

# Memorandum

Planning Department

To: Board of Directors  
From: Scott Revell, Senior Planner   
Meeting Date: August 21, 2007  
RE: Amon Basin Update- Discussion Only No Action

## Attachments

1. Tapteal Greenway Association flyer ("Save the Rest of the Amon Basin")
2. Tapteal Greenway Association information sheet w/ illustrative map

## Background

The Amon Basin stretches from Badger and Amon canyons in the Horse Heaven Hills to the area west of Southridge High School in Kennewick to the west extension of the Highlift canal near Hansen Park to the entire Keene Road corridor. The Amon Basin includes several KID managed facilities, including the Amon Wasteway, the Gage pumps, several canals, the Plymouth Drain (on the south side of Thompson Hill), the Badger Drain (along Badger Road & Leslie Road) and the Leslie Drain (along Keen Road).

There is a great deal of public interest in the KID's activities in the Amon Basin, most of which is focused on the portion of the Amon Basin that is located within the city of Richland from the Beer Falls area down gradient to the Wasteway's confluence with the McNary Pool in the Columbia River. There a tremendous amount of information available about a wide array of Amon Basin issues.

Staff, in recent months, have been researching the array of issues that KID faces in the Amon Basin. Historical aerial photographs dating back to the 1950s have been obtained as well many maps, studies and technical reports. Staff has also begun attending meetings of the Friends of the Amon Basin on a regular basis and has been building a working relationship with the various parties who have an interest in the basin. A new Amon Basin page has been set up on the KID website [www.kid.org] as a means to disseminate information. The response from the public to KID's increased involvement has been very positive.

## Main Issues

The range of issues in the Amon Basin that staff has been researching includes: vehicular access control and vandalism prevention, right-of-way encroachments, environmental permitting, fish and endangered species act issues, wetlands, operation of the Wasteway, development of surrounding land, water quality, water rights, storm water collection, the LID 120 (Willowbrook) pond and the applicability of local, state and federal environmental regulations.

The City of Richland has the largest single agency role in the basin and has assigned senior staff from the city's Planning, Parks & Police Departments to represent the city.