



KING COUNTY
FLOOD CONTROL
D I S T R I C T

Community Navigators Partners in Engagement

May 14, 2024

Lower Green PEIS



Directed by the Board of Supervisors for the development of a Flood Hazard Management Plan for the Lower Green River Corridor.



Engagement

- Tribes, jurisdictions, agencies, interested parties, and local communities
- Extensive process that included public comment periods for scoping and for the draft PEIS.



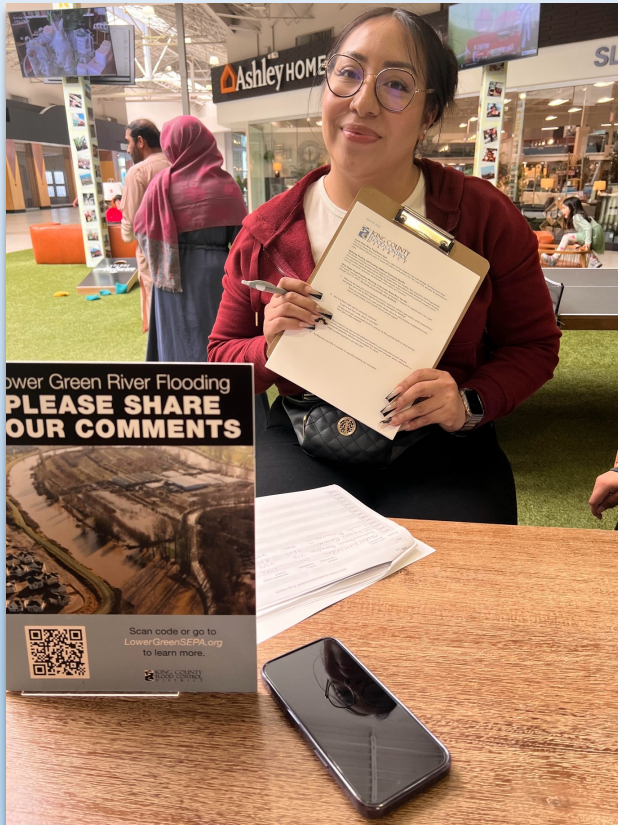
Final PEIS was released on April 30, 2024.

Community Engagement

- The Lower Green Corridor is home to many diverse communities
- Community Navigators were engaged to reach people who live, work, and recreate in the Corridor
- Our goals:
 - ✓ Provide meaningful and equitable opportunities to educate, engage, and gain feedback from community members related to the Plan and Draft PEIS
 - ✓ Build awareness around flooding issues in the Lower Green River area and about the King County Flood Control District
 - ✓ Build community relationships for the long-term



Meet the Navigators



Trusted community leaders who have lived experience and a deep understanding of the issues and challenges faced by their communities



Local cultural and linguistic knowledge and relationships within the Corridor



Expertise in engagement



Commitment to excellence

Engagement Approach



District staff educated and trained Navigators on the project



Navigators advised on and implemented engagement



Community members were compensated for their participation

What Worked Well: Outcomes

Over 2,250 community comments (872 surveys) were received

Feedback in Vietnamese, Spanish, Somali, Chinese, Arabic, English

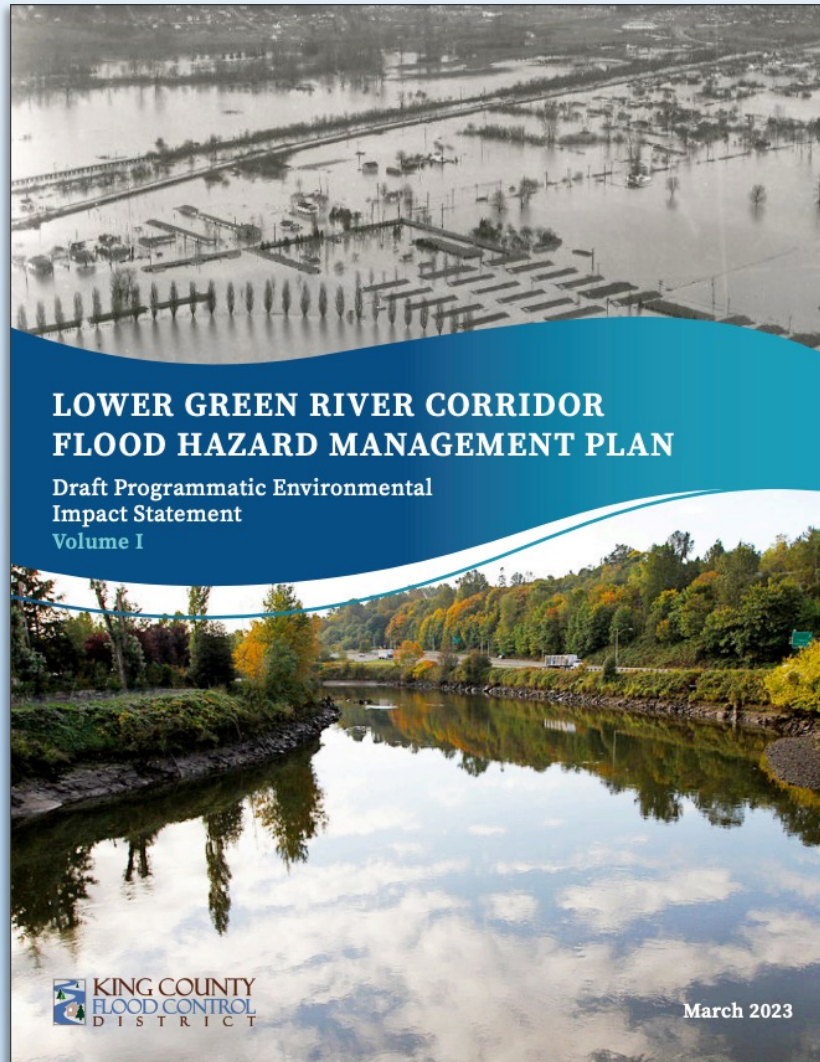
Approximately 40 events (tabling, meetings, fairs, etc.)

Positive response and interest from community members

Navigators shared pride in their representation and education efforts on behalf of the District



What was Challenging: Outcomes



- Connecting how community input can impact policy
- Knowledge of the Flood Control District

What Worked Well: Process

Smooth teamwork between the District PEIS team and Navigators

Effective peer-to-peer partnerships between Navigators

Navigators' insights into how to best educate and engage their communities greatly improved materials and outcomes

Navigators felt supported by project staff and appreciated the trust and freedom given in their roles

Navigators were skilled and adaptable, pivoting as needed

Participant compensation was appreciated and successful

What was Challenging: Process

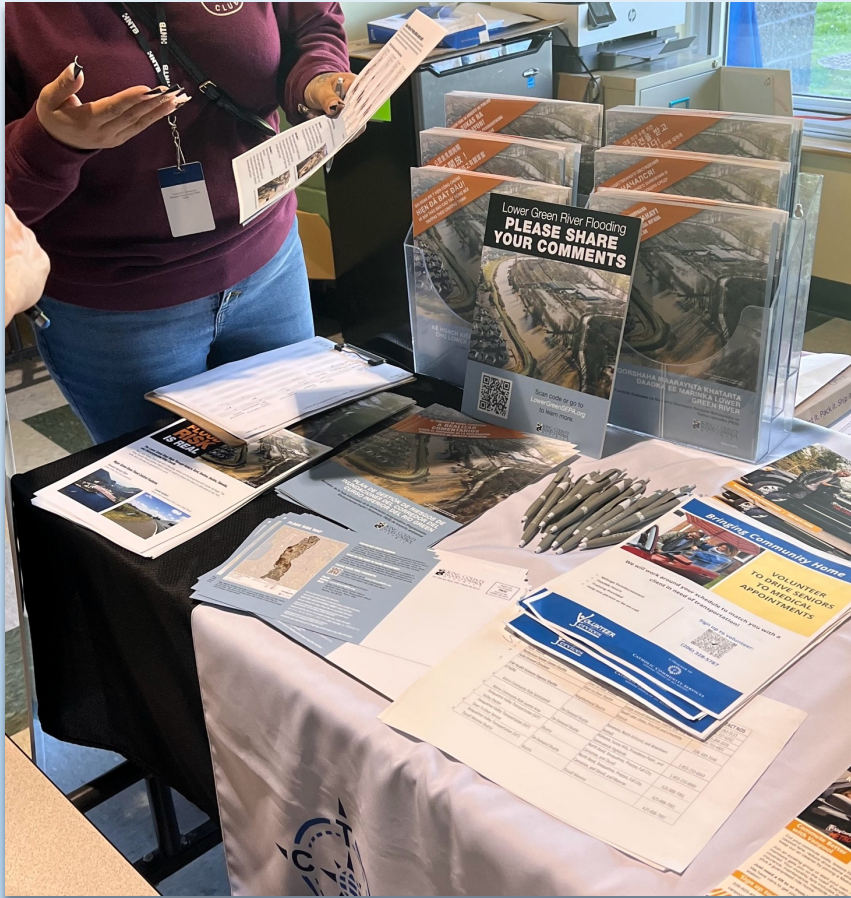
Engaging takes time!

- Planning and educating Navigators
- Co-creating materials
- Educating community, including building trust about the information and working with non-English speakers

Pace and volume of event attendees

- Strong turnouts at events made detailed discussions on draft PEIS challenging
- Additional staffing or meeting format would allow for deeper engagement

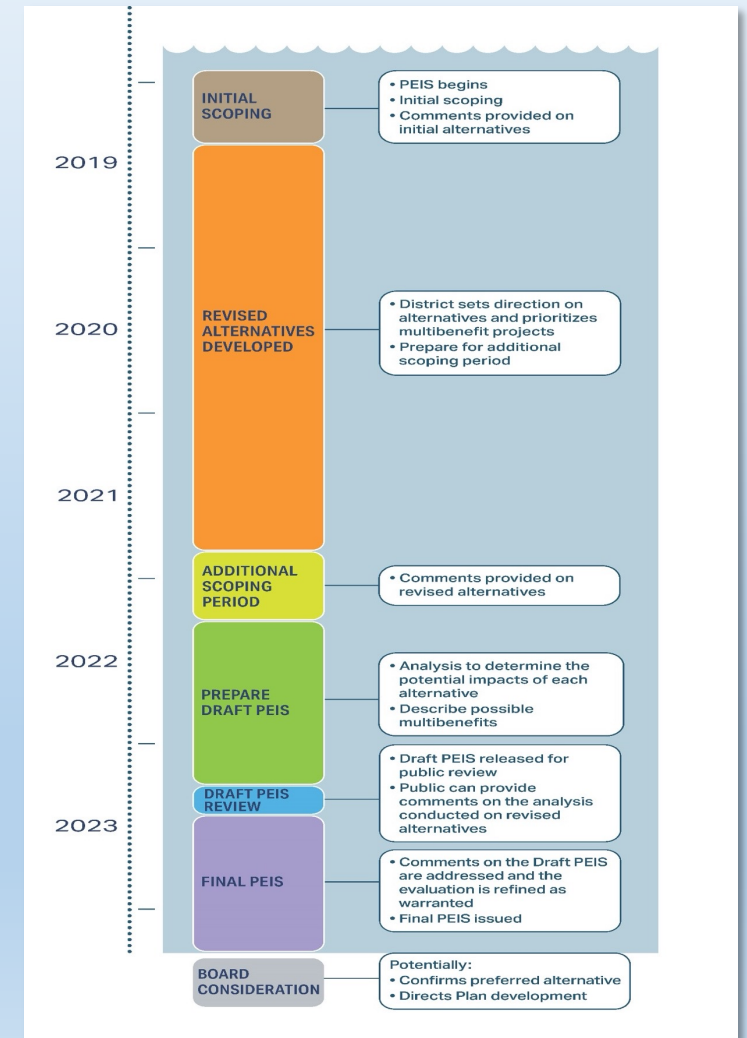
What Worked Well: Information



- People care about flooding and want to learn more
- Simplifying information, including surveys, improved materials
- Effective materials:
 - Large project map
 - Survey
 - Flood District signs and swag

What was Challenging: Information

- Complex nature of PEIS
- People care about how flooding impacts them, not processes
- Information overload
- Accessible communications for non-experts and those with language or reading barriers



Recommendations

- Provide ongoing basic education/context about flooding and the District
- Consider “introductory” presentations or short videos to introduce communities to the District, flooding
- Build in (more) time



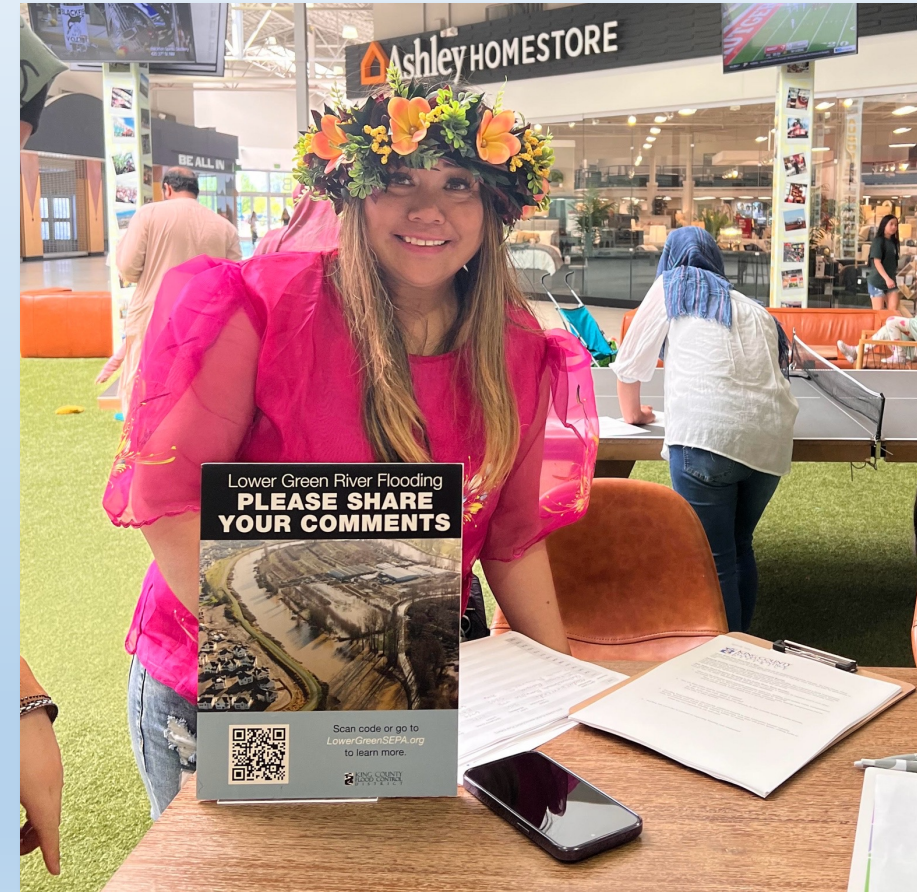
Recommendations



- Simplify, simplify, simplify
 - Use plain, familiar language; visuals, maps, images
 - Create simple handouts with key messages and outcomes
 - Offer swag, consider “kid-friendly” options to draw in parents
- Close the loop, continue the dialogue
 - Show how feedback was used, demonstrate the value of their participation
 - Meet people where they are, and meet their needs (materials, translations, etc.)
 - Utilize community spaces, events, etc.

Recommendations

- Continue to engage Navigators
 - Recognize them as the experts they are
 - Utilize their depth of understanding and contextual knowledge based on direct community interactions
 - Clearly communicate project expectations, timelines and compensation
 - Consider more Navigators at high-traffic events



Questions?



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