

STATE OF WASHINGTON DEPARTMENT OF ECOLOGY

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August 23, 2010

The Honorable John Marchione, Mayor City of Redmond PO Box 97010 Redmond, WA 98073-9710

RE: Redmond Comprehensive Flood Hazard Management Plan

Dear Mayor Marchione:

The purpose of this letter is to inform you that the Washington State Department of Ecology (Ecology) hereby approves the City of Redmond Comprehensive Flood Hazard Management Plan (CFHMP) dated November 17, 2009. Congratulations to the city of Redmond staff and citizens on preparing the Redmond CFHMP.

This plan provides the city of Redmond (City) with many recommendations to implement activities and projects designed to improve your existing floodplain management program. The plan addresses coordination on multi-jurisdictional floodplain restoration projects and the planning of small restoration and preventive city projects. Recommendations focus on protection and restoration of important floodplain functions mainly through non-structural floodplain management and regulatory activities. Proposed projects involve reconnecting rivers and streams with their floodplains, increasing channel complexity, and restoring riparian vegetation. Recommendations developed in accordance with goals de\rived through your advisory committee provide realistic measures for accomplishing these goals.

The Redmond CFHMP was funded in part by the Ecology Flood Control Assistance Account Program (FCAAP). These plans are a prerequisite for receiving additional funding through FCAAP for flood hazard reduction projects. Our procedures require that the plan be reviewed by certain agencies and Ecology staff, assure that it meets the requirements of WAC 173-145-040, and is consistent with federal, state, and local floodplain management regulations. Not only does this qualify the community for future FCAAP funding, but it is also a basic qualification for several other federal and state grant programs.

I encourage you to forward copies of your plan to the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) Region X and to the Emergency Management Division of the State Military

The Honorable John Marchione City of Redmond August 23, 2010 Page 2

Department for their reference. Access to the plan by these agencies may expedite eligibility determinations for future disaster relief and hazard mitigation funding from these agencies.

While the Plan meets the requirements of WAC 173-145-040 for FCAAP, I remind you that this approval is limited to the plan document. More detailed, site-specific analyses will be needed for assessing environmental impacts and possible mitigation, and for securing the necessary permits prior to implementation of proposed projects.

Thank you for your efforts in developing this plan that should provide flood hazard reduction benefits for the city of Redmond. We look forward to a continued positive working relationship.

Sincerely,

Gordon White

Program Manager

Shorelands and Environmental Assistance Program

cc: Mark Carey, FEMA

Steve Hitch, Redmond Public Works Dept

James Mullen, EMD Dan Sokol, Ecology Chuck Steele, Ecology