



## INFORMATIONAL MEMORANDUM

TO: **Transportation and Infrastructure Services Committee**  
 FROM: **Hari Ponnekanti, Public Works Director/City Engineer**  
 BY: **Mike Perfetti, Surface Water Sr. Program Manager**  
 CC: **Mayor Ekberg**  
 DATE: **December 10, 2021**  
 SUBJECT: **Surface Water Fund - Nelsen Side Channel**  
**Project No. 91641203**  
**Grant Application**

### ISSUE

Authorize the submittal of a grant application to King County’s new Open Space-River Corridors (ORSC) 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 as off-channel rearing habitat for threatened Puget Sound Chinook salmon and other aquatic species. This 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 river. Currently, there is a concept design in place for this project and property transfer arrangements are underway between the City, WDNR and WSDOT.

### DISCUSSION

King County is currently seeking applications for its new ORSC grant program. City policy requires approval by the appropriate committee before applying for grants with a match requirement. The OSRC program goal is to deliver projects that help restore the natural functions of rivers and the benefits they provide to our environment and communities, including providing or restoring public access to the water, improving the ecological function of a waterbody, or increasing public awareness of river corridors as valuable natural resources. Cities within King County are eligible to apply.

### FISCAL IMPACT

The City is seeking \$300,000 in grant funding for project design and permitting. The grant application indicates that a 20% local city match, or \$75,000, is required. The city match can be allocated from the Nelson Side Channel Project budget, which has of \$147,000 from the Surface Water utility fund dedicated in 2021-2022 and is more than adequate to cover the costs of the match.

<b>Funding Source</b>	<b>Amount</b>	<b>2021-2022 Utility Budget</b>
ORSC Grant	\$300,000	\$147,000
Utility Revenue	<u>75,000</u>	
Total	<u>\$375,000</u>	

### RECOMMENDATION

Committee approval is being asked for the submittal of the ORSC grant and other grant opportunities that may become available for the Nelsen Side Channel project.

# CITY OF TUKWILA CAPITAL PROJECT SUMMARY

2021 to 2026

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

**DESCRIPTION:** Create an off-channel salmon rearing habitat side channel by connecting a segment of historic river channel with the Green River.

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

**STATUS:** The project area is primarily within State lands, but the intent is to transfer to City. The project may take place under an aquatic lease (DNR), depending on timing. Grant application for design funding submitted to Floodplains in 2020 with a low probability of success.

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

**COMMENT:** Property acquisition to the north could create the opportunity for a side channel and additional flood storage, or potentially combine this with Gilliam Creek Fish Barrier project depending on funding source feedback.

FINANCIAL (in \$000's)	Through		Estimated								TOTAL
	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025	2026	BEYOND		
<b>EXPENSES</b>											
Design		50	220	240						510	
Land (R/W)		5	5							10	
Monitoring										0	
Const. Mgmt.					385					385	
Construction					1,440					1,440	
<b>TOTAL EXPENSES</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>55</b>	<b>225</b>	<b>240</b>	<b>1,825</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>2,345</b>	
<b>FUND SOURCES</b>											
Awarded Grant										0	
Proposed Grant			100	218	1,232					1,550	
Mitigation Actual										0	
Mitigation Expected										0	
City Oper. Revenue	0	55	125	22	593	0	0	0	0	795	
<b>TOTAL SOURCES</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>55</b>	<b>225</b>	<b>240</b>	<b>1,825</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>2,345</b>	

