

KING COUNTY CONSERVATION FUTURES AND OPEN SPACE CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM

Introduction to Program, Goals, and Highlights

Background on Conservation Futures Tax Levy:

Conservation Futures Tax (CFT) levy funds are collected from property taxes levied throughout King County and dedicated to the acquisition of open space in cities and rural areas. The Conservation Futures Citizens Committee (Committee) makes annual recommendations of project funding allocations to King County based on a review of project applications and site visits. This year's citizen committee recommendations total \$11.5 million for projects throughout King County.

Project Prioritization Methodology

Conservation Futures Citizens Committee Recommendations Process:

Applications and notice of availability of these funds are mailed out to parks and natural resource directors of King County and its cities at the beginning of each year. In the spring and early summer, preceding the budget submittal, the Committee meets and conducts field trips to develop their recommendations. The Committee reviewed the projects using King County's adopted conservation futures criteria, which the Committee developed at the request of the King County Council in the fall of 2001.

Factors Affecting This Recommendation:

The Committee has worked creatively to adequately fund projects that are initiated from competitive local and countywide planning processes, salmon conservation plans, the county's Greenprint plan and other community planning processes and to promote their successful competition for additional state, local or private matching funds. The Committee's recommendations, in some instances, would provide the first public funding commitment, and thus serve as a strong endorsement to other potential funding agencies such as the state Interagency Committee on Outdoor Recreation (IAC). The recommended projects are well distributed geographically throughout King County. These projects are expected to significantly improve the quality of life in King County.

2007 Significant Project Highlights

Open Space Grant Contingency: 2007 Requested Budget \$2,649,500

This will be used for grants and accompanying match monies awarded during the course of the year for Open Space and Habitat acquisition projects. Applications have been submitted for a number of projects to acquire lands in the Water Resource Inventory Areas (WRIA), for example, \$780,000 for the acquisition of land in the Taylor Mountain Forest. This will provide spending authority once the grants have been awarded.

Eastside Rail Trail: 2007 Requested Budget \$2,500,000

The Eastside Rail Trail Project is located in the Rail corridor currently owned by Burlington Northern that passes through the heart of the east side cities of Renton, Newcastle, Bellevue,

Kirkland, Redmond, Woodinville and a small portion of unincorporated King County. Like the Burke Gilman trail, the proposed East Side trail has the potential to serve thousands of people on a daily basis, as a passive recreational asset or as an important transportation alternative to automobiles.

Transfer Development Rights (TDR) Bank: 2007 Requested Budget \$1,429,000

The TDR Bank will purchase development rights from private rural land owners already qualified to sell their development rights pursuant to King County Code 21A.37. King County’s voluntary TDR Program helps rural property owners sell development rights to urban landowners who are seeking additional residential density. The program protects rural lands for farming, forestry, open space and habitat for threatened or endangered species, while allowing increased residential density in urban areas.

The total 2007 Executive Proposed CIP Budget for the Open Space Program is \$16,672,488. This includes the citizen committee recommended amount of \$11.5 million for conservation projects and \$5.2 million for projects such as the Open Space Grant Contingency, TDR Bank and Title 3 Forestry.

The following table displays major projects greater than \$400,000 for which appropriations are requested.

Significant Projects Conservation Futures and Open Space Capital Improvement Projects	2007 Executive Proposed Budget	Continuation of Existing Project
Open Space Grant Contingency	\$ 2,649,500	X
Eastside Rail Trail - Countywide	\$ 2,500,000	
TDR Bank – Countywide	\$ 1,429,000	
Discovery Park-Capehart - Seattle	\$ 1,300,000	X
Rainbow Bend Corridor Ph II – King County	\$ 750,000	
Bellevue Greenways and Open Space	\$ 750,000	X
Taylor Creek Stream/Wetland Restoration	\$ 500,000	
Walker Preserve Addition – Normandy Park	\$ 500,000	
Morgan Junction Urban Village Park - Seattle	\$ 475,000	
Thornton Creek Park 2 Additions - Seattle	\$ 425,000	

Council Adopted Budget

339202 – Coop Ext Orca Program - \$175,436

CIP Program Accomplishments and Completion Lists

Projects Completed in 2005

315108 South Fork Hamm Creek
315123 Shadow Lake Bog
315138 Piner Point--Maury Island
315145 Newaukum Creek
315146 Patterson Creek
315148 Snoqualmie Fall City Reach
315150 Vashon-Maury Land Trust
315150 Vashon Judd Creek Headwaters
315150 Vashon Judd Creek Headwaters
315158 Dandy Lake
315171 Griffin Creek
315176 Tolt River/Moss Lake Natural Area
315177 Girl Scout Camp
352128 Redmond to Redmond Watershed Trail
352305 Cedar River Legacy-Ricardi Reach
352326 Cougar Mountain Precipice
352336 Walker Creek
352401 Bear Creek
001843 Kanaskat
001853 Big Spring
021588 Kanaskat
047115 Mullen Slough

Projects to be Completed in 2006

315103 Cedar River - Dorre Don Meanders
315167 Taylor Creek
315103 Landsburg Reach
315175 Tolt River-San Souci
315171 Griffin Creek
384001 Snoqualmie Valley APD
001784 Cedar River - Ricardi Reach
001853 Big Spring Creek
315158 Bass/Beaver/Dandy Lakes
315714 Black Diamond Open Space
315171 Griffin Creek
315183 Vashon/Maury Island Land Trust
352401 Bear Creek

315163 Issaquah Basin
352115 Green to Cedar River Trail
352305 Cedar River - Dorre Don Meanders
021588 Upper Kanaskat
384001 Lower Green APD
315189 Lower Green APD
021588 Upper Kanaskat
316448 Ravensdale FRCV Ballfields
316021 Snoqualmie Valley
316606 Bryn Mawr
352128 Redmond to Redmond Trail
384001 Upper Green APD
315123 Shadow Lake Bog
021588 Kanaskat Phase III
352305 Cedar River - Rainbow Bend

Projects to be Completed in 2007

315158 Bass/Beaver/Dandy
315183 Vashon Maury Island Land Trust
352305 Cedar River Legacy
315158 Bass/Beaver/Dandy Lake Complex
315190 Enumclaw Plateau Dairy Pasture
315178 Green River Natural Area Additions
315192 Newaukum Creek/Green River Confluence
315193 Shinglemill Creek Salmon Preserve (Vashon)
315194 Rainbow Bend Corridor (Cedar River)
315195 Sammamish Valley - Zante
315196 Taylor Creek Stream/Wetland Restoration
315600 TDR Partnership
315175 Tolt River - San Souci
316441 Palmer Junction to Veazey
384101 Lower Green APD