



# King County

1200 King County  
Courthouse  
516 Third Avenue  
Seattle, WA 98104

## Meeting Agenda Committee of the Whole

*Councilmembers: Kathy Lambert, Chair; Rod Dembowski, Vice Chair;  
Claudia Balducci, Reagan Dunn, Larry Gossett, Jeanne Kohl-Welles, Joe McDermott,  
Dave Upthegrove, Pete von Reichbauer*

*Staff: Patrick Hamacher, Lead Staff (206-477-0880)  
Marka Steadman, Committee Assistant (206-477-0887)*

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9:30 AM

Wednesday, August 17, 2016

Room 1001

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Pursuant to K.C.C. 1.24.035 A. and F., this meeting is also noticed as a meeting of the Metropolitan King County Council, whose agenda is limited to the committee business. In this meeting only the rules and procedures applicable to committees apply and not those applicable to full council meetings.

1. Call to Order
2. Roll Call
3. Approval of Minutes

[July 20, 2016 meeting pp. 3-4](#)

To show a PDF of the written materials for an agenda item, click on the agenda item below.

### Briefing

4. [Briefing No. 2016-B0153 pp. 5-20 \(Approx. 30 min.\)](#)

Local Government Update: Metro

*Paul Carlson, Council staff*

5. [Briefing No. 2016-B0165pp. 21-24 \(Approx. 15 min.\)](#)

King County Fair Update

*Patrick Hamacher, Council staff*

*Scott Gray, Executive Director, Enumclaw Expo Center*



*Sign language and communication material in alternate formats can be arranged given sufficient notice (206-1000).*

*TDD Number 206-1024.*

*ASSISTIVE LISTENING DEVICES AVAILABLE IN THE COUNCIL CHAMBERS.*



6. [Briefing No. 2016-B0154](#) pp. 25-26 (Approx. 30 min.)

Faith-based Procurement

*Patrick Hamacher, Council staff*

*Adrienne Quinn, Director, Community and Human Services*

*Peggy Pahl, Senior Deputy Prosecuting Attorney*

*Kendall Moore, Council Senior Deputy Legal Counsel*

7. [Briefing No. 2016-B0158](#) pp.27-126 (Approx. 30 min.)

King Conservation District 2017 Annual Program of Work and Rates and Charges Budget

*Hiedi Popochock, Council staff*

## Other Business

## Adjournment



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## Meeting Minutes

### Committee of the Whole

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#### DRAFT MINUTES

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1. **Call to Order**

*The Metropolitan King County Council's Committee of the Whole was called to order by Chair Kathy Lambert at 9:42 a.m.*

2. **Roll Call**

**Present:** 8 - Ms. Balducci, Mr. Dembowski, Mr. Dunn, Mr. Gossett, Ms. Kohl-Welles, Ms. Lambert, Mr. McDermott and Mr. von Reichbauer

**Excused:** 1 - Mr. Upthegrove

3. **Approval of Minutes**

*Councilmember Dembowski moved approval of the July 6, 2016 meeting minutes. There being no objections, the minutes were approved.*

### Briefing

4. **Briefing No. 2016-B0148**

Cascadia Rising

*Walt Hubbard, Director, and Jody Miller, Deputy Director, Office of Emergency Management, addressed the Committee and answered questions from the members.*

**This matter was Presented**

**5. Briefing No. 2016-B0147**

Harborview Annual Report

*Katherine Cortes, Council staff, introduced the presenters. Clayton Lewis,, President, Harborview Medical Center Board of Trustees; and Paul Hayes, Executive Director, Harborview Medical Center, briefed the Committee and answered questions from the members. Mark Hamilton, Washington Federation of State Employees, and Jane Hopkins, Service Employees International Union Local 1199, addressed the Committee and answered questions from the members.*

**This matter was Presented**

**Other Business**

*There was no further business to come before the Committee.*

**Adjournment**

*The meeting was adjourned at 11:17 a.m.*

Approved this \_\_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Clerk's Signature



**King County**

**Metropolitan King County Council  
Committee of the Whole**

**STAFF REPORT**

<b>Agenda Item:</b>	4	<b>Name:</b>	Paul Carlson
<b>Proposed No.:</b>	2016-B0153	<b>Date:</b>	August 17, 2016

**SUBJECT**

Local Government Update: Metro.

**SUMMARY**

This presentation discusses the ways King County Metro manages its network of bus services and supplemental transit services and how this countywide transit agency addresses local needs in the unincorporated area. Topics include:

- The role of the Strategic Plan for Public Transportation (Transit Strategic Plan) and King County Metro Service Guidelines (Service Guidelines) in identifying bus service needs,
- Implementation of alternative services, and
- Potential impacts of *Metro Connects*, the proposed Long Range Plan just transmitted by the Executive.

**BACKGROUND**

King County Metro provides local bus service in King County’s cities and unincorporated areas. For less densely populated areas such as the unincorporated areas outside the Urban Growth Boundary, King County Metro mobility options for residents may include:

- Bus service including routes that serve corridors in these areas,
- Park-and-ride lots (including leased lots) in or near these areas,
- Alternative services tailored to address the needs in these areas as identified through a collaborative process with the community.

Based on the recommendations of a Regional Transit Task Force (RTTF), in 2011 the County Council approved the Strategic Plan for Public Transportation and King County Metro Service Guidelines. Among its recommendations, the RTTF called for transparent, performance-based **guidelines** emphasizing productivity, social equity, and geographic value.

The Transit Strategic Plan includes a Strategy calling for the use of guidelines as advised by the RTTF.

**The Service Guidelines** – the King County Metro Service Guidelines contain the guidelines called for by the RTTF. These Guidelines:

- Define the all-day and peak network of Metro Transit corridors connecting Regional Growth Centers and Metro-designated Transit Activity Centers. As directed by a strategy in the Transit Strategic Plan, target service levels on these transit corridors are identified through a scoring system that awards points for productivity, social equity, and geographic value.
- Establish measures of route productivity, passenger loads, and schedule reliability to assess Metro system performance.
- Define service design criteria for individual bus routes and the overall bus route network.
- Outline the use of performance measures and design factors to manage the system.

The Service Guidelines have informed significant restructures of bus service in response to new RapidRide bus lines and Link Light Rail extensions. During the recession, Metro used the Guidelines to develop proposals for steep reductions in bus service. Some cuts were implemented, but the County Council's 2015-2016 biennial budget averted most of the service cuts.

**Alternative Services** – the RTTF identified the concept of alternative services as a way to augment the bus route network, especially to serve lower density areas where fixed route service may not be cost effective. After extensive community outreach as well as discussion by the Regional Transit Committee and County Council, a 2015-2018 demonstration program was established and the Transit Strategic Plan and Service Guidelines were updated to reflect the ongoing commitment to alternative services.

Services in the Snoqualmie Valley (Routes 628 and 629, the new Duvall Community Shuttle) are examples of alternative service implementation; ongoing community collaboration in Southeast King County and Vashon Island will result in alternative services in those areas.

Earlier this year, the County Council approved updates to the Transit Strategic Plan and Service Guidelines that reflect the recommendations of the Service Guidelines Task Force that met in 2015. In addition, the Access to Transit Study Report evaluates the ways by which riders reach their buses, including park-and-ride facilities and bicycle/pedestrian access.

Of interest to the unincorporated area, the updates:

- Support the expansion of Metro's alternative services by developing an extensive range of such services, serving new markets, and developing partnerships.
- Better characterize how Metro will value park-and-rides and all types of access to transit.
- Set a minimum of 60-minute all day service on transit corridors.

- Modify Metro's bus service types so that comparable services are measured against one another (removing a disadvantage for routes in lower density areas).
- Expand the description of Metro's planning and public outreach process and adding unincorporated area councils to the list of stakeholders.
- Offer protection to peak period routes serving outlying communities in the event that future service reductions are necessary.

The Executive has just transmitted a proposed Transit Long Range Plan, *Metro Connects*. Today's presentation will discuss how this long-term vision addresses unincorporated area mobility.

### **ATTACHMENTS**

1. King County Transit Division Presentation, *Metro Service Opportunities in Unincorporated King County*

### **INVITED**

1. Christina O'Claire, Manager Strategy and Performance, King County Transit Division
2. Carol Cooper, Supervisor, Market Development, King County Transit Division

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# Metro Transit Service Opportunities in Unincorporated King County

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Committee of the Whole

August 17, 2016

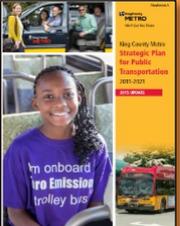


***We'll Get You There.***

# Purpose

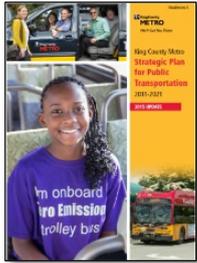
- Provide overview of Metro Plan and Policy Guidance
- Describe Alternative Services structure
- Discuss example Alternative Service projects in unincorporated and rural communities

# Plan and Policy Guidance

	Purpose	Unincorporated Role
<p><b>Strategic Plan</b></p> 	<p>Policy guidance</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Human Potential (Geographic Value and Social Equity), provides equitable opportunities for people from all areas of King County to access the public transportation system</li> </ul>
<p><b>METRO CONNECTS</b></p> 	<p>Long-range plan</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Use community-based planning and partnerships to implement new services</li> <li>• Use local and flexible service investments to better fit communities</li> <li>• Pilot services and technologies to better serve the customer</li> </ul>
<p><b>Service Guidelines</b></p> 	<p>Route investment, reduction, and near-term changes tool</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Considers 'geographic value' and 'social equity' when setting target service levels for structuring service</li> <li>• Identifies minimum service levels and alternative service candidate thresholds</li> </ul>

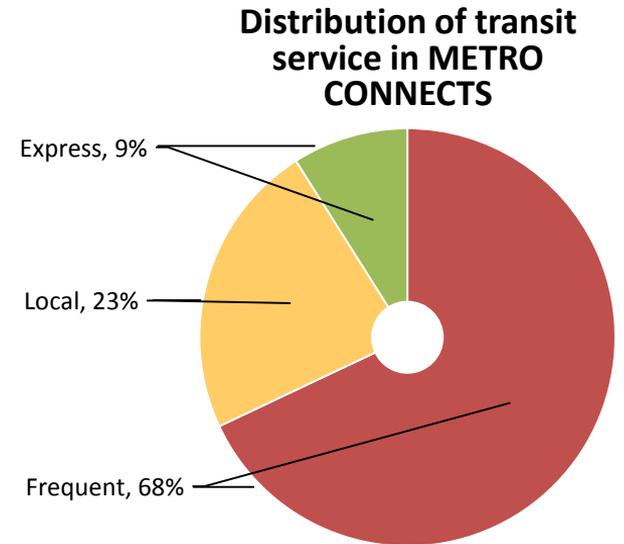
# Strategic Plan

- Serve different markets and mobility needs
- Serve historically disadvantaged populations
- Provide valuable products to all parts of the county
- Seek ‘right-sized’ or complementary service in hard to serve and unserved areas



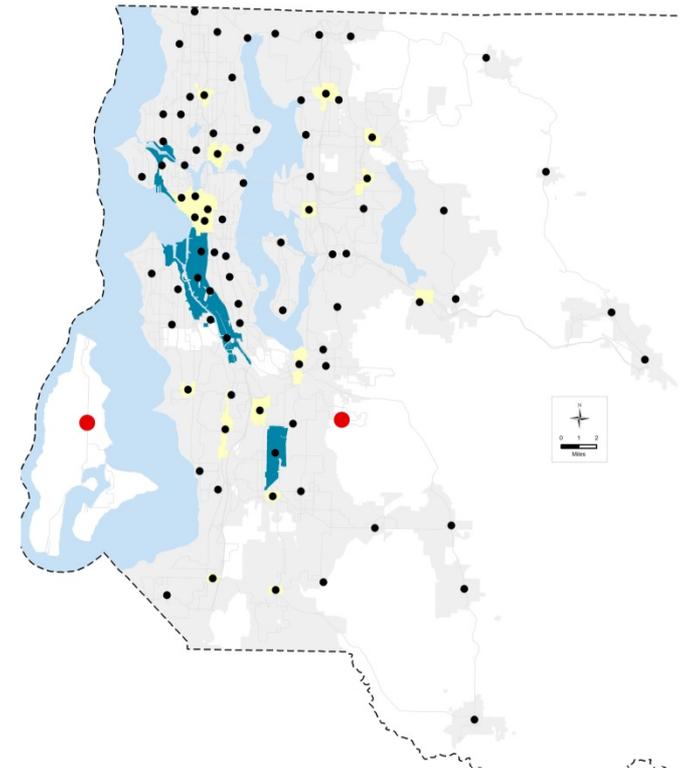
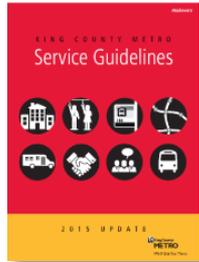
# METRO CONNECTS Long-range plan

- Use community-based planning and partnerships to implement new services
- Use local and flexible service investments to better fit communities' needs
- Pilot new and innovative services and technologies to better serve all areas of the county
- Provide less dense areas access to the transit system through park-and-rides



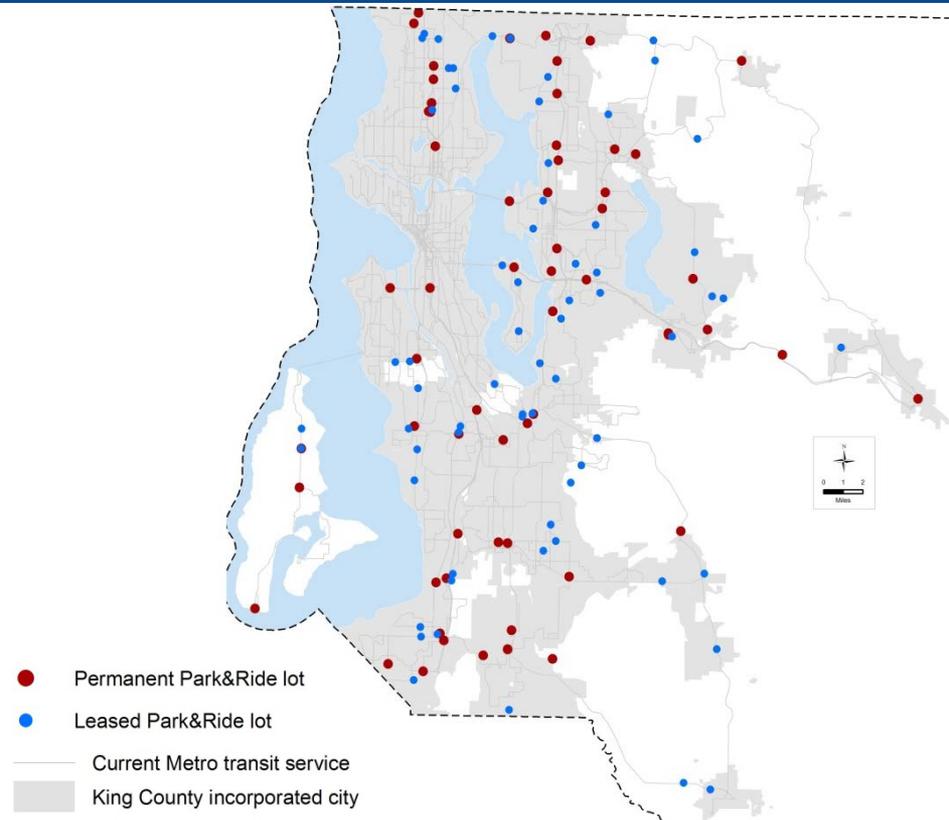
# Service Guidelines

- Corridor Geographic Value is scored based on connections between centers
- Corridor Social Equity is scored based on access provided to low-income and minority populations
- Corridors include connections to P&R's between centers, often served by peak-only or all-day service
- Guidance to plan, design, and changing service includes minimum service levels and alternative service candidate thresholds



# Serving Rural Areas

Rural areas access the transit system by using park-and-rides located throughout the network



# Alternative Services: Project Types

- **Mitigating:** Mitigating lost or reduced service
- **Right-sizing:** Revising service to meet specific needs to improve cost-effectiveness
- **Complementary Services:** Designed to provide local mobility and connect to existing transit services by filling gaps in the system

# Alternative Services: Tailored Products



## Existing Alternative Services

VanShare  
VanPool  
Rideshare Matching  
DART and CAT  
SchoolPool



## Community Shuttle

Metro route with a Flexible Service Area, provided through community partnerships.



## Community Van

Metro vans for local group trips scheduled by a Community Transportation Coordinator to meet local needs.



## Real-Time Rideshare

Promoting the use of mobile apps to enable private carpool ridesharing in real-time.



## TripPool

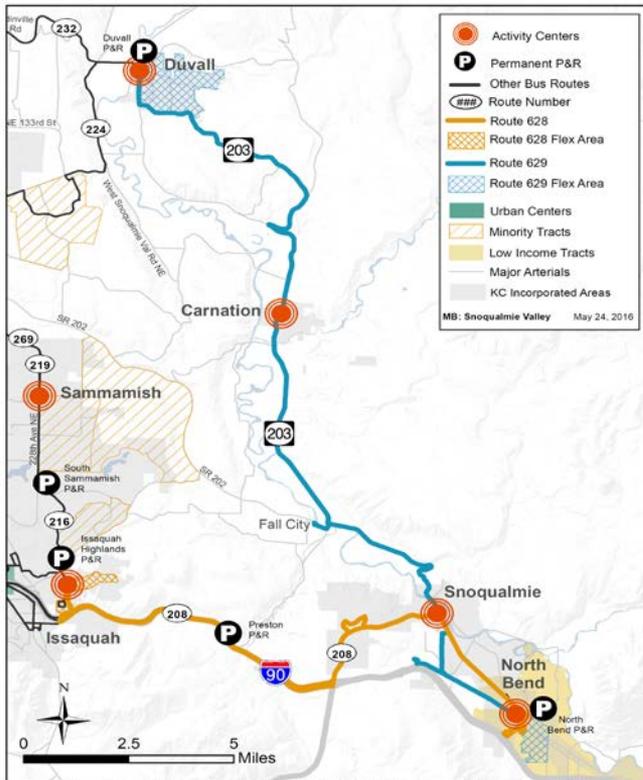
Real-time ridesharing between home neighborhood and a transit center. Uses Metro Vans and ORCA fares.



## Alternative Services in Development

Microtransit  
TNC partnerships  
More to come!

# Example: Alternative Services - Snoqualmie Valley



## PERFORMANCE MEASUREMENT STAGE

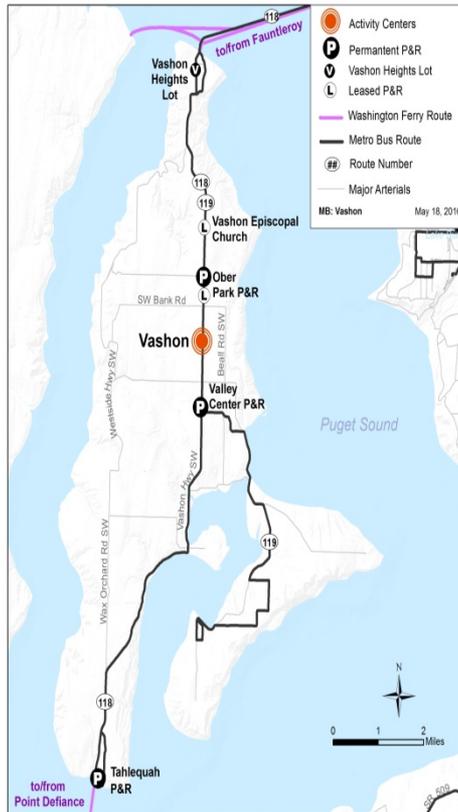
**Route 629** connecting North Bend, Snoqualmie, Fall City, Carnation, and Duvall

**Route 628** connecting North Bend, Snoqualmie, Preston P&R, and Issaquah

**Community Van service** to provide local midday, evening, and weekend mobility options targeted to residents in incorporated and unincorporated areas of Duvall

**Participation from Community Stakeholder Working Group** help formulate service options

# Example: Alternative Services – Vashon Island



## PLANNING STAGE

**Real-Time Rideshare** provides informal carpooling that's coordinated using a mobile app called iCarpool

**Community Van** provides prearranged group trips to meet locally-identified transportation needs using volunteer drivers

**Community Transportation Hub** is an online or physical one-stop-shop for transportation information and resources

**Open Door Access** is a concept to use Metro Access vans to serve anyone looking for a ride on a space-available basis

Participation from Community Stakeholder Working Group help formulate service options

# Questions?

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King County

**METRO**

***We'll Get You There.***



**King County**

**Metropolitan King County Council  
Committee of the Whole**

**STAFF REPORT**

<b>Agenda Item:</b>	5	<b>Name:</b>	Patrick Hamacher
<b>Proposed No.:</b>	22016-B0165	<b>Date:</b>	August 17, 2016

**SUBJECT**

Today's briefing will provide a summary from the King County Fair, with a particular focus on the contribution from the King County Council to support participation by members of the 4-H Youth Development program.

**SUMMARY**

In July 2016, the King County Fair marked its 154<sup>th</sup> year celebrating the County's agricultural heritage. The County Council partnered with the Fair, providing \$25,000 to the City of Enumclaw to support local 4-H Youth Development participation.

Thanks to the County's financial support and the leadership of the new non-profit Enumclaw Expo and Events Association and its hired staff, the Fair was able to significantly increase attendance, revenues, and 4-H participation.

During today's briefing, the Enumclaw Expo Center's General Manager will provide a recap of the 2015 King County Fair.

**BACKGROUND**

**King County Fair History.** The King County Fair was established in 1863 to celebrate the county's agricultural heritage. A century later, in 1965, the Fair moved to its current home at the Enumclaw Fairgrounds (now called the Enumclaw Expo Center).

In 2003, in response to a crisis in the General Fund, the Council approved Ordinance 15634, which transferred the Fairground facilities to Enumclaw. In February 2009, the Council approved Ordinance 16369, which transferred Fair operations to the City of Enumclaw.

The City of Enumclaw, through the Enumclaw Expo Center, has managed and hosted the Fair each year since then. In 2015, the Expo Center was reorganized, with the creation of a non-profit organization, the Enumclaw Expo and Events Association, and the hiring of a new General Manager for the Expo Center.

**2015-2016 County Funding for Fair.** In response to requests from the City of Enumclaw for assistance with Fair operations, the Council approved an allocation of \$10,000 for 2015 from the Parks Operating Budget (Ordinance 17941, Section 89, ER 1). In July 2015, the Council approved Ordinance 18080, which authorized an additional \$50,000 to the City during the biennium, for a total of \$35,000 for 2015 and \$25,000 for 2016. These funds were directed to support 4-H Youth Development participation in the Fair.

### **ATTACHMENTS**

1. 2016 King County Fair Highlights

### **INVITED**

- Scott Gray, General Manager, Enumclaw Expo Center

## 2016 King County Fair Highlights

- **Attendance : 20,749 up 5049 from 2015 or +32%**
- **Some of the economic indicators:**
  - **Rides revenue +\$14,143 or +80%**
  - **ATM Transactions + \$27,000 or +81%**
  - **Returning Food vendors revenue + \$35,483 or 55%**
  - **Truck Pull 1500 in attendance at \$20 per ticket = \$30,000 increase revenue.**
  - **Presale tickets through Safeway doubled to 2734 sold.**
- **We conducted a Survey Monkey set of questions following the Fair. These are the results from 103 people who submitted,**
  - **80% of submissions were from females**
  - **73% were between the ages of 25 to 64**
  - **72% were returning fair goers**
- **The following are the percentages people giving an Excellent or good review for the following categories**
  - **Entertainment 67.6%**
  - **Food and Beverage 57.8%**
  - **Advertising 66.3%**
  - **Very likely to attend future events 66.3%**
  - **Extremely or Very Organized 70.5%**
  - **Extremely or Very Safe 91.0%**
  - **Overall event rating, Excellent or Very good 67.0%**
- **King County Library System numbers:**
  - **213 actual free admittance**
  - **426 when at least 1 parent added**
  - **Sunday attendance 3412**
  - **KLSY 12.4 % of total day**

- **Media Highlights**
  - **Dollar spend up from \$16,000 to \$60,000**
  - **Top Country Radio stations brought events to us**
    - **Soft opening Wednesday night The WOLF**
      - **Drake White entertainment – free**
      - **145 tickets sold as package**
      - **289 Mutual of Enumclaw employees and families attended.**
    - **KMPS dollar Kids Day Thursday**
      - **Discount on Entertainment**
      - **Remote call in from grounds**



**King County**

**Metropolitan King County Council  
Committee of the Whole**

**STAFF REPORT**

<b>Agenda Item:</b>	6	<b>Name:</b>	Patrick Hamacher
<b>Proposed No.:</b>	2016-B0154	<b>Date:</b>	August 17, 2016

**SUBJECT**

This briefing will provide an overview of faith-based procurement and its impact on public services.

**SUMMARY**

With a number of exemptions and exception public funds cannot typically be used to support religious institutions. However, many of religious institutions are providers of charity services that are often very similar to the types of human service programs funded by government. As a result, governments sometimes contract with religious institutions to provide these services. When this is done, there are rules that must be followed to make sure the public funds are being used for services and not to support the religious institutions.

Today's briefing will include a presentation from the Council's Senior Deputy Legal Counsel and a Senior Deputy Prosecuting Attorney on the law regarding faith-based procurement. The overview will then include a presentation from the Director of the Department of Community and Human Services.

**INVITED**

1. Kendall Moore, Senior Deputy Legal Counsel, King County Council
2. Peggy Pahl, Senior Deputy Prosecuting Attorney, PAO
3. Adrienne Quinn, Director, Department of Community and Human Services

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**King County**

**Metropolitan King County Council  
Committee of the Whole**

**STAFF REPORT**

<b>Agenda Item:</b>	7	<b>Name:</b>	Hiedi Popochock
<b>Proposed No.:</b>	2016-B0158	<b>Date:</b>	August 17, 2016

**SUBJECT**

A briefing on the King Conservation District's 2015 Annual Report and the 2017 Program of Work and Rates and Charges Budget.

**SUMMARY**

The 2015-2019 interlocal agreement between King County and the King Conservation District requires the King Conservation District Advisory Committee to brief the King County Council on their findings and recommendations regarding the Annual Program of Work<sup>1</sup> and Rates and Charges Budget<sup>2</sup> by August 1. The interlocal agreement also requires the King Conservation District to provide the King County Council with an annual report of the work it has completed in the prior year by September 1.

Due to a scheduling conflict between the King County Council's Transportation, Economy and Environment Committee and the King Conservation District, today's committee meeting was the first opportunity to hear the King Conservation District Advisory Committee's findings and recommendations. The King Conservation District transmitted the required reports outlined in the interlocal agreement prior to the September 1, 2016 deadline.

The interlocal agreement does not require action by the King County Council on the 2015 Annual Report and the 2017 Program of Work and Rates and Charges Budget therefore, no action is needed at this time.

**BACKGROUND**

The King Conservation District (KCD) was established in 1949 by the Washington Conservation Commission to provide landowners with assistance to protect and enhance natural resources. KCD is an independent, non-regulatory agency that

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<sup>1</sup> According to the interlocal agreement, "Annual Program of Work" means a detailed statement or description of the conservation programs and activities to be undertaken by the District for a particular calendar year using a system of rates and charges authorized and imposed by the County for the benefit of the District pursuant to the requirements of RCW 89.08.400 and .405. An Annual Program of Work will include a budget, broken out by major activities, identifying the anticipated expenditure of the rates and charges for the District's conservation programs and activities described in the Annual Program of Work.

<sup>2</sup> According to the interlocal agreement, "Rates and Charges Budget" means a budget, broken out by major activities, that describes the District's projected expenditure of the rates and charges for the District's programs, and activities for a calendar year subject to this Agreement.

partners with private landowners, member jurisdictions and non-profit organizations to provide stewardship services. KCD is led by an all-volunteer, five-member Board of Supervisors. Three of the members are elected while the other two are appointed by the Washington State Conservation Commission, an agency created to assist and guide conservation district activities in Washington State. Board members contribute local perspectives on important natural resource management and conservation issues, seek feedback about conservation programs from District residents, set District policy, and direct the District work plan and budget.<sup>3</sup>

KCD currently serves 35 jurisdictions which includes 34 cities in King County. KCD provides a number of services that promotes conservation through demonstration projects, educational events and technical assistance. The services that KCD provides focuses on rural forestry, urban forest health management, regional food system, urban agriculture, rural agriculture, shorelines and riparian habitats, landowner incentives, membership jurisdiction grants and community engagement.

### Interlocal Agreement between King County and the King Conservation District

The interlocal agreement (“the ILA”) between King County and KCD provides a framework for the two entities to continue to cooperatively undertake and fund natural resource conservation programs, projects, and activities that are consistent with and reflective of the priorities recommended by the Conservation Panel and Task Force Report<sup>4</sup> and by the KCD Advisory Committee.

The ILA requires KCD to convene an Advisory Committee (“the Committee”) consistent with the recommendations of the 2013 Conservation Panel/Task Force report. The Committee composition reflects the District’s commitment to private landowners and to programmatic efforts, and include a number of representatives from the incorporated member jurisdictions. Representation on the Committee includes: the KCD Board Chair, a representative of the King County executive branch, a representative of the King County legislative branch, a representative of a governmental or non-governmental organization that specially promotes equity and social justice (to be appointed by the County Executive and confirmed by the County Council), a representative of the city of Seattle, a representative of the city of Bellevue, three elected officials from other King County cities (selected by the Sound Cities Association), a rural landowner (selected by KCD), an urban landowner (selected by KCD), a representative from the King County Agriculture Commission, a representative from the King County Rural Forest Commission, and an Environmental Non-Governmental Organization (NGO) representative (selected by KCD).

The current ILA is a five-year agreement that will expire in December 2019.<sup>5</sup> KCD’s 2016 budget is approximately \$6.1 million. The ILA requires the KCD Advisory Committee to brief the King County Council on their findings and recommendations regarding the Annual Program of Work and Rates and Charges Budget annually by August 1. In addition, the ILA requires KCD to provide the King County Council with annual reports of its work completed in the prior year, each year by September 1.

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<sup>3</sup> King Conservation District: <http://kingcd.org/about-us-board-of-supervisors.htm>

<sup>4</sup> Conservation Panel and Task Force Report: <http://www.kingcd.org/pdf/conservation-panel-and-task-force-common-set-of-recommendations.pdf>

<sup>5</sup> Ordinance 17938

Section III A.4(d) of the 2015-2019 ILA reads:

*“The Advisory Committee shall advise the District on the Annual Program of Work and Rates and Charges Budget, and shall provide the District Board of Supervisors with a recommendation annually. Furthermore, the Advisory Committee shall also brief the King County Council on the Committee’s findings and recommendations with respect to the Annual Program of Work and Rates and Charges Budget annually, by no later than August 1, of each year.”*

Section III A(5) of the 2015-2019 ILA reads:

*“The District shall provide by no later than September 1 of each year, copies of its Annual Program of Work and Rates and Charges Budget to King County. The District shall also provide annual reports at this time, detailing work completed the prior year. The annual reports shall describe progress achieved towards work plan goals and report any barriers towards achieving work plan goals. The Annual Program of Work, the Rates and Charges Budget and the annual reports shall be filed with the clerk of the council for distribution to the chair of the transportation, economy and environment committee, or its successor committee, to the executive, to each councilmember and to the lead staff for the transportation, economy and environment committee, or its successor committee.”*

## **ANALYSIS**

The transmitted reports submitted by KCD (**Attachment 1**) meets the reporting requirements outlined in the ILA. Due to a scheduling conflict, the briefing by KCD before the King County Council’s Transportation, Economy and Environment Committee does not occur prior to the August 1, deadline as described in the ILA. King County and KCD mutually agreed to have the briefing at King County Council’s Committee of the Whole meeting on August 17, 2016.

The interlocal agreement does not require action by the King County Council on the 2015 Annual Report and the 2017 Program of Work and Rates and Charges Budget therefore, no action is needed at this time.

## **ATTACHMENTS**

1. A - 2016-RPT0116: King Conservation District’s 2015 Annual Report  
B - 2017 Program of Work and Rates and Charges Budget
2. Transmittal Letter
3. King Conservation District PowerPoint Presentation

## **INVITED**

1. Dick Ryon, Board of Supervisors Chair, King Conservation District
2. Mayor John Stokes, Advisory Committee Chair, King Conservation District
3. Brandy Reed, Interagency Director, King Conservation District
4. Josh Monaghan, Senior Program Manager, King Conservation District
5. John Taylor, Assistant Division Director, King County Water and Land Resources Division

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NATURAL RESOURCE STEWARDSHIP  
KING CONSERVATION DISTRICT

2015 ANNUAL REPORT



LOCAL FOOD • HEALTHY FORESTS • CLEAN WATER

# BETTER GROUND



**Back row:** Josh Monaghan, Mike Lasecki, Adam Jackson, Amy Holmes, Erin Ericson, Brandy Reed, Jay Mirro, Emmett Wild, Emily Carlson

**Middle row:** Chauncey Foster, Liz Clark, Jarrett Griesemer, Ava Souza, Nikki Marschke, Kristen Reichardt, Jessica Saavedra, Debra Meisinger, Ann Horner

**Kneeling:** Melissa Tatro, Ben Axt, Dave Clelland, Rachel Konrady, Deirdre Grace, Shanna Hobbs

**Not pictured:** Paul Borne, Mary Embleton, Jacobus Saperstein

# GOALS

*Protect and enhance natural resources through voluntary stewardship of soil, air, plants, animals, humans, and energy*

*Support the design and implementation of practices that balance water resources protection and use*

*Support economically and environmentally viable working lands and sustainable open space*

*Expand and enhance KCD's education program*

*Update Grant Program to better serve KCD member jurisdictions*

*Expand collaboration with Washington conservation districts, non-governmental organizations, and businesses*

*Secure sufficient and stable funding to meet constituent needs for KCD services*

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Appendix A: 2015 Grant Awards

Attachment 1: 2015 Implementation Plan

# LETTER FROM THE CHAIR

Dear King County Executive Constantine and Councilmembers,

The King Conservation District (KCD) serves 35 member jurisdictions (34 cities and King County), with a total population of 1.8 million. Our 2015 Annual Report summarizes KCD's programs and services for King County residents and member jurisdictions, including habitat restoration, public education, technical assistance, financial incentives, and expanded grant funding.



I have been proud to serve on KCD's Board of Supervisors since the spring of 2014 and am pleased to serve as its current Chair. This past year has seen significant change in KCD's funding levels, breadth and depth of its partnerships, and the range of constituents our organizations directly serves. But, one thing remains constant: an absolute commitment to the highest caliber of work and a dedication to outcomes that make King County a better place to live.

KCD continues to benefit immensely from the engagement and guidance of the King Conservation District Advisory Committee. This body of committed elected officials and community leaders helps bring diverse voices into our body of work and enables us to reach a wider spectrum of stakeholders and partners.

Finally, it is with deep gratitude to the King County Executive and County Council for your continued and expanded support for the King Conservation District that we take this opportunity to highlight our goals, accomplishments, and new ventures in 2015. It is my great pleasure to share this report on our first year of our new five-year Implementation Plan.

Sincerely yours,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Dick Ryon". The signature is written in a cursive style and is positioned above a thin horizontal line.

Dick Ryon, Board of Supervisors Chair, 2016  
King Conservation District  
March, 2016

# ROCK!

## KCD 2015 ROCK AWARDS

### **KCD LEADERSHIP AWARD**

LARRY PHILLIPS



### **KCD CONSERVATION LEADER AWARD**

CYNTHIA KRASS



### **BEST PARTNER AWARD**

RANDY SANDIN & THE AG PERMIT TEAM



### **LOCAL GOVERNMENT CONSERVATION AWARD - CITY OF KIRKLAND**



### **KCD SERVICE AWARD**

SARAH TOMT



# ROCK!

**CONSERVATION LANDOWNERS OF THE YEAR - SUSAN & BARRY HEISER**



**KCD VOLUNTEER OF THE YEAR  
BRENDA SULLIVAN**



**VOLUNTEER GROUP OF THE YEAR  
MICROSOFT**



**WILDLIFE STEWARDS OF THE YEAR  
THE SOIN FAMILY**



# PROFILE



**When the multi-generational Van Erem family of Maple Valley sits down to a Sunday chicken dinner, they know exactly where and how that bird was raised.**

Processing the chickens and turkeys that feed their family throughout the year became much easier after renting equipment made available by King Conservation District.

“In the past, we could only do a few birds at a time”, said Holiday Van Erem, “now we can process a year’s worth and free up space to begin raising our heritage turkeys”.

The Maple Valley multi-generational Van Erem family lives on just over three acres that is home to pigs, chickens, turkeys, ducks and a large vegetable garden. “If my 4-year-old daughter isn’t sure if she likes a vegetable, we simply walk out to the garden and give it a try,” notes Paul Van Erem, “Knowing where our food is grown, raised and processed is important to us. We had looked at purchasing this same equipment, but the cost was prohibitive, so it was great to know that we could rent it from KCD for just \$25.00.”

On a recent, sunny Saturday, the Van Erem’s processed 28 Cornish Cross chickens weighing between 6-7 pounds each. “Having the cones and a large stainless steel scalding tank made the operation much easier, but the plucking drum was by far the most appreciated”, notes Paul, “having a bird plucked clean in less than 3 minutes moves the process along much faster than doing the work by hand.”

Knowing the potential popularity of the equipment, the Van Erem’s intend to secure their rental reservation to process the family’s Thanksgiving turkeys before word gets out.



*A plucked bird in under 3 minutes!*

**Find out more at: <http://kingcd.org/tools-poultry-equipment.htm>**

# LOCAL FOOD AND FARMING

For landowners seeking to put conservation practices on the ground, our planning programs are often the first step. Our staff collaborates with landowners to identify their site-specific resource concerns and develop their conservation plan. Some landowners are then able to get the work done on their own, while many landowners continue working with KCD's implementation staff to accomplish identified tasks.

In 2015, KCD launched its Regional Food System program and a smaller Urban Agriculture program, both described below.

## RURAL AGRICULTURE

### PLANNING & TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE

This program provides farm conservation planning services to farm and livestock owners within the District, including licensed dairies and Concentrated Animal Feeding Operations. Upon completion of a conservation plan, the land user has made decisions to manage natural resources consistent with the resource needs recommended by District staff. A farm conservation plan may be used by the landowner to meet the requirements of other agencies and programs, including: King County Codes- Title 21A.30 (Livestock Management), 21A.24 (Critical Areas), King County Programs- Agricultural Drainage Assistance, Best Management Practice Cost Share, Public Benefit Rating System (property tax incentives), Dairy Nutrient Management Act of 1998 (RCW 90.64), the Clean Water Act.

### Program Goals

- Promote increased voluntary stewardship of private lands, primarily focused on working lands
- Increase implementation of KCD recommended practices to address resource concerns
- Meet planning needs mandated in code to address natural resource stewardship practices on farmland
- Serve 150 farming service customers
- Deliver 70 farm plans, including 2 Dairy NMP plans
- 150 plan follow-ups to document implementation

### Program Highlights

- Served 205 planning customers
- Delivered 69 Farm Conservation Plans, including 2 dairy plans
- Developed plans that serve 1,912 acres
- Conducted 134 follow-ups

# LOCAL FOOD AND FARMING

## **NUTRIENT MANAGEMENT PROGRAM**

Nutrient Management Services is an umbrella program that includes several related services focused on helping KCD cooperators implement different elements of nutrient management plans. These services were each developed to address hurdles that our cooperators identified to us as they worked on implementing their nutrient management practices. The services include:

### **Manure Spreader Service**

KCD loans out a small manure spreader to loan to cooperators to help them turn manure from an environmental liability to an asset on their property. This service includes scheduling, delivery, and pick up of the manure spreader. The manure spreader is loaned for free.

### **Manure Match**

KCD offers a manure match service to connect farmers, nurseries, and gardeners seeking manure to livestock owners who have surplus. We maintain a list of available manure sources, some promotion to farm and garden audiences, and providing the manure share list to interested parties via KCD's website, e-mail and phone inquiries. This service is one small part of helping cooperators with surplus manure to develop responsible plans for manure utilization, and thus avoid stockpiling waste that can become an environmental liability.

### **Program Goals**

- Loan manure spreader to 30 landowners

### **Program Highlights**

- 49 Manure spreader loans

# LOCAL FOOD AND FARMING

## **WATERSHED TARGETING**

Initially launched through a grant from The Russell Family Foundation , the King County Flood District, and WRIA 10 Grant Program, KCD's pilot project to work with landowners in a targeted, high-need watershed sub-basin has proven an effective approach in engaging landowners to monitor, steward, and improve water quality. In its 2015-2019 Implementation Plan, KCD committed to working within a new sub-basin every two years, in addition to the organization's traditional First-Come, First-Served approach.

The goals for sub-basin targeting from the implementation plan include:

1. Develop a multi-year plan for sub-basin services County-wide
2. Target 1 new sub-basin every 2 years with a goal of 3 over the 5-year implementation period
3. Serve an additional 50 customers in each year in these targeted sub-basins over and above our traditional level (included in total planning program accomplishments above currently)
4. Deliver 20 farm plans each year in the sub-basin areas (included in total planning program accomplishments above currently)

In 2015, Food and Farming staff developed an implementation plan for institutionalizing this new program, including developing partnerships to target four sub-basins:

1. Continued outreach in Boise Creek
2. Newaukum Creek – with American Farmland Trust, the Natural Resource Conservation Service, the Department of Ecology, King County, and other partners
3. Second Creek/Pussyfoot Creek
4. Snoqualmie Creek, as part of a larger process reconciling the needs of farms, fish, and flood safety.

# LOCAL FOOD AND FARMING

## ***Boise Creek Community Project – major work wrap-up***

This community involvement initiative engaged landowners and land managers to reduce nutrient levels in Boise Creek as part of a coordinated, multiagency/ partner effort. Partners included King County, Pierce Conservation District, the City of Enumclaw, the Muckleshoot Indian Tribe, the Puyallup Indian Tribe, Washington State Departments of Agriculture and Ecology. This project was funded by generous grant support from The Russell Family Foundation and the King County Flood District, WRIA 10 Grant Program.

In this initiative, KCD coordinated a mix of community engagement events, activities, services, and opportunities to encourage property owners, farmers, and residents in the Boise Creek sub basin to get involved with conservation and stewardship activities on their property and in the community. Launched in 2013, this program has trained 123 King County residents how to monitor the health of Boise Creek through scientific sampling.

## **Program Highlights**

- 8 partner events
- 9 community events
- 6 training events for new Stream Stewards
- 138 sampling events
- 266 volunteer hours

## ***Newaukum Creek - new watershed initiative***

With funding from rates and charges, and partner funding from American Farmland Trust, NRCS, the WSCC, and Dept of Ecology, KCD has expanded the sub-basin program into the Newaukum sub-basin. 2015's efforts focused on securing the funding for this work and developing the partnerships to begin implementation in 2016 through 2019. The Newaukum basin presented significant farming land use and was a priority for multiple partners, many of whom were able to bring funding to leverage our work's impact.

# LOCAL FOOD AND FARMING

## ***Snoqualmie Valley – engaging farm community in regional planning***

In late 2015, KCD partnered with King County to provide outreach and support to Snoqualmie Valley farmers in discussions concerning strategies for balancing the needs of agriculture, salmon recovery, and flood safety in the valley. In 2015, those efforts focused on conducting “kitchen table”- style consultations with farmers in support of the Snoqualmie Farm/Fish/Flood Advisory Committee. 2015 was a particularly complex year for farmers in the context of this work as they faced an unusually dry summer, followed by multiple floods beginning in October. The opportunity for KCD farm and food staff to meet farmers on their farms and hear, first-hand, their visions for the future, the challenges they face and the kind of support they could truly benefit from helps KCD root its services in customer needs.

## ***Second Creek/Pussyfoot Creek- futurewatershed initiative***

Building on the Boise Creek and Newaukum sub-basin work, KCD prioritized Second Creek/Pussyfoot Creek because it is a priority of the Department of Ecology and the Muckleshoot Tribe and represents an area of the County in which KCD has had less presence in the past. KCD is currently exploring partnerships and opportunities to leverage funding to bring this sub-basin into our work plan in 2016 and beyond.

# LOCAL FOOD AND FARMING

## REGIONAL FOOD SYSTEM **NEW!**

In 2015, the King Conservation District established a new Regional Food System Program based on goals in the action plans of the King County Local Food Initiative and the Puget Sound Regional Food Policy Council, and on personal engagement with a wide range of local food system advisors.

### RECOMMENDED EARLY ACTIONS

The King Conservation District hit the ground running with a series of Early Action Projects based on the following criteria:

- Actions identified in regional planning goals and by numerous stakeholders.
- Critical early steps toward meeting regional food system economic goals.
- Clearly defined as a specific project or activity.
- Could be accomplished by KCD staff or through contracted work.

### KCD REGIONAL FOOD SYSTEM GRANT PROGRAM

The KCD Regional Food System Grant Program is based on action plans of the King County Local Food Initiative and the Puget Sound Regional Food Policy Council. The program funds food system-related projects with demonstrated public benefit and a link to improving working lands in King County. The program is designed to support projects that contribute to the economic viability of local farmers, encourage new farmers, expand acreage in food production, improve food access, and increase demand for King County farm products. Eligible applicants include farmers, producer networks, marketing cooperatives, farmers markets, businesses, schools, special districts, nonprofit organizations, tribes, and jurisdictions within the KCD service area. Grant guidelines and application procedures are currently being developed, along with the following selection criteria.

### Program Highlights

- Developed new regional grant program to support and expand the regional food economy
- Awarded \$900,000 in grants to support over 20 projects, based significantly on the recommendations of the Local Food Initiative
- Funded 9 Early Action Projects based on over 50 interviews with food system practitioners, policymakers, and others

See page 14 for projects that were awarded 2015 funding.

# LOCAL FOOD AND FARMING

Organization	Project Title	Amount	Project Description	Early Action or Grant
Nelli Farms	Pasture-Raised Poultry & Egg Cooperative Start-up	\$80,000	Establish a poultry and egg cooperative to help King County farmers increase the profitability of egg sales.	Grant
Seattle Office of Sustainability and Environment	King County Farmers Market Access Coordination	\$ 49,086	Provide coordination and support to farmers markets to expand access for low income shoppers through use of SNAP and Fresh Bucks incentives.	Grant
Northwest Agriculture Business Center	Food Hub Development for King County Farmers	\$ 95,000	Increase production, distribution, and consumption of sustainably produced food within King County by providing food hub sales, aggregation, and delivery services.	Grant
Highline College	Urban Agriculture/ Agroforestry/Food Security	\$80,000	Expand educational access for south King County immigrant-refugee communities and youth to become growers/producers in dense urban environments.	Grant
SnoValley Tilth	Experience Farming Project Infrastructure Upgrades	\$31,295	Upgrade critical infrastructure for Experience Farming Project site to increase production capacity for participating farm businesses.	Grant
King County Agriculture Program	Beefing Up Infrastructure Needs for King County USDA Meat Processing	\$120,000	Establish USDA slaughter services through a partnership between the King County Agriculture Program, livestock producers, and membership organizations such as SnoValley Tilth and the Puget Sound Meat Producers Cooperative.	Grant
Snoqualmie Valley Preservation Alliance	Launching a Successful Watershed Improvement District	\$95,650	Launch the first watershed improvement district in the Snoqualmie Valley to address key barriers to food production, including water supply, water rights and agricultural drainage.	Grant
Washington State University	Bringing WSU Extension Expertise to King County Farmers	\$99,852	Provide Cultivating Success courses, agriculture workshops, and other programs for King County farmers.	Grant
HumanLinks Foundation / 21 Acres	Hedgerow Trial to Attract Beneficial Insects to Farm Edges	\$12,995	Construct a native plant hedgerow at 21 Acres Farm to determine the prevalence of beneficial and pollinator insect populations.	Grant
KCD	Farm Equipment Loan	\$50,000	Develop loan program for small scale chicken processor and no-till drill	Early Action
King County	FARM King County	\$50,000	Launch single portal and coordinated inter-agency staff resources to be a one-stop-shop for new farmers	Early Action
KCD	LIFT	\$25,000	Local Institutional Food Team – develop single portal and coordinated inter-agency staff resources to help institutions source food locally	Early Action
City of Seattle/Wa State Farmers Market Association	Farmers Market Coordinating Support	\$50,000	Expand use of EBT and vouchers for low-income shoppers in south King County	Early Action
Snoqualmie Valley Farmers Co-op	Model Farm Cooperative	\$10,000	Support launch of King County's first organic produce farmer's cooperative	Early Action
City of Auburn	Good Food Bag	\$10,000	Support coordination among Seattle Tilth, WaCAN!, Auburn Farmers Market to launch use of EBT and expand access to fresh produce for low-income consumers	Early Action
KCD	Building Metrics for the Food System	\$40,000	Worked with partners to pilot benchmark assessment in Snoqualmie Ag Production District	Early Action

# PROFILE



**Dr. Kris Knox and patient, Christina Harris**

Dr. Kris Knox of EvergreenHealth in Woodinville is taking an unorthodox approach to medicine, but one that was orthodox centuries ago. Believing as Hippocrates said, "Let food be your medicine and medicine be your food," last year Dr. Knox began prescribing local fruits and vegetables to her patients.

Working with the Snoqualmie Valley Farmers Coop, which was launched through a grant from King Conservation District to help area farmers aggregate their produce to create CSA boxes, Dr. Knox prescribed a weekly dose of nutritious food to her patient, Christina Harris, along with 34 others from EvergreenHealth's concierge practice.

EvergreenHealth is now inviting over 4,000 employees to participate in the CSA program this growing season which is opening new opportunities for King County farmers to expand their market share of locally grown agricultural products that include fruits, vegetables, eggs, grass fed beef and artisan cheeses.

## **WHAT IS A CSA?**

Typically, a farmer charges a membership or subscription fee up front for a box of freshly picked produce and other farm products each week throughout the growing season (usually June through October) delivered to a pre-determined drop off location.

CSAs are an excellent way to support local farmers by providing a reliable, up front income source. CSAs benefit consumers by ensuring a source of the fresh, local farm products, introducing new foods and recipes, and developing a closer relationship between farmer and consumer.

Looking for a CSA in your area?  
Visit: [www.pugetsoundfresh.org](http://www.pugetsoundfresh.org)

\$900,000 grant money available

Grants to support access to, production of and demand for King County agricultural products

# LOCAL FOOD AND FARMING

## URBAN AGRICULTURE **NEW!**

KCD committed to developing an urban agriculture program that would focus initially on 3 primary areas: increased soil testing, helping interested cities amend their comprehensive plans to be more urban-ag friendly, and developing a series of demonstration projects.

### Program highlights:

**Soil samples** - KCD provides up to five free soil samples to each resident in our District, a service that normally costs \$20 per sample. Through increased education and engagement, KCD tested 1,382 soil samples for King County residents.



**Code and policy support to cities** – KCD answered several requests by cities to review their comprehensive plan language and/or provide model language in 2015. In addition, KCD provided significant support to an urban agriculture project in Burien, working with King County and others to prevent a 70-year-old nursery from being lost to development before options to keep the site agricultural were explored. The outcome is that the site is under a five-year lease to an emerging company that produces root stock for fruit trees and berries.



**Demonstration Projects launch** – KCD is partnering with the King County Wastewater Treatment Division at the South Treatment Plant (KCWTD), Seattle Tilth, and Harvest Pierce County to develop its inaugural urban agriculture demonstration/teaching urban farm. We are excited about this partnership and hope to use its success to replicate this program across other KCWTD sites and potentially other King County-owned properties, as well as sites controlled by interested cities.



### Program Highlights

- Conducted 1,382 soil tests for a total of 558 residents
- Provided support for comprehensive plan code review for municipal partners
- Supported community partnerships that preserve, initiate, or expand urban agriculture opportunities, including Bel-R Greenhouses in Burien and King County Wastewater Treatment Division's CitySoil urban farm in Renton
- Developed partnership with Pierce Conservation District to adapt their Harvest Pierce County community food program to KCD's needs

# LOCAL FOOD AND FARMING

## **Local Food and Farming Partnerships - 2015**

- KCD Advisory Committee
- KC Fish, Farm, and Flood Advisory Committee
- King County's Local Food Initiative (Kitchen Cabinet)
- Washington State Conservation Commission
- Washington State Association of Conservation Districts
- KC Agricultural Permit Team
- KC Agricultural Commission
- KC Flood Control District
- Interagency and partner coordination on working farm services
- Seattle Tilth
- KC Wastewater Treatment Division
- DirtCorp
- Pierce Conservation District

# PROFILE



**King County Councilmember Kathy Lambert**

Bobbi Lindemulder of West Valley Beef partnered with KCD to clear agricultural drainage ditches at her family's dairy in rural Duvall. "In Western Washington, drainage systems are really the key to successful farming and we could not have done this work without financial assistance from KCD and the County," notes Lindemulder. Improved drainage systems benefit fish passage, agricultural production and access to local food in urban areas.

## **2015 KCD AGRICULTURAL DRAINAGE PROGRAM**

Implemented five major projects

Returned 115 acres of land to full production

Improved drainage on an additional 185 acres

# HEALTHY FORESTS

King Conservation District provides programs and services to assist small acreage non-industrial private forest landowners and local member jurisdictions with conservation of forest land. Forests cover two-thirds of the land area in King County, and over 364,000 acres of these forests are in private ownership. The residents of King County value these forestlands for their social, economic and ecological benefits: The recreational opportunities and scenic beauty afforded by forests are central to the quality of life in King County; Pacific Northwest forests are among the most productive in the world; and King County forests provide direct and tangible benefits to entire watersheds by intercepting, evaporating and transpiring rainfall, recharging groundwater and releasing storm water slowly to receiving waterways, sequestering carbon, and providing fish and wildlife habitat

## RURAL FORESTS

King Conservation District Rural Forest Health Management Program (Rural Forestry) works with small-lot forest landowners across unincorporated King County to increase the resilience of the forested landscape and capture the ecological, recreational and other values of forests by helping land-owners actively manage forestlands and open space areas. KCD partners with King County Department of Natural Resources and Parks, Washington State University (WSU) Cooperative Extension to serve rural residential, small private forest landowners and Homeowner Associations on protecting and enhancing woodlots and smaller stands of forest, reducing forest fragmentation, and capturing the ecological benefits and in some cases the economic value of forests.

### Program Goals

- Improve management of small acreage non-industrial private lands in King County
- Increase forest landowner access to forest health education programming
- Direct forest health management program activities to address regional-scale gaps in technical programming and prioritize delivery of services where services are currently limited or unavailable.

### Expected Results from 2015 Work Plan

- Contract with WSU Cooperative Extension to provide forest health management education services in King County.
- Participate in hiring WSU Forest Education Program Coordinator, and collaborate on education program topics to be facilitated in King County
- Coordinate with King County Department of Natural Resources and Parks' Water and Land Resources Division Forestry Program to identify priority geographic areas for service delivery of KCD Rural Forestry Program services
- Increase technical assistance services to Non-Industrial Private Forests landowners and connect to incentive programs to support forest health practice implementation

# HEALTHY FORESTS

## Program Highlights

- Enter into 2 year contract with WSU Cooperative Extension to provide forest health management education services in King County
- Participate in interviewing and selecting a King County Extension Forestry Education Program Coordinator
- Support the offering of forest health 2 Forest Stewardship Coached Planning workshop series (one in-person and 1 on-line), Vashon Forest Landowner Field Day, Special Forest Products workshop on Forest Edibles, a workshop on Legal Issues 101 for Forest Owners, a workshop on managing forest safety and security, 1 Twilight Tour addressing alder management.
- Collaborate with King County Department of Natural Resources and Parks' Water and Land Resources Division to conduct a GIS-based analysis and mapping project that identifies unincorporated KC forested parcels eligible for KCD technical services, and coordinate with the Basin Stewards Program to identify priority geographic areas to strategically target KCD technical services to meet cross-entity priorities.
- Secured placement of an AmeriCorps Individual Placement intern to support the Urban Forestry Program (shared with Rural Forest Health Management)

## URBAN FORESTS **NEW!**

KCD's Urban Forest Health Management (Urban Forestry) Program assists urban landowners with enhancing urban forest canopy cover and upland habitat conditions on private property. Urban forest health management services are prioritized in collaboration with the King Conservation District Urban Forestry Initiative Working Group and King Conservation District Advisory Committee. Services associated with this program focus on improving natural resource conditions on private property, and on private parcels contiguous with public lands to improve the success of protection and enhancement activities on public holdings and easements. 5-year performance measures for this program include implementing or expanding urban forest health management program activities within the boundaries of at least 15 separate jurisdictions, and will enhance at least 30 acres of upland forest and habitat in partnership with landowners, residents and departments within those jurisdictions



# HEALTHY FORESTS

## Program Goals

- Engage community stakeholders in urban forestry project selection process
- Facilitate an annual RFP process to identify and select urban forestry projects
- Identify and implement urban forestry projects with at least 15 Member Jurisdictions, and enhance at least 30 acres of urban forest habitat.

## Expected Results from 2015 Work Plan

- Convene Urban Forestry Initiative Working Group
- Launch Urban Forestry Program
- Develop and facilitate 2015 RFP process to identify and select urban forestry projects
- Commence contract and project implementation

## Program Highlights

- Formed and convened the KCD Urban Forestry Initiative Working Group, facilitated 4 Urban Forestry Initiative Working Group meeting
- Facilitated an Urban Forestry RFP that identified and selected 4 MJ urban forestry implementation projects and 4 MJ urban forestry technical support projects
- Initiated contracting on 4 MJ urban forestry projects
- Secured placement of an AmeriCorps Individual Placement intern to support the Urban Forestry Program (shared with Rural Forest Health Management)

## Summary of 2015 Urban Forestry Services

Partner Jurisdiction	Technical Assistance Project	Implementation Project
Bothell	--	1
K4C (KC Cities Climate Change Group)	1	--
Kirkland	1	--
Lake Forest Park	--	1
Sammamish	1	--
Shoreline	--	1
Snoqualmie	--	1
Medina	1	--
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>4</b>

# PROFILE



**Lisa Clemons**

When Lisa Clemons and her family moved to a 10-acre wooded property on Vashon-Maury Island, they knew they wanted to conserve and steward the remaining forested sections of the historic property. By attending Forest Stewardship Coached Planning courses offered through WSU Extension in partnership with King Conservation District, they learned to identify tree species, recognize invasive and noxious weeds and determine wildfire risks. "We went from knowing nothing, to learning how to manage what is here and feeling confident in our ability to preserve the forest for future generations," notes Clemons.

## **GIVING SMALL LOT FORESTED LANDOWNERS THE TOOLS TO:**

Recognize invasive and noxious weeds

Determine wildfire risk

Identify tree species

Decide if tree thinning is necessary

# CLEAN WATER - SHORELINES AND HABITAT

King Conservation District provides education, services, and financial assistance to help landowners and land managers implement natural resource management practices that protect water quality, conserve soils, and enhance fish and wildlife habitat.

## RURAL FRESHWATER SHORELINE PROTECTION & ENHANCEMENT SERVICES

The primary focus of this program is to serve KCD cooperators participating in the KCD Farm Management Program by planning and implementing stream and wetland buffer protection and livestock exclusion fencing practices detailed in individual landowner Farm Conservation Plans. Other natural resource conservation and management concerns addressed by the program include water quality protection; soil erosion prevention; stream, wetland, and estuarine protection and enhancement; fish and wildlife habitat protection and enhancement. Occasionally, the program also addressed protection and enhancement of other sensitive areas such as steep slopes.

For more information on the details of these services, visit our website at [Kingcd.org](http://Kingcd.org).

### Program Goals

- Design and install rural freshwater aquatic area protection and enhancement projects with KCD cooperators who have a Farm Management Plan
- Maintain and monitor KCD installed aquatic area protection and enhancement projects.

### Expected Results from 2015 Work Plan

- Design and install at least 10 aquatic area enhancement projects with KCD cooperators who have a Farm Management Plan. Aquatic area enhancement projects include stream and wetland areas and implement one or more of the following Natural Resource Conservation Service conservation practices – Hedgerow, Riparian Forest Buffer, and Livestock Exclusion Fencing. Aquatic area enhancement projects average 400–500 feet in length and 25 feet wide.
- Maintain and monitor 40 KCD designed and installed aquatic area enhancement projects. Activities include developing a three-five year maintenance plan for each project, and conducting maintenance and monitoring as needed. Typical maintenance is one crew day for the first three years (summer) followed by a crew day in the 5th summer as needed.
- Maintain project records project by including correspondence, designs, and records in project files. In addition to project files, project details are tracked on the Practices and Implementation Form in a corresponding KCD Farm Management Plan file. Program activities are reported quarterly using the KCD Program Group Report. Grant funded activities are reported quarterly using the KCD grant reporting system.

# CLEAN WATER - SHORELINES AND HABITAT

## Program Highlights

- Planned and installed 11 buffer enhancement plans
- Enhanced 7,145 linear feet of aquatic area shoreline
- Enhanced 6 acres of aquatic area buffer
- Installed 13,518 native trees and shrubs
- Conducted maintenance on 50 aquatic area enhancement project sites

## Summary of 2015 Aquatic Area Enhancement Practices:

Best Management Practice	Project Quantity	Acres	Linear Feet	Quantity Plants
Hedgegrow	5	3.4	5,010	7,771
Riparian Forest Buffer	5	2.1	1,870	4,647
Wetland Habitat Enhancement	1	.5	265	1,100
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>11</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>7,145</b>	<b>13,518</b>



# CLEAN WATER - SHORELINES AND HABITAT

## URBAN FRESHWATER SHORELINE PROTECTION & ENHANCEMENT SERVICES **NEW!**

KCD provides assistance to urban freshwater shoreline landowners, including private landowners, organizations, schools and businesses on implementing aquatic area enhancement projects. The primary focus of this program is to serve KCD cooperators who have property within the incorporated boundary of member jurisdictions (35 total). Improvements include water quality protection; soil erosion prevention; fish and wildlife habitat protection and enhancement.

### Program Goals

- Design and install urban freshwater aquatic area protection and enhancement projects with KCD residential and commercial cooperators and in some cases with public and non-profit entities
- Maintain and monitor KCD installed aquatic area protection and enhancement projects.
- Cooperatively implement program activities and deliver homeowner / landowner service delivery in collaboration with member jurisdictions staff.

### Expected Results from 2015 Work Plan

- Conduct site visits to assess natural resource management concerns at least 5 properties and prepare site visit reports that provide recommendations to address those concerns.
- Design and install at least 5 urban aquatic area enhancement projects with KCD cooperators within the city limits of a member jurisdiction. Aquatic area enhancement projects include stream and wetland areas and implement one or more of the following NRCS conservation practices – Hedgerow and Riparian Forest Buffer. Aquatic area enhancement projects average 400–500 feet in length and 25 feet wide.
- Maintain and monitor 5 KCD designed and installed urban aquatic area enhancement projects. Activities include developing a three-five year maintenance plan for each project, and conducting maintenance and monitoring as needed. Typical maintenance is one crew day for the first three years (summer) followed by a crew day in the 5th summer as needed.
- Maintain project records project by including correspondence, designs, and records in project files. In addition to project files, project details are tracked on the Practices and Implementation Form in a corresponding KCD site assessments. Program activities are reported quarterly using the KCD Program Group Report. Grant funded activities are reported quarterly using the District grant reporting system.
- Work with elected officials, non-profits, landowners and KCD board members on the KCD Urban Shorelines & Riparian Habitat Working Group. The working group will hold several meetings to determine how the Urban Shorelines program will be implemented.
- Work with member jurisdiction staff to develop tools that will help increase the number of aquatic area enhancement projects being installed within the District. Activities will include meeting with jurisdiction staff, developing website presence for KCD on jurisdiction websites, create factsheets for city staff and increase resources on KCD website for city staff and landowners.

# CLEAN WATER - SHORELINES AND HABITAT

## Program Highlights

- Planned and installed 5 aquatic buffer enhancement projects
- Enhanced 1,550 linear feet of aquatic area shoreline
- Enhanced 1.2 acres of aquatic area buffer
- Installed 2,960 native trees and shrubs
- Convened the Held 3 meetings with the Urban Shorelines Working Group; facilitated 3 meeting to outline an approach to geographically distribute program services, and conceptualize an outreach toolkit to support collaboration between KCD and MJs on service delivery within incorporated boundaries.

## Summary of 2015 Urban Shoreline Practices:

Best Management Practice	Project Quantity	Acres	Linear Feet	Quantity Plants
Hedgegrow	1	0.015	210	90
Riparian Forest Buffer	4	1.2	1,340	2,870
Wetland Habitat Enhancement	0	0	0	0
Forest Health Management	0	0	0	0
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>1.2</b>	<b>1,550</b>	<b>2,960</b>

# CLEAN WATER - SHORELINES AND HABITAT

## ENGINEERING SERVICES

Projects supported by this program are planned and implemented consistent with standard practices included in the Natural Resource Conservation Service Field Office Technical Guide and other professional standards when Natural Resource Conservation Service standards are not applicable. The Engineering Program also supports other KCD programs and services, including providing technical and planning assistance related to farm conservation plan development; developing Best Management Practices for LIP cost-share eligible practices; designing and implementing aquatic area restoration projects and providing streamlined JARPA services for partner landowners, organizations and agencies;; and participating on KCD Board of Supervisors Science, Engineering and Program Development Subcommittee.

### Program Goals

- Provide engineering technical and planning support to other KCD programs and KCD partners
- Provide natural resource management engineering and design services to Member Jurisdictions and WRIA Forums
- Sponsor partner projects for streamlined JARPA review
- Staff District Science, Engineering & Policy Development Subcommittee

### Expected Results from 2015 Work Plan

- Provide technical engineering support to KCD programs and cooperators.
- Engineer and construct a minimum of 2 aquatic area enhancement projects (livestock crossings, Family Forest Fish Passage Program culvert replacement projects, etc.).
- Sponsor streamlined Joint Aquatic Resources Permitting Application review of 4 KCD agency and NGO partner projects.
- Support NRCS on at least 2 Task Orders
- Conduct fish passage assessment projects and market to up to 25 landowners.
- Formalize and document the KCD Public Work Program.
- Market KCD engineering services to member jurisdictions and WRIA Forums.

### Program Highlights

- Completed design and/or planning process for 3 bridges, 1 Culvert replacement , 1 bulkhead removal project, 1 Dairy waste storage-related practice, 1 dike repair
- Provided design and permit support to 1 existing, completed livestock bridge design
- Constructed 1 sand separator (Keller), 1 FFFPP bridge, 1 stream crossing bridge, and 1 dike repair project.
- Provided technical assistance and site visit reports in association with the preparation of 3 Farm Management Plans
- Provided technical assistance and site visit reports in association with 3 FFFPP projects

# CLEAN WATER - SHORELINES AND HABITAT

## Summary of 2015 Engineering Practices:

Best Management Practice	Quantity Planned	Quantity Implemented	Acres	Linear Feet	Miles Habitat Opened
Access Road	0	0	0	0	n/a
Animal Walkways	0	0	0	0	n/a
Fish Passage	2	1	n/a	n/a	3.41
Open Channel	0	0	0	0	n/a
Streambank & Shoreline Protection (Bulkhead Removal)	1	0	n/a	n/a	n/a
Stream Crossing	3	1	n/a	n/a	n/a
Sub-Surface Drainage	0	0	n/a	n/a	n/a
Surface Drainage	0	0	n/a	n/a	n/a
Stream Habitat Improvement	0	0	0	0	n/a
Underground Outlet	0	0	n/a	0	n/a
Waste Storage Facility	1	1	n/a	n/a	n/a
Dike Repair	1	1	n/a	125	n/a
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>125</b>	<b>3.41</b>

# CLEAN WATER - SHORELINES AND HABITAT

## CONSERVATION RESERVE ENHANCEMENT PROGRAM (CREP)

The Conservation Reserve Enhancement Program (CREP) compensates agriculture landowners for setting aside, planting, and maintaining riparian buffers to restore fish habitat on private agricultural lands adjacent to depressed or critical condition salmon streams and rivers. CREP is a joint effort of the United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) Farm Service Agency, the USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS), and the Washington State Conservation Commission acting through the King Conservation District.

### Program Goals

- Market CREP to agriculture landowners by conducting outreach activities such as program advertising to potentially eligible landowners through direct mailing
- Assist landowners with the CREP application and contracting processes and develop CREP riparian buffer enhancement plans
- Coordinate implementation of CREP riparian buffer enhancement plans
- Assist landowners with documenting and invoicing CREP cost-share reimbursement requests
- Coordinate CREP riparian buffer enhancement project maintenance and monitoring activities
- Prepare CREP reports, document CREP projects, and maintain CREP project files

### Expected Results from 2015 Work Plan

- Market CREP services to landowners.
- Prepare CREP plans for 6 landowners. (build capacity to plan and install 15 projects per year)
- Coordinate installation of 4 CREP projects.
- Coordinate maintenance on 6 previously installed and 4 newly installed CREP projects.

### Program Highlights

- Continued planning of 5 CREP buffer projects
- Planned and received approval for 2 replanting projects
- Completed installation of 1 new CREP Project
- Conducted initial site visits on 2 properties
- Oversaw maintenance on 5 previously installed CREP contracts

### Summary of 2015 CREP Practices:

Best Management Practice	Planned	Installed	Acres Planned	Acres Installed	Linear Feet Planned	Feet Installed	Quantity Plants
Hedgegrow	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
Riparian Forest Buffer	5	2	17.5	3.4	1,247	1,247	1,510
Livestock Crossing	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
Watering Facility	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
Buffer Fencing	0	0	0	n/a	0	0	n/a
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>17.5</b>	<b>3.4</b>	<b>1,247</b>	<b>1,247</b>	<b>1,510</b>

# CLEAN WATER - SHORELINES AND HABITAT

## WETLAND PLANT COOPERATIVE AND NATIVE PLANT HOLDING FACILITY

The KCD Wetland Plant Cooperative and Native Plant Holding Facility (WPC) is a plant nursery where native trees, shrubs, herbs, and wetland plants are propagated for stream, wetland, estuarine, and upland habitat enhancement projects. Partnering individuals, organizations, and agencies volunteer at the WPC in trade for technical services and plant material. Community groups in particular benefit by volunteering to obtain assistance on planning and implementing enhancement projects that otherwise could not be implemented due to lack of technical expertise and funding.

In addition to providing technical services and growing native plants, the WPC serves as an informal training facility for local youth and adults, who gain experience in horticulture and stream and wetland enhancement techniques, as well as leadership skills through volunteer service at the WPC. The WPC is also an informal recycled materials demonstration site where recycled materials are utilized in plant production. The WPC proudly utilizes reclaimed water for irrigation. Reclaimed water is provided free of charge by the King County Wastewater Treatment Division East Section Reclamation Plant, and allows KCD to conserve potable drinking water and support the reduction of discharged wastewater into local waterways.

### Program Goals

- Propagate native plant trees, shrubs, herbs, and wetland plants
- Provide technical assistance to homeowners, landowners, organizations and agencies on aquatic area enhancement projects
- Support KCD designed and implemented aquatic area enhancement projects
- Install an automated irrigation controller system

### Expected Results from 2015 Work Plan

- Propagate approximately 6,500 new plants and maintain approximately 10,000 plants in existing inventory.
- Provide technical assistance to and support implementation of at least 20 homeowners, landowners, organizations and agencies freshwater area enhancement projects.
- Support the implementation of at least 15 KCD sponsored aquatic area enhancement projects.
- Maintain the nursery

### Program Highlights

- Propagated approximately 6,750 new plants and maintain 15,100 plants in existing inventory
- Provided technical assistance to 45 freshwater aquatic area enhancement projects on urban, suburban and rural residential properties, of which 8 received technical assistance site visit reports.
- Provided plant material for implementation of 19 KCD sponsored conservation projects
- Maintained facility and install irrigation controller, including installing electrical power delivery system

### Summary of 2015 Native Plant and Technical Assistance Activity:

Type of Project Supported	Number of Projects	Quantity of Plants
KCD Aquatic Area Enhancement Projects	19	4,563
WPC Volunteers	17	456
Landowner Project Assistance	0	0
Organization/Agency Project Assistance	2	299
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>38</b>	<b>5,318</b>

# CLEAN WATER - SHORELINES AND HABITAT

## BAREROOT PLANT SALE

The Bareroot Plant Sale provides landowners, organizations, schools, and government agencies with low cost bareroot native plant material for habitat enhancement and native plant landscaping. In addition to receiving low-cost native plants, plant sale customers receive assistance on species selection, information on installing and maintaining plants to achieve high rates of survival, and recommendations related to habitat enhancement.

### Program Goals

- Conduct 2015 pre-order bare-root plant sale, including receiving sales orders, assembling plant orders, and distributing sales orders at annual sale event
- Conduct 2015 walk-up bare-root plant sale
- Order bare-root plants for 2016 bare-root plant sale
- Advertise and market 2016 bare-root plant sale through winter edition of the KCD newsletter and website
- Increase general public knowledge of the District and District programs and services

### Expected Results from 2015 Work Plan

- Conduct 2015 pre-order and walk-up bareroot plant sale
- Advertise 2016 bare-root plant sale
- Sell approximately 45,000 native trees and shrubs to approximately 450 customers

### Program Highlights

- 49,590 native plants sold
- \$83,647 in gross sales including sales taxes collected
- 729 total customers, including 543 pre-orders

### Summary of 2015 Bareroot Plant Sale Activities:

Plant Sale	Quantity of Plants Sold	Number of Customers	Acres of Aquatic Habitat Enhanced	Acres of Upland Habitat Enhanced
2015 Bareroot Plant Sale	49,590	729	1.5	5.5

# CLEAN WATER - SHORELINES AND HABITAT

## VOLUNTEER PROGRAM

The King Conservation District Volunteer Program supports KCD outreach and education activities and implementation of KCD conservation efforts. The volunteer program increases public awareness of KCD programs and services while volunteers gain knowledge about local natural resource management concerns, such as restoration of watershed functions, and gain experience implementing practices to address those concerns.

### Program Goals

- Recruit volunteers and retain their participation on KCD sponsored volunteer events through event advertising, program marketing and networking
- Explore new partnerships with agencies and organizations to expand the range and amount of volunteer opportunities offered by KCD
- Create & implement a volunteer recognition system to honor volunteer service hours
- Continue to provide plant material in exchange for volunteer service at the Wetland Plant Cooperative

### Expected Results from 2015 Work Plan

- Recruit 800 new volunteers
- Connect volunteers to 47 KCD sponsored projects
- Support volunteers in donating 2,000 hours of service

### Program Highlights

- Facilitated 121 volunteer events where more than 772 volunteers donated 2,872 hours of service
- Connected 184 volunteers to more than one KCD volunteer event
- Began development of a volunteer recognition system, including initial preparation of a service schedule for volunteer recognition items and activities.
- Partnered with two organizations on volunteer events, Oxbow Organic Farm and Education Center and EarthCorps.

### Summary of 2015 Volunteer Project Activity:

Type of Project Supported	Number of Projects	Volunteers Connected	Hours Donated
Wetland Plant Cooperative	28	282	874.5
Aquatic Area Enhancement Projects	14	307	1,204.5
Longfellow Creek Enhancement Projects	11	122	406
Totem Lake Habitat Enhancement Projects	1	25	25
Bareroot Plant Sale	2	6	29
Stream Stewards	63	16	276
Other	2	14	57
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>121</b>	<b>772</b>	<b>2,872</b>

# CLEAN WATER - SHORELINES AND HABITAT

## MARINE SHORELINE PROTECTION AND ENHANCEMENT SERVICES

The Marine Shoreline Landowner Assistance Program provides workshops, site visits, and limited cost-share funding to help landowners improve critical natural resources associated with Puget Sound marine shorelines. Workshops focus on the ecology of the Puget Sound marine near-shore environment, coastal geological processes, and vegetation management. In combination, these topics provide an overview of how landowners can promote stable natural shorelines, reduce the risk of bluff erosion and landslides, and improve fish and wildlife habitat. Workshop participants may request a free site visit to learn about natural resource management concerns specific to their marine shoreline properties. Cost-share is budgeted through the KCD LIP and the WSCC Capital Budget program. The workshop component of this program is budgeted under the Education Group.

### Program Goals

- Facilitate *Where the Water Begins* workshops
- Provide marine shoreline property site assessments
- Implement critical fish and wildlife habitat enhancement projects on marine shorelines.

### Expected Results from 2015 Work Plan

- Conduct site visits to assess natural resource management concerns on 25 properties and prepare site visit reports that provide recommendations to address those concerns.
- In Partnership with the Green-Duwamish Watershed Forum, engineer and install 2 marine riparian, marine forest, and/or marine shoreline enhancement projects on private property
- Continue to develop the Shoreline Bulkhead Removal & Alternative Shore Protection Practice Handbook
- Participate in and obtain Green Shores for Homes certification
- Support implementation of Mason CD Shore Friendly grant

### Program Highlights

- Conducted technical assistance site visits to assess natural resource management concerns on 2 properties and provided recommendations to address those concerns.
- Continue planning and designing creosote bulkhead removal project. 100% design level completed on bulkhead; dock and ramp issues pending KC SMP update.
- Implemented 1 marine riparian enhancement project.
- Prepared a final technical review draft of the Shoreline Bulkhead Removal & Alternative Shore Protection Practice Handbook
- Participated in abbreviated Green Shores for Homes training course
- Supported implementation of the Mason CD Shore Friendly grant by sharing KCD resources and participating in multi-CD collaboration and training

### Summary of 2015 Marine Shoreline Practices:

Best Management Practice	Quantity Site Visits	Projects Planned	Projects Installed	Acres Installed	Feet Installed	Quantity Plants
Hedgerow	0	0	0	0	0	0
Riparian Forest Buffer	1	1	1	.25	90	400
Buffer Fencing	0	0	0	0	0	0
Building Set-Back From Critical Area	0	0	0	0	0	0
Bulkhead Removal	n/a	1	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>.25</b>	<b>90</b>	<b>400</b>

# PROFILE



**Robert Beresford**

As caretaker of the Carrie Lewith Home in Lake Forest Park, Robert Beresford, manages just over 5 acres on Lyons Creek. In hopes of restoring the creek to its former salmon bearing days, Beresford partnered with KCD's Urban Shoreline program to restore over 32,000 square feet of creek shoreline covered in invasive weeds. "Now this section of Lyons Creek is ready to welcome salmon," says Beresford.

32,000 Square Feet of riparian habitat restored

1,080 native trees and shrubs planted

465 feet of salmon bearing urban shoreline improved

# EDUCATION

KCD provides education that promotes the sustainable uses of natural resources by understanding the natural resource conservation and natural resource management practices. KCD education programs include classes, workshops, tours and other field-based learning opportunities that focus on water quality protection, soil conservation, livestock management, aquatic area enhancement, and fish and wildlife habitat enhancement. Audiences served by KCD education programs include livestock owners, agriculture operators, and rural, urban, and suburban landowners.

## ENVIROTHON

Envirothon is a nationwide environmental literacy competition for high school youth. Sponsoring businesses and organizations include the NRCS, WSCC, and the WACD. KCD participates in the Washington State Envirothon program by recruiting high school teams from King County to participate in the Northwest regional, state, and national Envirothon competitions. In 2015, KCD coordinated the Northwest regional event in 2015 in cooperation with the Maple Valley Arboretum Foundation and the City of Maple Valley.



### Program Goals

- Support partner agencies and NGOs in delivering field-based high school education programming.
- Increase knowledge of KCD programs and services.

### Expected Results from 2015 Work Plan

#### NW Regional Envirothon Competition

- Plan and host the 2015 NW Regional Envirothon Competition.
- Recruit and register teams from 4 King County area high schools for the 2015 NW Regional Envirothon Competition.
- Assist teams with preparations for regional competitions.

#### Washington State Envirothon Competition

- Assist winning King County team with State Competition registration and preparations.
- Participate in state event.
- Assist with National competition registration and preparations if applicable.
- Participate in State Event.

#### Washington State Envirothon Committee

- Participate in monthly planning and management meetings.
- Perform Treasurer duties.
- Attend annual meeting.
- Help with other committee tasks as needed.

# EDUCATION

## Program Highlights

### *NW Regional Envirothon Competition*

- Recruited and registered 4 teams from King County area high schools for the 2015 NW Regional Envirothon.
- Assisted these teams with competition preparation.
- Planed and hosted the 2015 NW Regional Envirothon Competition.

### *Washington State Envirothon Competition*

- Supported the winning King County team registration for state event.
- Assisted the winning King County team with competition preparation.
- Assisted with state event planning.
- Participated in state event.

### *Washington State Envirothon Committee*

- Participated in 11 planning and management meetings.
- Performed Treasurer duties.
- Attended annual meeting.
- Assisted in searching for grant and other funding sources for the Washington State Envirothon Committee.
- Rebuilt the Washington State Envirothon website.

## Summary of 2015 Envirothon Activities:

Participating School District	Number of Teams (Number of Students)	Event
Mercer Slough Environmental Education Center (Bellevue, Sammamish, Newport, and Renton High Schools)	2 (10 students)	NW Regional Envirothon
Sammamish High School	2 (10 students)	NW Regional Envirothon
Mercer Slough Environmental Education Center (Bellevue, Sammamish, Newport, and Renton High Schools)	1 (5 students)	WA State Envirothon
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>5 (25 students)</b>	<b>3</b>

# EDUCATION

## LAND & WATER STEWARDSHIP WORKSHOPS

This program is a series of four workshops in which livestock owners learn about planning and implementing natural resource management practices to protect water quality, conserve soils, and enhance fish and wildlife habitat. Subsequent to participating in these workshops, livestock owners have the option to work with KCD staff on a customized Farm Conservation Plan for their property, and/or the design and installation of an aquatic area buffer protection and enhancement plan.

### Program Goals

- Facilitate the workshop series titled Land & Water Stewardship for Livestock Owners,
- Connect workshop participants with KCD farm planning and aquatic area buffer enhancement project services

### Expected Results from 2015 Work Plan

- Facilitate 8 workshops, 2 each of the following:
  - Get Wet! Stream & Wetland Buffer Protection for Livestock Owners
  - Record Rainfall? Record Mud! Mud Management for Livestock Owners
  - Got Livestock? Got Manure! Manure Management for Livestock Owners
  - Becoming a Grass Farmer - Pasture Management for Livestock Owners

### Program Highlights

- Facilitated 8 workshops, 2 each of the following:
  - Get Wet! Stream & Wetland Buffer Protection for Livestock Owners
  - Record Rainfall? Record Mud! Mud Management for Livestock Owners
  - Got Livestock? Got Manure! Manure Management for Livestock Owners
  - Becoming a Grass Farmer - Pasture Management for Livestock Owners

### Summary of 2015 Land and Water Stewardship Workshops:

Workshop Title	Number Facilitated	Number of Participants
Stream & Wetland Buffer Protection for Livestock Owners	2	10
Mud Management for Livestock Owners	2	9
Manure Management for Livestock Owners	2	10
Pasture Management for Livestock Owners	2	19
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>51</b>

# EDUCATION

## FARM TOURS & SPECIAL AGRICULTURE CLASSES

KCD facilitates farm tours and classes on agriculture topics to provide peer education opportunities for members of the livestock community. Farm tours are open house events where a host landowner highlights management practices they've implemented to protect and enhance natural resources on their property. Classes on agriculture topics are offered to provide information on emerging topics relevant to the livestock community.

### Program Goals

- Increase understanding in livestock community of the natural resource impacts associated with livestock management practices.
- Increase livestock operations managed consistent with Farm Management Plans.
- Support voluntary stewardship of natural resources on private lands.
- Increase knowledge of KCD programs and services.

### Expected Results from 2015 Work Plan

- Conduct 8 tours featuring farms that have implemented farm best management practices
- Conduct 4 agriculture classes on emerging and priority farm best management practices

### Program Highlights

- Conducted 8 farm tours to feature farms that have implemented best management practices.
- Conducted 6 agriculture classes on emerging and priority best management practices.

### Summary of 2015 Farm Tours and Agriculture Topic Classes:

Event	Location or Title	Number of Participants
Farm Tour	Seattle Mounted Police, Session 1	62
Farm Tour	Seattle Mounted Police, Session 2	28
Farm Tour / Ag Class	Triple J Ranch, Innovations in Horsekeeping	22
Farm Tour	Soggy Bottom Farm	40
Farm Tour	Laughing Horse Farm	19
Farm Tour	Trinity Ranch	14
Farm Tour	Little Bit Therapeutic Riding Center	17
Farm Tour	Scarecrow Dairy	6
Ag Class	Shopping for Horse Property	10
Ag Class	Food Waste to Fertilizer	7
Ag Class	Septic & Wellhead Care & Maintenance	17
<b>Total</b>		<b>242</b>

# EDUCATION

## **K-12 STORMWATER EDUCATION** **NEW!**

The King Conservation District's K-12 Stormwater Education Program provides youth education to students in King County around soil and water conservation and protection. Water on Wheels is a classroom based lesson for K-6th grade and includes hands-on games and activities to introduce students to water pollution, watersheds, and soil. Environmental Detectives is a half-day activity for 8th grade students in which groups rotate through stations of environmental tests and problem-solving discussions to discover the 'mystery of the dying fish' and learn about water pollutant sources and how humans impact their watershed and ecosystem. The Envirothon is a natural-resource competition and is also its own budgeted program. All programs meet the National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) Phase II permit requirements for cities in King County. These programs are delivered by a partnership between the King Conservation District and member jurisdictions. Funding for the deployment of the program is provided by the member jurisdictions.

### **Program Goals**

- Increase youth literacy on water pollution sources and solutions by delivering high quality stormwater education.
- Support member jurisdictions on NPDES permit-related stormwater education requirements.
- Strengthen relationships with member jurisdictions around opportunities for partnering on conservation services.
- Increase knowledge of KCD programs and services.

### **Expected Results from 2015 Work Plan**

- Develop outreach materials for Water on Wheels, Environmental Detectives, and Envirothon for both member jurisdiction and school district distribution.
- Distribute outreach materials to all member jurisdictions.
- Distribute outreach materials to school districts.
- Build a database of contacts at member jurisdiction cities and school districts for future

# EDUCATION

communications.

## Program Highlights

- Developed outreach materials for Water on Wheels, Environmental Detectives, and Envirothon for both member jurisdiction and school district distribution.
- Distributed outreach materials to 13 member jurisdictions with NPDES Phase II permits.
- Built a database of contacts at member jurisdiction cities and school districts for future communications.

Jurisdiction Contacted	Program Marketing Materials	Program Marketing Meetings	Service Contracts Initiated
Sammamish	1	2	--
Shoreline	1	--	--
Newcastle	1	--	--
Bothell	1	--	--
Kenmore	1		
Lake Forest Park	1	--	--
Woodinville	1		
Renton	1	--	--
Des Moines	1	--	--
Kirkland	1	--	--
Maple Valley	1	--	--
Mercer Island	1	--	--
Snoqualmie	1	--	--
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>13</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>--</b>

# EDUCATION

## URBAN SHORELINE LANDOWNER EDUCATION PROGRAM **NEW!**

KCD offers a targeted shoreline education curriculum that promotes and supports the protection and enhancement of freshwater shorelines through vegetated buffers and reduced pollutants in surface water runoff on private property in the urbanized and incorporated areas of King County. Workshop participants may request a free site visit to learn about natural resource management concerns specific to their shoreline properties. The workshop technical assistance component of this program is budgeted under the Urban Shoreline Protection and Enhancement Services Program associated with the Implementation & Natural Resources Conservation Group.

### Program Goals

- Educate and inspire landowners to drive the protection of our region's shorelines and contribute to the overall health of Puget Sound.
- Improve shoreline habitat and water quality in King County and the Puget Sound overall.
- Increase landowner literacy levels around shoreline processes and the role of riparian vegetation and habitat.
- Facilitate education programs for urban shoreline landowners.

### Expected Results from 2015 Work Plan

- Write an RFP requesting the services of a curriculum writer to develop an education program for urban shoreline landowners.
- Hire a curriculum contractor.
- Engage with the Urban Shoreline & Riparian Habitat Working Group to determine the appropriate deployment of the education program.

### Program Highlights

- Worked with a dedicated team of stakeholders to develop a program responsive to municipal needs.
- Drafted an RFP requesting the services of a curriculum writer to develop an education program for urban shoreline landowners.

# EDUCATION

## WHERE THE WATER BEGINS – MARINE SHORELINE LANDOWNER EDUCATION WORKSHOP

Where the Water Begins provides access to educational content for landowners of marine shorelines. Workshops focus on the ecology of the Puget Sound marine near-shore environment, coastal geological processes, and vegetation management. In combination, these topics provide an overview of how landowners can promote stable natural shorelines, reduce the risk of bluff erosion and landslides, and improve fish and wildlife habitat. Workshop participants may request a free site visit to learn about natural resource management concerns specific to their marine shoreline properties.

### Program Goals

- Facilitate *Where the Water Begins* workshops.

### Expected Results from 2015 Work Plan

- Conduct 3 *Where the Water Begins* workshops to marine shoreline landowners.

### Program Highlights

- Facilitated 2 *Where the Water Begins* workshops (Vashon 6/6/15 and Discovery Park 6/20/15) serving 70 homeowners/landowners. (23 workshop attendees requested technical assistance site visit.)

Date	Location	Participants	Technical Assistance Requests
June 6, 2015	Vashon Island	46	16
June 20, 2015	Discovery Park ELX (Northwest King)	24	7
July 2015	Cancelled due to venue limitations in South King County	--	--
<b>Total</b>		<b>70</b>	<b>23</b>

# LANDOWNER INCENTIVE PROGRAM

The Landowner Incentive Program (LIP) promotes stewardship of natural resources on private property by providing cost-share funding to help landowners implement natural resource management practices. Cost-share reimbursement rates for approved projects range from 50% to 90% depending on the natural resource management practice. There is no lifetime maximum on the amount of cost-share funding a landowner can receive through the LIP, but landowners must complete implementation of their current approved practice before applying for a new one.

## Program Goals

- Implement approved natural resource management practices
- Promote the implementation of practices detailed in KCD prepared Farm Management Plans
- Promote the implementation of practices planned in association with District technical assistance services for non-agriculture audiences

## Expected Results from 2015 work plan

- Award 90 new cost-share contracts.
- Manage 281 previously awarded cost-share contracts.
- Monitor approximately 57 implemented practices for contract maintenance compliance.
- Coordinate annual program review for policy revisions to be implemented in 2016.

## Program Highlights

- Awarded 101 new cost-share contracts. Of these awards, 77 are agriculture & livestock management practices, 9 are Forest Health Management Practices, and 15 are freshwater Aquatic Area Enhancement Practices.
- Managed 282 previously awarded cost-share contracts, including administering cost-share reimbursement, conducting site visit to verify practice implementation, and closing contracts
- Coordinate annual program review for policy revisions to be implemented in 2016

## Summary of 2015 LIP Projects & Awards:

Best Management Practice	Contracts Awarded	Acres	Linear Feet	Quantity Plants	Funding Level
Agricultural & Livestock Management	77	278.78	8,053	0	\$315,733.83
Forest Health Management	9	121.8	0	9,678	\$141,858.75
Freshwater Aquatic Area Enhancement	15	n/a	n/a	n/a	\$99,604.76
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>101</b>	<b>35.9</b>	<b>800</b>	<b>10,613</b>	<b>\$557,197.34</b>

# MEMBER JURISDICTION GRANTS

The KCD Member Jurisdiction and WRIA Forum Grant Program awards grants for natural resource improvement projects in partnership with 35 King County jurisdictions that are members of the District and the WRIA 7, 8, and 9 watershed forums. Projects can include education and outreach, pilot and demonstration, capacity building, and on-the-ground improvement projects implemented by community organizations and cities in King County.

Grant Program Category	2015 Grant Funding Level
Member Jurisdiction Grants Program	\$1,200,000.00

The goals of the program are to:

- **Promote** the implementation of natural resource improvement actions by jurisdictions, non-profit organizations, tribes, and other land managers and owners
- **Assist** in the development of partnerships between jurisdictions, non-profit organizations, and the watershed forums in order fulfill KCD's mission of promoting sustainable uses of natural resources through responsible stewardship.
- **Support** the natural resource improvement priorities of jurisdictions, watershed forums, non-profit organizations, tribes and other land managers and owners.
- **Effectively and efficiently administer** the Member Jurisdiction & WRIA Forum Grant program by collecting biannual progress and expense reports, performing grant close out reviews and site visits, reviewing new grant applications, coordinating the award of and amendments to grant agreements, and notifying member jurisdictions of funding available. Continually working to improve the program.
- **Encouraging Monitoring and Maintenance** of our grant projects by working with grantees to plan for at least three years to ensure long term sustainability and success of our financial investments.

# MEMBER JURISDICTION GRANTS

## Program Highlights

- **Grant Awards** – For a complete list of grants awarded please see Appendix A.
- In total 40 grant awards were made totaling \$1,163,355
  - In 2015, 2 grants were awarded with leftover KCD-WRIA funds. The City of Bothell was awarded a **KCD-WRIA 8** grant for the Sammamish River Side Channel Restoration Phase 3 Construction. The City of Issaquah received \$75,292 in additional funding for the Lower Lewis Creek Restoration bringing the total KCD-WRIA 8 funds awarded this project to \$325,292
  - **38 Member Jurisdiction grants** were awarded to the cities of Shoreline, Woodinville, Sammamish, Renton, Newcastle, Mercer Island, Kirkland and more.
  - In cooperation with Seattle Public Utilities and the Office of Sustainability and the Environment, the **KCD-Seattle Community Partnership Grant Program** received 39 letters of interest requesting \$1.3 million dollars in funding. The City recommended and KCD awarded 19 grants for a total of \$383,665.
    - KCD and Seattle Public Utilities worked cooperatively to craft a process that met mutual goals of natural resource conservation and community engagement.
    - An objective team of reviewers committed many hours of their time and worked with KCD to evaluate the proposals
    - Two workshops were held in March at the Northeast and Beacon Hill Library Branches in Seattle to promote the grant program and guide potential applications. Over 50 total attendees were able to meet with City and KCD staff, as well as other organizations doing similar work to talk about their projects.
- **Grant reporting** was collected from over 100 open grants managed by one program staff.
- **Grant close-outs and site visits** occur throughout the year
  - 9 WRIA grants were closed out in 2015.
  - 26 Member Jurisdiction grants were closed out in 2015
- **Grant program policy development**
  - Grant applicants continue to use the application developed in partnership with a grant subcommittee of the KCD-KC Task Force. The subcommittee included representatives from KCD, Seattle, King County, Bellevue, Redmond, Snoqualmie, and Auburn. The subcommittee recommended a pilot grant application form to be adopted in 2014. The intent of revising the pilot grant application form was to make the application process more transparent, eliminate duplicative questions, and increase ease of application by member jurisdictions. Many applicants commented that the new form is easier to use.
- **Grant amendment requests** are submitted throughout the year and are processed by staff, the grant subcommittee, and the Board of Supervisors as detailed in the amendment approval authority document. Grant amendment documents are available on the KCD webpage. Numerous grant amendment requests were processed and approved.

# COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

## KING CONSERVATION DISTRICT ADVISORY COMMITTEE

King Conservation District continued to engage and support a broad-based Advisory Committee to begin implementing a five-year Implementation Plan and Budget approved by the Metropolitan King County Council in November 2014. The structure of the Advisory Committee can be seen below:

### KCD ADVISORY COMMITTEE: A STAKEHOLDER'S GROUP

	Member	Alternate
King Conservation District Board of Supervisors		
King County	Appointed by Chair of KC Council	
	Appointed by KC Executive	
City of Seattle Staff		
City of Bellevue		
Equity & Social Justice	Appointed by KC Executive	
Environmental Partners	Appointed by KCD	

	Member	Alternate
Sound Cities Association		
	SCA Appointments shall strive for geographic balance	
Landowners	Ag Comm	Appointed by Ag Commission
	Forest Comm	Appointed by Forest Commission
	Rural	Appointed by KCD
	Urban	Appointed by KCD

### Program Highlights

The Advisory Committee met each month January through November in 2015. Throughout the year, partnerships were built and strengthened. The Advisory Committee, some members of which had served on either the Conservation Panel or Task Force, helped KCD develop the specifics of the first year of its 5-year Implementation Plan. The Advisory Committee continues to be a cornerstone of KCD's new program development, assisting KCD with policy and constituent engagement.

# COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

## PARTNERSHIPS

KCD's Engagement programs are designed to communicate the activities of KCD in ways that are meaningful to our key constituents and the broader community. They include intergovernmental relations and non-governmental organization relations, which specifically target building relationships with key jurisdictional partners within KCD's boundaries and in the Puget Sound region and other stakeholder engagement, which focuses specifically on current co-operators and more broadly on all citizens of the District.

### Program Goals

- Identify and support constituent priorities
- Achieve a greater public awareness of King Conservation District and its services
- Increased participation in KCD's programs and demand for its services
- A collaborative / synergistic relationship between partners and KCD for more efficiency of conservation stewardship

### Program Highlights

- Strengthened relationship with KCD Advisory Committee in 2015
- KCD partnered with Snohomish, Mason, and Pierce conservation districts to continue developing **Better Ground** as a conservation district brand and build synergistic capacity across our districts



# COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

## PROGRAM MARKETING

KCD's program marketing promotes programs and services to our target audiences. These promotions include core programs, services and events as well as those conducted by partner groups. In marketing KCD programs, Engagement staff coordinates with other KCD staff to develop program materials and events.

Engagement staff promotes programs and events through the KCD website, email blasts, social media, printed publications, fact sheets, flyers, paid advertisements, local media and partner communication networks, as well as participation in events, forums, and networks.



### Program Goals

- Increasing recognition of KCD and its mission throughout the Puget Sound region.
- Providing communication tools to support each KCD program and consistent messaging.
- Developing publications that are easily understood by target audiences (e.g., private partners, landowners, grantees, general public) and that successfully promote and educate people about KCD programs, services and recommended best management practices.
- Raising public awareness of the need for individual, voluntary natural resource stewardship.

### Program Highlights

- Participated with an exhibition booth for the first time in the Northwest Flower and Garden showing, engaging over 1,000 attendees and disseminating information about our free soil testing and other available services.
- Participated in at least 1 farmers market per week throughout the season to educate target audiences about our services and our support for local farms and farmers as well as hear first hand the challenges these markets and their farmers face.
- Website homepage refinement and increased updating and usage
- Colorful, interesting, and informative monthly emailed newsletter read by nearly 3,000 in 2015
- Dynamic, rapidly updated, and well-used Facebook page
- Strategic email alerts for key events and developments
- Event sponsorship in support of local food system, watershed improvement, and related topics
- Program and jurisdictional factsheets
- Special Publications
- Communication support to staff and Board
- Recognition Awards – Annual Meeting Event and Rock Awards
- Exhibits and other presence at fairs, festivals, and trade shows

# COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

## LEGISLATIVE ACTIVITIES

KCD Board members and senior staff met with legislators to raise literacy about the new revenue tool of Rates and Charges, the impacts KCD and other conservation districts have in protecting natural resources, and other issues of interest to state and local lawmakers.



### Program Goals

- Express appreciation to legislators for their support
- Familiarity, on the part of all new and existing legislators, with conservation districts' mandate, constituency and programs and reciprocal KCD familiarity with legislators' issues
- Securing a conservation district presence at legislative tables when conservation and resource stewardship is being discussed
- Tee up conservation district election and Puget Sound Conservation District Caucus issues with legislative, PSP and State agency staff.

### Program Highlights

- Met with over 30 state legislators in late February during Legislative Days, followed up through phone calls and letters
- Recognition among many state legislators that private landowners of all types of properties are a key component of resource conservation and stewardship
- Support from jurisdictional leaders for KCD's commitment to the Advisory Committee process to build strong working relationships with its partners going forward

## GENERAL PUBLIC LITERACY

In response to the Conservation Panel and Task Force's strong recommendation that King Conservation District expand its effort to raise awareness of its services and impact, KCD engaged in a multi-prong campaign to begin that process.

### Program Goals

- Increased public awareness of KCD's existence and impact
- Increased demand for KCD's services
- Increased opportunities for future collaboration with partners

### Program Highlights

- Reached shoppers at 20+ farmers markets, a key constituent audience
- Increased general literacy of KCD, conservation districts overall, voluntary stewardship
- Increased web traffic, Facebook subscribers, and e-newsletter requests

# BOARD GOVERNANCE

## BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

The King Conservation District Board of Supervisors is responsible for all policy and funding decisions of KCD. The Board is composed of five Supervisors: Three are elected at large throughout the District, and two are appointed by the Washington State Conservation Commission. All members of the Board of Supervisors are volunteers and serve three-year terms. In cooperation with the Executive Director, the Board Chair manages monthly meetings of the Board and provides leadership and direction to the Board.

The Board's primary responsibilities are strategic planning and policy development. The annual workload of the Board includes the setting of annual priorities as well as oversight and approval of the Annual Work Plan & Budget in coordination with the Executive Director and KCD management staff. Throughout the year, the Board reviews and approves proposals to KCD for its grant funding. The Board also adopts KCD policy congruent with the Washington State Conservation Commission, including the holding of an annual supervisor election, and other requirements set out by State law and policy. The Board sets policy regarding personnel and the allocation of KCD funding to meet its needs. Supervisors also serve on various regional boards and commissions, attend outside meetings, represent KCD to the Conservation Commission and the Washington Association of Conservation Districts (WACD), and engage with legislators and stakeholders throughout the District.

The activities of the Board of Supervisors include the staffing and administration expenses for Board activities, which includes the cost of running the annual Supervisor election, the Annual Meeting and Awards Dinner, and outside legal coverage.

### Program Goals

#### *General Program*

- Review and act upon recommendations from the KCD Advisory Committee.
- Support adjustments as required to conservation district enabling legislation.

#### *Election*

- Continue to support expanded participation in the KCD's annual election
- Work with state legislators to identify and analyze changes that will result in greater voter participation

#### *Statewide Conservation District Activities*

- Represent KCD at Washington Association of District Employees and Washington and National Association of Conservation District conferences, to the Washington State Conservation Commission, and to other regional bodies.

# BOARD GOVERNANCE

## **Program Highlights**

### *General Program*

- Secured grant funding for several pilot projects with jurisdictional or other partners
- Board members served on the KCD Advisory Committee and participated in discussions regarding KCD's 2015 Implementation Plan that was adopted by the King County Council in November, 2014
- Effectively raised local literacy regarding conservation district mandates and responsibilities to local stakeholders
- Worked to promote KCD's role concerning natural resource conservation
- Held Annual Board Celebration Meeting to thank and appreciate all its partners throughout the year

### *Election*

- Engaged Advisory Committee in conversation with the Washington State Conservation Commission regarding barriers to voting in KCD elections, other issues
- Tracked Washington State Conservation Commission analysis of voting issues
- Laid the groundwork for more progress on election process in 2015

# OPERATIONS

KCD's Operations Program includes those activities that focus on managing the processes to produce and distribute products and services to internal and external partners. Activities include managing purchases, inventory control, quality control, storage, logistics and evaluation of processes. By facilitating the flow of information among human resources, accounting, inventory control, and other assets, planning and decision making are made easier. A great deal of focus is on efficiency and effectiveness of processes. Therefore, operations management often includes substantial measurement and analysis of internal processes. The Operations team makes recommendations to and works collaboratively with the Board of Supervisors and staff on projects.

## **General Overhead**

KCD's Annual Budget includes expenses for general overhead. Although these do not constitute expenses with specific program deliverables, they provide the operational infrastructure and support for KCD staff to implement on-the-ground work. These expenses are currently referred to as Tier 1 overhead items. The largest expenses of this category are rent, utilities, office equipment, IT and vehicles.

## **Finance**

KCD's Finance team consists of a cross-functional working group that provides all accounting related functions for the organization. These functions include, but are not limited to, annual reporting, audit, budgeting, financial reporting to Board of Supervisors and Executive Director, and external partners accounts payable and receivable, grant funding, contracting, and payroll.

## **Human Resources**

Human Resources provides recommendations and strategies for recruitment and employee development, growth and retention. HR's priorities are clustered in eight categories: compensation, HRIS technology, planning, performance management, professional development, workforce recruitment, strategic planning and work culture enhancement. HR works closely with the Board and ED to update its salary schedule and performance-based compensation system, update the personnel policy and employee benefit programs, review employee career development and training programs, and maintain KCD's employee records, as well as maintain team building initiatives with staff.

## **Legal and Related**

The Executive Director and Director of Operations and HR oversee the day-to-day contracting and regulatory interpretation as well as respond to and monitor all legal actions that impact the organization. King Conservation District maintains outside legal counsel to handle issues that arise with KCD's unique and collaborative grant program and contracting responsibilities.

# OPERATIONS

## **General Operations**

General Operations formulates, implements and evaluates administrative policy and programs for all assignments. GO develops pertinent administrative and management policies as they affect employees, budgets, logistics and management, as well as provides administrative and analytical support in a wide variety of areas including: special projects, budgets, correspondence, and general maintenance of KCD programs, including managing KCD's facilities, equipment and IT infrastructure.

## **Program Goals**

- Complete the reorganization of the Operations team, adding solid support to programs
- Manage KCD finances to achieve optimal oversight, with a cross functional team to create transparency and with Operational oversight
- Provide operational support to all KCD programs and staff

## **Program Highlights**

- Expanded Planning, Implementation and Engagement staff's one-on-one contact with KCD partners and cooperators
- Ensured that all staff was trained in basic first aid and CPR as well as purchased an SED in an ongoing effort to commitment to safety in the workplace.
- Streamlined, simplified and created transparency in budget tracking, document storage/retrieval and payroll systems
- Operations created the addition of vehicle and safety sub-committees to address issues and create SOPs to continue to support staff.
- Finance team established and monitored specific and measurable financial strategic goals on a coordinated, integrated basis, thus enabling KCD to operate efficiently and effectively, while producing timely reports
- Operations partnered with outside entities to create a day of caring by donating clothing, food and toys for families in need during the Holiday season
- Operations combined with Finance helped to link strategic goals to performance and provide timely, useful information to facilitate strategic and operational control decisions
- HR partnered with program managers to screen applicants and then provide the best training possible to turn employees into assets
- HR is in the process of ensuring compensation and performance management processes are in line to maximize staff performance
- HR documented and broadly communicated available recruiting services and hiring options to support program and general staff hiring
- Operations, Finance and HR created an atmosphere of positive relationships to foster work and team collaborations across all programs

# KCD RATES AND CHARGES PROGRAM EXPENSES - 2015

REVENUE		
	Rates & Charges Collection	\$6,036,649
	Other Funds (grants, other)	\$584,580
		\$6,621,229
KCD BUDGET TO ACTUAL	BUDGETED	ACTUAL
Food and Farm Programs (1)	\$2,014,114 + \$188,851 ADAP funds	<b>\$2,202,965</b>
<i>(1) A partnership with King County resulted in additional Food and Farm program investments in agriculture drainage projects that brought 75 acres of key farmland back into production and improved drainage on 407 acres.</i>		
Forestry Services (2)	\$319,654 <-\$181,852> 1-time cost savings and Engagement launch support	<b>\$137,802</b>
<i>(2) Cost savings attributed to one-time utilization of in-house staff time, community engagement resources, and delayed hiring of additional staff. All benchmarks for Forest Service programs were met or exceeded. A more closely aligned budget-to-actual funding relationship is expected in Years 2-5.</i>		
Shoreline and Riparian Services	\$1,278,584	<b>\$1,271,910</b>
Landowner Incentive Program	\$837,182	<b>\$857,704</b>
Member Jurisdiction Grants & Services Program inc. grant administration (3)	\$1,296,507 +\$249,958 Admin costs	<b>\$1,546,465</b>
<i>(3) Historically, in expressing KCD's MJ grant program costs, KCD has shown the grant funding only, subsidizing the program's administrative costs across other programs. This budget-to-actual table represents that historic approach in the Budget column but expresses the full cost of the program in the Actual column.</i>		
Community Engagement Advisory Committee (4)	\$404,999 +\$199,399 KCD program launch investment	<b>\$604,384</b>
<i>(4) Additional cost for Community Engagement program was due to needed increases in investments in outreach, communication, and other support to launch KCD's new program initiatives. KCD is using prior fund balance to support community engagement beyond what was originally budgeted.</i>		
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$6,151,040</b>	<b>\$6,621,229</b>

# 2015 BOARD



**Dick Ryon, Chair**

Dick was elected to the KCD Board in 2014. While not having actively worked with farmers, ranchers and dairymen in the agricultural districts in King County, he is no stranger to rural and forest areas, having been employed by Weyerhaeuser Company as a Professional Forester and Land Use Manager in Snohomish, King, Pierce and Lewis Counties for almost 20 years. Dick also serves on the King County Rural Forest Commission.

Dick brings a continuity of regional natural resource priorities from his participation on the 2013 King County/KCD Task Force/Conservation Panel. The purpose of the Task Force was three fold: (1) Identify the availability of conservation and natural resource programs and services in King County; (2) Identify the needs, both met and unmet for such services and programs, and (3) Identify the actual and prospective sources of funding to meet such needs



**Bill Knutsen, Vice-Chair**

Bill Knutsen is no stranger to the changes that have swept across the King County landscape. Bill is a third generation dairy farmer, now retired. He graduated from Northshore schools and went on to earn his bachelor's degree from Central Washington College School of Business.

Bill ran a thriving dairy business with his family in the Bothell area for many years, bottling the milk and delivering it to area homes. Eventually, the family business evolved to include a drive thru dairy store in the 1970's and 80's. Bill is currently serving his 4th term as a King Conservation District supervisor.

In addition to his service to KCD, Bill has been a King County Ag Commissioner and was president of the Dairy Herd Improvement Association - an organization charged with helping farmers operate profitably. Bill is married, with a son and a daughter and six grandchildren.



**Max Prinsen, Auditor**

Max has served on the KCD Board since 2012. Max and his wife Erin founded Save Habitat and Diversity of Wetlands (SHADOW) in 1999 to protect a unique habitat that includes a rare peat bog in southeast King County Washington. The SHADOW team works to continuously expand and enhance the non-profit's educational programs and protect the fragile ecosystem. SHADOW provides education for schools and the public with outreach to nearby communities.

# 2015 BOARD



## **Jason Salvo**

Jason owns and operates Local Roots Farm, a 20-ish acre diversified, direct market vegetable farm located in the Snoqualmie Valley. Jason joined the KCD board of supervisors in May of 2014. Jason, and his wife Siri Erickson-Brown, started Local Roots farm way back in 2007, and it has been their full time jobs ever since. Local Roots Farm sells vegetables through a CSA, to over 50 area restaurants and at the Broadway Sunday Farmers Market. Before he started farming, Jason was very briefly an attorney. He graduated from Seattle University School of Law Magna

Cum Laude, and was on Law Review. When he's not driving a tractor, Jason enjoys cooking, spending time with his two kids, and skiing.



## **Jim Haack**

Jim joined the KCD Advisory Committee in 2014 to help KCD chart its future in supporting conservation across the region. His role, along with numerous other dedicated stakeholders, was to help guide the implementation of the KCD/King County Conservation Panel and Task Force recommendations.

Jim's experience as a boy in the Ozark hills built his conservation values, including passion for the land and for the livestock on it. Fifteen years ago Jim and his wife of 29 years their young family to the Snoqualmie Valley.

Says Jim, "Moving forward, KCD will play a more integrated role in implementing regional food policy and building social equity and will expand its contribution to local solutions for healthy cities facing long-term climate related issues."

Jim strongly believes we have entered a new era in conservation both locally and regionally. "Economically viable farming in King County that supports families and feeds us locally is on the rise. Farmers here, with renewed support, are joining conservationist, cities and non-profit advocacy groups to lead change."

## KING CONSERVATION DISTRICT – RECIPIENT OF THE 2015 GREEN GLOBE AWARD

*Imagine if...*

Every landowner, public and private, worked together to steward their natural resources so that collectively abundant local food, healthy rural and urban forests, and fresh clean water would be fundamental assets for all to share and enjoy.

King Conservation District's mission is to help landowners steward their natural resources. Like conservation districts across the state and the nation, KCD has a decades-long legacy of supporting land managers in voluntary management of natural resources. We work to improve or protect natural resources on private lands through education, technical assistance, and financial support for implementing best management practices.

Increasingly, KCD has developed mechanisms for working with urban landowners and organizations. As our region continues to urbanize, we must build and expand our tools for greening our cities, growing food creatively and efficiently, and creating habitat amongst the asphalt. For our region to be resilient in the face of climate change, population growth, and other pressures, we must work together to re-build the natural resources that mitigate the demands of the built environment while supporting a viable local economy.

Since 2012, KCD has committed itself to building relationships and working alongside a dedicated cadre of public servants and private citizens to identify the region's most pressing natural resource needs and develop essential, effective, and equitable tools for addressing those needs. Some of those tools are part of conservation districts' traditional programs; others -- such as fixing a broken regional food system and expanding the tree canopy across the built environment -- are fresh.

We are proud of this work, honored to share a table with some of the region's most critical thinkers, and excited about what lies ahead.



*"Everyone in our region benefits from the work that the Green Globe recipients are doing, whether it's creating a local farm-to-table pipeline, preserving open spaces, restoring natural habitats, or confronting climate change," said King County Executive Dow Constantine. "Not only are they protecting our environment – they're improving our quality of life." -KingCounty Executive Dow Constantine*

# GRANT PROGRAM 2015 GRANT AWARDS

The King Conservation District awards grants for projects that directly enhance natural resources, provide education and outreach to increase public awareness, build capacity for natural resource improvement projects, and implement pilot or demonstration projects across King County.

In 2015 KCD awarded \$1,163,355 in grants to more than 30 public agencies and nonprofit organizations. The KCD grants were leveraged by more than \$3,500,000 in matching funds. Below is a list of the funded organizations with brief descriptions of their projects.

**Adopt-A-Stream Foundation - Thornton Creek Streamkeepers Rain Garden Program \$35,000**

**Beacon Food Forest - Beacon Food Forest Stewardship Education Series \$32,681**

**City Fruit - Right-of-Way to Mini-Orchard \$15,620**

**City of Auburn - 2015 Auburn International Farmers Market Marketing & Promotion \$20,000**

**City of Bellevue - Ivy Out \$60,000**

**City of Bellevue - Energy Outreach Campaign \$30,000**

**City of Bellevue - City Hall Green Roof \$40,000**

**City of Bothell - Sammamish River Side Channel Restoration \$40,000**

**City of Clyde Hill - Arbor Day Celebration \$2,002**

**City of Issaquah - Lower Issaquah Creek Restoration \$75,292**

**City of Kent - Green Kent Partnership Year 6 \$55,827**

**City of Kent - Green Kent Partnership Year 7 \$62,605**

**City of Kirkland - 2016 Implementation of 20 Year Restoration Plan \$25,595**

**City of Mercer Island - Calkins Point Shoreline Restoration \$35,000**

**City of Renton - Renton Farmers Market Promotion \$10,500**

**City of Sammamish - 2015 Stormwater Outreach \$23,276**

**City of Seattle - Good Food Program Orchards and Gardens \$16,000**

**City of Seattle - P-Patch Program Stewardship Supplies \$16,000**

# GRANT PROGRAM 2015 GRANT AWARDS

**City of Seattle - Green Seattle Partnership Stewardship Supplies \$7,000**

**City of Shoreline - Twin Ponds Vegetation Management Plan \$18,300**

**City of Shoreline - Soak It Up Rebate Program Survey \$10,900**

**City of Shoreline - Our P.A.T.C.H Greenhouse \$25,000**

**City of Shoreline - Richmond Beach Saltwater Park Habitat Restoration \$18,023**

**City of Woodinville - Tree Games/Arbor Day Celebration \$1,250**

**Duwamish Tribal Services - Longhouse Upland Reforestation & Native Plant Restoration \$19,235**

**Earth Corps - Duwamish Alive Stewardship Supplies \$7,000**

**Fauntleroy Watershed Council - Kilbourne Ravine Riparian & Buffer Project \$21,203**

**Forterra - Seattle's Tree Ambassadors/Releaf Program \$6,000**

**King County Agriculture Program - Keeping Farmers Farming \$195,847**

**Little Red Hen Project - Delridge Learning Garden \$10,169**

**Magnuson Community Center - Nature Education for All \$22,918**

**Mountains to Sound Greenway Trust - Discovery Park Parking Lot Restoration \$21,000**

**Newcastle Weed Warriors - Newcastle Earth Day 2015 \$9,000**

**Seattle Parks Foundation - Cheasty Greenspace Education Signage \$34,689**

**Seattle Parks Foundation - Yesler Swamp Restoration \$31,940**

**Seattle Tilth - Urban Food Project \$40,000**

**Seward Park Audubon Center - Tenacious Roots: Youth Leadership for Conservation Action \$ 11,400**

**Stewardship Partners - Eckstein Middle School Demonstration Rain Garden \$15,000**

**The Common Acre - Creston-Duwamish Transmission Corridor Restoration & Nursery \$20,810**

**White River Valley Museum - Mary Olson Farm Environmental Education \$12,120**

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# 2017 PROGRAM OF WORK



## INTRODUCTION

The 2017 KCD Program of Work carries forward initiatives identified as essential regional priorities by the Conservation Panel, Task Force, and KCD Advisory Committee. These include activities and partnerships that will help build a regional, sustainable, and equitable food system, improve the health of our forests, neighborhood tree canopies, shorelines and ensure clean water for all.

The 2017 Program of Work outlines the ways in which KCD will continue to implement its programs in response to guidance received from the KCD Advisory Committee.

## THE CHALLENGES AND OPPORTUNITIES

As the pressures of climate change and population increases begin to be felt in common and extraordinary ways, our region is challenged to develop tools to adapt and succeed. Efforts are underway to understand and develop strategies to combat systemic barriers to healthy fresh food for all, expand tree canopies in dense neighborhoods and protect our rural forests, and ensure that our region's people, plants, and animals have clean water.

Conservation districts were created at the center of our nation's first national environmental crisis – the dust bowl. Our unique mission places us squarely in the center of many human-natural resource intersections. It's our job to help people understand why a healthy environment is essential to them and then give them the tools they need to do something about it, especially on the nearly 50% of land that's under private control. Growing stewards is what conservation districts do – wherever those stewards may

be – on the farm, in neighborhood backyards, or working alongside friends to restore a stream or park.

We provide broad messaging to elevate natural resource conservation among a diverse constituency. We teach workshops and classes and host tours of demonstration projects to bring essential information on stewardship to interested people. And we work hand-in-hand, often bringing financial resources, with landowners to help them steward natural resources on their land for the public's benefit. **Education, technical assistance, and cost-share.** It's how conservation districts help people build better ground.

In the face of climate change impacts, food production and access barriers, and development pressures on the natural environment, King Conservation District stands ready with our partners to continue to leverage the region's existing expertise and passion for this place and make a difference.

## PROGRAMS AND SERVICES

The 2013 King Conservation District/King County Conservation Panel and Task Force roundtables examined the region's existing programs and identified specific needs that were not being addressed in natural resource conservation. In 2014 and 2015, KCD worked with a broad-based Advisory Committee to develop an implementation plan for work in the following areas:

- Rural Small Lot Forest Health Management
- Urban Forest Health Management
- Regional Food System
- Urban Agriculture
- Rural Agriculture
- Shorelines and Riparian Habitat
- Landowner Incentive Program
- Community Engagement & Member Jurisdiction Grants

## GUIDING PRINCIPLES

KCD's proposed guiding principles to direct and leverage our resources equitably and effectively include:

- Strive to fund projects and programs across a geographically diverse landscape
- Proposed projects are encouraged to address multiple natural resource priorities
- Proposed projects should seek to align with established regional policy and research and planning process
- Proposed projects are encouraged to address economic as well as environmental challenges
- Projects are encouraged to address equity and social justice directly or indirectly
- We strive to coordinate with local jurisdiction conservation programs and initiatives where they exist.

## PARTNERSHIP

KCD is committed to continue implementing these new regional programs in close collaboration with our Advisory Committee and other stakeholders. In order for KCD resources to have the greatest impact, we are committed to building partnerships that direct funds towards effective but underfunded existing programs, innovative pilot projects, and, especially, partnerships across municipalities, organizations, and individuals with congruent goals to build regional capacity and translate into on-the-ground improvements.

Criteria for grants, loans, services, and other resource allocation have been developed jointly by KCD staff and the KCD Advisory Committee, through the leadership of its Executive Committee, and through the KCD Board for consideration and action.



# RURAL SMALL LOT FOREST HEALTH MANAGEMENT

Forests cover two-thirds of the land area in King County, and over 364,000 acres of these forests are in private ownership. The residents of King County value these forestlands for their social, economic and ecological benefits: The recreational opportunities and scenic beauty afforded by forests are central to the quality of life in King County; Pacific Northwest forests are among the most productive in the world; and King County forests provide direct and tangible benefits to entire watersheds by intercepting, evaporating and transpiring rainfall, recharging groundwater and releasing storm water slowly to receiving waterways, sequestering carbon, and providing fish and wildlife habitat.

For these reasons, the King County Rural Forest Commission has recommended promoting and supporting the retention and enhancement of our valuable forested landscape by maintaining a strong focus on incentives and services for small lot forest owners.

King Conservation District works with small-lot forest landowners across unincorporated King County to increase the resilience of the forested landscape and capture the ecological, recreational and other values of forests by helping landowners actively manage forestlands and open space areas. KCD has expanded this effort by enhancing its partnerships with King County Department of Natural Resources and Parks, Washington State University (WSU) Cooperative Extension, and rural residential and small private forest landowners to protect and enhance woodlots and smaller stands of forest, reduce forest fragmentation, and capture the ecological benefits and in some cases the economic value of forests.

*“The combined impacts of increasing wildfire, insect outbreaks, and tree diseases are already causing widespread tree die-off and are virtually certain to cause additional forest mortality by the 2040s.”*

*Climate Change Impacts in the United States – Northwest  
May, 2014*

## 2017 PROGRAM RESOURCES

King Conservation District works with King County, WSU Cooperative Extension and other partners to continue implementing a program that promotes forest health on private lands through workshops, one-on-one education, and technical and financial incentives to plan and implement best management practices. We will build on existing programs and utilize other available resources when available. Program resources needed are shown below.

Anticipated Annual Expenditure	2017
Staff and Consulting	\$92,523
AmeriCorps Intern & Other contracted	\$52,500
Materials/supplies, facility rentals	\$10,000
	<b>\$165,023**</b>

*\* Current funded activities include providing technical guidance, cost-share application development, and project materials to landowners and residents who independently plan and implement forest health management practices.*

*\*\*See the Landowner Incentive Program section of this document for additional funding in the form of cost-share allocated for rural forest health stewardship practices.*

## 2017 PROGRAM AND SERVICES

The range of opportunities includes:

- **Fund the annual offering of WSU Coached Forest Stewardship Workshops** in King County to rural non-commercial small forest landowners.  
**Washington Sate University (WSU) (Grant or Contract)**
- **Target current and increased technical site assessment and support** services to non-commercial rural forest landowners (under 5 acres). Capitalize on synergistic opportunities on properties with combined farm and woodlot land uses (see Regional Food System section of this document. )  
**KCD Staff**
- **Target new technical assistance and implementation services to homeowners associations** with Native Growth Protection Areas, forest buffers and other open space management areas.  
**KCD Staff**
- **Conduct outreach to rural non-commercial small forest landowners** to directly market the range of forestry services available across agencies in King County.  
**KCD Staff in partnership with WSU, King County and others**
- **Collaborate with local and regional service providers on enhancing economic development incentives to support small scale forestry** and on conservation programs that help maintain forest health in the urban/rural interface.  
**KCD Staff in partnership with WSU, KC and others**
- **Collaborate with local and regional service providers** on delivering regional fire fuels reduction efforts to small non-commercial forest landowners.  
**KCD Staff in partnership with KC and others**

## BENCHMARKS

KCD will continue to deliver a robust program of outreach and technical services to the rural community. The goal is to help King County landowners implement forest health management practices on parcels where forest stands are under five acres. KCD will look for opportunities to increase contiguous acres of small acreage privately held forest stands that are actively stewarded and restored, where possible. KCD Rural Forest Health Management Services for 2017 include::

- 225 acres of rural forest / woodlot treated and planted annually, a total of 1,125 acres over 5 years
- 18,000 - 36,000 native trees and shrubs planted on forest land annually, a total of 90,000 to 180,000 over 5 years
- \$144,900 of private sector funding leveraged on forest health management annually, a total of \$724,500 over 5 years
- 18 or more small forest landowners engaged annually in planning and implementing best management practices through KCD technical services, a total of at least 90 landowners engaged over 5 years.
- Offer 1 or more WSU Coached Forest Stewardship Workshop held in King County annually or at least 5 workshops in 5 years.
- \$150,000 in KCD LIP cost-share funding awarded annually for contracts with small private forest landowners to implemented best management practices, for a total of \$750,000 in cost share monies awarded over 5 years.



# URBAN FOREST HEALTH MANAGEMENT

King Conservation District is tasked with one of the most interesting and multi-faceted opportunities facing any conservation district: to extend its traditional reach and work in the backyards, public easements, and parks and open spaces in the incorporated landscapes of the 34 cities we are proud to call our partners. Healthy trees and forests are important attributes in our communities – they increase property values, decrease crime rates, and bring well-studied health benefits to communities. Urban forestry programs across the country are expanding their historical focus on aesthetics and heat islands to include wildlife habitat in cities, storm water management, water quality improvement, pollution abatement and carbon sequestration.

As managed growth concentrates development within the Urban Growth Boundary, healthy urban forests, tree canopies and street trees become even more necessary. KCD works to increase the resilience of urban tree canopies and capture the ecological, recreational and other values of green infrastructure by helping residents and landowners actively manage urban trees in yards and public open spaces. KCD will build on its successful 2016 partnerships with member cities to expand conservation of urban tree canopies and grow green infrastructure where it is deemed most needed.

## King County STAR Community Rating Program Reveals Growing Disparity in Urban Canopy Cover

Trees form the backbone of the green infrastructure in urban environments. Tree canopy has decreased in low-income parts of the city of Seattle over the past decade. High income neighborhoods have actually experienced an increase in forest canopy. Urban tree canopy contributes to decreased summer temperatures, increased capacity to absorb severe storm events, and habitat for wildlife.

## PROGRAM RESOURCES

King Conservation District will continue working with our member jurisdictions and other partners to continue a program that increases street trees and urban tree canopy coverage and build green infrastructure in communities across King County. We will build on existing programs and utilize other available resources when available. The Urban forest Health Management Program resources needed are shown below.

Anticipated Annual Expenditure	2017
Staff and Consulting	\$111,056
AmeriCorps Intern	\$13,575
Materials/supplies, facility rentals	\$30,000
	<b>\$154,631**</b>

\* Current funded activities include providing technical assistance, planning and implementation service, and project materials to jurisdictions and residents on urban forest health management projects.

\*\*See the Landowner Incentive Program section of this document for additional funding in the form of cost-share allocated for urban trees, canopy and green infrastructure stewardship practices.

## PROGRAM AND SERVICES

The range of opportunities includes:

### FOR LANDOWNER LITERACY

- **Provide workshops, classes and tours to neighborhood residents** on improving forest/tree ecosystem functions and values, enhancing wildlife habitat, reducing storm water runoff, and sequestering atmospheric carbon by planting and maintaining native trees and shrubs.

**KCD Staff / WSU Cooperative Extension**

- **Assist neighborhood residents, through increased levels of technical support**, on retaining and restoring their part of the neighborhood forest, improving neighborhood forest ecosystem functions and values, enhancing wildlife habitat, reducing storm water runoff, and sequestering atmospheric carbon by planting and maintaining native trees and shrubs.

**KCD Staff in partnership with Member Jurisdictions**

- **Support and/or coordinate public/private partnerships between private parcels and jurisdictions** on restoring buffers adjacent to public easements, parks and other neighborhood open space areas in cities.

**KCD Staff in partnership with Member Jurisdictions**

### FOR SMALL & MEDIUM-SIZED JURISDICTIONS

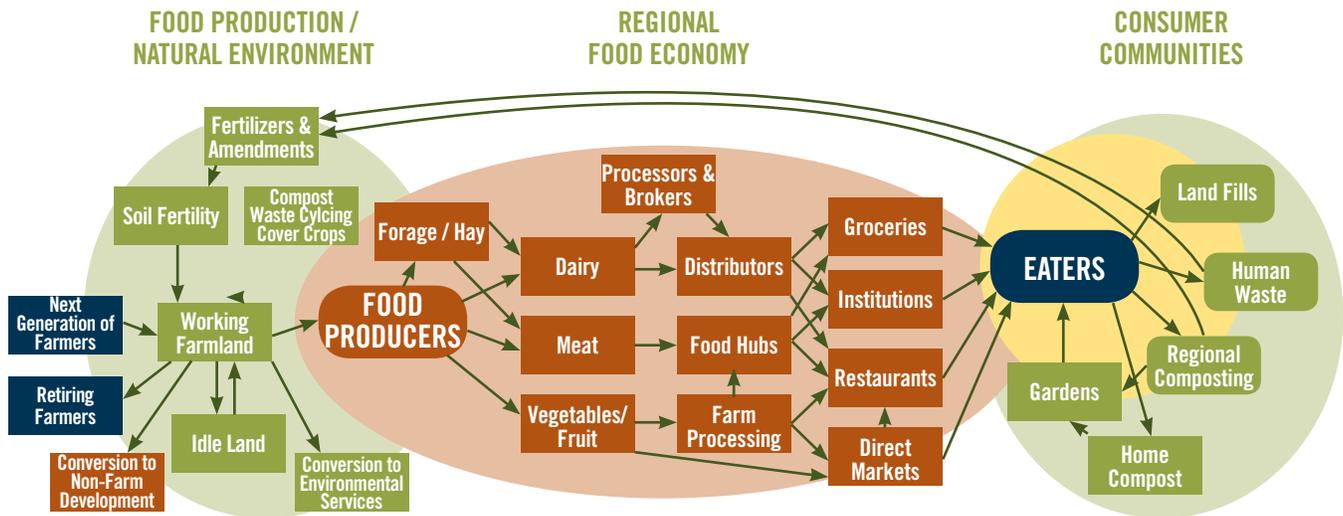
- **Work with jurisdictions to explore opportunities for partnerships with jurisdictions on city forestry initiatives** including monitoring and maintaining healthy tree canopy, developing city forest retention and restoration strategic plans, and conducting public tree inventories & canopy assessments. Engagement on these topics will be through roundtables, K4C meetings, outreach to individual cities, and Urban Forestry Program RFPs.

**KCD Staff in partnership with Member Jurisdictionss**

## BENCHMARKS

- 14 acres of urban forest/upland treated and planted annually, a total of 70 urban acres over 5 years.
- 34,400 native trees and shrubs planted on urban forest/upland habitat annually, a total of 172,000 trees and shrubs planted in urban areas over 5 years.
- Increase from \$144,000 to \$324,400 private sector funding leveraged on urban forest/upland health annually, a total of \$1,622,000 of private sector funds over 5 years.
- Work with at least 3 new jurisdictions annually in a support and/or coordination role to plan and implement urban forest retention and restoration programs, building urban canopy programs in a minimum of 15 King County cities within 5 years.
- \$150,000 KCD funds awarded annually for projects consistent with the urban forest initiatives in partnership with member jurisdictions, for a total of \$750,000 in project investments awarded over 5 years.

# REGIONAL FOOD SYSTEM



In 2015, the King Conservation District established the **Regional Food System Program** based on King County Kitchen Cabinet and the Puget Sound Regional Council action plans, and on personal engagement with a wide range of local food system advisors. Drawing on this community input, KCD is implementing a series of initiatives that will contribute to the economic viability of local farmers, encourage more new farmers, expand acreage in food production, improve food access, and increase demand for local farm products.

In 2017, the Program of Work includes a third year of the **KCD Regional Food System Grant Program**.

The 2017 KCD budget includes ongoing funding for the Regional Food System Grant Program. Eligible applicants will include farmers, producer networks, governments, marketing cooperatives, farmers market, and nonprofit organizations. 2017 grant guidelines are available on our website. We are currently seeking feedback on the 2015 cycle and will be adjusting the 2017 process and procedures to improve the program.

## PROGRAM RESOURCES

In 2017, King Conservation District will continue to work with partners and technical experts to further improve the Regional Food System Grant Program. Goals include to better sync this program to increase ability for grant applicants to leverage these funds to bring other resources to the region, including funding from the USDA, EPA, and state sources. Program staff in 2017 will include a full time Program Manager, support from a Program Assistant, and other District staff support, as needed.

## PROGRAMS AND SERVICES

This Grant Program seeks to fund a wide range of efforts to strengthen the food system in accordance with the below selection criteria developed by KCD staff and Board in collaboration with the KCD Advisory Committee.

Anticipated Annual Expenditure	2017
Staff, Consulting	\$196,500
Grant Funds	\$900,000
	<b>\$1,096,500*</b>

\* Current funded activities include Farm Planning and Outreach staff and contractor support time

### Grant Selection Criteria

1. Provides direct benefit for food producers and agricultural lands:
  - a. Addresses infrastructure needs or gaps.
  - b. Targets natural resource priorities on farmland.
  - c. Increases demand for King County farm products.
2. Aligns with goals in the Kitchen Cabinet Action Plan and Puget Sound Regional Food Policy Action Plan.
3. Aligns with KCD guiding principles.
4. Project is sustainable and/or replicable.

In 2015, this resulted in the following projects:

- |   |  |
|---|--|
| 1. Pasture-raised Poultry and Egg Cooperative Start-up                        | Nelli Farms  |
| 2. King County Farmers Market Access Coordination                             | City of Seattle Office of Sustainability and Environment |
| 3. Food Hub Development for King County Farmers                               | NW Agriculture Business Center                           |
| 4. Urban Agriculture/Agroforestry/Food Security                               | Highline College   |
| 5. Experience Farming Project Infrastructure Upgrades                         | Snoqualmie Valley Tilth                                  |
| 6. Beefing up Infrastructure Needs for King County USDA Meat Processing       | King County WLRD Program                                 |
| 7. Launching a Successful Watershed Improvement District                      | Snoqualmie Valley Preservation Alliance                  |
| 8. Growing Potential: Bringing WSU Extension Expertise To King County Farmers | Washington State University                              |
| 9. A Hedgerow Trial to Attract Beneficial Insects to Farm Edges               | Humanlinks DBA 21 Acres                                  |

### DRAFT 2017 GRANT APPLICATION TIMELINE\*

- |             |                                       |
|-------------|---------------------------------------|
| Early April | Letter of Intent deadline.            |
| Late April  | Invitations for full grant proposals. |
| May         | Community Presentation Workshop.      |
| June        | Final proposal deadline.              |
| September   | Grant awards announced.               |

\*Note that these are dates may shift as we look at process improvements for 2017. A final timeline will be in place and announced in February 2017.

### 2017 ADDITIONAL SERVICES

KCD will continue to offer the loan of two new pieces of equipment to small farmers:

- No till drill
- Small scale chicken processor

## BENCHMARKS

KCD proposes to continue to deliver a robust program of grants and services that address the following regional goals:

- Production- More Food Acres and More New Farmers
- Demand- More Demand for Locally Grown Food
- Access- Greater Access to fruit and vegetables by most vulnerable in our communities

In 2017, KCD proposes to commit over \$1,000,000 to the expansion and stabilization of a sustainable, equitable, and resilient regional food system. In the 2016 awards, on average, each \$1 KCD has committed is leveraging an additional \$1.30. We look forward to working to further strengthen this leveraging power.



# URBAN AGRICULTURE

“Urban agriculture can play an important role in increasing food security, building community, and improving the environment. Local governments occupy a key role in ensuring that cultivation, processing, and sales of locally-produced food occurs in appropriate locations with few barriers. Urban agriculture activities include home gardening in front and back yards, planting strips and roots; keeping livestock, beekeeping, larger urban farms, private and public community gardens, production and sale of value-added products like jams and pickles, and on-site sales of locally-produced food.”

*Urban Agriculture Blueprint, Regional Food Policy Council*

## PROGRAM RESOURCES

King Conservation District works with our member jurisdiction cities, King County, Seattle Tilth, Cascade Harvest Coalition, Pike Place Market, the Regional Food Policy Council, and others across the food system spectrum to identify opportunities to develop urban agriculture.

Anticipated Annual Expenditure	2017
Staff, Consulting and Demonstration Project Costs	\$173,871
Soil Testing	\$17,929
	<b>\$191,800**</b>

\* Current funded activities include soil testing within the District’s Nutrient Management Services Program

\*\*See the Landowner Incentive Program section of this document for additional funding in the form of cost-share allocated for rural and urban agriculture stewardship practices. KCD will also look to the newly published Regional Food Policy Council 2014-2017 Action Plan for guidance and potential strategies.

## PROGRAM AND SERVICES

- 1. Soil Fertility** - help urban farmers and gardeners understand how to manage soil fertility, including soil testing and cover cropping, food cycle, and natural resource cycles through practical workshops, site specific technical expertise, soil testing program, pilot cover cropping incentives.
- 2. Farm friendly cities** - Be available as needed to help cities to review comprehensive plans and local regulations to target changes that help cities make updates to become more urban agriculture friendly.
- 3. Food growing in low income communities** - partner with cities, King County and community leaders on opportunistic, demonstration projects.

## BENCHMARKS

- Assess regional need for urban farming-related natural resource planning support through coordination with member jurisdictions and the KCD Advisory Committee.
- Continue to market and expand soil fertility services to promote responsible fertilizer practices (increase gardener involvement by at least 100 more new gardeners annually, engaging at least 500 new gardeners over 5 years); In 2015, KCD tested nearly 1,400 soil samples.
- Grow current soil testing program and customers into a more comprehensive urban conservation program focused on growing healthy local food and protecting and enhancing urban water quality.
- 20 Urban Farm Related Technical Assists per year. Our goal is to assist urban farm planning across the District so that by year 5, a total of 100 urban farms have received planning technical assistance across King County.



# RURAL AGRICULTURE

United States Dept. Of Agriculture statistics show that King County farmers produced \$120 million worth of Agricultural products in 2012. About \$90 million of that total are food products. The county ranks 18th in value of agricultural production of the state's 39 counties. King County consumers spend \$6 billion on food.

Farmers are the stewards of over 60,000 acres of farmed and farmable lands in King County. Enabling their stewardship of our shared water, soil, and habitat resources requires supporting those efforts in meaningful ways. Placing expensive regulatory burdens on farmers without committing the technical and financial resources to help land managers implement environmental practices runs the very real risk of losing that farmland to bankruptcy, abandonment, or development.

"The agricultural lands within the region are among the most productive in the state, and the loss of good quality farmland has implications for air quality, water quality and quantity, and the region's self-sufficiency."

-The Puget Sound Regional Council

## PROGRAM RESOURCES

King Conservation District has increased its support of rural farmers through both increasing the number of plans to self-selected clients as well as expanded pilot efforts on sub-basin targeting to improve water, soil, and habitat quality in watersheds that exhibit poor benchmarks.

Anticipated Annual Expenditure	2017
Staff and Consulting	\$725,814
	<b>\$725,814**</b>

\* Current funded activities include Natural Resource Planning and Technical Assistance and Livestock Owners Workshops and Farm Tours

\*\*See the Landowner Incentive Program section of this document for additional funding in the form of cost-share allocated for rural and urban agriculture stewardship practices.



## PROGRAM AND SERVICES

- Continue a multi-year plan to deploy targeted farm planning services approach county wide to key targeted natural resource concern areas, for example, PIC approach-targeting water quality impaired sub-basins with significant commercial farming land use (5 -10 watersheds prioritized; may result in 10+ year plan).

**KCD Staff**

- Continue targeting 1 natural resource concern area for outreach each 2 years, ensuring a comprehensive approach to conservation

**KCD Staff**

- Serving 50 farming customers in targeted natural resource areas (90% result in site visits to assess natural resource concerns and solutions) annually.

**KCD Staff**

- Delivering 20 farm plans in targeted natural resource areas (25% regulatory nexus; 10% Current/PBRS nexus; 65% stewardship nexus only) annually.

**KCD Staff**

- Connect land managers and farmers with financial assistance to make identified improvements.

**KCD Staff**

- Continue agricultural drainage services based on level of available funding. When funding is secured, tasks will include landowner outreach and technical assistance, ranking and selecting drainage projects, managing contractors for dredging and waterway crossing projects, and collaborating with other organizations and agencies to promote drainage maintenance.

**KCD Staff**

## BENCHMARKS

- Maintain level of county-wide farm natural resource planning support. This program currently addresses water quality, salmon habitat, and farm productivity goals, as defined through regional planning efforts and local, state, and national Best Management Practices.
  - 200 farming service customers, 50 in priority sub-basin areas
  - Up to 90 farm conservation plans, of which 2 are dairy nutrient management plans, 20 are in priority sub-basin areas
  - Follow up on 150 farm plans to document implementation
  - Loan Manure Spreader to 30 landowners
- Develop a multi-year plan to deploy targeted farm planning services county-wide. For example, target water quality impaired watershed sub-basins with significant commercial farming land use (5 -10 watersheds prioritized; may result in 10+ year plan) Establish a regionally coordinated outreach and service delivery program. This will include quantitative monitoring to evaluate on-the-ground and in-the-water progress at reaching improvement goals.
- Target 1 natural resource concern area for outreach each 2 years, ensuring a comprehensive approach to conservation and investing in 3 areas over 5 years. (This program was in BETA in 2014, funded by outside grants)

# SHORELINES AND RIPARIAN HABITAT

King County's landscape is a diverse mosaic of mountains, forests, rivers, lakes, and marine habitats. The King Conservation District's service area includes approximately 2,100 square miles of land, plus nearly 2,000 miles of freshwater and marine shorelines. Where more than 2/3 of the shoreline properties are held in private ownership, a century of intensive logging, agriculture and neighborhood development have degraded these aquatic habitats throughout the region. In 1999, Chinook salmon were listed as threatened under the Endangered Species Act, prompting concerted efforts to restore and protect lakes, rivers and streams. Ongoing concern for the health of Puget Sound has led to the Puget Sound Partnership Action Agenda strategies and priorities focused protecting and improving freshwater and marine shorelines and near-shore and in-stream habitats.

Additionally, support for increased technical and educational assistance and capacity-building among shoreline property owners was recommended by the King Conservation District/King County Conservation Panel and Task Force. These regional initiatives acknowledge that efforts to recover the health of these aquatic systems require close collaboration with private property owners whose lands abut freshwater and marine shorelines. KCD currently works to protect and improve freshwater and marine shorelines in our region by helping landowners and residents steward these habitats and implement protection and enhancement practices. KCD has increased the number of acres and miles of enhanced freshwater and marine riparian habitat on private property engaging more landowners and residents through increased levels of education and technical services and financial incentives.

## PROGRAM RESOURCES

King Conservation District works with our member jurisdictions and other local and regional to deliver a program that increases the acres and miles of enhanced freshwater and marine shoreline on private lands through workshops, one-on-one education, and technical and financial assistance for implementing best management practices. We build on existing programs and utilize other available resources when available. Program resources needed are shown below.

Anticipated Annual Expenditure	2017
Staff and Consulting	\$536,921
AmeriCorps Intern & Crew & Other Contracted	\$292,210
Other Contracted	\$227,515
Materials/supplies, facility rentals	\$221,938
	<b>\$1,278,584**</b>

*\* Current funded activities include planning, designing and implementing urban and rural residential and rural working lands freshwater and marine aquatic area enhancement projects; engineering and implementing fish passage barrier removal and stream restoration projects; recruiting and coordinating volunteer involvement on projects; providing technical guidance, cost-share application development, and project material to landowners and residents who independently plan and implement aquatic area enhancement projects.*

*\*\*See the Landowner Incentive Program section of this document for additional funding in the form of cost-share allocated for marine and freshwater shorelines stewardship practices.*

## EXPANDED PROGRAM AND SERVICES

The range of opportunities includes:

### FOR LANDOWNER LITERACY

- Provide assistance to landowners and residents in communities that are currently underserved or are disproportionately affected by pollution, including toxics and sedimentation, or habitat degradation.

**KCD in Partnership with Member Jurisdictionss/NGOs**

### FOR JURISDICTIONS

- Continue to help jurisdictions meet their aquatic resource protection and enhancement objectives through education, technical support and implementation services to landowners and neighborhood/community groups. The range of services to jurisdictions include community organizing, project planning, and implementation services.

**KCD in Partnership with Member Jurisdictionss/NGOs**

- Develop a *Member Jurisdiction Urban Shorelines Outreach Toolkit* to help City Staff and KCD to work together and support each other in delivering aquatic area protection and enhancement services to urban homeowners and residents. Toolkit elements include City and KCD web materials and resources, publication, social media and other electronic format technical and informational content, City / KCD collaboration events and opportunities.
- Support jurisdiction efforts to improve freshwater and marine shoreline habitat in parks and on other public properties. These efforts, currently offered as a contracted service, could be increased. Jurisdiction investments could be augmented by working with landowners of adjacent private holdings.
- Support jurisdiction efforts in targeted shoreline outreach, education and technical services that promote and support enhanced shoreline buffers and reduced pollutants in surface water runoff.

**KCD in Partnership with Member Jurisdictionss/NGOs**

**KCD in Partnership with Member Jurisdictionss/NGOs**

## BENCHMARKS

KCD will continue to develop and administer a robust program of educational outreach and technical services to increase acres and miles of privately held shoreline that are actively stewarded and restored, including:

- 3.6 miles of shoreline replanted and enhanced annually, totaling 18 miles of shoreline over 5 years
- 47 acres of riparian corridor replanted and enhanced annually, for a total of 235 acres of riparian corridor over 5 years
- 115,100 native trees and shrubs planted annually, totaling 575,500 over 5 years
- 220 freshwater aquatic area landowners engaged annually in learning about, planning and implementing aquatic area planting and enhancement practices, engaging 1,100 freshwater landowners over 5 years
- 120 marine shoreline aquatic area landowners engaged annually in learning about, planning and implementing aquatic area planting and enhancement practices, engaging 600 marine landowners over 5 years
- 20 freshwater aquatic area planting and enhancement projects planned and implemented by KCD, on a combination of neighborhood and rural residential lands.
- 8 Conservation Reserve Enhancement Program projects planned and implemented per year.
- \$112,500 KCD LIP cost-share funds awarded annually for contracts with freshwater and marine aquatic area landowners to implement freshwater and marine shoreline planting and enhancement practices in neighborhoods and rural areas, for a total of \$562,500 of cost-share monies awarded over 5 years

# LANDOWNER INCENTIVE PROGRAM

The Landowner Incentive Program is a financial incentive tool that supports best management practices on private property by sharing the cost of implementing those practices between the public and private sector. The ratio of public and private investment in implemented practices depends upon the benefit received by each. Examples of practices supported by the KCD LIP include installing fences to protect streams and wetlands by excluding domesticated livestock, building manure bins to protect water quality by storing and composting livestock waste, installing native plant buffers along streams, wetlands and marine shorelines to enhance fish and wildlife habitat, etc. The LIP program supports KCD's other programs outlined in this Implementation Plan. Below this cost breakout is a list of the KCD Proposed Program of Work Programs and the LIP allocations assigned to each.

## PROGRAM RESOURCES

King Conservation District has increased our region's capacity to protect and enhance natural resources by providing financial incentive complementary to our technical programs and services that support private landowners in meeting the region's expectations that common resources, such as water quality and fish and wildlife habitat be protected and enhanced for the public benefit. We will build on existing programs and utilize other available resources when available. Program resources needed are shown below.

<b>Anticipated Annual Expenditure</b>	<b>2017</b>
Staff and Consulting	\$180,932
Cost share (landowner matching funds)	\$656,250
	<b>\$837,182</b>

*\* Current funded activities include awarding and administering cost-share funding.*

<b>Anticipated Annual Expenditure</b>	<b>2017</b>
Rural Forest Health	\$150,000
Urban Trees, Canopy and Green Infrastructure	\$150,000
Shorelines/Riparian (Marine & Freshwater)	\$112,500
Rural and Urban Agriculture (Water Quality Protection)	\$243,750
	<b>\$656,250</b>

# COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT, MEMBER JURISDICTION GRANTS AND OPERATIONS PROGRAM

## COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

The Community Engagement program supports the other King Conservation District programs through program marketing, outreach, and communication. In addition, Community Engagement works to raise literacy among residents, public agencies, and non-profits about the services we provide, the impact of our organization, and ways in which we partner with people and organizations. Community Engagement works closely with our Advisory Committee to ensure broad regional perspectives are included in policy development and guidance to the KCD Board of Supervisors.

## MEMBER JURISDICTION GRANTS

King Conservation District awards grants to local governments, nonprofit organizations, tribes, and other agencies to improve natural resources and increase regional conservation. District funds for projects listed below were collected from an annual, per-parcel assessment or rate and charge for projects in partnership with Member Jurisdictions and/or the three watershed forums. These monies support high-impact projects in both urban and rural areas and are often matched with funding from state, federal, and other sources. For more information on these projects or about the grant programs, please contact Jessica Saavedra at 425-282-1906 or e-mail [Jessica.Saavedra@kingcd.org](mailto:Jessica.Saavedra@kingcd.org). Visit our website at [www.kingcd.org](http://www.kingcd.org) and find us on Facebook.

## OPERATIONS PROGRAM

KCD's Operations Program includes those activities that focus on managing and evaluating the administrative policy and programs for all assignments, developing administrative and management policies as they affect employees, budgets, logistics and management as well as providing operational and analytical support. By facilitating the flow of information among human resources, accounting, inventory control, and other assets, planning and decision making can be made easier. Operation's focus is on efficiency and effectiveness of processes. Therefore, operations management includes measurement and analysis of internal processes. The Operations team makes recommendations and works collaboratively with the Board of Supervisors and Staff on projects.

# KCD RATES AND CHARGES BUDGET

KCD PROPOSED BUDGET	2017
FOOD AND FARMING	
Local Food System	\$1,096,500
Rural Farm Planning Services	\$725,814
Urban Farm Planning Services	\$191,800
Forestry Services (urban/rural)	\$319,654
Shoreline and Riparian Services (urban/rural)	\$1,278,584
Landowner Incentive Program (urban/rural)	\$837,182
Member Jurisdiction Grants and Services Program <i>including grant administration</i>	\$1,296,507
Communications, Outreach, Advisory Committee	\$404,999
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$6,151,042</b>

The table above represents KCD's rates and charges revenue only. KCD also receives funds through grants and other sources.

# KING CONSERVATION DISTRICT – PROGRAM LEADS

## **BRANDY REED, Interagency Director, Implementation and Education**

Brandy Reed joined the King Conservation District in 1996. She serves as the District's Interagency Director and Senior Program Manager for Implementation and Education. Brandy offers nearly three decades of dedication and experience in conservation and education, as well as deep commitment to management of financial and staff resources in fiscally challenging environments. As part of the District's management team, Brandy supervises and coordinates the duties and activities of field staff, including the freshwater and marine habitat restoration and enhancement efforts of the District's and the KCD Native Plant Nursery. In recent years, Brandy has worked on regional efforts to help Puget Sound Conservation Districts align programs and services with regional priorities, and has supported some significant District-level projects, including implementation of a Rates and Charges funding system. Her education includes a BS in Outdoor Education and Environmental Interpretation and a Masters in Environmental and Science Education, both from Western Washington University.

## **JOSH MONAGHAN, Food & Farms Programs Director**

Joshua Monaghan has been with the King Conservation District for over 17 years and currently serves as Program Manager for Planning and Strategic Initiative Programs. He is an experienced conservation planner, leads a team of talented conservation planners who assist farmers and landowners in their efforts to understand natural resource issues and get conservation solutions on the ground to steward their natural resources - water, soils, fish and wildlife and more, and works with partners to balance natural resources protection with economic viability of local, working lands. Josh maintains several professional certifications, including Certified Crop Adviser (ASA), Conservation Planner, and Comprehensive Nutrient Management Plan Writer Certification (ISU). He holds a BA in Sustainable Agriculture from Hampshire College, and was recognized as Northwest Employee of the year in 2009 by the Washington Association of Conservation Districts. In recent years, Josh has worked on several successful statewide efforts to improve training coordination and overall professionalism of District employees, and has supported some significant District-level projects, including an administrative staff restructuring, project-based budgeting overhaul, and implementation of a Rates and Charges funding system.

## **JESSICA SAAVEDRA, Grant Program Manager**

Jessica Saavedra has managed the Member Jurisdiction and WRIA Grant Programs at the King Conservation District since March 2007. Jessica has a Bachelors degree in Environmental Studies and Spanish and graduate level education in the fields of Public Administration, Urban Planning, and Facilitation and Negotiation. She is an experienced program manager responsible for tracking millions of dollars in grant funding with a successful track record of liaising with local governments, nonprofits, and watershed groups on natural resource conservation issues. On an annual basis, Jessica manages more than 100 grant contracts and works with applicants such as cities, agencies, and organizations to move more than 50 applications through the grant review and approval process. As a result of the changing funding environment, Jessica has expanded her role at the District to include helping the organization find alternative funding sources. She has also been a participant and representative of the District at three regional watershed forum groups and enjoys volunteering as a Master Gardener.

## **DEIRDRE GRACE, Community Engagement Manager**

Deirdre Grace joined the King Conservation District in May of 2013. Deirdre has worked with northwest stakeholders to improve community and natural environments for over 20 years. Her experience spans ensuring diverse voices were included in research at the US DOE Hanford Nuclear Reservation, delivering on the City of Seattle's commitments to neighborhood improvements while meeting Growth Management mandates, and helping Puget Sound cities increase their recycling rates. She holds a Masters in Public Policy from the University of Washington's Evans School of Public Affairs and a Bachelors in Writing from the University of New Mexico.

## **AVA SOUZA, Director, Operations and Human Resources**

Ava Souza joined the King Conservation District in 2011. Serving as a member of the senior management team Ava manages KCD Operations, Human Resources and Finance. She oversees logistical and operational duties in a wide variety of program areas including human resources, budgeting, information technology, property management, procurement, grants and projects. She oversees the day-to-day operations of KCD, and operations staff, as well as manages a robust budget that spans over multiple programs, while developing and directing programs designed to meet the needs of constituents, staff, Board and appropriate state and federal laws and related initiatives. In addition she serves as the Public Information Officer for KCD. With over 16 years of experience, her professional career includes leadership and management roles in large and international companies, while holding a Bachelors degree in Business Management and a graduate level certifications in Project Management and also being a Lean Six Sigma Certified Green Belt, both accreditations from the University of Washington as well as being a certified Life Coach.

# KCD ADDENDUM TO 2017 PROGRAM OF WORK SECURED AND PENDING GRANTS

Secured Grants for CY and FY-2017 Funding	Pending Grants for CY 2017 & FY Funding
WSCC Shorelines Education and Restoration <b>\$97K</b>	KC Ag Drainage <b>\$214K</b>
WSCC Shellfish Recovery <b>\$40K</b>	US Forest Forest Service <b>\$240K</b>
Firewise <b>\$25K</b>	USDA LFPP <b>\$12K</b> (of total \$500K regional grant)
NRCS & WSCC RCPP <b>\$100K</b>	<b>Pending Legislative Budget Approval:</b> WSCC Shorelines Education and Restoration <b>\$97K</b> WSCC Shellfish Recovery <b>\$40K</b>
NACD Urban Agriculture <b>\$50K</b>	
<b>Total Grants Secured: \$212K</b>	<b>Total Grants Pending: \$603K</b>

**WSCC** = Washington State Conservation Commission

**NRCS** = National Resource Conservation Service

**NACD** = National Association of Conservation Districts

**USDA** = US Department of Agriculture

**LFPP** = Local Food Promotion Program

**RCCP** = Resource Conservation Partnership Program




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## King Conservation District

1107 SW Grady Way Suite 130 • Renton, WA 98057 • Phone (425) 282-1900 • Fax (425) 282-1898 • [www.kingcd.org](http://www.kingcd.org)

August 1, 2016

The Honorable Dow Constantine  
Executive, King County  
King County Chinook Building  
401 5<sup>th</sup> Ave, Suite 800  
Seattle, WA 98104

The Honorable Joe McDermott  
Chair, Metropolitan King County Council  
Room 1200, Courthouse  
516 3<sup>rd</sup> Avenue  
Seattle, WA 98104

Dear Executive Constantine and Chair McDermott:

Please find attached KCD's *2015 Annual Report* and *2017 Proposed Annual Program of Work and Rates and Charges Budget*. Our Annual Report documents the progress made during our first year of a five-year Implementation Plan under our Inter-Local Agreement with King County. The *2017 Program of Work* outlines Year Three. The focus of KCD's programs is to build a regional, sustainable and equitable food system, improve the health of our forests, neighborhood tree canopies, and shorelines, and ensure clean water for all.

The *2017 Annual Work Program and Rates and Charges Budget* contain the same priority focus areas as in the 2015 and 2016 Programs, with roughly the same budget levels. The priority focus areas were identified through the 2013 KCD Task Force process. They were further refined by the KCD Advisory Committee prior to approval by the King Conservation District Board of Supervisors and the King County Council last year.

Working hand in hand with King County, the KCD Advisory Committee and other partners, KCD made significant progress in its new programs and services in 2015, including:

- In **Regional Food**, KCD made over \$250,000 in early investments for rural farmers and awarded over \$663,000 in regional food grants in the 2015 cycle. 2015 Early Action projects included working with the City of Seattle to expand the Fresh Bucks voucher program for farmers markets in King County, launching the Snoqualmie Valley Farmers Cooperative, and working with WaCan to distribute nearly 400 Good Food bags of local produce to low income residents in Auburn.

- The **Urban Forestry** program identified and developed urban forestry services to 8 cities. KCD's milestone was for 3 cities per year; however, by working with city staff and the KCD Advisory Committee, staff were able to modify the program to serve more city partners.
- The **Shoreline** program is being enhanced to provide greater outreach to cities to assist with identifying stewardship and conservation opportunities of the highest value on private property in proximity to every city.
- Demand for KCD's soil testing services has exploded due to new demand related to **Urban Agriculture** education and outreach programs by KCD staff, with KCD processing nearly 1,400 soil samples in 2015, compared to 359 in 2014.
- **Rural Agriculture** lands benefited from a partnership between King County and the KCD that resulted in agriculture drainage projects that cleared more than two miles of channels on five farms in the Snoqualmie Valley, bringing 75 new acres of key farmland back into production and improving drainage on 407 acres.
- On private **Rural Forest** land, KCD in partnership with landowners treated and planted over 225 acres of small lot rural forest. KCD also expanded its support for small lot private forest land owners by offering assistance with planning and implementing best management practices. The goal is to create opportunities for contiguous holdings of managed forest.

We look forward to presenting the *2015 Annual Report* and *2017 Program of Work* at the August 17<sup>th</sup> King County Council Committee of the Whole. In the meantime, if we can answer questions, provide information, or be of assistance please let me or the KCD staff know.

Thank you again for your continued support of our goal to create **better ground** in King County.

Regards,



Dick Ryon  
Chair, Board of Supervisors  
King Conservation District

cc:

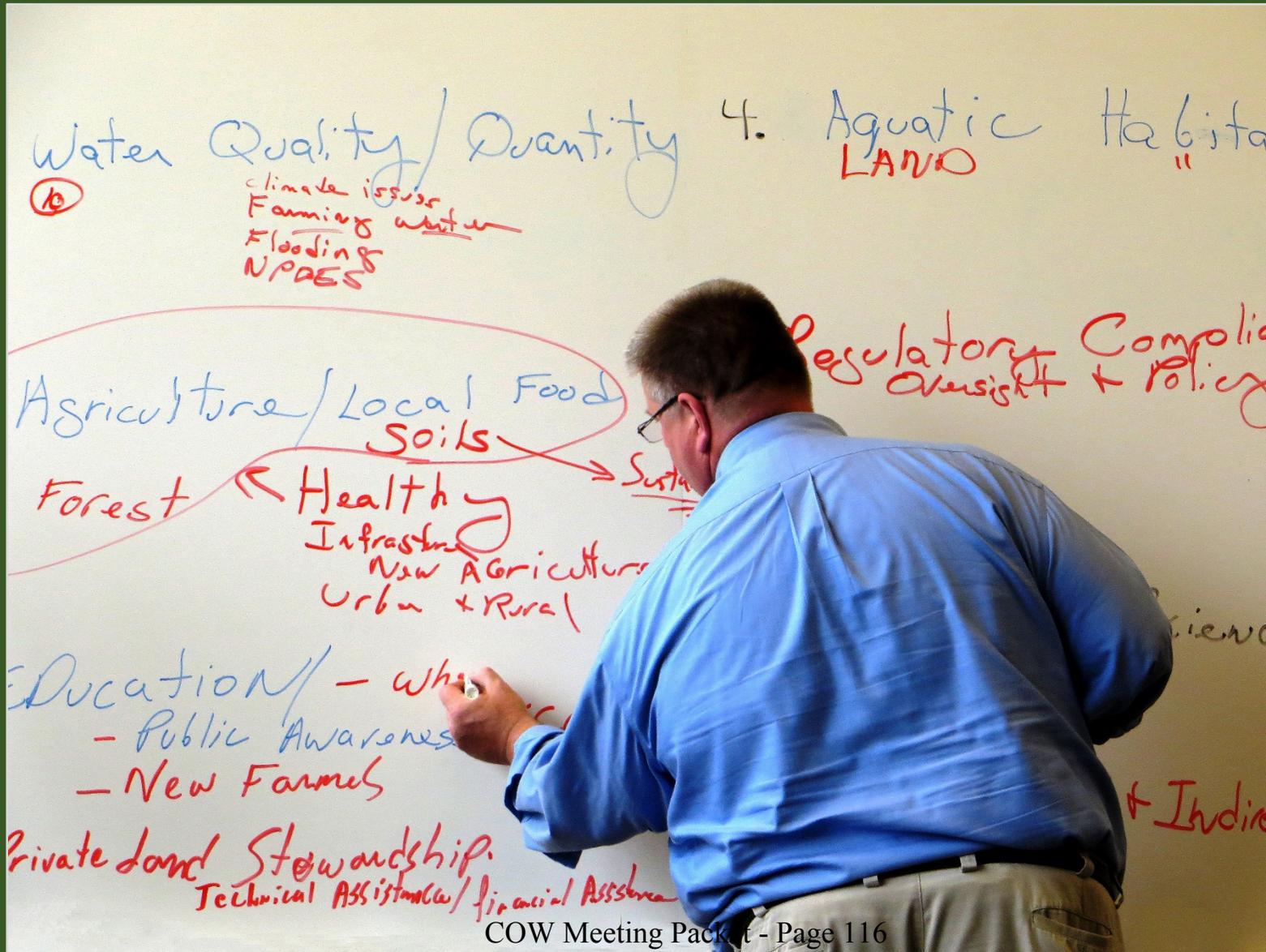
Councilmember Balducci	Bill Knutsen, Vice-chair, KCD Board
Councilmember Dembowski	Max Prinsen, Auditor, KCD Board
Councilmember Dunn	Jim Haack, KCD Board
Councilmember Gossett	
Councilmember Kohl-Welles	
Councilmember Lambert	
Councilmember von Reichbauer	
Councilmember Upthegrove	
Ann Noris, Clerk of the Council	



NATURAL RESOURCE STEWARDSHIP  
KING CONSERVATION DISTRICT



# King County/KCD Conservation Panel & Task Force



# **KING CONSERVATION DISTRICT**

**LOCAL FOOD  
HEALTHY FORESTS  
CLEAN WATER**

# Local Food & Farming: Early Action Projects



# Local Food & Farming: Agricultural Drainage Program



# Healthy Forests: Urban Forest Health



# Healthy Forests: Rural Forest Health



# Clean Water: Marine Shorelines



# Clean Water: Urban Streams, Lakes & Wetlands



# Targeted Watersheds



# Member Jurisdiction Grants

