

April 24, 2013

Recreation and Conservation Office Kaleen Cottingham, Director Salmon Recovery Board 1111 Washington Street Olympia, WA 98501

Subject: Willow Creek Daylighting/Edmonds Marsh Restoration Project Design Phase Pre-Proposal 2013 Salmon Recovery Funding Board (SRFB) and Puget Sound Acquisition and Restoration (PSAR) Funds Grant

Ms. Cottingham:

Sound Transit would like to express its support for the City of Edmonds' pre-proposal for the Willow Creek Daylighting project. Sound Transit paid for the construction of a new railroad bridge at the future Willow Creek crossing as mitigation for track and signal improvements necessary to increase capacity for Sounder Commuter trains between Seattle and Everett. Installation of the new bridge was determined to be a critical first step towards the future daylighting of Willow Creek, and the bridge construction was completed in 2011.

Sound Transit fully supports the overall project goal to restore tidal inflow and to improve fish passage conditions into Edmonds Marsh, by daylighting Willow Creek. It is the mutual intent of Sound Transit and the City of Edmonds to continue coordinating and collaborating on this project. Both the locally-funded work, and the proposed predesign phase that is the subject of this application, align strongly with our vision and intent of the mitigation constructed in 2011 and the City's vision for the future of Willow Creek and the Edmonds Marsh.

Very truly yours,

Perry Weinberg

Director, Environmental Affairs and Sustainability

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cc: Jerry Shuster, City of Edmonds