



ADDITIONAL MEETING
MATERIALS
KING COUNTY
COUNCIL



Metropolitan King County Council Staff Report

Committee:	Full Council		
Agenda Item:	17	Analyst(s):	Brandi Paribello
Proposed No.:	2026-0139	Meeting Date:	September 1, 2026

OVERVIEW

TOPIC: Proposed Motion 2026-0139 would authorize the Executive to accept a donation of 7.72 acres of real property located near Newaukum Creek in unincorporated King County, for fish, wildlife, and wetland habitat preservation and restoration purposes.

LEGISLATION SUMMARY

The proposed motion would authorize the Executive to accept a donation of real property which is currently appraised by the King County Department of Assessments at \$199,000. The Executive estimates that ongoing maintenance of the parcels will require roughly \$12,000 a year, to be paid using existing budget authority.

Because the parcels' appraised value of \$199,000 exceeds the \$50,000 threshold in King County Code (K.C.C.) 2.80.060, the code requires that acceptance of the donation be authorized by the King County Council.

KEY ISSUES FROM THE ANALYSIS

Council staff have not identified any issues with the proposed agreement.

AMENDMENTS

There are no amendments.

BACKGROUND & TIMING CONSIDERATIONS

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Property Information. The 7.72-acre real property is located off of Southeast 424th Street near Newaukum Creek in unincorporated south King County, on the Enumclaw Plateau. The donor is a private individual acting as personal representative of the estate of Dorothy Schreiber, the current owner of the property.

Parks Donations. K.C.C. 7.08.070 provides the King County Parks and Recreation Division with the authority to solicit gifts from individuals, foundations, not-for-profit organizations, and corporate sources, provided that such gifts are used for parks purposes. K.C.C.

2.80.060 requires that any gifts for parks and recreation purposes that exceed \$50,000 be authorized by the King County Council.

Timing. The King County Parks and Recreation Division has targeted a closing date of September 24, 2026, between the donor and the County. The fully executed Real Estate Donation Agreement allows 180 days from the date of mutual acceptance, which was March 26, 2026. Council action on the motion must take place on or before September 22, 2026.

ANALYSIS

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Deed Restrictions. The Real Estate Donation Agreement states that the donor will provide the County with a Bargain and Sale Deed that includes a deed restriction which subjects the property to open space uses outlined in Parks Levy Ordinance 18890. The restriction further states the use cannot be converted unless the donated parcel is swapped with different parcel to be subject to open space use restrictions under state and county code.

Compliance of Donation with County Policies. Materials provided by Executive staff state that Council approval of this proposed motion would “support the mission of the Department of Natural Resources and Parks by preserving and protecting natural ecosystems that benefit the people of King County, wildlife, wetlands, and water quality.” Additionally, the materials state the donation is consistent with the King County Open Space Plan, which “calls for the preservation of open space properties that provide public benefit and natural resource protection” and helps implement the Land Conservation Initiative “which seeks to protect remaining high conservation value lands within King County by 2050.”

Because of the deed restriction described above, Council staff have determined that acceptance of the donation would comply with County policies as indicated by Executive staff.

AMENDMENTS

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There are no amendments.

INVITED

- Josh Baldi, Division Director, Water and Land Resources Division, Department of Natural Resources and Parks
- Lori King, Real Property Agent Supervisor, Department of Natural Resources and Parks

ATTACHMENTS

1. Proposed Motion 2026-0139 (and its attachment)
2. Transmittal Letter
3. Fiscal Note