

TO: City Council
FROM: John Doan, City Administrator
DATE: July 26, 2022
SUBJECT: Capitol Lake – Deschutes Estuary Long-Term Management Project Update

1) Recommended Action:

Briefing only in anticipation of future Interlocal Agreement and funding commitment.

2) Background:

Long-term management strategies and actions are needed to address issues in the Capitol Lake – Deschutes Estuary project area. In June 2021, the Department of Enterprise Services released a Draft Environmental Impact Statement addressing the options for long-term management. They have identified the likely preferred alternative to be the restoration of the estuary. The direction from the Legislature in approving this project was to develop a system for local entities to share in the costs of the project. The Funding and Governance Work Group has been developing a proposal to achieve that requirement.

Staff from the State and the consultants will provide a brief update on the project including the conceptual approach to how the State and local entities (Tumwater, Olympia, Port, LOTT, Tribe, and County) could be involved in paying for it. Additional information is available at <https://capitollakedeschutesestuaryeis.org>.

3) Policy Support:

2021-2026 Strategic Priority: Be a Leader in Environmental Sustainability

4) Alternatives:

This is a briefing only.

5) Fiscal Notes:

In addition to staff and elected official time, the City has contributed \$60,000 toward the cost of the EIS effort. If the proposed funding strategy is refined and adopted, the City would need to make annual contributions toward future maintenance dredging. A significant portion of these funds could come from the Stormwater Utility. The City would also be responsible for maintenance of recreational improvements in the south basin after construction by the State.

6) Attachments:

None.