

MINUTES – ENVIRONMENT COUNCIL COMMITTEE MEETING 01.09.2025

The meeting was called to order at 5:00 PM, Thursday, January 9, 2025 in the Council Chamber with the following in attendance:

Council Members

J.C. Harris (Chair)
Yoshiko Grace Matsui (Vice Chair)
Gene Achziger

City Staff

Katherine Caffrey – City Manager
Michael Slevin – Public Works Director
Tyler Beekley – Surface Water/Environmental Engineering Manager
Alex Johnson – Surface Water Engineer
Brandon Pitts – Surface Water Engineer
Matthew Hutchins – Assistant City Attorney
Sara Lee – Deputy City Clerk
Jodi Grager – Administrative Coordinator I

Guests – Mayor Traci Buxton, Councilmembers Matt Mahoney and Harry Steinmetz
Chuck Coleman, Bill Linscott
Parametrix Consultants – Nikki Redden and Paul Fendt and WRIA 9 Representative – Matt Goehring

AGENDA

1. Approval of the minutes from the 12.12.2024 meeting
2. 2025 Work Plan
3. Des Moines Creek Estuary Presentation

MEETING:

1. Unanimous approval of the 12.12.2024 meeting
2. Surface Water/Environmental Engineering Manager Tyler Beekley reviewed the list. He stated that a Critical Areas Update will be added to the plan but timing is yet to be determined. Additional topics were discussed: Jurisdictional overlap of drainage areas, Source Control, Land Stewardship Policies and a potential grant funding source through Department of Ecology.
3. Alex Johnson, Surface Water Engineer along with Parametrix consultants Nikki Redden and Paul Fendt presented a PowerPoint *Des Moines Creek Estuary Restoration*. WRIA 9 Representative Matt Goehring provided historical efforts to restore salmon habitat. This project includes grant funding program goals and City goals. The consultants reviewed several alternatives. Alternative #4 is the staff preferred choice since it meets a higher percentage of the goals compared to the other options. Staff requested direction on producing a rendering to progress design efforts. It was agreed to pursue Alternative #4.

Meeting adjourned at 5:53 p.m. Minutes respectfully submitted by: Jodi Grager, Admin Coordinator