



August 31, 2010

The Honorable Julia Patterson
Chair, King County Flood Control District Board of Supervisors
Room 1200
C O U R T H O U S E

Dear Supervisor Patterson:

This letter transmits to the King County Flood Control District (District) Board of Supervisors the final 2010 report and recommendations of the District Advisory Committee, consistent with King County Council Ordinance No. 15728.

The Ordinance created a 15-person Advisory Committee to provide expert policy advice to the District Board of Supervisors on regional flood protection issues. Ordinance No. 15728 specifically directed the Advisory Committee to review and recommend an annual work program and budget for the District, including capital improvement projects and funding levels.

The Advisory Committee consists of the mayors (or an alternate) from the following cities: Tukwila, Auburn, Kent, Renton, Snoqualmie, North Bend, Carnation, Seattle and Bellevue, as well as a representative of the Unincorporated Area Councils, the King County Executive, and four representatives nominated by the Suburban Cities Association (SCA).

The District Advisory Committee met four times since the last annual report. In their deliberations on the 2011 budget and work program, the Advisory Committee was faced with two major sources of uncertainty: (1) revenue levels and the impact of potential levy rate suppression and/or property tax proposals and (2) whether coastal construction projects are included within the scope of the District's work program. In light of these sources of uncertainty, the Advisory Committee provided the following recommendations:

- The Advisory Committee supports lobbying the Washington State legislature to remove flood control districts from the \$5.90 cap on property tax rates.
- If the Board considers including partial funding of the Seattle Seawall or any other coastal construction project, the Advisory Committee encourages the Board to rigorously evaluate the impact of including coastal construction in the overall capital program, and to match any such increase with a concomittant increase in revenue so that other high priority flood protection projects will not be adversely impacted.

The Honorable Julia Patterson

August 31, 2010

Page 2

- The Advisory Committee recommends using the staff's proposed 2011 operating and capital budget as a placeholder until uncertainties regarding revenue levels and coastal construction expenditures are clarified.
- The Advisory Committee is not providing capital program recommendations for years beyond 2011, and recommends that the Board request further Advisory Committee input for 2011-2016 work program recommendations by March 31, 2011.

I appreciate the leadership of the Board of Supervisors on flood protection issues. I know we share the common goal of working proactively to protect our citizens, their property, and the regional economy from flooding.

King County staff is happy to provide briefings on the Advisory Committee meetings. If you have specific questions, please feel free to contact Mark Isaacson, Division Director with the Water and Land Resources Division in the Department of Natural Resources and Parks, at 206-296-6587.

Sincerely,

Dow Constantine
King County Executive

Enclosures

cc: King County Flood Control District Supervisors
ATTN: Tom Bristow, Chief of Staff, King County Council
Anne Noris, Clerk of the Board
Kjristine Lund, Executive Director, King County Flood Control District
King County Flood Control District Advisory Committee Members
Dwight Dively, Director, Office of Management and Budget
Christie True, Director, Department of Natural Resources and Parks (DNRP)
Mark Isaacson, Division Director, Water and Land Resources Division, DNRP