



INFORMATIONAL MEMORANDUM

TO: **Transportation and Infrastructure Services Committee**
FROM: **Jen Tetatzin, Public Works Director**
BY: **Catrien de Boer, Public Works Analyst**
CC: **Mayor McLeod**
DATE: **November 21, 2025**
SUBJECT: **Surface Water Fund – Gilliam Creek Fish Barrier Removal and Habitat Enhancement Project No. 99830105**
King County Flood Control District - 2025 Flood Reduction Grant Award

ISSUE

Accept Flood Control District (FCD) 2025 Flood Reduction grant award for Gilliam Creek Fish Barrier Removal Project in the amount of \$750,000 for design.

BACKGROUND

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

DISCUSSION

In July staff applied for the 2025 Flood Reduction grant program for the Gilliam Creek project. The City initially applied for \$1,500,000 and was awarded \$750,000. This funding will be used to perform a comprehensive analysis of the Gilliam Creek Southcenter area, focusing on flood modeling, hydraulic assessments, and stakeholder coordination. Funding will also be used to complete a 60% basis of design report which includes a geotechnical investigation, stability analysis of the levee, and updates to the plans and construction cost estimate. This phase picks up on the near-complete 30% design package funded in part by past Flood Reduction grants. The City has contracted with Otak for this work.

FISCAL IMPACT

The City was awarded a \$750,000 grant for the Gilliam Creek Fish Barrier Removal project. This grant has no local City match.

Grant Source	Amount	Project Phase
2025 Flood Reduction	\$750,000	Flood & Hydraulic Modeling, 60% Basis of Design
Total	\$750,000	

RECOMMENDATION

Council is being asked to accept a 2025 Flood Reduction grant Recreation and Conservation Office grant award, in the amount of \$750,000 and consider this item on the Consent Agenda at the December 1, 2025 Regular Meeting.

Attachments: 2025-2030 CIP Page

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