



King Conservation District to release Regional Food System Strategic Initiative Grant RFPs in Fall 2017

As part of its Regional Food System Program, King Conservation District (KCD) will be soliciting Request for Proposals (RFPs) this fall to provide targeted investments intended to address key food system issues identified through broad stakeholder outreach and input of the Regional Food System Program Advisory Committee Working Group. The topic areas include:

- Direct Marketing Support for Farmers
- Institutional Marketing Support
- Farmers Market Manager Support
- Dairy Support

In late 2016 and early 2017, KCD staff actively engaged with regional planning efforts of the King County Kitchen Cabinet, and sought out and received input from over 50 food system practitioners on priority needs for a robust and comprehensive regional food economy. Working with our Advisory Committee Working Group, we identified four strategic initiative funding areas that address multiple stakeholder needs, and leverage stakeholder input for greater impact.

Compared with KCD's Competitive Regional Food System Grants, Strategic Initiatives are projects that:

- Are specific actions identified in regional planning goals and by numerous stakeholders
- Address critical steps toward meeting regional food system economic goals
- Can be accomplished through contracted work, and
- Can be clearly defined as a specific project or activity.

These strategic initiatives will be addressed through the RFP process, with a specific scope of services and budget, and will be implemented through a professional services contract.

If you have questions or would like to receive the specific RFPs as they are released, please contact Mary Embleton at mary.embleton@kingcd.org or (425) 282-1958.