Snohomish County 2020 Flood Damage Reduction Program, stakeholder committee recommendations

Committee Members:

David JH Wilson, PE, CFM Public Works/ Snohomish County

Scott Lane, French Slough Flood control district

Neil Wheeler, French Slough Flood control district

John Holdsworth, Emergency Management (invited did not participate)

Ryan Bartelheimer, PE Snohomish Conservation District Engineer (Invited did not participate)

The 2020 FDRP Committee meet on the County plaza, socially distanced on July 30, 2020

The two proposals were discussed and both proposals did seem like valid and eligible projects to all members, Chuck Hazelton proposed that the available funding be split 50% between both districts as the funding levels requested by both districts exceeded the funds available in 2020. No member dissented or disagreed with this proposal. After presenting the proposal to Public Works Management it was determined that this funding was not utilized in 2019, so the decision was made to fully fund both proposals less the required matching amount of 25%. So the county portion of funding for 2020 was increased from \$ 100,000 to \$ 135,450 by Public Works management as the road funding transferred in from engineering services to SWM over the 2019 and 2020 fiscal years amounts to \$ 200,000 which has been un-spent through both of those calendar years.

Criteria of protecting county roads from flooding

David Wilson was able to schedule site visits of both sites with the project sponsors, the French Slough project included re-habilitation and enhancement of the lower Pilchuck River Levee downstream of the Pilchuck River trailer park, Sound Equipment, and the old State Route 2 bridge (92nd Street). The project if constructed as proposed would protect the county road system from flooding, particularly 92nd street a main connecting road between the post 1980's highway 2 alignment and the eastern edge of the City of Snohomish.

The Church Creek dredging as proposed by the Stillaguamish Flood control District, is a re-occurring project that happens every ten years or so. As sediments accumulate in the Church Creek alluvial fan that forms as the creek drains into the low gradient portions of the Stillaguamish River Floodplain. Cleaning and dredging of this stream positively impact flooding reduction effects of the river on Marine Drive by creating a higher capacity drainage course for flood flows to be maintained withing the existing stream channel footprint.

Consistency with existing flood planning documents

French Slough Levee system is part of the agriculture-oriented levee system that is covered in the 1989 Snohomish River Comprehensive Flood management plan adopted by the county council in 1990. Maintenance of this system is supported in this planning document and has been included in the 2005, 2010, 2015, and 2020 versions of the County Natural Hazards Mitigation plan. Additionally, Snohomish County worked with French Slough to complete a "Levee visual assessment" and the area proposed was identified as a deficiency in the levee at the time of the assessment completed by the county.

Committee recommendation for award of funding:

District	Project	Project cost	County funds*	District Funding	USACE	Total Costs
French Slough	Lower Pilchuck levee	\$ 100,600	\$ 75,450	\$ 25,150	\$ 402,400	\$ 503,000
Stillaguamish	rehabilitation Church Creek Dredging	\$ 80,000	\$ 60,000	\$ 20,000	\$ 0.00	\$ 80,000

^{*}Note: 2020 funds were budgeted at \$ 100,000, but due to unspent funding from 2019, \$ 200,000 in county road fund is available for this eligible flood damage reduction activity so it was determined to fully fund both projects at a total cost of \$ 180,600, and \$ 135,450 in county cost share.