

King County Conservation Futures Advisory Committee
Recommendations for the Allocation of
2026 Conservation Futures Tax Levy and
Parks Levy County Open Space Acquisition Funding
June 13, 2025

INTRODUCTION

Report Purpose

This report presents the recommendations of the King County Conservation Futures Advisory Committee (“committee”). The committee is a volunteer advisory board with members appointed by the King County Executive and confirmed by King County Council. The committee reviews applications for Conservation Futures Tax Levy (CFT) and King County Parks Levy county open space acquisition funding (PL) and recommends project funding awards to the King County Executive. The Executive proposes funding awards to the King County Council, which makes the final CFT and PL funding allocations by ordinance adoption.

Funding Recommendations

This year, the committee reviewed 64 applications from cities, nonprofit organizations, and the County requesting \$137 million in CFT and PL funding. Of the total request, \$132 million was requested for property acquisition and \$5 million was requested for site stabilization costs (SSC).

The committee has completed its deliberative process (discussed further below) and is pleased to recommend awards totaling \$108.7 million, including approximately \$104.2 million for acquisition and \$4.5 million for SSC. These awards would fund approximately 1,700 to 2,000 acres of conservation (refer to Table 1 at the end of the report). The recommended awards consist of the following:

- \$94.9 million in CFT dollars, consisting of:
 - \$44.9 million CFT annual dollars from annual collections
 - \$50 million CFT bond dollars previously approved in the 2026 CFT bond project (appropriated in the 2025 budget but not yet assigned to projects)
- \$13.8 million in PL county open space dollars, which require passage of the Parks Levy (additional information below)

Background: Conservation Futures Tax Levy Funding (CFT)

CFT is a dedicated portion of property taxes collected throughout King County, used to purchase open space lands and easements in unincorporated King County and in King County’s cities. CFT funding is a major part of accelerating the pace of land conservation under the King County Land Conservation Initiative. The County adopted numerous CFT policy changes including bonding against future CFT revenues, restoring the CFT collection rate (securing 70 percent King County voter approval to do so), reducing barriers to acquisition by lowering the required match from 50 percent to 25 percent, and adding SSC as an eligible expense.

In 2018, the County adopted a policy to waive the required 50 percent match for projects in “opportunity areas,” with the goal to eliminate disparities in access to green spaces, parks, and

trails in communities that have the greatest needs. Projects may qualify for a match waiver under what is termed Method #1/Quantitative Method if located in areas of the county with the lowest incomes, highest hospitalization rates for environmentally related chronic health conditions, and limited access to open spaces (qualification is not automatic; projects must demonstrate community engagement and the committee must determine if the project qualifies). Projects may also qualify under what is termed Method #2/Qualitative Method by demonstrating that the population served by the project experience disproportionately limited access to open spaces and demonstrated hardships. Match waiver projects need to demonstrate community engagement.

Background: King County Parks Levy County Open Space Acquisition Funding

King County park levies have included dedicated Parks Levy county open space acquisition funding (PL) since 2008. In August 2025, King County voters will vote on King County Proposition No. 1, the proposed 2026-2031 King County Parks, Trails, and Open Space Levy, which, again, includes dedicated open space acquisition funding for use by King County. This year the committee received \$19.4 million in requests for \$13.8 million PL county open space acquisition funding (which will only be available if the Parks Levy measure is approved by voters). Since 2008, following the direction of Motion 12809, the committee has made recommendations for CFT and PL county open space funding. The committee believes that this practice is even more important now to achieve a balance of CFT and matching PL funding awarded to county projects and help further the goals of the Land Conservation Initiative.

Application Review and Funding Recommendation Process

The committee met from March through May 2025 to review projects and make recommendations. The committee held eight online project review sessions with applicants in March and April and two field trips for educational purposes, representing a cross-section of project sites across the county. The committee was pleased to again have the input of Open Space Equity Cabinet members as part of a working group that provided match waiver project recommendations to the full committee.

There are many potential open space categories, and each year the committee strives to provide a balanced package of open space acquisition projects, with benefits such as wildlife and salmon habitat, farmland and forest preservation, passive outdoor recreation opportunities, urban greenspaces, and opportunity area/equity-driven projects. The committee reviews each project considering the adopted Conservation Futures criteria. The committee also considers factors related to the likelihood of success for specific projects, broader public policy goals, equity and social justice, community-driven open space priorities, the threat of loss of open space resources, once-in-a-generation opportunities, the geographic distribution of projects throughout the county, and regional significance. While the recommended awards reflect applicant cost estimates, if the project comes in under budget or does not move forward, funding is reallocated to other projects through the committee's project progress process. The committee's recommendations for awarding projects CFT bond dollars were based on factors such as likelihood of implementation in the next year, likelihood of securing match funding, and compliance with bond-related financing requirements.

Committee Perspective

The following are a few takeaways from the committee’s review of projects seeking 2026 CFT and PL funding:

- The committee sees continued high demand for open space funding in response to the Land Conservation Initiative, particularly building on the recent policy changes to increase available CFT funding and reduce barriers to applicants through match reduction and introduction of SSC. The applications received represent high-quality land to be protected or restored to achieve conservation visions.
- The reset of the baseline bond project amount to \$50 million helps keep pace with the demand and the intended pacing to accelerate conservation and achieve Land Conservation Initiative goals.
- The committee appreciates that CFT can now contribute to demolition and initial site stabilization needs associated with acquisitions.
- There is ongoing interest in CFT by nonprofits, for example through projects working on securing farmland access and land tenure for historically underserved populations. The committee appreciates the advance review of organizational eligibility and capacity by the Department of Natural Resources and Parks (DNRP), letting the committee focus on the merits of the project.
- The committee values the excellent County staff support provided to the committee and Conservation Futures program, as well as the King County programs that implement county land acquisitions.

Highlights: Projects Sponsored by Cities

- Of the many projects adding open space in cities, highlights include Normandy Park’s vision to protect saltwater shoreline between Marine View and Des Moines Creek Parks; Kenmore’s expansion of the recently redeveloped *ḵaḵʷadis* Park (pronounced *TI’ awh-ah-dees*), expanding the protected wetlands and Sammamish River frontage; Bellevue’s creation of the first public park on the west side of Lake Sammamish; and Issaquah’s furthering of its “Creeks to Peaks” vision, expanding conservation along Issaquah Creek and securing a gateway to Squak Mountain.
- The following match waiver requests in cities were recommended for funding:
 - Auburn’s unique partnership to preserve Soos Creek Botanical Garden
 - The Milwaukee Gateway project envisioning open space and trail connectivity throughout the City of Pacific
 - Seattle’s Delridge Native Forest project expanding an urban forest that it has been restoring in partnership with the Muckleshoot Indian Tribe
 - Adding a southern entry at Lakeridge Park Addition to serve south Seattle and Skyway residents
 - Expansion of Shoreline’s 192nd Hemlock Open Space Acquisition in a corridor rapidly developing with affordable housing
 - The first application ever from the Town of Skykomish with a vision for a community gathering space on the river
 - Tukwila’s expansion of Duwamish Hill Preserve, a site on the Duwamish with cultural significance to local Tribes.

Highlights: Projects Sponsored by Nonprofits

- Two match waiver farmland access projects by Black Farmers Collective and Modest Family Solutions would purchase land for food production and community-building, serving communities of color that have not historically had access to farmland.
- Forterra NW seeks the final funding needed to secure more than 100 acres of forest on the South Fork Snoqualmie River in a highly visible scenic corridor along I-90.
- Vashon-Maury Island Land Trust continues its partnership with King County to preserve priority streams and marine shoreline critical to supporting salmon populations.

Highlights: Projects Sponsored by King County

- Water Resource Inventory Area (WRIA) 7/Snoqualmie Watershed: The County continues work to preserve high-quality riparian and forest habitat and provide public use opportunities with acquisitions at sites ranging from South Fork Skykomish River in the northeast county to the Middle Fork and Upper Snoqualmie basins to the south; tributaries such as Griffin Creek, and upland sites such as Union Hill Forest — the initial creation of which is in its third and final phase of funding.
- WRIA 8/Cedar-Lake Washington Watershed: The County seeks to preserve and expand popular forested hiking sites at Cougar Mountain and West Tiger Mountain. Projects continue ongoing preservation of high-value salmon habitat in Bear and East Fork Issaquah creeks. The County seeks to formalize a Lake Youngs trailhead and begins acquiring property to daylight a reach of Molasses Creek.
- WRIA 9/Green River Watershed: The County continues projects related to salmon habitat and open space conservation at Green River/Newaukum Creek and Soos Creek. King County Roads proposes a Skyway Stormwater Park as a match waiver project in collaboration with King County DNRP.
- WRIA 10/White River Watershed: Restoration continues along Boise Creek, to add complexity and shading to the channelized corridor, and the County seeks to add open space in the urban unincorporated Lakeland South.
- Vashon-Maury Island: The County continues to improve access at Frog Holler Forest and expand marine shoreline conservation opportunities, often working in partnership with Vashon-Maury Island Land Trust.
- The County proposes a startup award for a future King County Forest Carbon project, evaluating opportunity for converting industrial forestland to longer rotations.

FUNDING RECOMMENDATIONS FOR PROJECTS SPONSORED BY CITIES

- *Projects are organized in alphabetical order by the name of the applicant.*
- *If multiple applications have been submitted by an applicant, projects are listed in alphabetical order by project name.*
- *The format of 2026 bond project numbers is parent project #1148017/subproject #[unique number].*

<i>Applicant Project Name</i>	<i>Funding Type</i>	<i>Funding Requested</i>	<i>Funding Recommended</i>
Auburn Soos Creek Botanical Garden Preservation	CFT - Acquisition	\$2,121,000	\$2,121,000 annual
	CFT - SSC	\$0	\$0
Match Waiver Determination: Yes			
<i>Acquisition award: CFT annual project #1150331</i>			

The City of Auburn seeks to purchase a portion of the Soos Creek Botanical Garden, located in the Lea Hill portion of the city. The portion of the garden that the city seeks to purchase using Conservation Futures funding covers multiple parcels, totaling 18 acres. The purchase of this property would provide protection for a fish-bearing stream, Soosette Creek, and the opportunity to redress historic disparities in access to open space. Preservation of the garden would keep this land protected in perpetuity as a community asset and as a botanical garden of regional significance in south King County.

The applicants request a match waiver. The eastern half of the garden is in an Opportunity Area meeting all three criteria under Method #1/Quantitative Method for a match waiver, while the western half meets two of the three criteria. Metrics on these properties from the Opportunity Areas show that the poverty level is higher than 85 percent of the county, population of children under age 5 is higher than 99 percent of the county, population that are people of color is higher than 69 percent of the county, and households of limited English-speaking ability are higher than 77 percent of the county. The garden has a broad network of community partners, and programs include both education activities and community partnership events. The applicants have provided support letters from the Auburn Garden Club, the Auburn Eagle Scout Troop, the Soos Creek Botanical Garden, and Green River College.

The committee determined this project merits a match waiver because of supportive data points and the educational, cultural, and public use opportunities presented by this proposal. This represents a unique and creative partnership to ensure long-term preservation of a treasured botanical garden in south King County. It presents an opportunity for the city and the garden to broaden the outreach to and usage by the residents of Auburn.

The committee recommends full funding for this project. See table above for funding recommendation details.

<i>Applicant Project Name</i>	<i>Funding Type</i>	<i>Funding Requested</i>	<i>Funding Recommended</i>
Bellevue Cougar Mountain Connections	CFT - Acquisition	\$3,487,244	\$3,487,244 total (\$25,000 annual and \$3,462,244 bond)
	CFT - SSC	\$105,000	\$105,000 annual
<i>Acquisition award: CFT annual project #1145669, CFT 2026 bond project #1148073/1150390¹ SSC award: CFT annual project #1148030² (award is placed in Bellevue SSC Request project)</i>			

The City of Bellevue seeks to close longstanding gaps in public ownership and trail networks between Coal Creek Natural Area and Cougar Mountain Regional Wildland Park, adding to the regionally significant park network. The city seeks the third and final installment of Conservation Futures funding for the purchase of two parcels in January 2025, which were purchased, in part, with earlier awards of Conservation Futures funding. These parcels, totaling 12.29 acres, will close a gap in public ownership between Coal Creek Natural Area and Cougar Mountain. This will enable a safer pedestrian crossing between the two parks and prevent development that would negatively impact Coal Creek. This project has strong community support and has, in the past, received a support letter from Councilmembers Reagan Dunn and Claudia Balducci. Match comes from the Bellevue Parks Levy, and the city is providing more than the required match to Conservation Futures funding.

The committee recommends full funding for this project. See table above for funding recommendation details.

SCOPE CHANGES

During the spring 2025 grant round, the committee approved a scope addition to add parcels 2624059022 and 2624059019 to the scope of the Bellevue Site Stabilization Cost project #1148030. These are the primary targets of the Cougar Mountain project, which have been recently acquired.

<i>Applicant Project Name</i>	<i>Funding Type</i>	<i>Funding Requested</i>	<i>Funding Recommended</i>
Bellevue West Lake Sammamish Open Space	CFT - Acquisition	\$4,447,630	\$4,447,630 total (\$25,000 annual and \$4,422,630 bond)
	CFT - SSC	\$0	\$0
<i>Acquisition award: CFT annual project #1147974, CFT 2026 bond project #1148073/1150391³</i>			

The City of Bellevue seeks to acquire and conserve land along or near Lake Sammamish. Two parcels, totaling 0.48 acres, are included in the application, both of which were purchased by the city in 2024. These parcels add to adjacent city-owned properties, some of which received prior Conservation Futures funding, that are intended to be developed into a neighborhood beach park.

¹ The scope of this new award is linked to the scopes of other recent awards to this project, including: CFT 2022 bond project #1139013/1149111 and CFT 2023 bond project #1141757/1149112. The committee approves the parcels prioritized in this new award as priorities in all recent awards to this project.

² The committee approves the parcels prioritized in this new award as priorities in all recent awards to this project.

³ The committee approves the parcels prioritized in this new award as priorities in all recent awards to this project.

This project has regional significance as it provides restoration opportunities, as well as the first public waterfront access on the west side of Lake Sammamish. Match funding is anticipated to come from Bellevue Capital funds and a Washington State Recreation and Conservation Office (RCO) grant. The city is providing more than the required match to Conservation Futures funding.

The committee recommends full funding for this project. See table above for funding recommendation details.

<i>Applicant Project Name</i>	<i>Funding Type</i>	<i>Funding Requested</i>	<i>Funding Recommended</i>
Des Moines Phase 2 Wooton Park	CFT - Acquisition	\$177,000	\$177,000 annual
	CFT - SSC	\$0	\$0
<i>Acquisition award: CFT annual project #1147977⁴</i>			

The City of Des Moines seeks to acquire land adjacent to Wooton Park. This year's funding target consists of two parcels, totaling 16.44 acres, which are currently listed on the open market. The size, location, and geography of this property make it an excellent candidate for park expansion and open space preservation. This project will help close the city's park deficit, expand the passive recreation function of the park, and preserve nearshore wildlife habitat. Match comes from the city's Surface Water Utility Funds.

The committee recommends full funding for this project. See table above for funding recommendation details.

SCOPE CHANGES

During the spring 2025 grant round, the committee approved a scope addition to add parcels 3222049019 and 3222049115 to the scope of the project (acquisition award #1147977 and site stabilization cost award #1148031). These are adjacent to the original target and are the primary targets of the request for 2026 funding.

<i>Applicant Project Name</i>	<i>Funding Type</i>	<i>Funding Requested</i>	<i>Funding Recommended</i>
Issaquah Issaquah Creek Corridor - Hailstone Property	CFT - Acquisition	\$657,000	\$657,000 total (\$25,000 annual and \$632,000 bond)
	CFT - SSC	\$0	\$0
<i>Acquisition award: CFT annual project #1150348, CFT 2026 bond project #1148073/1150392</i>			

The City of Issaquah seeks to purchase the Hailstone property in fee as part of the regionally significant Issaquah Creek/Lake Sammamish Waterways Program. The current owner has expressed a willingness to sell their 0.39-acre parcel to the city. This property plays a crucial role in advancing the city's "Creeks to Peaks" connectivity vision by enhancing walkability between the existing creekside parks and preserving riparian habitat along the main stem of Issaquah

⁴ The committee approves the parcels prioritized in this new award as priorities in all recent awards to this project.

Creek. The site serves as a vital link in the existing park system, promoting seamless pedestrian access and important creek conservation efforts just downstream of the Issaquah Salmon Hatchery. Match funding comes from the city's capital funding.

The committee recommends full funding for this project. See table above for funding recommendation details.

<i>Applicant Project Name</i>	<i>Funding Type</i>	<i>Funding Requested</i>	<i>Funding Recommended</i>
Issaquah Squak Mountain Corridor Assemblage	CFT - Acquisition	\$2,108,250	\$2,108,250 total (\$25,000 annual and \$2,083,250 bond)
	CFT - SSC	\$0	\$0
<i>Acquisition award: CFT annual project #1150350, CFT 2026 bond project #1148073/1150393</i>			

The Issaquah Squak Mountain Corridor Assemblage seeks to acquire and create the future opportunity to develop a strategically located property to serve as a public trailhead and provide a new trail system to access regionally significant public open spaces. This project includes four parcels, totaling 17.55 acres, which the city seeks to purchase in fee. The property will provide enhanced access to Issaquah's trail system and adjoining public open spaces such as Squak Mountain State Park and King County Parks open space parcels, support passive recreational activities, and encourage community engagement and environmental conservation. The site abuts the city limits and the regional urban growth boundary, allowing the city trail system and regional trail systems to seamlessly connect and culminate in mountainous open space. Match funding comes from the city's capital funding.

The committee recommends full funding for this project. See table above for funding recommendation details.

<i>Applicant Project Name</i>	<i>Funding Type</i>	<i>Funding Requested</i>	<i>Funding Recommended</i>
Kenmore Ḵáx̣ʷadis Park Property Acquisition	CFT - Acquisition	\$5,906,250	\$5,906,250 total (\$25,000 annual and \$5,881,250 bond)
	CFT - SSC	\$135,000	\$135,000 annual
<i>Acquisition award: CFT annual project #1150352, CFT 2026 bond project #1148073/1150394</i> <i>SSC award: CFT annual project #1150422</i>			

The City of Kenmore seeks to purchase land that is adjacent to Ḵáx̣ʷadis Park [pronounced *Tl' AWH-ah-dees*], which has recently been redeveloped and has regional significance for salmonid habitat conservation and public use. The project includes five parcels, totaling 12.4 acres, which the city intends to purchase in fee. This would protect valuable Sammamish River shoreline property from future development and remove the potential usage of reasonable use exceptions that would allow development into existing critical areas. In addition, it would conserve Tier 1 Chinook salmon habitat and enhance critical areas. Match funding is anticipated to come from local sources.

The committee recommends full funding for this project. See table above for funding recommendation details.

<i>Applicant Project Name</i>	<i>Funding Type</i>	<i>Funding Requested</i>	<i>Funding Recommended</i>
Kenmore Wetland 3 Property Acquisition	CFT - Acquisition	\$543,750	\$543,750 annual
	CFT - SSC	\$37,500	\$37,500 annual
<i>Acquisition award: CFT annual project #1150353</i> <i>SSC award: CFT annual project #1150423</i>			

The City of Kenmore seeks to acquire property within the Swamp Creek Watershed. The project includes one parcel, totaling 0.36 acres, which the city plans to acquire in fee. This project seeks to restore native vegetation, improve biodiversity, and revitalize the Swamp Creek Watershed in a way that creates wildlife buffers, reduces flooding during storm events, and enhances stormwater retention. These efforts are a key component of Kenmore's Climate Action Plan adopted in 2022. Match funding is anticipated to come from local sources.

The committee recommends full funding for this project. See table above for funding recommendation details.

<i>Applicant Project Name</i>	<i>Funding Type</i>	<i>Funding Requested</i>	<i>Funding Recommended</i>
Kent Clark Lake Park	CFT - Acquisition	\$119,850	\$119,850 annual
	CFT - SSC	\$0	\$0
<i>Acquisition award: CFT annual project #1150354</i>			

The City of Kent and King County are seeking to complete a property transfer that was due to happen at the conclusion of the SE 240th Street road-widening project in the past. This project includes one parcel, totaling 4.11 acres. This acquisition by the city will secure one of only two remaining inholdings after a 40-year history to acquire 150 acres at the regionally significant Clark Lake Park, funded, in part, by CFT funds. This parcel already seamlessly integrates with the park, with meadows, forest, and the trails already being used by the public. Match on this project is land match as King County Roads transfers its property interest at zero cost to Kent under the terms of an interagency agreement.

The committee recommends full funding for this project. See table above for funding recommendation details.

<i>Applicant Project Name</i>	<i>Funding Type</i>	<i>Funding Requested</i>	<i>Funding Recommended</i>
Kirkland Fisk Family Park	CFT - Acquisition	\$603,268	\$603,268 annual
	CFT - SSC	\$0	\$0
<i>Acquisition award: CFT annual project #1150355</i>			

The City of Kirkland is requesting funding for a parcel that was purchased from a private seller on September 13, 2023; it is located adjacent to the Cross Kirkland Corridor. This project includes one parcel, totaling 0.42 acres, which the city purchased in fee. The parcel will be maintained in its existing condition as a park, with the addition of creekside plantings, a bench, an educational sign, fruit trees, and blueberry bushes. The project contributes to the city's Comprehensive Plan, Sustainability Plan, Urban Forest Strategic Management Plan, 20-Year Forest and Natural Areas Plan, Surface Water Master Plan, and Park, Recreation, and Open Space Plan goals. The addition of this parcel to the Cross Kirkland Corridor provides a place to rest, picnic, and enjoy a scenic view of "old Kirkland" provided by an existing, charming small outbuilding located on the property. Match funding comes from local sources.

The committee recommends full funding for this project. See table above for funding recommendation details.

<i>Applicant Project Name</i>	<i>Funding Type</i>	<i>Funding Requested</i>	<i>Funding Recommended</i>
Kirkland Juanita Heights Park - Expand and Connect	CFT - Acquisition	\$1,131,441	\$1,131,441 total (\$25,000 annual and \$1,106,441 bond)
	CFT - SSC	\$0	\$0
<i>Acquisition award: CFT annual project #1150356, CFT 2026 bond project #1148073/1150395</i>			

The City of Kirkland is requesting acquisition funding for parcels that were purchased from a private land developer on October 17, 2024, and have since been added to Juanita Heights Park. This project includes five parcels, totaling 2.51 acres, which were purchased in fee. The parcels will be maintained in their existing forested condition contributing to the city's Comprehensive Plan, Sustainability Plan, Urban Forest Strategic Management Plan, 20-Year Forest and Natural Areas Plan, Surface Water Master Plan, and Park, Recreation, and Open Space Plan goals. The addition of these parcels to Juanita Heights Park allows for a future trail connection to be established between NE 124th Street and NE 117th Place, which would provide a long-desired pedestrian path from the top to the bottom of Finn Hill. Match funding comes from local sources.

The committee recommends full funding for this project. See table above for funding recommendation details.

<i>Applicant Project Name</i>	<i>Funding Type</i>	<i>Funding Requested</i>	<i>Funding Recommended</i>
Kirkland Western Finn Hill Green Loop Addition	CFT - Acquisition	\$1,650,000	\$1,650,000 total (\$25,000 annual and \$1,625,000 bond)
	CFT - SSC	\$0	\$0
<i>Acquisition award: CFT annual project #1150357, CFT 2026 bond project #1148073/1150396</i>			

This proposal seeks to protect property for the creation of a trail that connects Holmes Point and O.O. Denny Park to the south to Big Finn Hill Park and St. Edward Park in the north. This

project includes four parcels, totaling 6.10 acres, which the city may purchase in fee or easement. The Clarke-Freeman parcels are critical to establishing the northwestern quadrant of the Finn Hill Green Loop. The proposed acquisition will also protect a steeply sided ravine that is the basin for a Class 3 stream and that has been identified as a high landslide risk area. Match funding comes from the Finn Hill Neighborhood Alliance, the City of Kirkland, and other public sources.

The committee recommends full funding for this project. See table above for funding recommendation details.

<i>Applicant Project Name</i>	<i>Funding Type</i>	<i>Funding Requested</i>	<i>Funding Recommended</i>
Lake Forest Park Five Acre Woods Expansion	CFT - Acquisition	\$1,284,551	\$1,284,551 annual
	CFT - SSC	\$150,000	\$150,000 annual
<i>Acquisition award: CFT annual project #1150358 SSC award: CFT annual project #1150424</i>			

The City of Lake Forest Park is seeking funding to pay for the recent purchase of land adjacent to Five Acre Woods Park. The property includes two parcels, totaling 2.33 acres, which were recently purchased in fee. Based on current estimates, more than 90 percent of the property consists of critical areas and their buffers. Native plantings would be introduced to the southern acreage, supporting wildlife and further enhancing the experience of this passive park. The purchase is subject to a life estate, allowing the landowner to remain in their home for a limited time; structures will be demolished once vacated. Match funding comes from city funds, as well as the donated value from the previous landowner.

The committee recommends full funding for this project. See table above for funding recommendation details.

<i>Applicant Project Name</i>	<i>Funding Type</i>	<i>Funding Requested</i>	<i>Funding Recommended</i>
Normandy Park Shoreline Protection Acquisition Project	CFT - Acquisition	\$9,625,125	\$6,276,213 total (\$3,000,000 annual and \$3,276,213 bond)
	CFT - SSC	\$225,000	\$225,000 annual
<i>Acquisition award: CFT annual project #1150359, CFT 2026 bond project #1148073/1150397 SSC award: CFT annual project #1150425</i>			

This grant would allow the City of Normandy Park to expand on regionally significant shoreline conservation protecting nearshore habitat and providing public shoreline access. This project includes 10 parcels, totaling 17.46 acres, which the city plans to purchase in fee. Three of the 10 target parcels are adjacent to Marine View Park, which would allow for immediate public access to shoreline. The parcels contain stretches of relatively natural shoreline, which provides direct benefits to the ecosystem that support salmon species; natural shoreline is rare in this area, where most mainland saltwater shoreline has been hardened or bulkheaded, which impedes natural processes important for habitat quality. The remaining parcels are part of the long-range plan to connect Beaconsfield on the Sound to Des Moines Beach Park and include two Tier 1 projects in

the WRIA 9 Salmon Habitat Plan. Match funding is anticipated to come from a King County Parks Open Space grant, King County Flood Control District Flood Reduction grant, the King County Subregional Opportunity Fund, and city funds, with a possibility of land match from donated value.

The committee recommends partial funding for this project. The recommended award is consistent with the applicant's partial funding suggestions to allow purchase of numerous parcels, if the project could not be fully funded. The committee anticipates the applicant will return in the future as they make progress on implementation. See table above for funding recommendation details.

<i>Applicant Project Name</i>	<i>Funding Type</i>	<i>Funding Requested</i>	<i>Funding Recommended</i>
Pacific City of Pacific Milwaukee Gateway	CFT - Acquisition	\$1,733,360	\$1,733,360 annual
	CFT - SSC	\$0	\$0
Match Waiver Determination: Yes			
<i>Acquisition award: CFT annual project #1145688⁵</i>			

The City of Pacific is seeking funding for a phased project, the first of which will include the immediate purchase of currently vacant parcels containing critical areas, salmon and habitat restoration, and passive recreation. The current phase includes five parcels, totaling 16.06 acres, which the city hopes to purchase in fee. The subject parcels provide low to moderate wildlife habitat, including feeding, resting, nesting, and cover habitat, in an urban area where such habitat is limited. This proposal would set the stage for future habitat restoration to realize healthy salmon runs and support other aquatic species and vegetation.

The applicants request a match waiver. This project is in the lowest 1/3 of census tracts for income and the highest 1/3 of ZIP codes for hospitalization rates, though it did not meet all three criteria to qualify for a match waiver under Method #1, as it is within ¼ mile of an existing park.

The area has high percentages of limited English speakers and people of color and has many demographic and socioeconomic factors representative of a historically underserved community, such as low life expectancies and high percentages of households experiencing poverty. The area experiences poor health outcomes as outlined in King County's Determinants of Equity Report, and the Port of Seattle rates Pacific as being very low on the Equity Index. In addition, the city does not have a high-income tax base to complete large-scale public improvement projects. The applicants have provided support letters from King County Councilmember Pete von Reichbauer, the City of Algona, the Community Recreation Foundation of Pacific, and the Northwest Disc Golf Association.

⁵ The award will be placed in the same project number and be tied to the scope of the 2024 match waiver project, Tacoma Boulevard Wetlands Park. The committee approves the parcels prioritized in this new award as priorities in all recent awards to this project.

The committee determined that this project merits a match waiver based on supportive data points, the need for greenspace in this underserved community, and the importance of buffering air pollution and transportation corridor impacts. This project presents an expansive and inclusive vision for additional open space in this small city, which might not otherwise be able to protect this land. This presents opportunities for public use and restoration near the school and a trail along the waterway.

The committee recommends full funding for this project. See table above for funding recommendation details.

<i>Applicant Project Name</i>	<i>Funding Type</i>	<i>Funding Requested</i>	<i>Funding Recommended</i>
Seattle Belltown Portal Bellwether Parcel	CFT - Acquisition	\$2,020,000	\$1,000,000 annual
	CFT - SSC	\$0	\$0
<i>Acquisition award: CFT annual project #1150364</i>			

The City of Seattle is seeking to purchase a portion of a privately owned parcel located next to the future Belltown Portal Park. Work is under way to create the 1.2-acre Belltown Portal Park on land created from the decommissioning of the Battery Street Tunnel, requiring transfer of land from the Seattle Department of Transportation (SDOT) to Seattle Parks and future park planning and development, which may occur in the late 2020s to early 2030s. Belltown Portal Park will be an important new community asset in this neighborhood, and park creation is *not* dependent on this proposed acquisition of an adjacent 5,000 square feet, about 0.12 acres. The larger park could nevertheless benefit from this acquisition, which could create a park entrance from the recently opened Bell Street Park extension from First Avenue to Western Avenue, retain mature trees, and offer P-Patch opportunities if not accommodated elsewhere on the much larger adjacent future park. Support letters included a letter from the Seattle City Council. Match on this project is anticipated to be land match. Land match would require right-of-way vacation by SDOT, transfer of a parcel to Seattle Parks, appraisal to value the land match footprint, and title restriction placed on the land match parcel footprint. If land match proves not to be feasible, cash match is an alternative option for Seattle, to represent 25 percent of total project costs.

The committee recommends partial funding for this project. The committee supports the Portal Park vision and sees value in this addition off Bell Street. The award reflects the high degree of uncertainty about the property value, which will be determined by an appraisal. If the property value is higher than the CFT award, the committee welcomes the city to return in the future for supplemental funding to reimburse that amount.

<i>Applicant Project Name</i>	<i>Funding Type</i>	<i>Funding Requested</i>	<i>Funding Recommended</i>
Seattle Delridge Native Forest	CFT - Acquisition	\$5,618,000	\$5,618,000 total (\$500,000 annual and \$5,118,000 bond)
	CFT - SSC	\$0	\$0

Match Waiver Determination: Yes*Acquisition award: CFT annual project #1150365, CFT 2026 bond project #1148073/1150398*

The City of Seattle is seeking funding to purchase urban forest and expand public land ownership east of Delridge Way SW at SW Orchard Street. This project includes four parcels, totaling 2.97 acres, which the city hopes to acquire in fee. A broader vision with an additional two parcels may create a connected 11-acre greenspace. The purchase would expand the footprint of a Seattle Department of Transportation (SDOT) project to restore four acres of degraded forest in the Longfellow Creek watershed, carried out in partnership with the community and the Muckleshoot Indian Tribe. This project is an opportunity to preserve greenspace in a neighborhood that is rapidly transitioning to denser neighborhood development. It will both preserve a community greenspace and support Seattle's canopy preservation goal of reaching 30 percent tree cover by 2037. Longfellow Creek has documented urban runoff mortality syndrome and is the subject of a great deal of cutting-edge stormwater research; preserving the nearby forest will benefit the water quality in this salmon-bearing stream.

The applicants request a match waiver. This location is very close to being in the lowest 1/3 of census tracts for income, it is in the highest 1/3 of ZIP codes for hospitalization rates, and it is within 1/4 mile of an existing park, thus not qualifying for a match waiver under Method #1/Quantitative Method. The area is in the highest 20 percent of equity priority tracts in the city based on city analysis. The area has high percentages of limited English speakers and people of color and has many demographic and socioeconomic factors representative of a historically underserved community, such as low life expectancies and high percentages of households experiencing poverty. SDOT restoration work is implemented as a partnership with the Muckleshoot Indian Tribe, and the Muckleshoot Indian Tribe historian spoke with the committee and expressed strong support of the project. The applicants have provided support letters from the Delridge Neighborhood Development Association and the Washington Native Plant Society.

The committee determined that this project merits a match waiver based on supportive data points, the opportunity to connect and expand urban forest, and the strong partnership between Seattle and the Muckleshoot Indian Tribe in preserving and restoring this forest. This project builds on an extensive area of forest that can provide a scenic visual corridor, trails, and opportunity for nature connection in busy urban setting that is high on Seattle's equity index.

The committee recommends full funding for this project. See table above for funding recommendation details.

<i>Applicant Project Name</i>	<i>Funding Type</i>	<i>Funding Requested</i>	<i>Funding Recommended</i>
Seattle Lakeridge Park Addition	CFT - Acquisition	\$300,000	\$300,000 annual
	CFT - SSC	\$50,000	\$50,000 annual
Match Waiver Determination: Yes			
<i>Acquisition award: CFT annual project #1150366 SSC award: CFT annual project #1150426</i>			

The City of Seattle is seeking funding to purchase a property at the south side of Lakeridge Park that will create park visitor access from the south end of this almost one-mile-long park. This project includes one parcel, totaling 0.27 acres, which the city is hoping to purchase in fee. There is a significant walking distance service gap at the south end of Lakeridge Park due to the lack of access. The property, which has a tear-down house that would be demolished, can serve as a southern trailhead to the local community in south Seattle and Skyway.

The applicants request a match waiver. This location is just two percentiles above the lowest 1/3 of census tracts for income and within the highest 1/3 of ZIP codes for hospitalization rates, though it did not meet all three criteria to qualify for a match waiver under Method #1 as it adds to an existing park. However, there is no physical access to the park from the south; park visitors would have to travel one to two miles to reach the north entrance. The area has high percentages of limited English speakers and people of color and has many demographic and socioeconomic factors representative of a historically underserved community, such as low life expectancies and high percentages of households experiencing poverty. This area represents the city's highest equity priority in the Equity and Health category. The applicants have provided support letters from the Friends of Dead Horse Canyon and the Rainier Beach Community Club.

The committee determined that this project merits a match waiver based on supportive data points and the opportunity to create a southern access point to a beautiful existing park that is currently inaccessible to the Seattle and Skyway residents to the south. The community will directly benefit from the opportunity to access the forest and trails that already exist in this park.

The committee recommends full funding for this project. See table above for funding recommendation details.

<i>Applicant Project Name</i>	<i>Funding Type</i>	<i>Funding Requested</i>	<i>Funding Recommended</i>
Shoreline 192nd Hemlock Open Space Acquisition Phase 2	CFT - Acquisition	\$897,500	\$897,500 total (\$25,000 annual and \$872,500 bond)
	CFT - SSC	\$0	\$0
Match Waiver Determination: Yes (from prior round)			
<i>Acquisition award: CFT annual project #1150360, CFT 2026 bond project #1148073/1150399</i>			

The City of Shoreline seeks funding for Phase 2 of its ongoing preservation efforts at 192nd Hemlock Open Space. This phase of the project includes one parcel, totaling 0.24 acres, which the city hopes to acquire in fee. The city is seeing property consolidation and development occurring at a rapid rate, which is placing increasing pressure on local ecosystems. Conservation of mature trees and an expanded pedestrian trail could be achieved through the indicated acquisition, providing additional support for the city's urban forest/tree canopy expansion goals.

This project already was awarded match waiver in 2023. The committee determined that this project merits a match waiver based on the socioeconomic and demographic characteristics of this diverse community, and the benefits of greenspace that this site will provide to both wildlife

and to current and incoming residents in this rapidly developing area. This new award, therefore, also has a match waiver.

The committee recommends full funding for this project. See table above for funding recommendation details.

<i>Applicant Project Name</i>	<i>Funding Type</i>	<i>Funding Requested</i>	<i>Funding Recommended</i>
Shoreline Boeing Creek Open Space Expansion	CFT - Acquisition	\$241,125	\$241,125 annual
	CFT - SSC	\$0	\$0
<i>Acquisition award: CFT annual project #1150361</i>			

The City of Shoreline is seeking funding to expand the Boeing Creek Open Space. The current project includes two parcels, totaling two acres, which the city hopes to acquire in fee. The property has mature forest that supports a variety of bird and wildlife species. The family owns four parcels in total, which are zoned to potentially support more than two dozen homes; these two eastern target parcels are located primarily on steep slopes and are less developable. The city's purchase of this land would prevent the loss of this natural undeveloped land to development. Match funding is anticipated to come from donations from community members and donated value from the landowners.

The committee recommends full funding for this project. See table above for funding recommendation details.

<i>Applicant Project Name</i>	<i>Funding Type</i>	<i>Funding Requested</i>	<i>Funding Recommended</i>
Shoreline Site Stabilization Costs	CFT - Acquisition	\$0	\$0
	CFT - SSC	\$550,000	\$550,000 annual
<i>SSC award: CFT annual project #1148033⁶</i>			

The City of Shoreline requests site stabilization funds for parcels it will acquire under the Twin Ponds and 192nd Hemlock projects. This project includes three parcels, and the funds will be used to demolish the existing structures after the acquisitions are complete. The existing structures on the properties need to be demolished for public safety and to activate a public park. Match funding comes from Park Impact Fees.

The committee recommends full funding for this project. See table above for funding recommendation details.

<i>Applicant Project Name</i>	<i>Funding Type</i>	<i>Funding Requested</i>	<i>Funding Recommended</i>
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⁶ The committee approves the parcels prioritized in this new award as priorities in all recent awards to this project.

Shoreline Twin Ponds	CFT - Acquisition	\$1,484,250	\$1,484,250 total (\$25,000 annual and \$1,459,250 bond)
	CFT - SSC	\$0	\$0
<i>Acquisition award: CFT annual project #1145696, CFT 2026 bond project #1148073/1150400⁷</i>			

The City of Shoreline seeks to expand Twin Ponds Park. This project would add two parcels comprising 0.36 acres, which the city hopes to acquire in fee. The two landowners have expressed interest in selling their properties to the city. Completion of this project would continue the city's progress in expanding Twin Ponds Park for residents of high-density housing in the 148th Street light rail station area on the west side of I-5. Match funding comes from Park Impact Fees.

The committee recommends full funding for this project. See table above for funding recommendation details.

<i>Applicant Project Name</i>	<i>Funding Type</i>	<i>Funding Requested</i>	<i>Funding Recommended</i>
Skykomish Town of Skykomish - Riverfront Conservation	CFT - Acquisition	\$324,500	\$324,500 annual
	CFT - SSC	\$0	\$0
Match Waiver Determination: Yes			
<i>Acquisition award: CFT annual project #1150362</i>			

The Town of Skykomish is seeking funding to acquire open land along the South Fork Skykomish River within the Town of Skykomish. This project includes one parcel totaling 0.64 acres, which the town hopes to purchase in fee. Once the site of the Sky River Inn, this land is now vacant and is part of the critical headwaters of the Snohomish River basin for the recovery of Endangered Species Act (ESA)-listed Chinook salmon, and other salmonids, including steelhead, bull trout, and chum salmon. This is a time-sensitive, once-in-a-lifetime opportunity to retain this land as both an urban passive-use natural area and an open space area for the enjoyment of residents and visitors alike.

The applicants request a match waiver. The census tract that includes the town is vast, spanning from the county line all the way to the eastern edges of Snoqualmie and North Bend; thus, the census tract data does not reflect the town characteristics. When data from the town is isolated and ranked against county census tracts, the town is in the third percentile for income and the 100th percentile for population with disabilities. The residents of Skykomish possess demonstrated hardships that relate directly to King County's listed Determinants of Equity, including lack of access to affordable, healthy, local food; lack of access to health and human services; and several other socio-economic vulnerabilities that place a hardship on the community. In addition, Skykomish is a community that has previously been impacted from industrial contamination (former Burlington Northern fuel depot) and whose residents continue to experience impacts to health outcomes from wildfire (which affects air quality, among other

⁷ The committee approves the parcels prioritized in this new award as priorities in all recent awards to this project.

detrimental impacts), flooding, and winter storms (the latter two of which greatly affect availability of power). The applicants have provided support letters from Skykomish Artworks and the Skykomish Food Bank.

The committee determined that this project merits a match waiver based on supportive data points and the unique opportunity to create a transformational community park on the riverfront. This small town may not otherwise be able to create this park, and the match waiver helps ensure this community can be served with a gathering space.

The committee recommends full funding for this project. See table above for funding recommendation details.

<i>Applicant Project Name</i>	<i>Funding Type</i>	<i>Funding Requested</i>	<i>Funding Recommended</i>
Snoqualmie Snoqualmie Riverfront Reach – SSC Request	CFT - Acquisition	\$0	\$0
	CFT - SSC	\$108,750	\$108,750 annual
<i>SSC award: CFT annual project #1150427</i>			

The City of Snoqualmie requests site stabilization funds for upcoming acquisitions funded the Snoqualmie Riverfront Reach Conservation Futures acquisition project. The primary parcel is anticipated to be purchased May 2025, with one more parcel that may close later this year and other potential acquisitions in the scope. This funding would pay for the demolition as well as site stabilization on one or more parcels. Match funding comes from city funds and/or Flood Control District.

The committee recommends full funding for this project. See table above for funding recommendation details.

<i>Applicant Project Name</i>	<i>Funding Type</i>	<i>Funding Requested</i>	<i>Funding Recommended</i>
Tacoma Water Tacoma Water Abston Acquisition 2026	CFT - Acquisition	\$150,000	\$150,000 annual
	CFT - SSC	\$0	\$0
<i>Acquisition award: CFT annual project #1150363</i>			

Tacoma Water is requesting funding to acquire property within the regionally significant Upper Green River Watershed, which provides clean drinking water to over 600,000 residents in King and Pierce Counties. This project includes four parcels, totaling 80 acres, which Tacoma Water hopes to acquire in fee. Properties are surrounded by lands owned by public agencies or subject to public agency conservation easements. This forested land will be protected, managed, and restored by Tacoma Water Environmental Stewardship staff. Completion of this project will help ensure the protection of water quality for the residents who rely on it for their drinking water and provide an ecological benefit to the area. Match funding comes from the Tacoma Water budget.

The committee recommends full funding for this project. See table above for funding recommendation details.

<i>Applicant Project Name</i>	<i>Funding Type</i>	<i>Funding Requested</i>	<i>Funding Recommended</i>
Tukwila and Forterra NW Duwamish Hill Preserve Addition #3 (2026)	CFT - Acquisition	\$348,520	\$348,520 annual
	CFT - SSC	\$0	\$0
Match Waiver Determination: Yes (from prior round)			
<i>Acquisition award: CFT annual project #1145703⁸</i>			

The City of Tukwila, in partnership with Forterra NW, seeks funding to expand the Duwamish Hill Preserve, a 10.5-acre park owned by the city. This project includes two parcels, totaling 0.29 acres, which the city hopes to acquire in fee. The targeted parcels are currently vacant with significant invasive vegetation cover. The acquisition would serve to protect from potential development near the Preserve gateway; buffer the Preserve from adjacent residential uses; and allow for the pursuit of Phase III of the Preserve Master Plan, likely including expansion of the gateway area, re-alignment of S 115th Street, and restoration and native vegetation re-establishment representative of historic site conditions.

This project already was awarded match waiver with the initial 2021 award. This culturally significant site has a strong history of community and Tribal interest and support. Helping complete this preserve expands open space opportunities for the local community deserving of a match waiver. This new award, therefore, also has a match waiver.

The committee recommends full funding for this project. See table above for funding recommendation details.

⁸ The committee approves the parcels prioritized in this new award as priorities in all recent awards to this project.

FUNDING RECOMMENDATIONS FOR PROJECTS SPONSORED BY NONPROFITS

- *Projects are organized in alphabetical order by the name of the applicant.*
- *If multiple applications have been submitted by an applicant, projects are listed in alphabetical order by project name.*

<i>Applicant Project Name</i>	<i>Funding Type</i>	<i>Funding Requested</i>	<i>Funding Recommended</i>
Black Farmers Collective Land Back	CFT - Acquisition	\$2,474,000	\$2,474,000 annual
	CFT - SSC	\$30,000	\$30,000 annual
Match Waiver Determination: Yes			
<i>Acquisition award: CFT annual project #1150367</i> <i>SSC award: CFT annual project #1150428</i>			

Black Farmers Collective seeks funding to expand farmland available to Black, Indigenous, and people of color farmers that will deliver fresh, healthy foods to all consumers while providing a livable wage to the farmers who bring and grow local food. This project is looking for a 40- to 50-acre property with good soil and access to water. This new property will provide larger plots for farmers who want to expand their business, along with equipment sharing, technical assistance to farmers as they expand, and access to an already well-established food distribution network that brings healthy produce to low-income families in King County. Black Farmers Collective will be able to offer leases so the individual farmers can access farm support resources from sources such as the U.S. Department of Agriculture and others that are currently unavailable to them. This expanded farm would include educational workshops for the public at large on the local food system, bringing school children and community members to our farms for hands-on learning about their food systems and to experience connections to land and their food sources.

The applicants request a match waiver based on their mission and community impact. Black Farmers Collective is working towards reversing centuries of discrimination and violence that have kept farmers of color off the land, making farm ownership impossible. The nonprofit is building a community that collectively provides vital social support, facilitates knowledge sharing, collaborates on problem-solving, and navigates challenges related to weather, market fluctuations, and labor need — ultimately enhancing resilience and success in a demanding agricultural environment. The applicants have provided support letters from the Rainier Beach Action Coalition and Byrd Barr Place.

The committee determined this project would merit a match waiver because of the transformational vision and impact on the community served. The project will ensure long-term land access and food production opportunities for Black, Indigenous, and people of color farmers, expanding the impact of this nonprofit that is already a leader in this arena.

The committee recommends full funding for this project. See table above for funding recommendation details.

<i>Applicant Project Name</i>	<i>Funding Type</i>	<i>Funding Requested</i>	<i>Funding Recommended</i>
Forterra NW Rockdale 2025	CFT - Acquisition	\$855,625	\$855,625 annual
	CFT - SSC	\$0	\$0
<i>Acquisition award: CFT annual project #1149056⁹</i>			

Forterra NW is seeking funding to conserve the Rockdale Property in the Central Cascades within the Mountains to Sound Greenway Natural Heritage Area. This project includes five parcels, totaling 106.67 acres, which Forterra NW hopes to acquire in fee. The Rockdale Property represents a critical private inholding in the Mt. Baker-Snoqualmie National Forest that is contiguous with properties owned and managed the U.S. Forest Service, including the Denny Creek Forest Service Campground to the northeast and the Asahel Curtis Old Growth Grove to the west. Additionally, the southern parcel abuts the Palouse to Cascades State Park Trail, a long-distance recreation trail managed by Washington State Parks. Match funding is anticipated to come from the landowner donation of value, with a possibility of cash match as well.

The committee recommends full funding for this project. See table above for funding recommendation details.

<i>Applicant Project Name</i>	<i>Funding Type</i>	<i>Funding Requested</i>	<i>Funding Recommended</i>
Modest Family Solutions Agroecology Growth and Resilience Opportunity Urban Project - Agro.Up Farm	CFT - Acquisition	\$2,000,000	\$2,000,000 annual
	CFT - SSC	\$30,000	\$30,000 annual
Match Waiver Determination: Yes			
<i>Acquisition award: CFT annual project #1150368 SSC award: CFT annual project #1150429</i>			

Modest Family Solutions is seeking to acquire land within north King County for its Agroecology Growth and Resilient Opportunities in Urban Farming Program, Agro.Up Farms. The farm is anticipated to be three to 10 acres. This land will be used to grow a rich variety of crops, including heirloom vegetables, native fruits, and medicinal herbs, as well as for animal husbandry, with a focus on chickens and goats. The farm will be divided into plots, available to Black, Indigenous, and people of color farmers through rental or collaborative management agreements, which aligns with the group's mission of fostering community-supported agroecology, empowering historically underserved groups to actively participate in sustainable agriculture.

The applicants request a match waiver. Agro.Up Farms provides a comprehensive solution to the challenges faced by historically underserved communities in King County. By offering access to land, sustainable farming education, and healthy foods, Agro.Up empowers marginalized groups,

⁹ The scope of this new award is linked to the scopes of other recent awards to this project, including: CFT 2022 bond project #1139013/1141733. The committee approves the parcels prioritized in this new award as priorities in all recent awards to this project.

fosters community resilience, and creates a more equitable and sustainable food system. Agro.Up Farms works with the community directly by working with King County families who travel to their Black Seed Agroecology Farm and Village on Whidbey Island. The applicants have provided support letters from Washington Farmland Trust and Workforce Snohomish.

The committee determined this project would merit a match waiver as it creates a local, dynamic community hub for food production, food access, and educational opportunities for people of color, as well as the broader community. This nonprofit has played a significant role in addressing food insecurity communities in need, including food distribution and providing halal meat. While based farther north in Snohomish and Island Counties, a King County location will improve access to the community that lives in the Seattle area.

The committee recommends full funding for this project. See table above for funding recommendation details.

<i>Applicant Project Name</i>	<i>Funding Type</i>	<i>Funding Requested</i>	<i>Funding Recommended</i>
Vashon-Maury Island Land Trust Vashon Creeks and Estuaries – Vashon Land Trust	CFT - Acquisition	\$79,500	\$79,500 annual
	CFT - SSC	\$0	\$0
<i>Acquisition award: CFT annual project #1150369</i>			

This project, which is in partnership with King County, continues to preserve key stream corridors on Vashon Island, from upland headwaters through regionally significant estuaries at Puget Sound. The focus of the current proposal is to acquire two parcels in fee, totaling 14.86 acres. These acquisitions will preserve 700 feet of the main stem of Tahlequah Creek (including the entire riparian zone) immediately upstream of the existing Tahlequah Creek Preserve, adding 15 acres to this fledgling 30-acre preserve. Tahlequah Creek is large for Vashon, ranking about fourth in water volume. The ravine and creek provide movement corridors for otters, deer, coyotes, and sea-run cutthroat trout. Match funding is anticipated to come from private donations.

The committee recommends full funding for this project. See table above for funding recommendation details.

<i>Applicant Project Name</i>	<i>Funding Type</i>	<i>Funding Requested</i>	<i>Funding Recommended</i>
Vashon-Maury Island Land Trust Vashon Marine Shorelines – Vashon Land Trust	CFT - Acquisition	\$187,500	\$187,500 annual
	CFT - SSC	\$33,000	\$33,000 annual
<i>Acquisition award: CFT annual project #1150370</i> <i>SSC award: CFT annual project #1150430</i>			

This project, which is in partnership with King County, seeks to preserve key reaches of marine shoreline on Vashon-Maury Island, preserving regionally important shorelines and feeder bluffs and enabling restoration of habitat processes for the health of salmonids and marine and terrestrial wildlife. This year's focus includes five parcels, totaling 50.62 acres, which the Land Trust hopes to acquire in fee (King County would purchase the conservation easements). This third-of-a-mile of unarmored marine shoreline provides spawning habitat for all three of Puget Sound's primary forage fish and critical foraging habitat for juvenile Chinook salmon. Keeping this forest intact also helps to preserve aquifer infiltration and thus drinking water supplies for the two water systems that serve north Maury. Match funding is anticipated to come from private donations.

The committee recommends full funding for this project. See table above for funding recommendation details.

FUNDING RECOMMENDATIONS FOR PROJECTS SPONSORED BY KING COUNTY

- *Projects are organized in the following geographic location/program order. Within each location/program, projects are listed alphabetically:*
WRIA 7 (Snoqualmie watershed) – WRIA 8 (Cedar/Lake Washington watershed) – WRIA 9 (Green River watershed) – WRIA 10 (White River watershed) – Vashon – Other.
- *Several scope changes are noted below to relate the scopes of recent and current awards.*
- *At the end are several stand-alone scope additions not associated with a current award.*
- *The format of 2026 bond project numbers is parent project #1148017/subproject #[unique number].*

<i>Applicant – Location Project Name</i>	<i>Funding Type</i>	<i>Funding Requested</i>	<i>Funding Recommended</i>
KC - WRIA 7 Boxley Creek	CFT - Acquisition	\$3,033,750	\$750,000 annual
	PL - Acquisition	\$1,011,250	\$250,000
	Total - Acquisition	\$4,045,000	\$1,000,000
	CFT - SSC	\$0	\$0
<i>Acquisition award: CFT annual project #1150372, PL #1145903¹⁰</i>			

This project seeks to acquire property adjacent to the Boxley Creek Natural Area, which also buffers both sides of the Snoqualmie Valley Regional Trail (SVT). This project includes nine parcels, totaling 51 acres, which the County hopes to acquire in fee. This acquisition protects upland forests and priority species such as resident coastal cutthroat and cutthroat migration in Boxley Creek, and protects the scenic experience along the SVT. These parcels will also improve the potential for the future community trail connection. Match funding comes from the recommended Parks Levy award.

The committee recommends partial funding for this project. The recommended award is consistent with the applicant's partial funding suggestion based on updated property valuation; combined with funds in hand, it should represent all the funding needed to complete the property purchase. See table above for funding recommendation details.

SCOPE CHANGES

In January 2025, the committee approved a scope addition to add parcels 2623089150 and 3223099013 to the scope of the Boxley Creek project. The first parcel is adjacent to and similar in character to the original project scope, and the second is an inholding within nearby public lands that King County is working to protect in partnership with the Washington State Department of Natural Resources.

<i>Applicant – Location Project Name</i>	<i>Funding Type</i>	<i>Funding Requested</i>	<i>Funding Recommended</i>
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¹⁰ The scope of this new award is linked to the scopes of other recent awards to this project, including: CFT 2024 bond project #1143799/1146197. The committee approves the parcels prioritized in this new award as priorities in all recent awards to this project.

KC - WRIA 7 Griffin Creek	CFT - Acquisition	\$350,000	\$350,000 annual
	PL - Acquisition	\$0	\$0
	Total - Acquisition	\$350,000	\$350,000
	CFT - SSC	\$0	\$0
<i>Acquisition award: CFT annual project #1145704¹¹</i>			

King County continues a long-term effort to increase salmon habitat connectivity between the headwaters of Griffin Creek Natural Area in the Snoqualmie Forest and the confluence of Griffin Creek with the Snoqualmie River in the Snoqualmie Agricultural Production District. The focus of the current request is to acquire portions of two parcels in fee, totaling 2.6 acres of creekfront property. Regionally significant Griffin Creek produces more coho salmon than any other creek in the Snoqualmie River basin; the creek was a focus of the Waterways 2000 land conservation program targeting some of the most significant habitat opportunities in the county. Match funding comes from the 2025 reallocation of Parks Levy funds to be adopted summer 2025.

The committee recommends full funding for this project. See table above for funding recommendation details.

<i>Applicant – Location Project Name</i>	<i>Funding Type</i>	<i>Funding Requested</i>	<i>Funding Recommended</i>
KC - WRIA 7 Lake Alice Forest – Phase 2	CFT - Acquisition	\$1,396,500	\$393,750 annual
	PL - Acquisition	\$465,500	\$131,250
	Total - Acquisition	\$1,862,000	\$525,000
	CFT - SSC	\$0	\$0
<i>Acquisition award: CFT annual project #1148001, PL project #1147995¹²</i>			

King County is seeking funding to acquire undeveloped upland forest east of the Raging River and along the Preston Snoqualmie Regional Trail. This year's acquisition target includes eight parcels, totaling 49 acres, which the County hopes to acquire in fee. These acquisitions would protect these mature forested parcels from being cut and provide potential low-density passive recreational opportunities directly accessible to the Lake Alice and Snoqualmie communities, with an existing regional trail corridor and trailhead-adjacent property. Acquisition would conserve important large tracts of forest that protect tributaries feeding into the Raging River and allow options for future reconfiguring of problematic sections of the Preston-Snoqualmie Regional Trail. Match funding comes from the recommended Parks Levy award.

The committee recommends partial funding for this project. The recommended award is scaled proportionate to the funding needed to purchase one parcel and based on applicant guidance for prioritization; funding from recent awards may allow additional purchases to occur. See table above for funding recommendation details.

¹¹ The scope of this new award is linked to the scopes of other recent awards to this project, including: CFT 2020 bond project #1134923/1149061, CFT 2022 bond project #1139013/1149062, CFT 2023 bond project #1141757/1149063, and PL project #1121451. The committee approves the parcels prioritized in this new award as priorities in all recent awards to this project.

¹² The scope of this new award is linked to the scopes of other recent awards to this project, including: CFT 2025 bond project #1146210/1148058. The committee approves the parcels prioritized in this new award as priorities in all recent awards to this project.

<i>Applicant – Location Project Name</i>	<i>Funding Type</i>	<i>Funding Requested</i>	<i>Funding Recommended</i>
KC - WRIA 7 Middle Fork Snoqualmie Natural Area In-Holdings	CFT - Acquisition	\$1,983,750	\$1,983,750 annual
	PL - Acquisition	\$661,250	\$661,250
	Total - Acquisition	\$2,645,000	\$2,645,000
	CFT - SSC	\$0	\$0
<i>Acquisition award: CFT annual project #1150373, PL project #1150412</i>			

King County is seeking funding to acquire properties within the regionally significant Middle Fork Snoqualmie Natural Area, including parcels adjacent to the Middle Fork Snoqualmie River as well as higher-elevation inholdings. There are 12 parcels included in this project, totaling 200 acres, which the County hopes to acquire in a combination of fee and easement. This is a high-priority acquisition for King County, the Washington State Department of Natural Resources, and conservation organizations, such as the Mountains to Sound Greenway Trust, the Middle Fork Outdoor Recreation Coalition, and the Alpine Lakes Protection Society. This would protect portions of two alpine lakes and the headwaters of Granite Creek and secure recreational access for popular backcountry trails, protecting them from private resource extraction. Match funding comes from the recommended Parks Levy award.

The committee recommends full funding for this project. See table above for funding recommendation details.

<i>Applicant – Location Project Name</i>	<i>Funding Type</i>	<i>Funding Requested</i>	<i>Funding Recommended</i>
KC - WRIA 7 Patterson Creek Natural Area	CFT - Acquisition	\$3,918,225	\$2,799,900 total (\$1,500,000 annual and \$1,299,900 bond)
	PL - Acquisition	\$1,306,075	\$933,300
	Total - Acquisition	\$5,224,300	\$3,733,200
	CFT - SSC	\$0	\$0
<i>Acquisition award: CFT annual project #1150374, CFT 2026 bond project #1148073/1150401, PL project #1044755¹³</i>			

King County is seeking funding to acquire property along Patterson Creek to protect riparian and wetland forests within the creek's corridor. The project includes seven parcels, totaling 67 acres, which the County hopes to acquire primarily in fee, with one parcel protected by an easement. Together, these acquisitions will safeguard regionally significant salmon spawning and rearing habitat and provide opportunities to restore healthy floodplain forests currently overtaken by invasive plants. The Patterson Creek corridor is near the fast-growing cities of Sammamish and Redmond. County purchase would reduce the risk of further development that is imminent without conservation. Match funding comes from the recommended Parks Levy award.

¹³ The scope of this new award is linked to the scopes of other recent awards to this project, including: CFT annual project #1113919 and CFT 2020 bond #1134923/1136992. The committee approves the parcels prioritized in this new award as priorities in all recent awards to this project.

The committee recommends partial funding for this project. The recommended award is consistent with the applicant's partial funding suggestion if the project could not be fully funded. Annual CFT funding is provided for properties that may require surplus. See table above for funding recommendation details.

<i>Applicant – Location Project Name</i>	<i>Funding Type</i>	<i>Funding Requested</i>	<i>Funding Recommended</i>
KC - WRIA 7 Rattlesnake Mountain Scenic Area and Tollgate Farm Additions	CFT - Acquisition	\$1,576,875	\$1,576,875 total (\$500,000 annual and \$1,076,875 bond)
	PL - Acquisition	\$525,625	\$525,625
	Total - Acquisition	\$2,102,500	\$2,102,500
	CFT - SSC	\$0	\$0
<i>Acquisition award: CFT annual project #1148002, CFT 2026 bond project #1148073/1150402, PL project #1147996¹⁴</i>			

King County seeks to protect undeveloped forest land adjacent to the regionally significant Rattlesnake Mountain Scenic Area and Tollgate Farm. The property adjacent to the Rattlesnake Mountain Scenic Area includes one five-acre parcel to be acquired in fee, and three parcels, totaling 167 acres, to be protected in easement. The property adjacent to Tollgate Farm includes four parcels, totaling 52 acres, to be acquired in fee. The target properties have mature second-growth forests, perennial riparian habitats, riparian wildlife corridors and significant benefits for water quality. It protects important wildlife habitat, public access opportunities and scenic resources in the Mountains to Sound Greenway. Match funding comes from the recommended Parks Levy award.

The committee recommends full funding for this project. See table above for funding recommendation details.

<i>Applicant – Location Project Name</i>	<i>Funding Type</i>	<i>Funding Requested</i>	<i>Funding Recommended</i>
KC - WRIA 7 Ring Hill Forest Additions	CFT - Acquisition	\$742,500	\$742,500 total (\$25,000 annual and \$717,500 bond)
	PL - Acquisition	\$247,500	\$247,500
	Total - Acquisition	\$990,000	\$990,000
	CFT - SSC	\$0	\$0
<i>Acquisition award: CFT annual project #1150375, CFT 2026 bond project #1148073/1150403, PL project #1150413</i>			

King County is seeking funding to acquire vacant upland forested property adjacent to the north end of Ring Hill Forest. This project includes one parcel, totaling 39 acres, which the County hopes to acquire in fee. Tuck Creek, a fish-bearing stream that flows into the Snoqualmie River, is located along portions of the target parcel. Acquiring this property would conserve additional upland forest, protect stream habitat, and allow consideration for planning and activation of a

¹⁴ The committee approves the parcels prioritized in this new award as priorities in all recent awards to this project.

backcountry trail, connecting to the existing Ring Hill Forest trail network to the south. Match funding comes from the recommended Parks Levy award.

The committee recommends full funding for this project. See table above for funding recommendation details.

<i>Applicant – Location Project Name</i>	<i>Funding Type</i>	<i>Funding Requested</i>	<i>Funding Recommended</i>
KC - WRIA 7 South Fork Skykomish	CFT - Acquisition	\$375,000	\$375,000 annual
	PL - Acquisition	\$125,000	\$125,000
	Total - Acquisition	\$500,000	\$500,000
	CFT - SSC	\$0	\$0
<i>Acquisition award: CFT annual project #1148005, PL project #1148012¹⁵</i>			

King County continues work to improve water and habitat quality in the South Fork Skykomish watershed, which is regionally significant salmon habitat. This project includes eight parcels, totaling 55 acres, which the County hopes to acquire in fee. These parcels become part of the Lower Miller River floodplain restoration project footprint, which will improve floodplain function and allow for habitat-forming processes and function to take place at the headwaters of the Snohomish basin. Protecting this sub-basin is important because it is critical to the recovery of listed salmonids in the basin, per the Snohomish Salmon Conservation Plan. Match funding comes from the recommended Parks Levy award.

The committee recommends full funding for this project. See table above for funding recommendation details.

SCOPE CHANGES

During the spring 2025 grant round, the committee approved a scope addition to add parcel 2726119067 to the scope of the South Fork Skykomish project. The parcel is adjacent to and owned by the same landowner as parcel 2826119006 in the project scope; the landowner would likely only sell both parcels together in fee.

<i>Applicant – Location Project Name</i>	<i>Funding Type</i>	<i>Funding Requested</i>	<i>Funding Recommended</i>
KC - WRIA 7 Stillwater Natural Area	CFT - Acquisition	\$525,000	\$525,000 annual
	PL - Acquisition	\$175,000	\$175,000
	Total - Acquisition	\$700,000	\$700,000
	CFT - SSC	\$0	\$0
<i>Acquisition award: CFT annual project #1150376, PL project #1150414</i>			

King County aims to conserve property within the Snoqualmie River floodplain as part of King County's Stillwater Natural Area. This project includes one parcel, totaling approximately 18

¹⁵ The scope of this new award is linked to the scopes of other recent awards to this project, including: CFT annual project #1145710 and PL project #1145909. The committee approves the parcels prioritized in this new award as priorities in all recent awards to this project.

acres, which the County hopes to acquire in fee. This part of the Snoqualmie Valley is a priority for salmon habitat restoration because it is just downstream of the Tolt River, where spawning and rearing potential for endangered Chinook salmon is very high. The proposed addition spans the Harris Creek alluvial fan and Snoqualmie River floodplain, providing essential rearing habitat for many species of salmon. The County may work with the landowner to exclude a historic barn from the purchase and/or surplus the structure. Match funding comes from the recommended Parks Levy award.

The committee recommends full funding for this project. See table above for funding recommendation details.

<i>Applicant – Location Project Name</i>	<i>Funding Type</i>	<i>Funding Requested</i>	<i>Funding Recommended</i>
KC - WRIA 7 Three Forks Natural Area Additions	CFT - Acquisition	\$2,910,000	\$1,927,125 annual
	PL - Acquisition	\$1,110,000	\$782,375
	Total - Acquisition	\$4,020,000	\$2,709,500
	CFT - SSC	\$0	\$0
<i>Acquisition award: CFT annual project #1150377, PL project #1150415¹⁶</i>			

King County is seeking funding to preserve property north of the Three Forks Parks Natural Area and adjacent to the Washington State Department of Natural Resources (WA DNR) Mount Si Natural Resources Conservation Area. This project includes four parcels, totaling 112 acres, which the County hopes to acquire via a conservation easement. This effort will conserve larger tracts of forestlands from being subdivided and converted for development. This project seeks to, once again, partner with WA DNR to protect critical habitat near Mount Si; WA DNR is committed to acquiring the underlying fee and King County will acquire the easement. Match funding comes from the recommended Parks Levy award. The Parks Levy request includes an additional \$140,000 more than the 2026 CFT match obligation to match older CFT dollars that require a 50 percent match.

The committee recommends partial funding for this project. The recommended award is consistent with the applicant's partial funding suggestion based on updated property valuation; combined with funds in hand, it should represent all the funding needed to complete the property purchase. The award includes the requested extra Parks Levy to fulfill the match on the older CFT award. See table above for funding recommendation details.

SCOPE CHANGES

In January 2025, the committee approved a scope addition to add parcels 5702500235, 5702500240, 5702500245, 5702500250, and 5702500255 to the scope of the Three Forks Natural Area project. This scope addition is adjacent to and similar in character to the initial project targets.

¹⁶ The scope of this new award is linked to the scopes of other recent awards to this project, including: CFT annual project #1133813. The committee approves the parcels prioritized in this new award as priorities in all recent awards to this project.

<i>Applicant – Location Project Name</i>	<i>Funding Type</i>	<i>Funding Requested</i>	<i>Funding Recommended</i>
KC - WRIA 7 Tolt River Natural Area	CFT - Acquisition	\$421,500	\$421,500 annual
	PL - Acquisition	\$140,500	\$140,500
	Total - Acquisition	\$562,000	\$562,000
	CFT - SSC	\$0	\$0
<i>Acquisition award: CFT annual project #1150378, PL project #1044916¹⁷</i>			

The aim of this project is to purchase high-quality riparian and floodplain habitat along the lower Tolt River, a regionally significant priority reach in the Snohomish River Basin Salmon Conservation Plan. This project includes two parcels, totaling 60 acres, which the County hopes to acquire in fee. The target properties are sited on the left bank of the Tolt River, three miles upstream from the confluence with the Snoqualmie River, and include over 700 feet of the Tolt River shoreline and an upland forest that is recovering from timber production. This acquisition would fill important inholdings in the Tolt River Natural Area and is adjacent to existing Tolt River Natural Area properties. Match funding comes from the recommended Parks Levy award.

The committee recommends full funding for this project. See table above for funding recommendation details.

<i>Applicant – Location Project Name</i>	<i>Funding Type</i>	<i>Funding Requested</i>	<i>Funding Recommended</i>
KC - WRIA 7 Union Hill Forest – Phase 3	CFT - Acquisition	\$8,481,480	\$8,481,480 total (\$25,000 annual and \$8,456,480 bond)
	PL - Acquisition	\$2,827,160	\$2,827,160
	Total - Acquisition	\$11,308,640	\$11,308,640
	CFT - SSC	\$0	\$0
<i>Acquisition award: CFT annual project #1145709, CFT 2026 bond project #1148073/1150404, PL project #1145907¹⁸</i>			

This project is the third and final request in a multiyear, regionally significant vision to preserve up to 300 acres of forest in the Ames Lake/Union Hill Road area northeast of Sammamish. This phase of the project includes six parcels, totaling 127 acres, which the County hopes to acquire in fee. These parcels, which are located west of Ames Lake and north of Union Hill Road, give the County a rare chance to acquire a large contiguous block of undeveloped forest lands that are at risk for development. This large site will offer trail and public access opportunities. These diverse younger and mature forest stands contain wetlands that provide upland watershed protection, significant connected acreage for habitat, and stream protection for tributaries flowing into Ames Creek, improving fish habitat in the Snoqualmie River. Match funding comes from the recommended Parks Levy award.

¹⁷ The scope of this new award is linked to the scopes of other recent awards to this project, including: CFT annual project #1145447, CFT 2022 bond project #1139013/1141735, and CFT annual project #1145447. The committee approves the parcels prioritized in this new award as priorities in all recent awards to this project.

¹⁸ The committee approves the parcels prioritized in this new award as priorities in all recent awards to this project.

The committee recommends full funding for this project. See table above for funding recommendation details.

<i>Applicant – Location Project Name</i>	<i>Funding Type</i>	<i>Funding Requested</i>	<i>Funding Recommended</i>
KC - WRIA 7 Upper Snoqualmie Conservation	CFT - Acquisition	\$2,021,250	\$1,447,500 annual
	PL - Acquisition	\$673,750	\$482,500
	Total - Acquisition	\$2,695,000	\$1,930,000
	CFT - SSC	\$0	\$0
<i>Acquisition award: CFT annual project #1148007, PL project #1148037¹⁹</i>			

King County is seeking to protect property in the Upper Snoqualmie watershed, which serves as regionally significant headwaters for salmon recovery in the Snohomish Basin. This project includes five parcels, totaling 116 acres, which the County hopes to acquire in a combination of fee and easement. Protection of natural assets here contributes to critical instream flows in downstream habitat that supports threatened and endangered salmonid species. The parcel on Kimball Creek will extend creek protections and an active riparian restoration project, which is ongoing with the Snoqualmie Indian Tribe as part of their resilience corridor planning in the Upper Snoqualmie watershed. Match funding comes from the recommended Parks Levy award.

The committee recommends partial funding for this project. The recommended award is consistent with the applicant's partial funding suggestion if the project could not be fully funded. See table above for funding recommendation details.

SCOPE CHANGES

In January 2025, the committee approved a scope addition to add parcel 7606200335 to the scope of the Upper Snoqualmie project. This parcel is adjacent to targets added to scope in the fall 2024 Project Progress Review.

<i>Applicant – Location Project Name</i>	<i>Funding Type</i>	<i>Funding Requested</i>	<i>Funding Recommended</i>
KC - WRIA 8 Bear Creek Conservation	CFT - Acquisition	\$1,059,000	\$375,000 annual
	PL - Acquisition	\$353,000	\$125,000
	Total - Acquisition	\$1,412,000	\$500,000
	CFT - SSC	\$0	\$0
<i>Acquisition award: CFT annual project #1145711, PL project #1044590²⁰</i>			

King County continues decades of conservation work in the Bear Creek watershed to fill gaps in public ownership and provide open space connectivity along Bear Creek and its tributaries, which represent regionally significant salmonid habitat. This year's focus includes three parcels, totaling 29 acres, which the County hopes to acquire either in fee or easement. The two larger parcels are immediately adjacent to an existing riparian restoration project and would extend the

¹⁹ The scope of this new award is linked to the scopes of other recent awards to this project, including: CFT annual project #1145710, CFT 2025 bond project #1146210/1148060, and PL project #1145909. The committee approves the parcels prioritized in this new award as priorities in all recent awards to this project.

²⁰ The committee approves the parcels prioritized in this new award as priorities in all recent awards to this project.

opportunity to restore more fully in that reach. The smaller parcel is on Cottage Lake and would protect the lake from further development. Bear Creek is on the Clean Water Act Section 303(d) list of polluted water bodies and is subject to a Total Maximum Daily Load (TMDL) water quality improvement project for fecal coliform bacteria, dissolved oxygen, and water quality. Match funding comes from the recommended Parks Levy award.

The committee recommends partial funding for this project. The recommended award is consistent with the applicant's partial funding suggestion; combined with funds in hand, it should represent all the funding needed to complete the property purchase. See table above for funding recommendation details.

SCOPE CHANGES

In January 2025, the committee approved a scope addition to add parcels 1630700185, 1630700180, 1630700276, and 1630700268 to the scope of the project. These parcels are part of the Daniels Creek corridor connecting Cold Creek Natural Area to Cottage Lake.

<i>Applicant – Location Project Name</i>	<i>Funding Type</i>	<i>Funding Requested</i>	<i>Funding Recommended</i>
KC - WRIA 8 Cougar Mountain Additions	CFT - Acquisition	\$2,051,250	\$1,091,250 total (\$500,000 annual and \$591,250 bond)
	PL - Acquisition	\$683,750	\$363,750
	Total - Acquisition	\$2,735,000	\$1,455,000
	CFT - SSC	\$0	\$0
<i>Acquisition award: CFT annual project #1145718, CFT 2026 bond project #1148073/1150405, PL project #1044596²¹</i>			

King County seeks to protect forested land that would expand the regionally significant Cougar Mountain Regional Wildland Park along its northeast and southwest boundaries. This year's focus includes four parcels, totaling 33 acres, which the County hopes to acquire in fee. These acquisitions would protect these forested parcels from being developed and provide passive recreational opportunities in Cougar Mountain Regional Wildland Park and in the Mountains to Sound Greenway, a National Heritage Area. The targeted parcels have been a high acquisition priority for King County for many years. New acquisitions would conserve important forested properties adjacent to public lands and allow for potential sustainable backcountry trail connections from King County's new Big Tree Trailhead adjacent to Issaquah. Match funding comes from the recommended Parks Levy award.

The committee recommends partial funding for this project. The recommended award is consistent with the applicant's partial funding suggestion if the project could not be fully funded. See table above for funding recommendation details.

²¹ The scope of this new award is linked to the scopes of other recent awards to this project, including: CFT 2025 bond project #1146210/1148063. The committee approves the parcels prioritized in this new award as priorities in all recent awards to this project.

<i>Applicant – Location Project Name</i>	<i>Funding Type</i>	<i>Funding Requested</i>	<i>Funding Recommended</i>
KC - WRIA 8 East Fork Issaquah Creek Restoration	CFT - Acquisition	\$693,750	\$693,750 annual
	PL - Acquisition	\$231,250	\$231,250
	Total - Acquisition	\$925,000	\$925,000
	CFT - SSC	\$0	\$0
<i>Acquisition award: CFT annual project #1145719, PL project #1141650²²</i>			

King County continues ongoing efforts to conserve land on the East Fork of Issaquah Creek, along the Issaquah-Preston Regional Trail between High Point and Preston. This year's focus includes one parcel, totaling 3.23 acres, which the County hopes to acquire in fee. This conservation effort is accompanied by a floodplain restoration feasibility study of the reach to assess potential habitat restoration project opportunities benefitting Chinook salmon, in addition to complementing King County Parks' Gateway to the Cascades proposal by connecting streamside protections with upland mature forest. The project area is adjacent to a King County fish passage project on High Point Way/270th Avenue SE, where plans to fully restore fish passage are underway and expected to be completed by 2029. Match funding comes from the recommended Parks Levy award.

The committee recommends full funding for this project. See table above for funding recommendation details.

<i>Applicant – Location Project Name</i>	<i>Funding Type</i>	<i>Funding Requested</i>	<i>Funding Recommended</i>
KC - WRIA 8 Lake Youngs Trailhead	CFT - Acquisition	\$0	\$0
	PL - Acquisition	\$500,000	\$500,000
	Total - Acquisition	\$500,000	\$500,000
	CFT - SSC	\$0	\$0
<i>Acquisition award: PL project #1150416</i>			

King County is seeking funding to acquire a property that is adjacent to the Lake Youngs Trail and across the street from Petrovitsky Park, which currently has an informal trailhead and restroom that is maintained by Parks. This project includes 7.2 acres to be acquired in fee, consisting of one parcel in its entirety and a portion of a second parcel, which will undergo a boundary line adjustment. The Department of Local Services conducted a community engagement process within Community Service Areas (CSA); off-leash dog parks were identified as a needed amenity in many CSAs, particularly in west King County. This property could be used for this needed recreation and is set up well for that purpose, with adjacent parking and separation from any playgrounds or ballfields. This project is only requesting Parks Levy funding to have flexibility for more intensive development than allowed under CFT.

The committee recommends full funding for this project. See table above for funding recommendation details.

²² The scope of this new award is linked to the scopes of other recent awards to this project, including: CFT 2025 bond project #1146210/1148065. The committee approves the parcels prioritized in this new award as priorities in all recent awards to this project.

<i>Applicant – Location Project Name</i>	<i>Funding Type</i>	<i>Funding Requested</i>	<i>Funding Recommended</i>
KC - WRIA 8 Molasses Creek Daylighting - Remy Acquisition	CFT - Acquisition	\$543,002	\$543,002 annual
	PL - Acquisition	\$0	\$0
	Total - Acquisition	\$543,002	\$543,002
	CFT - SSC	\$0	\$0
<i>Acquisition award: CFT annual project #1150379</i>			

King County is seeking funding for a property acquisition that is necessary for a fish passage project that needs to be built along Molasses Creek. This project includes one parcel, totaling 0.22 acres, which the County acquired in fee in 2024 utilizing Surface Water Management Fee funds. The feasibility study that was completed in 2023 recommends daylighting the current piped stream and replacing it via a capital improvement project that will design and construct a restored stream. The restored stream will provide fish passage while also providing long-term sustainability for maintenance and replacement of the current aging system. Match funding is already secured from the purchase of the property.

The committee recommends full funding for this project. See table above for funding recommendation details.

<i>Applicant – Location Project Name</i>	<i>Funding Type</i>	<i>Funding Requested</i>	<i>Funding Recommended</i>
KC - WRIA 8 Ravensdale Retreat Addition	CFT - Acquisition	\$3,787,500	\$750,000 annual
	PL - Acquisition	\$1,262,500	\$250,000
	Total - Acquisition	\$5,050,000	\$1,000,000
	CFT - SSC	\$0	\$0
<i>Acquisition award: CFT annual project #1150380, PL project #1150417</i>			

King County is seeking funding to acquire undeveloped land directly adjacent to the Ravensdale Retreat Natural Area. This project includes three parcels and 151 acres, to be secured in a combination of fee and conservation easement. The conservation easement would allow the homesite to remain on the northern parcel but remove most of the remaining development rights from the site. Ravensdale Retreat Natural Area is a key part of the open space complex surrounding the busy Ravensdale Park and would represent a sizable increase in King County ownership. This property is specifically identified in the 2004 Rock Creek Valley Conservation Plan as a primary wildlife habitat connector, for having a very high risk of conversion, and as a second tier acquisition priority. Match funding comes from the recommended Parks Levy award.

The committee recommends partial funding to show support for this project, which was still undergoing changes to the conservation approach on these parcels during the grant round; the committee anticipates the applicant may return for the remaining funding in the future as the proposal is fully clarified. See table above for funding recommendation details.

<i>Applicant – Location Project Name</i>	<i>Funding Type</i>	<i>Funding Requested</i>	<i>Funding Recommended</i>
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KC - WRIA 8 West Tiger Mountain	CFT - Acquisition	\$2,280,000	\$1,440,000 annual
	PL - Acquisition	\$760,000	\$760,000
	Total - Acquisition	\$3,040,000	\$2,200,000
	CFT - SSC	\$0	\$0
<i>Acquisition award: CFT annual project #1150381, PL project #1150418</i>			

King County is seeking funding to acquire conservation easements in partnership with the Washington State Department of Natural Resources (WA DNR) and on a privately owned parcel nearby. This project includes seven parcels, totaling 152 acres, which the County hopes to acquire in full or partial conservation easements. The WA DNR would purchase the underlying fee and King County would purchase a conservation easement to secure a high-priority inholding within the regionally significant West Tiger Mountain Natural Resources Conservation Area and Tiger Mountain State Forest. The inholding includes the incredibly popular West Tiger No. 1, 2 and 3 summits, which can be accessed from over 100 miles of recreation trails in the immediate vicinity and multiple trailheads. This project also conserves headwater forests at the WA DNR partnership site and the private conservation easement site; these forests are critical to protecting hydrological and sediment processes that support resident trout habitat on Tiger Mountain and water quality conditions downstream for threatened salmonid species in Issaquah Creek, which includes coho, Kokanee, fall Chinook and sockeye, and winter steelhead. Match funding comes from the recommended Parks Levy award.

The recommended award is consistent with the applicant's partial funding suggestion if the project could not be fully funded. The committee anticipates that the applicant may return for the remaining funding in the future. This award includes \$280,000 Parks Levy not yet matched, which can be leveraged in a future CFT request. See table above for funding recommendation details.

<i>Applicant – Location Project Name</i>	<i>Funding Type</i>	<i>Funding Requested</i>	<i>Funding Recommended</i>
KC - WRIA 9 Bell Ravine Alluvial Fan Property Acquisition	CFT - Acquisition	\$88,500	\$88,500 annual
	PL - Acquisition	\$0	\$0
	Total - Acquisition	\$88,500	\$88,500
	CFT - SSC	\$0	\$0
<i>Acquisition award: CFT annual project #1150382</i>			

King County is seeking funding to acquire property near the base of the alluvial fan at the end of Bell Ravine, an area that currently requires road closures and dredging. This project includes one parcel, totaling one acre, which the County hopes to acquire in fee. In the short term, the purchase of this parcel, as well as additional nearby target parcels, will allow King County to respond to flooding events more quickly because they will not need to acquire easements from the private owner to do the work. In the long term, the County is hoping to move this section of Green Valley Road to the south, away from the alluvial fan, which will prevent future road closures and eliminate the need to dredge within a salmon-bearing creek. Match funding comes from the Natural Drainage Flood Program and the Stormwater Capital Unit funds.

The committee recommends full funding for this project. See table above for funding recommendation details.

<i>Applicant – Location Project Name</i>	<i>Funding Type</i>	<i>Funding Requested</i>	<i>Funding Recommended</i>
KC - WRIA 9 Green River/Newaukum Creek Acquisitions	CFT - Acquisition	\$5,002,500	\$2,797,500 total (\$1,700,000 annual and \$1,097,500 bond)
	PL - Acquisition	\$2,117,500	\$1,382,500
	Total - Acquisition	\$7,120,000	\$4,180,000
	CFT - SSC	\$0	\$0
<i>Acquisition award: CFT annual project #1145729, CFT 2026 bond project #1148073/1150406, PL project #1136778²³</i>			

King County is seeking funding to acquire property within a regionally significant open space corridor along the Middle Green River and Newaukum Creek. This project includes eight parcels, totaling 44 acres, which the County hopes to acquire in full or partial fee. These acquisitions will protect critical spawning area for Chinook, steelhead, and coho per the 2021 WRIA 9 Salmon Habitat Plan, facilitate future stream restoration projects beneficial to salmon, and promote ecological connectivity between State Park lands, the Green River Natural Area, and the lower Newaukum Creek Ravine. This proposal also extends the effort to protect and restore the middle portion of Newaukum Creek, which is where the stream warms up the most due to a lack in riparian vegetation. Green River and Newaukum Creek are on the Clean Water Act Section 303(d) list of polluted water bodies and have a Total Maximum Daily Load (TMDL) water quality improvement project for dissolved oxygen and temperature and a project for bacteria under development. Match funding comes from the recommended Parks Levy award. The Parks Levy request includes an additional \$450,000 more than the 2026 CFT match obligation to match older CFT dollars that require a 50 percent match.

The committee recommends partial funding for this project, anticipating the applicant may return for additional funding as the County continues to make progress in this area. The award includes the requested extra Parks Levy to fulfill the match on the older CFT award. Annual CFT funding is provided for properties that may require surplus. See table above for funding recommendation details.

SCOPE CHANGES

During the spring 2025 grant round, the committee approved a scope clarification to prioritize parcel 2821069027 in the scope of the Green River/Newaukum Creek project. This parcel, located along Newaukum Creek, was included as a long-term target and is adjacent to parcels that were recent priorities and/or acquired.

<i>Applicant – Location Project Name</i>	<i>Funding Type</i>	<i>Funding Requested</i>	<i>Funding Recommended</i>
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²³ The scope of this new award is linked to the scopes of other recent awards to this project, including: CFT annual project #1126743. The committee approves the parcels prioritized in this new award as priorities in all recent awards to this project.

KC - WRIA 9 Moneysmith Lake	CFT - Acquisition	\$3,195,000	\$1,147,500 total (\$250,000 annual and \$1,197,500 bond)
	PL - Acquisition	\$1,065,000	\$482,500
	Total - Acquisition	\$4,260,000	\$1,930,000
	CFT - SSC	\$0	\$0
<i>Acquisition award: CFT annual project #1150383, CFT 2026 bond project #1148073/1150407, PL project #1150419</i>			

King County is seeking funding to acquire property in the Moneysmith Lake area. This request includes 11 parcels, totaling 68 acres, which the County hopes to acquire in a combination of fee and easement. The Moneysmith Lake area includes a mix of forests, wetlands, and stream corridors that help filter stormwater, recharge groundwater, and provide habitat for fish and wildlife. The proposed additions will support habitat connectivity, watershed health, and low-impact public use while expanding King County Parks' conservation efforts. Match funding comes from the recommended Parks Levy award.

The committee recommends partial funding for this project, anticipating the applicant may return for additional funding as the County makes progress in this area. See table above for funding recommendation details.

<i>Applicant – Location Project Name</i>	<i>Funding Type</i>	<i>Funding Requested</i>	<i>Funding Recommended</i>
KC - WRIA 9 PowellsWood Garden	CFT - Acquisition	\$50,000	\$50,000 annual
	PL - Acquisition	\$0	\$0
	Total - Acquisition	\$50,000	\$50,000
	CFT - SSC	\$0	\$0
<i>Acquisition award: CFT annual project #1150384</i>			

King County is seeking funding to assist with the administrative costs associated with finalizing the donation of a conservation easement from the owners of PowellsWood Garden. This project includes three parcels, totaling 25.48 acres, that primarily support forests and trails adjacent to the formal gardens. PowellsWood Garden is a nonprofit organization dedicated to environmental stewardship, sustainable gardening, and connecting people with nature. This conservation easement will ensure that these lands remain protected as open space, preserving their ecological, recreational, and scenic value. The garden's 37-acre nature preserve, which includes formal gardens, mature forests, native plant communities, and riparian corridors, provides critical urban greenspace and wildlife habitat, serving as a sanctuary in a rapidly developing region and a botanical garden of regional significance in south King County. Match funding is anticipated to come from the donation of the easement.

The committee recommends full funding for this project. See table above for funding recommendation details.

<i>Applicant – Location Project Name</i>	<i>Funding Type</i>	<i>Funding Requested</i>	<i>Funding Recommended</i>
KC - WRIA 9	CFT - Acquisition	\$2,777,700	\$2,777,700 annual

Recommendations for the Allocation of 2026 CFT & PL Funding

Skyway Stormwater Park	PL - Acquisition	\$0	\$0
	Total - Acquisition	\$2,777,700	\$2,777,700
	CFT - SSC	\$0	\$0
Match Waiver Determination: Yes			
<i>Acquisition award: CFT annual project #1150385</i>			

The King County Department of Local Services, Road Services Division, is seeking funding to develop a stormwater park in Skyway. This project includes four parcels, totaling 4.37 acres, which the County hopes to acquire in fee. This stormwater park will significantly improve the road drainage system by eliminating flooding of roads and private property. It will contribute to water quality and quantity due to stormwater treatment and bioinfiltration. The site will provide open space for the community to enjoy walking and nature. It will also provide capacity to update and expand the community's stormwater drainage system, key to King County's compliance with its National Pollutant Discharge Elimination Permit Phase I Municipal Stormwater permit. This action could help support the development of additional affordable housing in this geography, as the stormwater drainage system is a limiting factor at this time.

The applicants request a match waiver. This location is in the lowest 1/3 of census tracts for income and the highest 1/3 of ZIP codes for hospitalization rates, though it did not meet all three criteria to qualify for a match waiver under Method #1. While it is within ¼ mile of an existing park located across the other side of SR 900 from this site, that busy arterial makes it difficult to access. The area has high percentages of limited English speakers and people of color and has many demographic and socioeconomic factors representative of a historically underserved community, such as low life expectancies and high percentages of households experiencing poverty. King County Parks and Stormwater Services have both begun community engagement in the Skyway area; Road Services will collaborate with both to ensure the needs of the community are considered throughout this project. The applicants have provided support letters from The Silent Task Force and the West Hill Community Association and are connecting with other key community partners.

The committee determined this project merits a match waiver because of supportive data points for this area, the unmet open space needs in this densifying urban unincorporated community, and the unique opportunity to facilitate additional stormwater capacity in support of developing more affordable housing. Stormwater is a limiting factor and a significant barrier in this area; this stormwater park is proposed to add enough capacity to these basins to help address this barrier for affordable housing developers.

The committee recommends full funding for this project. See table above for funding recommendation details.

<i>Applicant – Location Project Name</i>	<i>Funding Type</i>	<i>Funding Requested</i>	<i>Funding Recommended</i>
KC - WRIA 9 Soos Creek Sub-basin Acquisitions	CFT - Acquisition	\$3,217,500	\$2,493,982 total (\$1,546,403 annual and \$947,579 bond)

	PL - Acquisition	\$1,072,500	\$831,327
	Total - Acquisition	\$4,290,000	\$3,325,309
	CFT - SSC	\$0	\$0
<i>Acquisition award: CFT annual project #1148026, CFT 2026 bond project #1148073/1150408, PL project #1139161²⁴</i>			

King County continues a multiyear effort to restore salmon habitat along regionally significant Soos Creek, the largest tributary in the Green/Duwamish watershed. This year's request includes 10 parcels, totaling 92 acres, which the County hopes to acquire in fee. Soos Creek is on the Clean Water Act Section 303(d) list for its high water temperature and fecal coliform pollution and is subject to a Total Maximum Daily Load (TMDL) improvement plan for water quality. The proposed acquisitions would provide future sites for riparian restoration along Soos Creek, which would reduce water temperatures for Chinook salmon and steelhead trout and provide open space for residents. Match funding for the acquisition comes from the recommended Parks Levy award and from the Water and Land Resources Division's Stormwater Management fund for site stabilization.

The committee recommends partial funding for this project, anticipating that the applicant may return for additional funding as the County continues to make progress in this area. Annual CFT funding is provided for properties that may require surplus. See table above for funding recommendation details.

SCOPE CHANGES

During the spring 2025 grant round, the committee approved a scope clarification to prioritize parcel 2622059051 in the scope of the Soos Creek project. This parcel was a long-term target in the scope of recent grants and has been a past priority target in older awards. The parcel would widen the conserved footprint of the Soos Creek Park and Trail corridor connecting east toward Covington.

<i>Applicant – Location Project Name</i>	<i>Funding Type</i>	<i>Funding Requested</i>	<i>Funding Recommended</i>
KC - WRIA 10 Boise Creek Acquisitions	CFT - Acquisition	\$843,750	\$843,750 annual
	PL - Acquisition	\$0	\$0
	Total - Acquisition	\$843,750	\$843,750
	CFT - SSC	\$0	\$0
<i>Acquisition award: CFT annual project #1150431²⁵</i>			

King County is seeking funding to acquire property along the lower four miles of Boise Creek, which provides regionally significant spawning and rearing habitat for fall-run Chinook salmon, among other salmonid species. This project includes three parcels, totaling up to 22 acres, which the County hopes to acquire in easement. Spring runs of Chinook in Puget Sound are extremely

²⁴ The scope of this new award is linked to the scopes of other recent awards to this project, including: CFT annual project #1129256, CFT 2022 bond #1139013/1141750, CFT 2023 bond #1141757/1143674, and CFT 2025 bond project #1146210/1148070. The committee approves the parcels prioritized in this new award as priorities in all recent awards to this project.

²⁵ The scope of this new award is linked to the scopes of other recent awards to this project, including: CFT annual project #1123835 and PL project #1136781. The committee approves the parcels prioritized in this new award as priorities in all recent awards to this project.

rare and are teetering on the brink of extinction. While Boise Creek provides spawning and rearing habitat for this run, it is excessively degraded because of past land use activities (including regular stream sediment removal for flood control, riparian clearing, wetland draining, and livestock use), which resulted in the Washington Department of Ecology identifying this waterbody as the most significant tributary contributor of fecal coliform bacteria to the Puyallup/White River. Match funding is anticipated to come from King County's Cooperative Watershed Management fund.

The committee recommends full funding for this project. See table above for funding recommendation details.

<i>Applicant – Location Project Name</i>	<i>Funding Type</i>	<i>Funding Requested</i>	<i>Funding Recommended</i>
KC - WRIA 10 Lakeland South	CFT - Acquisition	\$1,331,888	\$1,331,888 total (\$50,000 annual and \$1,281,888 bond)
	PL - Acquisition	\$443,963	\$443,963
	Total - Acquisition	\$1,775,851	\$1,775,851
	CFT - SSC	\$0	\$0
<i>Acquisition award: CFT annual project #1148027, CFT 2026 bond project #1148073/1150409, PL project #1148114²⁶</i>			

King County is seeking funding to acquire property near Five Mile Lake Park and Lake Geneva Open Space. This project includes five parcels, totaling 18 acres, which the County hopes to acquire in fee. The parcels near Five Mile Lake will provide a natural buffer that reinforces park edges, prevents encroaching development, and preserves existing vegetation. The parcels near Lake Geneva will help to create clear park boundaries, safeguard natural ecosystems, and protect water quality. Match funding comes from the recommended Parks Levy award.

The committee recommends full funding for this project. See table above for funding recommendation details.

<i>Applicant – Location Project Name</i>	<i>Funding Type</i>	<i>Funding Requested</i>	<i>Funding Recommended</i>
KC - Vashon Frog Holler Forest	CFT - Acquisition	\$1,187,918	\$130,000 annual
	PL - Acquisition	\$162,082	\$0
	Total - Acquisition	\$1,350,000	\$130,000
	CFT - SSC	\$0	\$0
<i>Acquisition award: CFT annual project #1145734²⁷</i>			

King County is seeking funding to add to Vashon-Maury Island's Frog Holler Forest. This year's request includes three parcels, totaling 33 acres, which the County hopes to acquire in a

²⁶ The committee approves the parcels prioritized in this new award as priorities in all recent awards to this project (2025 award title was Five Mile Park, South County Ballfields, & Spider Lake).

²⁷ The scope of this new award is linked to the scopes of other recent awards to this project, including: CFT 2024 bond project #1143799/1146202 and PL project #1139166. The committee approves the parcels prioritized in this new award as priorities in all recent awards to this project.

combination of fee and easement. The park is currently divided into three sections by two roads: Wax Orchard Road SW, which separates the park into west and east sections, and SW Bates Road, which divides it into north and south sections. These acquisitions would secure critical habitat, consolidate the forest's ecological community, create better pedestrian connectivity, and create a new public access point. Match funding comes from the 2025 reallocation of Parks Levy funds to be adopted summer 2025.

The committee recommends partial funding for this project. The recommended award is scaled proportionate to the funding needed to purchase one parcel. This award matches \$43,333 Parks Levy from the 2025 reallocation award; \$190,558 Parks Levy of that award is not yet matched and can be leveraged in a future CFT request. The committee anticipates additional application here in the future; this year it prioritized other Vashon projects such as marine shoreline protection. See table above for funding recommendation details.

<i>Applicant – Location Project Name</i>	<i>Funding Type</i>	<i>Funding Requested</i>	<i>Funding Recommended</i>
KC - Vashon Maury Island Natural Area	CFT - Acquisition	\$1,959,000	\$879,750 total (\$25,000 annual and \$854,750 bond)
	PL - Acquisition	\$653,000	\$293,250
	Total - Acquisition	\$2,612,000	\$1,173,000
	CFT - SSC	\$0	\$0
<i>Acquisition award: CFT annual project #1145735, CFT 2026 bond project #1148073/1150410, PL project #1143708²⁸</i>			

King County is seeking funding to expand King County Parks' footprint on Maury Island. This project includes five parcels, totaling 39 acres, which the County hopes to acquire in fee. These parcels are located at the headwaters of Mileta Creek and South Mileta Creek, which flow into Puget Sound south of Raabs Lagoon. These parcels are adjacent to existing County-owned properties and easements, which will help in preventing habitat fragmentation and securing intact lowland marine forests. Match funding comes from the recommended Parks Levy award.

The committee recommends partial funding for this project. The recommended award is consistent with the applicant's partial funding suggestion if the project could not be fully funded. See table above for funding recommendation details.

<i>Applicant – Location Project Name</i>	<i>Funding Type</i>	<i>Funding Requested</i>	<i>Funding Recommended</i>
KC - Vashon Vashon Marine Shorelines	CFT - Acquisition	\$2,565,000	\$2,565,000 total (\$25,000 annual and \$2,540,000 bond)
	PL - Acquisition	\$855,000	\$855,000
	Total - Acquisition	\$3,420,000	\$3,420,000
	CFT - SSC	\$0	\$0

²⁸ The committee approves the parcels prioritized in this new award as priorities in all recent awards to this project.

Acquisition award: CFT annual project #1148028, CFT 2026 bond project #1148073/1150411, PL project #1136783²⁹

King County’s multiyear project preserves key reaches of marine shoreline on Vashon-Maury Island, preserving regionally significant shorelines and feeder bluffs and enabling restoration of habitat processes for the health of salmonids and marine and terrestrial wildlife. This year’s request, which is in collaboration with the Vashon Maury Island Land Trust (as described above), includes six parcels totaling 56 acres on which the County hopes to acquire the easement interests. The land trust will purchase the underlying fee of five parcels, and the landowner will retain one parcel subject to conservation easement. These acquisitions would protect 1,688 feet of pristine unarmored marine shoreline and 55+ acres of mature lowland forest dominated by stately maples and hemlocks. Keeping this forest intact also helps to preserve aquifer infiltration and thus drinking water supplies for the two water systems that serve north Maury. Match funding comes from the recommended Parks Levy award.

The committee recommends full funding for this project. See table above for funding recommendation details.

SCOPE CHANGES

In January 2025, the committee approved a scope addition to add parcels 1522039096, 1522039098, 1522039093, 1522039107, 1522039002, and 1522039122 to the scope of the Vashon Marine Shoreline project. These parcels are the primary targets of the request for 2026 funding.

<i>Applicant – Location Project Name</i>	<i>Funding Type</i>	<i>Funding Requested</i>	<i>Funding Recommended</i>
KC - Other King County Forest Carbon: Transitioning Commercial Timber to Longer Rotations	CFT - Acquisition	\$150,000	\$150,000 annual
	PL - Acquisition	\$0	\$0
	Total - Acquisition	\$150,000	\$150,000
	CFT - SSC	\$0	\$0
<i>Acquisition award: CFT annual project #1150386</i>			

King County is seeking startup funding toward an eventual goal of purchasing forestland from industrial timber operations. The County would enroll the property in King County’s Rural Forest Carbon Project, which will allow them to generate carbon credits that can later be sold on the voluntary carbon market while also generating revenue from thinning the forest. Carbon storage and timber production under extended rotations have been modeled for Pacific Northwest forests and have shown strong potential to significantly increase carbon sequestration with longer rotations that include one or two low-intensity thins as compared to a 40-year rotation without thinning. This acquisition would provide an outstanding opportunity to apply modeling results on the ground and serve as a demonstration area for private forest landowners in the region. Match funding comes from King County’s Forest Carbon Program.

²⁹ The scope of this new award is linked to the scopes of other recent awards to this project, including: CFT annual project #1132093, CFT annual project #1129264, CFT 2023 bond project #141757/1143680, CFT 2025 bond project #1146210/1148071, and PL project #1127078. The committee approves the parcels prioritized in this new award as priorities in all recent awards to this project.

The committee recommends full funding for this project. See table above for funding recommendation details.

<i>Applicant – Location Project Name</i>	<i>Funding Type</i>	<i>Funding Requested</i>	<i>Funding Recommended</i>
KC - Other King County DNRP Site Stabilization Cost (SSC) Request	CFT - Acquisition	\$0	\$0
	PL - Acquisition	\$0	\$0
	Total - Acquisition	\$0	\$0
	CFT - SSC	\$3,500,000	\$3,000,000 annual
<i>SSC award: CFT annual project #1148042³⁰</i>			

King County requests site stabilization cost funding to support signage, fencing, and/or demolition of structures necessary to secure real property interests acquired with CFT proceeds for public safety or resource protection purposes. This request is for site stabilization costs on properties funded through recent and the currently requested King County CFT-PL awards. The request was combined for all county projects to retain flexibility so that the County can address the highest-priority project needs as they emerge and evolve. The County's top priority is to continue removing structures held in existing open space inventory or which are soon to be acquired using funds from past grant rounds. Match funding comes from Parks Levy funds that are earmarked in the proposed Parks Levy.

The committee recommends partial funding for this project, anticipating the applicant may return for additional funding as the County makes progress on expending funds. See table above for funding recommendation details.

³⁰ The committee approves the parcels prioritized in this new award as priorities in all recent awards to this project.

SCOPE CHANGES ONLY

Algona

Algona Wetland Preserve

CFT Annual Project #1141596

The City of Algona seeks to expand an existing city-owned site in the southeast part of the city, to protect adjacent wetlands and add public access and educational opportunities. During the spring 2025 grant round, the committee approved a scope addition to add parcel 3621049005 to the scope of the match waiver project. This parcel is owned by Washington State Department of Natural Resources (WA DNR) and is adjacent to the adopted project footprint as well as to the WA DNR-owned targets in the current City of Pacific application for 2026 funding.

Seattle

Cheasty Greenspace – Mt. Baker

CFT Annual Project #1143685

The City of Seattle seeks to expand the Cheasty Greenspace natural area network in southeast Seattle. During the spring 2025 grant round, the committee approved a scope addition to add parcel 3085002100 to the scope of the project. This parcel is adjacent to the original target parcel that is owned by Sound Transit, which is not ready to sell the parcel to Seattle currently. Seattle Parks seeks to buy just the southwest forested portion of 3085002100 from the Seattle Office of Housing, which will be developing affordable housing on the remainder of this parcel.

Seattle

Rainier Beach Residential Urban Village Park

CFT Annual Project #1145691

The City of Seattle Parks and Recreation Department seeks funding to evaluate and begin acquisition of up to three potential open spaces in the rapidly growing Rainier Beach Residential Urban Village. During the spring 2025 grant round, the committee approved a scope addition to add parcels 2123700454, 2123700456, 2123700458, 2123700460, 2123700444, and 2123700452 to the scope of the project. These parcels are near the original project targets and represent an opportunity to acquire undeveloped open space within the project area.

Wakulima USA

Wakulima Farm

CFT Annual Project #1145701

The nonprofit organization Wakulima USA seeks a farm to extend farmland access and training to refugee and immigrant farmers. In March 2025, the committee approved a scope addition to add parcels 1921069073, 1921069118, and 1921069132 to the scope of the match waiver project. These parcels are part of a farm in the Green River Agricultural Production District that the nonprofit is working to acquire to achieve the goals of their project.

KC-WRIA 7

Mitchell Hill Forest Additions

CFT Annual Project #1145705, CFT 2023 bond project #1141757/1143661, PL #1044750

King County is pursuing a regionally significant, multiyear effort to expand habitat protections and trail connections at Mitchell Hill Forest and adjacent public lands outside of Preston. During the spring 2025 grant round, the committee approved a scope clarification to prioritize parcel

2924079052 in the scope of the project. This parcel was included as a long-term target in this project and was recently prioritized in the nearby Preston Ridge Forest project. The parcel is adjacent to parcels that were recent priorities and/or acquired.

KC-WRIA 7

Rutherford Slough

CFT Annual Project #1148003, PL #1148010

This project is seeking to prevent forested acreage adjacent to the Snoqualmie Valley Regional Trail from being developed. During the spring 2025 grant round, the committee approved a scope clarification to prioritize parcels 0324079027 and 0324079012 in the scope of the project. These parcels were included as a long-term target within the broader geography of Rutherford Slough.

KC-WRIA 8

Cedar River Projects

Acquisition award: CFT annual project #1145717, CFT 2025 bond project #1146210/1148062, PL project #1133890

King County's multiyear project focuses on conserving forested and riparian lands in the Cedar River basin, which is regionally significant salmon habitat. During the spring 2025 grant round, the committee approved a scope addition to add parcels 2923069009 and 2923069019 to the scope of the project. These are adjacent to recent primary targets within the project.

KC-WRIA 8

Issaquah Creek Natural Area

Acquisition award: CFT annual project #1145722, CFT 2025 bond project #1146210/1148066, PL project #1145911

King County seeks to protect two high-quality habitat reaches of Issaquah Creek, a regionally significant stream for Chinook salmon recovery in WRIA 8. During the spring 2025 grant round, the committee approved a scope clarification to prioritize parcels 2623069040 and 2623069028 in the scope of the project. Issaquah Creek flows through these parcels, which were identified as long-term/yellow parcels in the scope. Parcels are adjacent to King County-owned land and/or conservation easement. Parcels are being prioritized due to landowner willingness.

KC-WRIA 9

Auburn Narrows Natural Area

CFT Annual Project #1145726, PL #1145917

King County seeks to expand its ownership at Auburn Narrows Natural Area, filling gaps in public land ownership adjacent to the Urban Growth Boundary and Auburn. During the spring 2025 grant round, the committee approved a scope addition to add 87 acres of State of Washington-owned parcels adjacent to and interspersed with King County ownership. These include 13 acres owned by the Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife (3341000160, 1721059198, 1721059197, 1721059200, 1721059199, 1621059034, and 1621059035) and 42 acres owned by Washington State Parks (1721059254, 1721059255, 1721059256, and 1721059257). The County and state are in early discussions about potential transfer of state parcels to the County. It is anticipated that the parcels would be transferred at zero-dollar cost but would require funding to help pay transaction costs.

KC-WRIA 9

Urban Greenspace: White Center and Skyway

CFT Annual Project #1136845

This CFT match waiver award has an open space equity focus, targeting acquisition in urban unincorporated areas of White Center and Skyway. During the spring 2025 grant round, the committee approved a scope addition to add parcel 2172000450 to the scope of the match waiver project. This parcel is adjacent to a prior primary target in the scope and to the recent match waiver King County Housing Authority project protecting greenspace adjacent to a manufactured home community in west Skyway.

KC-Vashon

Vashon Creeks and Estuaries

CFT Annual Project #1145737, PL #1136784

This King County project preserves key stream corridors on Vashon Island, from upland headwaters through regionally significant estuaries at Puget Sound. During the spring 2025 grant round, the committee approved a scope addition to add parcels 0221029124, 0221029015, 0221029106, 0221029126, 0221029123, 0221029005, 0221029130, 0221029003, 1322029015, and 1322029063 to the project scope as red/primary targets. They also approved a scope addition to add 0221029002 and 0221029118 as yellow/long-term parcels. These parcels are within the Tahlequah Creek watershed adjacent to current targets, or in the Fisher Creek watershed adjacent to public land.

APPENDICES

Table 1: Summary of 2026 CFT & PL Funding Recommendations

Sponsor Type	Agency/ Nonprofit Name	Project Name	Match Waiver Recommended	Total CFT Recommended - Acquisition	CFT Annual Recommended - Acquisition	CFT Bond Recommended - Acquisition	PL Recommended	Total Acquisition Funding Recommended	CFT Annual Recommended - SSC	Acres in Scope*	KC Council Dist
City	Auburn	Soos Creek Botanical Garden Preservation	Yes	\$2,121,000	\$2,121,000	\$0	\$0	\$2,121,000	\$0	18	7
City	Bellevue	Cougar Mountain Connections		\$3,487,244	\$25,000	\$3,462,244	\$0	\$3,487,244	\$105,000	12	9
City	Bellevue	West Lake Sammamish Open Space		\$4,447,630	\$25,000	\$4,422,630	\$0	\$4,447,630	\$0	0.5	6
City	Des Moines	Wooton Park - Phase 2		\$177,000	\$177,000	\$0	\$0	\$177,000	\$0	16	5
City	Issaquah	Issaquah Creek Corridor - Hailstone Property		\$657,000	\$25,000	\$632,000	\$0	\$657,000	\$0	0.4	3
City	Issaquah	Squak Mountain Corridor Assemblage		\$2,108,250	\$25,000	\$2,083,250	\$0	\$2,108,250	\$0	18	3
City	Kenmore	λařadis Park Property Acquisition		\$5,906,250	\$25,000	\$5,881,250	\$0	\$5,906,250	\$135,000	12	1
City	Kenmore	Wetland 3 Property Acquisition		\$543,750	\$543,750	\$0	\$0	\$543,750	\$37,500	0.4	1
City	Kent	Clark Lake Park		\$119,850	\$119,850	\$0	\$0	\$119,850	\$0	4.1	5
City	Kirkland	Fisk Family Park		\$603,268	\$603,268	\$0	\$0	\$603,268	\$0	0.4	6
City	Kirkland	Juanita Heights Park - Expand and Connect		\$1,131,441	\$25,000	\$1,106,441	\$0	\$1,131,441	\$0	2.5	1
City	Kirkland	Western Finn Hill Green Loop Addition		\$1,650,000	\$25,000	\$1,625,000	\$0	\$1,650,000	\$0	6.1	1
City	Lake Forest Park	Five Acre Woods Expansion		\$1,284,551	\$1,284,551	\$0	\$0	\$1,284,551	\$150,000	2.3	1
City	Normandy Park	Shoreline Protection Acquisition Project		\$6,276,213	\$3,000,000	\$3,276,213	\$0	\$6,276,213	\$225,000	22	5
City	Pacific	City of Pacific Milwaukee Gateway	Yes	\$1,733,360	\$1,733,360	\$0	\$0	\$1,733,360	\$0	16	7
City	Seattle	Belltown Portal Bellwether Parcel		\$1,000,000	\$1,000,000	\$0	\$0	\$1,000,000	\$0	0.04	4
City	Seattle	Delridge Native Forest	Yes	\$5,618,000	\$500,000	\$5,118,000	\$0	\$5,618,000	\$0	3	8
City	Seattle	Lakeridge Park Addition	Yes	\$300,000	\$300,000	\$0	\$0	\$300,000	\$50,000	0.3	2
City	Shoreline	192nd Hemlock Open Space Acquisition Phase 2	Yes	\$897,500	\$25,000	\$872,500	\$0	\$897,500	\$0	0.5	1
City	Shoreline	Boeing Creek Open Space Expansion		\$241,125	\$241,125	\$0	\$0	\$241,125	\$0	2	1
City	Shoreline	Site Stabilization Costs		\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$550,000	N/A	1
City	Shoreline	Twin Ponds		\$1,484,250	\$25,000	\$1,459,250	\$0	\$1,484,250	\$0	0.4	1
City	Skykomish	Town of Skykomish - Riverfront Conservation	Yes	\$324,500	\$324,500	\$0	\$0	\$324,500	\$0	0.6	3
City	Snoqualmie	Snoqualmie Riverfront Reach - SSC Request		\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$108,750	N/A	3
City	Tacoma Water	Tacoma Water Abston Acquisition 2026		\$150,000	\$150,000	\$0	\$0	\$150,000	\$0	80	9
City	Tukwila and Forterra NW	Duwamish Hill Preserve Addition #3 (2026)	Yes	\$348,520	\$348,520	\$0	\$0	\$348,520	\$0	0.3	2
Nonprofit	Black Farmers Collective	Land Back	Yes	\$2,474,000	\$2,474,000	\$0	\$0	\$2,474,000	\$30,000	40	TBD
Nonprofit	Forterra NW	Rockdale 2025		\$855,625	\$855,625	\$0	\$0	\$855,625	\$0	107	3

Sponsor Type	Agency/ Nonprofit Name	Project Name	Match Waiver Recommended	Total CFT Recommended - Acquisition	CFT Annual Recommended - Acquisition	CFT Bond Recommended - Acquisition	PL Recommended	Total Acquisition Funding Recommended	CFT Annual Recommended - SSC	Acres in Scope*	KC Council Dist
Nonprofit	Modest Family Solutions	Agroecology Growth and Resilience Opportunity Urban Project - Agro.Up Farm	Yes	\$2,000,000	\$2,000,000	\$0	\$0	\$2,000,000	\$30,000	3	TBD
Nonprofit	Vashon-Maury Island Land Trust	Vashon Creeks and Estuaries – Vashon Land Trust		\$79,500	\$79,500	\$0	\$0	\$79,500	\$0	15	8
Nonprofit	Vashon-Maury Island Land Trust	Vashon Marine Shorelines – Vashon Land Trust		\$187,500	\$187,500	\$0	\$0	\$187,500	\$33,000	51	8
County	KC - WRIA 7	Boxley Creek		\$750,000	\$750,000	\$0	\$250,000	\$1,000,000	\$0	51	3
County	KC - WRIA 7	Griffin Creek		\$350,000	\$350,000	\$0	\$0	\$350,000	\$0	3	3
County	KC - WRIA 7	Lake Alice Forest – Phase 2		\$393,750	\$393,750	\$0	\$131,250	\$525,000	\$0	49	3
County	KC - WRIA 7	Middle Fork Snoqualmie Natural Area In-Holdings		\$1,983,750	\$1,983,750	\$0	\$661,250	\$2,645,000	\$0	55	3
County	KC - WRIA 7	Patterson Creek Natural Area		\$2,799,900	\$1,500,000	\$1,299,900	\$933,300	\$3,733,200	\$0	67	3
County	KC - WRIA 7	Rattlesnake Mountain Scenic Area and Tollgate Farm Additions		\$1,576,875	\$500,000	\$1,076,875	\$525,625	\$2,102,500	\$0	57	3
County	KC - WRIA 7	Ring Hill Forest Additions		\$742,500	\$25,000	\$717,500	\$247,500	\$990,000	\$0	39	3
County	KC - WRIA 7	South Fork Skykomish		\$375,000	\$375,000	\$0	\$125,000	\$500,000	\$0	55	3
County	KC - WRIA 7	Stillwater Natural Area		\$525,000	\$525,000	\$0	\$175,000	\$700,000	\$0	18	3
County	KC - WRIA 7	Three Forks Natural Area Additions		\$1,927,125	\$1,927,125	\$0	\$782,375	\$2,709,500	\$0	112	3
County	KC - WRIA 7	Tolt River Natural Area		\$421,500	\$421,500	\$0	\$140,500	\$562,000	\$0	60	3
County	KC - WRIA 7	Union Hill Forest – Phase 3		\$8,481,480	\$25,000	\$8,456,480	\$2,827,160	\$11,308,640	\$0	128	3
County	KC - WRIA 7	Upper Snoqualmie Conservation		\$1,447,500	\$1,447,500	\$0	\$482,500	\$1,930,000	\$0	174	3
County	KC - WRIA 8	Bear Creek Conservation		\$375,000	\$375,000	\$0	\$125,000	\$500,000	\$0	29	3
County	KC - WRIA 8	Cougar Mountain Additions		\$1,091,250	\$500,000	\$591,250	\$363,750	\$1,455,000	\$0	33	9
County	KC - WRIA 8	East Fork Issaquah Creek Restoration		\$693,750	\$693,750	\$0	\$231,250	\$925,000	\$0	6	3
County	KC - WRIA 8	Lake Youngs Trailhead		\$0	\$0	\$0	\$500,000	\$500,000	\$0	7	9
County	KC - WRIA 8	Molasses Creek Daylighting - Remy Acquisition		\$543,002	\$543,002	\$0	\$0	\$543,002	\$0	0.2	9
County	KC - WRIA 8	Ravensdale Retreat Addition		\$750,000	\$750,000	\$0	\$250,000	\$1,000,000	\$0	151	9
County	KC - WRIA 8	West Tiger Mountain		\$1,440,000	\$1,440,000	\$0	\$760,000	\$2,200,000	\$0	152	3
County	KC - WRIA 9	Bell Ravine Alluvial Fan Property Acquisition		\$88,500	\$88,500	\$0	\$0	\$88,500	\$0	1	9
County	KC - WRIA 9	Green River/Newaukum Creek Acquisitions		\$2,797,500	\$1,700,000	\$1,097,500	\$1,382,500	\$4,180,000	\$0	43	9
County	KC - WRIA 9	Moneysmith Lake		\$1,447,500	\$250,000	\$1,197,500	\$482,500	\$1,930,000	\$0	68	9
County	KC - WRIA 9	PowellsWood Garden		\$50,000	\$50,000	\$0	\$0	\$50,000	\$0	25	7
County	KC - WRIA 9	Skyway Stormwater Park	Yes	\$2,777,700	\$2,777,700	\$0	\$0	\$2,777,700	\$0	4	2
County	KC - WRIA 9	Soos Creek Sub-basin Acquisitions		\$2,493,982	\$1,546,403	\$947,579	\$831,327	\$3,325,309	\$0	92	9
County	KC - WRIA 10	Boise Creek Acquisitions		\$843,750	\$843,750	\$0	\$0	\$843,750	\$0	8	9

Sponsor Type	Agency/ Nonprofit Name	Project Name	Match Waiver Recommended	Total CFT Recommended - Acquisition	CFT Annual Recommended - Acquisition	CFT Bond Recommended - Acquisition	PL Recommended	Total Acquisition Funding Recommended	CFT Annual Recommended - SSC	Acres in Scope*	KC Council Dist
County	KC - WRIA 10	Lakeland South		\$1,331,888	\$50,000	\$1,281,888	\$443,963	\$1,775,851	\$0	18	7
County	KC - Vashon	Frog Holler Forest		\$130,000	\$130,000	\$0	\$0	\$130,000	\$0	19	8
County	KC - Vashon	Maury Island Natural Area		\$879,750	\$25,000	\$854,750	\$293,250	\$1,173,000	\$0	39	8
County	KC - Vashon	Vashon Marine Shorelines		\$2,565,000	\$25,000	\$2,540,000	\$855,000	\$3,420,000	\$0	56	8
County	KC - Other	King County Forest Carbon: Transitioning Commercial Timber to Longer Rotations		\$150,000	\$150,000	\$0	\$0	\$150,000	\$0	N/A	TBD
County	KC - Other	King County DNRP Site Stabilization Cost (SSC) Request		\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$3,000,000	N/A	varies
Count	64 projects		Total	\$90,430,279	\$40,430,279	\$50,000,000	\$13,800,000	\$104,230,279	\$4,454,250	2,053	

*“Acres in Scope”: Acres listed above are the total acres eligible for acquisition within the project scope. Many projects, particularly King County projects, are multiple-parcel/multiple-year efforts. Not all the acreage will be purchased in one year, but partial progress can be made. Partial funding awards typically result in fewer acres acquired than listed above. Please see the committee’s report for project-specific discussions and details.

Table 2: Recommended 2026 CFT Bond Project List

These projects are recommended to receive bond funding in 2026 CFT Bond Project 1148073.

Agency/ Location	Project Name	CFT Bond Recommended - Acquisition	Acquisition - CFT Bond Project # (in Parent #1148073)
Bellevue	Cougar Mountain Connections	\$3,462,244	1150390
Bellevue	West Lake Sammamish Open Space	\$4,422,630	1150391
Issaquah	Issaquah Creek Corridor - Hailstone Property	\$632,000	1150392
Issaquah	Squak Mountain Corridor Assemblage	\$2,083,250	1150393
Kenmore	ᐱᐱᐱadis Park Property Acquisition	\$5,881,250	1150394
Kirkland	Juanita Heights Park - Expand and Connect	\$1,106,441	1150395
Kirkland	Western Finn Hill Green Loop Addition	\$1,625,000	1150396
Normandy Park	Shoreline Protection Acquisition Project	\$3,276,213	1150397
Seattle	Delridge Native Forest	\$5,118,000	1150398
Shoreline	192nd Hemlock Open Space Acquisition Phase 2	\$872,500	1150399
Shoreline	Twin Ponds	\$1,459,250	1150400
KC - WRIA 7	Patterson Creek Natural Area	\$1,299,900	1150401
KC - WRIA 7	Rattlesnake Mountain Scenic Area and Tollgate Farm Additions	\$1,076,875	1150402
KC - WRIA 7	Ring Hill Forest Additions	\$717,500	1150403
KC - WRIA 7	Union Hill Forest – Phase 3	\$8,456,480	1150404
KC - WRIA 8	Cougar Mountain Additions	\$591,250	1150405
KC - WRIA 9	Green River/Newaukum Creek Acquisitions	\$1,097,500	1150406
KC - WRIA 9	Moneysmith Lake	\$1,197,500	1150407
KC - WRIA 9	Soos Creek Sub-basin Acquisitions	\$947,579	1150408
KC - WRIA 10	Lakeland South	\$1,281,888	1150409
KC - Vashon	Maury Island Natural Area	\$854,750	1150410
KC - Vashon	Vashon Marine Shorelines	\$2,540,000	1150411
	Total Bond Funding Recommended	\$50,000,000	
	Project Count	22	

Table 3: Match Waiver Project Recommendation Summary

This table summarizes information about match waiver projects included on Table 1.

Match Waiver Recommendation Category	Count	CFT Recommended - Acquisition	CFT Recommended - SSC	Acres in Scope	KC Council District
Yes	10	\$18,594,580	\$110,000	86	1,2,3,7,8, TBD
No	0	\$0	\$0	0	N/A

Map: Requests for 2026 Conservation Futures & Parks Levy Funding

