

**FIRCREST CITY COUNCIL
STUDY SESSION AGENDA**

**MONDAY, MAY 20, 2024
6:00 P.M.**

**COUNCIL CHAMBERS
FIRCREST CITY HALL, 115 RAMSDELL STREET**

	Pg. #
1. Call to Order	
2. Pledge of Allegiance	
3. Roll Call	
4. Agenda Modifications	
5. <u>Region 5 Hazard Mitigation Plan Update</u>	2
6. <u>Pierce County Conservation Futures Presentation</u>	11

The public is invited to listen to the meeting via Zoom utilizing the below call-in information:

Zoom Meeting Details:

Dial-in Information: 1-253-215-8782 Webinar ID: 885 3802 7612 Password: 771679

FIRCREST CITY COUNCIL AGENDA SUMMARY

NEW BUSINESS: **Region 5 Hazard Mitigation Plan Update**
ITEM: **5**
DATE: **May 20, 2024**
FROM: **Tyler Bemis, Public Works Director**

RECOMMENDED MOTION: **None. Discussion only.**

SUMMARY: FEMA requires that the Hazard Mitigation Plan be updated every five years for the city to be eligible for federal funds for disaster preparedness and recovery after a disaster. The Hazard Mitigation Plan identifies natural, man-made, and technological hazards and threats to the Fircrest community and provides mitigation measures to address and reduce these impacts.

The City's Hazard Mitigation Plan expired in 2020. The City is currently working with Pierce County Emergency Management (PCEM) to update our Plan. Pierce County received a grant to help the 25+ jurisdictions in Region 5 that were unable to complete their plan updates previously. (Pierce County is Region 5 for Homeland Security in Washington State.)

Debbie Bailey, the PCEM Mitigation Coordinator, will join us this evening to discuss the update process and answer any questions that the Council may have.

ATTACHMENTS: [Hazard Mitigation FAQs](#)
[Local Mitigation Planning Requirements](#)
[Region 5 Hazard Mitigation Planning Summary](#)

Hazard Mitigation FAQ

What is Hazard Mitigation?

Actions taken to reduce or eliminate the long-term risk to people, property, or the environment from hazards and their effects.

Examples:

- Hazardous Area Regulations
- Property Buy-Outs
- Elevating Homes
- Flood Control Dams
- Structural Seismic Retrofit
- Non-Structural Seismic Retrofit

What is Hazard Mitigation Planning? The process of determining the best means of how to reduce or eliminate the loss of life and property damage resulting from hazards.

Why do we need the plan?

The Disaster Mitigation Act of 2000 requires that local governments prepare natural hazard mitigation plans as a condition of future funding. *Federal law requires an update, approval, and adoption of local mitigation plans every five years in order to remain eligible for pre- and post-disaster mitigation funding.* Since the first adoption of the plan, Pierce County has received hazard mitigation funds from five federally declared disasters totaling over \$5 million.

What are the elements of the Hazard Mitigation Plan?

1. Document the Process Section:
 - Planning meetings
 - Public involvement activities
 - Elected officials meetings
2. Profile the Jurisdiction Section:
 - Services Summary – identifies its own capabilities
 - Geo-political Summary
 - Demographics – includes special populations
 - Infrastructure summary
 - Economic Summary – composed of a fiscal summary and employment profile
3. Capability Identification Section:
 - Administrative (agency, departments, or programs)
 - Technical (plans and other)
 - Fiscal (taxes, bonds, fees, and funds)
 - National Flood Insurance Program (NFIP)
4. Risk Assessment Section:
 - Provides a factual basis for the activities proposed in the mitigation strategy.

Questions? Please contact our Mitigation Coordinator Debbie Bailey at Debbie.bailey@piercecountywa.gov or (desk) 253-798-6366 (cell) 253-377-3445

- Portrays the threats of natural and human-caused (technological) hazards, the vulnerabilities of a jurisdiction to the hazards, and the consequences of each hazard impacting communities.
- Formula: Risk = (Threat x Vulnerability x Consequence)
- 5. Mitigation Strategy Section
 - Each mitigation strategy identifies:
 - Goal(s) Addressed
 - Cost of Measure
 - Funding Source and Situation
 - Lead Department(s)
 - Timeline
 - Benefit(s)
 - Life of Measure
 - Community Reaction – jurisdiction’s prediction
 - Analysis of *Mitigation Measure Monitoring* which includes the name of the mitigation strategy and identifies if it is:
 - New
 - Continuing
 - Accomplished
 - Removed from update (if applicable)
- 6. Infrastructure Section
 - The infrastructure is categorized according to the infrastructure sectors as designated by the Department of Homeland Security.
 - Infrastructure summary (number and value)
 - Infrastructure category summary
 - Infrastructure Vulnerability – Dependency Summary
 - Infrastructure Vulnerability – Hazard Summary
- 7. Maintenance Section
 - This Section details the formal process that will ensure your Hazard Mitigation Plan remains an active and relevant document.
 - Plan maintenance procedures requirements
 - Plan adoption
 - Maintenance strategy
 - Continued public involvement

What are the benefits?

- Hazard Mitigation Grant Program – funds made available by FEMA following a declared disaster in the state and are equal to a percentage of the total damages from that specific disaster.
- Identifies actions to save lives and property
- Reduces vulnerability
- Facilitates post-disaster funding and recovery

Questions? Please contact our Mitigation Coordinator Debbie Bailey at Debbie.bailey@piercecountywa.gov or (desk) 253-798-6366 (cell) 253-377-3445

- Demonstrates public involvement in public policy decisions for future land use and safeguarding the community
- Eligible for Pre-Disaster Mitigation dollars
- In recent years, grant funds have been made available to jurisdictions after wildland fires. Those funds available to a community after an incident usually have a very compressed timeline. This is a reminder that having mitigation strategies developed before an incident occurs is important to ensure funds can be spent within the timelines of the grant program.

What are the goals of the Mitigation Plan?

- Protect life and property
- Ensure continuity of operations
- Establish and strengthen partnerships for implementation
- Preserve or restore natural resources
- Increase public preparedness for disasters
- Promote a sustainable economy

How are the hazards organized in the plan?

Each hazard is identified in subsections. The subsections are grouped by hazard-type (i.e., geological, meteorological, and technological hazards) and then alphabetically within each type.

Geological:

- Avalanche
- Earthquake
- Landslide
- Tsunami
- Volcanic

Meteorological:

- Climate Change
- Drought
- Flood
- Severe Weather
- Wildland Urban Interface (WUI) Fire

Technological:

- Abandoned Mines
- Civil Disturbance
- Dam Failure
- Energy Emergency
- Epidemic

- Hazardous Materials
- Pipeline Failure
- Terrorism
- Transportation Emergency

What is the Plan Adoption Process?

Upon completion of the Annex Pierce County Plan, it will be submitted to Washington State Emergency Management Division (EMD) for a Pre-Adoption Review. The EMD has 30 days to then take action on the Plan and forward it to the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) Region X for review. This review, which is allowed 45 days by law, will address the federal criteria outlined in FEMA Interim Final Rule 44 CFR Part 201.6. In completing this review there may be revisions requested by the EMD and/or FEMA. Revisions could include changes to background information, editorial comments, and the alteration of technical content. Pierce County Emergency Management (PCEM) will call a Planning Team Meeting to address any revisions needed and resubmit the changes.

The Pierce County Council is responsible for the County's adoption of the Plan after the Pre-Adoption Review is completed. Once the County Council adopts the Plan, the Program Coordinator of the Mitigation and Recovery Division of Emergency Management will be responsible for submitting it, with a copy of the resolution, to the State Hazard Mitigation Officer at the Washington State EMD. EMD will then take action on the Plan and forward it to the FEMA Region X for final approval. Upon approval by FEMA, the County will gain eligibility for both Hazard Mitigation Grant Program and Pre-Disaster Mitigation Grant Program funds.

This same process will occur for all Region 5 Mitigation Annex Plans. Upon completion of Annex Plans, Pierce County Emergency Management will submit the Plans to Washington State Emergency Management Division (EMD) for a Pre-Adoption Review. The EMD has 30 days to then take action on the Plan and forward it to the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) Region X for review. This review, which is allowed 45 days by law, will address the federal criteria outlined in FEMA Interim Final Rule 44 CFR Part 201.6. In completing this review there may be revisions requested by the EMD and/or FEMA. Pierce County Emergency Management (PCEM) will call a Planning Team Meeting to address any revisions needed and resubmit the changes.

Each jurisdiction is responsible for the adoption of your Plan after the Pre-Adoption Review is completed. Once your governing body adopts the Plan, the Program Coordinator of the Mitigation and Recovery Division of Emergency Management will be responsible for submitting it, with a copy of the resolution, to the State Hazard Mitigation Officer at the Washington State EMD. EMD will then take action on the Plan and forward it to the FEMA Region X for final approval. Upon approval by FEMA, your jurisdiction will gain eligibility for both Hazard Mitigation Grant Program and Pre-Disaster Mitigation Grant Program funds. These plans are current through July 23, 2020 and will expire after that date if not adopted prior. You will only have one year beyond this date for adoption of your updated plan.

Appendix A will list the dates and include a copy of the signed Resolution from the jurisdiction as well as a copy of the FEMA approval of the jurisdiction's Plan. With future updates of the Plan, Appendix C will be used to track changes and/or updates.

What is Pierce County's public participation process?

In order to ensure that the updated Region 5 All Hazard Mitigation Plan be comprehensive, the seven planning groups in conjunction with Pierce County Department of Emergency Management developed a public participation process of three components:

1. ***A Planning Team*** comprised of knowledgeable individual representatives of HLS Region 5 area and its hazards;
2. ***Hazard Meetings*** to target the specialized knowledge of individuals working with populations or areas at risk from all hazards; and
3. ***Public Meetings*** to identify common concerns and ideas regarding hazard mitigation and to discuss specific goals, objectives and measures of the mitigation plan.

Resolution Timeline:

Each jurisdiction that has a Mitigation Plan must have a resolution signed in order for the plan to be eligible for receiving grant funds. Pierce County Emergency Management will notify all jurisdictions when the process starts and jurisdictions should then have their resolution signed within one year.

What other plans are useful to reference when reviewing my plan?

Washington State Enhanced Hazard Mitigation Plan (SEHMP)

Pierce County's Comprehensive Emergency Management Plan (CEMP)

Pierce County's Hazard Identification & Risk Assessment (HIRA)

Pierce County Hazard Mitigation Plan (HMP)

Local Building Plans

Your jurisdiction's Comprehensive Plans (if applicable)

- (3) A mitigation strategy that provides the jurisdiction's blueprint for reducing the potential losses identified in the risk assessment, based on existing authorities, policies, programs and resources, and its ability to expand on and improve these existing tools. This section **shall** include:
- (i) A description of mitigation goals to reduce or avoid long-term vulnerabilities to the identified hazards.
 - (ii) A section that identifies and analyzes a comprehensive range of specific mitigation actions and projects being considered to reduce the effects of each hazard, with particular emphasis on new and existing buildings and infrastructure.
 - (iii) An action plan describing how the actions identified in paragraph (c)(2)(ii) of this section will be prioritized, implemented, and administered by the local jurisdiction. Prioritization **shall** include a special emphasis on the extent to which benefits are maximized according to a cost benefit review of the proposed projects and their associated costs.
 - (iv) For multi-jurisdictional plans, there **must** be identifiable action items specific to the jurisdiction requesting FEMA approval or credit of the plan.
- (4) A plan maintenance process that includes:
- (i) A section describing the method and schedule of monitoring, evaluating, and updating the mitigation plan within a five-year cycle.
 - (ii) A process by which local governments incorporate the requirements of the mitigation plan into other planning mechanisms such as comprehensive or capital improvement plans, when appropriate.

(iii) Discussion on how the community will continue public participation in the plan maintenance process.

- (5) Documentation that the plan has been formally adopted by the governing body of the jurisdiction requesting approval of the plan (e.g., City Council, County Commissioner, Tribal Council). For multi-jurisdictional plans, each jurisdiction requesting approval of the plan **must** document that it has been formally adopted.

(d) Plan review.

- (1) Plans **must** be submitted to the State Hazard Mitigation Officer for initial review and coordination. The State will then send the plan to the appropriate IFMA Regional Office for formal review and approval.
- (2) The Regional review will be completed within 45 days after receipt from the State, whenever possible.
- (3) Plans **must** be reviewed, revised if appropriate, and resubmitted for approval within five years in order to continue to be eligible for HMGP project grant funding.

Successful HMGP applicants, as well as communities desiring to apply for mitigation grant funds in the future, will be required to develop an All Hazard Mitigation Plan utilizing these criteria.

For additional information please contact the HMGP Section at (253) 512-7073

***Jurisdictions with HMGP project or planning funds will have specific due dates for submittal of their plans. To receive Pre-Disaster Mitigation project grants, their mitigation plan must be submitted and approved prior to November 1, 2003.**



**State of Washington
Emergency Management
Division**



**Local Mitigation
Planning
Requirements
Of the Disaster
Mitigation Act of
2000**

§201.6 of the Interim Final Regulations

November 2002

Local Mitigation Plan is the hazard mitigation plan required of a local or Indian tribal government acting as a **subgrantee as a condition of receiving a project subgrant under the HMGP** as outlined in 44 CFR 201.6.

Subgrantee means the government or other legal entity to which a subgrant is awarded and which is accountable to the grantee for the use of the funds provided. **Subgrantees can be a State agency, local government, private non-profit organizations, or Indian tribal government** as outlined in Sec. 206.433. Indian tribal governments acting as a subgrantee are accountable to the State grantee.

Plan requirement. (1) For all disasters declared on or after November 1, 2004*, local and tribal government applicants for subgrants, must have an approved local mitigation plan in accordance with 44 CFR 201.6 prior to receipt of HMGP subgrant funding. Until November 1, 2004*, local mitigation plans may be developed concurrent with the implementation of subgrants

Sec. 201.6 Local Mitigation Plans

The local mitigation plan is the representation of the jurisdiction's commitment to reduce risks from natural hazards, serving as a guide for decision makers as they commit resources to reducing the effects of natural hazards. Local plans will also serve as the basis for the State to provide technical assistance and to prioritize project funding.

(a) Plan requirement.

- (1) For disasters declared after November 1, 2004, a local government **must** have a mitigation plan approved pursuant to this section in order to receive HMGP project grants. Until November 1, 2004, local mitigation plans may be developed concurrent with the implementation of the project grant.
- (2) Regional Directors may grant an exception to the plan requirement in extraordinary

circumstances, such as in a small and impoverished community, when justification is provided. In these cases, a plan will be completed within 12 months of the award of the project grant. If a plan is not provided within this timeframe, the project grant will be terminated, and any costs incurred after notice of grant's termination will not be reimbursed by FEMA.

- (3) Multi-jurisdictional plans (e.g. watershed plans) may be accepted, as appropriate, as long as each jurisdiction participates in the process, answers all the questions and has officially adopted the plan. State-wide plans will not be accepted as multi-jurisdictional plans.

(b) Planning process. An open public involvement process is essential to the development of an effective plan. In order to develop a more comprehensive approach to reducing the effects of natural disasters, the planning process **shall** include:

- (1) An opportunity for the public to comment on the plan during the drafting stage and prior to plan approval;
- (2) An opportunity for neighboring communities, local and regional agencies involved in hazard mitigation activities, and agencies that have the authority to regulate development, as well as businesses, academia and other private and non-profit interests to be involved in the planning process; and
- (3) Review and incorporation, if appropriate, of existing plans, studies, reports, and technical information.

(c) Plan content. The plan **shall** include the following:

- (1) Documentation of the planning process used to develop the plan, including how it was prepared, who was involved in the process, and how the public was involved.

- (2) A risk assessment that provides the factual basis for activities proposed in the strategy to reduce losses from identified hazards. Local risk assessments **must** provide sufficient information to enable the jurisdiction to identify and prioritize appropriate mitigation actions to reduce losses from identified hazards. The risk assessment **shall** include:

- (i) A description of the type, location, and extent of all natural hazards that can affect the jurisdiction. The plan **shall** include information on previous occurrences of hazard events and on the probability of future hazard events.
- (ii) A description of the jurisdiction's vulnerability to the hazards described in paragraph (c)(2)(i) of this section. This description **shall** include an overall summary of each hazard and its impact on the community. The plan **should** describe vulnerability in terms of:

- (A) The types and numbers of existing and future buildings, infrastructure, and critical facilities located in the identified hazard areas;
- (B) An estimate of the potential dollar losses to vulnerable structures identified in paragraph (c)(2)(i)(A) of this section and a description of the methodology used to prepare the estimate;
- (C) Providing a general description of land uses and development trends within the community so that mitigation options can be considered in future land use decisions.

- (iii) For multi-jurisdictional plans, the risk assessment section **must** assess each jurisdiction's risks where they vary from the risks facing the entire planning area.

REGION 5 HAZARD MITIGATION PLANNING SUMMARY

Region 5 Hazard Mitigation Planning Effort Jurisdiction Participants (74)	
<p><u>21-Cities and Towns Group</u></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. City of Bonney Lake 2. City of Buckley 3. City of Dupont 4. City of Edgewood 5. City of Fife 6. City of Fircrest 7. City of Gig Harbor 8. City of Lakewood 9. City of Milton 10. City of Orting 11. City of Puyallup 12. City of Roy 13. City of Sumner 14. City of Tacoma 15. City of University Place 16. Town of Carbonado 17. Town of Eatonville 18. Town of South Prairie 19. Town of Steilacoom 20. Town of Wilkeson 21. Pierce County Unincorporated 	<p><u>15-School District Group</u></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Carbonado School District 2. Clover Park School District 3. Dieringer School District 4. Eatonville School District 5. Fife School District 6. Franklin Pierce School District 7. Orting School District 8. Pacific Lutheran University 9. Peninsula School District 10. Puyallup School District 11. Steilacoom School District No. 1 12. Sumner/Bonney Lake School District 13. Tacoma School District 14. University Place School District 15. White River School District
<p><u>12-Fire District Group</u></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Fire District #3 - West Pierce 2. Fire District #5 - Gig Harbor 3. Fire District #6 - Central Pierce 4. Fire District #13 - Browns Point 5. Fire District #14 - Riverside 6. Fire District #16 - Key Peninsula 7. Fire District #17 South Pierce 8. Fire District #18 - Orting 9. Fire District #21 - Graham 10. Fire District #22 - East Pierce 11. Fire District #23 - Ashford - Elbe 12. Fire District #27 - Anderson Island 	<p><u>14-Utility Group</u></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Clear Lake Water District 2. Firgrove Mutual District 3. Fruitland Mutual Water Company 4. Graham Hill Mutual Water Company 5. Lakeview Light and Power 6. Lakewood Water District 7. Mt. View-Edgewood Water Company 8. Ohop Mutual Light Company 9. Parkland Light and Water 10. *Peninsula Light Company 11. Spanaway Water Company 12. Summit Water and Supply Company 13. Tanner Electric 14. *Tacoma Power Utilities 15. *Thurston Co PUD 16. Valley Water District
<p><u>7-Special Purpose Group</u></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Crystal River Ranch 2. Crystal Village 3. Metro Parks 4. Pierce Transit 5. Port of Tacoma 6. Riviera Community Club 7. Taylor Bay 	<p><u>5-Health & Medical Group</u></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Community Health Care 2. CHI Franciscan Health 3. Kaiser Permanente 4. MultiCare 5. Western State Hospital

- New Partners Developing Mitigation Plans with 2025-2030 Update

FIRCREST CITY COUNCIL AGENDA SUMMARY

NEW BUSINESS: Pierce County Conservation Futures Program Overview
ITEM: 6
DATE: May 20, 2024
FROM: Mark Newman, Community Development Director

RECOMMENDED MOTION: None. Discussion only.

SUMMARY: The Pierce County Conservation Futures program preserves open space, wetlands, wildlife habitat, timber land, and agricultural lands to benefit Pierce County residents now and in the future. The program was established in 1991 and is funded through property tax revenue. Conservation Futures funds are used to acquire land or the rights to future development of land for the benefit and enjoyment of the citizens of Pierce County. Funds are distributed through a competitive grant process open to local governments, federal agencies, special purpose districts, and nonprofit corporations.

Chris Chaput, Pierce County's Conservation Futures Coordinator, will join us this evening to discuss the Conservation Futures program, the upcoming grant cycle and process, and answer any questions that the Council may have.

ATTACHMENTS: [Conservation Futures Program Overview](#)
[Conservation Futures Pamphlet \(2022 edition\)](#)



Conservation Futures

Program Overview

May 20, 2024

Background & Purpose



Conservation Futures is a grant program that funds land protection for open space and serves all of Pierce County.

Types of open space preserved:

- Parks and trails
- Forests and prairies
- Marine shoreline and wetlands
- Fish and wildlife habitat
- Timber and agricultural lands
- Historic and cultural sites
- And many more...

Community Benefits



- Physical and mental health benefits
- Educational opportunities
- Economic benefits
- Recreational opportunities
- Enhanced quality of life
- Community and neighborhood places

Funding

Conservation Futures Tax (CFT) is a dedicated portion of property tax authorized by state law to conserve open space lands.

The statewide tool was created due to the “growth and spread of urban development”



McDermott Pt

Types of Property Interest Acquisitions



Property interests may be acquired **fee simple** or by placing a **Conservation Easement** on the property.

Instead of transferring ownership, a **Conservation Easement** places restrictions on property use and development for the purpose of conservation.

Process Overview

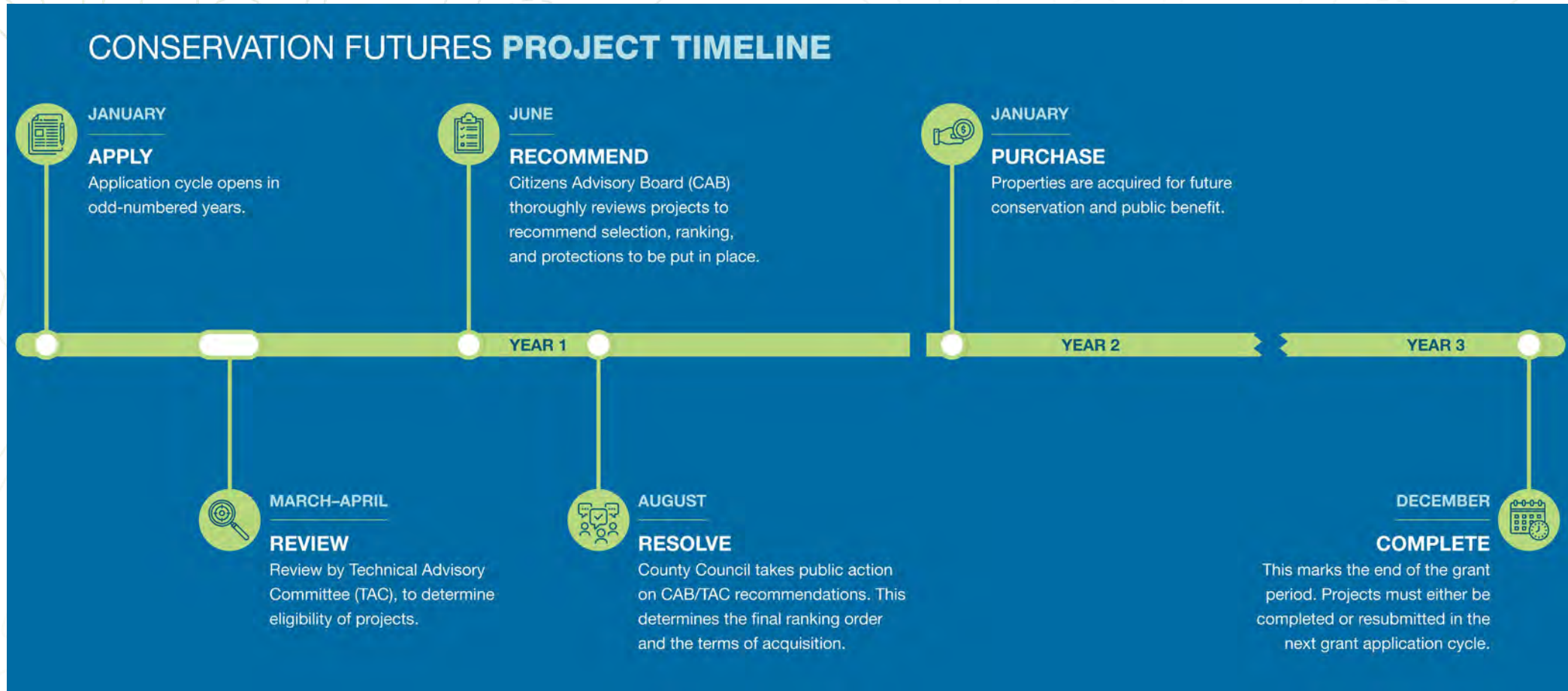
During an application cycle, sponsors will propose an open space property, identifying its conservation values and a plan for its stewardship and public access, if applicable.

Projects with greater public benefit are prioritized for funding.



Middle Ohop

Process Overview, cont'd



Cost Reimbursement

Eligible:

- Title, appraisal, review appraisal, and closing costs
- *For nonprofits:* administrative costs not to exceed 5% of purchase price

Not eligible:

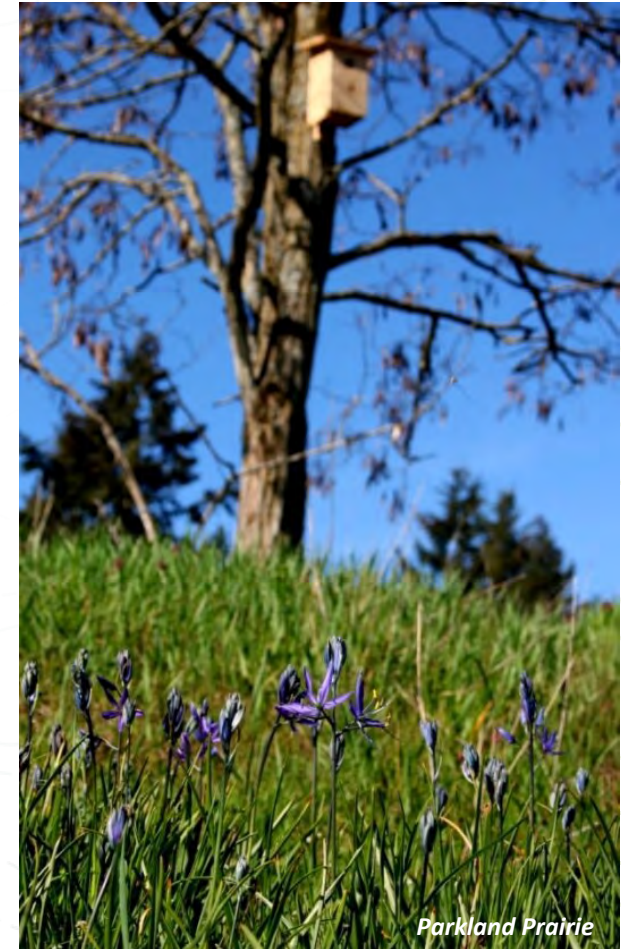
- Taxes, survey costs, any other property preparation or restoration



Grant Award Modification

Modifications allowed on a case-by-case basis

- *Reduced project size:* proportional reduction in project award
- *Increased project size:* if purchase of area doesn't exceed the award and enhances conservation values
- *Increased cost due to higher appraisal:* up to a 10% increase may be approved



Parkland Prairie

Land Types



**Fish & Wildlife
Habitat**



**Marine Shoreline
& Lakes**

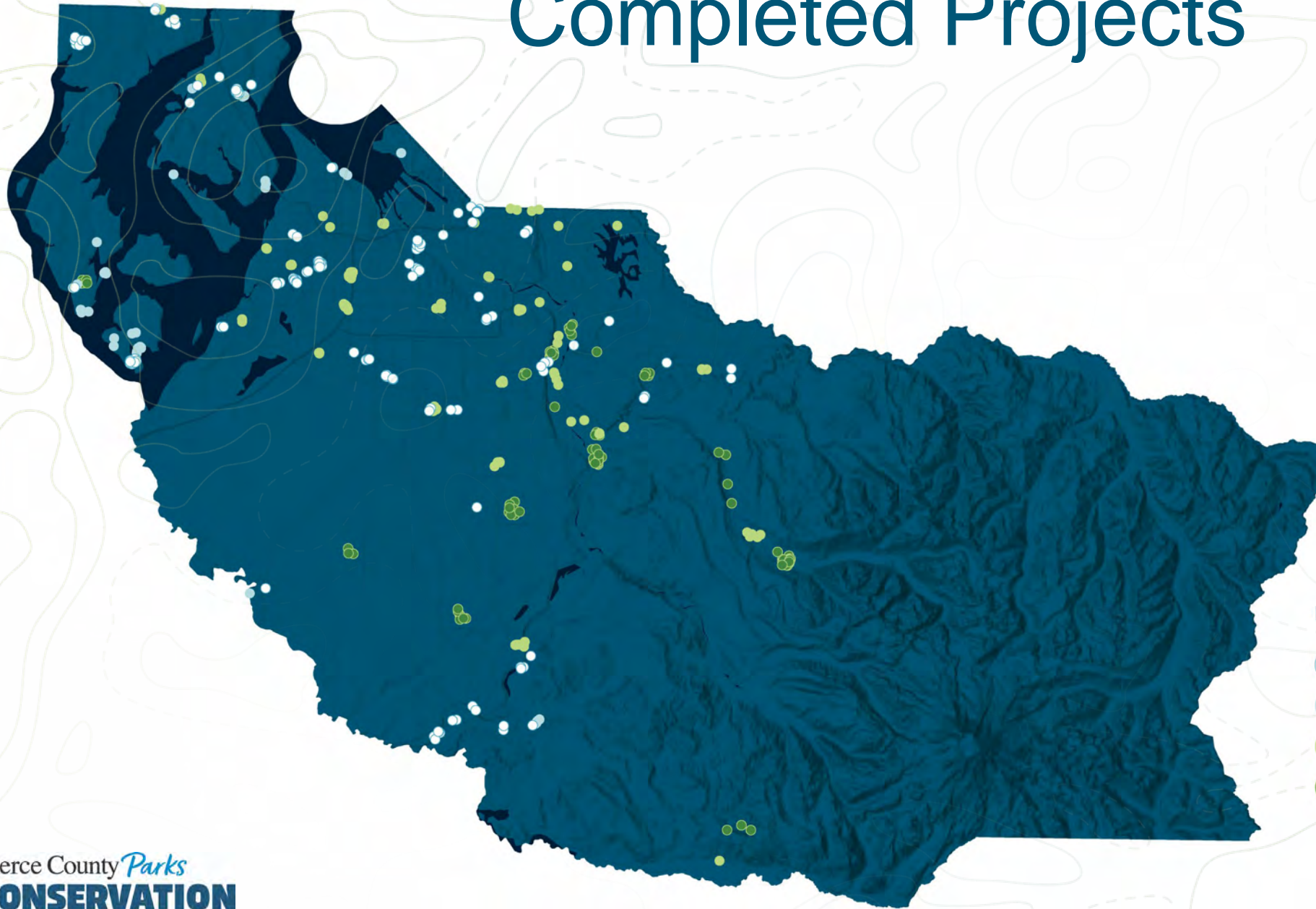


Parks & Trails







Working Lands

Completed Projects



LAND TYPE

-  FISH AND WILDLIFE HABITAT
-  MARINE, RIVERS, AND LAKES
-  PARKS AND TRAILS
-  WORKING LANDS

Parkland Prairie Nature Preserve



- Reclaimed and restored prairie land, adding trails, interpretive signs, and habitat enhancements along Clover Creek
- Completed with support from Parks, Pierce County Beekeepers Association, and the Washington Conservation Corps



 4.81 Acres  \$233K  Fish & Wildlife


 Parkland Community




Community benefits: Public park and green space, recreational and educational opportunities, habitat enhancements


Springbrook Park



- Expansion of existing community resource Springbrook Park, adding acreage to install off-street parking and a pedestrian bridge over Clover Creek
- Future CF grants to add basketball courts and a dog park



 2.38 Acres  \$703.4K  Parks & Trails

 City of Lakewood

Community benefits: Public park and green space, recreational and athletic facilities, pedestrian connections to transit and neighborhoods, on-site community services

Parks and Stormwater Management



Stormwater parks serve a dual purpose by providing access to green space while managing stormwater.

Parks, trails, and community gardens can co-exist with infrastructure for stormwater retention and water treatment.

Partnership Requirements

CFT funding awards can only be made to eligible parties
(based on RCW 84.34.210)

Partner with a Receiving Agency to receive funding and steward the land in perpetuity.



Receiving Agency Eligibility



Receiving agency qualifications are defined in RCW 84.34 and include:

- County, Cities, Towns
- Municipal Park Districts
- Nonprofit Nature Conservancies
- Historic Conservancies

Project Eligibility

There are 13 elements outlined in PCC Chapter 2.97 including:

- 10% match requirement
- Public access
- Restrictions on development
- Demonstrate conservation values established in PCC



Island Blvd

Who is the TAC?

Subject matter experts in a range of disciplines

Determine project eligibility

Provide conditions for the Citizens Advisory Board (CAB) to consider in the final recommendation.



Who is the CAB?

Advisory Board that represents broad interests. 18 members in total from:

- Council Districts
- Cities
- At Large
- Agricultural
- Tribal



Evaluating Applications



Applications must include 1-3 conservation priorities and details on how they will be protected in the future.

Scoring is based on program goals (also in PCC).

Matching funds and public access are also considered in scoring.

Evaluating Applications, cont'd.



Additional program goals include:

- Linkages with protected or public lands
- Development threat
- Location within an Urban Growth Area (UGA) or underserved community
- Carbon sequestration
- Regional significance

Common Application Pitfalls



Missing documentation requirements or deadlines

- We can provide advance application support and help ensure project milestones are realistic

Not selecting Conservation Values to maximize score

- Training materials and applicant workshops will cover this

Long-term Commitments

Completed projects include a permanent legal agreement to steward the property.

- Stewardship Agreement
- Restrictive Covenants
- Conservation Easement



Long-term Commitments

A property management plan is required within 1 year of closing.

- Forestry plan
- Farm management plan
- Habitat stewardship plan



Parkland Prairie

Thank you!

Questions?

Reach out to Chris Chaput,
Conservation Futures Coordinator

Christina.Chaput@PierceCountywa.gov



Improving Communities with

Conservation Futures



Ohop Creek

Conservation Futures is a land preservation program that:



Serves all Pierce
County residents



Conserves great spaces



Effectively leverages
resources



Provides multiple
community benefits

CONSERVATION

Futures

The Conservation Futures program preserves open space, wetlands, wildlife habitat, timber land and agricultural lands to benefit Pierce County residents now and in the future. The program, established in 1991, strives to ensure a high quality of life as Pierce County experiences growth in population and development.



Conserving **GREAT SPACES**

The program is competitive and provides funding for conservation efforts such as:

- Securing local food sources.
- Recreational spaces.
- Habitat and open space.
- Opportunities to connect with nature.
- Clean watersheds and water sources.



Serving All Pierce
County **RESIDENTS**

Pierce County, local cities and towns, non-profits and park districts work cooperatively to protect resources for improving quality of life and to conserve important community spaces.

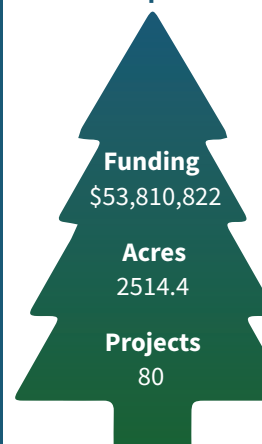
Providing Multiple **COMMUNITY BENEFITS**

Conservation Futures properties provide:

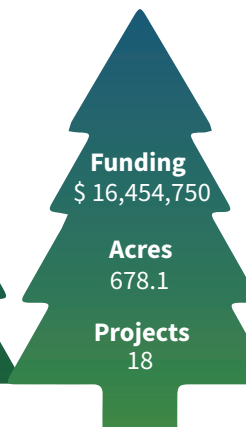
- Physical and mental health benefits.
- Educational opportunities.
- Economic benefits.
- Recreational opportunities.
- Enhanced quality of life.
- Community and neighborhood places.

Distribution of Funds **SINCE 1991**

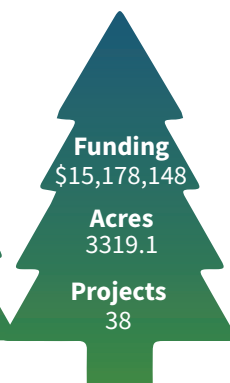
Pierce County & Municipalities



Park Districts



Non-Profits



Pierce County **CONSERVATION FUTURES MAP**

 Popular Destinations  Funded Conservation Futures Locations



Conservation Futures **POPULAR DESTINATIONS**

1. Curran Apple Orchard.
2. Foothills National Recreation Trail.
3. Narrows Park.
4. Northwest Trek.
5. Orting Valley Farmland.
6. Tacoma Nature Center.

Effectively Leveraging **RESOURCES**

- As of 2012, 10% matching dollars is required per application, however, actual match has been closer to 50% of total purchase amount.
- Volunteers provide resources to effectively maintain properties once acquired.

Conservation Futures **FUNDING**

Conservation Futures is funded through property tax revenue. The State permits a levy of up to 6.25 cents per \$1,000 assessed value. However, Pierce County charged approximately 3.55 cents per \$1,000 of assessed property value in 2021. This equated to about \$4.89 million in revenue (2021 tax year).



\$100,000 Property Value =
\$3.55 Per Year

Project **CONSIDERATION**



Step 1 **APPLY**

Application made by a municipality, park district, tribe, or non-profit. Application cycle opens in odd-numbered years.



Step 3 **RECOMMEND**

Citizens Advisory Board (CAB) thoroughly reviews projects to recommend selection, ranking, and protections to be put in place.



Step 5 **ACT**

Projects are submitted in the budget according to ranking order and revenue available for the application cycle.



Step 2 **REVIEW**

Review by Technical Advisory Committee (TAC), to determine eligibility of projects.



Step 4 **RESOLVE**

County Council takes public action on CAB/TAC recommendations. This determines the final ranking order and the terms of acquisition.



Step 6 **PURCHASE**

Properties are acquired for future conservation and public benefit.

Conservation Futures **BY THE NUMBERS**



Working Lands: Agriculture & Timber

1,641 Acres

13 Projects

\$8,394,188



Marine Shoreline/Lakes

646 Acres

23 Projects

\$15,843,319



Fish & Wildlife Habitat

3,208 Acres

65 Projects

\$32,508,791



Parks and Trails

1,016 Acres

35 Projects

\$28,697,422

Conservation **FUTURES**

Pierce County Council

Dave Morell, District 1

Paul Herrera, District 2

Amy Cruver, District 3

Ryan Mello, District 4

Marty Campbell, District 5

Jani Hitchen, District 6

Derek Young, District 7

Citizens Advisory Board

Marcello Mancini, District 1 | Ethan Newton, District 2 | Sarah Chun, District 3 | Lyndsay Gordon, District 4 |

Brett Larabee, District 5 | Carol Paschal, District 6 | Susan Pagenelli, District 7 | Kadie Anderson, At-Large |

Jerome O'Leary, At-Large | Terry Reid, City of Bonney Lake | Susan Potter, City of Lakewood |

Heather Shadko, City of Puyallup | Ryan Hebert, City of Tacoma | Anthony Paulson, City of University Place |

Thomas Ginsburg, Small Cities & Towns | Patricia Villa, Small Cities & Towns

Technical Advisory Committee

Katie Baker, At-Large | Adam Brown, At-Large | Greg Volkhardt, At-Large | Jake Pool, MetroParks Tacoma | Desiree

Radice, City of Tacoma | Gary Cooper, City of University Place | Rene' Skaggs, Pierce Conservation District |

Krystal Kyer, Pierce County Planning & Public Works | Niki Yonkowsky, Pierce County Planning & Public Works |

Jessica Stone, Pierce County Parks