

**KING CONSERVATION DISTRICT
KING COUNTY, WASHINGTON**

RESOLUTION NO. 19-007

A RESOLUTION OF THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS OF THE
KING CONSERVATION DISTRICT, KING COUNTY,
WASHINGTON, ESTABLISHING THE 2020 PROPOSED
PROGRAM OF WORK AND RATES & CHARGES
APPROPRIATIONS BUDGET.

WHEREAS, King Conservation District ("District") was formed and operates under the powers and authority granted by Chapter 89.08 RCW and the District is authorized to implement and provide programs and services that protect natural resources; and

WHEREAS, the District serves areas within the District's boundaries which include 34 King County cities and the unincorporated areas of King County; and

WHEREAS, the District has completed four years and one-half of its five-year Interlocal Agreement to provide landowners, occupiers of lands and government agencies with natural resource services; and

WHEREAS King County Ordinance 17474 and the current Interlocal Agreement (ILA) between the District and King County establishing a program of work and supporting rate structure is set to expire on December 31, 2019; and

WHEREAS, the District's constituents and partners have indicated a strong need and desire for continued and strengthened natural resource services as delivered by the District for an additional five-year period as evidenced by supportive feedback via the following outreach and engagement activities:

- A. Customer survey with over 800 direct beneficiaries of District services;
- B. District staff presentations to regional forestry bodies including the King County Rural Forest Commission and the City of Seattle Urban Forestry Committee;
- C. District staff presentations to salmon-recovery bodies including WRIA 8 and WRIA 9;
- D. Annual Advisory Committee presentations to the Metropolitan King County Council, and annual meetings with King County Council members and their staff;
- E. District staff presentation to the NW Green Infrastructure Summits in 2018 and 2019;
- F. Discussions at regional events including farmers markets, Duwamish River events, the NW Flower & Garden Festival, King Conservation District Board of Supervisor monthly meetings;
- G. Engagement of online newsletter subscribers and social media readers;
- H. Continued close collaboration with the King Conservation District Advisory Committee as laid out in the 2015 ILA; and

WHEREAS, King County Ordinance 17474 and the current ILA between the District and King County empanels an Advisory Committee whose purpose is “to foster a greater understanding of the programs and services provided by the District and to identify conservation programs that may be undertaken by the District through the use of funds derived through the District’s approved system of rates and charges”; and

WHEREAS, the Advisory Committee has been apprised of all recommendations and evaluation results from these various stakeholder processes; and

WHEREAS, the Advisory Committee has participated in all stages of the development and refinement of a proposed new five-year Program of Work, including monthly planning and work sessions between January 2018 and February 2019; and a full day workshop which included elected officials from across the County, and senior staff from regional associations and King County; and round tables discussions with stakeholders and beneficiaries from the Regional Food, Urban and Rural Forestry and Riparian Stewardship programs; and have been briefed on the analysis underpinning the supporting rate structure; and

WHEREAS, the Advisory Committee expressed its support for a proposed Plan of Work (Attachments A, B & C) which was transmitted to the King Conservation District Board of Supervisors on May 10, 2019; and

WHEREAS, the District Board of Supervisors did, by unanimous vote, accept the recommended program of work from the Advisory Committee at the May 13, 2019 meeting of the Board of Supervisors as reflected in District Resolution No. 19-002 (Attachment D); and

WHEREAS, the District Board of Supervisors did subsequently receive comments from representatives from the Sound Cities Association, the Office of the King County Executive and the Director of the King County Department of Natural Resources and Parks indicating their assessment that the District’s recommended program of work might not have broad political support necessary to pass a rate structure necessary to execute the aforementioned program of work; and

WHEREAS, based on a review of all comments received, the District Board of Supervisors did consider a proposed modified 2 year plan of work (Attachment E), which stops short of the full program of work recommended through the stakeholder and Advisory Committee processes but maintains the key program service areas and delivery methods outlined in the recommended program of work, consistent with the recommendations put forward by the Conservation Panel and Task Force and incorporated into the 2015-2019 Plan of Work and ILA; and

WHEREAS, the District Board of Supervisors did give notice of and held two open public hearings (Attachment F) on the proposed modified plan of work; and

WHEREAS, two public hearings on the proposed modified plan of work were held on July 22nd and July 24th, 2019; and

WHEREAS, comments on the modified proposed plan of work were received (Attachment G) both at the hearings and online during the open public comment period; and

WHEREAS, the comments received by the District indicated broad stakeholder support for continuation of the proposed plan of work and for providing secure funding for the Agricultural Drainage (ADAP) and Wildfire Preparedness (Firewise) programs; and

WHEREAS, at a special meeting of the District Board of Supervisors held on July 25, 2019, the Board by motion adopted a 2020 Proposed Program of Work which forms the basis of its proposed system of rates and charges; and

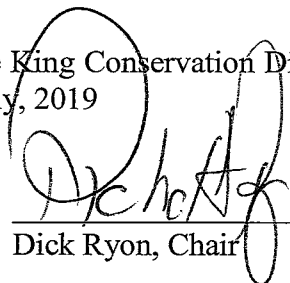
WHEREAS, the District Board of Supervisors of the King Conservation District desires to formally establish the 2020 Proposed Program of Work and Rates and Charges Appropriations Budget; now, therefore

BE IT RESOLVED by the Board of Supervisors of the King Conservation District, King County, Washington, as follows:

Section 1. The King Conservation District Board of Supervisors hereby approves of the 2020 Proposed Program of Work and Rates and Charges Appropriations Budget attached hereto as Attachment H; and

Section 2. All District resolutions, policies and procedures are hereby modified, amended and superseded to be in accordance with this Resolution.

ADOPTED BY THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS of the King Conservation District, Washington, at a special open public meeting held on the 31st Day of July, 2019



Dick Ryon, Chair

CERTIFICATE

I, Bill Knutsen, Auditor of the Board of Supervisors, King County, Washington, do hereby certify that the foregoing resolution is a true and correct copy of Resolution No. 19-007 of such Board, duly adopted at a special meeting thereof held on July 31, 2019.

William M. Knutsen

Bill Knutsen, Auditor

Attachment A

Proposed Program of Work

Clean Water

KCD educates, provides technical assistance to, and helps implement best practices for landowners to affect water quality that impacts us all. The three programs move landowners through the arc of education: Riparian Land Stewardship's classes, workshops, and tours and technical assistance; Rural Land Stewardship- KCD's legacy work of working with rural landowners to develop plans for stewarding their natural resources; and Riparian Restoration & Improvement- action through bringing on-the-ground projects and financial assistance to natural resource challenges.

Riparian Stewardship- Landowner engagement and education make up the bulk of this program. KCD has learned that due to smaller lots and greater density and diversity, urban audiences require more, and different types of engagement to achieve the desired conservation outcomes. Because shoreline properties have the greatest potential to realize impact from conservation improvements, KCD proposes to continue this work and to add lakeshore properties to the portfolio.

Rural Land Stewardship- Rural Land Stewardship (Farm Conservation Planning) is a hallmark program for KCD. This program supports landowner compliance with Critical Areas Ordinance and the Livestock Ordinance and qualification for Public Benefit Rating System current use taxation. KCD currently serves an average of 150 customers annually, developing and average of 70 plans a year. KCD also offers an equipment loan service which provides access to equipment for an average of 60 landowners a year.

Riparian Restoration and Improvement -This program is the follow on for Riparian Land Stewardship. This program provides technical assistance, cost share, and work crews to help landowners implement best management practices such as removal of invasive species, planting natives, and installing buffers. This program also houses Discovery Farms, KCD's on-farm research program. Through this program, qualified landowners may also access federal funds for buffer improvement through the Conservation Reserve Enhancement Program. In 2020 KCD anticipates continuing to implement an average of 10 projects a year, impacting an average of 10 acres or 1.5 miles per year.

Forest Stewardship

As KCD built its Forest Stewardship Programs, we heard from our member jurisdictions that developing capacity to reduce risks from wildfires is important and an unmet need. In addition, member jurisdictions requested more KCD assistance in greening the built environment through its Urban Forest Stewardship program. In the rural areas of King County, KCD works with privately-owned parcels of 5 acres and under -- representing a combined forested area of over 40,000 acres.

Wildfire Preparedness- Stakeholders are increasingly aware of the need to modify landscaping and land management practices to mitigate wildfire risk potential. Programs exist at the state and federal level to support planning and preparation on public lands and on large acreage holdings. There is an identified niche for KCD in engaging landowners and home owners' associations to assist in this type of planning. In 2020 KCD proposes to continue this work, funding staffing and technical support through rates and charges. KCD anticipates engaging with 5-7 communities annually to develop and implement alternative landscape and management practices in those communities.

Urban Forest Stewardship- This program focuses on partnerships with jurisdictions (as opposed to individual landowners within jurisdictions). In 2020 KCD proposes to continue working with cities to identify and develop projects to maintain and improve canopy on public and private property. KCD anticipates working with an average of 6 cities a year. KCD will prioritize projects based on potential conservation impact as opposed to geographic diversity.

Small Lot Forest Health - This program will continue in 2020 as it is currently run. As a complement to work done by the County and the State, KCD will focus its efforts on small lot landowners (5 acres or less). KCD will continue to partner with WSU Extension to deliver planning and stewardship classes to interested landowners. Nearly 100 King County landowners receive support from this program annually.

Agriculture and Local Food

KCD will continue to serve as the primary organization responding to King County's Local Food Initiative funding innovation in food production, demand, and access. A second task will be continuing to work with farmers to bring non-functioning drainage ditches back into production. Finally, a key component of improving food access and equity will continue to be KCD's Community Agriculture program, working with CBOs to develop urban sites into production gardens for immigrants, refugees, and other underserved residents.

Regional Food Systems- This program will continue to award \$900,000 annually to support the Executive's Local Food Initiative. In 2020 the program will make larger, longer term sustained investments in 4 key areas: Infrastructure; Scaling Up; Farmland Access and Institutional Demand. The program will utilize a competitive RFP process to award funds for these strategic initiatives. The program will continue to offer smaller competitive grants to support local food economy actors and organizations.

Agricultural Drainage Assistance - In 2020 KCD will continue its collaboration with the King County ADAP program. KCD will focus its efforts on landowner engagement and providing consultation and subject matter expertise to assist in the development of planting plans. KCD will engage in project management as requested by the County ADAP team, and as funds are available. Currently averaging the reclaiming of 2.5 miles of ditch and restoring or improving 300-400 new acres each year.

Community Agriculture -in 2020 KCD will continue to partner with Continue working with community-based organizations, faith institutions, and refugee and immigrant resettlement agencies to site and develop urban food production gardens and facilitate access to healthy soil, culturally-appropriate seeds, and technical assistance. In addition, at the request of stakeholders, KCD proposes to implement a Community Ag focused grant program (in the amount of \$150,000 annually) with priority given to underserved communities and community-based organizations. KCD anticipates working with an average of 3-5 cities to develop 5-8 gardens per year.

Member Jurisdiction

The Member Jurisdiction program has been a component of KCD's approach to partnering with cities since 2006. In response to stakeholder feedback, the 2020 plan expands the pool of dollars available to cities, while also strengthening the guidelines for use of funds.

PROPOSED BUDGET

Program Area	Current		Proposed	
	FTE	Total Program Cost	FTE	Total Program Cost
Clean Water				
Riparian Land Stewardship	2.9	\$517,500	3.0	\$557,300
Rural Land Stewardship	11.0	\$1,891,800	11.5	\$1,992,500
Riparian Restoration/Improvement	7.2	\$1,709,000	7.6	\$1,787,300
Clean Water TOTAL	21.1	\$4,118,300	22.2	\$4,337,100
Forest Stewardship				
Wildfire Preparedness	1.6	\$262,900	1.7	\$337,900
Urban Forest Stewardship	3.3	\$701,000	3.4	\$725,700
Small Lot Forest Stewardship	2.5	\$513,300	3.8	\$678,000
Forest Stewardship TOTAL	7.4	\$1,477,200	8.9	\$1,741,600
Agriculture and Local Food				
Regional Food System	1.6	\$1,147,200	1.7	\$1,192,500
Agricultural Drainage Assistance	2.0	\$385,600	2.1	\$353,700
Community Agriculture	1.6	\$233,900	1.7	\$397,200
Agriculture & Local Food TOTAL	5.3	\$1,766,800	5.6	\$1,943,400
Member Jurisdiction				
Member Jurisdiction TOTAL	1.7	\$1,495,900	1.8	\$1,870,325
TOTAL	35.5	\$8,858,200	38.5	\$9,892,500¹

Member Jurisdiction, Regional Food, Landowner Incentive Cost Share, and the Urban Forestry and Community Ag grant pools are fully funded through rates and charges revenue.

Small Lot Forest Stewardship, Wildfire Preparedness, Riparian Land Stewardship, Riparian Restoration/Improvement and Riparian Land Stewardship all rely on grant funding to varying degrees. Grant sources historically utilized have included: the Washington State Conservation Commission, Puget Sound Partnership NTA-USEPA National Estuary Program, WRIA Opportunity Funds, USDA, US Forest Service, WA DNRP, WA Dept of Ecology

¹ The 2020 proposal anticipates \$8.9 million in revenue from rates and charges. KCD anticipates that the remaining \$1 million will be secured through grants obtained in partnership with stakeholders.

Attachment B

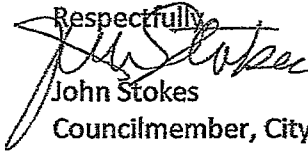
Friday May 10, 2019

Dick Ryon, Chair,
KCD Board of Supervisors

Dear Chair Ryon,

On behalf of the KCD Advisory Committee, I am transmitting our comments on the recommendations for the **KCD 2020-2024 Proposed Program of Work**. Also included in an **Appendix A** which sets forth the full description of the Program of Work. We look forward to working with the KCD staff and the Board as we move forward through the process for final approval of the rates and charges by the King County Council.

Respectfully,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "John Stokes", is written over the word "Respectfully".

John Stokes
Councilmember, City of Bellevue.
Chair, KCD Advisory Committee

KCD 2020-2024 Proposed Program of Work

Dear King Conservation District Board of Supervisors,

On behalf of the Advisory Committee of the King Conservation District (AC) we recommend the Executive Director forward the attached program of work (Exhibit A) to the King Conservation District Board of Supervisors for further review and consideration.

Key Elements of the Proposed Program of Work

The Proposed Program of Work detailed in Attachment A would:

- Continue key programs that were identified in the 2015 Interlocal Agreement (ILA) and funded through rates and charges, including Urban Forest Stewardship, Community (Urban) Agriculture, Regional Food Program, Marine and Freshwater Shoreline Landowner education and technical assistance, Rural Small Lot Forest Stewardship and Rural Land Stewardship.
- Continue to provide a funding pool (Member Jurisdiction Grants) that jurisdictions can utilize to implement conservation activities in their communities - and grow that pool approximately proportionate to the KCD rate increase.
- Provide funding from rates and charges for programs that stakeholders have identified as valuable (Agricultural Drainage Assistance Program and Firewise wildfire preparedness planning) that were previously funded by grants and one-time funds.
- Provide new funding for a community agriculture grant program.
- Provide new funding for adding inland lakeshores to the riparian work with landowners.
- Provide for the addition of three (3.0) FTEs, including a forester, education specialist, and program evaluator position.
- Provide enhanced capacity so that KCD can deliver conservation services to different cultural and geographic audiences.
- Provide funding for a program evaluator and increased emphasis on program evaluation to maximize conservation impacts, efficiencies, and alignment with other conservation efforts including those at the local, county, state, regional and national level.

Key Assumptions

Through the planning process and review of the current KCD proposal, the Advisory Committee (AC) identified several key issues and assumptions that are important to highlight for the Board of Supervisors:

- The proposed 2020-2024 rates and charges revenue is understood to be \$8.9M, with a maximum per parcel rate of \$13.85 and an average per parcel rate of \$13.32.
- The proposed rates and charges structure does not fully fund the total cost of the Proposed Program of Work (\$9.8M). The attached Proposed Program of Work identifies the programming funded by rates and charges and the programming dependent on supplemental revenue sources.
- The AC encourages KCD to continue to seek supplemental and leverage funding where appropriate, but work funded in this way should not be considered guaranteed into the future with revenue from rates and charges.
- The rate proposal covers inflation through 2024, and projected increases in program costs through 2024.
- The AC recognizes the need for KCD to improve programmatic evaluation to better measure conservation outcomes and to adjust programming accordingly. The proposed program of work includes funds for programmatic evaluation, which should include consideration of third-party evaluation.
- The AC identified financial reporting as an area of needed improvement and recommends that KCD identify and implement best practices for financial planning and reporting.
- The AC will continue to provide guidance to ensure that KCD programs effectively reach our unique constituencies and align with and add value to the regional ecosystem of natural resource protection efforts.

Background

Over the past 18 months, the Advisory Committee has convened monthly with KCD staff to receive information and engage in strategic planning sessions related to KCD programming. This engagement included receiving the results of a survey completed by over 800 KCD stakeholders, and hearing from focus groups, program beneficiaries, and KCD staff on Urban and Rural Forestry, Community Agriculture, Regional Food, Rural Agriculture and Marine and Freshwater Shoreline programs.

The Advisory Committee recognizes that virtually all of KCD's programs help build resilience to counter the effects of global warming. With some programs, like fire prevention, stream and lakeshore improvements, and forest health, this link is very direct. Other programs like those aimed at agriculture and food systems also contribute to sustainability of land and water resources and are important for expanding access to healthy food and teaching natural resource stewardship. Many KCD programs are aimed at member jurisdictions, and the KCD county-wide scope of work recognizes that our individual jurisdictions do not exist in isolation and allows member jurisdictions to benefit from conservation practices spread over the larger geographical area.

Respectfully, for the Advisory Committee,

John Stokes
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¹ The 2020 proposal anticipates \$8.9 million in revenue from rates and charges. KCD anticipates that the remaining \$1 million will be secured through grants obtained in partnership with stakeholders.

PROPOSED RATE STRUCTURE

Rate Structure Per Parcel Per Year					
Land Classification	Current Structure (established in 2015)		Proposed Structure (2020-2024)		Projected Change per Year
	# of Parcels ²	Rate	Projected # of Parcels	Projected Rate	
Agricultural	121	\$10.00	104	\$13.85	\$3.85
Residential	580,469	\$9.45	602,647	\$13.35	\$3.90
Institutional/Public	2,799	\$9.25	2,731	\$13.55	\$4.30
Commercial	19,187	\$9.23	18,725	\$13.20	\$3.97
Open Space	2,343	\$8.92	2,430	\$13.01	\$4.09
Vacant/Undeveloped	44,705	\$7.69	42,970	\$13.00	\$5.31
Average		\$9.62		\$13.32	\$3.70

The KCD rate is a static annual per parcel rate. It is not tied to inflation or property value and does not fluctuate over the period of the Interlocal Agreement.

The proposed rate structure will remain in place from 2020-2024 and at the average, will cost a parcel owner approximately thirty cents (\$0.30) per month.

- ~\$2.00 of the average \$3.70 increase covers inflation for the period 2015-2024.
- ~\$0.85 of the average \$3.70 increase supports shifting programs onto a sustainable revenue stream
- ~\$0.85 of the average \$3.70 increase supports new work called for as part of the 2018-19 stakeholder engagement process

RCW 89.08 provides the legal authority for conservation districts to fix rates and charges to recover district costs. Section 89.08.405(3)(a).

A rate is intended to cover the cost of public programs based on services received or negative impacts imposed. In a 'rate construct' the services received, and the impacts charged may be indirect. Further, the rate may show consideration for "services furnished, to be furnished or available to the landowner", or "benefits received, to be received or available to the property" in addition to other factors.

The King Conservation District rate structure features distinct rates by land use, based on the services/benefits received from District program. The cost of each District program, or natural resource priority, is subject to a two- step allocation process to establish unit costs, the building blocks of rate development. Each priority cost is first allocated between direct and indirect service/benefit provided. Cost recovery is then allocated among customer classes based on the comparative amount of service/benefit enjoyed by each customer class from the resource priority.

² Land classifications and numbers of parcels in each land classification are developed and provided by King County Assessor as of 1/29/2019.

Attachment C

C

As SCA representatives to the KCD Advisory Committee, we are supportive of KCD's proposed scope of work for the 2020-2024 program period. Our support is based on the following:

1. Over the last year and a half, all of us have participated in KCD's planning process, both through monthly Advisory Council meetings, and in some cases through extra sessions focused on specific program areas. We have developed greater understanding of the programs, and confidence in the KCD staff members who carry them out.
2. The new programs introduced in the current 5-year period have proved successful and have demonstrated demand for continuation in the next 5-year period.
3. Virtually all of KCD's programs help build resilience to counter the effects of global warming. With some programs, like fire prevention, stream and lakeshore improvements, and forest health, this link is very direct.
4. Other programs like those aimed at agriculture and food systems also contribute to sustainability of land and water resources, and are important for expanding access to healthy food and teaching natural resource stewardship

Many KCD programs are aimed at member cities, and the KCD county-wide scope of work recognizes that our cities do not exist in isolation, and allows cities to benefit from conservation practices spread over the larger geographical area.

In conclusion, the SCA representatives to the KCD Advisory Committee are supportive of KCD's proposed scope of work for the 2020-2024 program period.

Susan Boundy-Sanders, City of Woodinville
Brenda Fincher, City of Kent
Victoria Hunt, City of Issaquah
Amy McHenry, City of Duvall
Mark Phillips, City of Lake Forest Park
Wendy Weiker, City of Mercer Island

Attachment D

**KING CONSERVATION DISTRICT
KING COUNTY, WASHINGTON**

RESOLUTION NO. 19-002

A RESOLUTION OF THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS OF THE
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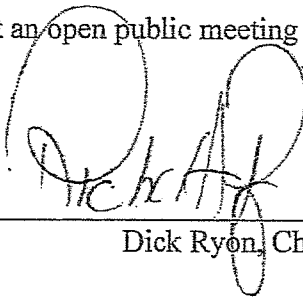
WHEREAS, the Board of Supervisors of the King Conservation District desires to formally establish the 2020 Proposed Program of Work and Rates and Charges Appropriations Budget; now, therefore

BE IT RESOLVED by the Board of Supervisors of the King Conservation District, King County, Washington, as follows:

Section 1. The King Conservation District Board of Supervisors approved the 2020 Proposed Program of Work and Rates and Charges Appropriations Budget as submitted (Appendix A) and

Section 2. All District resolutions, policies and procedures are hereby modified, amended and superseded to be in accordance with this Resolution.

ADOPTED by the Board of Supervisors at an open public meeting held on May 13, 2019

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Dick Ryon", is written over a horizontal line. The signature is stylized with large loops and a long horizontal stroke.

Dick Ryon, Chair

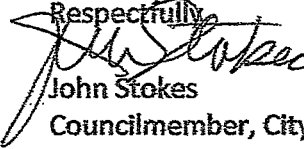
Friday May 10, 2019

Dick Ryon, Chair,
KCD Board of Supervisors

Dear Chair Ryon,

On behalf of the KCD Advisory Committee, I am transmitting our comments on the recommendations for the **KCD 2020-2024 Proposed Program of Work**. Also included in an **Appendix A** which sets forth the full description of the Program of Work. We look forward to working with the KCD staff and the Board as we move forward through the process for final approval of the rates and charges by the King County Council.

Respectfully,



John Stokes

Councilmember, City of Bellevue.
Chair, KCD Advisory Committee

KCD 2020-2024 Proposed Program of Work

Dear King Conservation District Board of Supervisors,

On behalf of the Advisory Committee of the King Conservation District (AC) we recommend the Executive Director forward the attached program of work (Exhibit A) to the King Conservation District Board of Supervisors for further review and consideration.

Key Elements of the Proposed Program of Work

The Proposed Program of Work detailed in Attachment A would:

- Continue key programs that were identified in the 2015 Interlocal Agreement (ILA) and funded through rates and charges, including Urban Forest Stewardship, Community (Urban) Agriculture, Regional Food Program, Marine and Freshwater Shoreline Landowner education and technical assistance, Rural Small Lot Forest Stewardship and Rural Land Stewardship.
- Continue to provide a funding pool (Member Jurisdiction Grants) that jurisdictions can utilize to implement conservation activities in their communities - and grow that pool approximately proportionate to the KCD rate increase.
- Provide funding from rates and charges for programs that stakeholders have identified as valuable (Agricultural Drainage Assistance Program and Firewise wildfire preparedness planning) that were previously funded by grants and one-time funds.
- Provide new funding for a community agriculture grant program.
- Provide new funding for adding inland lakeshores to the riparian work with landowners.
- Provide for the addition of three (3.0) FTEs, including a forester, education specialist, and program evaluator position.
- Provide enhanced capacity so that KCD can deliver conservation services to different cultural and geographic audiences.
- Provide funding for a program evaluator and increased emphasis on program evaluation to maximize conservation impacts, efficiencies, and alignment with other conservation efforts including those at the local, county, state, regional and national level.

Key Assumptions

Through the planning process and review of the current KCD proposal, the Advisory Committee (AC) identified several key issues and assumptions that are important to highlight for the Board of Supervisors:

- The proposed 2020-2024 rates and charges revenue is understood to be \$8.9M, with a maximum per parcel rate of \$13.85 and an average per parcel rate of \$13.32.
- The proposed rates and charges structure does not fully fund the total cost of the Proposed Program of Work (\$9.8M). The attached Proposed Program of Work identifies the programming funded by rates and charges and the programming dependent on supplemental revenue sources.
- The AC encourages KCD to continue to seek supplemental and leverage funding where appropriate, but work funded in this way should not be considered guaranteed into the future with revenue from rates and charges.
- The rate proposal covers inflation through 2024, and projected increases in program costs through 2024.
- The AC recognizes the need for KCD to improve programmatic evaluation to better measure conservation outcomes and to adjust programming accordingly. The proposed program of work includes funds for programmatic evaluation, which should include consideration of third-party evaluation.
- The AC identified financial reporting as an area of needed improvement and recommends that KCD identify and implement best practices for financial planning and reporting.
- The AC will continue to provide guidance to ensure that KCD programs effectively reach our unique constituencies and align with and add value to the regional ecosystem of natural resource protection efforts.

Background

Over the past 18 months, the Advisory Committee has convened monthly with KCD staff to receive information and engage in strategic planning sessions related to KCD programming. This engagement included receiving the results of a survey completed by over 800 KCD stakeholders, and hearing from focus groups, program beneficiaries, and KCD staff on Urban and Rural Forestry, Community Agriculture, Regional Food, Rural Agriculture and Marine and Freshwater Shoreline programs.

The Advisory Committee recognizes that virtually all of KCD's programs help build resilience to counter the effects of global warming. With some programs, like fire prevention, stream and lakeshore improvements, and forest health, this link is very direct. Other programs like those aimed at agriculture and food systems also contribute to sustainability of land and water resources and are important for expanding access to healthy food and teaching natural resource stewardship. Many KCD programs are aimed at member jurisdictions, and the KCD county-wide scope of work recognizes that our individual jurisdictions do not exist in isolation and allows member jurisdictions to benefit from conservation practices spread over the larger geographical area.

Respectfully, for the Advisory Committee,

John Stokes
Councilmember, City of Bellevue
Chair of the KCD Advisory Committee

Proposed Program of Work

Clean Water

KCD educates, provides technical assistance to, and helps implement best practices for landowners to affect water quality that impacts us all. The three programs move landowners through the arc of education: Riparian Land Stewardship's classes, workshops, and tours and technical assistance; Rural Land Stewardship- KCD's legacy work of working with rural landowners to develop plans for stewarding their natural resources; and Riparian Restoration & Improvement- action through bringing on-the-ground projects and financial assistance to natural resource challenges.

Riparian Stewardship- Landowner engagement and education make up the bulk of this program. KCD has learned that due to smaller lots and greater density and diversity, urban audiences require more, and different types of engagement to achieve the desired conservation outcomes. Because shoreline properties have the greatest potential to realize impact from conservation improvements, KCD proposes to continue this work and to add lakeshore properties to the portfolio.

Rural Land Stewardship- Rural Land Stewardship (Farm Conservation Planning) is a hallmark program for KCD. This program supports landowner compliance with Critical Areas Ordinance and the Livestock Ordinance and qualification for Public Benefit Rating System current use taxation. KCD currently serves an average of 150 customers annually, developing an average of 70 plans a year. KCD also offers an equipment loan service which provides access to equipment for an average of 60 landowners a year.

Riparian Restoration and Improvement -This program is the follow on for Riparian Land Stewardship. This program provides technical assistance, cost share, and work crews to help landowners implement best management practices such as removal of invasive species, planting natives, and installing buffers. This program also houses Discovery Farms, KCD's on-farm research program. Through this program, qualified landowners may also access federal funds for buffer improvement through the Conservation Reserve Enhancement Program. In 2020 KCD anticipates continuing to implement an average of 10 projects a year, impacting an average of 10 acres or 1.5 miles per year.

Forest Stewardship

As KCD built its Forest Stewardship Programs, we heard from our member jurisdictions that developing capacity to reduce risks from wildfires is important and an unmet need. In addition, member jurisdictions requested more KCD assistance in greening the built environment through its Urban Forest Stewardship program. In the rural areas of King County, KCD works with privately-owned parcels of 5 acres and under – representing a combined forested area of over 40,000 acres.

Wildfire Preparedness- Stakeholders are increasingly aware of the need to modify landscaping and land management practices to mitigate wildfire risk potential. Programs exist at the state and federal level to support planning and preparation on public lands and on large acreage holdings. There is an identified niche for KCD in engaging landowners and home owners' associations to assist in this type of planning. In 2020 KCD proposes to continue this work, funding staffing and technical support through rates and charges. KCD anticipates engaging with 5-7 communities annually to develop and implement alternative landscape and management practices in those communities.

Urban Forest Stewardship- This program focuses on partnerships with jurisdictions (as opposed to individual landowners within jurisdictions). In 2020 KCD proposes to continue working with cities to identify and develop projects to maintain and improve canopy on public and private property. KCD anticipates working with an average of 6 cities a year. KCD will prioritize projects based on potential conservation impact as opposed to geographic diversity.

Small Lot Forest Health - This program will continue in 2020 as it is currently run. As a complement to work done by the County and the State, KCD will focus its efforts on small lot landowners (5 acres or less). KCD will continue to partner with WSU Extension to deliver planning and stewardship classes to interested landowners. Nearly 100 King County landowners receive support from this program annually.

Agriculture and Local Food

KCD will continue to serve as the primary organization responding to King County's Local Food Initiative funding innovation in food production, demand, and access. A second task will be continuing to work with farmers to bring non-functioning drainage ditches back into production. Finally, a key component of improving food access and equity will continue to be KCD's Community Agriculture program, working with CBOs to develop urban sites into production gardens for immigrants, refugees, and other underserved residents.

Regional Food Systems- This program will continue to award \$900,000 annually to support the Executive's Local Food Initiative. In 2020 the program will make larger, longer term sustained investments in 4 key areas: Infrastructure; Scaling Up; Farmland Access and Institutional Demand. The program will utilize a competitive RFP process to award funds for these strategic initiatives. The program will continue to offer smaller competitive grants to support local food economy actors and organizations.

Agricultural Drainage Assistance - In 2020 KCD will continue its collaboration with the King County ADAP program. KCD will focus its efforts on landowner engagement and providing consultation and subject matter expertise to assist in the development of planting plans. KCD will engage in project management as requested by the County ADAP team, and as funds are available. Currently averaging the reclaiming of 2.5 miles of ditch and restoring or improving 300-400 new acres each year.

Community Agriculture -in 2020 KCD will continue to partner with Continue working with community-based organizations, faith institutions, and refugee and immigrant resettlement agencies to site and develop urban food production gardens and facilitate access to healthy soil, culturally-appropriate seeds, and technical assistance. In addition, at the request of stakeholders, KCD proposes to implement a Community Ag focused grant program (in the amount of \$150,000 annually) with priority given to underserved communities and community-based organizations. KCD anticipates working with an average of 3-5 cities to develop 5-8 gardens per year.

Member Jurisdiction

The Member Jurisdiction program has been a component of KCD's approach to partnering with cities since 2006. In response to stakeholder feedback, the 2020 plan expands the pool of dollars available to cities, while also strengthening the guidelines for use of funds.

PROPOSED BUDGET

Program Area	Current		Proposed	
	FTE	Total Program Cost	FTE	Total Program Cost
Clean Water				
Riparian Land Stewardship	2.9	\$517,500	3.0	\$557,300
Rural Land Stewardship	11.0	\$1,891,800	11.5	\$1,992,500
Riparian Restoration/Improvement	7.2	\$1,709,000	7.6	\$1,787,300
Clean Water TOTAL	21.1	\$4,118,300	22.2	\$4,337,100
Forest Stewardship				
Wildfire Preparedness	1.6	\$262,900	1.7	\$337,900
Urban Forest Stewardship	3.3	\$701,000	3.4	\$725,700
Small Lot Forest Stewardship	2.5	\$513,300	3.8	\$678,000
Forest Stewardship TOTAL	7.4	\$1,477,200	8.9	\$1,741,600
Agriculture and Local Food				
Regional Food System	1.6	\$1,147,200	1.7	\$1,192,500
Agricultural Drainage Assistance	2.0	\$385,600	2.1	\$353,700
Community Agriculture	1.6	\$233,900	1.7	\$397,200
Agriculture & Local Food TOTAL	5.3	\$1,766,800	5.6	\$1,943,400
Member Jurisdiction				
Member Jurisdiction TOTAL	1.7	\$1,495,900	1.8	\$1,870,325
TOTAL	35.5	\$8,858,200	38.5	\$9,892,500¹

Member Jurisdiction, Regional Food, Landowner Incentive Cost Share, and the Urban Forestry and Community Ag grant pools are fully funded through rates and charges revenue.

Small Lot Forest Stewardship, Wildfire Preparedness, Riparian Land Stewardship, Riparian Restoration/Improvement and Riparian Land Stewardship all rely on grant funding to varying degrees. Grant sources historically utilized have included: the Washington State Conservation Commission, Puget Sound Partnership NTA-USEPA National Estuary Program, WRIA Opportunity Funds, USDA, US Forest Service, WA DNRP, WA Dept of Ecology

¹ The 2020 proposal anticipates \$8.9 million in revenue from rates and charges. KCD anticipates that the remaining \$1 million will be secured through grants obtained in partnership with stakeholders.

PROPOSED RATE STRUCTURE

Rate Structure Per Parcel Per Year					
Land Classification	Current Structure (established in 2015)		Proposed Structure (2020-2024)		Projected Change per Year
	# of Parcels ²	Rate	Projected # of Parcels	Projected Rate	
Agricultural	121	\$10.00	104	\$13.85	\$3.85
Residential	580,469	\$9.45	602,647	\$13.35	\$3.90
Institutional/Public	2,799	\$9.25	2,731	\$13.55	\$4.30
Commercial	19,187	\$9.23	18,725	\$13.20	\$3.97
Open Space	2,343	\$8.92	2,430	\$13.01	\$4.09
Vacant/Undeveloped	44,705	\$7.69	42,970	\$13.00	\$5.31
Average		\$9.62		\$13.32	\$3.70

The KCD rate is a static annual per parcel rate. It is not tied to inflation or property value and does not fluctuate over the period of the Interlocal Agreement.

The proposed rate structure will remain in place from 2020-2024 and at the average, will cost a parcel owner approximately thirty cents (\$0.30) per month.

- ~\$2.00 of the average \$3.70 increase covers inflation for the period 2015-2024.
- ~\$0.85 of the average \$3.70 increase supports shifting programs onto a sustainable revenue stream
- ~\$0.85 of the average \$3.70 increase supports new work called for as part of the 2018-19 stakeholder engagement process

RCW 89.08 provides the legal authority for conservation districts to fix rates and charges to recover district costs. Section 89.08.405(3)(a).

A rate is intended to cover the cost of public programs based on services received or negative impacts imposed. In a 'rate construct' the services received, and the impacts charged may be indirect. Further, the rate may show consideration for "services furnished, to be furnished or available to the landowner", or "benefits received, to be received or available to the property" in addition to other factors.

The King Conservation District rate structure features distinct rates by land use, based on the services/benefits received from District program. The cost of each District program, or natural resource priority, is subject to a two- step allocation process to establish unit costs, the building blocks of rate development. Each priority cost is first allocated between direct and indirect service/benefit provided. Cost recovery is then allocated among customer classes based on the comparative amount of service/benefit enjoyed by each customer class from the resource priority.

² Land classifications and numbers of parcels in each land classification are developed and provided by King County Assessor as of 1/29/2019.

Attachment E

2020-2021 KCD Proposed Program of Work and Rates and Charges Structure
(expires December 31, 2021)

Rates and Charges Collection	\$8,000,000
Rates and Charges Revenue (collection less 1% admin fee and 1% delinquency)	\$7,840,000

Member Jurisdiction Program		Maintain Annual
<i>Program Cost (~80% pass through funding)</i>		
Program Cost		\$1,435,885
Program Revenue		
	Rates and Charges	\$1,435,885
	Grants and Contracted Services	-
	Other	-
	Total	\$1,435,885
Regional Food Systems Program		Maintain Annual
<i>Program Cost (~80% pass through funding)</i>		
Program Cost		\$1,147,244
Program Revenue		
	Rates and Charges	\$1,147,244
	Grants and Contracted Services	-
	Other	-
	Total	\$1,147,244
TOTAL		\$2,583,129
Rates and Charges Balance		\$5,256,871

Riparian Land Stewardship Program		Maintain Annual
<i>(Stewardship Education for landowners)</i>		
Program Cost		
		\$517,490
Program Revenue		
	Rates and Charges	\$492,490
	Grants and Contracted Services	\$25,000
	Other	-
	Total	\$517,490
Rural Farm Land Stewardship Program		Maintain Annual
<i>(On the ground stewardship assistance for landowners)</i>		
Program Cost		
		\$1,891,848
Program Revenue		
	Rates and Charges	\$1,891,848
	Grants and Contracted Services	-
	Other	-
	Total	\$1,891,848
Riparian Restoration/Improvement Program		Maintain Annual
<i>(On the ground stewardship assistance for landowners)</i>		
Program Cost		
		\$1,709,004
Program Revenue		
	Rates and Charges	\$1,434,004
	Grants and Contracted Services	\$275,000
	Other	-
	Total	\$1,709,004
TOTAL		\$4,118,341

Urban Forest Stewardship Program		Maintain Annual
<i>(Partnerships with KC cities)</i>		
Program Cost		
		\$700,989
Program Revenue		
	Rates and Charges	\$700,989
	Grants and Contracted Services	-
	Other	-
	Total	\$700,989

Small Lot Forest Stewardship Program		Maintain Annual
<i>(Forest health education & assistance)</i>		
Program Cost		\$513,290
Program Revenue		
	Rates and Charges	\$513,290
	Grants and Contracted Services	-
	Other	-
	Total	\$513,290
TOTAL		\$1,214,279

Community Agriculture Program		Maintain Annual
<i>(Greening the built environment through urban food production)</i>		
Program Cost		\$233,897
Program Revenue		
	Rates and Charges	\$233,897
	Grants and Contracted Services	-
	Other	-
	Total	\$233,897
TOTAL		\$233,897

SUMMARY

TOTAL PROGRAM COSTS		\$8,149,647
TOTAL Revenue		
	Rates and Charges	\$7,849,647
	Grants and Contracted Services	\$300,000
	Other	-
	Total	\$8,149,647
Max Annual One Time Rate (paid by ~104 parcels)		~\$12.15
Average Annual One Time Per Parcel Rate:		~\$11.71

Notes:

This proposal is based on a rates and charges structure that would be in place for ~2 years

This proposal assumes \$300,000 in WSCC grant revenue for habitat stewardship education and projects

This proposal continues all programs that were scoped in the adopted 2015 Program of Work at 2019 rates of service

This proposal retains staffing necessary to implement current program services (~32 FTE)

This proposal provides \$1,140,000 for jurisdiction use (allocated on a % basis)

This proposal provides \$900,000 for grants/strategic initiatives to support the Local Food Initiative

This proposal provides \$650,000 in landowner cost share and technical assistance grants

This proposal does NOT include rates and charges funding for Wildfire Preparedness programming at any level - Addition of Wildfire Preparedness would increase annual cost by \$337,900 adding approximately an additional forty cents annually (\$0.40) to the annual rate.

This proposal does NOT include rates and charges funding for Ag Drainage Assistance at any level - Addition of Ag Drainage Assistance would increase annual cost by ~\$353,700 adding approximately an additional forty cents (\$0.40) annually to the annual rate.

Attachment F



King Conservation District Public Hearing Notice



Monday, July 22

6-8 PM

Green River College

12401 SE 320th St.

Auburn, WA 98092

Wednesday, July 24

6-8 PM

Phinney Center

6532 Phinney Ave N.

Seattle, WA 98103

Learn About and Comment on our Proposed Rate Structure

King Conservation District's Board of Supervisors has scheduled public hearings for Monday, July 22, 2019, commencing at 6:00 p.m. in the Emerald City Room of the Lindbloom Student Union Building of Green River College located at 12401 S.E. 320th St., Auburn, WA 98092, and for Wednesday, July 24, 2019, commencing at 6:00 p.m. at the Phinney Center located at 6532 Phinney Ave N., Seattle, WA 98103 in order to gather information and to receive public comment on the proposed system of rates and charges and corresponding plan of work being considered for adoption by the KCD Board of Supervisors.

This proposal is pursuant to RCW 89.08.405 and RCW 89.08.400 to fund KCD's conservation activities and programs. Information regarding the public hearing may be obtained from KCD's website at www.kingcd.org/ratesandcharges.

Submit Comments Online

To learn more about our rates and charges renewal and comment online go to kingcd.org/ratesandcharges or call us at 425-282-1900.

Learn more at kingcd.org/ratesandcharges

King Conservation District • 800 SW 39th St, Suite 150 • Renton, WA 98057 • 425-282-1900 • www.kingcd.org

Attachment G

King Conservation District 2019 Rates and Charges Online Comment Submission

Timestamp: 7/11/2019 3:34:45 PM

Name: Nancy Shimeall

street: 6634 159th Ave NE

city: Redmond

State: WA

Zip Code: 98052

Email Address: nshimeall@gmail.com

Phone: 360-708-4014

May we follow up with you?: Yes

Comment: I wholeheartedly support the King Conservation District's rate proposal. The KCD staff provides essential support and services and the work they do enhances life in our county. In this time of environmental catastrophe and climate disruption, we need KCD to continue to be excellent stewards of our water, soil and flora. Thank you!

King Conservation District 2019 Rates and Charges Online Comment Submission

Timestamp: 7/11/2019 3:41:03 PM

Name: Jeanne Hannah

Street: 14725 Bear Creek Lane NE

City: Woodinville

State: WA.

Zip Code: 98077

Email Address: jeannehannah@comcast.net

Phone: 4258818851

May we follow up with you?: Yes

Comment: Letter of support

King Conservation District 2019 Rates and Charges Online Comment Submission

Timestamp: 7/11/2019 10:57:02 PM

Name: RACHEL MOLLOY

Street: 18308 NE 107TH ST

City: REDMOND

State: WA

Zip Code: 98052

Email Address: RACHEL@SAFYREDESIGN.COM

Phone: 2069317052

May we follow up with you?: Yes

Comment: I would like to express support for funding the King Conservation District in full, with additional increases to cover necessary flood mitigation and fire preparedness in our County and Cities. As we continue to warm past +1.1C, with the increasing impacts of climate change and global warming the conservation of our resources, local food security, water mitigation, drainage, wildfire lands preparation, habitat for species survival and water conservation become even more strained and essential. This is outreach, education, and action funding to the public, at pennies on the dollar which will recoup it's costs over many times over, as a local wildfire outbreak behind my own home recently reminded me. Thank you for the work and the support you show to landowners and communities as we face challenges ahead.

King Conservation District 2019 Rates and Charges Online Comment Submission

Timestamp: 7/15/2019 11:22:08 AM

Name: Leslie Bingham

Street: 21029 SE 376th Street

City: Auburn

State: WA

Zip Code: 98092

Email Address: Steveandali@skynetbb.com

Phone: 253-347-8823

May we follow up with you?: Yes

Comment: I love you guys...the work you do and the more education you can provide horse/livestock owners on best practices for taking care of the land is so darn important for securing environmental safety. composting waste, taking care of the water run off is key to water health for all. If you have horses, do your part and that is a message that needs to be reached in our country areas. More building the more practices need to be followed. I am a Merit Farm in progress and love and display my plaque proudly...my neighbors ask and I speak up. Keep up the great work.....I started with Alayne Bickley years ago.

King Conservation District 2019 Rates and Charges Online Comment Submission

Timestamp: 7/15/2019 11:24:25 AM

Name:

Street:

City:

State:

Zip Code:

Email Address: ecophonic3@gmail.com

Phone:

May we follow up with you?: No

Comment: Member Jurisdiction Grants & Riparian Land Stewardship - description and explanation of deliverables are very vague considering the % of funds

King Conservation District 2019 Rates and Charges Online Comment Submission

Timestamp: 7/15/2019 11:56:07 AM

Name: Rita Moore

Street: 4509 Ferncroft Rd

City: Mercer Island

State: WA

Zip Code: 98040-3819

Email Address: rmoore@eds.org

Phone: 2066793375

May we follow up with you?: Yes

Comment: I have used KCD's services and recommended them to others. I fully support the work they do and have no problem with an increase in rates.

King Conservation District 2019 Rates and Charges Online Comment Submission

Timestamp: 7/15/2019 11:56:41 AM

Name: Sharon Baker

street: 4921 SW Othello St

city: Seattle

state: WA

zip Code: 98136

Email Address: sabaker41@gmail.com

Phone:

May we follow up with you?: Yes

comment: KCD is a no-nonsense, highly skilled organization that is critical to the health of King County. Their programs are wide ranging and effective, providing vital services to King County residents and protecting and improving our environment. As a volunteer forest steward with the Green Seattle Partnership, and as a land owner restoring an environmentally critical urban hillside above Puget Sound, I appreciate, deeply understand, and totally support their work.

King Conservation District 2019 Rates and Charges Online Comment Submission

Timestamp: 7/15/2019 12:32:29 PM

Name: Dianne Holterman

Street: 11717 22nd Ave NE

City: Seattle

State: WA

Zip Code: 98125

Email Address: diannealice108@gmail.com

Phone: 2063635659

May we follow up with you?: Yes

Comment: I have purchased native plants inexpensively for my yard from the King Conservation District. I am starting to see an increase in the variety of birds and other urban wildlife coming to my yard. I believe it is important to keep this opportunity for citizens to get native plants inexpensively in order to increase our native plant populations in King County. Please keep this wonderful service for citizens and for the environment.

King Conservation District 2019 Rates and Charges Online Comment Submission

Timestamp: 7/15/2019 12:59:47 PM

Name: Marie-Anne Harkness

Street: 29780 53rd Ave. S.

City: Auburn

State: WA

Zip Code: 98001-2301

Email Address: maharkness@comcast.net

Phone: 253-797-1414

May we follow up with you?: Yes

Comment: How about reducing your staffing and cutting programs and equipment to balance the budget, rather than asking taxpayers for more money? I have looked over your annual report (the latest being available online is 2017) and found a few places in the budget that need more scrutiny:

cost of Board of Directors and their support staff

cost of Rent

cost of Supplies

cost of IT and IT staffing

Unfortunately the Annual Report does not detail these expenses. I would like to see a breakdown of these expenses for public transparency. In that way the public can offer informed comment. Please come prepared to share this information at your public meetings and send a copy of those details to me and my representative on the King County Council, Pete von Reichbauer.

I suspect we could find places to cut the budget by 10% in order to maintain current cost to taxpayers and dispense with the 10% rate increase.

King Conservation District 2019 Rates and Charges Online Comment Submission

Timestamp: 7/15/2019 1:04:15 PM

Name: Joe & Elizabeth Miles

Street: 24639 156th AveSE

City: Kent **State:** WA **Zip Code:** 98042

Email Address: milesje@q.com **Phone:** 425 523 5275

May we follow up with you?: Yes

Comment: We support the continuation of KCD's excellent programs and support the nominal increase in rates and charges to adjust for inflation and cover the true cost of KCD services.

Joe & Elizabeth Miles, Kent WA

King Conservation District 2019 Rates and Charges Online Comment Submission

Timestamp: 7/15/2019 3:43:51 PM

Name: Aaron Stafford

Street: 9623 South 248th St. E9

City: kent

State: Wa

Zip Code: 98030

Email Address: aaronts@hotmail.com

Phone: 2067787244

May we follow up with you?: Yes

Comment: My advice is: no more 6-figure salaries and puffy pension/benefits packages for workers there. Also, reduce the mission creep of trying to "help" more and more, which results in increased expense.

King Conservation District 2019 Rates and Charges Online Comment Submission

Timestamp: 7/15/2019 4:49:54 PM

Name: Elizabeth Crain

Street: 29221 NE 126th St.

City: Duvall

State: WA

Zip Code: 98019

Email Address: escocrain@gmail.com

Phone: 978-844-0282

May we follow up with you?: Yes

Comment: As a rural hill farm land owner in King County, KDC has helped me with a farm plan, cost share programs, and a USDA/FSA stream buffer for Weiss Creek. This land is also a Forest Stewardship participant. As part of the greater county forest habitat, fire management and implementation is an important part of good land stewardship in this county. Please give KDC financial support for the safety of my home, farm, and my support as a tax payer. KDC has also given grants to a specific food coop that I am a producer for. Cascadia Cooperative Farms, who aggregate eggs from small local farmers to the larger consumer market in greater King County implements food security for the greater Seattle area. As Operations Manager, and founding member of CCF, we are a testament of a women founded and operated food coop directly supported by KDC. This non-profit organization continues to follow through on their mission statement to support the citizens of this county, and beyond by providing fresh, local food. From native plant sales to individual land owner conservation planning, we as tax payers should continue our support of this organization, which continued to deliver quality support and resources to the citizens of Washington State.

My comment on Bottom Land Drainage assistance is this; let's address the problem of sediment runoff at its source. The development of forest land into real estate for sprawling suburbs has costs us clean water and soil of our lower watersheds, where sadly, much of our established agriculture is located. That land is toxic, or receives contaminated water from developments, during flood season each year. 21st century suburban growth has swallowed up food producing agricultural areas and, more importantly, vast temperate rain-forest ecosystem, which eliminate sediment runoff entirely through diffusion. We continue to cut down forest for development, and cause more runoff into our rivers. Ag land in these congested flood plains areas, which are already contaminated, should go into forest restoration stewardship plans; dredging them will only exacerbate the situation. Dredging hastens the loss of fresh water to the ocean. and leaves our aquifers dry too. Focus on stream buffer restoration (including forest stewardship) in the hill country and curb timber harvest, especially in steeper terrain that contributes to direct flooding in the developed river valleys.

On a side note connected to the above comments regarding fire management and preparedness, forested lands that were replanted by the timber companies, especially those on state and federal land, should be thinned, diversified, and managed for old growth restoration, period. Commercial logging is not sustainable at its current scale, and intact rain forest is worth more than any board or plank for accursed building or government spending.

King Conservation District 2019 Rates and Charges Online Comment Submission

Timestamp: 7/15/2019 5:13:35 PM

Name: Erin Barton

Street: 23014 SE 220th Place SE

City: Maple Valley

State: WA

Zip Code: 98038

Email Address: erinoo@hotmail.com

Phone: 206-660-1978

May we follow up with you?: Yes

Comment: I support the new increase

King Conservation District 2019 Rates and Charges Online Comment Submission

Timestamp: 7/15/2019 6:45:45 PM

Name: Sharon Chastain

Street: 22255 Dorre Don Way SE

City: Maple Valley

State: WA

Zip Code: 98038

Email Address: sharchas@gmail.com

Phone: 4258304877

May we follow up with you?: Yes

Comment: KCD has helped me get native plants for my riverside property. Without their support I couldn't afford to replant after major flooding. And the plants hold on tight so each year I increase my native plants I get less flood damage. Between KCD and some other organizations I am able to be a good and knowledgeable steward of my fragile river property. It's a powerful program and I strongly encourage renewing their funding to the fullest. With their help we mitigate even larger costs via uncontrolled flood damage. They are so much more than native plants and flooding but those two areas are where they've really made an impact on my land and life.

King Conservation District 2019 Rates and Charges Online Comment Submission

Timestamp: 7/15/2019 8:11:28 PM

Name: Jennifer Ewing

Street: 7556 27th Ave NW

City: Seattle

State: WA

Zip Code: 98117

Email Address: jenewing7@yahoo.com

Phone:

May we follow up with you?: Yes

Comment: I think KCD should keep the rates the same, or if you increase them put the additional funds in the member jurisdiction pool of funds. There is not enough transparency in the use of the funds outside of the member jurisdiction pool of funds.

King Conservation District 2019 Rates and Charges Online Comment Submission

Timestamp: 7/15/2019 11:15:26 PM

Name: Hank

Street:

City: State: Zip Code:

Email Address: friends-of-hank@hotmail.com Phone:

May we follow up with you?: Yes

Comment: The KCD should prioritize the programs and services they provide so that they can build a sustainable budget versus seeking a 40% increase in revenue to cover their spending. You should never use one-time dollars for ongoing expenses as that just leads to a budget cliff and having to cut programs/services. A modest cost of living increase in revenue should be considered and programs/services which produce the best results should be the primary recipients of those funds. If a program/service falls below its goals/objectives or is not meeting a stretch goal, more funding does not seem to be the answer.

Additionally, the KCD should use the King County Elections process for all their elections rather than their current process. It is not transparent nor inviting to the public to participate.

King Conservation District 2019 Rates and Charges Online Comment Submission

Timestamp: 7/16/2019 10:40:39 AM

Name: julia

Street:

City:

State:

Zip Code: 98074

Email Address: jjbronson@aol.com

Phone:

May we follow up with you?: No

Comment: I do not support continued screwing of the population with more and more taxes taken for lord knows what all when we struggle to make ends meet as it is. Where does it end? I do not consent to this increase. Thank you

King Conservation District 2019 Rates and Charges Online Comment Submission

Timestamp: 7/16/2019 12:52:02 PM

Name: Jodie Galvan

Street: 123 5th Ave

City: Kirkland State: Wa Zip Code: 98033

Email Address: jgalvan@kirklandwa.gov Phone: 425-587-3305

May we follow up with you?: Yes

Comment: These programs have allowed an immense amount of habitat restoration work to be done in the City of Kirkland which has benefitted our community in many ways - climate mitigation, improved water quality, enhanced air quality, increased opportunities for outdoor recreation, expanded fish and wildlife habitat, etc. We strongly encourage the KCD Board of Supervisors to support the rate changes needed to continue these programs. Thank you!

King Conservation District 2019 Rates and Charges Online Comment Submission

Timestamp: 7/16/2019 1:27:27 PM

Name: Nicole Sanders

Street: 38624 SE River St.

City: Snoqualmie State: WA Zip Code: 98065

Email Address: nsanders@ci.snoqualmie.wa.us Phone: 425-888-5337

May we follow up with you?: Yes

Comment: Snoqualmie has benefited from KCD through funding and technical expertise for programs such as the:

- Shoreline Public Access and Restoration Plan that transformed into our Riverwalk Master Plan, which is currently in process; the
- Urban-forestry stormwater report; and the
- Green Snoqualmie plan, which assessed the status and restoration needs of all city-owned open spaces and identified City restoration project priorities.

Snoqualmie plans to utilize KCD's forest health management program which is very important for both the urban area and rural areas surrounding us. We also plan to utilize KCD resources for wildfire preparedness program. KCD has advised that each of these areas need increased funding. Snoqualmie supports increased funding for KCD.

King Conservation District 2019 Rates and Charges Online Comment Submission

Timestamp: 7/16/2019 2:16:48 PM

Name: Mary Jo Dugaw

Street: P.O. Box 1257

City: Fall City State: WA Zip Code: 98024

Email Address: maryjo@maryjodugaw.com Phone: 4252224530

May we follow up with you?: Yes

Comment: My husband, David Ketter and I have benefited immensely from the many wonderful programs provided to rural land owners here in King County by King Conservation District. PLEASE PROVIDE GENEROUS FINANCIAL SUPPORT for King Conservation District!! This is funding well-spent. They are the best support for clean water, good farming practices, fish and forests we have! The staff deserves our full support. They provide immeasurable help to rural, suburban and urban citizens and lands of King County. Thank you!

King Conservation District 2019 Rates and Charges Online Comment Submission

Timestamp: 7/16/2019 3:16:16 PM

Name: Steve Dubiel

Street: 3520 S Hanford St

City: SEATTLE

State: Washington

Zip Code: 98144

Email Address: steve@earthcorps.org

Phone: 2067303794

May we follow up with you?: Yes

Comment: I am in total support of the proposed King Conservation District rate increase both as a Seattle resident (address above) and as EarthCorps executive director. KCD provides enormous value to all communities throughout our region. I see the impact of KCD funding both personally and professionally- and the lack of KCD funding in communities that have not participated in conservation district funding. Please accept my enthusiastic support for increased funding. Do not hesitate to contact me with questions or for additional information.

King Conservation District 2019 Rates and Charges Online Comment Submission

Timestamp: 7/16/2019 4:14:31 PM

Name: Joyce Moty

Street: 1531 30th Avenue South

City: Seattle

State: WA

Zip Code: 98144

Email Address: jmmoty@gmail.com

Phone: 206 437-8324

May we follow up with you?: Yes

Comment: I support the rate change for the King Conservation District. As a P-Patch gardener in Seattle, I appreciate the KCD's programs such as soil tests and classes. As a restoration steward, I am grateful for their native plant sale every year. KCD provides many invaluable services to farmers, restoration projects and food sustainability projects. Keep up the good work.

King Conservation District 2019 Rates and Charges Online Comment Submission

Timestamp: 7/16/2019 5:29:56 PM

Name: William Ziehl

Street: 1526 269th Avenue NE

City: Redmond

State: WA

Zip Code: 98053

Email Address: billziehl@comcast.net

Phone: 2064780709

May we follow up with you?: Yes

Comment: I've alway enjoyed working with the King County Conservation District. The input and ongoing guidance has been very valuable to running our farm. The Farm Plan was written over 10 years ago yet I still call from time to time and get questions answered. Thank you, Bill Ziehl

King Conservation District 2019 Rates and Charges Online Comment Submission

Timestamp: 7/16/2019 5:39:03 PM

Name: Sean Walters

Street:

City: Seattle

State: WA

Zip Code: 98103

Email Address: seanwalters.2@gmail.com

Phone:

May we follow up with you?: No

Comment: I supposed KCD and all the work that they do to help our land!

King Conservation District 2019 Rates and Charges Online Comment Submission

Timestamp: 7/16/2019 8:00:27 PM

Name: Joanna Nelson

street: 7700 S. Mission Drive

City: Seattle

State: Washington

Zip Code: 98178

Email Address: jojnelson@yahoo.com

Phone: 2069092290

May we follow up with you?: Yes

comment: I support the increased rate and proposed 2-year budget to continue funding the programs that KCD established in 2015. I would love to see more funding and support for urban forestry.

King Conservation District 2019 Rates and Charges Online Comment Submission

Timestamp: 7/16/2019 8:11:49 PM

Name: Doug Goar

Street: 10230 kelly rd ne

City: CARNATION

State: WA

Zip Code: 98014-6902

Email Address: dgoar14@hotmail.com

Phone: 4257885950

May we follow up with you?: Yes

Comment: Is there a senior discount rate for fixed income?

King Conservation District.2019 Rates and Charges Online Comment Submission

Timestamp: 7/17/2019 6:32:20 AM

Name:

Street:

City: State: Zip Code:

Email Address: amelia.a.petersen@gmail.com Phone:

May we follow up with you?: No

Comment: I support the proposed KCD rate increase.

King Conservation District 2019 Rates and Charges Online Comment Submission

Timestamp: 7/17/2019 1:54:37 PM

Name: Mary Howland

Street: 6534 23rd Ave SW

City: Seattle

State: WA

Zip Code: 98106

Email Address: howlandmc@gmail.com

Phone: 2069335825

May we follow up with you?: Yes

Comment: Letter of Support

King Conservation District 2019 Rates and Charges Online Comment Submission

Timestamp: 7/17/2019 4:48:56 PM

Name: Alexia Allen

Street: 17340 NE 195th St

City: Woodinville

State: WA

Zip Code: 98072

Email Address: alexiaallen@hotmail.com

Phone: 425 286 5640

May we follow up with you?: Yes

Comment: KCD is an incredible resource, and I am happy to support it through increased taxes. I love how accessible it is cost-wise for people using the services, and appreciate the unifying vision of "Better Ground" for all King County residents--human and otherwise! I think a tax increase to support this program is well worth it. I'd even gladly see it go higher. Without good air, water, and food, none of us would get very far. I definitely use more than \$12 a year of KCD information and help.

King Conservation District 2019 Rates and Charges Online Comment Submission

Timestamp: 7/17/2019 9:52:12 PM

Name: Marie Bui

Street: 5571 Greenwood Ave N

City: Seattle

State: WA

Zip Code: 98103

Email Address: pipobui2@yahoo.com

Phone: pipobui2@yahoo.com

May we follow up with you?: Yes

Comment: I support the proposed KCD rate increase - especially with all the recent population growth and development, we need to invest in protecting our greenspaces and natural resources.

King Conservation District 2019 Rates and Charges Online Comment Submission

Timestamp: 7/18/2019 2:20:04 PM

Name: Dan Hintz

Street: 810 2nd Ave NW

City: Issaquah

State: WA

Zip Code: 98027

Email Address: daniel.j.hintz@gmail.com

Phone:

May we follow up with you?: Yes

Comment: I strongly support this rate increase to adequately fund expanded programs at KCD. We must invest in the health and resiliency of our landscape, and the work KCD does with private landowners cannot be matched by another public agency. While we are fortunate to have so much public land in King County, restoration and sustainable land practices must occur on more than just our public lands!

King Conservation District 2019 Rates and Charges Online Comment Submission

Timestamp: 7/22/2019 10:59:32 AM

Name: Adelle Drawbaugh

Street: 18360 W.Lake Desire Drive SE

City: Renton **State:** WA **Zip Code:** 98058

Email Address: adraw@aol.com **Phone:** 111 111 1111

May we follow up with you?: Yes

Comment: We are very appreciative of Matthew Axe"s assessment of our property so we can take measures to ihelp protect our home from wildfires. We live in an unincorporated area on Lake Desire, our lots are small and heavily wooded including the King County green belt across the lake from us.

King Conservation District 2019 Rates and Charges Online Comment Submission

Timestamp: 7/22/2019 2:25:03 PM

Name: CHARLEY BURNS

Street: 950 FARMAN AVE NORTH

City: ENUMCLAW

State: WASHINGTON

Zip Code: 98022

Email Address: charley.burns@dnr.wa.gov

Phone: 253-740-7452

May we follow up with you?: Yes

Comment: Support for KCD-As the Washington State DNR South Puget Sound Region Wildfire Unit Manager for King and Pierce Counties, I have had the opportunity to work with King County Forestry for 12+years on many Firewise Community Projects. Our partnership has been able to better utilize our time and limited budgets to contact East King County Small Forest Landowners and Wildland Urban Communities to educate, train and provide assistance in Wildland Fire Prevention and Fuels Reduction Projects. A recent example is Trilogy of Redmond Ridge. This will be highlighted on the King 5 News Wildland Fire series with Glen Farley starting Monday, July 22nd at 6pm. or online at KING5.com

King Conservation District 2019 Rates and Charges Online Comment Submission

Timestamp: 7/22/2019 5:10:45 PM

Name: Suzanna Smith

Street: 201 South Jackson Street

City: Seattle State: WA Zip Code: 98104

Email Address: susmith@kingcounty.gov Phone: 206-477-4641

May we follow up with you?: Yes

Comment: The KCD has been instrumental in the implementation of the WRIA 9 Salmon Habitat plan. The partnership between WRIA 9 and the KCD has resulted in projects with more impactful results and better community engagement. We continue to work on shared interests in the nearshore environment through our Shared Endeavor fund, and through the Shore Friendly program spearheaded by KCD staff. KCD has been able to leverage funding from outside sources and continue to demonstrate efficient and thoughtful use of tax payer funds for the highest priority work with the most impact. This organization is critical to the success of restoration efforts throughout King County and should be supported.

King Conservation District 2019 Rates and Charges Online Comment Submission

Timestamp: 7/22/2019 8:39:29 PM

Name: MARTH CHRISTENSEN

Street: 13131 234th CT NE

City: REDMOND

State: WA

Zip Code: 98053

Email Address: marthnrozz@gmail.com

Phone: 2067157410

May we follow up with you?: Yes

Comment: I am the Wildfire Preparedness person at Trilogy at Redmond Ridge (TRR). I am a member of our Forest Stewardship Committee (FSC). We have about 200 acres of wetland and about 300 acres of 80-100 year old forest. KCD has been very helpful to us in understanding our forest and managing forest fire preparedness.

TRR has recognized that wildfire preparedness is critical to the health of our community, and we are recognized by the National Fire Protection Association (NFPA) as a Firewise USA™ community.

We are looking forward to the KCD Wildfire Resiliency program for assistance in the future for assessment, planning, fuel reduction and other services.

We thus consider it essential that the County sustain 2020-2012 Wildfire Preparedness funding to support programs in King county such as our programs. Also, I feel that we should be looking 20 years into the future and start taking positive steps to lessen the effects of climate change on our forest. The current heavy accumulation of understory on the West side of the Cascades, when dried out, will be an extreme danger for huge wildfires.

Please fully fund the Wildfire Preparedness line.

King Conservation District 2019 Rates and Charges Online Comment Submission

Timestamp: 7/23/2019 6:07:41 AM

Name: Indy Crowley

Street: 12563 232nd Way NE

City: Redmond State: WA Zip Code: 98053

Email Address: indy.crowley@cirsrus.com Phone: 425-242-1584

May we follow up with you?: Yes

Comment: I am writing to strongly request that King County continue funding the King County Conservation District (KCD) Wildfire Resiliency Program. I am a resident of the Trilogy at Redmond Ridge Community activity involved in our wildfire preparedness activities. We are a high-density community of 1,500 homes contained with over 300 acres of forest. This forest land has considerable under growth. Part of the community has steep slopes. A Wildfire could thus quickly spread and threaten massive property damage and loss of life. This is especially the case given we are in the fifth year of a significant drying period. Indeed, we has a wildfire during last year's exceptionally dry August. Fortunately, it was near our major highway, quickly spotted and contained.

Given the danger, our Community has performed an assessment of wildfire risks, developed a Community Wildfire Protection Plan and conducted numerous wildfire preparedness activities. King Country resources has been absolutely essential in all these efforts. The current program is the Wildfire Resiliency Program. As our wildfire risk assessment is several years old, we will be in need of this program's support to assess the current state of our wildfire exposure as it has been nearly four years since our current assessment. Once completed, we will require further support to update our Community Wildfire Preparedness Protection Plan and make needed adjustments to our programs. We strongly believe that the modest costs of KCD supporting active community involvement in preparing for wildfire will avoid the catastrophic costs of the actual loss of property and lives to uncontrolled wildfire.

King Conservation District 2019 Rates and Charges Online Comment Submission

Timestamp: 7/23/2019 10:56:23 AM

Name: ROBERT THOMAS

Street: P.O. Box 13

City: Snoqualmie Pass

State: WA

Zip Code: 98068

Email Address: cougrock@gmail.com

Phone: 2533807182

May we follow up with you?: Yes

Comment: As one that has been involved in improving the health of our forest and implementing tactics to reduce fire danger I find proposed budget disheartening. I stood on my deck as the latest fire near Cle Elum caused the ash to fall like snow on our deck on Snoqualmie Pass. This event combined with the help of KCD finally got some momentum going via residents engaging in our Firewise efforts. It seems that those to the west of the summit think wildfire is an eastside problem. So finally when some momentum has been built the one group that made a difference is on the chopping block. I can only hope those responsible to such funding decisions do the right thing.

King Conservation District 2019 Rates and Charges Online Comment Submission

Timestamp: 7/23/2019 3:59:50 PM

Name: Dave King

Street: 12321 Big Leaf Way NE

City: Redmond State: WA Zip Code: 98053

Email Address: davidking12321@gmail.com Phone: 206-232-7267

May we follow up with you?: Yes

Comment: KCD (and previously King County DNRP) has been of invaluable assistance over the past years in guiding our community, which is located in an urban/forest interface in King County, with advice and assistance in matters relating to wildfire risk mitigation. We have been able to magnify the impact of that assistance with volunteer labor. With the support of King County DNRP and KCD we have developed an approved Community Wildfire Protection Plan, achieved NFPA recognition, and undertaken numerous steps to reduce fire load and educate residents about wildfire risks. The KCD Wildfire Resiliency program is a critical source of ongoing assistance to this and all King County communities for assessment, planning, fuel reduction and other services.

King Conservation District 2019 Rates and Charges Online Comment Submission

Timestamp: 7/24/2019 1:25:53 PM

Name: Lester Weber

Street: 12401 ADAIR CREEK WAY NE

City: REDMOND

State: WA

Zip Code: 98053

Email Address: lj_weber@comcast.net

Phone: (425) 242-1348

May we follow up with you?: Yes

Comment: (This may be a duplicate submission. I attempted it late last night. but my PC screen froze, and I did not receive an emailed acknowledgement.)

I wholeheartedly encourage the KCD Board of Supervisors and the King County Council to support and fund Wildfire Preparedness services in the KCD 2020–2021 Program of Work. As the Firewise USA™ Resident Leader for Trilogy at Redmond Ridge (TRR) for the four previous years, I have seen firsthand and have greatly appreciated the major support from KCD in our wildfire risk mitigation pursuits. TRR is a designated age 55+ community of 1,522 closely spaced homes in the wildland urban interface of eastern unincorporated King County. Nearly 500 acres of thick forest thread throughout the community which is bordered on the west by the heavily forested Redmond Watershed Preserve and on the east by a steep slope down to the Snoqualmie River Valley. Much of that slope is also heavily wooded. Embers from a wildfire in any surrounding area could land anywhere in TRR and ignite combustible materials, thus threatening numerous homes and lives.

The dedicated professionals of KCD have provided invaluable support to TRR's Firewise initiatives since early 2017. This has been in the form of extensive combustible fuels removal beyond the capability of elderly volunteer residents, highly informative briefings at Firewise Town Halls, risk assessments for TRR homeowners, and expert consultation.

TRR is now in the fourth year of recognition by the National Fire Protection Association as a Firewise USA™ community, and we have continued need for KCD's wildfire resiliency services. Our initial wildfire risk assessment and action plan were approved in 2016 as part of our Wildfire Community Protection Plan. Continued Firewise USA™ recognition will require that the assessment be updated in 2023 and our action plan in 2021. KCD expertise is needed for both.

According to information on the Rates and Charges page of the KCD Website, "The existing rate and charge was approved by the King County Council in 2015 and has not been adjusted for inflation or to address the true costs associated with implementing the six program areas launched in 2015." During this same period, western Washington has experienced unusual drought conditions and an increase in wildfires. Long term projections call for even hotter summers and increased periods of drought. Information currently posted on the National Interagency Fire Center's National Significant Wildland Fire Potential Outlook includes the following statement applicable for July-October this year, and it is very similar to assessments issued since 2015.: "Moderate to severe drought conditions exist across Washington and Oregon, especially across western portions of both states. Soil moisture levels are drier than average and drought stress exists."

I recognize that all of the services currently funded in the KCD 2 Year Proposed Program of Work are important, but I would urge that funding for Wildfire Preparedness and related engagement with 5-7 communities annually be approved. The \$337,900 estimated to annually provide these services would seem an absolutely minimal expenditure considering the wildfire risk that is projected to increase in western Washington during the years ahead and the simultaneous increase in the number of communities and population in the wildland urban interface areas of eastern King County.

King Conservation District 2019 Rates and Charges Online Comment Submission

Timestamp: 7/24/2019 3:07:50 PM

Name: Cluny McCaffrey

Street: 1011 SW Klickitat Way

City: Seattle State: WA Zip Code: 98134

Email Address: cmccaffrey@ecoss.org Phone: 206-948-0423

May we follow up with you?: Yes

Comment: My name is Cluny McCaffrey. I am a homeowner in King County and the Executive Director of ECOSS (Environmental Coalition of South Seattle), a multicultural environmental nonprofit.

I personally support a rate structure that fully funds all KCD programs through 2024. I believe in the multiple community benefits that are made possible by KCD grants and programs. The importance of supporting resilience in our communities and agricultural resources for the current and future impacts of climate change cannot be underestimated. I also want to recognize that all rate increases have a financial impact on struggling homeowners and low-income communities and should always be an important consideration.

ECOSS (Environmental Coalition of South Seattle) is a past KCD Member Jurisdiction Grant recipient. KCD grants have funded free spill kits, training and technical assistance for small businesses, like automotive repair, restaurants, grocery/gas marts and other retail businesses in Burien, Sammamish and Renton. This program provides the training and resources for businesses to stop, or manage, small spills from entering drainage systems and for how to report spills when they occur. Many of these businesses are immigrant owned or managed and have specific language needs. KCD funds have enabled ECOSS to overcome language as a barrier to implementing Best Management Practices (BMPs) by delivering training and materials in English, Vietnamese, Korean, Spanish and other languages.

The results of this program include businesses avoiding fines and cleanup costs for unmanaged spills, increasing compliance with municipal stormwater codes, and preventing pollution from entering our critical waterways. KCD funding enables ECOSS to hire from the communities we serve, providing pathways to nonprofit and environmental careers, and building trust with local businesses and municipalities. All communities benefit from pollution prevention, clean water and salmon recovery.

Thank you for the opportunity to comment and express appreciation for the community benefits resulting from King Conservation District grants and programs.

King Conservation District 2019 Rates and Charges Online Comment Submission

Timestamp: 7/24/2019 7:12:50 PM

Name: Gina Kilbridge

Street: 1402 THIRD AVENUE #709

City: Seattle State: WA Zip Code: 98101

Email Address: gina.kilbridge@pccfarmlandtrust.org Phone: 2067774068

May we follow up with you?: Yes

Comment: PCC Farmland Trust would like to express our full support for King Conservation District's rate renewal proposal. KCD is a crucial and unique partner in PCC Farmland Trust's work to protect and steward threatened farmland.

As a farmland conservation organization, we work to protect farmland as a natural resource. Once a property is conserved, we work with farmers to steward it in perpetuity. Farm Plans are an important piece of that equation. Farmland is an essential piece of a larger resilient landscape – it promotes soil health, water conservation, climate resiliency, and habitat protection. It produces healthy food, supports rural economies, and connects us to the natural world. KCD's Rural Land Stewardship program is positioned at the nexus of this work. Their work to develop Farm Plans with landowners and managers is critical to long-term farmland stewardship.

KCD's work also affects the County's urban areas. As outlined in the County's Local Food Initiative, ensuring that the agricultural lands in County are protected and productive is critical to securing a sustainable supply of locally-produced, healthy food for our cities. KCD is a leader in accomplishing the goals set forth in the Local Food Initiative. Through the Regional Food System (RFS) Grant program, KCD has enabled organizations like ours to expand the ways in which we are able to keep farmland in production and, in some cases, return underutilized acres to production. The first line of defense in keeping prime farmland from conversion to another use is to have a farm business operating on it. Thanks to the unique and effective RFS program, PCC Farmland Trust is able to deliver our land-matching program, Farm to Farmer, in King County. Farm to Farmer enables farmers to connect with the land opportunities they need to start or expand their businesses. Farmers and landowners receive personalized support and technical assistance from program staff who are farmers themselves and know what it takes to run a successful farm business in this community.

The RFS program has also enabled PCC Farmland Trust and our partners to establish and grow the Working Farmland Partnership. The collaborative network pools expertise and resources from County government, the Conservation District, local land trusts, and farmer training organizations. Working together, we are able to resolve barriers to farmland access and reduce underutilization of farmland more effectively and efficiently than we would be able to if left to tackle these issues as siloed entities.

We were particularly excited to see KCD's proposal to offer multi-year funding opportunities through the Regional Food System Grant program starting in 2020. In order to truly move the needle on big issues like farmland access, nonprofit agencies need long-term funding commitments. Such commitments enable organizations to generate thoughtful work plans and focus on program delivery.

Please approve KCD's rate renewal so that they can continue to provide these crucial services.

KCD Rates and Charges Comment Card



Name TOM HALL Email THALL45942@AOL.COM
Street 1543 E. OLIN PL City SEATTLE
State WA Zip Code 98112 Telephone _____
May we follow up with you YES ☐ NO ☒

Comment I SUPPORT KCD'S CONTINUING EFFORTS AND
SUPPORT THE EXPANDING EFFORTS TOWARDS FLOOD AND
FIRE PREPAREDNESS / MITIGATION.

KCD Rates and Charges Comment Card



Name MARC BOUAN Email mdbolane@comcast.net
Street 6248 4th Ave NW City SEATTLE
State SEATTLE Zip Code 98107 Telephone 206 248-0923
May we follow up with you YES ☒ NO ☐

Comment I am encouraged by the work done by KCD to develop
plan of action to support the rates and charges. I believe it is important
and necessary to ensure that the organization has the funding necessary to
carry out riparian and fire prevention programs across the county.

KCD Rates and Charges Comment Card



Name Wayne Gullstad Email _____
Street 8421 SE 47th St City Mercer Island
State _____ Zip Code 98040 Telephone 206-427-0785
May we follow up with you YES ☐ NO ☐

Comment Shoreline mgmt is very important - both
fresh and marine. A little advice and guidance
to the shoreline owners can become a powerful
tool for ecological improvement! I
don't know where else the help and advice
would come from in the absence of KCD.

KCD Rates and Charges Comment Card



Name Jeanette Dornier

Email jeanette@midsoundfisheries.org

Street _____

City Seattle

State _____ Zip Code _____

Telephone 253 8207790

May we follow up with you YES ☒ NO ☐

Comment King Conservation District is an
important partner to Mid Sound in our work
to help local communities be good natural resource
swards. We support this rate proposal
to ensure KCD has continued capacity to
partner with us and others to conserve
natural resources.

KCD Rates and Charges Comment Card



Name Ted DeVol Email teddevol@hotmail.com
Street 741-D Stevenson City Eau Claire
State WA Zip Code 98022 Telephone 3607619909
May we follow up with you YES ☒ NO ☐

Comment The state Democrats raised taxes 17% in one
(2018) single session. Before that my property taxes went up 20%
(2019) in one single tax cycle (1 year) I'm unlucky enough to
own 3 properties of about the same value. That means
the raised property taxes took over \$3,000 out of
my \$76,000 yearly income. Make due with
what you received in 2018. I have less and
must make due with what I have. There are
thousands of business owner just like me that
are working 60+ hours every week just to survive.

At some point the system will fail due to over
burdening the private sector which provides the fund →

it takes to run this state.

Do not increase your budget. If you need more please get the fund from people willing to donate to the cause.

It amazes me how few people show up for these tax increase meetings, when so many bitch about all the taxes they pay. I'm betting their silence will give you license to raise our taxes even further.

Attachment H

2020 Program of Work and Budget

Rates and Charges Collection	\$	8,712,063
Rates and Charges Revenue (less 1% administrative fee and 1% delinquency)	\$	8,541,400

Member Jurisdiction Program		Maintain Annual
Program Cost (92% pass through funding)	\$	1,435,900
Program Revenue		
Rates and Charges	\$	1,435,900
Grants and Contracted Services	\$	-
Other	\$	-
Total	\$	1,435,900
Regional Food Systems Program		Maintain Annual
Program Cost (87% pass through funding)	\$	1,147,300
Program Revenue		
Rates and Charges	\$	1,147,300
Grants and Contracted Services	\$	-
Other	\$	-
Total	\$	1,147,300
TOTAL	\$	2,583,200

Rates and Charges Balance	\$	5,958,200
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Riparian Land Stewardship Program		Maintain Annual
<i>(Stewardship Education for landowners)</i>		
Program Cost	\$	517,500
Program Revenue		
Rates and Charges	\$	492,500
Grants and Contracted Services	\$	25,000
Other	\$	-
Total	\$	517,500
Rural Farm Land Stewardship Program		Maintain Annual
<i>(On the ground stewardship assistance for landowners)</i>		
Program Cost	\$	1,891,900
Program Revenue		
Rates and Charges	\$	1,891,900
Grants and Contracted Services	\$	-
Other	\$	-
Total	\$	1,891,900
Riparian Restoration/Improvement Program		Maintain Annual
<i>(On the ground stewardship assistance for landowners)</i>		
Program Cost	\$	1,709,000
Program Revenue		
Rates and Charges	\$	1,434,000
Grants and Contracted Services	\$	275,000
Other	\$	-
Total	\$	1,709,000
TOTAL	\$	4,118,400

2020 Program of Work and Budget

Rates and Charges Collection	\$	8,712,063
Rates and Charges Revenue (less 1% administrative fee and 1% delinquency)	\$	8,541,400

Wildfire Preparedness Program	Maintain Annual
<i>(Wildfire loss prevention for HOAs and communities)</i>	
Program Cost	\$ 337,900
Program Revenue	
Rates and Charges	\$ 337,900
Grants and Contracted Services	\$ -
Other	\$ -
Total	\$ 337,900
Urban Forest Stewardship Program	Maintain Annual
<i>(Partnerships with KC cities)</i>	
Program Cost	\$ 701,000
Program Revenue	
Rates and Charges	\$ 701,000
Grants and Contracted Services	\$ -
Other	\$ -
Total	\$ 701,000
Small Lot Forest Stewardship Program	Maintain Annual
<i>(Forest health education & assistance)</i>	
Program Cost	\$ 513,300
Program Revenue	
Rates and Charges	\$ 513,300
Grants and Contracted Services	\$ -
Other	\$ -
Total	\$ 513,300
TOTAL	\$ 1,552,200

Agricultural Drainage Program	Maintain Annual
<i>(Restoring farmland to production)</i>	
Program Cost	\$353,700
Program Revenue	
Rates and Charges	\$353,700
Grants and Contracted Services	\$ -
Other	\$ -
Total	\$ 353,700
Community Agriculture Program	Maintain Annual
<i>(Greening the built environment through urban food production)</i>	
Program Cost	\$ 233,900
Program Revenue	
Rates and Charges	\$ 233,900
Grants and Contracted Services	\$ -
Other	\$ -
Total	\$ 233,900
TOTAL	\$ 587,600

TOTAL Costs	\$ 8,841,400
TOTAL Revenue	
Rates and Charges	\$ 8,541,400
Grants and Contracted Services	\$ 300,000
Other	\$ -
Total	\$ 8,841,400

King Conservation District - 2020 Program Budgets Summary

Clean Water		Program Deliverables	
	Proposed		
	FTE Total Cost		
Riparian Land Stewardship	3 \$ 517,500	KCD utilizes a model of engagement that meets landowners where they are and helps them move from awareness to action. Landowner engagement and education make up the bulk of this program. KCD has learned that due to smaller lots and greater density and diversity, urban audiences require more, and different types of engagement to achieve the desired conservation outcomes. KCD has restructured its education and outreach approach to better engage urban landowners in both the marine and freshwater environments. In particular, because of stakeholder feedback, in 2020 KCD will increase focus on lakeshore property owners. KCD anticipates working with an average of 20 landowners a year.	
Rural Farm Land Stewardship	11 \$ 1,891,900	Rural Land Stewardship (Farm Conservation Planning) is a hallmark program for KCD. As landowners become more aware of the need for the implementation of conservation practices on their properties, demand for these services continues to grow. This program also supports landowner compliance with the Critical Areas Ordinance and the Livestock Ordinance and qualification for Public Benefit Rating System current use taxation. KCD currently serves an average of 150 customers annually, developing and average of 70 plans a year. KCD expects to continue this level of service in 2020. KCD also offers an equipment loan service which provides access to equipment for an average of 60 landowners a year.	
Riparian Restoration/Improvement	7 \$ 1,709,000	This program provides follow-up for Riparian Land Stewardship. Once property owners become aware of the importance of implementing conservation practices on their properties, this program provides technical assistance, cost share, and work crews to help them implement best management practices such as removal of invasive species, planting natives, and installing buffers. This program also houses Discovery Farms, KCD's on-farm research program. Through this program, qualified landowners may also access federal funds for buffer improvement through the Conservation Reserve Enhancement Program. In 2020 KCD anticipates continuing to implement an average of 10 projects a year, impacting an average of 10 acres or 1.5 miles per year.	
Clean Water Totals	21 \$ 4,118,400	KCD educates, provides technical assistance to, and helps implement best practices for landowners to affect water quality that impacts us all. The three programs move landowners through the arc of education – Riparian Land Stewardship's classes, workshops, and tours – technical assistance – KCD's legacy work of working with rural landowners to develop plans for stewarding their natural resources – and action – through bringing on-the-ground projects and financial assistance to natural resource challenges.	

FTE Includes program staff and proportional share of Education, Engagement, Evaluation, and Operations Staff.

Forest Stewardship		Program Deliverables	
		Proposed FTE	Total Cost
Wildfire Preparedness		2	\$ 337,900
With climate change, shifting weather patterns, changes in snow pack and rainfall the threat of wildfire is increasing. The last two fire seasons in particular have had significant tangible impacts on air quality across King County. Stakeholders are increasingly aware of the need to modify landscaping and land management practices to mitigate wildfire risk potential. Programs exist at the state and federal level to support planning and preparation on public lands and on large acreage holdings. Through consultation with stakeholders and state and regional experts, there is an identified niche for KCD in engaging landowners and home owners associations to assist in this type of planning. In 2020 KCD proposes to continue this work, funding staffing and technical support through rates and charges. KCD anticipates engaging with 5-7 communities annually to develop and implement alternative landscape and management practices in those communities.			
Urban Forest Stewardship		3	\$ 701,000
This program is unique in that it focuses on partnerships with jurisdictions (as opposed to individual landowners within jurisdictions). It has exceeded its goals under the current ILA (target was 15 cities engaged, all 34 have participated). Through KCD's work (and partner work) we now have a comprehensive understanding of tree canopy across the county. In 2020 KCD proposes to continue to build on the work done under the current plan, working with cities to identify and develop projects to maintain and improve canopy on public and private property. In 2020 KCD anticipates working with an average of 6 cities a year. KCD will prioritize projects based on potential conservation impact as opposed to geographic diversity.			
Small Lot Forest Stewardship		2.5	\$513,300
This program will continue in 2020 as it is currently run. As a complement to work done by the County and the State, KCD will focus its efforts on small lot landowners (5 acres or less). KCD will continue to partner with WSU Extension to deliver planning and stewardship classes to interested landowners. Nearly 100 King County landowners receive support from this program annually. Developing stewardship plans is labor intensive. The proposed increase of 1 additional forester in this program comes as a result of program popularity and demand exceeding supply. At the close of 2018 this program was receiving an average of 9 new requests per month and had a wait list. Additional staff will allow for more – and timelier – engagement with landowners.			
Forest Totals		7.5	\$ 1,552,200
As KCD built its Forest Stewardship Programs, we heard from our member jurisdictions that developing capacity to reduce risks from wildfires is important and an unmet need. In addition, member jurisdictions requested more KCD assistance in greening the built environment through its Urban Forest Stewardship program. In the rural areas of King County, KCD works with privately-owned parcels of 5 acres and under – representing a combined forested area of over 40,000 acres.			

FTE includes program staff and proportional share of Education, Engagement, Evaluation, and Operations Staff.

King Conservation District - 2020 Program Budgets Summary

Agriculture & Local Food		Proposed	Program Deliverables
	FTE	Total Cost	
Regional Food System	2	\$ 1,147,300	In 2020 this program will continue to award \$900,000 annually to support the Executive's Local Food Initiative, growing the local food economy and increasing access to fresh, healthy local food for King County residents. In 2020 the program will make larger, longer term sustained investments in 4 key areas that have emerged because of lessons learned from the last 5 years (as well as expert and stakeholder input) as being critical limiting factors to food system viability and sustainability. Those 4 areas are: Infrastructure; Scaling Up; Farmland Access and Institutional Demand. The program will utilize a competitive RFP process to award funds for these strategic initiatives. The program will continue to offer smaller competitive grants to support local food economy actors and organizations.
Agricultural Drainage Assistance	2	\$ 353,700	KCD has demonstrated success in engaging landowners and, in facilitating the participation of multiple contiguous landowners to implement ditch repair and maintenance. As a result of KCD's participation in ADAP, the annual miles of ditch addressed has increased from .5 to 2.5. In 2020 KCD will focus its efforts on landowner engagement, project management and providing consultation and subject matter expertise to assist in the development of buffer planting plans. This focus will not only lead to continued progress in addressing the drainage and maintenance backlog, but as planting success and survival rates increase, long term maintenance costs can be expected to decrease. KCD will continue partnering with the County to meet local Food Initiatives by bringing farmland back into production so that KC residents have increased access to local fruits, vegetables, and protein. Currently averaging the reclaiming of 2.5 miles of ditch and restoring or improving 300-400 new acres each year.
Community Agriculture	2	\$ 233,900	Initially a pilot in 2015, Community Agriculture has become one of KCD's most popular programs. Based on stakeholder feedback, in 2020 KCD will continue to partner with Continue working with community-based organizations, faith institutions, and refugee and immigrant resettlement agencies to site and develop urban food production gardens and facilitate access to healthy soil, culturally-appropriate seeds, and technical assistance. KCD anticipates working with an average of 3-5 cities to develop 5-8 gardens per year.
Agriculture Totals	6	\$ 1,734,900	KCD will continue to serve as the primary organization responding to King County's Local Food Initiative by funding innovation in food production, demand, and access. A second task will be continuing to work with farmers to bring non-functioning drainage ditches back into production Finally, a key component of improving food access and equity will continue to be KCD's Community Agriculture program, working with CBOs to develop urban sites into production gardens for immigrants, refugees, and other under-served residents.

FTE includes program staff and proportional share of Education, Engagement, Evaluation, and Operations Staff.

King Conservation District - 2020 Program Budgets Summary

Member Jurisdiction Grants	Program Deliverables	
	Proposed FTE	Total Cost
Member Jurisdiction Grants	2	\$ 1,435,900
The Member Jurisdiction program has been a component of KCD's approach to partnering with cities since 2006. In response to stakeholder feedback, the 2020 plan maintains the pool of dollars available to cities, while also strengthening the guidelines for use of funds.		
TOTALS	Summary of Program Deliverables	
	Proposed FTE	Total Cost
Total	36.5	\$ 8,841,400
From 2015 – 2019 KCD reorganized staff structure in order to more effectively respond to stakeholder requests that we engage more deeply with urban and peri-urban constituents, and that we develop capacity to address the conservation needs of those constituents. As we move into 2020, KCD proposes to continue to support that growth by continuing the programmatic work begun in 2015, shifting pilot programs funded on soft money to rates and charges, and, again in response to stakeholder requests, continuing to enhance our capabilities in the areas of education, evaluation and forest health.		

FTE includes program staff and proportional share of Education, Engagement, Evaluation, and Operations Staff.