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Cedar River Council
 Friends of the Cedar River Watershed
 Friends of the Issaquah Salmon Hatchery
 Greater Seattle Chamber of Commerce
 Long Live the Kings
 Mid-Sound Fisheries Enhancement Group
 Mountains to Sound Greenway
 Northwest Marine Trade Association
 Sno-King Watershed Council
 Trout Unlimited
 Water Tenders

Alderwood Water and Wastewater District
 National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration
 US Army Corps of Engineers
 Washington Departments:
 Ecology
 Fish and Wildlife
 Natural Resources
 Washington Association of Sewer and Water Districts
 King Conservation District

March 12, 2015



The Honorable Hans Dunshee
 Washington State House of Representatives
 314 John L. O'Brien Building
 PO Box 40600
 Olympia, WA 98504-0600

The Honorable Derek Stanford
 Washington State House of Representatives
 304 John L. O'Brien Building
 PO Box 40600
 Olympia, WA 98504-0600

The Honorable Richard DeBoldt
 Washington State House of Representatives
 425A Legislative Building
 PO Box 40600
 Olympia, WA 98504

The Honorable Norma Smith
 Washington State House of Representatives
 435 John L. O'Brien Building
 PO Box 40600
 Olympia, WA 98504

RE: Support for Capital Budget Request to Acquire Wayne Public Golf Course as a Benefit to Chinook Salmon Recovery

Dear Representatives Dunshee, Stanford, DeBoldt, and Smith:

On behalf of the Lake Washington/Cedar/Sammamish Watershed (WRIA 8) Salmon Recovery Council, I wish to convey the potential significance and value of acquiring the Wayne Public Golf Course along the Sammamish River in the City of Bothell to local and regional salmon recovery. The WRIA 8 Salmon Recovery Council is a partnership of 28 local governments, citizens, community groups, state and federal agencies, and businesses working together to implement the *WRIA 8 Chinook Salmon Conservation Plan* (WRIA 8 Plan). The City of Bothell—one of our local government partners—submitted a capital budget request targeting protection of the Wayne Golf Course. Fulfilling this request would enable regionally-significant habitat restoration benefitting threatened Chinook salmon and other fish and wildlife.

The Wayne Golf Course, located at 96th Avenue NE in the City of Bothell, extends along the left and right banks of the Sammamish River and has over 4,500 linear feet of river frontage. The WRIA 8 Plan identifies the Sammamish River as a

migratory corridor critical to restoring Chinook to the North Lake Washington basin. In addition to Chinook, the river is also used by coho, sockeye, and kokanee salmon.

Salmon habitat along the Sammamish River is highly degraded, and water temperatures can reach levels lethal to salmon. Acquisition of the Wayne Golf Course is a rare opportunity to protect substantial acreage in a primarily urban area, and protection would provide a significant opportunity to implement the restoration priorities identified in the WRIA 8 Plan on a large scale.

Local salmon recovery funding alone is not sufficient to acquire properties of this size, and we ask you to support this important capital budget request. Acquiring the Wayne Golf Course for the purposes of habitat protection and restoration would contribute significantly to WRIA 8 and Puget Sound salmon and ecosystem recovery objectives. If you have questions, please contact WRIA 8 Watershed Coordinator Jason Mulvihill-Kuntz at jason.mulvihill-kuntz@kingcounty.gov or 206-477-4780.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Larry Phillips". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a long horizontal stroke at the end.

Larry Phillips
Chair, WRIA 8 Salmon Recovery Council
Chair, Metropolitan King County Council

cc: Washington State House of Representatives Capital Budget Committee
Meg Van Schoorl, Coordinator, House Capital Budget Committee
WRIA 8 Salmon Recovery Council
Jason Mulvihill-Kuntz, WRIA 8 Watershed Coordinator