



Flood Control Funding Options

Skagit River Flood Control Committee
June 4th, 2007



Purpose of Briefing

- To illustrate the need for dedicated funding for flood control
- To provide an overview of the funding options
- To provide you with a preliminary staff recommendation on the funding options



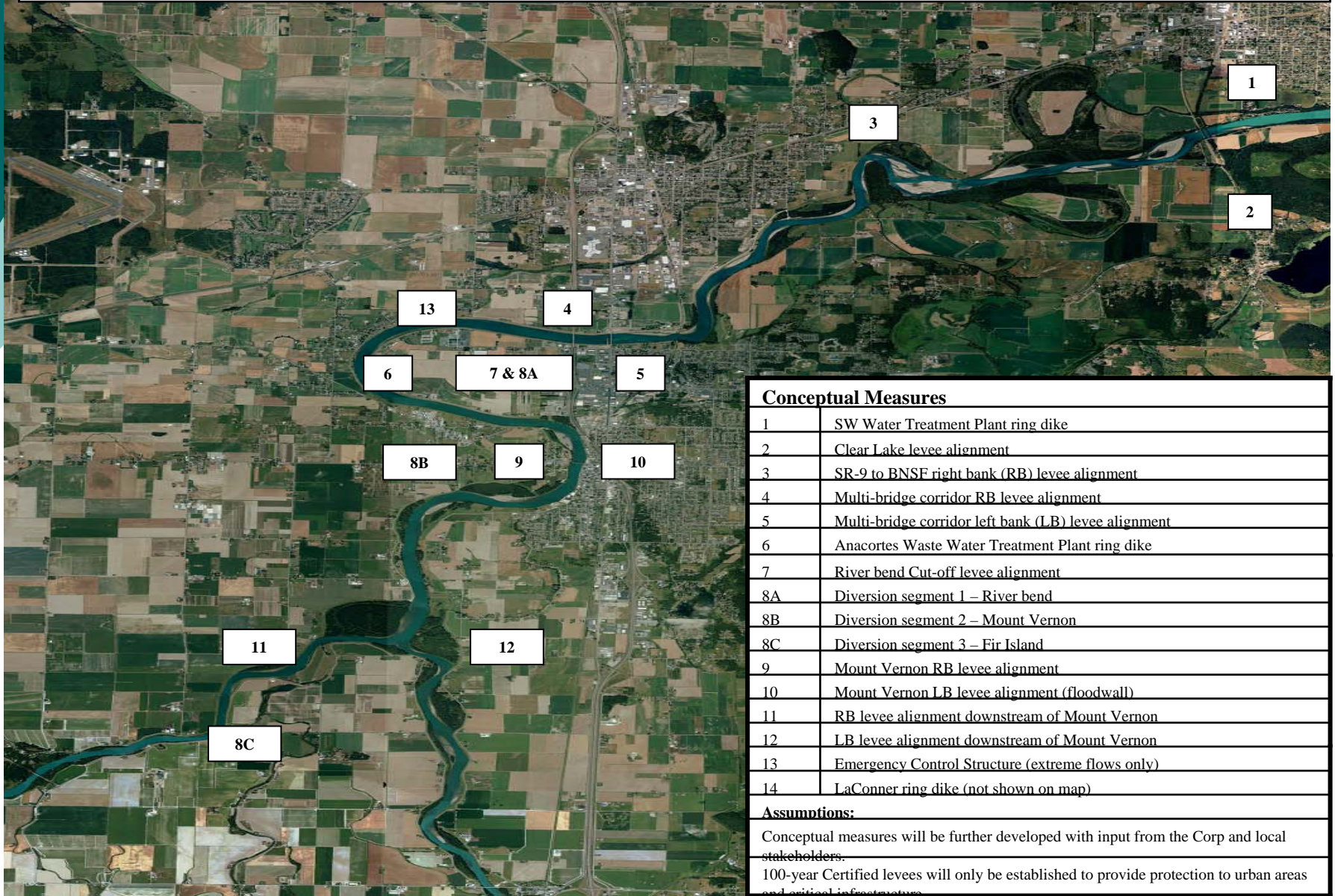
Need for Flood Control Funding

- Major floods are a serious threat to the entire region
- Skagit levees in general only provide about a 25-year flood event level of protection
- County and Corps study effort will take years to develop projects eligible for federal funding
- It could take more years for Congress to approve the funding
- Projects have already been identified that could be pursued if ongoing local funding were in place (ie. Levee setbacks, floodwall, ring dike)
- County/Cities need to take full advantage of our network of organized diking districts to implement projects. Should work in partnership with them to move projects forward.

What Will Flood Control Cost?

Skagit County					
Conceptual Flood Control Measures with Conceptual Cost Estimates					
	Conceptual Measures	Construction Costs	Assessed Value	Total Project Cost	Local Match 25% of Total
1	Sedro Woolley Water Treatment Plant	\$ 1,278,259	\$ 95,800	\$ 1,374,059	\$ 343,515
2	Clear Lake Levee Alignment	5,979,341	1,709,700	7,689,041	1,922,260
3	SR-9 to BNSF Right Bank Levee Alignment	17,011,871	9,023,500	26,035,371	6,508,843
4	Multi-Bridge Corridor Right Bank Alignment	18,888,198	23,774,500	21,362,698	5,340,675
5	Multi-Bridge Corridor Left Bank Alignment	7,205,415	29,895,500	37,100,915	9,275,229
6	Anacortes Water Treatment Plant	1,480,693	-	1,480,693	370,173
7	Riverbend Cut-off Levee Alignment	8,365,572	8,334,900	16,700,472	4,175,118
8a	Diversion segment 1 – Riverbend	5,491,382	5,283,500	10,774,882	2,693,721
8b	Diversion segment 2 – Mount Vernon	8,365,572	5,903,300	14,268,872	3,567,218
8c	Diversion segment 3 – Fir Island	11,443,241	2,985,700	14,428,941	3,607,235
	Diversion Measure sub-total	\$ 25,300,196	\$ 14,172,500	\$ 39,472,696	\$ 9,868,174
8	Mount Vernon Right Bank Levee Alignment	1,904,844	15,597,500	17,502,344	4,375,586
10	Mount Vernon Left Bank Levee Alignment	3,401,682	10,766,700	14,168,382	3,542,095
11	Lower Right Bank Levee Alignment	6,416,406	9,040,400	15,456,806	3,864,202
12	Lower Left Bank Levee Alignment	12,351,256	9,259,300	21,610,556	5,402,639
13	Emergency Control Structure (no land)	13,197,868	29,504,400	42,702,268	10,675,567
14	LaConner Ring Dike	1,000,000		1,000,000	250,000
	Totals	\$ 122,781,598	\$ 161,174,700	\$ 262,656,298	\$ 65,664,075
	15 years - 25% of Total Project	\$ 4,377,604			
	15 years - Land Acquisition	\$ 10,744,980			

Conceptual Flood Control Measures Site Map



Conceptual Measures	
1	SW Water Treatment Plant ring dike
2	Clear Lake levee alignment
3	SR-9 to BNSF right bank (RB) levee alignment
4	Multi-bridge corridor RB levee alignment
5	Multi-bridge corridor left bank (LB) levee alignment
6	Anacortes Waste Water Treatment Plant ring dike
7	River bend Cut-off levee alignment
8A	Diversion segment 1 – River bend
8B	Diversion segment 2 – Mount Vernon
8C	Diversion segment 3 – Fir Island
9	Mount Vernon RB levee alignment
10	Mount Vernon LB levee alignment (floodwall)
11	RB levee alignment downstream of Mount Vernon
12	LB levee alignment downstream of Mount Vernon
13	Emergency Control Structure (extreme flows only)
14	LaConner ring dike (not shown on map)
Assumptions:	
Conceptual measures will be further developed with input from the Corp and local stakeholders.	
100-year Certified levees will only be established to provide protection to urban areas and critical infrastructure.	



Funding Options

- River Improvement Fund
- Skagit County Drainage Utility
- Flood Control Zone District
- Sales Tax



River Improvement Fund

- State law allows it to be assessed at \$0.25 per \$1000 assessed value.
- Requires a simple majority vote in countywide election or a greater allocation of the Current Expense levy which funds other mandatory and essential services ie. Police, fire, public health.



Skagit County Drainage Utility Fee Increase

- Can be enacted by the BCC
- The Drainage Utility addresses local stormwater issues whereas flooding is a regional issue.
- Considered inequitable because Skagit County's DU fees are collected in unincorporated areas while flood hazard management actions are provided regionally.



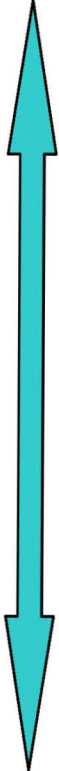
Flood Control Zone District

- Purpose: to undertake, operate or maintain flood control or stormwater projects that are of a benefit to a specified area.
- Already established in Skagit County via Resolution #5325.
- Boundaries of FCZD include the entire county including incorporated areas.
- This is the staff recommended option.

Flood Control Zone District (cont.)

- Need to Consider:
 - Flood Control Zone Districts are “junior” taxing districts at risk of being eliminated or reduced if \$5.90 aggregate levy total for the County is exceeded.
 - Governance structure and Committee makeup.
 - How to handle existing sub flood control zone districts that could not be subject to an additional levy under the FCZD.

ORDER OF PRIORITY WITHIN THE \$5.90 LIMIT FOR PROPERTY TAX

Priority Ranking	Local Taxing Authority	
First	County— <i>Includes River Improvement Fund and Inter-County River Improvement Fund</i> County Road City	 <p>Highest Priority</p>
Second	Fire (1st 50¢) Regional Fire Protection Service Authority (1st 50¢) Library Metropolitan Park created before 1/1/2002 (1st 50¢) Public Hospital (1st 50¢)	
Third	Fire (2nd/3rd 50¢) Regional Fire Protection Service Authority (2nd/3rd 50¢)	
Fourth	Metropolitan Park created after 1/1/2002	
Fifth	Public Hospital (25¢) Unprotected Metropolitan Park (25¢) Cemetery (11.25¢) All other junior districts except those in 4th & 5th priorities	
Sixth	Flood Control Zone Districts	
Seventh	Park & Recreation Service Area Park & Recreation Cultural Arts, Stadium City Transportation Authority (Monorail)	

Flood Control Zone District (cont.)

Current Aggregate Levy in County = \$4.74310

Remaining Levy Capacity = \$1.15690

Countywide Taxable Value = \$14,004,423,861

Flood Control Zone Levy Max. = \$0.50 per \$1000

Range = Annual Rev. \$260K Home Pays

.50 = \$7,002,212 \$ 130.00

.25 = \$3,501,106 \$ 65.00

.15 = \$2,100,664 \$ 39.00

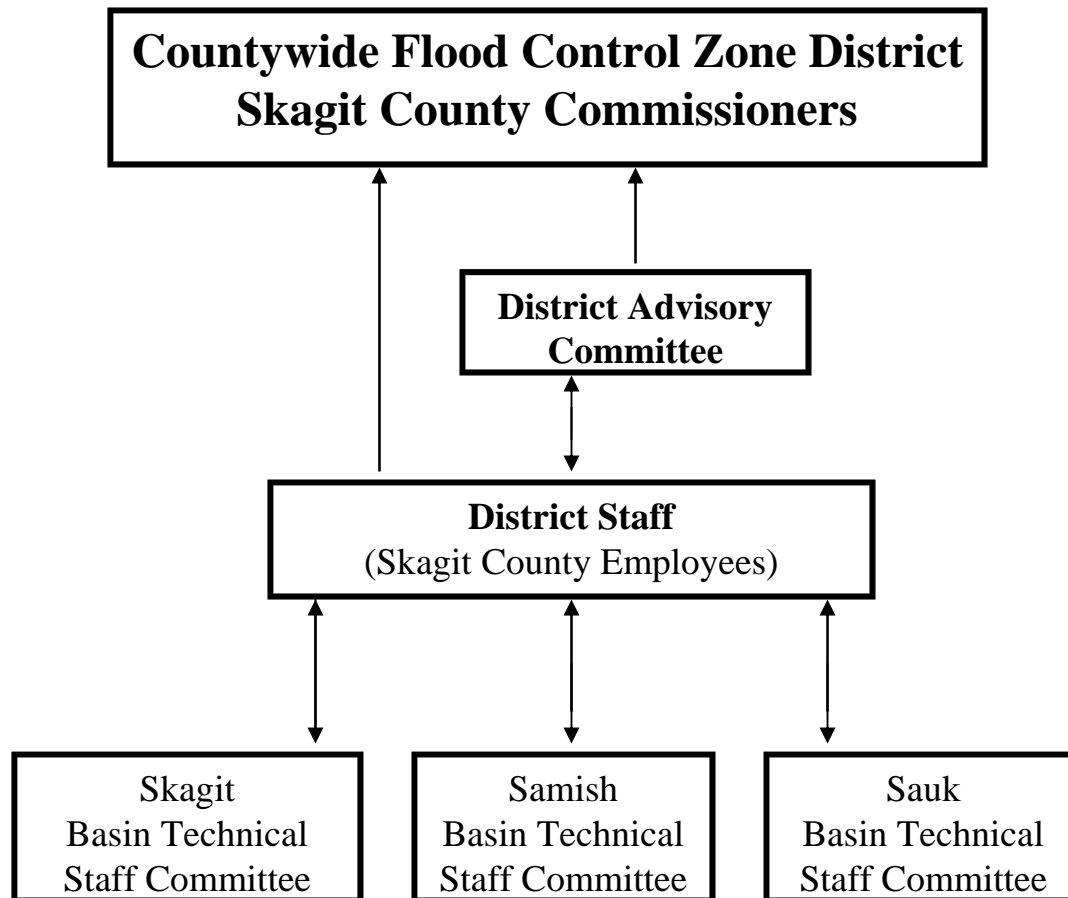
.10 = \$1,400,442 \$ 26.00

Flood Control Zone District

Flood Control Zone Districts are being used by:

	<u>Levy Rate</u>	<u>Amount</u>
King	TBD	
Whatcom	\$.143	\$2.9 million
Yakima	\$.10	\$1.1 million

Possible Skagit County Flood Control Zone District Governance Structure





Sales Tax Option

- Amend State Statutes to allow for Skagit County to approve tax for Flood Control purposes
- Preliminary information would lead us to believe that .005 cents would generate approx. \$6 million per year.
- Voter approval for implementation



Flood Control Funding

Questions

- How much to collect?
- Is there support with our City and Diking District partners?
- When to implement? 2008 funding would require BCC action in August 2007
- Put the issue out to public vote?

Next Steps

- Explore support from Cities and Diking Districts
- Work with financial consultant to develop tax rate options
- Define projects and objectives
- Develop public education campaign for consideration.