

SKAGIT COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

DON MUNKS, First District
KENNETH A. DAHLSTEDT, Second District
SHARON D. DILLON, Third District

June 16, 2008

Mayor Ed Brunz City of Burlington 833 South Spruce Street Burlington, WA 98233

RE:

Memorandum of Understanding

Co-lead on Phased Environmental Review

Mayor Brunz:

We have your letter dated May 13, 2008, requesting that the County participate as co-lead in phased environmental review of a flood protection and land use project. It is our understanding that the City desires to plan for a standalone flood control project for the City of Burlington. As explained to County staff, it is our understanding this would involve levee setback and certification, a ring dike around the City, and a moderate expansion of the City's Urban Growth Area (UGA).

As you are aware, the Board of County Commissioners has charged the Flood Control Zone District (FCZD) advisory committee with basin-wide flood control planning. The FCZD advisory group sets up a carefully balanced stakeholder process involving representatives of cities, dike districts, environmental and agricultural groups, business interests, tribes, and state and federal agencies.

The Board of Commissioners intends to heavily rely on recommendations from the FCZD committees in flood planning going forward. Flood control projects within a river basin are necessarily interrelated. Accordingly, it is vitally important that the FCZD body furnish holistic flood control recommendations and plans that work for the entire community.

For these reasons, we would request that the City of Burlington present the concept of its proposal to the FCZD for their discussion, consideration and recommendation prior to County staff taking any action in furtherance of the City's proposal.

By copy of this letter, we are requesting that Public Works Director Voetberg and FCZD Advisory Committee Chair Bob Boudinot assist you in making the necessary arrangements to present the City's conceptual plans to the FCZD advisory body. We thank you in advance for your assistance.

Sincerely,

BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS SKAGIT COUNTY, WASHINGTON

DON MUNKS, Chair

SHARON D. DILLON, Commissioner

KENNETH A. DAHLSTEDT, Commissioner

cc: Bob Boudinot (Chair, FCZD Advisory Committee)

James Voetberg Gary Christensen

Gary Rowe

William Honea