



KING COUNTY

1200 King County Courthouse
516 Third Avenue
Seattle, WA 98104

Signature Report

December 13, 2005

Motion 12226

Proposed No. 2005-0430.1

Sponsors Constantine

1 A MOTION identifying projects to be funded under Public
2 Law 106-393, Title III, the Secure Rural Schools and Self-
3 Determination Act of 2000, and allocating to those projects
4 the funds to be received from the federal government for
5 federal fiscal year 2006, which begins October 1, 2005.

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8 WHEREAS, in 1908 the United States Congress enacted and subsequently
9 amended a law that requires that twenty-five percent of the revenues derived from
10 national forest lands be paid to states for use by the counties in which the lands are
11 situated for the benefit of public schools and roads, and

12 WHEREAS, the sharing of revenues from the national forest lands is, in part, a
13 recognition that these lands are not subject to local taxation, and also that counties
14 provide services that directly benefit the lands and the people who use the lands, and

15 WHEREAS, the principal source of revenues from national forest lands is from
16 the sale and removal of timber, which has been sharply curtailed in recent years, with a
17 corresponding decline in revenues shared with counties, and

18 WHEREAS, the United States Congress in the Secure Rural Schools and Self
19 Determination Act of 2000, P.L. 106-393, recognized a need to stabilize education and
20 road maintenance funding through predictable payments to the affected counties, job
21 creation in those counties, and other opportunities associated with restoration,
22 maintenance and stewardship of federal lands, and

23 WHEREAS, P.L. 106-393 provides for guaranteed minimum payments for the
24 benefit of affected counties, as well as an opportunity to invest a portion of the
25 guaranteed minimum payments in projects on federal lands or that benefit resources on
26 federal lands, or in county projects or activities, and

27 WHEREAS, Title I, Section 102 of P.L. 106-393 gives each eligible county the
28 right to elect to receive either its traditional share of revenues from the national forest
29 lands or instead to receive the guaranteed minimum amount, also known as the "full
30 payment amount," and

31 WHEREAS, the full payment amount for King County for federal fiscal year
32 2006 is approximately \$2,287,811 and

33 WHEREAS, any county electing to receive the full payment amount must further
34 elect to expend an amount not less than fifteen percent nor more than twenty percent of
35 its full payment amount as project funds, and

36 WHEREAS, counties electing to receive the full payment amount must allocate
37 its project funds for expenditure between projects in accordance with Title II of P.L. 106-
38 393 and projects in accordance with Title III of P.L. 106-393, and

39 WHEREAS, Title II of P.L. 106-393 provides for special projects on federal lands
40 or that benefit resources on federal lands, which projects are recommended by local
41 resource advisory committees, and

42 WHEREAS, Title III of P.L. 106-393 provides for county projects or services,
43 some of which are associated with the federal lands, with Title III authorizing
44 expenditures for search, rescue and emergency services, staffing of community service
45 work camps, the purchase of easements, forest related educational opportunities, fire
46 prevention and county planning and community forestry pursuant to the Cooperative
47 Forest Assistance Act of 1978, and

48 WHEREAS, King County elected to receive the full payment amount, and further
49 elected to expend twenty percent of the full payment amount on projects, communicating
50 these elections by letter to the Washington State Association of Counties, forwarded to
51 the governor of the state of Washington, and

52 WHEREAS, Motion 12050, passed December 6, 2004, describes the county
53 elections to date, and approved the Title III projects for federal fiscal year 2005, and

54 WHEREAS, twenty percent of the full payment amount for federal fiscal year
55 2006 is approximately \$457,562 and this amount can be divided between Title II and
56 Title III projects, and

57 WHEREAS, the Title III amount available for allocation in 2006 includes an
58 additional \$10,000 in interest earned on Title III funds received in past years, and

59 WHEREAS, the executive budget proposal for 2006 appropriates funds to
60 departments to pay for the Title III projects described in this motion, all of which meet
61 the requirements of Title III, and

62 WHEREAS, Title III of P.L.106-393 requires a forty-five day public comment
63 period before approval of Title III projects by the county, and King County published
64 descriptions of the proposed projects forty-five days before the passage of this motion;

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

66 A. King County hereby elects to allocate 18% of the full payment amount from
67 the federal fiscal year beginning October 1, 2005, which is approximately \$411,806 and
68 approximately \$10,000 in interest earned on Title III funds received in past years to Title
69 III projects described in paragraphs C, D, E and F below.

70 B. The remaining 2 % of the full payment amount, which is approximately
71 \$45,756, is to be retained by the United States Secretary of Agriculture for Title II
72 projects to be submitted by the resource advisory committee, established according to the
73 terms of Title II.

74 C. King County hereby authorizes the use of \$170,000 of Title III funds to
75 partially fund a youth forestry education program, administered by the Washington State
76 University Cooperative Extension and Earthcorps, which will provide leadership training
77 and technical skills in forest restoration to high school students.

78 D. King County hereby authorizes the use of \$100,000 of Title III funds to
79 partially fund the urban forestry program in the water and land resources division, which
80 will provide grants and technical assistance to communities and groups who incorporate
81 forestry education for youth into their forest conservation and restoration projects.

82 E. King County hereby authorizes the use of \$120,000 of Title III funds to
83 partially reimburse the King County sheriff's office for expenses incurred performing
84 search and rescue operations on federal land.

85 F. King County hereby authorizes the use of \$30,000 of Title III funds to fund the
86 fire safe forests initiative in the water and land resources division forestry program,
87 which will assist a selected community in a rural forested area to develop and implement
88 a community fire safety plan.
89

Motion 12226 was introduced on 10/24/2005 and passed by the Metropolitan King
County Council on 12/12/2005, by the following vote:

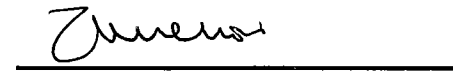
Yes: 9 - Mr. Phillips, Mr. von Reichbauer, Ms. Lambert, Mr. Dunn, Mr.
Hammond, Mr. Gossett, Mr. Irons, Ms. Patterson and Mr. Constantine
No: 0
Excused: 4 - Ms. Edmonds, Mr. Pelz, Mr. Ferguson and Ms. Hague

KING COUNTY COUNCIL
KING COUNTY, WASHINGTON



Larry Phillips, Chair

ATTEST:



Anne Noris, Clerk of the Council

Attachments A. ORCA 4-H Youth Education Program WSU Cooperative Extension King County
and EarthCorps, B. King County Urban Forestry Program, C. King County Sheriff's
Office Search and Rescue, D. King County Fire Safe Forests Initiative

ORCA 4-H Youth Education Program WSU Cooperative Extension King County and EarthCorps

"EarthCorps' community-based approach makes it easy and fun for young people to get involved, and also provides them with the leadership skills to continue their stewardship beyond the project. The Seattle Foundation is proud to recognize this fine organization for their outstanding efforts."

- Anne Farrell, Seattle Foundation CEO

The Outreach and Restoration Community Apprenticeship (ORCA) 4-H Youth Education Program addresses the intersection of youth at risk¹ and forest environments at risk in King County. ORCA enables participants to learn about forest ecology, earn life and work skills, and return restored forest environments to their communities. ORCA directly benefits two age groups of young people as well as the larger community and the local environment.

"Your program has allowed my students, 74% of whom are on free and reduced lunch, to become stewards of our forest and also the community. Through your work, these kids, many of whom are at risk, have something in their lives that is stable, and always there --- the forest. Your program has instilled in them responsibility for caring and nurturing something that they can have control over." - Jan Hunt, Educator

ORCA 4-H Youth Education Program

The ORCA 4-H Youth Education Program is a joint effort between EarthCorps and Washington State University (WSU) Cooperative Extension- King County. The program that trains Apprentices (ages 18-24) to conduct youth development in forestry education and restoration among underserved youth in King County. Youth programs are developed and managed by Apprentices. Apprentices focus on youth and community outreach, volunteer management, and the technical field skills associated with ecological restoration.

"When something so spectacular happens in our park, it always seems that EarthCorps was involved."

-Liz Kearns, Community Member

Goals of the ORCA 4-H Youth Education Program

The foundation of the ORCA Youth Development Program is experiential learning. Participants learn through hands-on, field-based learning. Participants learn professionalism and accountability by being part of a working team, and adhering to program policies and high standards of quality.

ORCA Goals:

- 1. Provide project-based forestry/environmental education to underserved youth in King County.**
- 2. Develop life and work skills training for participants.**
- 3. Restore forest environments in King County.**
- 4. Enable underserved communities to take action and make positive changes in their neighborhood green spaces**

¹ Youth targeted by this program are defined as youth that are at risk of not fulfilling their potential as responsible, productive, and contributing members of society. Some of the risk factors include but are not limited to circumstances such as non-traditional family structure, living below the poverty line, one or more parents not completing high school, or working parents lacking time to nurture the growth and development of their child. While youth at risk are targeted, this is not a requirement for participation in program activities.

King County Urban Forestry Program
Water and Land Resources Division
King County Department of Natural Resources and Parks

The King County Urban Forestry program seeks to improve watershed health and quality of life by enhancing and conserving urban forests. To achieve these goals we provide grants and technical assistance to projects that build capacity for citizen-led stewardship; offer training for volunteers; educate young people about forestry; and increase public understanding of the environmental, social and economic benefits of forests. In 2006, Title III funding will support assistance to community-based projects that educate and involve youth in habitat restoration and reforestation, forest management skill-building and understanding the functions and benefits of forests.

The expansion of urban areas has affected the health of watersheds on a variety of scales by removing forests, increasing the levels of pollutants entering waterways and damaging salmon and wildlife habitats. In response, the King County Forest Policy calls for the county to promote the conservation of urban and community forests as part of conserving the larger forested landscape. The Urban Forestry Program implements these priorities at the neighborhood level by passing through Title III funds to communities in the form of grants. In addition, we leverage staff resources by partnering with nearly a dozen other agencies to provide technical assistance to groups that need training or consultation to successfully complete their projects.

Urban Forestry is a program within the Water and Land Resources Division (WLRD) and is guided by the Division's Strategic Plan. Program benefits include:

- Integration of stewardship services within the Water and Land Resources Division, including tie-ins to the forest stewardship program offered to landowners, community fire planning, and the Noxious Weeds program among others;
- Supplementation of services offered by other WLRD grant programs, which do not support forest-based education and training projects;
- Leveraging county resources with cash and in kind services from partner agencies; and
- Development of citizens' capacity to serve as stewards of forested lands and watersheds.

King County Sheriff's Office Search and Rescue

The King County Sheriff's Office is required by state law to provide search and rescue services to King County. This is a service unique to King County in the Sheriff's Office. In addition, this service enhances King County's ability to respond to other emergencies and disasters, including natural events and terrorist incidents. This proposal will allow the Sheriff's Office to continue to provide search and rescue services at an acceptable level, improve the Unit's technical capability to locate and rescue lost and injured people, and support King County Government and all other county government agencies in those situations.

This proposal is for \$120,000 of Title III funds under the Secure Rural Schools and Community Self-determination Act of 2000, Public Law 106-393. Funds will be used to reimburse the Sheriff's Office for some of the costs related to search, rescue, and emergency service activities on federal land. Historically, 65% of the Sheriff's search and rescue activity is on federal land.

King County Fire Safe Forests Initiative
Water and Land Resources Division
King County Department of Natural Resources and Parks

The Forestry Program proposes the Fire Safe Forests Initiative (Initiative) to assist a selected community in a rural forested area to develop and implement a community fire safety plan. The Initiative will involve small forest landowners and forest residents in developing a community wildfire prevention and implementation plan. A forester will work directly with community residents through consultation sessions and visits to their forest properties. A forester will also assist community members to develop forest stewardship plans for their individual properties, which for many will be the first step in implementing fire safe forest management practices on their land. Through the Initiative, King County will partner with educational institutions, non-profit organizations and community groups to provide written information and training sessions.

The Initiative is designed to accomplish the following:

- Prevent the loss of lives, property and resources to wildfire while ensuring forest stewardship among landowners;
- Help prevent and control wildfire independent of professional fire fighting efforts;
- Leverage fire planning assistance offered by federal and state agencies;
- Encourage forest stewardship by owners of smaller acreage and/or residential forestland as per the Executive Order regarding the Implementation of Forestry Policies (March 15, 2002);
- Support the County Fire Marshall in promoting fire prevention best management practices called for in the 2005 Critical Areas Ordinance;
- Promote the Department of Development and Environmental Services' new Fire Hazard Reduction Permit, which regulates vegetation removal to reduce fire hazards around rural residences; and
- Serve as a precursor to developing a demonstration project as per Section R-532 of the King County Comprehensive Plan, which calls for a community-based demonstration project for tree removal to reduce fire hazard in the Rural Area.¹

The Fire Safe Forests Initiative proposal was developed in response to a proviso to King County Ordinance #14797 that directed the Water and Land Resources Division to consider development of an application for Title III forestry funds to support wildfire prevention on rural forest lands adjacent to residential areas. Having worked closely with rural residents to develop an effective process for community wildfire planning during the past year, the Urban Forestry Program is now ready to address the proviso and move forward with the Initiative.

¹ R-532 reads: "King County should work with the King County Rural Forest Commission to conduct a demonstration project for tree removal to reduce fire hazard in the Rural Area. The demonstration project should allow for a community based project in a carefully selected area using best management practices."