



May 15, 2024

City of Marysville
Community Development Department
Attn: Chris Holland, Planning Manager
501 Delta Avenue
Marysville, WA 98270

RE: Marysville Corporate Center (PA22004) – Utility Vaults in Stream Buffer

Dear Mr. Holland,

Marysville Corporate Center required an extension of 156th Street NE over Hayho Creek. Wetland Resources, Inc. prepared a mitigation plan for the road crossing over the stream and through its buffer. During the construction phase, several utility vaults became necessary along the north side of the road. Due to conflicting utilities along the roadway, the vaults were required to be placed within the stream buffer, with a total footprint of 161 square feet. The vault placement occurred within an area of temporary buffer impacts along the road that were proposed to be restored, but specific mitigation was not provided in the mitigation plan for the vault footprints.

The largest vaults are underground, with lids that stick slightly above the ground surface. Native buffer restoration plantings have been installed around the vaults as part of the buffer restoration measures. As the buffer restoration plantings mature, we anticipate that they will grow up and over the utility vaults, thereby minimizing the impacts from the vaults. The site as a whole included 272,116 square feet (6.2 acres) of buffer restoration and enhancement, so the small footprint of the vaults in the buffer is discountable (<0.1%) and the fact that native vegetation will establish around and over them will result in no measurable decrease in buffer functions. Water quality, hydrologic, and wildlife habitat functions will be provided at significantly higher values than have been provided through many decades of agricultural activities on this site.

Wetland Resources, Inc.

John Laufenberg
Principal Ecologist
Professional Wetland Scientist