



KING COUNTY

1200 King County Courthouse
516 Third Avenue
Seattle, WA 98104

Signature Report

March 27, 2001

Motion 11144

Proposed No. 2001-0156.1

Sponsors Phillips, Nickels and Irons

1 A MOTION approving project eligibility criteria for the
2 selection of projects to be funded by conservation futures
3 revenues.

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 WHEREAS, by Motion 10895, the conservation futures citizens committee was
7 directed to draft project eligibility criteria, including definitions of the open space
8 criteria specified in Ordinance 13717, for transmittal to the council by a motion
9 approving the project eligibility criteria, and

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 WHEREAS, the conservation futures citizens committee, after confirmation by
11 the council in August of 2000, as its first order of business met in the fall of 2000 and
12 developed project eligibility criteria attached to this motion as Attachment A.

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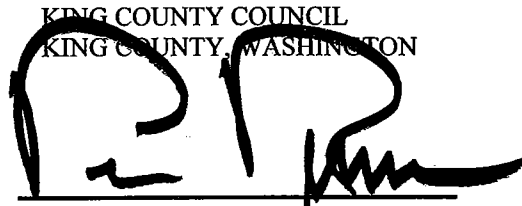
 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT MOVED by the Council of King County:

Motion 11144


14 The council hereby approves the project eligibility criteria in Attachment A to this
15 motion for the selection of projects to be funded by conservation futures revenues.
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Motion 11144 was introduced on 2/26/01 and passed by the Metropolitan King County Council on 3/26/01, by the following vote:

Yes: 12 - Mr. von Reichbauer, Ms. Miller, Mr. Phillips, Mr. Pelz, Mr. McKenna, Ms. Sullivan, Mr. Nickels, Mr. Pullen, Mr. Gossett, Ms. Hague, Mr. Thomas and Mr. Irons
No: 0
Excused: 1 - Ms. Fimia

KING COUNTY COUNCIL
KING COUNTY, WASHINGTON

Pete von Reichbauer, Chair

ATTEST:


Anne Noris, Clerk of the Council

Attachments A. King County Conservation Futures Tax Levy (CFT) Fund Application Evaluation Criteria

KING COUNTY
CONSERVATION FUTURES TAX LEVY (CFT)
FUND APPLICATION EVALUATION CRITERIA

1. OPEN SPACE RESOURCES

A. WILDLIFE HABITAT OR RARE PLANT RESERVE: The property contributes to a functioning wildlife habitat system or corridor, which may be located in an urban area, that provides habitat for feeding, resting, wintering, reproduction, nesting, cover, or a migration link. Identify key species observed or likely found given the habitat, where in the species life cycle the property fits in, and if the habitat is a rare or critical link in the species life cycle. Identify major plant communities, including succession stages (i.e. mature second growth forest, etc.) Briefly discuss the sufficiency of the size of the property and adjacent protected properties or buffers to support the species.

- **Low (Highly Common or Non-Native Species):** Examples: field mice, robins, non-migratory waterfowl, muskrat, and non-native species.
- **Medium (Semi-Common Species):** Examples: Waterfowl or native songbirds, red tail hawks, black tail deer, coyote, Red-legged frog, Long toed Salamander.
- **High (Rare/Endangered):** Example: mature second growth forest containing a species is listed either as a candidate, species of concern, or is actually listed as a sensitive, rare, threatened or endangered species on a State or Federal listing. (see attached supplemental information) Examples: Peregrine falcon, spotted owl, bald eagle, western Toad, Van Dyke Salamander, old growth trees, other rare shellfish and amphibians. Uncommon: large mammals such as black bear, bobcat, cougar, elk, red fox; heron, merlins, wood ducks, osprey, uncommon native plant species or habitat communities, uncommon shellfish.

B. SALMON HABITAT AND AQUATIC RESOURCES: The property will conserve salmonid habitat or aquatic resources, including forested watershed areas that provide surface or ground water supply, spawning gravel replenishment sources, nearshore sediment sources, freshwater or marine buffers, offshore eelgrass beds kelp forests or mudflats, cool spring water sources, flood refuge areas, river oxbows, estuaries, marshes or back-channels that support the life cycles of salmonid and other aquatic biota. Briefly note how water quality in the larger stream basin beyond the property proposed for acquisition will be maintained or improved by the jurisdiction. Indicate existing or proposed public access for aquatic resource education in the basin.

- **Low:** Property/river or nearshore reach is within a basin with highly degraded aquatic resources, requiring significant restoration on the property or within the system, that will likely yield low to moderate improvements. Discuss any adopted or proposed plans for property or broader system restoration, the estimated cost, and time frame.
- **Medium:** Property/river or nearshore reach is within a basin containing moderately degraded habitat that requires restoration that would likely yield a significant improvement in the system. Please briefly discuss the levels of restoration anticipated. For urban salmonid habitat, please discuss existing or proposed public access and aquatic resource educational uses on the site proposed for acquisition or within the basin.
- **High:** The property/reach is: 1) within a high quality basin identified in Waterways 2000 or 2) is in an urban basin with salmonid habitat for which an adopted basin restoration plan exists and for which a high level of appropriate public access for viewing salmon exists, or is proposed in the plan: 3) located on saltwater shoreline and provides a sediment source for natural littoral drift processes.

C. SCENIC RESOURCES: The property/system provides one or more of the following: provides the opportunity to view a natural or cultural scenic resource; protects a view corridor for a natural or cultural scenic resource; property/system is itself a natural or cultural scenic resource; or the property/system provides visual relief in a densely populated urban area.

- **Low:** Property/system provides little or no unique view, does not protect a view of a scenic resource and is not itself a unique scenic feature.
- **Medium:** Property/system provides a view of, protects a view of, or contains a scenic resource such as a creek, or other uncommon natural feature or cultural resource that is visible from a local, county or state park/open space/right-of way.

- **High:** Property/system provides a unique view of, protects a unique view of, or contains a unique scenic resource such as the Cascade Mountains/Issaquah Alps, downtown Seattle skyline, Puget Sound, a large lake, a geological feature unique to King County, or Mount Rainier/Olympic Mountains, that is visible from a city, county, state or federal park/open space/right-of-way, Puget Sound, Lake Washington/Lake Union/Ship Canal, Lake Sammamish or a major river such as the Green/Duwamish, Cedar, Snoqualmie, or Sammamish.

D. COMMUNITY SEPARATOR: Undeveloped, natural land areas that are typically linear in form and serve to define edges of separate, distinct communities, neighborhoods, or incompatible land uses, including visual relief. Rivers that flow through cities and do not separate them may be significant community separators, while rivers that actually separate cities are considered separators that define King County's regional form.

- **Low:** Property provides some separation but is not a significant greenbelt.
- **Medium:** Property is part of a larger greenbelt that separates major neighborhoods or communities.
- **High:** Property is part of a greenbelt that helps define King County's regional form, separates cities, counties, or is along a major regional waterway.

E. HISTORIC/CULTURAL RESOURCES: Eligible land must itself be an eligible historical or archaeological resource or have situated upon it a structure that is such a resource. Structures are not eligible for funding with CFT. Historic or archaeological resources must be eligible for designation on a local, King County, State or Federal register.

- **Low:** Property may be eligible for designation. Requires a letter from a local, state, county or federal preservation officer stating that the property is eligible for listing on an historic register.
- **Medium:** Provides a buffer to an historic resource listed on a local, county state, federal register.
- **High:** Contains and historic resource listed on a local, county, state, or federal historic register.

F. URBAN PASSIVE-USE NATURAL AREA/GREENBELT: Property is itself, or contributes significantly to a larger system of undeveloped, natural land area that will be used as a passive-use community or regional urban open space, wildlife corridor or trail corridor. The system must be located in an incorporated city or urban area designated in accordance with the Washington State Growth Management Act (GMA).

- **Low:** Provides or contributes to a passive-use natural area/greenbelt of under 1 acres in size.
- **Medium:** Provides or contributes to a passive-use natural area/greenbelt between 1 and 3 acres, or enhances water access to a pond, lake or creek.
- **High:** Provides or contributes to a passive-use natural area/greenbelt greater than 3 acres in size, or enhances water access to Puget Sound, Lake Washington/Union, Lake Sammamish or the Green/Duwamish, Cedar, Snoqualmie or Sammamish Rivers.

G. PARK, OPEN SPACE, OR NATURAL CORRIDOR ADDITION: The property is adjacent to or is demonstrated to be integrally linked to a park, open space system. Describe the attributes of the property that will provide a meaningful contribution to the existing open space, such as size, allowing an important function to occur, or removing a development threat that would adversely affect an existing open space.

- **Low:** Provides a moderate contribution, but not critical for the integrity of the park or system. This contribution may either be attributable to size or as a critical link
- **Medium:** Significantly contributes to the functionality an existing park or open space system or provides useful natural buffer protection.
- **High:** The proposed acquisition will be a critical link or inholding in an existing park or open space system, or will provide a highly significant addition by virtue of its size.

H. PASSIVE RECREATION OPPORTUNITY IN AREA WITH UNMET NEEDS: The property/system will create, enhance, or preserve a passive recreation use such as hiking, walking, biking, gardening, passive-use children's play or nature viewing in an area having a deficit in passive park or open space resources in a park, open space, community or comprehensive plan, adopted in conformance with the State Growth Management Act. How many people will the proposal directly or indirectly serve and how does this relate to needs assessments that have been conducted by the applicant jurisdiction.?

- **Low:** Low need
- **Medium:** Significant need
- **High:** Critical need

2. ADDITIONAL FACTORS

A. EDUCATIONAL/INTERPRETIVE OPPORTUNITY: The property or system will provide, now or potentially, the setting for meaningful education or interpretation of natural systems or other historic/cultural resources described in the section above.

- **Low:** Fair to poor access; or low anticipated use; resources common.
- **Medium:** Moderate access; or irregular use by small groups; or less common resources.
- **High:** Good to excellent access; or anticipated regular use by groups or individuals from outside the local jurisdiction or community; or a resource that is unique to King County.

B. THREAT OF LOSS OF OPEN SPACE RESOURCES: Which of the space resources described in Section 1 above will be negatively impacted if this application is not funded? Also, briefly discuss whether open space resources on this property could be lost as a result of activities off-site in a larger system the property may be connected to. (For example, are there likely actions on other connected lands, such as a loss of water rights, that could have a significant negative or positive impact on a salmon run or other wildlife specie?)

- **Low:** Little or no demonstrated threat to resources
- **Medium:** A development is proposed, but permits have not been issued, and such action would have a serious impact on open space resources.
- **High:** Development is imminent or a potentially damaging water rights application has been granted; a building or subdivision permit application has been approved; SEPA review completed; a logging, grading, or clearing permit is approved, and such action would have a serious impact on open space resources.

C. FEASIBILITY: OWNERSHIP COMPLEXITY/WILLING SELLER(S)/COMMUNITY SUPPORT: How many properties are proposed for purchase and what property interests (i.e. fee simple, conservation easement) are proposed for each parcel? Which parcels have willing sellers? For multi-parcel proposals, discuss how remaining parcels could be acquired. Is there community support or opposition that could affect the feasibility or success of the proposal?

- **Low:** There are many properties for which little is known about the intent of the owner(s) to sell, but the jurisdiction has notified the owners. No demonstrated community support or community opposes proposal.
- **Medium:** The applicant jurisdiction has obtained a signed letter of interest from key landowner(s) to sell the identified property interest(s). Local community is aware of the proposal and does not oppose it.
- **High:** The jurisdiction can provide a copy of an irrevocable purchase option or purchase and sale agreement for purchase of the identified key property interest(s) Demonstrated strong community support for proposal.

D. PARTNERSHIPS: Describe any public or private partnerships that will enhance this project: Will the project provide partnerships with other governments or private groups, such as provision of funding or volunteer efforts towards property acquisition, provision of allowable facilities, stewardship, restoration of a significantly degraded resource, outreach to local businesses, community education, etc.? In addition, please list any actual funds expended, committed or donated through in-kind services for restoration, stewardship, education, interpretation or other enhancement directly associated with the project.

- **Low:** A group conducts one to three or more of the above activities annually or provides modest funding support.
- **Medium:** A group conducts three to four of the above activities annually or provides moderate funding support.
- **High:** A group conducts five or more of the above activities annually or provides significant funding support.

E. IS THE PROPERTY IDENTIFIED IN AN ADOPTED COMPREHENSIVE PLAN, PARK OPEN SPACE, HABITAT, CULTURAL RESOURCE OR COMMUNITY PLAN? Please identify the name of the plan and the date adopted, and reference appropriate pages, but do not provide copies of the plan.

F. TRANSFERABLE DEVELOPMENT CREDITS (TDC) PARTICIPATION

Is the applicant property a proposed sending site in an authorized transferable development credits (TDC) program? Is the property located in or near a formally designated receiving area in an authorized TDC program, as evidenced by an ordinance or interlocal agreement between cities and/or King County? Describe how this project will further the goals of the program.

- **Low:** No adopted interlocal exists between the applicant city and King County.
- **Medium:** Receiving site city and King County in negotiations to establish a TDC interlocal.
- **High:** An adopted interlocal exists between the receiving site city and King County.

3. STEWARDSHIP AND MAINTENANCE:

HOW WILL THE PROPERTY BE STEWARDED AND MAINTAINED? Does the property lend itself to volunteer stewardship opportunities? Briefly discuss short term "hold and protect" measures and longer-term stewardship plans for the proposal site. How will proposed stewardship and maintenance efforts be funded?

- **Low:** Applicant lacks stewardship experience and makes no funding commitment.
- **Medium:** Applicant has stewardship experience but does not identify funding source.
- **High:** Applicant can demonstrate stewardship track record, makes funding estimate and commits to ongoing funding

REGIONAL SIGNIFICANCE

Ordinance 13717 requires that "the citizens oversight committee shall also include in its recommendation to the executive a description of how projects contain a demonstrable regional visibility, use, ecological, cultural, historical, or other natural resource significance."

Based on the existence of one or more high quality-open space resources listed above the COC will make a recommendation.

- **"Subregional":** The property or system contains a less common or highly important open space resource to King County that may also be highly visible from a major public park or right-of-way or may act as a destination for residents from outside a community or city.
- **"Regional":** The property or system contains a unique or highly important open space resource to King County, or may be highly visible from a major public right-of-way or may be a major destination for residents from throughout King County.

MATCHING FUNDS:

Ordinance 13717 requires the applicant jurisdiction will commit to providing a matching contribution of no less than the amount of CFT funds awarded to the project before conservation futures tax refunds are reimbursed to that jurisdiction. Following are eligible matching funds and requirements:

- Cash.
- Land trades with a valuation verified by MAI (Member of the Appraisal Institute) appraisal.
- The cash value, excluding King County conservation futures contributions, of other open spaces acquired within the previous two years that is either directly adjacent or the county concludes to be directly linked to the property under application.
- When a project nominated by a citizen or citizen group is located within an incorporated city or unincorporated King County and is recommended for acquisition by the Conservation Futures Citizen Committee, the applicant is required to demonstrate in the application for conservation futures tax funds a commitment by the jurisdiction in which the project is located to contribute within two years of application the required share for the project.

**CONSERVATION FUTURES (CFT) 1998-2000 ANNUAL COLLECTIONS
APPLICATION FOR FUNDS - INSTRUCTIONS AND CONDITIONS**

GENERAL INSTRUCTIONS:

Please follow these guidelines when preparing and submitting the applications:

1. Applications must be received by the King County Office of Open Space by 4pm, XXX, 2001.
2. Use only the space provided on the application form.
3. No type size smaller than 10 point.
4. No attachments other than the requested one page site map.
5. Please submit 20 copies of the project application.
6. Please pre-punch for insertion in a three ring notebook.
7. No notebooks, folders, spiral binding, plastic covers, etc.
8. An electronic disk (Microsoft Word 6.0 or later) copy of the application form may be obtained by contacting the King County Office of Open Space at 296-7775.

GENERAL CONDITIONS

1. Properties eligible for funding from CFT collections must meet the definitions of lands under RCW 84.34.020.
2. Project applications may include one or more parcels of land.
3. Proposed acquisitions may include fee simple or less than fee acquisitions such as conservation easements, however, the applicant must clearly disclose the type of ownership interest that is proposed.
4. Future use of the property is restricted to low impact, passive-use recreation. This is determined to mean that development of facilities to support organized/structured athletic activities such as ballfields, courts and gyms is not allowed. Future use is further limited to non-motorized use, except as is necessary for maintenance or staging areas, including entrance roads and parking to provide public access.
5. A maximum of 15% of the total surface area of a proposed acquisition project area may be developed or maintained with non-vegetative impervious surfaces. Trail surfaces are not included in the calculation of this restriction. This restriction may be waived in instances where the King County Council determines, after requesting a recommendation from the King County Conservation Futures Citizens Committee, that parking or other staging areas necessary for the use of the site are required and will exceed the 15% limit, e.g. scenic viewpoints.
6. CFT project funds must be expended within two years of approval by King County. Unspent funds may be reallocated to a previously approved project or to a new project, unless applicant demonstrates to the Citizens Committee a compelling reason for continuance of CFT funding for the project beyond the two year limit.

MATCHING FUNDS

Current Legislation (Ordinance 13717) Ordinance 13717 requires the applicant jurisdiction will commit to providing a matching contribution of no less than the amount of CFT funds awarded to the project before conservation futures tax refunds are reimbursed to that jurisdiction. Following are eligible matching funds and requirements:

- Cash.
- Land trades with a valuation verified by MAI (Member of the Appraisal Institute) appraisal.
- The cash value, excluding King County conservation futures contributions, of other open spaces acquired within the previous two years, either directly adjacent or the county concludes to be directly linked to the property under application.
- When a project nominated by a citizen or citizen group is located within an incorporated city or unincorporated King County and is recommended for acquisition by the Conservation Futures Citizen Committee, the applicant is required to demonstrate in the application for conservation futures tax funds a commitment by the jurisdiction in which the project is located to contribute within two years of application the required share for the project.

Please indicate the sources and amounts of matching funds in Section 3 of the application. In addition, please list any actual funds expended, committed or donated through in-kind services for restoration, stewardship, education, interpretation or other enhancement directly associated with the project.