



King County

Dow Constantine

King County Executive

401 Fifth Avenue, Suite 800

Seattle, WA 98104-1818

206-263-9600 Fax 206-296-0194

TTY Relay: 711

www.kingcounty.gov

October 6, 2023

The Honorable Dave Upthegrove
Chair, King County Council
Room 1200
C O U R T H O U S E

Dear Councilmember Upthegrove:

This letter transmits a proposed Ordinance that, if enacted, would authorize condemnation of property interests needed for the Fifteen Mile Creek Bridge No.493C replacement project on property owned by Jeffrey T. Williams as necessary to acquire permanent and temporary easements. Acquisition of the easements is necessary to construct the Fifteen Mile Creek Bridge No.493C replacement project, a bridge located in unincorporated King County along SE May Valley Road, 0.2 miles west of Issaquah-Hobart Road SE, and provide connections between the cities of Issaquah, Maple Valley, and Renton.

Built originally in 1932 and rehabilitated in 1973, the Fifteen Mile Creek Bridge No.493C is a timber bridge. The Road Services Division (RSD) has repaired this bridge many times over the years, and it is past its useful life. The bridge has been categorized as structurally deficient and ranks high as a candidate for replacement in the bridge priority analysis adopted by the King County Council in 1995 (Ordinance 11693). The new bridge will be designed to meet current national bridge standards that include weight capacity, lane and shoulder widths, and environmental protection.

RSD has successfully acquired easements on three privately owned properties needed to complete this project and is working with the remaining property owner, Jeffrey T. Williams, for the voluntary acquisition of the necessary property rights. However, negotiations have stalled and are now at an impasse. RSD and its consultant have made more than 80 attempts to contact the property owner since April 2021 via email, phone, written letter, and in person. Attachment A to the proposed Ordinance provides more detail on the property and negotiations to date. Per Revised Code of Washington (RCW) 8.25.290, a notice of public hearing will be posted for two consecutive weeks in the legal newspaper with the largest circulation for the area where the property is located.

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Thank you for your consideration of this proposed Ordinance. This legislation will help facilitate the completion of an important replacement project for a bridge relied upon daily by the traveling public of King County.

If your staff have questions, please contact Tricia Davis, Director of Road Services Division, at 206-263-9690.

Sincerely,

 for

Dow Constantine
King County Executive

Enclosure

cc: King County Councilmembers
ATTN: Stephanie Cirkovich, Chief of Staff
Melani Hay, Clerk of the Council
Karan Gill, Chief of Staff, Office of the Executive
Penny Lipsou, Council Relations Director, Office of the Executive
John Taylor, Director, Department of Local Services (DLS)
Tricia Davis, Director, Road Services Division, DLS
JoAnn Kosai-Eng, P.E., County Road Engineer, Roads, DLS