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January 16, 2025

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

Dear Councilmember Zahilay:

This letter transmits the 2025-2029 King County Consortium Consolidated Plan (Consolidated Plan), and a proposed Ordinance that, if enacted, would approve the plan. The Consolidated Plan is a requirement of the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD), through which the King County Consortium (Consortium) receives an annual entitlement, or formula grant.

This HUD grant comes from the following federal sources: Community Development Block Grant (CDBG), the HOME Investment Partnerships Program (HOME), and the Emergency Solutions Grant (ESG). King County and the Consortium anticipate receiving grant amounts from CDBG, HOME, and ESG, totaling approximately \$8,775,000 per year during the five-year period of the Consolidated Plan for program years 2025-2029. Council action to approve this plan during the first quarter of 2025 will enable King County to access this year's funds as soon as HUD makes them available.

The Department of Community and Human Services (DCHS) prepared the Consolidated Plan on behalf of the King County Consortium, a partnership that includes all jurisdictions within the county except for the cities of Seattle and Milton. The cities of Auburn, Bellevue, Kent, and Federal Way participate in the Consortium only for the use of HOME funds for affordable housing. These four cities receive their own CDBG entitlement and have separate Consolidated Plans to guide the investment of those funds.

As described in the Consolidated Plan, the King County Consortium intends to use these federal grant funds to further three overarching goals: increasing affordable housing, preventing and mitigating homelessness, and enhancing community and economic development to primarily benefit low- and moderate- income people.

The Honorable Girmay Zahilay January 16, 2025 Page 2

In the development of the Consolidated Plan, the King County Consortium consulted with partners from 45 organizations that work directly with and/or have knowledge of the needs of low- and moderate-income people in King County. Survey results identifying respondents' funding priorities played a pivotal role in shaping how to prioritize the King County Consortium's funding strategy for the next five years.

Thank you for your consideration of the proposed Ordinance to approve the Consolidated Plan. This important legislation serves King County's residents through its strategies for creating affordable housing, including housing for individuals and families experiencing homelessness, and new community and economic development projects to ensure access to thriving, connected, and inclusive communities.

If your staff have any questions, please to contact Kelly Rider, Director, King County Department of Community and Human Services, at 206-263-5780.

Sincerely,

for

Dow Constantine King County Executive

Grew Rodolo

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
Kelly Rider, Director, Department of Community and Human Services