



News Release

November 13, 2017

King County Flood Control District Approves 2018 Budget *Budget Focuses on Prevention Efforts and Capital Assistance throughout King County*

The King County Flood Control District Board of Supervisors today unanimously approved a 2018 District Budget that maintains current flood protection services while taking the necessary steps to prepare the region in preventing potential disasters that might occur due to a dam or levee failure.

“This is a budget that maintains the fiscal responsibility that has been the hallmark of the Flood Control District,” said Flood Control District Chair Reagan Dunn. “But it also acknowledges the District has a responsibility to upgrade our levee system and dam emergency plans to protect the lives and property of citizens throughout King County.”

“Our work is vital to the future prosperity of our region,” said Flood District Vice Chair Dave Upthegrove. “The Kent Valley is home to almost \$4 billion in economic activity. In the event of a major flood, upwards of 22,000 people would be displaced in the Kent Valley and it would create crippling economic impacts for our state.”

The \$65 million budget will continue to help prevent, and when necessary mitigate, the impact of floodwaters in King County. With recent events like the 2014 Oso landslide and this year’s evacuation near California’s Oroville Dam, the District is also taking steps in the 2018 Budget to develop plans to respond to similar catastrophic events.

Highlights of this year’s budget:

- Reaffirms the Districts commitment to working with jurisdictions to complete flood prevention projects in several cities;
- Continues the Capital Investment Strategy (CIS) funding for the Middle Fork Snoqualmie, allowing the District to have a complete look at the needs of all its major river basins;
- Makes repairs to issues discovered by inspections by the Flood Control District—This year’s King County inspections identified 15 sites as potential problems warranting additional review. This additional review identified 8 sites that require repair in 2018 (two of these eight also require emergency repairs in 2017 that will continue into 2018). These repairs are in the Green, Snoqualmie, South Fork Snoqualmie, Raging, and Tolt rivers;
- Funds Implementation of Dam Report Recommendations—The Dam Safety Emergency Planning Gap Analysis Report (Dam Report), commissioned by the District and King County to identify gaps in the Emergency Action Plans (EAPs) of the dams in King County, made recommendations to revise and update the EAPs.; and
- Supports the Levee Breach Study to Identify Gaps in Evacuation and Shelter in Place Plans—Hurricanes Harvey, Irma, and Maria have underscored the need to prepare for the extremely low but real risk of a levee breach in King County. The FCD will fund a study to identify gaps in existing information in areas with containment levees.

The King County Flood Control District is a special purpose government created to provide funding and policy oversight for flood protection projects and programs in King County. The Flood Control District’s Board is composed of the members of the King County Council. The Water and Land Resources Division of the King County Department of Natural Resources and Parks develops and implements the approved flood protection projects and programs. Information is available at

www.kingcountyfloodcontrol.org.

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