



City of Edmonds Media Release

Office of the Mayor ~ 121 5th Avenue North, Edmonds

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE: 19 NOVEMBER 2019

To: Media

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EDMONDS MARSH PROJECT AWARDED NFWF FUNDING

Edmonds Marsh Daylighting Project Awarded \$450,000 for Design Work

(Edmonds, WA) – The City of Edmonds is excited to have received a notice of an award of \$450,000 in grant funding from the National Fish and Wildlife Foundation’s (NFWF) National Coastal Resiliency Fund to further design of the Edmonds Marsh Daylighting Project, which seeks to reestablish the hydraulic connection between the Edmonds Marsh and Puget Sound and restore significant fish and wildlife habitat that has been lost over time.

The National Coastal Resiliency Fund restores, increases, and strengthens natural infrastructure to protect coastal communities while also enhancing habitats for fish and wildlife. The program awarded a total of \$29,339,774 in grant funding this year to 44 projects across the nation, generating more than \$89,333,649 in total investment, when combined with local match funding.

“The Edmonds Marsh project’s ability to incorporate sea-level rise into the previous rounds of analysis, through the use of selected flood walls, had a significant impact in demonstrating the resiliency of the proposed project,” commented Edmonds Public Works and Utilities Director Phil Williams. “This made our project even more competitive under the grant program.”

Strong community support was believed to be a major factor in the success of the Edmonds Marsh grant application, as well, with Mayor Earling noting: “We are particularly grateful for the support provided by the Port of Edmonds, Save Our Edmonds Marsh, WRIA 8, the Tulalip Tribes, and Congresswoman Pramila Jayapal. And special thanks also go to Keeley O’Connell with Nature InSight Consulting for her great work on the application.”

The project is only one of three funded in the State this year, and the only one funded that is located on Puget Sound.

The grant requires a 50% local match and can be used for project design. This critical funding allows the project to be able to proceed more quickly, especially once the transfer of ownership from UNOCAL to the Washington State Department of Transportation occurs. However, with this funding, the City can proceed with project design as soon as access to the site can be obtained. The City will be applying for several additional natural resource grants during the first half of 2020.

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