TO: Public Works Committee

FROM: Dan Smith, Water Resources & Sustainability Director

DATE: October 8, 2026

SUBJECT: Resolution No. R2026-017, Deschutes Estuary Restoration Project

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1) Recommended Action:

Place Resolution No. R2026-017 for the Deschutes Estuary Restoration Project (Project) on the October 20, 2026, City Council consent calendar with a recommendation to adopt.

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2) Background:

The project aims to restore tidal exchange between the Deschutes River and Budd Inlet through removal of the 5th Avenue Dam and related habitat, water-quality, sediment-management, infrastructure, and public-access improvements. The 2022 Final Environmental Impact Statement identified the Estuary Alternative as the preferred long-term approach, and the Washington Department of Ecology assumed lead responsibility in 2025. On October 15, 2024, the City Council unanimously approved the Project Interlocal Agreement and South Basin Boardwalk Agreement, establishing regional governance, sediment-management funding, and a future boardwalk. Resolution No. R2026-017 reaffirms that position and supports continued state and federal implementation.

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3) Policy Support:

- 2026-2032 Strategic Plan, Environmental Stewardship: Be a leader in environmental health and sustainability.
- Values: Environment & Partnership; long-term stewardship and intergovernmental collaboration.
- Action items include conserving and protecting water resources, promoting environmentally sustainable practices, and implementing the Climate Element of the Comprehensive Plan. The Project aligns with these priorities through its intended water-quality, habitat, ecological-function, and climate-resilience benefits and continued regional partnership.

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4) Alternatives:

- ❑ Do not recommend adoption. Existing city agreements would remain in effect; however, city but would not provide a current statement supporting state and federal implementation funding.

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5) Fiscal Notes:

Resolution No. R2026-017 has no immediate fiscal impact or new financial obligation. Existing obligations remain; FY2728 prepares for repayment of ~$2.865 million through 2050, addressing 15.4% of future sediment management costs (2024 Interlocal Agreement).

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6) Attachments:

A. Resolution No. R2026-017, Deschutes Estuary Restoration Project