

# What is The Clear Creek Strategy Plan?



Flood Risk  
Reduction



Agricultural  
Viability



Fish  
Habitat



Community  
Support

## Objectives for The Clear Creek Strategy Plan include:

Facilitate the development of a community-driven strategy

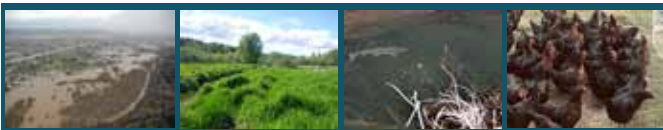
Develop a clear understanding of shared values,  
vision and goals

Gather input from Clear Creek residents  
to shape decision-making

Develop a sense of ownership of the  
Strategy Plan within the community

Communicate Pierce County's role in protecting public  
safety and infrastructure, by addressing potential flood risks  
and improving habitat conditions and agriculture interests

Communicate other efforts underway within the Clear Creek  
area and how they fit with the Strategy Plan



# What are the Draft Pathways for Clear Creek?



Focuses on:

Managing flood hazards & support communities, while considering additional benefits to fish habitat and agriculture.

- ✓ Replace Existing Flap Gate
- ✓ Clear Creek Habitat Restoration
- ✓ Flood-Prone Property Acquisition
- ✓ Network Drainage Analysis
- ✓ Permitting Changes and Exemptions for Agriculture

Puyallup River Levee  
Safe Fail Planning

Incubator Farm with  
Flood-safe Shared Structures

Community Recovery Fund

Flood Easements

Land Use Advisory Commission  
for Clear Creek/Riverside

- ✓ New Comprehensive Flood Plan

Temporary Post-Flood Transfer Station  
at Murray's Truck Parking Lot

Address Illegal Dumping Through  
Increased Access to Garbage Removal

Invasive Vegetation Management

Comprehensive Cost-Benefit Analysis

Relocation of Mobile Home Residents Out  
of the Floodplain with Wrap-Around Services

- ✓ Canyon Road Regional Connection Project

Revised Roadway Network for High-Water Safety

New Multi-Benefit Infrastructure

Upgraded Levee on River Road

Trail System for Pierce County Parks

\*\*\* (✓ Elements In Progress) \*\*\*



# What are the Draft Pathways for Clear Creek?



FOCUSES ON:  
Agricultural viability  
in the  
Clear Creek/Riverside area.

- Establish Agricultural Leadership Team
  - ✓ Agriculture Resiliency Plan
    - Farm Pads
  - ✓ Permitting Changes/Exemptions for Agriculture
    - Separate Agricultural Drainage from Habitat
    - Flood Safe Shared Structures



FOCUSES ON:  
Improvements to fish  
habitat in the Clear  
Creek/Riverside area.

- Port of Tacoma Expansion of  
Upper Clear Creek Mitigation Area
- ✓ Clear Creek Habitat Restoration
  - Invasive Vegetation Management
  - ✓ Groundwater Study
- Improve Fish Passage at Trout Lodge



FOCUSES ON:  
Elements that improve  
the entire community and  
its residents through safety  
and communication.

- ✓ Climate Change Study
  - Agricultural Ombudsman
  - Farmland Conservation
- Permitted Flood Safe Structures for Non-Agricultural Use
- Engagement with Clear Creek/Riverside Community
  - Swan Creek Bank Stabilization at 64th Street
  - Maintain Fire District and Emergency Services
  - ✓ Install Third Rail in the Clear Creek Area
  - Dredge the Puyallup River/Clear Creek
- \*\*\* (✓ Elements In Progress) \*\*\*



# More on The Pathways Approach

## What the Strategy Plan Is

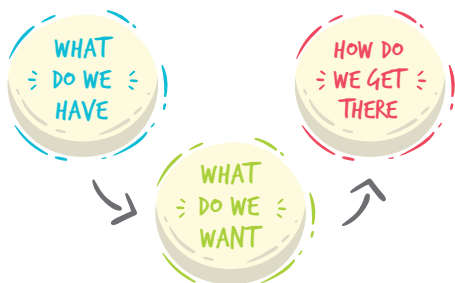
- A flexible set of strategies
- A guide to decision making
- A framework for more specific actions
- A tool for education and communication
- A way to provide a long range perspective

## What the Strategy Plan Is Not

- An inflexible blueprint
- A land development code
- A capital improvement plan
- A rigid or static document
- A specific development plan



# What is the Pathways Approach and Why Use It?



“Pathways” is an approach designed to schedule decision making.

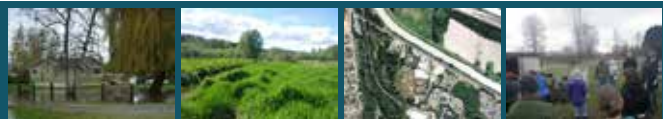
A pathways approach identifies the decisions that need to be made now and those that may be made in the future.

The approach is intended to provide flexibility, keep options open, and allow for adaptation in response to changing circumstances over time.

The Strategy Plan is intended to be a long-term framework to improve conditions.

This allows for flexibility over time, especially when dealing with uncertainty that may be associated with project funding, schedules, or climate change.

The draft pathways were developed based on input from community workshops and will be further refined based on additional public input.



# What Have We Done So Far?



## PRIOR EFFORTS

Project Identified in 2013 Pierce County Rivers Flood Hazard Emergency Plan

Floodplains For the Future Project Initiated

Clear Creek Basin studies completed: (farmland impacts, drainage, sediment & flood risks)

Canyon Creek Reed Canary Grass Removal (completed, more native plantings planned)

Unprotected Farmlands Identified in the Clear Creek area

Natural Resources Conservation Service Grant Funds secured for agricultural conservation easements.

Acquired floodplain properties from willing sellers



## CURRENT EFFORTS of the Strategy Plan Development

Strategy Plan Initial Interviews

Additional Outreach Meetings & Interviews

Strategy Plan Workshops

Draft Strategy Plan  
(Where we are Now)

Final Strategy Plan  
(Summer 2020)

Implementation of Projects, Studies and Processes

## WE HAVE ALSO

Interviewed stakeholders to discuss values and concerns of the community

Held two workshops with stakeholders, tribes and the community to accomplish the following:

- Developed shared values
- Identified near and long-term solutions for flooding, agriculture, habitat, and social challenges
- Drafted four pathways which identify actions for flood risk reduction, agricultural viability, fish habitat and community support



# What Are The Shared Values?

Shared values for the Clear Creek Strategy Plan were developed collaboratively with stakeholders and residents over two workshops. These shared values were used to develop the draft pathways.

Promote agriculture viability and sustainability now and in the future

Sustain the ecosystem by maintaining and restoring habitat that supports fish, wildlife, and treaty resources; modifying land uses; and protecting water quality

Ensure that the area keeps its rural character, while also allowing homeowners to improve their properties

Minimize flood impacts and reduce time and effort needed to recover from a flood

Promote community well-being and ensure equitable opportunities and outcomes by providing space for everyone's interests and opinions

Promote health and safety and ensure that community members have access to emergency services

Encourage economic development while also maintaining affordability

Make transparent decisions that are feasible and will provide long-term benefits

Encourage coordination and collaboration between agencies, tribes, members of the public and other stakeholders

