



Approved Advisory Committee Meeting Summary: May 8, 2020

### **Attendance**

Present: Mike Dahlem, City of Sumner, Vice Chair; Commissioner Deanna Keller, Port of Tacoma; Spencer Abersold, WRIA 15; Paul Green; Ellen Knowlen, WRIA 12; Russ Ladley, Puyallup Tribe of Indians; David Lewis WRIA 10; Todd McKellips, Unincorporated Pierce County; Greg Reed City of Orting; Jason Jordan, Port of Tacoma (alternate); Chris Cooley, representing Pierce County Executive (alternate). Hans Hunger, City of Puyallup (alternate); Jeni Woock, WRIA 15 (alternate).

Staff: Kjristine Lund, Executive Director; Melissa McFadden, District Administrator; Brynne Walker, Floodplain Management Planner, Pierce County Planning and Public Works Department (PPW); Anne-Marie Marshall-Dody, Program and Partnerships Manager, Pierce County PPW; Harold Smelt, Engineering Services Manager, PPW; Helmut Schmidt, PPW; Russ Blount, City of Fife; Mary Krauszer, Pierce Conservation District (PCD); Ryan Mello, PCD.

**The meeting was called to order at 9:11 a.m.**

### **Meeting Protocols**

Ms. Lund reviewed the meeting protocols for this Zoom meeting. The Open Public Meetings Act (OPMA) applies to this meeting, convening as a necessary and regular part of the Committee's official business.

### **Public Comment**

There was no public comment.

### **Approval of Meeting Summary**

Mr. Hunger moved to approve the minutes. The minutes were approved as presented.

### **Open Public Meetings Act Confirmation**

Ms. Lund reminded the members to complete the OPMA online training. She will confirm the training has been completed by email after the meeting.

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**Project Updates**

Mr. Smelt reported on the status of Pierce County capital projects receiving District funding by PowerPoint presentation. The acquisition projects include: Alward Road; Carbon River Floodplain connection right bank; Neadham Rd acquisition and revetment; White River Butte Pit Setback; Middle Puyallup 128<sup>th</sup> St compensation study; and Orville 2C. The engineering/studies/construction projects include: Alward Road preliminary engineering; Orville Road revetment construction; and Upper Nisqually Channel Migration Protection.

Mr. Dahlem reported on the City of Sumner projects on the White River. Projects were developed after studies funded by the State and include the 8<sup>th</sup> St./Stewart Road bridge; left bank project; Pacific Point Bar project; and 24<sup>th</sup> St setback. The City recently held a virtual open house and made a presentation on the projects, which was played for the Committee. A link to the presentation was included in the meeting materials

There was a general discussion about acquisitions that are at least in part funded by the District. Information about all County acquisitions can be found by googling Open Pierce County.

Ms. Krauszer and Mr. Mello reported on the projects of the PCD, which are focused on the shoreline and are funded in part by the District. The projects address coastal flooding, storm surge and sea level rise and are meant to build resiliency of the shore. The projects include hard armor/bulkhead removal, soft shore stabilization, beach regrade and nourishment and sea level rise adaptation. The Shore Friendly program is targeted on residential properties; the PCD proposes to use the DeMolay Sandspit Nature Preserve restoration as a demonstration site.

Ms. Lund reported the funding source for the PCD projects is the strategic reserves portion of the budget, which provides funds for emergent needs such as non-riverine flooding.

**Opportunity Fund**

Ms. Walker reported on the opportunity fund. Letters regarding the fund went out last week. She presented the allocations for each city and the unincorporated county.

Ms. Lund reminded the committee that the opportunity fund is comprised of 10% of the budget that is reallocated to jurisdictions based on assessed value. The jurisdiction presents projects to the District, which confirms that the project is able to be funded with District moneys. The scope of the projects for which opportunity funds can be awarded is broad.

**Budget Background**

Ms. Lund gave a presentation on the District budget process for the annual operating and capital and six-year CIP budgets. The Committee provides recommendations to the District by August of each year with the budget adopted by November 30 of each year. She outlined the budget policies, including a levy amount equal to 10 cents/thousand of assessed value, 15% of the revenue is dedicated to operations and maintenance; 10% of revenue is dedicated to opportunity fund; a strategic reserve fund balance of \$2.5 million; a \$1 million set-aside for future capital projects and a set aside for insurance and 6 months of operations. She explained the contents of the budget and levy resolutions. She provided the types of information that the

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staff provides to the Committee, including programmatic information, project lists, status of expenditures and progress on projects in the current CIP, changes due to funding partners, emerging needs and budget options. She also explained the process for adding new projects to the budget; projects must be in the Comprehensive Plan of Development to be considered for addition.

Mr. Smelt, Ms. Dody-Marshall and Ms. McFadden clarified the roles of the County staff and the District staff, as the County provides services to the District but does not work for the District.

### **Budget Priorities**

Ms. Lund raised the question of the use of the strategic reserve for economic recovery because of the Covid-19 pandemic. There was a general discussion with an emphasis on projects ready for construction, rather than studies, and some change in the requirements of funding match.

### **Announcements**

Ms. Walker reported that the 2019 Annual Report was mailed out this week.

**The meeting was adjourned at 11:00 a.m.**