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Cedar River Council
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 Salmon Hatchery
 Greater Seattle Chamber
 of Commerce
 Mid-Sound Fisheries
 Enhancement Group
 Mountains to Sound
 Greenway
 Northwest Marine Trade
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 Sno-King Watershed
 Council
 Trout Unlimited/
 Water Tenders

Alderwood Water and
 Wastewater District
 National Oceanic and
 Atmospheric
 Administration
 US Army Corps of
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 Washington Departments:
 Ecology
 Fish and Wildlife
 Natural Resources
 Washington Association of
 Sewer and Water Districts
 King Conservation District

October 28, 2020



Chair, Dave Upthegrove
 King County Council Chambers, King County Courthouse
 516 Third Avenue,
 Seattle, WA 98104

RE: Support for proposed King County Flood Control District motion FCD20-07.1

Dear Chair Upthegrove:

The Lake Washington/Cedar/Sammamish Watershed (WRIA 8) Salmon Recovery Council (Council) urges your approval of the proposed motion under consideration at your November 4, 2020 meeting. Approving this motion is an important affirmation of the King County Flood Control District’s (District) commitment to integrated floodplain management and multiple benefit capital project planning and implementation. The WRIA 8 Council is comprised of 28 local government partners and numerous stakeholder representatives from business, community groups, concerned citizens, and state and federal agencies who have been working since 2000 to recover Chinook salmon. Recognizing the strong and important nexus between flood hazard management and salmon habitat needs, the members of the WRIA 8 Council value the District as a partner in integrated river floodplain management.

The motion recognizes the interconnectedness of flood risk reduction, habitat restoration, stewardship, and environmental justice and equity. This integrated approach will leverage flood risk reduction, habitat restoration, and open space and recreation funding to improve coordination and accelerate important projects and actions that will result in meaningful improvements to the health of King County’s watersheds and an improved quality of life for the residents of King County. The WRIA 8 Council strongly supports the motion’s emphasis on prioritizing multiple benefit projects and alignment of the District’s work with King County policies and regional conservation and stewardship initiatives, most notably watershed-based salmon recovery plans. We appreciate the motion’s emphasis on considering the District’s capital improvement projects in a river reach and basin context, including opportunities to collaborate with other

partners, like WRIA 8, to leverage community investment. The WRIA 8 Chinook Salmon Recovery Plan identifies numerous opportunities to collaborate with the District on priority projects that simultaneously reduce flood risk and restore salmon habitat. We look forward to the application of this approach in the reevaluation of the Cedar River Capital Investment Strategy and development of the new Sammamish River Capital Investment Strategy.

The WRIA 8 Council requests your approval of proposed motion No. FCD20-07.1, and we applaud the District for considering ways to strengthen the commitment to integrated floodplain management and prioritizing multiple benefit capital projects. Thank you for your consideration of our comments, and we look forward to working collaboratively with the District to achieve salmon recovery goals while simultaneously reducing risk to people and property.

If you have any questions, please contact Jason Mulvihill-Kuntz, WRIA 8 Salmon Recovery Manager, at 206-477-4780 or jason.mulvihill-kuntz@kingcounty.gov

Sincerely,



John Stokes
Chair, WRIA 8 Salmon Recovery Council
Councilmember, City of Bellevue



Mark Phillips
Vice-Chair, WRIA 8 Salmon Recovery Council
Councilmember, City of Lake Forest Park

Cc: Clerk of the Metro King County Council
WRIA 8 Salmon Recovery Council members
Jason Mulvihill-Kuntz, WRIA 8 Salmon Recovery Council Manager