

## ShoreScore Update

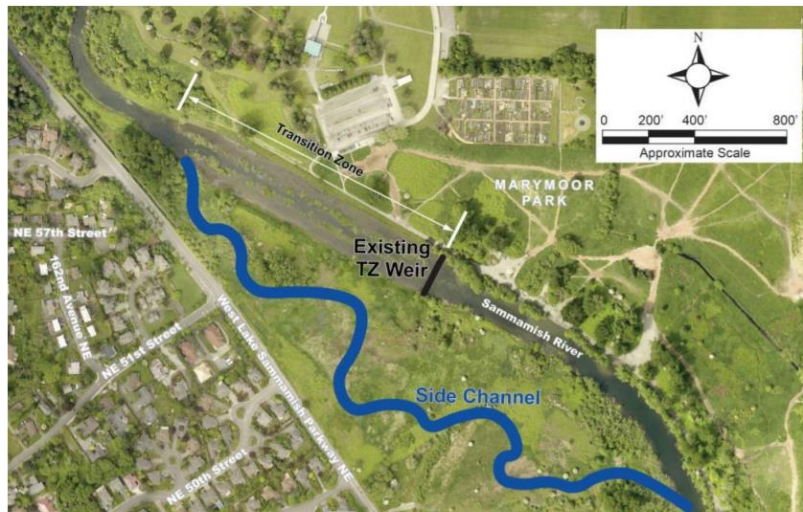
Nov. 2018



### In This Issue - Focus on Lake Sammamish and the Willowmoor Project

#### Willowmoor Project Design Meetings

On Oct. 4th King County's Flood District staff held two meetings regarding this project, which is in the early stages of design. As you may recall, preliminary planning for Willowmoor culminated nearly 3 years ago with an "advisory committee" recommendation that a separate channel be created for fish passage. (Note: WSSA's representative to the committee, Marty Nizlek, and other lake residents opposed this option).



In the first of the two meetings, the County reconvened the advisory group to bring members up to date on the engineering analyses being carried out by a local consulting firm. While WSSA was not able to have a representative at the meeting, contacts with other lakeside property owners who were there describe the meeting as follows.

One attendee noted - A majority of the meeting focused on flow through the Transition Zone (TZ) at Marymoor Park - assessing how river flow would be modified if a second stream is created parallel to the floodway created by the Corps of Engineer's project, as shown above. In addition, there was discussion of the practicality of converting the existing fixed weir (small dam) to a more dynamic design (like an adjustable gate). Bottom line - staff believe their ability to predict flow (and lake water levels) is acceptable but that the effectiveness of a dynamic weir would be limited by restraints to flow downstream.

Another neighbor who attended observed - The County's got it backwards. Summer lake levels and outflow would be lowered. This very well could result in making it impossible for small craft to go down river safely and cause higher river water temperatures. As for winter, the changes staff propose would not result in lower lake levels. Worse, staff has not addressed the issue of backwatering if heavy storms hit. The river's flow will back up into the lake because of downstream constraints.

The second meeting had the objective of asking residents in the area - "***What changes to recreational opportunities should be considered as part of this project?***". For example, how accessible should the new fish passage channel be to the public? At this time, the County has not reported the results of suggestions from the public.

## Photos Needed



Representatives at the advisory committee meeting mentioned above, who are lake residents, were asked to provide the County pictures showing historic lake high water situations. The intent, we're told, is to document the implications of raised lake levels.

Here is an example showing a dock under normal conditions, and subsequently, in the fall of 1996 when many docks were lost or heavily damaged.



We encourage you to submit similar photos to these to attest to the damages we continue to have each winter.

It must be emphasized that two pieces of information are highly desirable: the address where the photos were taken and the date taken.<sup>1</sup> Provide these to WSSA and we will submit them collectively. (See our email address, below, or reply to our email.)

[Check out WSSA's submission to King County.](#) This link will take you to more than 2 dozen photos we've submitted, many of which residents have provided us over the last decade. You may find your photo(s) there already. (To activate the link, place the cursor over the link and press your CTRL key).

As you'll see, we emphasize to the County the array of damages, safety and other issues that have occurred since they altered the floodway at Marymoor Park and stopped required annual maintenance here and elsewhere along the river. Overgrowth of vegetation, sediment, and other obstructions have reduced outflow, raised lake levels, and resulted in costly damages to Lake Sammamish property owners.

## Your Input and Involvement Is Important

Several years ago WSSA conducted a survey of lake property owners. We asked about the type of damages suffered in recent years and your cost of repairs/replacements. We found that the collective cost to residents could exceed \$10 million. If you consider that a new dock's cost, with required environmental actions, now exceeds \$100,000 or that simple maintenance can cost \$25,000 to \$50,000., our estimate may even be low.

The cost to build Willowmoor will be in the range of \$6 million to \$10 million depending on how extensive efforts are to cool the river water in the new fish passage<sup>2</sup> and the type of flow controls that are built at the weir. WSSA believes that before spending these tax dollars, it is essential that the river's flood controls (from the lake all the way to Kenmore) be maintained to protect against the type of flooding and high water damages we've faced. Your input is essential to getting that message across.

Submit your historic lake damage photos to Kate Akyuz, King County, at - [Kate.Akyuz@kingcounty.gov](mailto:Kate.Akyuz@kingcounty.gov) or pass them to WSSA at - [SensibleShorelines@gmail.com](mailto:SensibleShorelines@gmail.com) and we'll submit them.

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<sup>1</sup> Note: the filename of your photo can reflect the needed information. For example, the picture above could have the filename "DockSubmerged\_12-1-1996\_100Blk WLSPNE". Should you only recall the month of the photo, that's fine.

<sup>2</sup> Staff claim high temperatures in the river endanger fish in the channel. They propose extracting ground water and injecting it into the new fish channel. The cost and viability of such a feature was not discussed at the October meetings.