

Attachment 2:
Project Descriptions of DNRP's 2017 Parks Levy – Regional Open Space Acquisition Proposals

WRIA 8: Cougar Mountain Park Additions (Kelly Heintz, Parks)

<i>PL Request</i>	\$625,000
<i>CFT Request (CFT match status)</i>	\$625,000 (match is requested PL funds)
Subtotal: CFT + PL Request	\$1,250,000

Total Project Cost	\$1,250,000
<i>Funding Already Secured</i>	\$45,000 Parks capital funds for appraisals
<i>Additional Funding Sought</i>	None
<i>Will current funding request complete priority acquisitions?</i>	Yes – funding request completes current priorities; may be future acquisitions at site.

Project Description: Acquire remaining 13 inholding properties (~74 acres) located between Cougar Mountain Park and Talus development on the edge of Issaquah.

This project is to acquire the remaining 13 inholding parcels on the northeastern edge of Cougar Mountain Regional Wildland Park that would connect existing King County owned lands to the Talus Natural Area and other public lands. This has been a long-time priority for King County Parks, Issaquah, and Mountains to Sound Greenway. In recent years \$1.1 million was granted to acquire the key entry parcel off of Newport Way that provides trail access on the east side of Cougar Mountain and very close to a regional transit center.

In December 2015, Issaquah requested that King County remove these and other nearby parcels from the Potential Annexation Area. Proposal is being considered for inclusion in the March 2016 Comprehensive Plan update.

We have contacted the 10 landowners again (January 2016) to determine interest in selling at this time under current zoning. No landowners reached agreement with us on price in 2012/2013. We are proceeding with appraisals with landowners who responded to us (8 of 10 at this point), which may result in change in funding request and scope.

TDR program does not have funds to acquire site, but (if they are rural properties) may harvest TDRs from these properties for use under the King County-Issaquah ILA.

Habitat Benefit: The project site is located on the northeast edge of King County Parks' Cougar Mountain Regional Wildland Park and at the western city limits of the City of Issaquah. The acquisition preserves forested hillsides above Talus, building on the 3000+ acres already preserved at Cougar.

Recreation Benefit: Trail use, on existing trail routes.

Plan Priority: Priority in Cougar Mountain Park Plan.

Parcels included in Scope: Targets: 292406-9011, -9015, -9016, -9017, -9021, -9022, -9029, -9030, -9031, -9019, -9020, -9027, -9028. (74 acres total). Also: 302406-9001, -9020, -9019 (10 ac).