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3 **ORDINANCE _____**
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5 AN ORDINANCE relating to the Natural Resource Trustees; authorizing an agreement with the
6 Natural Resource Trustees for the assignment of a Restrictive Covenant setting out
7 conditions under which the City of Seattle will guarantee the preservation of habitat to be
8 created on City-owned property by Bluefield Holdings and authorizing the jurisdictional
9 department to sign such a covenant when conceptual approval for the project is issued;
10 and ratifying and confirming certain prior acts.

11 WHEREAS, the City of Seattle entered into a Master Lease and Term Permit authorized by
12 Ordinance 122729 with Bluefield Holdings to construct habitat on specifically identified
13 City owned properties along the Duwamish River to allow for the development of credits
14 related to the settlement of Natural Resource Damages; and

15 WHEREAS the Bluefield Master Lease will allow habitat development on City lands at no
16 expense to the City; and

17 WHEREAS Bluefield Holdings has established a unique program with the Natural Resource
18 Trustees so that these credits can be sold to parties needing to satisfy natural resource
19 damages liability in conjunction with the Lower Duwamish Superfund site; and

20 WHEREAS the availability of Natural Resource Damages credits through the Bluefield Master
21 Lease will allow Duwamish businesses that have Natural Resource Damages liability to
22 quickly satisfy that liability; and

23 WHEREAS the Natural Resource Trustees require that a covenant be developed between the
24 City and the Trustees to ensure the preservation of the developed habitat, or an acceptable
25 substitute, in perpetuity; and

26 WHEREAS the City and the Trustees have come to an agreement on the form of such a covenant
27 which meets the needs and protects the rights of both the Trustees and the City; NOW,
28 THEREFORE

BE IT ORDAINED BY THE CITY OF SEATTLE AS FOLLOWS:



1
2 Section 1. The Superintendent of the Department of Parks and Recreation, the Director of
3 the Seattle Department of Transportation, and the Superintendent of Seattle City Light are each
4 authorized to execute a restrictive covenant substantially in the form of the covenant attached to
5 this ordinance as Exhibit A, and to record such covenants with the King County Recorder's
6 Office related to properties in their respective jurisdictions.
7

8 Section 2. The execution of such a covenant shall not precede the issuance of conceptual
9 approval of the Bluefield project by the jurisdictional department through the process required by
10 Section 2 of the lease between the City of Seattle and Bluefield Holdings authorized by
11 Ordinance 122729.
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13 Section 3. Any act consistent with the authority of this ordinance taken after its passage
14 and prior to its effective date is hereby ratified and confirmed.
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Section 4. This ordinance shall take effect and be in force 30 days after its approval by the Mayor, but if not approved and returned by the Mayor within ten days after presentation, it shall take effect as provided by Seattle Municipal Code Section 1.04.020.

Passed by the City Council the ____ day of _____, 2011, and signed by me in open session in authentication of its passage this ____ day of _____, 2011.

President _____ of the City Council

Approved by me this ____ day of _____, 2011.

Michael McGinn, Mayor

Filed by me this ____ day of _____, 2011.

City Clerk

(Seal)

Exhibit A – Environmental Covenant and Access Agreement



ENVIRONMENTAL COVENANT AND ACCESS AGREEMENT

AFTER RECORDING RETURN TO:

Laura Wishik, Esq.
Director, Environmental Protection Section
P. O. Box 94769
Seattle, WA 98124-4769

GRANTOR AND OWNER:

City of Seattle
address

HOLDER:

National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, on behalf of
the Department of Commerce

United States Department of the Interior, on behalf of the U.S. Fish
and Wildlife Service

The State of Washington, on behalf of The Washington
Department of Ecology

The Muckleshoot Indian Tribe

The Suquamish Tribe

**LEGAL DESCRIPTION
OF THE REAL PROPERTY):**

[LAT/LONG DESCRIPTION OF HABITAT
RESTORATION PROJECT SITE PROPERTY
(ATTACHMENT A)]

[AS DESIGNATED ON THE MAP ATTACHED
TO THIS COVENANT (ATTACHMENT B)]



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3 **I. Purpose and Background**

4 This Environmental Covenant and Access Agreement (Covenant and Agreement) is made
5 and entered into by the individual natural resource trustees who are members of the Elliott Bay
6 Trustee Council, which is comprised of the Department of Commerce, on behalf of the National
7 Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration ("NOAA"), on behalf of the Department of Commerce;
8 the United States Department of the Interior, on behalf of the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service; the
9 Washington Department of Ecology, on behalf of the state of Washington; the Muckleshoot
10 Indian Tribe; and the Suquamish Tribe (collectively, "the Elliott Bay Trustees" or "Trustees") and
11 the City of Seattle, Washington ("City," "Grantor" or "Owner") (together "the Parties" and
individually as a "Party").

12 The Trustees, under the authority of Section 107(f) of the Comprehensive Environmental
13 Response, Cleanup and Liability Act ("CERCLA"), 42 U.S.C. § 9607(f); Section 1006(b) of the
14 Oil Pollution Act of 1990 ("OPA"), 33 U.S.C. 2706(b); and, 40 C.F.R. Part 300, subpart G, serve
15 as trustees for natural resources for the assessment and recovery of damages for injury to,
16 destruction of, or loss of natural resources under their trusteeship located in or proximate to the
17 Lower Duwamish River, including the Lower Duwamish Waterway, Harbor Island Waterway and
Lockheed West Site (hereinafter all three will be referred to as LDR).

18 The Lower Duwamish Waterway, which is part of LDR, is listed on the National Priorities
19 List as a federal Superfund site, pursuant to Section 105 of CERCLA, 42 U.S.C. § 9601 et seq.
20 and as amended. Harbor Island and Lockheed West and its associated waterways are
21 immediately downstream from the Lower Duwamish Waterway and these are also federal
22 Superfund sites pursuant to CERCLA. The Trustees have carried out and/or are carrying out
23 damage assessments for the LDR and anticipate bringing claims for damage to natural resources
under CERCLA.

24 The Grantor owns the property described in Attachments A and B located in or proximate
25 to the LDR in Seattle, Washington (hereinafter referred to as "the Property").

26 Bluefield Holdings, Inc. ("Bluefield") is a business entity that designs, builds, and
27
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1 maintains natural resource restoration and enhancement projects on behalf of persons that are
2 liable for natural resource damages at properties that have been identified as Superfund sites
3 and/or otherwise suffer a loss of natural resources pursuant to CERCLA. Such Projects may be
4 assigned ecological credit to be sold to potentially responsible parties liable for natural resource
damages along the LDR.

5 The City of Seattle is working collaboratively with Bluefield to generate natural resource
6 restoration and enhancement projects on properties owned by the City and located in or proximate
7 to the LDR. Such collaboration is documented through the Master Lease Agreement executed
8 between Bluefield and the City of Seattle on February 23, 2009, and approved by the City
9 Council on June 30, 2008 (hereinafter Lease and attached hereto as Attachment C). Ordinance
10 Number 122729 (Attachment C) authorized the Lease and issued a ten year Street Use Permit,
11 (Use Permit and set forth in Attachment D) to Bluefield to facilitate Bluefield's of design,
12 construction, and maintenance of the natural resource habitat restoration project described in
Attachment E and which is to be constructed on the Grantor's Property.

13 The project term under the Lease between Bluefield and the City for each of the Candidate
14 Parcels is for 24 months or completion of the construction of each Project, whichever is sooner,
15 and continues for an additional ten years after completion of construction of the Project as
16 authorized by the Use Permit. Upon expiration of the Lease, the City will maintain the Project in
17 perpetuity consistent with the rights, obligations and terms set forth below.

18 NOW, THEREFORE, in consideration of the foregoing recitals the Parties mutually agree
19 as follows:

20 **II. Conveyance and Covenant**

21 This instrument grants a valid and enforceable environmental covenant pursuant to the
22 Washington State Uniform Environmental Covenant Act, RCW Chapter 64.70 *et seq.*, (the Act)
23 imposing certain conditions and restrictions on real property located in King County,
24 Washington. The covenants and access rights granted in this instrument are required conditions
25 as a result of the Project being established along the LDR by Bluefield pursuant to the procedures
26 set out in the Natural Resource Restoration and Enhancement Credit Protocol (Protocol) attached
27 as Attachment F.



1 Grantor covenants to the Holder and its assigns that Grantor holds a fee simple or other
2 real property interest in the Property that allows Grantor to enter into and comply with this
3 Covenant and Agreement.

4 With this Covenant and Agreement, Grantor hereby binds Grantor, its successors, and
5 assigns, to the restrictions and conditions set forth herein, and conveys to the Holder full rights
6 provided by RCW Chapter 64.70 to enforce the restrictions, conditions, or other rights set forth
7 herein.

8 Grantor makes the following covenant as to limitations, restrictions, and uses to which the
9 Property may be put and specifies that such covenants shall run with the land, as provided by law,
10 shall be perpetual, and shall be binding on all parties and all persons claiming under them,
11 including the Owner of any portion of or interest in the Property:

12 1. The Property is designated to be used for the Project as set forth in Attachment E, and
13 any authorized uses of the Property cannot be inconsistent with the habitat restoration
14 requirements described therein.

15 2. The Property or portion thereof is identified as the location the Project as set forth in
16 Attachment E and, except as provided in Paragraph II.3 below, any authorized use of the Property
17 cannot be inconsistent with the habitat restoration requirements described therein.

18 3. The Property or a portion of the Property subject to this covenant is legally designated
19 as a City Right of Way ("ROW") whose primary use is for transportation purposes [or] a City
20 Park property whose primary use is for park purposes [or] City utilities property whose primary
21 use is for utilities purposes. The habitat project will be complementary to and will coexist with
22 the ROW [or] park [or] utility use. The habitat project will be complementary to and will coexist
23 with the ROW [or] park [or] utility use. Further, by making this covenant, the City does not
24 abrogate its obligation, duty or authority to use the Property for transportation purposes, [or] park
25 purposes [or] utilities purposes, and to that end, nothing in the covenant shall be construed to
26 limit the City's right and authority to add new transportation [or] park [or] utilities improvements
27 or structures, and/or conduct maintenance and repair, reconstruction and/or replacement work on
28 any improvements and/or structures currently existing on or adjacent to the Property so long as
upon completion of the work, the City causes to be restored or replaced the ecological value and



1 function that was impacted by such work.

2 4. Except as provided in Paragraph II.3 above, all of the following activities are strictly
3 prohibited: any activity that interferes, damages or disturbs the integrity or maintenance of the
4 Project; any activity that would degrade or diminish the ecological values of the habitat or its
5 function as a habitat; any activity that causes the release or exposure to the environment of any
6 hazardous substances at the Project; or any activity that would otherwise interfere with the Project
7 such that it would adversely affect the likelihood of success of the Project located on the Property.
8 Some non-exclusive examples of activities that may be prohibited in the habitat restoration
9 projects based on the foregoing criteria include the following: dredging, or excavating, logging,
10 land clearing, residential development, commercial development. Nothing in this section is to be
11 construed to prohibit public access to the habitat restoration projects so long as such public access
12 is accomplished in a manner that does not interfere with, damage or diminish the ecological value
13 or function of the projects.

14 3. The Grantor must restrict leases to uses and activities consistent with this Covenant
15 and Agreement and notify all lessees of the restrictions on the use of the Property.

16 4. No major maintenance or construction project shall be permitted on the Property
17 without prior written notice to each of the Holders.

18 5. The Grantor shall allow authorized representatives of the Holders the right to enter the
19 Property at reasonable times to undertake the following activities:

20 a. Evaluation or inspection of the Project, including but not limited to the
21 monitoring and assessing progress on the construction, operation, maintenance and performance
22 of the Project;

23 b. Verification of any data or information submitted to the Trustees;

24 c. Inspection and duplication of records, operation logs, contracts or other
25 documents maintained or generated by the Grantor or its contractors hereafter retained to perform
26 work undertaken pursuant to the Project; and

27 d. Conducting such tests, investigations or sample collections as deemed necessary
28 to monitor compliance with the Project, investigate or assess contamination at or near the
Property, or to assist in further identifying and quantifying natural resource injuries requiring
restoration actions and in planning and carrying out further restoration actions. Such access



1 includes reasonable access to adjacent properties owned and/or controlled by the Grantor where
2 access may be necessary to effectuate the rights to access the Project and/or Property on which
3 the Project is located, unless access to adjacent properties will create undue risk of physical injury
4 or harm and/or will interfere with essential operations on the adjacent properties.
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1 e. To the extent the Property is not open to public access, the Trustees shall
2 provide 72 hour notice of the Trustees' desire to access the Property. Trustees have authority to
3 enter freely and move about such Property at all reasonable times and for purposes of overseeing
4 requirements of the Project.

5 6. The Grantor covenants that it will not sell the Property or its legal interest in a Property
6 to any person or otherwise utilize the Property for purposes other than as a ROW [or] park [or]
7 for utilities as provided in Paragraph II.2., above, and the Project.

8 **III. Reservation of Rights**

9 Grantor hereby reserves unto itself, its representatives, heirs, assigns, and successors all
10 rights accruing from ownership of the Property that are not conditioned, restricted or prohibited
11 by Section II.

12 **IV. Enforcement**

13 Compliance with this Covenant and Agreement may be enforced pursuant to the
14 Washington State Uniform Environmental Covenant Act. The Holders shall have full
15 enforcement rights. Failure by any party to enforce compliance with this Covenant and
16 Agreement in a timely manner shall not be deemed a waiver of the party's right to take
17 subsequent enforcement actions.

18 **V. Recordation**

19 Grantor shall record this instrument in the official records of King County, Washington or
20 other such County in which the Property may be located and shall pay the costs associated with
21 recording. The Parties shall take such actions and execute such additional documents, including
22 copies of this Covenant and Agreement or a short form of such document as may be required to
23 record evidence of this Covenant and Agreement for the Property.

24 **VI. Bluefield Leasehold and Permit**

25 The Grantor and the Trustees agree that there is a mutual interest in ensuring that the
26 Project is completed. In the event that Bluefield has sold any Interim Natural Resource Damage
27 Credits, as that term is defined under Paragraphs 1.7.1, 3.1 and 3.2 of the Protocol, but is unable
28 to fulfill its obligation to complete the Project, the Grantor agrees that the Trustees may, in the
Trustees' sole discretion, assume the same rights that Bluefield holds under the Lease and Permit



1 issued for the habitat project on the Property. All rights held by Bluefield under the Lease that
2 are necessary to complete the construction, operation, maintenance and stewardship of the Project
3 on the Property, and only such rights, shall be the rights that the Trustees' may elect to assume.

4 Upon the expiration of the Lease with Bluefield, the Grantor will be responsible for
5 maintaining vegetation and other habitat attributes, for controlling invasive vegetation and debris
6 removal, and for undertaking corrective actions for any perturbation that affects the ecological
7 integrity of the Project. The Parties' intention is that the Grantor will, as required by this
8 Covenant and Agreement, maintain the ecological function provided by the Project by the
9 Grantor in perpetuity.

10 **VII. Termination and Modification**

11 This Covenant and Agreement may only be amended or terminated in accordance with the
12 procedures and process contained in the amendment and termination provisions of the
13 Washington State Uniform Environmental Covenant Act, RCW 64.70.100 and as set forth herein.
14 Pursuant to Section 64.70.100 of the Act, the Trustees reserve the right to revise the Project as
15 described in Attachment E. In the event that the Project is significantly altered, revised or
16 otherwise changed, the Grantor will record a description of the modified Project along with an
17 amended Covenant and Agreement.

18 **VIII. Miscellaneous**

19 1. Covenant Limitations. This Covenant and Agreement shall not be used as evidence of
20 the Grantor's alleged liability in any action or proceeding other than an action or proceeding to
21 enforce the terms of this Covenant and Agreement.

22 2. Failure by the City to Comply with this Covenant and Agreement. If the Grantor fails
23 to comply with any of the terms and conditions of this Covenant and Agreement, the Holders
24 have the right to enforce the environmental covenants noted herein pursuant to the Washington
25 State Uniform Environmental Covenant Act, RCW 64.70 *et seq* to enforce the environmental
26 covenants noted therein.
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1 3. Sale or Conveyance of a Candidate Parcel/Project Site by the City. Pursuant to the
2 terms and conditions of this Covenant and Agreement, the Grantor agrees that it will not sell or
3 otherwise relinquish its interest in the Property, but will hold its interest in the Property and
4 preserve the Property so as to maintain the integrity of the Project in perpetuity.

5 4. Notices. Whenever notice is required to be given or a document is required to be sent
6 by one Party to another under the terms of this Covenant and Agreement, it will be directed to the
7 individuals at the addresses specified below, unless those individuals or their successors give
8 notice of a change to the other Parties in writing. Written notice as specified constitutes complete
9 satisfaction of any written notice requirement of the Covenant and Agreement for the Parties:

10 As to the United States and as to the Trustees:

11 Craig O'Conner
12 Special Counsel
13 General Counsel of Natural Resources
14 National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration
15 7600 Sand Point Way
16 Seattle, WA

17 As to the City:

18 Judith Noble
19 Strategic Advisor Corporate Policy and Performance
20 Seattle Public Utilities
21 700 5th Ave. Suite 4900
22 PO Box 34018 Seattle WA 98124-4018
23 e-mail: judith.noble@seattle.gov
24 Phone: 206-684-8078

25 and to:

26 Laura Wishik
27 Director, Environmental Protection Section
28 Seattle City Attorney's Office
 P.O. Box 94769
 Seattle, WA 98124-4769
 e-mail: laura.wishik@seattle.gov
 Phone: 206-684-8199



Judith Noble/mm
SPU Bluefields Agreement EXH A
March 17, 2011
Version #2

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1 5. Entire Covenant and Agreement. This Covenant and Agreement, inclusive of all
2 Attachments, contains the entire agreement between the Parties as to the subject matter hereof and
3 supersedes all other agreements.

4 6. Obligations. To the extent there are any conflicts between the terms and obligations of
5 the Lease and those of the Covenant and Agreement, the terms and conditions of the Covenant
6 and Agreement control.

7 **IX. Agreement by the City to Add Restrictive Covenants, Conservation**
8 **Easements or Other Limitations on Use or Development Upon Request.**

9 If the Trustees determine that the Property covered by this Agreement require protections
10 in addition to those afforded under this Agreement by the Washington State Uniform
11 Environmental Covenant Act, then the City shall implement such protections requested by the
12 Trustees, so long as the scope of those protections are reasonable and conform to the rights
13 retained by the City in Section II.2. of this Agreement and the City has legal authority to
14 implement such additional protections. The Trustees may request such additional protections
15 based on any legal authority available to the City, including but not limited to common law
16 authorities.

17 **X. Signature and Acknowledgements**

18 Grantor covenants that it is authorized to grant this Covenant and Agreement and shall warrant
19 and defend the same against all claims and demands challenging such authority. The undersigned
20 parties represent and certify that they are authorized to execute this Covenant and Agreement.
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1 IN WITNESS WHEREOF, the City of Seattle, Grantor has executed this
2 Environmental Covenant and Access Agreement on this _____ day of _____, 2009.

3 Signatory's printed name _____
4

5 Signature _____
6 City of Seattle

7
8 STATE OF _____)

9 COUNTY OF _____)

10
11 The foregoing instrument was acknowledged and signed in my presence on the ____ day
12 of _____, in the year _____, by the person(s) who appeared before me and who
acknowledged it to be his/her/their free and voluntary act.

13 Name (signature) _____

14 Notary Public for the state of _____

15 My Commission expires on _____

16 Printed Name _____
17

18
19
20 The forgoing Environmental Covenant and Access Agreement is hereby approved and
certified.

21
22 By: _____
23 On behalf of the Elliott Bay Trustees

24 Craig O'Connor, Special Counsel
25 General Counsel for Natural Resources
26
27



FISCAL NOTE FOR NON-CAPITAL PROJECTS

Department:	Contact Person/Phone:	CBO Analyst/Phone:
Seattle Public Utilities	Judith Noble/4-8078	Karen Grove/4-5805

Legislation Title: An Ordinance relating to the Natural Resource Trustees; authorizing an agreement with the Natural Resource Trustees for the assignment of a Restrictive Covenant setting out conditions under which the City of Seattle will guarantee the preservation of habitat to be created on City-owned property by Bluefield Holdings and authorizing the jurisdictional department to sign such a covenant when conceptual approval for the project is issued; and ratifying and confirming certain prior acts.

Summary of the Legislation: The legislation would provide to three City departments authority to sign a covenant with the Lower Duwamish Natural Resource Trustees to assure preservation of habitat developed on City property under the Bluefield Holdings Masterlease; or, if the City later needs the property for City purposes, to assure the City will replace any habitat compromised by another City project.

Background: Ordinance 122729 authorizes an agreement with Bluefield Holdings to construct habitat on City-owned properties along the Duwamish River. Bluefield Holdings can sell the resulting natural resource damages credit to entities needing such credit to satisfy liability under the Lower Duwamish Superfund Natural Resources Damages action overseen by the Federal Natural Resource Trustees. Subsequent to City adoption of the authorizing legislation, the trustees required a covenant be attached to each property assuring that habitat created will be preserved or, if preservation is not possible because of the needs of the City for use of the property, that the City will replace the habitat not preserved. The Seattle Department of Transportation, Seattle Parks and Recreation, and Seattle City Light have properties included in the masterlease. This legislation authorizes the Parks Department superintendent, Seattle City Light superintendent and Department of Transportation director, as appropriate, to sign a site-specific covenant at the time conceptual approval of a habitat project is given.

This legislation does not have any financial implications.

This legislation has financial implications.

There may be long-term, unquantifiable fiscal impacts associated with a covenant on City properties affected by this legislation. These are:

1. The economic value of portions of the affected parcels not comprising a habitat project will be permanently decreased by the requirement to maintain habitat projects in perpetuity.
2. Keeping properties in habitat use in perpetuity eliminates other development opportunities, including income producing opportunities.



3. Maintaining properties in a habitat use in perpetuity may incrementally increase the costs of future repair or replacement of public infrastructure which will coexist with the habitat.

The covenant stipulates if the City of Seattle finds it necessary to disturb habitat created on City lands under the Bluefield program (and hence used to back up mitigation credits for natural resource damages) the City will repair or replace the disturbed habitat. While no such disturbance is anticipated, it is possible such disturbance could occur in the future which would result in a financial obligation to the City.

The example covenant attached as Exhibit A to the ordinance was drawn up to apply to SDOT properties because its properties are currently under review. Minor and non-substantive adjustments to the covenants for Parks and City Light properties are expected.

What is the financial cost of not implementing the legislation?

Not implementing the legislation would result in the abandonment of the program authorized in Ordinance 122729 and the loss of revenue anticipated from the 10-year leases laid out in that ordinance.

Does this legislation affect any departments besides the originating department?

Yes. Seattle Public Utilities is the department tasked with overseeing the Bluefield agreement but the departments whose property is involved are Seattle Department of Transportation, Seattle Parks and Recreation, and Seattle City Light.

What are the possible alternatives to the legislation that could achieve the same or similar objectives?

No alternatives to a covenant have been acceptable to the Natural Resource Trustees.

Is the legislation subject to public hearing requirements?

No

Other Issues:

N/A

List attachments to the fiscal note below:

List of Attachments to Environmental Covenant and Access Agreement (Exhibit A to SPU Bluefields Agreement ORD)



Judith Noble
SPU Bluefields Agreement FISC ATT 1
March 3, 2011
Version #1

**List of Attachments to
Environmental Covenant and Access Agreement
(Exhibit A to SPU Bluefields Agreement ORD)**

Attachment A: [Legal Description of Property]

Attachment B: [Assessor's Parcel Number]

Attachment C: City of Seattle Ordinance No. 122729 authorizing the City of Seattle to enter into a Master Lease and Term Permit with Bluefield Holdings, and issuing a ten year Street Use Permit to Bluefield

Attachment D: Ten year Street Use Permit

Attachment E: [Description of Natural Resource Habitat Restoration Project]





City of Seattle
Office of the Mayor

March 8, 2011

Honorable Richard Conlin
President
Seattle City Council
City Hall, 2nd Floor

Dear Council President Conlin:

I am transmitting the attached proposed Council Bill to authorize the director of the Seattle Department of Transportation (SDOT) and the superintendents of Seattle City Light and the Seattle Department of Parks and Recreation to enter into a restrictive covenant in favor of the Natural Resource Trustees when conceptual approval is received for habitat projects to be constructed under the Bluefield Holdings Masterlease.

Bluefield Holdings, Inc. is a private company backed by venture capital that specializes in environmental remediation and the sale of credits for habitat it creates. The Duwamish waterway, with its history of contamination and natural resource loss, presents a potential market for the sale of credits to satisfy the liability of a wide array of businesses which have contributed to the devaluation of natural resources.

Approximately three years ago, the City approved Ordinance 122729 authorizing a masterlease with Bluefield Holdings, under which Bluefield would restore habitat on certain City-owned properties. During the 10-year lease period Bluefield will provide an annual lease payment and maintain the habitat sites. At the end of the 10-year period Bluefield will vacate the lease and establish a fund for continued maintenance. In return, Bluefield Holdings was authorized to sell Natural Resource Damages credits which it will negotiate with the federal Natural Resource Trustees who are overseeing restoration efforts in the Duwamish Superfund area. The Trustees have required the habitat developed for credit also carry a covenant ensuring that the natural resource value which underlies the credits will be maintained. This legislation is necessary to allow the relevant department heads to agree to the required protective covenant once conceptual approval is given.

Bluefield Holdings is close to completing the federal requirements for this innovative program. Soon SDOT will be providing conceptual approval for the first habitat restoration project, with two more to follow later this year. Should you have questions, please contact Judith Noble at 684-8078.

Sincerely,

Michael McGinn
Mayor of Seattle

cc: Honorable Members of the Seattle City Council

Michael McGinn, Mayor
Office of the Mayor
600 Fourth Avenue, 7th Floor
PO Box 94749
Seattle, WA 98124-4749

Tel (206) 684-4000
Fax (206) 684-5360
TDD (206) 615-0476
mike.mcgin@seattle.gov

