



INFORMATIONAL MEMORANDUM

TO: Transportation and Infrastructure Services Committee
FROM: Pete Mayer, Deputy City Administrator/ Interim Public Works Director
BY: Catrien de Boer, Public Works Analyst
CC: Mayor McLeod
DATE: May 23, 2025
SUBJECT: Surface Water Fund – Gilliam Creek Fish Barrier Removal and Habitat Enhancement Project No. 99830105
Recreation and Conservation Office Brian Abbott Fish Barrier Removal Grant Award

ISSUE

Accept a Recreation and Conservation Office (RCO) Brian Abbott Fish Barrier Removal Board grant award for Gilliam Creek Fish Barrier Removal Project in the amount of \$300,000 for preliminary design.

BACKGROUND

The Gilliam Creek Fish Barrier Removal and Habitat Enhancement project was established as a City CIP project in 2019, it is a priority project with Water Resource Inventory (WRIA) 9 and the Salmon Recovery Fund Board. The goals of the project are to restore fish passage between Gilliam Creek and the Green River, enhance habitat, and maintain or improve flood protection and maintenance and operation of the flap gate system.

DISCUSSION

In 2022, staff applied to the Brian Abbott Fish Barrier Removal Board grant program managed by RCO for design funding for the Gilliam Creek project. The City was initially unsuccessful in this grant round and was placed on a contingency list if funding were to become available. In late 2024, due to State delays and projects unable to accept funding, the Board offered the City the full award of \$300,000. City staff have been in negotiations with RCO staff to adjust our scope of work due to changing project needs and constraints. This funding will be used to advance the alternatives analysis and design development phase and complete 30% design. The City is under contract with Otak for this work.

FISCAL IMPACT

The City was awarded a \$300,000 grant from the RCO for Gilliam Creek Fish Barrier Removal. This grant has a 15% match.

Project Budget

Brian Abbott Grant	\$300,000.00
Match (15%)	\$ 45,000
Total	\$345,000

Source

Awarded Grants (2021 and 2022 Flood Reduction)

RECOMMENDATION

Council is being asked to accept a Recreation and Conservation Office grant award, pending legal review, in the amount of \$300,000 and consider this item on the Consent Agenda at the June 2, 2025 Regular Meeting.

CITY OF TUKWILA CAPITAL PROJECT SUMMARY 2025 to 2030

PROJECT:		Gilliam Creek Fish Barrier Removal and Habitat Enhancement Project					Project #	99830105
Project Manager	Joshua Hopkins				Department	Surface Water		
DESCRIPTION:	Construct fish passage improvements at existing flap gate and restore salmonid habitat; replace flap gate which may include a self-regulating tide gate or flood wall.							
JUSTIFICATION:	Enable fish access to lower Gilliam Creek under wider range of flow conditions; fish barrier per WDFW and City; WRIA 9 salmon habitat project.							
STATUS:	Alternatives Analysis Design completed in 2023.							
MAINTENANCE IMPACT:	M&O is typically 3-5 years for HPA permits to revegetate streambanks following barrier removal.							
COMMENT:	City applied to NOAA grants (Fish Passage & Transformational Habitat) in 2023 for design development and construction funding for the preferred alternative (estimated \$24 M). City was not selected for one of the two grants. Meanwhile, the 66th Ave S culvert, tide gate and upstream debris rack (fish barriers) are causing erosion of the streambanks upstream of the 66th Ave S culvert. Permitting agencies may require fish passage as a condition of permits to repair the aforementioned erosion.							
FINANCIAL (in thousands)	2025	2026	2027	2028	2029	2030	Beyond	TOTAL
Project Costs								
Project Mgmt (Staff Time/Cost)	\$ 78	\$ 78	\$ 78	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 234
Design	\$ 620	\$ 1,000	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 1,620
Construction Mgmt.	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 1,076	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 1,076
Construction	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 4,648	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 4,648
Total Project Costs	\$ 698	\$ 1,078	\$ 5,802	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 7,578
Project Funding								
Awarded Grant	\$ 680	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 680
Proposed Grant	\$ -	\$ 1,000	\$ 5,802	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 6,802
Utility Revenues	\$ 18	\$ 78	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 96
Total Project Funding	\$ 698	\$ 1,078	\$ 5,802	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 7,578