



Approved Advisory Committee Meeting Summary: July 10, 2020

### **Attendance**

Present: Mike Dahlem, City of Sumner, Chair; Lew Wolfrom, Deputy Mayor, City of Fife; Commissioner Deanna Keller, Port of Tacoma; Councilmember Spencer Abersold, WRIA 15; Paul Green; 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); Char Naylor, Puyallup Tribe of Indians (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; Russ Blount, City of Fife; Hyun Kim, City Manager, City of Fife; Kinnon Williams, legal counsel.

**The meeting was called to order at 9:03 a.m.**

### **Public Comment**

There was no public comment.

### **Approval of Meeting Summary**

Ms. Keller moved to approve the minutes of May 8, 2020. The minutes were approved as presented.

### **Project Updates from Advisory Committee members**

There were no updates presented.

Ms. Lund reported that the Board approved the mid-year budget reallocations and approved the interlocal agreement with the Pierce Conservation District. The Board also approved an investment policy and created an economic stimulus grant program to be funded from the strategic reserve.

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### **2021-2026 Budget**

Ms. Walker and Ms. McFadden briefed the committee on the proposed 2021 budget and 2021-2026 financial plan. The financial plan includes a tax assessment of \$14M for 2021, with an increase of 1%/year for the outyears. The tax assessment would be \$14M or 10 cents/\$1000 assessed valuation, whichever is less. The large capital project match is a reworking of the General Investigation (GI) study, which has been suspended by the US Army Corps of Engineers. The Puget Sound Shorelines project is being shown as part of the capital projects line, but the funds are coming from the urgent and strategic needs fund balance.

Mr. Smelt described the GI study, why it was suspended and how the projects included in the study might be funded and accomplished. There was a discussion of the Jones Levee and the Ken Wolfe Levee projects.

The 2021 annual budget includes administration cost, including IT, audit services, central public records costs and government relations, and consultant for the 2020 annual report.

The 2021 capital budget includes funds for property acquisitions, including estimates for various acquisitions, and engineering/studies/construction.

The 2021-2026 6-year CIP includes new projects, including the White River/Puyallup River confluence property acquisition project, the Middle Puyallup/SR410 levee and floodwall project (also called the Rainier Manor/Riverwalk project) and the Middle Puyallup/128<sup>th</sup> St comp study project. Mr. Smelt reviewed a map that shows approved capital projects and Pierce County opportunity fund projects. Mr. Smelt also reported on the System-wide Improvement Framework (SWIF), which relates to maintenance, and the draft habitat conservation plan (HCP). Mr. Dahlem asked about the Knutson Farm project; Mr. Smelt and Ms. Marshall-Dody indicated that the project is not a high priority project for Pierce County flood risk reduction.

Ms. Lund pointed out that county staff looks at the following in placing projects on the CIP: comprehensive plan of development (flood plan), the GI study, the setback feasibility study, the draft HCP, and the SWIF.

Ms. Marshall-Dody updated the Committee about the Pierce County Flood Hazard Management Plan (FHMP), which will be a comprehensive flood plan, including urban, coastal, and riverine flooding, focusing on 10-year horizon. The plan will also include a rate study. Ms. Walker is the project manager and all jurisdictions will be included in discussions about the plan. Mr. Blount reported on Fife's pump station project and the Wapato Creek/Hylebos Creek projects that the City will ask to be included in the FHMP.

### **Budget Discussion & Possible Recommendation**

Ms. Lund and Mr. Dahlem asked for feedback on the proposed budget.

Mr. Lewis asked whether developers are being asked to avoid flood risk when they

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develop projects. Ms. McFadden responded that developers are asked to maintain the existing level of service. Mr. Smelt noted that cities have land use jurisdiction and Pierce County has control over the unincorporated area. Mr. Dahlem suggested that regulatory schemes be the subject at a future meeting.

Councilmember Abershold moved to recommend the proposed budget to the Board. Mr. Hunger seconded. Mr. Lewis asked for more time to study the budget. There was a suggestion that waiting until the next meeting to allow for further review.

Mr. Williams suggested tabling the motion rather than voting on the motion at this meeting. Mr. Dahlem tabled the motion until the next meeting on August 7.

### **Guidelines for Economic Stimulus Grants**

Ms. Lund reported on the Economic Stimulus Grant Program, which was adopted by the Board last week. This program creates a funding source for projects that will replace other funding and that stimulates the economy.

Ms. McFadden reviewed the program requirements. Potential eligible projects are stormwater control, improvements, flood resiliency projects, habitat protection and management, culvert improvements, watershed management projects, structure demolition that supports a larger flood risk reduction project and the purchase of equipment. To be eligible for funding a project must be shovel ready and be in a management plan, generate jobs in Pierce County, leverage other funding sources, completed and reimbursement sought by December 31, 2021. The maximum project grant is \$1M. She also outlined the application and funding process.

Some members of the committee volunteered to be on the review panel for grant applications.

### **Guidelines Discussion and Recommendation**

There was a discussion on the draft scoring criteria for the stimulus grant program. Mr. Dahlem asked about the focus on habitat projects.

Mr. McKellips moved to advance the draft eligibility requirements and scoring criteria to the Executive Committee. The motion passed unanimously.

### **Announcements**

Ms. Lund reviewed the proposed agenda for the August 7 meeting.

**The meeting was adjourned at 10:58 a.m.**