INFORMATIONAL MEMORANDUM

TO: Transportation and Infrastructure Committee

FROM: Henry Hash, Public Works Director # 14.

BY: Mike Perfetti, Habitat Project Manager

CC: Mayor Ekberg

DATE: April 3, 2020

SUBJECT: Nelsen Side Channel

Project No. 91641203 Grant Applications

ISSUE

Authorize the submittal of a grant application to the Washington State Department of Ecology's (DOE) Floodplains by Design (FbD) grant program and other future grant opportunities to fund the Nelsen Side Channel project.

BACKGROUND

The Nelsen Side Channel is a remnant section of the Green River as it existed prior to the construction of I-405 in the 1960s. The remnant channel is separated from the mainstem of the river by a constructed levee but offers potential for an off-channel rearing habitat for threatened Puget Sound Chinook salmon and Steelhead. Rearing habitat in the lower Green River and Duwamish River is limited, forcing fry migrants into Puget Sound much too early. Recent research by the Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife (WDFW) shows that less than 1% of fry forced out into Puget Sound return as adults, the lowest of inventoried Puget Sound rivers. The Nelsen Side Channel project will set the levee back to create a ±1.2-acre side channel, restore an acre of riparian forest, provide additional flood storage, and provide public access to the shore.

DISCUSSION

DOE is currently seeking applications for its 2021-2023 FbD Program. Staff submitted a preapplication to obtain design funding and was invited to submit a grant application. City policy requires approval by the appropriate Committee before applying for grants.

FISCAL IMPACT

There is no specified limit for requesting funding, and the City meets the Disadvantaged Community Criteria, thus waiving match requirements.

RECOMMENDATION

Committee approval to submit for the FbD Program grant and other grant opportunities that may become available for the Nelsen Side Channel project.

Attachments: Page 98, 2019 CIP

CITY OF TUKWILA CAPITAL PROJECT SUMMARY

2019 2024

PROJECT: **Nelsen Salmon Habitat Side Channel** Project No. 91641203

Create an off-channel salmon rearing habitat side channel by connecting a segment of historic river **DESCRIPTION:**

channel with the Green River.

WRIA 9 has identified this project a proposed action in the Salmon Habitat Plan. JUSTIFICATION:

The project area is primarily within State lands. The project will involve adjacent properties, and the need STATUS:

for flood protection will need to be analyzed. The Project scope and project area, including any potential

property acquisition, needs to be defined and a feasibility study performed.

Expected to increase maintenance **MAINT. IMPACT:**

Property acquisition to the north could create the opportunity for a side channel and additional flood storage. **COMMENT:**

Grant funding proposed from King County Flood Control District and State.

FINANCIAL	Through	Estimated								
(in \$000's)	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024	BEYOND	TOTAL
EXPENSES										
Design			50	200						250
Land (R/W)										0
Monitoring							15	15	15	45
Const. Mgmt.					100	100				200
Construction					500	500				1,000
TOTAL EXPENSES	0	0	50	200	600	600	15	15	15	1,495
FUND SOURCES										1
Awarded Grant										0
Proposed Grant				150	500	500				1,150
Mitigation Actual										0
Mitigation Expected										0
City Oper. Revenue	0	0	50	50	100	100	15	15	15	345
TOTAL SOURCES	0	0	50	200	600	600	15	15	15	1,495

