

County Council

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March 20, 2015

The Honorable Hans Dunshee PO Box 40600 Olympia, WA 98504-0600

Dear Representative Dunshee:

I would like to express my strong support for an appropriation of \$5 million from the State Capital Budget for the acquisition of three parcels known as the Wayne Golf Course in Bothell. The acquisition of this property has a direct impact on regionally significant habitat and would provide the opportunity to restore water quality and key wetlands for fish and wildlife to the benefit of both King and Snohomish Counties.

The 81 acres to be acquired include 4500 linear feet of river front. Restoration will significantly improve the survival of ESA listed Chinook salmon. Public Open Space will be maintained, and environmental education in the restoration area will engage the public in recovery of Puget Sound. The surrounding jurisdictions and State will benefit from improved water quality and flooding control.

Timing is critical here. Rarely do such opportunities occur and this is a "one time/last time" opportunity. Now is the final opportunity to acquire the property before it is sold for development, so we can then protect and restore this key water resource and open space.

Unfortunately, the City of Bothell does not have the funds to make this unique purchase, which WRIA 8 has endorsed. For all the benefits stated above, I am supporting a grant from the State Capital Budget for this acquisition.

Thank you for your thoughtful consideration of this project.

Sincerely,

Terry Ryan

Snohomish County Council Vice Chair

District 4

Chair, Public Works Committee

Jam Ryan