

TO: City Council
FROM: Grant Gilmore, Water Resources Specialist
DATE: May 19, 2026
SUBJECT: Interlocal Agreement with Cities of Olympia and Lacey and Thurston County for Implementing the South Sound Green Program

1) Recommended Action:

Approve and authorize the Mayor to sign the Interlocal Agreement with the Cities of Olympia and Lacey, and Thurston County for the Implementation of the South Sound Green (SSG) Program.

This agreement was recommended for approval by the Public Works Committee at their May 7, 2026, meeting on the consent calendar.

2) Background:

SSG is a program provided by the Thurston Conservation District that provides water quality education aimed at middle school students for the Tumwater School District and its regional partners. This work is coordinated and managed in part through the Water Resources & Sustainability Department and the Regional Environmental Education Partnership coordinator. The goal of this contract is to meet the city's education and outreach obligations identified in the National Pollution Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) permit requirements identified under section S5.C Public Education.

3) Policy Support:

As an NPDES permittee, stormwater pollution and prevention education is a required deliverable to meet one of the regulated items identified in section S5.C Public Education.

4) Alternatives:

- Discontinue water quality and stormwater education aimed at middle school ages within the Tumwater School District through SSG.
 - Develop and implement a new education outreach program designed for middle school students to meet NPDES permit requirements.
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5) Fiscal Notes:

Participating agencies will provide funding to the Thurston Conservation District in the amounts shown below based on population size, with Tumwater's share at 13% of the total cost. The budget will increase by five percent (5%) annually, for each jurisdiction, for the life of this contract. Tumwater's cost is paid through the Stormwater Utility Fund.

Jurisdiction 2026 Baseline

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| • City of Lacey \$19,656 | • City of Tumwater \$8,400 |
| • City of Olympia \$19,656 | • Thurston County \$18,720 |
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6) Attachments:

A. Interlocal Agreement for the South Sound Green Program