

TO: Planning Commission
FROM: Brad Medrud, Planning Manager
DATE: March 14, 2023
SUBJECT: Bush Prairie Habitat Conservation Plan (HCP) – Status Update

1) Recommended Action:

Review the attached materials and be prepared for discussion.

2) Background:

Working together with the Port of Olympia and large group of stakeholders, the City is completing Phase 2 and starting Phase 3 of the Bush Prairie Habitat Conservation Plan (HCP) with consultant assistance.

The Bush Prairie Habitat Conservation Plan (HCP) is intended to provide the basis for a comprehensive federal citywide incidental take permit. The permit would allow development, operations, and activities to occur in compliance with state and federal endangered and threatened species protections, while also providing the foundation for a coordinated conservation system that supports the preservation of the endangered and threatened species. This month a working draft of the HCP has been provided to the project stakeholders, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS), and the Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife (WDFW) for review.

3) Policy Support:

Comprehensive Plan Conservation Element Goal C-1: Recognize the significant role played by natural features and systems in determining the overall environmental quality and livability of Tumwater.

Comprehensive Plan Conservation Element Policy C-2.16: Protect and preserve habitats for species, which have been identified as endangered, threatened, or sensitive by the state or federal government, giving “special consideration: to conservation or protection measures necessary to preserve or enhance anadromous fisheries.

4) Alternatives:

☐ None

5) Fiscal Notes:

This is a federal grant and an internally funded work program task.

6) Attachments:

- A. Memorandum
- B. Presentation