

06/22/99
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Introduced By: Pete von Reichbauer

Proposed No.: 1999-0342

1 MOTION NO. 10732

2 A MOTION approving the work plan for the King
3 Conservation District for the year 2000.

4 WHEREAS, the King Conservation District is a governmental subdivision of the
5 State of Washington and organized under chapter 89.08 RCW to protect and conserve
6 natural resources throughout King County, and

7 WHEREAS, chapter 89.08.400 RCW authorizes the county legislative authority to
8 impose special assessments for conservation districts to implement natural resource
9 conservation programs and activities, and

10 WHEREAS, the King County council adopted Ordinance 10981 on August 16,
11 1993, authorizing an annual special assessment on all nonexempt properties located
12 throughout the district, and approving an agreement between King County and the King
13 Conservation District which remains in effect until December 31, 2003, unless rescinded
14 or modified, and which is shown as Attachment A to this motion, and

15 WHEREAS, the agreement, adopted under Ordinance 10981, requires the King
16 Conservation District to submit annual work plans on or before June 1 of the year before
17 their effective dates, and

1 WHEREAS, the agreement requires the county council to approve or recommend
2 modifications to the work plan within two months after receiving the work plan from the
3 district or by August 1, whichever is later, and

4 WHEREAS, the work plan is considered approved as submitted if the county
5 council fails to act in accordance with the agreement, and

6 WHEREAS, the King Conservation District board of supervisors adopted
7 Resolution Number 99-05 on May 12, 1999, establishing its work plan ("program of
8 work") for the year 2000, and

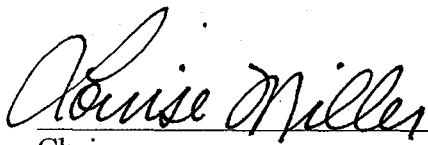
9 WHEREAS, the King Conservation District submitted its program of work for the
10 year 2000 to the county council on May 28, 1999;

11 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT MOVED by the Council of King County:

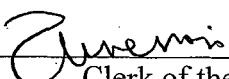
12 The work plan for the King Conservation District for the year 2000 is hereby
13 approved.

14 PASSED by a vote of 9 to 0 this 26th day of July, 1999.

15 KING COUNTY COUNCIL
16 KING COUNTY, WASHINGTON

17 
18 Chair

19 ATTEST:

20 
21 Clerk of the Council

22 Attachments: A. King Conservation District 2000 Summary of Program of Work

KING CONSERVATION DISTRICT

2000 Summary of Program of Work

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The King Conservation District (hereafter known as the District) is an independent public entity authorized by state law and formed in 1949. The District is governed by a five-member Board of Supervisors, three of which are elected at-large throughout King County and two are appointed by the Washington State Conservation Commission.

Pursuant to RCW 89.08.400, special assessments to finance the activities of a conservation district may be imposed by the county legislative authority of the county in which the conservation district is located. The District complied with the statutory requirements to hold public hearings and on July 29, 1997 the District Board of Supervisors passed a motion to transmit a resolution to the King County Council (hereafter known as the Council) submitting a proposed system of assessment at a \$1.43 per parcel on all non-exempt properties within the District. On December 15, 1997 the Council adopted Ordinance 12959 which authorized a special assessment at \$5.00 per parcel to cover the period between 1998 and 2000.

Funds received from this special assessment will be allocated for the benefit of lands throughout the District's jurisdiction by action by the Board of Supervisors pursuant to RCW 89.08.220. Projects must promote sustainable uses of natural resources through responsible stewardship by:

- Teaching principles of conservation to landowners and the general public
- Encouraging the development of comprehensive action plans and procedures that promote environmental quality ,
- Facilitating productive relationships between individuals and environmental regulatory agencies, and/or
- Providing technical assistance to individuals and local governments on the implementation of sound conservation practices.

Work Plan Outline

District Projects

The wide variety of work to be performed by the District will be established by District Board of Supervisors pursuant to RCW 89.08.220 (7). The annual work plan required by this section of RCW 89.08 shall be submitted to the Washington State Conservation Commission (hereafter known as the Commission) in accordance with the timelines established by the Commission. Principal components of the District's operation include

Farm Conservation Services, Landowner Conservation Services, Government and Regional Services, Resource Education and Outreach Services, and Administrative Services. The District will continue to address the Endangered Species Act (ESA) needs for salmonid species and will continue to participate in the Tri-County planning efforts for a salmon recovery strategy. Within each category the District will do the following work:

1. Farm Conservation Services

The District will provide technical assistance and coordinate with other agencies to provide cost share assistance to farmers and livestock owners in both rural and urban areas within the District boundaries. The District will provide technical assistance for reducing water pollution from farm and livestock operations. The District will advise farmers and livestock owners of the ESA and the vital role they have in the salmon recovery effort. The District will coordinate with government agencies, and non-profit and volunteer groups to assist farmers and livestock owners to enhance and/or restore salmon habitat.

2. Landowner Conservation Services

The District will provide technical assistance and coordinate with other agencies to provide cost share assistance to individual landowners, non-profit groups, citizen action groups, schools, and businesses within the District's boundaries for natural resource protection and enhancement. Services will include, but are not limited to stream and wetland restoration/enhancement; native plant promotion; habitat conservation assistance; steep slope and erosion control best management practice implementation (BMP); and soils, mapping and sensitive site planning assistance. The District will coordinate efforts with individual landowners to enhance and/or restore salmon habitat.

3. Government and Regional Services

The District will provide technical assistance and dedicated grant funds to member cities, King County, and regional watershed forums for natural resource protection and enhancement programs and projects. The Government and Regional Services program will include individual service agreements for member cities, King County, and watershed forums to complete projects in the area of stream and wetland restoration/enhancement; native plant promotion; habitat conservation assistance, steep slope and erosion control BMP implementation; and soils, mapping and sensitive site planning assistance. The District will coordinate efforts with their partners to protect, enhance, and/or restore salmon habitat. The District will participate in regional planning efforts in order to give input to the community on resource management and salmon recovery issues and to identify new challenges and opportunities for District.

4. Resource Education and Outreach

The District recognizes the demand for technical assistance is currently greater than its ability to fund. Consequently, it offers education and outreach services to leverage its technical program. The District will sponsor workshops, create demonstration sites, meet with community interest groups, and utilize other outreach tools to promote responsible resource management and salmon recovery efforts.

5. Administration

Administrative services facilitate the delivery of the Board of Supervisor's resource conservation programs through program planning, development and monitoring; and budgeting and financial management.

BUDGET

This budget proposal includes only the proposed special assessment funds. The District budget also includes short term grants, and general and directed state and federal funding. These other funds enable the District to provide and target higher levels of investment through partnership and leveraging of funds. These other sources are not reflected in this budget. The District budget is established by the Board of Supervisors following due consideration of needs and resources.

<u>Income</u>	
Special Assessment 2000	\$2,629,000
<u>Expenses</u>	
District Operations 2000	\$2,629,000

Work Plan Budget

1. District Strategic Plan Initiatives

The wide variety of work to be performed by the District will be established by the Board of Supervisors pursuant to RCW 89.08.220. Principal components of the District's operation include Farm Conservation Services, Landowner Conservation Services, Government and Regional Services, Resource Education and Outreach Services, and Administrative Services.

Total District Services	\$547,000
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2. Municipal Inter-local Contracts

Municipal non-competitive grants will be made available to King County and to each of the incorporated cities participating as District member cities for the purpose of targeted land and water conservation and salmon recovery efforts within such jurisdictions. Applications for the non-competitive grants shall be made to the District for projects that meet the District's statutory purposes under criteria as shall be established by the District. Such non-competitive grants shall be made available at the rate of \$1.00 per parcel for each parcel contained within the applicant's jurisdiction less a 3% reduction for non-payment of taxes, a 1% County Assessor's collection fee and a 1% District fiscal administration fee. The District will hold in trust for each such entity the amount available to it until such time as non-competitive grant is developed, submitted, and approved.

Total of municipal inter-local grants \$520,000

3. Watershed Forum Inter-local Contracts

Non-competitive grants will be made available to the five (5) Watershed Forums established throughout King County for the purpose of supporting projects for fish habitat, water quality, and flood protection. Such projects shall meet the District's statutory purposes under criteria as shall be established by the District in consultation with the Regional Water Quality Committee of the King County Council. The total allocation provided below shall be divided evenly between the Watershed Forums. The District shall hold the allocation in trust until such time as a non-competitive grant is developed, submitted, and approved. Funds shall be distributed to the forums through grant contracts or inter-local agreements with individual local governments participating in each forum, which shall be acting on behalf of the other governments participating within their forum.

Total of watershed non-competitive grants \$1,562,000

Work Plan Accountability

1. District Strategic Plan Initiatives

The District will submit biennial status reports to the King County Council and the Regional Water Quality Committee. At a minimum, these shall include the following:

A summary report of the amount of funds distributed to each forum and local government, how such funds are being used, and the means by which the funds have been distributed (e.g. grant contracts, interlocal agreement, etc.)

A summary discussion of assistance provided to local governments, citizens and others served by the District including the livestock program.

2. Municipal Non-Competitive Grants

Allocation of funds for District approved municipal projects will be based on King County Assessor's estimates. Disbursements will be made by November, up to 90% of the Assessor's estimate, with final reconciliation based on the Assessor's report by January 31 of the following year.

Projects will require biennial financial and project progress reports to the District, along with an annual summary report presented to the District Board of Supervisors. Project reports will be due May 31 and November 30 of each year.

Annual financial reports will be submitted to the District for review and incorporation into the District's accounting system by January 15 of the following year.

3. Watershed Forum Non-Competitive Grants

Allocation of funds for District approved municipal projects will be based on King County Assessor's estimates. Disbursements will be made by November, up to 90% of the Assessor's estimate, with final reconciliation based on the Assessor's report by January 31 of the following year.

Projects will require biennial financial and project progress reports to the District, along with an annual summary report presented to the District Board of Supervisors. Project reports will be due May 31 and November 30 of each year.

Annual financial reports will be submitted to the District for review and incorporation into the District's accounting system by January 15 of the following year.