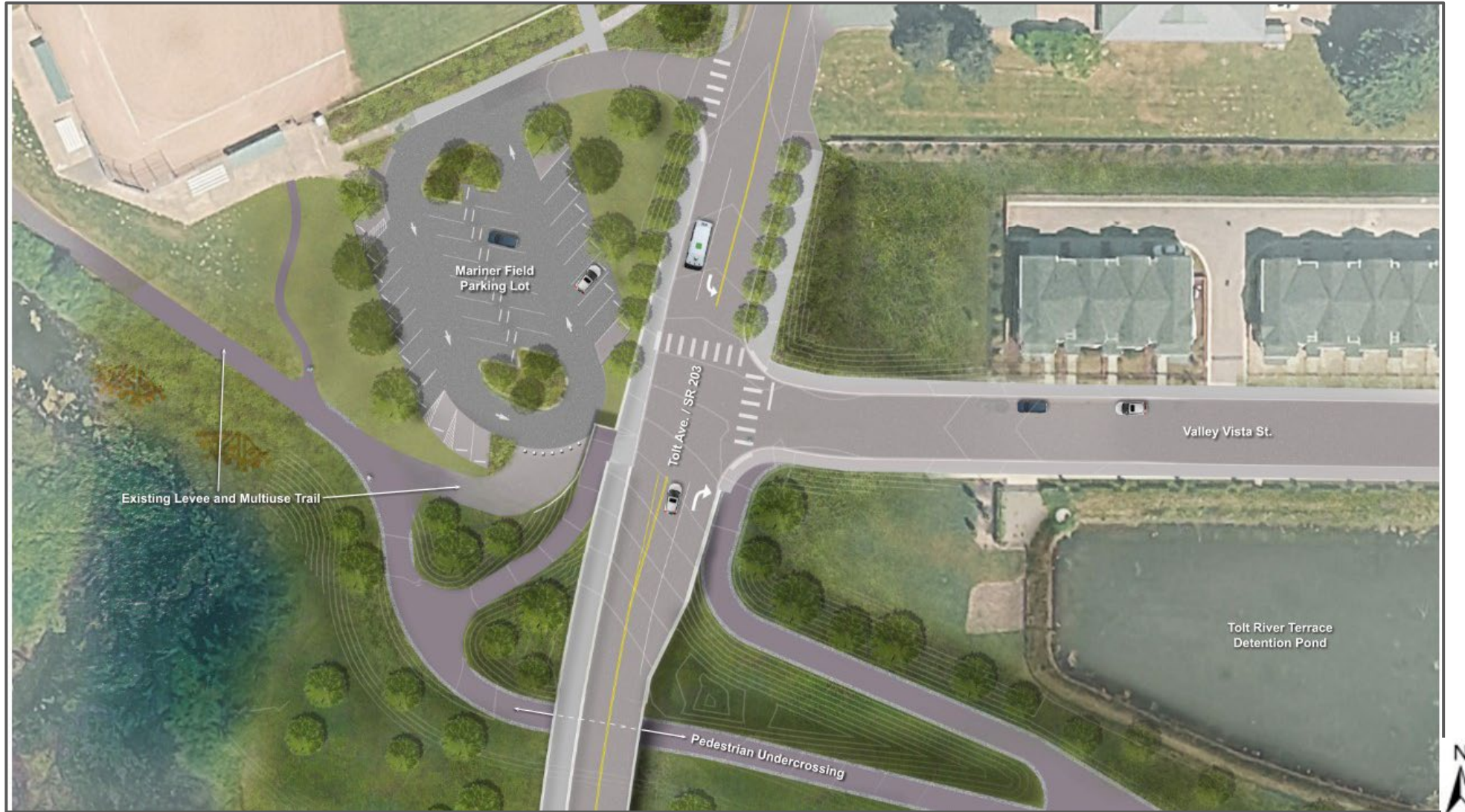


Cross-section graphic by Berger Partnership

Cross-sections: new bridge



Road, trail, and parking modifications



Road and trail modifications graphic by Berger Partnership

Recreational amenities



Recreational amenities graphic by Berger Partnership

Projected ecological benefits

Metric	Quantity	Notes
Linear feet edge restored	2,732 linear feet	Restored length of main channel Tolt River, based on length of armored levee removed as depicted in 30% design plans.
Acres of off-channel/side channel	9 acres	Measured in GIS based on inundation area for the median rearing flow rate as modeled for the Lower Frew Project. Rounded to nearest acre.
Number of large wood jams	71	From 30% design plans; includes all engineered log structures; excludes individual loose wood pieces that might be placed in floodplain using salvaged on-site wood.

Project status

- Multi-disciplinary project team
- Project sponsored by King County Flood Control District (District)
- All necessary land has been acquired
- Alternative selected in 2023, preliminary design completed in spring 2026
- Ongoing outreach and engagement



Tolt River floodplain flooding, January 2015

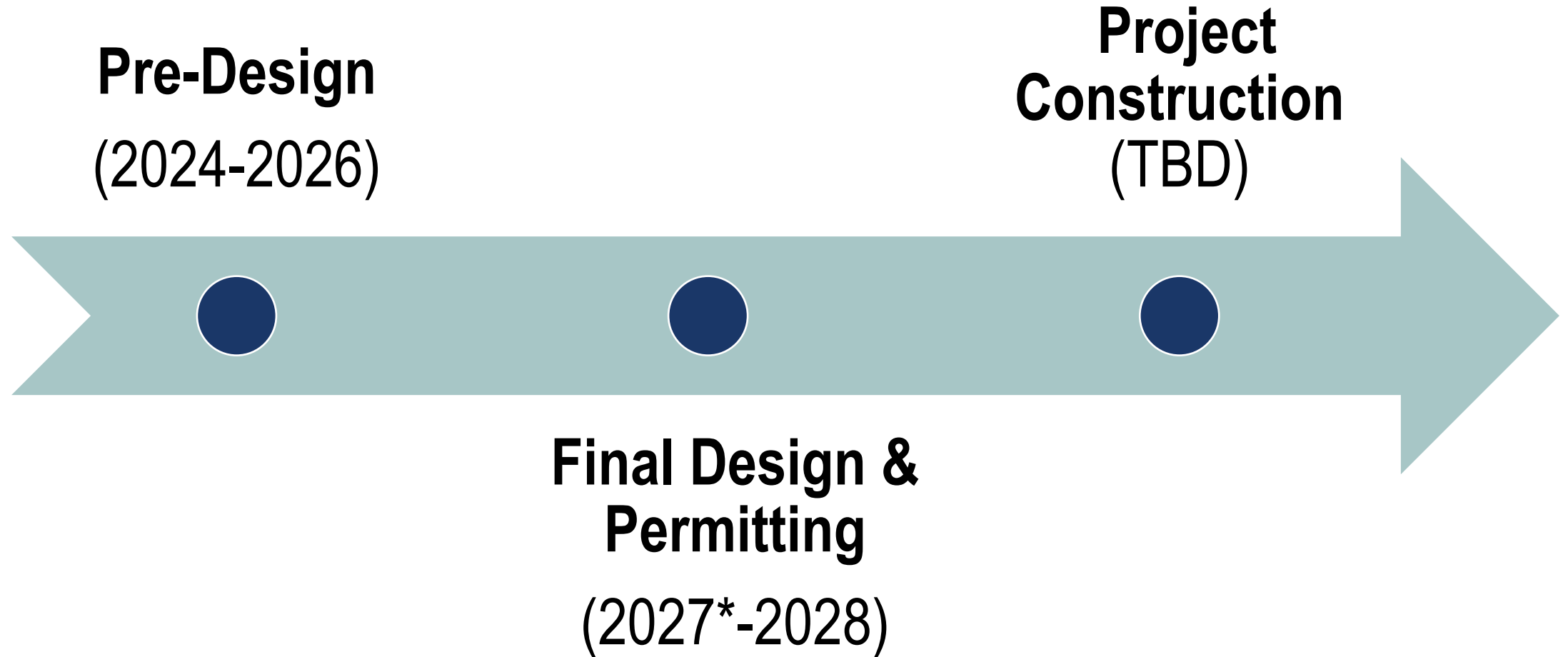
Funding overview

- Total estimated project cost is approximately \$70M
 - Construction is estimated at \$53.7M
- Multi-pronged funding strategy
 - King County Flood Control District
 - State and federal grants



*2009 emergency repair along existing
Lower Frew levee*

Expected project schedule



*Pending District approval to proceed



Thank you for your continued support!



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Be flood ready! Visit kingcounty.gov/PrepareForFlooding

Learn about the King County Flood Control District at kingcountyfloodcontrol.org

