



## 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 19, 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 Parks Levy Oversight Board's (Board) review of the 2023 expenditures for the 2020-2025 Parks, Recreation, Trails, and Open Space Levy, in accordance with Ordinance 18890. This is the fourth report on levy expenditures for this levy period.

The enclosed report summarizes the Board's review of financial materials, including how Parks Levy revenues were allocated to, and expended by, the County, cities, Woodland Park Zoo, and the Seattle Aquarium in 2023, as outlined in Ordinance 18890. It also includes a review of the Parks and Recreation Division (Division) of the Department of Natural Resources and Parks' progress in meeting the goals of the Parks Levy, consistent with Ordinance 18890. The Board identified that the Division is compliant with the Parks Levy allocation requirements.

This report supports the King County Equity and Social Justice Initiative by increasing community engagement to guide planning processes. This report also aligns with the stakeholder engagement goals in the Strategic Climate Action Plan where King County employees have delivered presentations on open space acquisitions within Opportunity Areas, land conservation efforts, and forest stewardship.

Thank you for your consideration of this report. The comments and observations from the Parks Levy Oversight Board will help King County residents better understand the County's progress toward achieving the purposes of the Parks Levy and the level of accountability and commitment demonstrated toward delivering on that mission.

If your staff have any questions, please contact Warren Jimenez, Parks and Recreation Division Director, Department of Natural Resources and Parks, at 206-477-4525.

The Honorable Dave Upthegrove

December 19, 2024

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Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Steve Padda". 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

John Taylor, Director, Department of Natural Resources and Parks (DNRP)

Warren Jimenez, Division Director, Parks and Recreation Division, DNRP