KING COUNTY
Signature Report
July 12, 2011
FCD Motion

Proposed No. FCD11-02.1

A MOTION relating to Federal Emergency Management Agency levee accreditation and the intent of the King County Flood Control Zone District to fulfill maintenance and repair responsibilities necessary for certification of individual levee segments when those segments are designed and constructed consistent with flood risk policies in the adopted King County Flood Hazard Management Plan.

WHEREAS, public safety is the highest priority for allocation of King County Flood Control District ("District") funds; and

WHEREAS, the District seeks to address urgent flood risk reduction needs throughout the county to keep people safe and to promote economic development; and

WHEREAS, the District seeks to ensure that urgent protections are, to the greatest extent reasonably possible, supportive of long-term options for achieving higher levels of flood protection that will be critical in spurring economic development and investment in the region; and

WHEREAS, the Green River valley cities, which are home to over 100,000 jobs, the fourth largest warehouse and distribution complex in the nation, an annual payroll of $2.8 billion, one eighth of the gross domestic product of the state of Washington and annual
taxable revenue of over $8 billion, have requested that the District look into developing a
policy addressing levee certification and accreditation;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT MOVED BY THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS OF THE
KING COUNTY FLOOD CONTROL ZONE DISTRICT:

A. The District will continue to pursue state and federal funds in partnership with
local jurisdictions to meet high-priority needs throughout the county.

B. The District will continue to work in collaboration with the cities to complete
efficient levee setback projects and to repair and maintain levees in a way that can meet
certification requirements while also providing a higher level of protection.

C. The District resolves to address policy issues related to appropriate levels of
flood protection countywide, levee certification, including operations and maintenance
plans, and Federal Emergency Management Agency ("FEMA") levee accreditation as
part of the 2012 update to the District’s Flood Hazard Management Plan. This policy
review shall balance the certification and accreditation process and costs with long-term
solutions that increase public safety and reduce flood risks throughout the county.

D. The District will investigate options for influencing the national policies being
proposed by FEMA to ensure that regulations are efficient and accomplish desired
outcomes.

E. The District will assume maintenance and repair responsibilities necessary for
certification of individual levee segments when they are designed and constructed
consistent with King County Flood Hazard Management Plan Policy PROJ-6, Flood
Protection Facility Design and Maintenance Objectives, if those responsibilities are based
on the flood risk policies in the adopted Flood Hazard Plan rather than a requirement to maintain the as-built cross-section of the river channel and setback levee.

F. Future levee maintenance is based on a risk-based analysis approach. If the risk-based approach to levee maintenance is not certifiable, then this recommendation is void and will return to the District for reconsideration.

G. In the near-term, the maintenance commitment is tied to specific levee segments in Kent where certification is time-sensitive. Discussion for other areas of the County will continue as part of the Flood Hazard Plan Update.

H. No additional District capital funding allocation is requested beyond the
current capital plan for the Green River with the exception of external funds allocated specifically for levee certification and accreditation.

FCD Motion was introduced on and passed by the King County Flood Control District on 7/11/2011, by the following vote:

   Yes: 9 - Mr. Phillips, Mr. von Reichbauer, Mr. Gossett, Ms. Hague, Ms. Patterson, Ms. Lambert, Mr. Ferguson, Mr. Dunn and Mr. McDermott
   No: 0
   Excused: 0

KING COUNTY FLOOD CONTROL DISTRICT
KING COUNTY, WASHINGTON

Anne Noris, Clerk of the District

Attachments: None