



## SKAGIT COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

DON MUNKS, First District  
KENNETH A. DAHLSTEDT, Second District  
TED W. ANDERSON, Third District

DRAFT

March 15, 2006

Re: Countywide Flood Control Funding Strategy

Dear [Mayor/Dike District Commissioner]

This letter being sent to advise you that the Board of County Commissioners (BCC) has directed the County Department of Public Works to begin contacting Cities, Towns, and Diking Districts for the purpose of soliciting your thoughts and recommendations for funding countywide flood control projects through the existing Flood Control Zone District (FCZD). Increasing awareness of the continued threat to the health and safety of the public during extreme flooding events has prompted this action to consider funding local programs and projects to better protect our citizens.

The FCZD (which is countywide and includes all cities/towns) was initially created in 1970 under RCW 86.15 for the purpose of undertaking, operating, or maintaining flood control and storm water control projects. Since that time the FCZD has been primarily used to create and administer the County's sub-flood control zone districts. RCW 86.15 allows the FCZD to not only implement countywide flood control projects but to enter into management agreements with water related special purpose districts and cities/towns for projects (or groups of projects) that are of special benefit to those parties.

RCW 86.15 provides for various funding options to meet the needs of the FCZD. These include levies, assessments, service charges, and bonds. As an example, the County estimates that approximately \$1,000,000 of annual revenue would be generated with an ad valorem levy of 8 cents/\$1000 assessed value. This is similar to the levy amounts currently in place for flood protection programs in Whatcom, Yakima, and King County.

To kick of this effort we are hopeful that you would designate a contact person within your organization to work with County staff. We anticipate future workshops, meetings and other opportunities for informational exchanges. Please forward the contact information to: Tom Karsh by phone (360) 419-3373 or email [tomk@co.skagit.wa.us](mailto:tomk@co.skagit.wa.us).

Sincerely,

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Kenneth A. Dahlstedt, Chairman

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Ted W. Anderson, Commissioner

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Don Munks, Commissioner

**SKAGIT COUNTY COMMISSIONERS ADMINISTRATIVE BUILDING**

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