



Island County Public Works

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M E M O R A N D U M

Dec. 14, 2022

TO: Board of County Commissioners – Island County

FROM: Connie Bowers – Director/County Engineer

RE: Clean Water Utility Update

The Board formed the Clean Water Utility (CWU) in 2010 to address concerns related to surface and groundwater quantity and quality in Island County. The table on the next pages provides brief updates on what is shown in the CWU Program Brochure, for further discussion at the work session.

- proposed programs
- proposed program goals
- proposed program funding percentages
- 2011 – 2021 actual expense percentages for each program
- current program status

The following attachments are included for reference:

- CWU Program Brochure
- 2010 CWU Program Element Descriptions
- 2023 - 2028 CWU drainage project plan
- 2022 - 2028 CWU Fund projected cash flow

Program	Goals	Funding
<u>Stormwater Drainage Projects</u>	This Public Works program will work on the installation and/or repair of drainage projects outside the right-of-way.	42%
2011 – 2021 Actual Expenses		39%
STATUS:	Public Works designs, acquires right-of-way, and constructs projects identified on the CWU six-year plan. This plan is intentionally overprogrammed for the six-years, meaning it exceeds the balance, as delivery of these types of projects are difficult (primarily due to permitting). This plan is updated on an annual basis. The 2023 – 2028 CWU drainage project plan is attached.	
<u>Watershed Planning</u>	This Public Works program will coordinate drainage projects on a watershed scale related to the surface and stormwater program.	4.5%
2011 – 2021 Actual Expenses		0.0%
STATUS:	<p>The Public Works Watershed Planning efforts was identified as Phase 2 and has not yet started.</p> <p>However, the State department of Department of Ecology has initiated a state-wide stormwater basin delineation project. It is recommended to wait until this project completes the delineation for Island County. This should ensure that we are using the same stormwater basins that permitting agencies are referencing.</p>	
<u>Low-Impact Development</u>	This Public Works program will implement LID in the County Code and the Stormwater Manual and assist with review of LID development.	4.5%
2011 – 2021 Actual Expenses		0%
STATUS:	The Low-Impact Development program was identified as Phase 2 and has not yet started.	

Program	Goals	Funding
<u>Surface Water Quality Monitoring</u>	This Public Health program will continue baseline monitoring in 24 watersheds annually, evaluating data, and determining pollution sources.	12%
2011 – 2021 Actual Expenses		22%
STATUS:	Surface Water Quality Monitoring supports the Adaptive Management requirements of the Critical Areas Ordinance. Annual review of the program is presented and discussed with the BICC to discuss success, challenges, and priority watersheds.	
<u>Hydrogeology</u>	This Public Health program will monitor and evaluate groundwater and evaluate new development with potential impacts to groundwater resources.	9%
2011 – 2021 Actual Expenses		13%
STATUS:	The Hydrogeology position remains vacant making progress in this program problematic. This program is essential for understanding the quality and quantity of available groundwater resources for existing and future residents of Island County. Staff are preparing a decision analysis for the BICC to consider evaluating staffing options for moving forward with the program.	
<u>On-Site Sewage</u>	This Public Health program will continue to ensure that septic systems are constructed and maintained properly, with follow-up on complaints and failures.	13%
2011 – 2021 Actual Expenses		19%
STATUS:	On-Site Sewage evaluations continue to be monitored and staff respond to high-priority findings such as sewage failures especially in watersheds where water quality data indicate bacteriological exceedances in surface water.	

Program	Goals	Funding
<u>Salmon Recovery</u>	This Public Health program will continue to promote habitat restoration and preservation projects.	2%
2011 – 2021 Actual Expenses		0%
STATUS:	The Salmon Recovery program was identified as Phase 2 and has not yet started.	
<u>Shellfish Protection</u>	This Public Health program will maintain safe recreational shellfish harvesting and work to open beaches currently closed to harvest.	3%
2011 – 2021 Actual Expenses		0%
STATUS:	The Shellfish Protection program was identified as Phase 2 and has not yet started.	
<u>Code Compliance</u>	This Planning and Community Department program will enforce code compliance issues specifically related to critical areas	6%
2011 – 2021 Actual Expenses		4%
STATUS:	Code Compliance is being performed by the Public Health Department under Watershed Planning. The Watershed Planner works closely with Water Quality Specialists to determine if water quality exceedances are influenced by land-use activities.	
<u>Administration</u>	The Assessors, Treasurers, and Auditors departments all have roles in administering the Clean Water Utility.	4%
2011 – 2021 Actual Expenses		3%
STATUS:	Overhead rates ensure that supporting departments are compensated by the CWU funds when expenses are incurred.	