



CAPITOL LAKE – DESCHUTES ESTUARY

Long-Term Management Project Environmental Impact Statement

CAPITOL LAKE – DESCHUTES ESTUARY PROJECT UPDATE

March 16, 2022

Agenda

- ✦ Welcome and Introductions
- ✦ Updates on Final EIS Progress
- ✦ Next Steps to Confirm Long-Term Funding and Governance
- ✦ Schedule Update
- ✦ Public Comment

Please note this meeting is being recorded and will be available on the project website consistent with past EWG meetings.



Final EIS – Top 8 Focus Areas*

*Does not include all anticipated analyses/revisions/updates

1. **Water Quality:** evaluate alternatives against water quality standards/TMDL allocations
2. **5th Avenue Bridge:** evaluate options and costs to avoid long-term closure
3. **Cost:** estimate in-water disposal of dredged material for all alternatives
4. **Fish & Wildlife:** in coordination with WDFW, review any additional, relevant studies related to bat impacts and consider potential mitigation measures; review fish-related studies submitted by stakeholders and update analysis as appropriate
5. **Navigation:** describe potential impacts if funding lapses for maintenance dredging
6. **Cultural Resources:** incorporate determinations of eligibility from DAHP and supplement tribal history
7. **Draft EIS Comments:** respond to ~2,000 unique comments from Draft EIS comment period
8. **Agency Coordination:** confirm range of assumptions included in Draft EIS



Final EIS – Primary Agency Coordination*

*Does not include all anticipated coordination efforts

✦ U.S. Army Corps of Engineers and Port of Olympia

- Remedial actions in Budd Inlet
- Dredging assumptions
- Alternative design (USACE only)

✦ City of Olympia

- 5th Avenue Bridge

✦ Department of Ecology

- TMDL allocations
- Remedial actions in Budd Inlet

✦ Department of Fish and Wildlife

- Potential impacts to bats
- Salmonid use of the study area
- Distribution of New Zealand mudsnail



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Funding And Governance – Next Steps

- ✦ Begin FGWG meeting series in late March
 - Invited legislative participation
- ✦ Existing FGWG Recommendations
 - Construction funding: state responsibility
 - Long-term funding:
 - Estuary = shared
 - Managed Lake = state
 - Hybrid = unknown
- ✦ Develop MOA (or similar) to memorialize funding and governance approach for Preferred Alternative



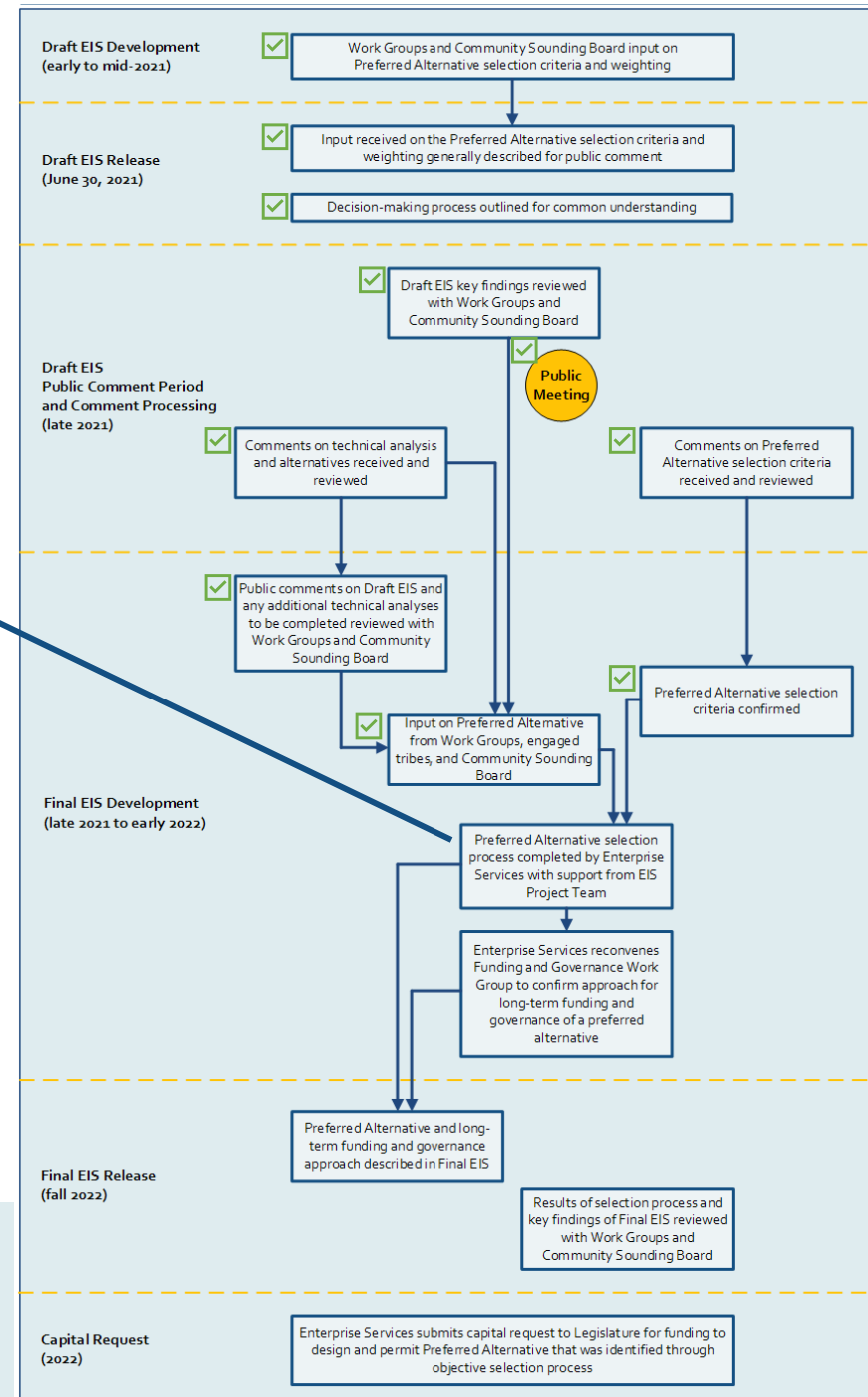
Identifying A Preferred Alternative*

- ✦ SEPA gives the lead agency wide discretion with regard to when and how to identify the preferred alternative.
- ✦ Components of informed decision-making:
 - ☑ **The Draft EIS as the body of technical work** that adequately discloses impacts and benefits
 - ☑ **Comments on the Draft EIS** that inform whether additional technical work is needed, and an understanding of whether additional technical work may substantively change findings in the EIS
 - ☑ **Input from engaged stakeholders** on which alternative could be supported as the preferred

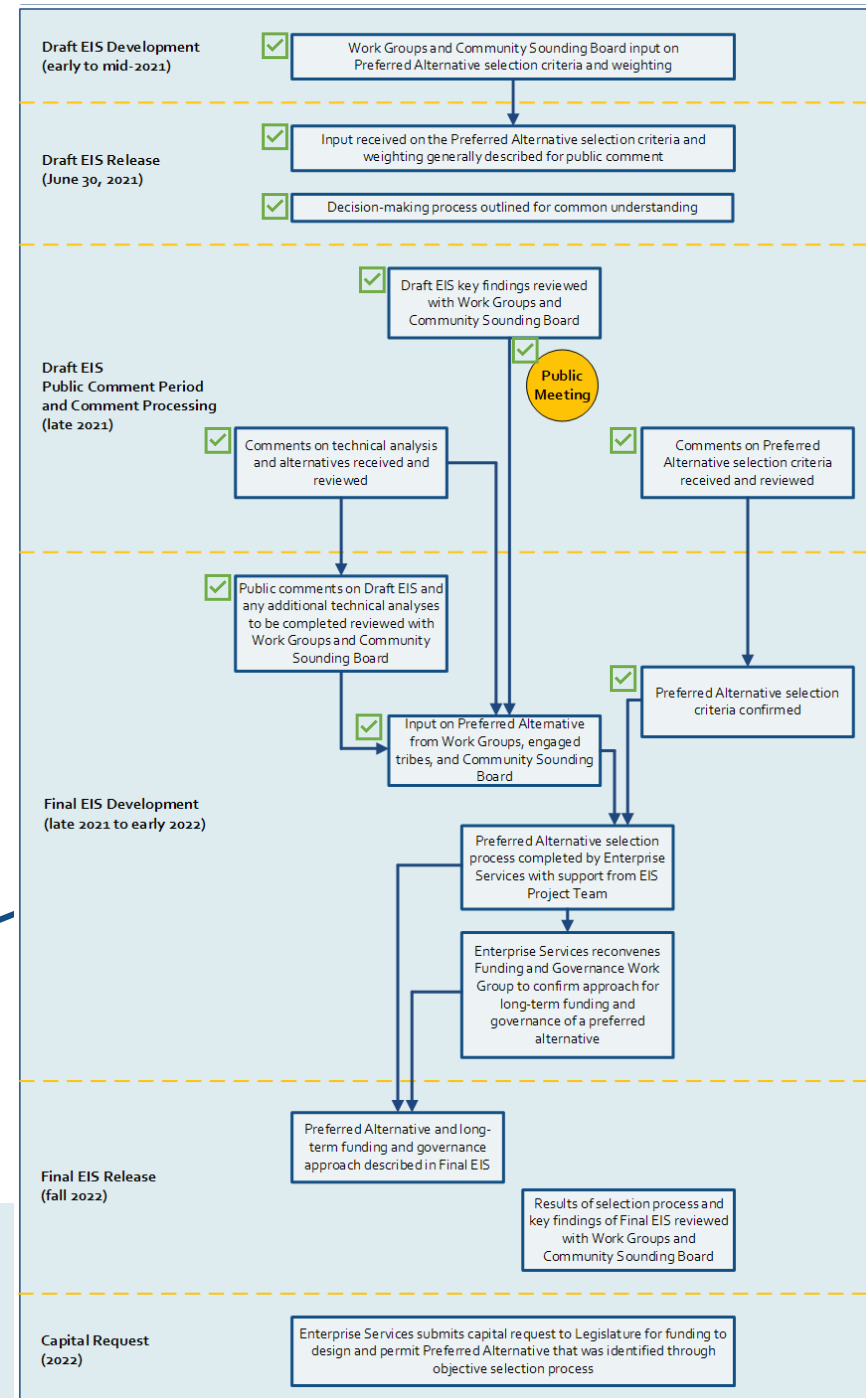
*As presented during November work group meetings.



Preferred Alternative Identification Process



Preferred Alternative Identification Process



Decision Durability – Feedback Process

Please identify the level of support by you/the constituents that you represent for each alternative.

Alternative	Fully support or mostly support			Mostly support or partially support				Low support or cannot support		
	10	9	8	7	6	5	4	3	2	1
Estuary	10	9	8	7	6	5	4	3	2	1
Hybrid	10	9	8	7	6	5	4	3	2	1
Managed Lake	10	9	8	7	6	5	4	3	2	1
No Action	10	9	8	7	6	5	4	3	2	1

Please include with your rating a brief narrative describing your reasons for this score and answers to the following questions.

What about each alternative **INCREASES** your/your constituencies support of this alternative?

What about each alternative **DECREASES** your/your constituencies support of this alternative?

Meetings with each EWG member and the CSB in December 2021



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Decision Durability – EWG and CSB Responses

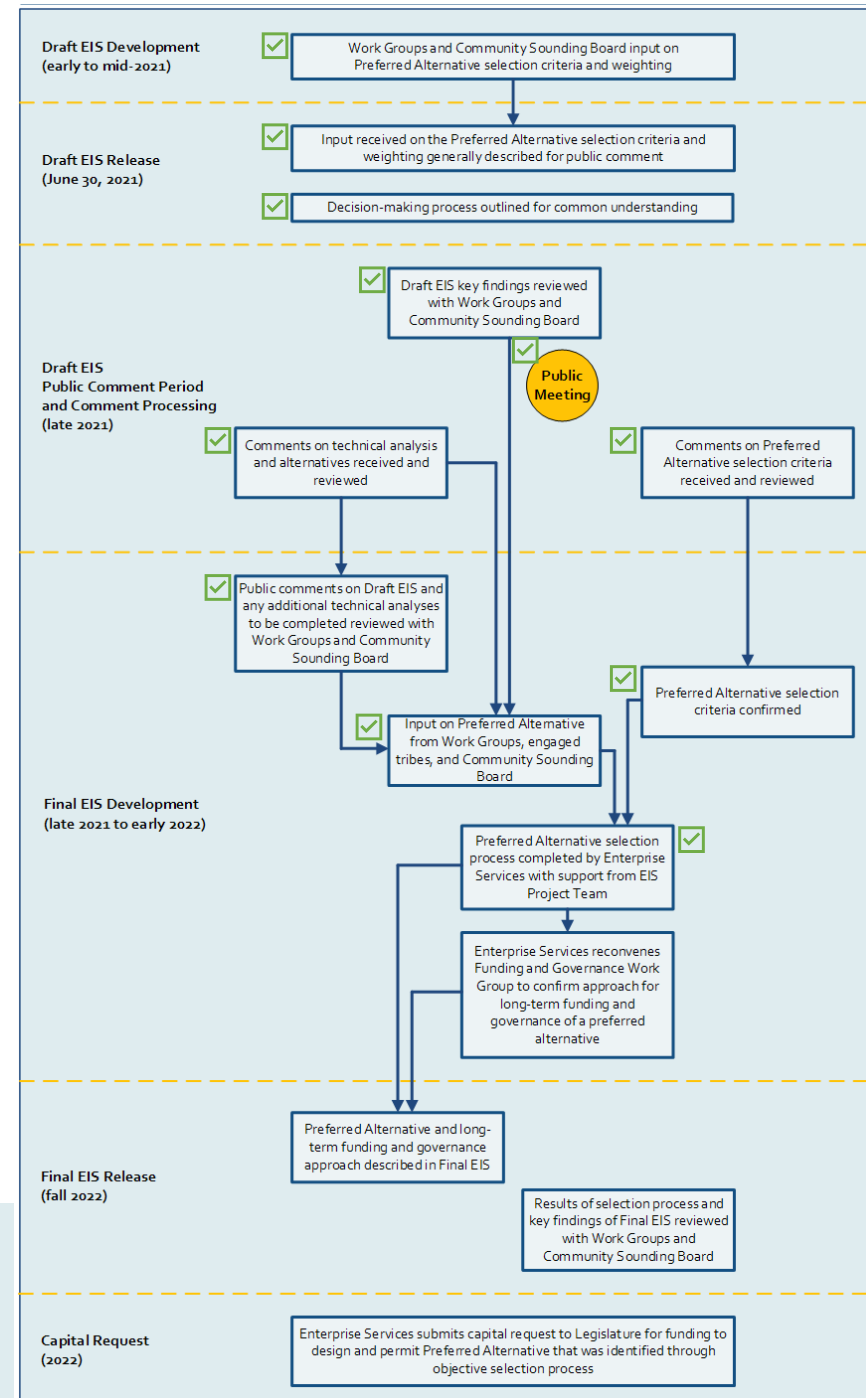
Stakeholder	Estuary	Hybrid	Managed Lake	No Action
City of Olympia	10.0	1.0	1.0	1.0
City of Tumwater	9.0	6.0	2.0	1.0
LOTT Clean Water Alliance	9.0	3.0	2.0	1.0
Port of Olympia	5.0	3.3	5.3	1.3
Squaxin Island Tribe ¹	10.0	N/A	N/A	N/A
Thurston County	6.7	5.3	4.7	1.0
Community Sounding Board ²	6.9	4.8	4.3	1.4
Average	8.1	3.9	3.2	1.1

¹Squaxin Island Tribe provided a score of zero for all non-Estuary alternatives. Because zero is not a value in the overall scoring range (1–10) no value is included.

²Average of scores provided by Community Sounding Board members (22 responses).



Preferred Alternative Identification Process



What Does “Likely” Preferred Alternative Mean?

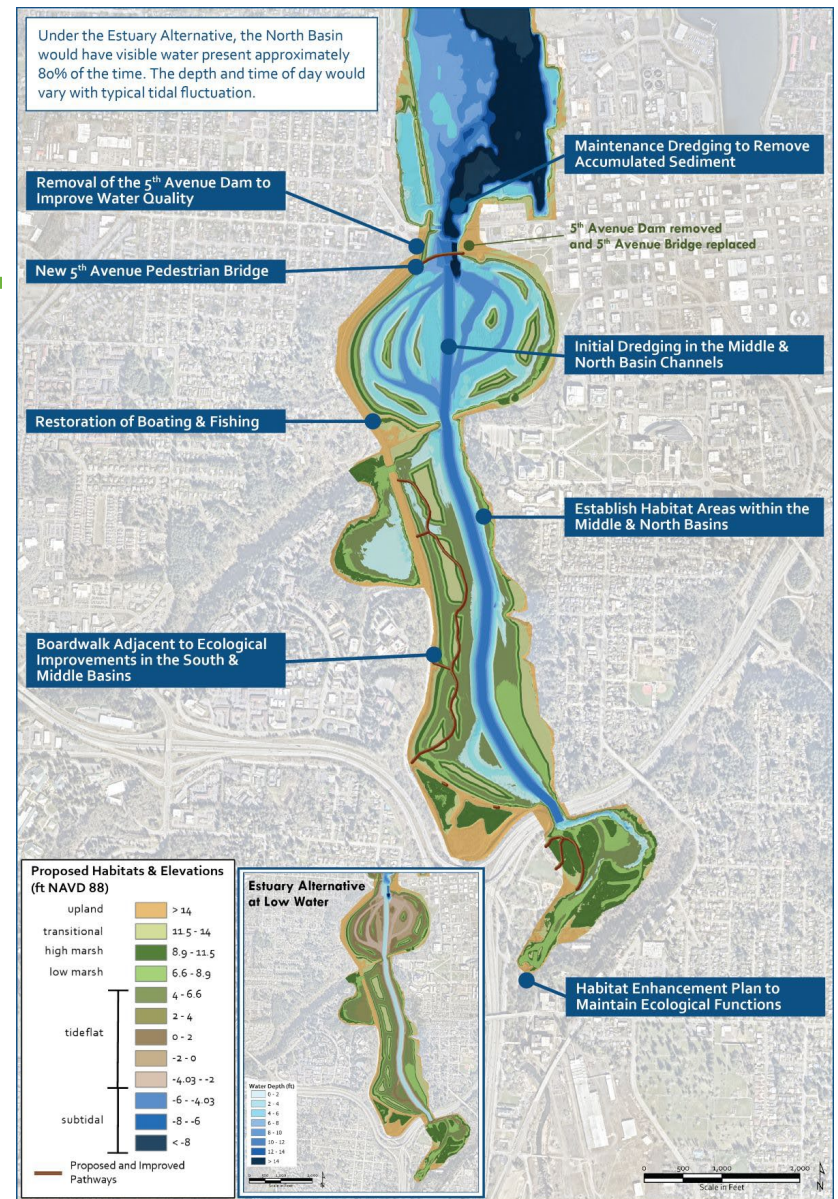
- ✦ Is based on the Draft EIS and updates to technical analyses resulting from comments
- ✦ Is necessary now to allow funding and governance work to continue
- ✦ Is representative of the most likely outcome

- ✦ **The final decision regarding the Preferred Alternative will be included in the Final EIS**



Likely Preferred Alternative

- ✦ The Estuary Alternative is the likely preferred alternative



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Next Steps – Stakeholder Engagement

✦ Mid-March

- Updates to TWG & CSB
- EWG/FGWG joint meeting
- SCC briefing
- E-newsletter summarizing next steps

✦ Late-March

- Begin FGWG meeting series
 - Up to 6 meetings between March and August



Next Steps – Final EIS

✦ Spring – Summer 2022

- Coordinate with regulatory agencies
- Confirm approach to funding and governance and draft Memorandum of Agreement
- Prepare Draft EIS comment responses
- Complete supplemental technical analysis and discipline report revisions
- Incorporate Final EIS revisions

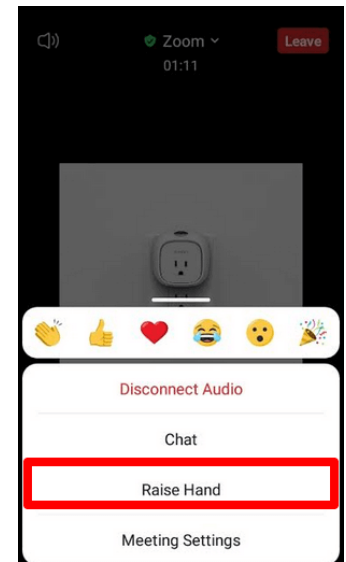
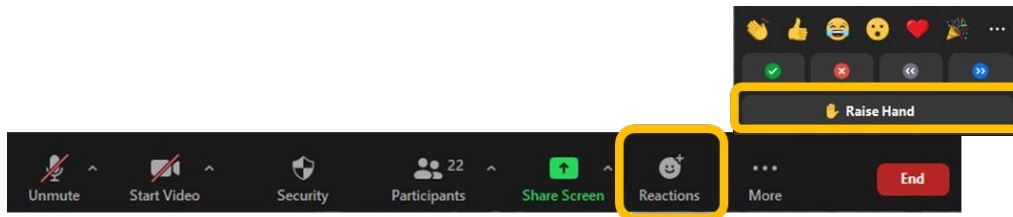
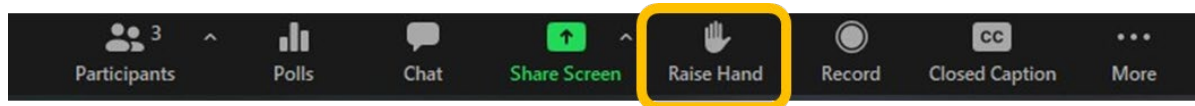
✦ Fall 2022

- Confirm Preferred Alternative
- Finalize Draft EIS comment response summary
- Complete Final EIS revisions
- Issue Final EIS with Preferred Alternative and approach to funding and governance
- Review findings with Work Groups and other stakeholders



Public Comment

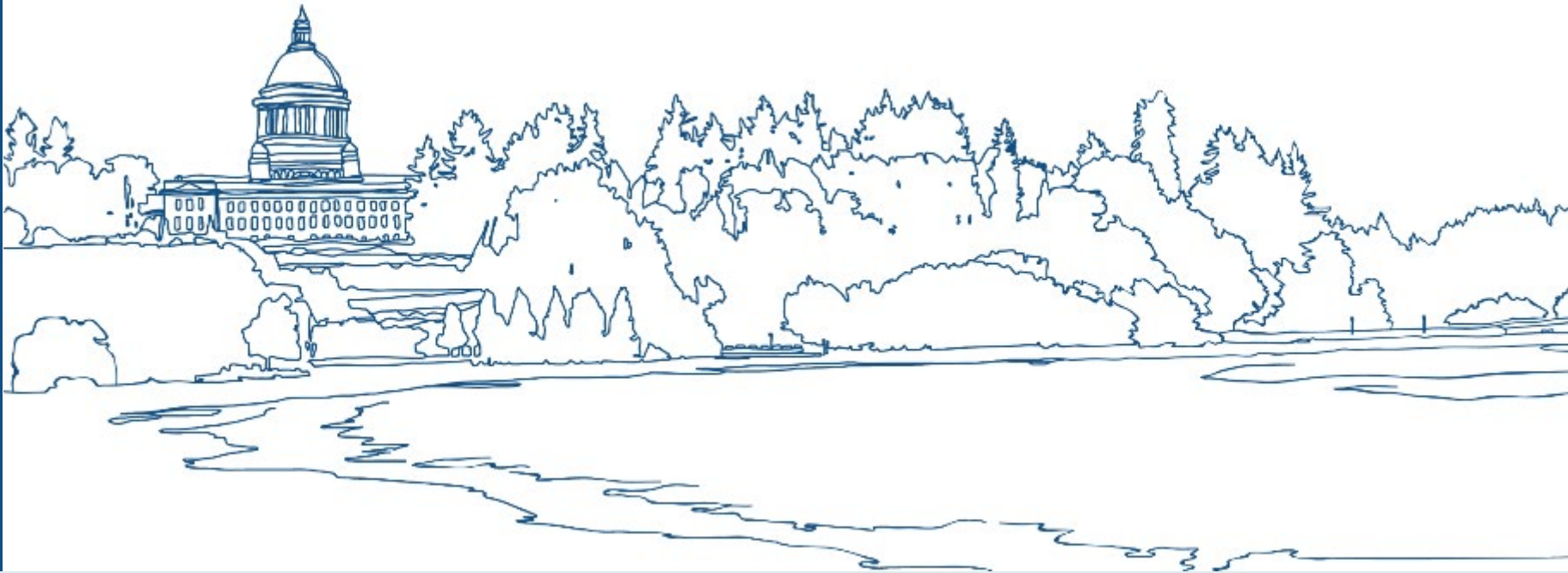
✦ To virtually “raise your hand”



✦ Comments on agenda items may also be emailed:
info@CapitolLakeDeschutesEstuaryEIS.org



Thank You!



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