



## King County

**Dow Constantine**

King County Executive

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

October 8, 2021

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

Dear Councilmember Balducci:

This letter transmits a proposed Ordinance that, if enacted, would provide grant funding project allocations for the King County WaterWorks grant program managed by the Wastewater Treatment Division (WTD) of the Department of Natural Resources and Parks (DNRP). These grants will help protect and improve water quality in the region and foster environmental stewardship.

The proposed legislation provides funding for projects selected through the WaterWorks competitive grant program that enable non-profits, local governments, and schools to propose projects, programs, and activities beneficial to water quality in the WTD service area. These projects will also leverage or complement DNRP's overall water quality mission.

The proposed Ordinance would fund 24 projects for a total of \$2,400,262. The selected projects would promote a variety of activities and approaches, including research, restoration, stormwater retrofits, education, community engagement, and green stormwater infrastructure. In addition, the projects would leverage matching funds and utilize volunteer engagement, thus using grant funds efficiently and strengthening project implementation.

In developing the list of proposed projects, DNRP solicited input from non-profits, local governments, schools, and tribes through workshops, outreach, and grant solicitation. The WaterWorks Grant Ranking Committee convened twelve times in 2021 to review and rank grant proposals, and has recommended funding for the projects listed in the proposed Ordinance and the memorandum attached to this letter. These funding recommendations are based upon the eligibility criteria, water quality benefits and implementation strength.

The proposed legislation furthers the King County Strategic Plan healthy environment goal by protecting water quality through reducing pollution at its sources, and by promoting and implementing low-impact development practices, stormwater management, and habitat restoration. In addition, it aligns with the Strategic Climate Action Plan goal of preparing for climate change impacts by promoting green stormwater infrastructure, reducing the risk of flooding, planting trees, and building resilient habitat at the local level. The proposed

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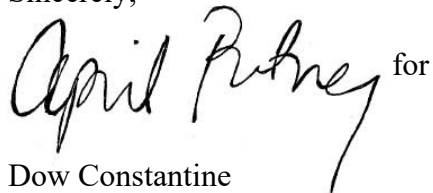
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legislation also furthers the King County Equity and Social Justice Initiative goal of creating healthy built and natural environments by recommending funding for projects that engage diverse organizations in protecting and restoring waterways and in educating and engaging community members on water quality issues.

Thank you for your consideration of this proposed Ordinance. This important legislation would help King County residents and positively impact communities by protecting and improving water quality.

If your staff have any questions, please contact Kamuron Gurol, Division Director, Wastewater Treatment Division, at 206-263-5767.

Sincerely,

 for

Dow Constantine  
King County Executive

Enclosure

cc: King County Councilmembers

ATTN: Janine Weihe, Interim Chief of Staff

Melani Pedroza, Clerk of the Council

Shannon Braddock, Deputy Chief of Staff, Office of the Executive

Karan Gill, Director, Council Relations, Office of the Executive

Dwight Dively, Director, Office of Performance, Strategy and Budget

Christie True, Director, Department of Natural Resources and Parks (DNRP)

Kamuron Gurol, Division Director, Wastewater Treatment Division, DNRP