



## 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](http://www.kingcounty.gov)

December 28, 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 the SaFE Community Ambassador Scoping Report, in response to Ordinance 19546, Section 114, Proviso P2, and a proposed Motion that would, if enacted, acknowledge receipt of the report.

This report provides information on how the Community Ambassador program engaged community members in several areas of the county that are experiencing increased safety and security concerns. Approval of this proposed Motion and the attached report supports the implementation of the recommendations made by community in these areas and will inform the SaFE Community Ambassador Program results report due to the King County Council in June 2024.

King County Metro (Metro) initiated the Safety, Security, and Fare Enforcement (SaFE) Reform initiative as Metro's response to my declaration of racism as a public health crisis, affirming the County's commitment to becoming an anti-racist and pro-equity government. A scoping report and an implementation report related to this effort were transmitted to the Council as required by Ordinance 19210, Section 113, Proviso 5 in 2021. In its SaFE Reform work, Metro has prioritized the feedback of King County employees, customers, and community members, including priority populations, to identify what equitable safety practices mean to Metro riders.

Per Metro policy and the County's commitment to racial equity and social justice, Metro has prioritized meaningful, in-depth community engagement in all aspects of its work to ensure that resources are allocated where needs are greatest. As part of the Community Ambassador effort discussed in the attached report, Metro's Partnership and Engagement Team facilitated a series of engagement activities across the locations identified by the Proviso. These engagement activities included walking tours, focus groups, street outreach, and one-on-one meetings. The goal of each of these engagement activities was to connect with transit riders, community members, community-based organizations, jurisdictional partners, and partner

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agencies to gather community feedback regarding perceptions of the safety and cleanliness of the transit hubs and transit stops listed in the Proviso.

Thank you for your consideration of the report and proposed Motion. This legislation will help improve the customer experience for Metro riders and the broader community. I look forward to working with you to realize solutions to improve transit safety and security and further our commitment to equity.

If your staff have questions, please contact DeAnna Martin, Chief of Staff, Metro Transit Department, at 206-477-3835.

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  
Michelle Allison, General Manager, Metro Transit Department  
DeAnna Martin, Chief of Staff, Metro Transit Department