



**KING COUNTY**  
**Signature Report**

1200 King County Courthouse  
516 Third Avenue  
Seattle, WA 98104

**July 12, 2011**

**FCD Motion**

**Proposed No. FCD11-02.1**

**Sponsors**

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

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

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

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

17          WHEREAS, the Green River valley cities, which are home to over 100,000 jobs, the  
18          fourth largest warehouse and distribution complex in the nation, an annual payroll of \$2.8  
19          billion, one eighth of the gross domestic product of the state of Washington and annual

20 taxable revenue of over \$8 billion, have requested that the District look into developing a  
21 policy addressing levee certification and accreditation;

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

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

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

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

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

38         E. The District will assume maintenance and repair responsibilities necessary for  
39 certification of individual levee segments when they are designed and constructed  
40 consistent with King County Flood Hazard Management Plan Policy PROJ-6, Flood  
41 Protection Facility Design and Maintenance Objectives, if those responsibilities are based

42 on the flood risk policies in the adopted Flood Hazard Plan rather than a requirement to  
43 maintain the as-built cross-section of the river channel and setback levee.

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

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

50 H. No additional District capital funding allocation is requested beyond the

51 current capital plan for the Green River with the exception of external funds allocated  
52 specifically for levee certification and accreditation.  
53

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

  
Julia Patterson, Chair

ATTEST:

  
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Anne Noris, Clerk of the District

**Attachments:** None