



Snohomish County Council

Committee: Operations
ECAF: 21-0053
Proposal: Mot. 21-126

Analyst: Heidi Beazizo
Date: March 31, 2021

Consideration:

The Executive's Office requests Council consider approving proposed Motion 21-126 which would approve park

Background

In 1988, Snohomish County established the Conservation Futures Property Tax Fund for the purpose of acquiring interests or rights in real property for the preservation of open space, farm and agricultural land, and timber land, and to maintain and operate any property acquired with resources of the fund ([SCC 4.14.030](#)). The following year, the Snohomish County Council established a Conservation Futures Program Advisory Board (the Board) to make recommendations to the council for acquisition projects to be funded and to develop strategic, long-term plans for the program ([SCC 4.14.080](#)).

Snohomish County advertised the opportunity to apply for Conservation Futures Property Tax Funds and received two (2) applications by the due date of February 26, 2021; one of the applications was from Snohomish County.

The Board met on March 24, 2021 and voted funding the two (2) projects.

Current Proposal

Scope: Motion 21-126 requests council approve the board recommended funding for two (2) projects:

- \$209,500 to Snohomish County DCNR for the Heybrook Ridge Project and
- \$64,000 to Forterra for the Stillaguamish Valley Protection/Albert Farm Project.

Motion 21-126 also requests approval to move distributed but unspent funds back into fund balance. The total amount requested to return to fund balance is \$1,800,000 and represents unspent project funds from three (3) projects (Shelton View Forest at \$1,000,000; East Monroe Heritage Site at \$500,000 and Tillman Farms Conservation Easement Project at \$300,000).

Fiscal Implications: EXPENSE: 185-5091916101 (Conservation Futures) - \$273,500;

2020 Budget: YES

Future Budget Impacts: NO

Handling: EXPEDITE

Risk Management: YES

Approved-as-to-form: N/A

Analysis: This action is consistent with code and the boards authority

Executive Recommendation: YES

Request: Assign to COW for possible action by Council at Admin Session on April 5, 2021.