

Overview of tributary, coastal, and urban flooding workshops

King County is hosting a series of workshops to gather perspectives from tribes, partners, and community members on tributary, coastal and urban flooding, their impacts across the county, and ways to potentially address them. Conversations from the workshops will inform the new Flood Management Plan.

Why are we holding these workshops?

The 2006 and 2013 King County Flood Hazard Management Plans focused on flood-related hazards on mainstem rivers (Cedar, Green, Sammamish, Raging, Snoqualmie, South Fork Skykomish, Tolt, White). However, flooding and flood-related hazards extend to other areas of King County, including tributaries (small streams or creeks that feed into larger creeks or rivers), coastal shorelines, and more urban areas.

What will we discuss at the workshops?

We will hold at least two workshops on each topic. The first workshop will focus on problem identification. The second workshop will discuss potential risk reduction strategies and solutions. If needed, we will schedule a third meeting to conclude the conversations.

Which topic workshops should I attend?

We understand there is crossover between the flooding types. We invite people to join whichever workshops they feel are most appropriate given their interests. Below is the purpose and type of information we plan to discuss at each workshop.

Tributary flooding workshops

Purpose: Understand which streams and creeks are most impacted by flooding. As an example, in the Snoqualmie River basin, streams such as Patterson Creek, Griffin Creek, and Tokul Creek are considered tributaries and would be relevant in the tributary flooding workshops. Tributary flooding may include flow exceeding stream banks, backwatering due to undersized culverts or narrow bridge abutments, or other forms.

Coastal flooding workshops

Purpose: Learn more about problems associated with flooding from marine water bodies (such as Puget Sound, Elliott Bay, and Salmon Bay). Coastal flooding hazards are most likely to be caused by high tides, storm surge, and sea level rise. At the coastal flooding workshops, we will discuss coastal flood hazards in both unincorporated areas (such as Vashon Island) and incorporated areas (including Seattle, Burien, Des Moines, etc.).

Urban flooding workshops

Purpose: Discuss flooding in urban settings in areas of King County that is not directly caused by overflow from King County's rivers and streams. This may include shallow flooding, flooding caused by stormwater runoff, and flooding resulting from overwhelmed urban storm sewer systems.

If you have questions about the workshop, please contact Jason Wilkinson, Project Manager, at Jason.Wilkinson@kingcounty.gov or 206-477-4786.