



## King County

### **Dow Constantine**

King County Executive

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December 1, 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 Forest Carbon Credit Approval Report as called for by King County Code (KCC) chapter 18.35, and a proposed Motion that would, if approved, allow the Department of Natural Resources and Parks (DNRP) to sell 15,307 carbon credits that were verified during the pilot phase of the King County Forest Carbon Program (FCP) in the voluntary carbon market.

The FCP was launched in May 2019 and, during the pilot phase, the Water and Land Resources Division of DNRP developed and refined a carbon credit program. The program involves voluntary payments to King County for carbon credits generated by preserving and managing intact forests to retain stored carbon and enhance long-term potential to sequester more carbon. Revenue from the sale of carbon credits is used to protect and manage additional forestland and sequester more carbon.

Approval of this report is required for the FCP to move forward with the sale of carbon credits. In addition, approval of this proposed Motion would allow DNRP to meet the contractual obligation with a carbon credit retailer, which was established during the pilot phase of the FCP. No budget action is needed to approve the proposed Motion.

Funds raised from the sale of these credits would support the mission of DNRP by preserving forestlands and protecting natural ecosystems that benefit the people of King County. Approval of the report would also advance the goal of the Land Conservation Initiative to protect forestlands.

Thank you for your consideration of this report and proposed Motion. Passage of the proposed Motion will protect forestlands and provide greenspace for King County residents.

The Honorable Dave Upthegrove

December 1, 2023

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If your staff have questions, please contact Josh Baldi, Division Director, Water and Land Resources Division, Department of Natural Resources and Parks, at 206-477-9440.

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

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

Josh Baldi, Division Director, Water and Land Resources Division, DNRP