Protect the region’s remaining and most vital greenspaces & trails – for everyone – within a generation (i.e. 30 years)
65,000 Acres – 6 Land Categories

- URBAN GREEN SPACE
- FARM LANDS
- FORESTS
- NATURAL LANDS
- TRAILS
- RIVERS
The Numbers

• 60,600 acres identified by the County

• 125 miles of added trails for recreation & access to transit

• 2,500 urban acres identified by cities

• 55 new urban green spaces needed to eliminate disparities in open space access
Land Conservation & Equity - “Going Where Needs Are Greatest”

Everyone deserves access to natural lands and green, open spaces.
Opportunity Areas
Locations where households lack open space access and simultaneously fall in the bottom third of census tracts for household income and top third of census tracts for hospitalization rates due to asthma, diabetes, and heart disease.
The Numbers

• 30 year cost = $4.5 B (includes inflation, real estate app, & transaction costs)

➢ 50% of costs are for land inside cities & 50% of costs are for land in County areas

• County + Cities’ existing 30 year funding sources = $2.25 B

• Funding Gap Initiative seeks to bridge = $2.25 B

• 70 year Status Quo Cost = $20 Billion

Savings = $15 Billion
Funding Sources

• Conservation Futures Tax (CFT) levy

• King County Parks levy

• Local cities’ & parks district levies

• WA State Resource Conservation funds
Funding Sources

• Conservation Futures Tax (CFT) levy
  - Historically $10-12 M/year allocated to KC & cities
  - 1st year of Initiative ramped to $40 M/year
  - Removed 50% local match for “Equity Areas”
**Opportunity Areas**

Locations where households lack open space access and simultaneously fall in the bottom third of census tracts for household income and top third of census tracts for hospitalization rates due to asthma, diabetes, and heart disease.
Stormwater Opportunities

• Pair Open Space funding for land acquisitions with funding for GSI investments …

• Create & Capture Co-Benefits

  ➢ **Combine funding sources** – disrupt the status quo!
  ➢ **Especially in Equity Areas** – these are impaired subbasins with high rates of stormwater run-off, pollution loading and few, if any, greenspaces
  ➢ **Need Parks / Open Space agencies & Stormwater agencies to work together**
KING COUNTY
LAND CONSERVATION
INITIATIVE