



King County

Dow Constantine
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September 30, 2024

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 Title 23 update report in response to Ordinance 19546, Section 90, Proviso P1 and a proposed Motion that would, if enacted, acknowledge receipt of the report.

Title 23 of the King County Code (KCC) contains procedures for code enforcement by King County, which is administered by staff within the Department of Local Services (DLS), Permitting Division. The DLS Code Enforcement unit investigates complaints regarding violations of KCC related to zoning, building, property maintenance, shorelines, and critical areas in unincorporated King County. As required, the enclosed report describes the County's existing code enforcement process and evaluates how it has changed since 2015, when a previous report on the code enforcement process was transmitted to the Council. The enclosed report from DLS also makes recommendations for ways in which the County's code enforcement process, KCC Title 23, and other land use codes might be revised to reduce the length of time between initial complaint and resolution. Recommendations also include provisions to KCC Titles 9, 17, and 20 that could be amended to simplify the land use code enforcement process. In addition, as required by the Proviso, a proposed Ordinance implementing these recommendations is being transmitted concurrently under separate cover.

DLS recommendations made in the enclosed report incorporate recommendations made by the King County Auditor in a 2023 report regarding County code compliance procedures. The Auditor's report contains recommendations on a variety of aspects of code enforcement work, including operations and external communication materials. Where there were opportunities for DLS to address the Auditor's recommendations through code changes, DLS included them as recommendations to revise the County's process in this report.

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Thank you for your consideration of this proposed Motion. The recommendations in this report aim to make effective use of limited resources to provide code enforcement services to unincorporated King County.

If your staff have questions, please contact Jim Chan, Director, Department of Local Services, Permitting Division, at 206-477-0385.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Steve Badda". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large, circular flourish at the end.

for

Dow Constantine

King County Executive

Enclosure

cc: King County Councilmembers

ATTN: Stephanie Cirkovich, Chief of Staff, King County Council

Melani Hay, Clerk of the Council

Karan Gill, Chief of Staff, Office of the Executive

Penny Lipsou, Council Relations Director, Office of the Executive

Leon Richardson, Director, Department of Local Services (DLS)

Jim Chan, Director, DLS, Permitting Division