



Chehalis River Basin

Flood Control Zone District

Erik P. Martin, P.E., District Administrator

*351 NW North St
Chehalis, WA 98532-1900*

May 25, 2021

Andrea McNamara Doyle, Office of the Chehalis Basin
Heather Page, Anchor QEA, LLC
Jim Kramer, Office of the Chehalis Basin

Greetings,

In the materials provided to the board, the FCZD 2021-2023 Budget includes an allocation of \$6 million for preliminary engineering. In the district's budget summary, the majority of this effort is not scheduled to begin until after the FEISs have been completed. The budget request assumes that the FEISs would be completed in late Q2 of 2022 and that the engineering work would begin in Q3 of 2022. If the FEISs are not completed until later in 2022, then most of the engineering work would be deferred until they are completed.

The budget allocation of \$6 million is intended to fund additional engineering activities that are expected to be required to provide supporting information to inform tribes, agencies and the public involved in regulatory processes. The majority of work will occur during the second year of the biennium. These efforts will include but may not be limited to:

- a. Final construction phase fish passage design and construction plan.
- b. Levee design refinement to avoid impacts to wetlands.
- c. Conduct engineering study to assess Pe Ell water system impacts and prepare upgrade design.
- d. Conduct additional geotechnical studies to confirm dam foundation and bypass tunnel geologic conditions and quarry site resource characteristics.
- e. Surveys for access road design.
- f. Engineering support to aquatic mitigation design.
- g. Engineering support to temporary water rights acquisition plan.
- h. Engineering support to the ESA Biological Assessment review by the federal services and the Section 106 Consultation with Tribes and the State through the USACE.

Sean D. Swope
Chair

Gary Stamper
Vice Chair

Lindsey R. Pollock, DVM
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It should be noted that the primary activities of a major capital project construction program are typically not done sequentially (proposal, environmental review, permitting, final design and construction) but in reality, many of the activities overlap. In particular the design effort is often continuous throughout the process. The focus is on conceptual/preliminary design during the early environmental review/permitting phase. This informs the regulatory process, provides preliminary estimates of construction cost and schedule and a framework for funding requirements. As the process continues, the more extensive and detailed final design process is undertaken to verify the project concept, provide more detailed information to support permitting negotiations and to prepare for construction contracting.

The board should know that the \$6 million dollar budget is not sufficient funding to undertake the final design effort. The 2018 project budget and schedule prepared by Anchor shows a budget allocation of \$38 million over a 4-year period to complete the projects final design effort.

Respectfully yours,

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