



SEATTLE CITY COUNCIL | DISTRICT 1

## COUNCILMEMBER LISA HERBOLD

September 14, 2018

Reagan Dunn, Chairman  
King County Flood Control District Board of Supervisors  
516 Third Avenue  
Room 1200  
Seattle, Washington 98104

Dear Chairman Dunn:

I am writing to request your consideration of two issues, in addition to the Flood Control District Advisory Committee's recommendations in their letter of August 31, 2018. As I was unable to attend the August 22 Advisory Committee meeting, I sent Chairman Hearing a letter with my comments prior to that meeting to consider for inclusion in the Advisory Committee's recommendation letter. I appreciate the attention to these issues by the Advisory Committee but regret being unable to speak to them directly. I hope to use this communication to request that you and the Board please consider the following additions or refinements to two of the recommendations:

### Multi-benefit projects

*I request the District consider a policy to broaden the definition of multi-benefit projects to include salmon habitat and other natural resource improvements during the Flood Hazard Management Plan update.* Constructing habitat elements as part of flood control projects is an effective use of public funds. It can save dollars, rather than adding the habitat restoration later. It helps us avoid constructing flood control-only projects that move us further away from habitat protection. For example, numerous CIP projects identified in the Green-Duwamish and Cedar River salmon plans include levee setbacks for both habitat and flood management. It takes years to assemble enough funding to implement these types of projects due to the limited habitat dollars available, but wise investment of Flood District funding, leveraged with other sources, can help achieve both objectives. This would be in the best interest of the public and the environment and should be the standing policy and practice of the Flood District.

### 2019-2024 Capital Budget Issues

*I request moving a portion of the acquisition budget for the Cedar River projects in lines 80 and 82 to earlier years, to take advantage of potential willing sellers prior to 2024.* The Cedar River acquisition projects are currently budgeted for 2024. It would be helpful to move the funding earlier in case the opportunity arises to acquire properties. Specifically, the Cedar Pre-Construction Strategic Acquisition in line 80 shows \$1.2 million in 2024 for acquisition associated with 5 important construction projects—it would be more strategic to allocate this funding in earlier budget years. Funds can be carried over if there are no sellers. The same is true for line 82 with \$800K to acquire highest risk and repetitive loss property from willing sellers, and to elevate or purchase 2 homes per year. We will lose the ability to respond to opportunities if funding is not available until 2024.

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Thank you in advance for considering my requests. I appreciate the opportunity to serve with my colleagues on the Advisory Committee and also appreciate the important work of the Board of Supervisors.

Sincerely,



Lisa Herbold  
Seattle City Councilmember District 1

cc: Flood Control District Board  
Flood Control District Advisory Committee  
FCD ED Michelle Clark  
FCD AC Facilitator Kjrístine Lund