



Task Force Work to Date

- Reviewed Pierce County economic analysis study
- Developed Task Force work plan
- Cataloged potential roadblocks and problems
- Developed list of possible solutions
- Developed criteria for evaluating options
- Narrowed options for further consideration
- Identified guiding principles and cautions for each option





Task Force Agreements

- No option can stand alone; a comprehensive solution package must be adopted
- For the next phase of study, the Task Force agreed to provide the technical team guidance on the following:
 - Potential issues and roadblocks
 - Criteria
 - Options for consideration
 - Guiding principles for options
 - Emphasis on options
 - Specific recommendations for each option
 - Funding strategies
 - On-going progress review



Guiding Principles - Overarching

- Public safety
- Long-term effectiveness
- Economic vitality of the county
- Ecosystem function and the most “natural” way to address flood control issue





Guiding Principles/Cautions

Dredging	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Avoid ecological disruption of immediate area• Avoid downstream impacts such as tsunamis and sediment load impacts• Consider long-term maintenance• Improve, not degrade, natural environment• Consider three listed species under Endangered Species Act• Consider permitting concerns. The lower river / tidal estuary is the most sensitive place for juvenile salmon• Weigh long-term costs. Dredging is only funded once by the Federal Government, afterward only by local sponsors• Coordinate with the Puyallup Tribe and other agencies (NMFS, NOAA, WDFW)• Consider the stability of existing levee and utilities• Anticipate impacts beyond the river, e.g., delta caving
-----------------	---



Guiding Principles/Cautions

Enhancing existing levees	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Identify negative impacts• Address Clarks Creek impacts• Consider full cost, e.g., bridges• Consider the need to widen levees• Consider long-term effectiveness• Consider techniques to change flow (example “doloes” used in Whatcom County)
Setback levees	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Consider full costs, including land acquisition• Consider and be aware of hidden costs• Size matters, i.e., cost / benefit• Consider costs of maintaining infrastructure including transportation and utilities• Quantify environmental benefits if possible• Consider land use incentives, e.g., transfer of development rights (TDRs)



Guiding Principles/Cautions

Non-Structural Approaches	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Dialogue about all consequences of regulations and mandates• Evaluate which non-structural issues should be considered by Pierce County Water Programs, and which should be handled elsewhere• Include the following non-structural options in the analysis:<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Land use• Low impact development• Flood plain buyouts
----------------------------------	---



Funding Discussions

- Developed a road map for near-, mid- and long-term funding of flood protection program
- Learned about potential funding mechanisms for flood protection
- Hosted a panel of staff representatives from Washington's federal delegation to explore opportunities for federal funding and how to pursue it



Funding Discussions

- Learned about and endorsed partnering with the US Army Corps of Engineers for a General Investigation (G.I.) of the Puyallup River System
- Identified need for change of Corps policy that prohibits “early action” projects from being credited as contributing and ineligible for funding as “in-kind” contributions
- Discussed and recommended a funding allocation methodology for local partners to participate in funding the local match for the G.I.
- Inter-local agreements signed and local-match funding secured for G.I.



Ongoing Work

- Following Pierce County Rivers Flood Hazard Management Plan development
- On-going progress review of Corps G.I. Study
- Focusing on non-structural solutions





Future Work

- Continue to provide a regional forum to build consensus on flood control issues including:
 - The on-going Corps G.I. study
 - Advocating at the Federal level for continued funding for the G.I. study
 - Changes in FEMA mapping and regulatory standards
 - Local coordination and funding for flood control projects